

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

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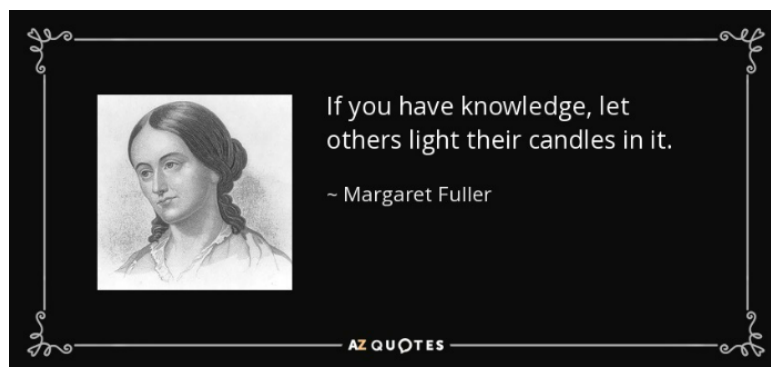
**Back to School** time is here already! As I type this, many have already started the school year. When I was a kid, I remember my early years not beginning until the Monday after Labor Day. I loved the long lazy days of August...and as a child, I didn't even notice the heat that makes me miserable as an *older* adult. School starting though, those were some fun days out there shopping for new clothes and new school supplies. Our friend, Karen Zach has written a story for us about the Waveland Academy.



Shades State Park recently celebrated it's 75th anniversary in July. I remember stories from my grandpa about driving through the park on his way to hunt squirrels. I could hardly picture the way he described it so to get to go and be part of the celebration and to see the layout of the park as it was before becoming public lands of the State and afterwards was quite a treat. I got to enjoy it with my son and my dad, who was able to share stories from his memories with the Park Ranger. There is a short story inside and for any of you who have memories of the Shades that you would like to share, reach out to CDPL and talk to Dellie Craig. There are options to save oral interviews in the archives and of course if you have pictures, the library has an

amazing collection of Shades documentation that they would be happy to add scans of your photos (if you want to keep the originals) or any other documents you have of the Shades.

History is a treat and something that should be shared.



To make an appointment at CDPL to do genealogy research, reach out to Dellie Craig by calling the library at 765-362-2242 or by email at [dcraig@cdpl.lib.in.us](mailto:dcraig@cdpl.lib.in.us). Appointments can be made for up to an hour and a half.

## 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, get upcoming meeting info, and make new friends.

## Update from the Club



Hello Genealogy Club Members,

We had 12 people at the After Hours event on July 22. We enjoyed a meal together and spent some time on the second floor of the library doing research. This time we had three generations of one family attend: Stephanie SIMMS (member), Carrie THIEKE (member), and Carrie's daughters, Ember, and Lula, and son, Sterling. Passing along those genealogy traits can never start too early.

While we are happy to share the good news, it is made sweeter by news that is harder to share. We are sorry to share that club members Sam EVANS, Archie KROUT, and Teresa LARGENT's husband Pete, all passed away since last we met.

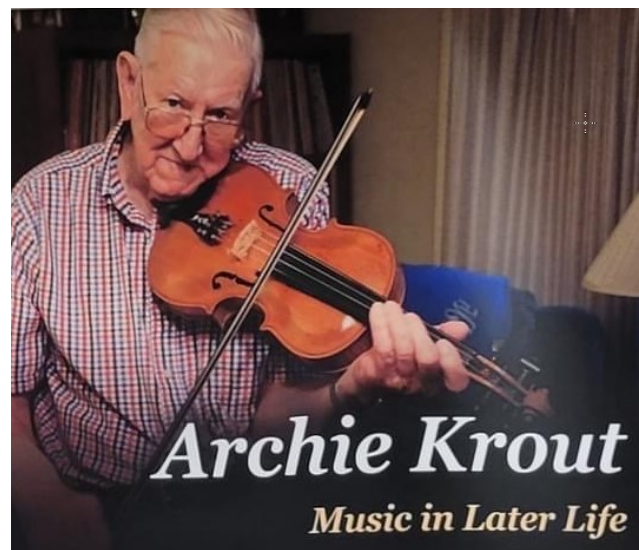
Sam EVANS and wife Ruth, pictured here, were founding members of the Genealogy Club. Their leadership and friendship will be missed by all. Sam and Ruth celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary before Ruth passed away in 2020. Sam passed away this June. Survivors include two daughters and 4 grandchildren.



