

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 19—Issue 1

November 2021

November is the time of year we give thanks for many things. Beginning in 1938, the United States officially recognized November 11 as Armistice Day—the 11th month, the 11th day, the 11th hour when fighting ceased in WWI. In 1954, legislation changed that to Veterans Day. We show appreciation for veterans who have served our country in all conflicts. You will read a great story inside from one of our favorite contributors, Karen Zach, about a soldier close to her heart.



In December, we remember Pearl Harbor Day on the 7th and we are grateful again for all who served our Country. Then at the end of the month, we gather with family and friends again to celebrate the holidays. Have a blessed holiday season, whatever holiday you celebrate and we will see you again next year.



Feel free to find us and Like us on FACEBOOK!

<https://www.facebook.com/Genealogy-Club-of-Montgomery-County-Indiana-Corp-1814527675437018/>

Visit FACEBOOK to learn about Genealogy Club activities, upcoming meetings, and to make new friends.

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.

Final Secretary's Report By Steve Simms, now Former Secretary



It has been my distinct pleasure to provide updates to you and to serve as Secretary of the Genealogy Club for the past many years. I am turning the notebook and pen over to Carolyn PERKINS. You will see emails about upcoming meetings from Carolyn and I am certain the secretarial duties are in good hands. If you have stories to share, ideas of places we can promote the Genealogy Club of Montgomery County, reach out to Carolyn through Dellie (dcraig@cdpl.lib.in.us) and she will pass your ideas along.

Steve Simms

The new round of officers have been confirmed for 2022. Shannon HUDSON—President; Dellie CRAIG—Vice-President; Carolyn PERKINS—Secretary; Amie COX—Treasurer; Dian MOORE—Activity Director; and Stephanie SIMMS/Judi KLEINE—Newsletter.

More to come later in the newsletter, but I wanted to take a moment to send out a special congratulations to Dellie Craig and Karen Zach. Earlier this year Dellie and Karen were honored by the Montgomery County Historical Society for their contributions to genealogy. Dellie was awarded the Gronert-Bowerman Award in Education and Karen was given the Krout-Wallace award for Literature or Journalism. The Genealogy Club is proud of both of you and honored to count you among our members. When you see Dellie or Karen, pass along congratulations and give them a pat on the back.

Thank you again for having me as your secretary, it has been a pleasure.
Happy ancestor hunting!

Correction to the last edition of the newsletter, Susan ALBRECHT was incorrectly identified on page 7 as Allsrecht

If you want to spend some time in the Research area of the CDPL, and you'd like some great helping in researching your ancestors, email Dellie Craig at dcraig@cdpl.lib.in.us and make an appointment. Dellie can assist you in many areas. Appointments can be made for up to an hour and a half. You can also call the library to schedule an appointment at 765.362.2242.

I wish I had realized that family history is a perishable commodity. It disappears with time, as memories fade, and loved ones pass on. I wish I had known that the most important aspect of family history is preserving a record of the present for the future. –Guy Black

Happy Veteran's Day, Dad

By Karen Zach



**Karen
Bazzani Zach**

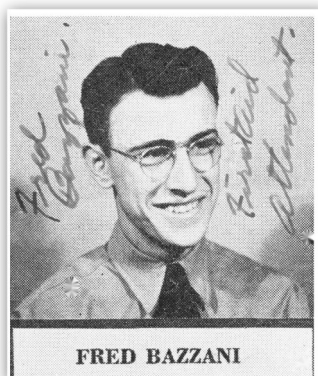
I do believe each and every soldier has a story of his (or her) own, no doubt. My father did not talk about his much, perhaps an occasional mention to other men who may have been in a certain part of the areas as he was in. In fact, one such story would be a great place to begin the tale of Fred BAZZANI, Army Sgt, WWII.

When my folks decided to get married after dad returned from the war, they first lived in Terre Haute where dad was going to Rose Hulman to study medicine, since he had done this at the CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps) at the Shades where he met my mom who was often the telephone operator when he would call his parents at Clinton – he'd always tell her she had such a beautiful voice and she did – they met at a CCC dance when she was with some other guy. Dad heard her say something, tapped in and told the guy not to return because he was going to marry that voice someday.

