

# ANCESTORS

Bartholomew County Genealogical Society, Inc  
PO Box 2455  
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Editor, Kim Ray

## UPcoming!

-by Jennie Rauch

Hello, Genealogy Friends!

Our Annual Picnic Pitch-in lunch will be at 12:30 on July 23 in the Bartholomew County Library Conference Room. For those who

wish to participate, surnames A - L are asked to bring a salad - pasta, toss, chicken, etc. M - Z, please bring a dessert. We'll get to socialize a bit before our presentation! Tableware and drinks will be provided.

At 1:15, we'll begin our program on Deeds, presented by our own Donna Kuhlman. Where to find them, and what they mean just might unlock clues to prove parent/child relationship, burial location, and much more! Donna always has good tips to keep our genealogy juices flowing, and answers to our questions never seem to faze her!

In September, we'll explore the influence of the Ulster Scots on U.S. and Indiana history. Mark Lawson is a Trustee of the Indianapolis Scottish Society and Life Member of the Clan MacLaren Society NA. Mr. Lawson's enthusiasm is contagious, and I look forward to warmly welcoming him to our Sept. 17 meeting at 1 pm in the Bartholomew County Library Red Room. This is a week after Columbus' popular Annual Scottish Festival, so we expect a good crowd!

In November, we'll share our own genealogical stories of struggles and successes of the past year, and briefly have the Election of Officers, for a low-key conclusion to our program year.

As we keep our eyes and ears tuned to possible topics for the coming year, I invite you, the members, to suggest ideas for programs you'd like, and speakers you've heard of. Let me, or any Board Member know any glimmer of an idea, so we can work together to continue a diverse roster of interesting presentations, and keep attendance growing!

### BCGS 2011 Officers

President: Margot Green  
Vice President: Jennie Rauch  
Secretary: Carolyn Wheeler  
Treasurer/Membership: Sarah Bush  
Genealogist: Donna Kuhlman  
Genealogist: Karen Loy

### Calendar

Jul 23: Genealogical Gold Found in Deed Records

Sep 17: Migration of Ulster Scots to the 'Colonies' & Influence of Scots thinking on the American Revolution

Nov 19: Annual Mtg Celebration & Election of Officers

### Inside this Issue

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(see Jennie's Upcoming!)

**Shelby Co. Cem Books** p2  
(see Margot's President's Message)

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(Remembering a Civil War Soldier)

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(transcribed by Jane Johnson)

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**DON'T FORGET YOUR GENEALOGY RESOURCES  
TO SWAP, SELL OR TRADE AT THE JULY PICNIC !!**

Editor's Note: Many thanks to all BCGS Board Members for their time and articles to make Ancestors the "Voice of BCGS" ! As a courtesy, and to insure the personal communication with each of you, their columns are not edited. Hope you enjoy !

## President's Message



by Margot Green

## BCGS Donates Shelby County Cemetery Books to Library

*Besides promoting genealogical research through programs and publications, BCGS uses its funds to add to genealogical resources available to local researchers. I am pleased to announce that we have donated a complete set of books covering cemeteries in neighboring Shelby County (IN) to the Bartholomew County Public*

*Library in memory of Marcella Jones, a BCGS Founding Member and long-time officer, who passed away last year. The books will be available in the Indiana Room soon.*

*As you know, cemetery research can reveal important information about our ancestors that is not available elsewhere. Since many Bartholomew County residents have roots in Shelby County, we believe these volumes will be useful to a number of family researchers here.*

*The comprehensive set contains fifteen volumes, fourteen covering township cemeteries. Each township book contains a county map and township map as well as a drawing showing the layout of the cemetery, a description of its location, various names by which it may have been known over the years, and any other information available. Each township book has an index, and there is an overall index for all the townships. (There is even a bit of Bartholomew County information here. When the Shelbyville Genealogical Society did the reading for Roberts Chapel in Jackson Township, members also did the Roberts Chapel across the road in Bartholomew County.)*

*The fifteenth volume contains information for Forest Hill Cemetery in Shelbyville. This is the largest cemetery in the county and holds approximately 18,000 graves.*

*Marcella took a leadership role in BCGS from its earliest days, serving as secretary and president in the 1990s. She also played a significant part in bringing our 1999 book, Bartholomew County Family Histories, Churches and Schools to life. In addition, her establishment of a BCGS endowment through the Heritage Fund added significantly to our resources. We believe that donating the Shelby County cemetery books in honor of Marcella appropriately recognizes the contributions of a dedicated family researcher and BCGS pioneer.*

BCGS Website Coming!  
Stay Tuned!