Pete LARGENT passed away May 25, 2022. He and Teresa had been married 37 years. Besides Teresa, Pete is survived by three children, six grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. Our thoughts and prayers go out to you Teresa, and all of Pete's loved ones.

We also lost Archie KROUT in June. Archie celebrated his 100th birthday on May 13 and many of us sent birthday cards to make 100 extra special. Archie played the fiddle most of his life, often winning the Old Time Fiddle Prize at the IN State Fair.

"I'm up where all my generation is about gone now. All you can do is make new friends, you know?"  
~ Archie Krout



## Waveland Academy By Karen Zach

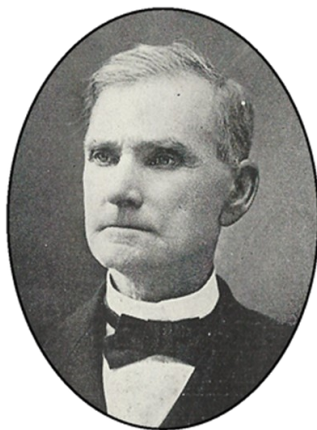
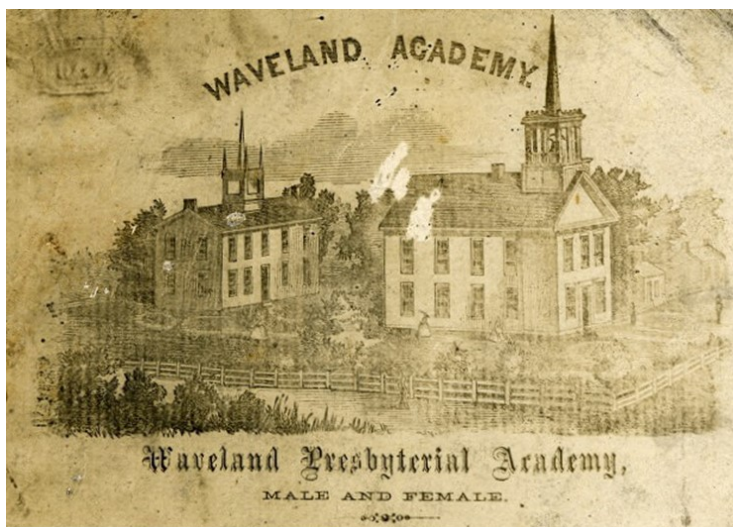


**Karen Zach**

Before we tell the birth, death and history of Waveland's educational claim to fame, perhaps the reader would like to view some of the interesting graduates of the school. Alphabetical listing but these are only a few of the many amazing graduates of the old Waveland Academy.

John Green BRADY was an orphan riding the rails with other orphans from the East. When he arrived in Tipton County, Indiana Judge John GREEN a prominent citizen asked for the "ugliest, raggedest and most friendless" orphan of the lot. That was John, afterward called Jack, but Jack appreciated his new home and the excellent care he was given by Judge GREEN's family. Learning at the public school there in Tipton, he was afterwards sent to Waveland Academy to prep him for Harvard. Next was Cambridge, sent to England to pursue theological studies. He returned to his adopted Indiana home, then went to Alaska as a missionary where he stayed as an aide in the Presbyterian Church and where in 1897 he was appointed Governor of the territory of Alaska.