When my brothers were born (twins at 8 months, very tiny and “sent home to die!”) dad quit school and worked at a gas station for a good friend while they decided what to do. Going to school with two little ones and she having no family near to help wasn't going to work. So, dad took a Civil Service test for the Waveland Rural Mail Carrier job. He made several mad who didn't get it (he not being from the area and an Italian at that) but his score was so unbelievably high that there was no other choice, really. Immediately, he joined the carrier's association and became quite involved in it. Years later he and Herb FRUITS who also returned home and became a rural mail carrier were talking at one of the meetings. Dad happened to say he was with the group that freed the POWs from Nuremburg, Germany. Herb's face turned crimson. He was there but was on the opposite side of the area dad was working yet they were both there.



Fred Bazzani



FRED BAZZANI

We made many visits in Georgia to one of dad's Army buddies' homes. He was their cook in the service and we had the best-ever food when we'd go down there – Dad would tease HARDEN saying he didn't cook for them like that. Guessing the good food wasn't available over there. Also, when I went to an ENT in Lafayette named W. WELLER dad got excited thinking it might be his commanding officer Wendall WELLER. I was like, yeah, right dad. Wendall was from Illinois but it was indeed Dr. WELLER – we waited from 1:30 until 4:30 before I was finally called back there (Dr. W. had it planned that way). He asked me questions about dad and walked out with me and said, “Hey BAZZANI! I command you to go out to eat supper with me and my

wife!” We had such a fabulous time and Dr. WELLER was an amazing doctor!

Dad—cont.

Dad enlisted a few days before his 22nd birthday (born 26 August 1920) at Ft. Ben Harrison. Dad was a medic and was NOT expected to come home. He went over on a boat of 366 medical personnel and was one of six of those to return from the war. Almost all of his pay was sent home to his mother to save for him, but she got it in her head to send dad's sister, Alice to nurses' training. I'm not sure how he took it but he did indeed understand the reason as per six returning. Africa; Rome-Arno; Southern France; Rhineland and Central Europe were places he was stationed. He earned the EAME Theater Ribbon with four bronze stars; Good Conduct Ribbon; American Theater Ribbon; WWII Victory Medal and Meritorious Unit Award.

Between the CCC and WWII, he worked at Crosby Corporation making good money but when he asked for a week off to go to Florida before they rationed gas, the guy said, you go you're fired. He went! When he returned, he went to Indianapolis and registered for the draft the day before Christmas. He told 'em he was ready to go but it was 8-months later that he left. Having worked at Newport Powder Plant while waiting, the guys he worked with threw a drunken brawl to send him off. He didn't drink much but the odd mixtures people kept giving him made him sick. There were about 150 people there and the next morning at 6am when he left Clinton with 72 others he felt like all 150 had given him something. Dad knew all but four of the ones who rode to Fort Ben with him but he never saw any of them again.



Fred Bazzani and his Jeep

Sent to Camp Grant in Joplin, Ill for 8 weeks training it was cut -short because they wanted him to go to a new class starting in Colorado and since he'd already had a great deal of medical training IN CCC, he and seven others went there where he stayed until December. A couple from Vincennes had no children and when they met someone from Indiana they'd take them in so dad got spoiled – great eats, skiing and lots of fun. Next he went to Seattle, Washington. As they came in they gave assignments in alphabetic order – BAZZANI was clerk; BENJAMIN a cook. He had no clue how and what to do but learned on his own.

In January 1943, he went to the Mojave Desert in Goffs, California for bivouacs. They were supposed to stay for two months but on Feb 18, there was a big windstorm and when it was gone the tents were gone; their clothes were gone – everything - so trucks took them to Banning, California to set-up camp. Another disaster on April 20th – wind storm. Next day they went to Camp Cook where they stayed a day and night. “Get up, we're going on a hike!” They got their duffel bags ready and hiked 200 yards to a train headed to Newport News, Virginia. Next morning they began their overseas shots and practiced getting on a ship. April Fools it wasn't practice. They were out to sea in the morning when they woke up, and soon docked in Oran, Africa.

Dad—cont.