# Highlights



-BY CAROLYN WHEELER

WERE YOU ABLE TO ATTEND THE MAY MEETING OF THE SOCIETY? CHARLI CHAMPION-SHAW OF THE CHEYENNE-

ARAPAHOE TRIBE OF OK PRESENTED SOME THINGS FOR US TO CONSIDER WHEN SEARCHING FOR NATIVE AMERICAN ANCESTORS. ACCOMPANYING HER WAS REBECCA VICTORINO MARTIN OF THE PUEBLO OF ACOMA TRIBE OF NEW MEXICO.

OUR SPEAKER SAID THAT TODAY THERE ARE 40,000 PEOPLE OF NATIVE AMERICAN ANCESTRY LIVING IN INDIANA. SHE ALSO SAID THERE IS NO SINGLE AMERICAN INDIAN CULTURE OR LANGUAGE. TRIBAL NATIONS ARE AN EXTENSIVE NETWORK OF EXTENDED FAMILIES. SHE CAUTIONED US TO SEPARATE MYTH FROM REALITY. THERE WAS NO STATUS OF ROYALTY IN THE TRIBES, NO INDIAN PRINCESSES; SWEAT LODGES WERE NOT UNIVERSAL, AND A "POW-WOW" WAS JUST A MEETING. ALSO, CHEROKEES WORE TURBANS, NOT WAR BONNETS.

WHEN SEARCHING FOR TRIBAL PEOPLE DO BASIC CHECKS AS YOU WOULD WITH ANYONE. LOOK FOR BIRTH CERTIFICATES, MARRIAGE LICENSES, CEMETERY RECORDS, ETC. SEARCH EACH GENERATION. IN 1885 CENSUS ROLLS WERE STARTED FOR THE NATIVE AMERICANS. THROUGH ACTS OF CONGRESS MANY NATIVES WERE RECORDED, BUT THEY HAD TO BE ABLE TO PROVE WHAT LAND THEY CLAIMED. ALSO, THEY MAY BE LISTED AS MULATTO, MESTIZO OR METIS. ALL OF THESE COULD MEAN NATIVE AMERICAN IN THE 1900 OR 1910 CENSUSES.

STUDY HISTORIES OF THEIR FORCED REMOVAL. THAT MAY NARROW DOWN THEIR WHEREABOUTS DURING A CERTAIN TIME FRAME. SEARCH OTHER COMMUNITIES. THERE IS THE POSSIBILITY THEY MAY BE HIDING IN ANOTHER CULTURE. AMONG THOSE WHO WERE FORCED TO RELOCATE, SOME STAYED WITH OTHER PEOPLE ALONG THE WAY AND NEVER MADE IT TO THEIR NEW HOME.

LASTLY, THERE ARE NUMEROUS WEBSITES ONE CAN CHECK OUT. PARTICULARLY HELPFUL FOR DOING NATIVE AMERICAN ANCESTRY RESEARCH IS ACCESSGENEALOGY.COM. CONSIDER ALSO THE U. S. BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OR THE U. S. FEDERAL CENSUS BUREAU.

*Want your Newsletter in COLOR? It's FREE, FAST & HOT off the Press!*

*Your 2011 membership offers that opportunity.....Just send us a request at*

[BCGS47202@yahoo.com](mailto:BCGS47202@yahoo.com)

*and get your next newsletter via. email !!*

# 150th Anniversary ! New Civil War Era Records ! Check it out at Ancestry.com



## Karen's Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness

-by Karen Loy

[Editor's Note: This is the 4<sup>th</sup> of 4 articles Karen submitted on Civil War Veterans from The Evening Republican.]