Although James BUCHANAN was touted as a farmer, he was much, much more. Raised on a farm, yes, but educated in one of the best of the best in his growing up years, he attended, was active in and graduated from the Waveland Academy (in 1858). He studied law under his uncle, Isaac A. RICE in Attica where he remained until 1870 and went on to Indianapolis where he worked. However, he wasn't just a lawyer either, as he really made his money and fame as a patent maker (one of his straw stackers sold for \$160,000 in 1893 for example). As one of the best-known men in our capitol city, he was mourned at his death on January 6, 1894 and was commonly called, "Plan!" Maybe you can figure out why!



Not all the graduates remained in our area or even Indiana as can be seen with one John Lyle MARTYN (see photo from findagrave added by Nebord) who graduated from Waveland, was a Capt. in the 38<sup>th</sup> Indiana, where he was in several battles, often carrying important dispatches to Generals. He lived in Crawfordsville in his younger years but after the war, graduated from Iowa State and then practiced medicine for 23 years in Marshalltown, Iowa where he passed away April 28<sup>th</sup>, 1893, having been buried with military honors.

Genealogists - We do precision guess work based on unreliable data provided by those of questionable knowledge ~Anonymous

## Waveland Academy —cont.

J. Harvey OSBORNE was born in Putnam County July 29, 1857 and spent his younger years on a farm near the town of Carpentersville, came to Waveland Academy then on to Wabash College. Afterward, he studied law in Crawfordsville, but decided he loved teaching and joined the Wabash College faculty in 1883, spending 35 years as professor of mathematics. In 1882, he married Grace INSLEY and they had a son, who also became a professor (of English) at Wabash (James Insley OSBORNE) and two daughters, Helen Osborne RISTINE and Elsie Eleanor ANDERSON.



Assuredly, the most famous of the graduates of the famous little school would have to be T.C. STEELE. Theodore Clement STEELE was born September 11, 1847 in Owen County to Samuel Armstrong and Harriet Newell (Evans) STEELE, their oldest child. Two brothers and four sisters would follow, but it is unsure if any of them were educated at the institute. Likely not as their father passed away at the young age of 38 and Harriet had troubles keeping her little family together, although her parents, Jesse and Esther Newell EVANS came to Waveland to help, living right across the street from Harriet and the children, TC spending a lot of time with them. T.C. was so extremely talented way beyond anyone in the area that in order to obtain his education at the Academy, he taught art. The school probably got the better end of the deal. After he left Waveland as he turned 22, he went abroad to study, and began his career. Although he lived in

Indianapolis as well as having (House of the Singing Winds in Brown County) a home in southern Indiana, he often returned to his hometown of Waveland to create landscape sketchings and paintings of which he became quite famous. However, he did paint portraits of some of the governors and other important people. He served as a professor of painting at IU for some time. Not long (just a month or so) before he passed away he gave one of his landscape paintings to the Waveland Library and it remains there today and is close to 100 years old!

T.C. STEELE said of Waveland, "It is with pleasure and thankfulness I recall this little town, a village of five or six hundred inhabitants, where my childhood and youth were spent. It had the usual village stores and blacksmith's and wagon and carriage shops typical of the period, but it was a community of more than ordinary intelligence and situated in a charming and pleasant country of prosperous farms." This photo is of T.C. STEELE and came from FindAGrave Photo added by [Donna Kuhlman](#)

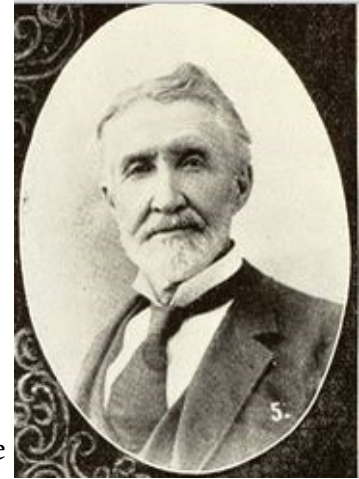
Yet to find a real famous woman who graduated from there just haven't, although there were many who went on to become teachers, marry and aide preachers, local leaders, artists and vocalists.