While on the ship he was replaced as company clerk and Felix ROSE (who didn't want to go to combat) became a Corporal and dad took his rank as Sgt. The next morning after they landed, he was in combat as a field medic. In Southern France, in August, he was driving the medic jeep and hit a landmine. They couldn't even find the front end of the jeep but all dad had was a scratch on his toe.

In May 1945 in Welzheim, Germany dad wrote Katy Beth (my mom but not until later, of course) and told her he just couldn't take much more – he had driven his jeep 4,276 miles in three weeks. On the way home (18 days on the boat) Dad took the place of a 2nd Lt who had had an emergency appendectomy, so he was able to shower every day after not having one for two years, was able to eat fruit, bread pudding with raisins, and relax. Dad was going to walk home from Atterbury, but he saw the Clinton bus and knew the driver – “Hop in!” He walked in their house at 11:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve. His mom was sewing and didn't hear him (the dog kept quiet - she had literally been waiting for him to come home and died a couple hours later) – when his mom turned around, she grabbed him and cried and cried and cried, saying she never thought she'd see him again!

Years later, my twin brothers and my dad looked like triplets (dark, handsome Italians) and when brother Larry was in Vietnam, one night our town policeman rang our doorbell. He had tears running down his face when he told us that Larry had been critically wounded in combat. We could find out nothing. That was it, critically wounded. Alive? Dead? Dying? Okay? What did that mean? Dad called everyone and could get no help discovering how he was. Finally, Rep. John MYERS took charge and in a couple of days the phone rang. The operator was talking but couldn't understand a word she said – finally we heard BAZZANI from Lar's voice – yes, accept those charges! To conclude here, wanted to say that within that two days time my dad's beautiful black hair turned completely gray as he knew first-hand what Larry had been through.

Getting the most out of GovDocs—from IN State Library

A founding principle of the United States was that its citizens should have access to the information the government produced. To that end, since the earliest days of The Republic, government documents have been disseminated far and wide throughout the country. Over time, repositories for government documents were established. The Indiana State Library, under the umbrella of the Federal Depository Library Program, is one such institution.

Despite the volume and breadth of the material, the U.S. Government's documents collection is underused. Many citizens are unaware of the vast stores of information available to them for free and at their fingertips, either in print or online. There is so much readily-available information that searching the collections can present challenges. The good news is that tutorials and directions can be found at Govinfo.gov, a resource for all documents printed by the Government Printing Office.

The U.S. Government also tracks access to its sites - registering where queries originate, from what sorts of devices and the length of each visit. Currently the program tracks traffic from approximately 400 Executive Branch domains and 5,700 total sites, including every cabinet department.

Analytics.usa.gov details which sites are the busiest at any point in time - chances are the United States Postal Service might be winning.

Finally, Ourdocuments.gov offers insights into how people feel about the documents created and saved by our government. In a recent poll, individuals chose the Declaration of Independence as the most important document in U.S. history.

The Indiana State Archives Launches the Research Indiana Indexes



The expanded Indiana Digital Archives has a new home! Now called the **Research Indiana Indexes**, the site includes over 1.36 million names and entries and can be found on the Indiana State Archives' website at www.in.gov/iara/services-for-public/search-archives-holdings. The site allows users to search the names of Hoosiers indexed in the Indiana State Archives' historic collection, spanning more than two hundred years.

The **Research Indiana Indexes** includes everything previously available on the Indiana Digital Archives, like Civil War and other military records, original land sales, and prison records. In addition, the site has over 100,000 additions and increased search capabilities. Some of the new tables included are:

- Several naturalization tables, including Benton, Cass, Decatur, Delaware, Franklin, Fulton, Huntington, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, LaGrange, LaPorte, Madison, Marshall, Miami, Newton, Orange, Perry, Posey, Shelby, Spencer, Vanderburgh, Vigo and Washington counties, as well as naturalizations done in the Supreme Court. The naturalization records of 66 Indiana counties are now indexed and searchable online.
- Marshall County court records (1870 to 1945)
- Foster Parent Applications (1877 to 1933)

Significant additions to the Supreme Court and Dissolved Corporations indexes

Researchers and genealogists alike can use the **Research Indiana Indexes** to discover new Indiana stories: find your ancestor in the earliest state pharmacist records, or browse through a list of 19th century petitions submitted for pardons from the Governor.