*The Evening Republican*  
Monday, July 29, 1940

### **EDMOND WESLEY, NINEVEH, DIES**

**90-year-old Resident Was  
Last Johnson County  
Civil War Veteran**

Edinburg, July 29 –  
Edmon T. Wesley, 90, last  
Civil war veteran of  
Johnson county, died at

3:30 Saturday afternoon at  
his home in Nineveh,  
following a year's illness  
from a stroke.

Funeral services will be  
held at 10 o'clock Tuesday  
morning at the Nineveh  
Christian church in charge  
of the pastor, the Rev. G. F.  
Powers. Burial will be in  
the Nineveh cemetery.

Mr. Wesley had been a  
resident of Nineveh for the

past 43 years and was well-  
known. He was born in  
Liberty Center, Ky, March  
17, 1850, and joined the  
Union army when 18 years  
of age with Company L  
Kentucky cavalry, seeing  
action in Virginia. His  
father was the first man to  
volunteer in Kentucky and a  
brother, William P. Wesley,  
was the second.

He was a member of a  
Methodist church in  
Kentucky and was married  
three times. First to Miss  
Peachy Duncan, who died.  
Mrs Clara Walker Wesley  
died ten years ago and he  
married Miss Florence  
Ellis, who survives. One  
son, Ollie Wesley, two half-  
brothers and several nieces  
and nephews also survive.

*Editor's Note: If Karen has inspired you with this 4 part Series on the Civil War and you want to know more - Here's a short list of Civil War books located in the Indiana Room of the Bartholomew County Public Library*

- 1) *Soldiers from Bartholomew County, Indiana in the Civil War*  
-by Helen Coffman
- 2) *Civil War Soldiers from Bartholomew County, Indiana*  
-by Joseph Hart Chapter D.A.R.
- 3) *Indiana Civil War Veterans – Transcription of the Death Rolls of the Department of Indiana Grand Army of the Republic 1882-1948*  
-by Dennis Northcott



## *REMEMBERING*

### *A BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY CIVIL WAR SOLDIER*

*Editor's Note: Below are 2 articles on Major Augustus H Abbett from the reprinted 1888 History of Bartholomew County, Indiana vol. 1, by the Bartholomew County Historical Society Oct 1976. The first article, "Special recognition", is an excerpt from the Military History section and the second, "Maj. Augustus H. Abbett", is from the Addenda. It is interesting to note, Major Abbett was a cousin of W.A.Abbett, who was featured in Karen Loy's 4-part article on Civil War Veterans from The Evening Republican.*

#### *Special recognition*

Among the names of Bartholomew soldiers conspicuous for military service, none deserves more prominent mention than that of Augustus H Abbett. In less than a week after the firing of Fort Sumter, he, at the head of 100 men, was ready to go to the front in defense of his country. After serving less than one month he was promoted to Major of regiment, September 5, 1862. At the battle of Munfordsville, Kentucky, the first action in which the [67<sup>th</sup>] regiment was engaged, taking an exposed position in order to encourage his men, he was killed September 14, 1862.

#### *Maj. Augustus H. Abbett*

*(The following is condensation of a Civil War biography of Maj. Augustus H. Abbett, one of a number of Bartholomew county officers who lost their lives in the Civil War. It was written by Dr. Moses N. Elrod of Columbus and Hartsville for publication in the souvenir booklet of the Indiana GAR Encampment in Columbus in May, 1898)*

*By Dr. Moses N. Elrod  
(Written in 1898)*

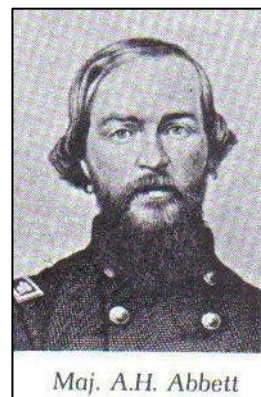
Maj. Augustus H. Abbett, whose photograph appears on the souvenir badge of the Nineteenth Annual Encampment of the GAR of Indiana, was born in Columbus Oct. 16, 1831, and spent his early life farming. When Fort Sumter was fired upon and Indiana called for raising of six regiments, he was one of the first to respond, raising a company of Bartholomew county men.