So, after reading about just a few of those who graduated from the Academy, just how did this school begin? Various Crawfordsville educators and part of the founders of Wabash College desired to build a prep-type school in the city but the Presbyterian Church in Waveland had already offered a strong building to begin an academy in Waveland with a cost of \$1200. The Presbytery had no desire to look a gift horse in the mouth so to speak and decided to accept that offer. Thus in 1849, the first step into an exceptional education began. The first principal was the then Presbyterian minister of the Waveland church. In 1852, it became too much to do two jobs and Rev. L.K. LEAK took over. Still growing, two young men fresh out of college (John M. COYNER and Henry S. KRITZ) became associate principals with new ideas and a great deal of energy. These two were the real promoters of the school.

## Waveland Academy—cont.

The curriculum was quickly expanded to include new courses of study and especially working to improve reciting and debating. With this concept, the school quickly owned students from ten states. These first years the school was literally a college-prep school with advanced courses beyond what the normal students would learn in the country or even most city schools. Let it be known that there was NO liquor available to the students; however, some of the wilder of the boys would make trips to Crawfordsville or down to Terre Haute and stuff their wares in the grips, taking them back to campus and burying them out in straw nearby or in the woods. Although there was an occasional student a bit tipsy (the professors usually thought this was due to the ozone of the woodland breezes by the school) they usually didn't get out of control enough to cause a major investigation except one time when the boys got a bit wild stealing each other's collections then all things stopped! Overall, it was an exceptionally good, clean school which was one reason why parents sent their students to school there!

In 1859, the principals and Presbytery group decided to add a scientific course while continuing the classical course (that actually prepared students to enter their junior year in college – tough)! This proved to be a wise move as they came in droves from all over (at one time having almost 200 students) to obtain an education to go forth to teach, be in business, or become farmers, physicians, lawyers, ministers, or almost any profession. These were happy, golden years for the school. Then the Civil War broke it all loose! So many of the students left to join up to fight that their doors were almost locked. Luckily, at the close of the rebellion, many of the young men returned to finish out their course of study and a new life for the Waveland Academy reflected the new life of the country. The academy remained an amazing school, with frequent and extensive revivals the students took active part in, that grew in number of students, buildings, and instructors. However, once the free school system was created in the state, slowly the funds, patronage and interest declined and the 1877-78 school year was the last taught going back to just one building.



Henry S. Kritz ~from  
FindAGrave  
Added by  
[Carol Robertson White](#)

Editor's Note: This is the another installment in the series highlighting notable Montgomery County Families and places written by Karen Bazzani ZACH. This article was first featured on the INGenWeb site for Montgomery County that is populated thanks in big part to Karen's efforts. Thank you, Karen for your love of genealogy and efforts to preserve our history. You can find this and other interesting information about Montgomery County at: The INGenWeb Project, Copyright ©1997-2018 (and beyond), Montgomery County GenWeb site <http://www.ingenweb.org/inmontgomery/>

We should never expect  
that there is someone else  
out there who will make  
sure our ancestors are  
remembered.



## Shade State Park “75th Anniversary”

By Stephanie Simms



On July 16, 2022, Shades State Park hosted the 75th anniversary of the State Park. Many guests were in attendance, include relatives of Joseph FRISZ who was the owner of the Garland Dells Mineral Spring Association ,the original owner of the park property, that started the resort which became the Shades.

The area in southern Montgomery County was long known for it’s natural beauty by those living nearby. As time went by, more people heard about the area and wanted to come experience it for themselves. According to Steve STOCKTON, one time assistant manager of the park, Garland Dells operated a small inn and cottages for those who wanted to enjoy the natural beauty that the Shades had to offer.