The **Research Indiana Indexes** will be regularly updated as additional records are indexed and reviewed. All indexes are created by the Indiana State Archives' dedicated group of volunteers. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please email us at arc@iara.in.gov.

Editor's Note: Chandler Lighty, Montgomery County native, was appointed the Indiana State Archives Director in 2018. He has been working diligently to make the Archives more accessible to everyone. He has spoken at past GCMCC meetings. Thank you Chandler!



You are the living link to the past.

Tell your grandchildren the story of the struggles waged, at home and abroad.
Of sacrifices made for freedom's sake. And tell them your own story as well-
because everybody has a story to tell. –George H.W. Bush

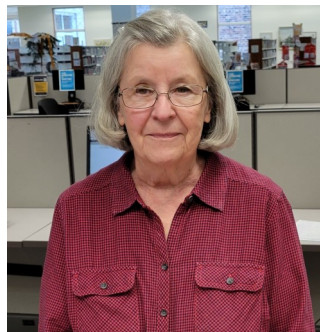
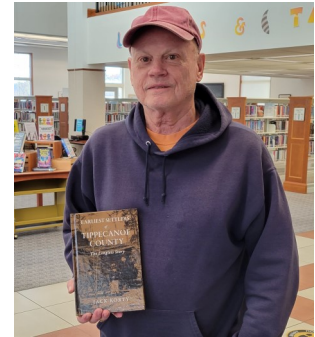
Library Happenings
by Dellie Craig



Dellie Craig

We continue to help Researchers find out more about their families at CDPL

Jack KORTY, from Lafayette, donated a copy of his book entitled "Earliest Settlers of Tippecanoe County –The Longlois Story". He mentions a lot of different towns in several counties. He has visited CDPL numerous times in the past working on this research. His book is not for sale. But he is giving several local libraries copies so patrons will be able to check it out in the future. Thanks Jack!!



Nancy TIJUNIN visited from Mulberry, IN to research her ROE/ROWE, MASON, TAYLOR, and SHANK families. She was able to find answers to several of her brick walls. She enjoyed her 4 hours at the CDPL in Marian Morrison Local History Collection. She was trained on how to use our CDPL Local History databases from home.



Had a nice couple, Cindy and Larry ANGLE, in from Texas. Researching their LOOP family in Montgomery County, IN. They located new information on the family plus learned about the LH database and digital images of old books available.



Joe and Katy ZIHA from St Louis, Missouri visited to research Kathy's surnames - HANEFIN, SULLIVAN, GOULD/GOLDEN, and GRIFFIN. These families were Found in St Bernard and Calvary Cemetery resources.



Brent and Jennifer PEARSON from Nevada also visited recently. They are researching PEARSON, COWHERD, and HUDSON surnames. They joined our Genealogy Club group as a family. Great addition to our group.

How to Search the Social Security Death Indexes

By Sunny Jane Morton

Looking for a totally free database of US death records? The Social Security Death Index (SSDI) is a valuable record set created from the Social Security Administration (SSA)'s Death Master File to track tax withholdings and Social Security survivors' benefits. Here's what the Social Security Death Index is, how genealogists can use it, and where to find it online.

Who is in the Social Security Death Index?

Though it doesn't include every person who ever had a Social Security number, the SSDI generally includes all deaths reported to the SSA beginning in 1962 (though a few include deaths prior to that year). At time of writing, the SSDI cuts off at 2014.

What Details are Included?

The SSDI isn't as detailed as some other Social Security documents, such as the SS-5. But you should still find the person's full name, birth date, death date, state where the number was issued, and last known residence (down to the ZIP code level of detail). You may also find the person's Social Security number.

Where Can I Search the SSDI?

The SSDI is widely available on genealogy websites—you don't need to request transcripts from the SSA. Some websites include additional details in their SSDI databases that can help when you're trying to distinguish between similarly named individuals.