STOCKTON said that FRISZ was known as a great preservationist who would alter trails or roads to save trees (anyone who has taken a trail at the Shades can attest to the inability to move in a straight line). FRISZ remained an ardent guardian of the Shades until his death in 1939.

At the anniversary, I learned FRISZ hosted a CCC group housed at the Shades between 1933—1942. The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) group stayed on the Shades property to help in any way they could to better or beautify the area. While no buildings were built at the Shades by the CCC, many farmers in the area were helped by these young men who served. Photo below from CDPL.



Iva ETTER MELVIN, one of my aunts, worked at the inn during those years and talked a bit about the inn and the dance hall. In my days, I remember the dance hall standing by the pond and if you were brave, you could walk out on the balcony to fish. I heard my dad tell the FRISZ descendants at the celebration some of those same stories I had heard, but also adding to it that he remembered as a child, sitting in the balcony inside and watching the square dancers go round and round to the caller’s orders.

In 1942, the State of Indiana expressed interest in the property but no price was settled. In 1947, the heirs decided to sell the property. Afraid that a timber company would snatch up the woods, the Save the Shades campaign began. I learned at the 75th anniversary that the American Legion spearheaded the campaign. Not a surprise to me at all, if there is a good deed to be done, our veterans find a way to organize and get things done.

One of those at the 75th remembered in school that all the kids saved their nickels for the Shades instead of buying milk at lunch. Some how I thought the Shades was an old, old State Park so it was a surprise to me to learn how recent this campaign really was.

On Facebook, the Indiana State Parks page posted a story about the Shades and said that by “1920 the resort boasted a 50 room inn, 12 cottages, a dance hall, a grocery, picnic grounds, a refrigeration plant, ice machines, an electric plant, and a bottling works.” One of the FRISZ descendants remembered bottling root beer in the basement of the inn as a kid.

In 1947, the State of Indiana, with the help of many citizens across the state, completed the purchase of the Shades and it became the 15th state park. While the inn and all the other buildings associated



Dance hall photo at the 75th celebration

Shades State Park -cont.

with it are long gone, the Shades is a magical place to be. I have wonderful memories camping with my great grandparents (Cletus and Orpha BLACKFORD), my grandparents (Chuck and Delores SIMMS), my parents (Steve and Teresa SIMMS), and my brother (Dean RAINWATER) all at the same time! If I had a picture to post of any of those times, I'm sure we would be on a trail or outside the campers, playing with lawn jarts with metal points on the ends.

If any of you have memories or photos you would like to share of the Shades, you can do so at the CDPL or you can contact the park at <https://www.in.gov/dnr/state-parks/parks-lakes/shades-state-park/> and share there also. If you would like to share any memories with me, I would love to hear them: [smsimms@outlook.com](mailto:smsimms@outlook.com).

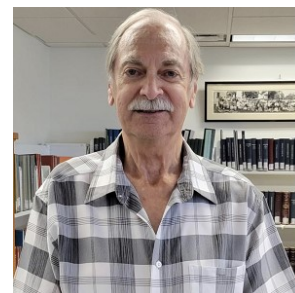


Library Happenings by Dellie Craig



Dellie Craig

David MCCORMICK from California, was at CDPL on June 19th. This year David joined our Genealogy Club.



Margaret YOUNG and Robert STEVENSON from near Indianapolis came in to CDPL. Robert found information about his father and walked in front of the house where his dad had lived. His father was Vice President of Hoosier Crown from 1932—1936

The CANINE cousins met at CDPL in June to do more family research. This time we had Jon CANINE, Cindy Canine FLESHER, and Chris CANINE. Cindy is from Zionsville, and Jon and Chris are from Kentucky. Jon and Chris come to CDPL every couple of months to do research and are both members of the Genealogy Club.



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The annual dues of the Genealogy Club of Montgomery County Indiana Inc. for the period October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023 are due in September 2022.

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](http://www.cdpl.lib.in.us) Find us under the services tab and click on Genealogy Club of Montgomery County

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