You can search the SSDI for free at:

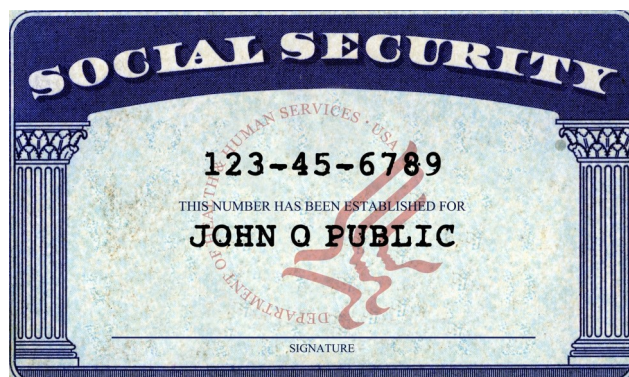
FamilySearch
Findmypast
GenealogyBank

Tips for Searching the Social Security Death Index

It's only fair to warn you that SSA indexes (including the SSDI) are not always complete or accurate. You might see any of the following:

- ⇒ Initials, nicknames or middle names instead of full names
- ⇒ Birth dates appearing only as a year, or not at all
- ⇒ Names or dates that are entered incorrectly, such as 2 November (11/2) instead of 11 February (2/11)
- ⇒ Names that drop internal punctuation: OMalley or Omalley instead of O'Malley
- ⇒ Women's paperwork filed under an unfamiliar married or maiden name (you may not have found every surname she used)
- ⇒ Unfamiliar places of issue, residence or last known benefit (people could apply from anywhere, and you may not know every place they lived)

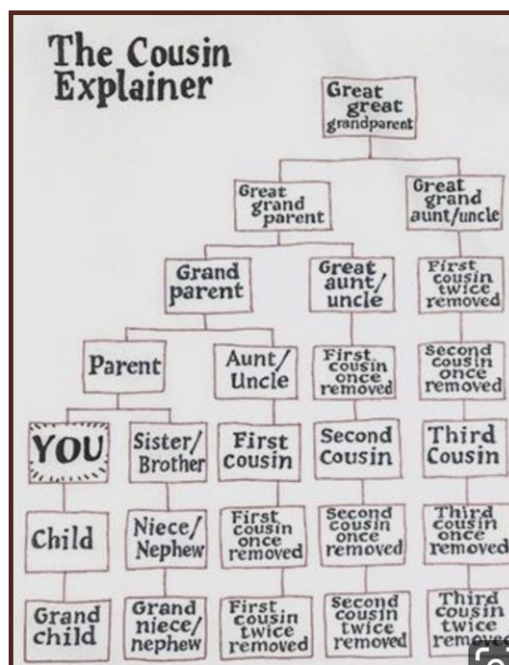
If needed, run several searches with different combinations of names, dates and places. Explore all possible results, even partial matches. It may take a while to accumulate enough bits and pieces of evidence—from Social Security or other documentation—to identify a correct entry.



NEW FEATURE:

New & Returning Members of the Genealogy Club and families they are researching

Linda BAKOS	COPNER (Mahala COPNER SPARKS, Hannah COPNER STONEBREAKER)
Eric BYRD	BYRD/BIRD, MILLIGAN, GOFF/GOFFE, HERTWECK
Chris CANINE	CANINE
Jon CANINE	CANINE
Jann L'ENFANT	HARMON, FITZGERALD
Ivan LANCASTER	FORSYTH, HOLLANDBECK, BOONE, MORGAN, BRYAN, ELLICOTT, LING, KEATON, HOWLAND, MAYHEW, HAWES, FRY
Brent/ Jennifer PEARSON	PEARSON, HUDSON, OLSON, PAULSON
Joy SCHWARZ	WELLS, BEEDLE/BEADLE, KIRKPATRICK, BRITTON, COFFENBERRY
Marti SWANSON	BALDWIN, CROOKS
Kathy ZIHA	SULLIVAN, GOULD/GOLDEN, HANEFIN (various spellings)



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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, 2021 to September 30, 2022 are due in September 2021.

They may be given to Dellie Craig at the Crawfordsville District Public Library or mailed to the Club Treasurer, (Amie Cox, c/o CDPL, 205 S Washington Street, 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