The unit of 74 men, the second company in the state to be enlisted, was assigned as Company B of the Sixth Regiment, Indiana Infantry, the first Indiana regiment to be formed, and on June 3, 1861, took part in the battle at Philippi, W. Va., then in engagements at Laurel Hill and Garrick's Ford. During occupation of Philippi by his regiment, Abbett and another officer, making an examination of the enemy's position, captured one of Bradley's Rebel cavalry officers. The capture was so cleverly managed that it was deemed worthy of "honorable mention."

Abbett's command returned to Indianapolis and was mustered out Aug. 2, 1861. Then upon reorganization of the Sixth Regiment for three years' service, Abbett again enlisted and raised a company [apparently C company] from this area and received the appointment of major. The unit then entered Kentucky, moved on into Tennessee and Savannah, taking part in the battle of Shiloh [as also recorded in the 1888 Bartholomew County History and in this reprint].

#### *Raises second company*

At Florence, Ala., because of troubles in his regiment, Major Abbett resigned, much to regret of the non-commissioned officers and privates, who presented him with a magnificent sword. He returned home, expecting to retire to private life, but President Lincoln's call for 300,000 more men changed his plans and



Maj. A.H. Abbett

*(Maj. Augustus H Abbett continued)*

he raised a Bartholomew county company (D) for the 67<sup>th</sup> Indiana Regiment and again was appointed major. The regiment was hurried to Munfordville, Ky., for garrison duty and on Sept. 13, 1862, a strong brigade of Rebel cavalry and a battery of mountain howitzers, the advance of Bragg's army, appeared and demanded unconditional surrender of the Union forces.

John T Wilder, the Union commanding colonel, refused and Major Abbett was assigned with a small force to defend a redoubt some distance from the main fortifications, with orders to hold it at all hazards. The next morning the Rebels made a furious attack, which was vigorously repelled by the Union forces.

“Finally the Rebels essayed to storm the works, but were repulsed with great slaughter. Immediately afterward two Mississippi regiments and a battalion of sharpshooters made a similar attack on the redoubt. Its little band poured into the advancing Rebels a most murderous fire. Yet on they advanced, as if determined to storm and overcome every obstacle.

“At this juncture, perceiving the critical situation of affairs and realizing the importance of firmness on the part of his men, who had never before been under fire, Major Abbett sprang upon the parapet, with his hat in one hand and his saber in the other, and in a clear, ringing voice encouraged and cheered his men. He was struck in the breast by a musket ball and fell dead under the flag he so nobly defended.”



INDIANA STATE LIBRARY  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2011  
9:00 A.M. – 3:30 P.M.

THE INDIANA STATE LIBRARY WILL HOST THE THIRD ANNUAL  
INDIANA GENEALOGY AND LOCAL HISTORY FAIR  
IN DOWNTOWN INDIANAPOLIS  
ADMISSION IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC

VISIT THE TABLES IN THE “MIDWAY” TO COLLECT INFORMATION FROM  
GENEALOGICAL AND LOCAL HISTORY ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIANA PUBLIC  
LIBRARIES, AND SHOP THE COMMERCIAL VENDORS.

Three **FREE** programs will be offered throughout the day. Librarians can earn one (1) LEU per program for attendance. Our speakers will include:

**What's New with Family Search**

Deborah Engleking – Assistant Director of the Indianapolis Indiana Stake Family History Center

**A Dozen Ways to Jump Start Your Family History Project**

Loretto Dennis SZUCS – Nationally known author and editor of Genealogical materials; Executive Editor and Vice-President of Community Relations for Ancestry.com

**Hidden Sources**

Loretto Dennis SZUCS - Nationally known author and editor of Genealogical materials; Executive Editor and Vice-President of Community Relations for Ancestry.com



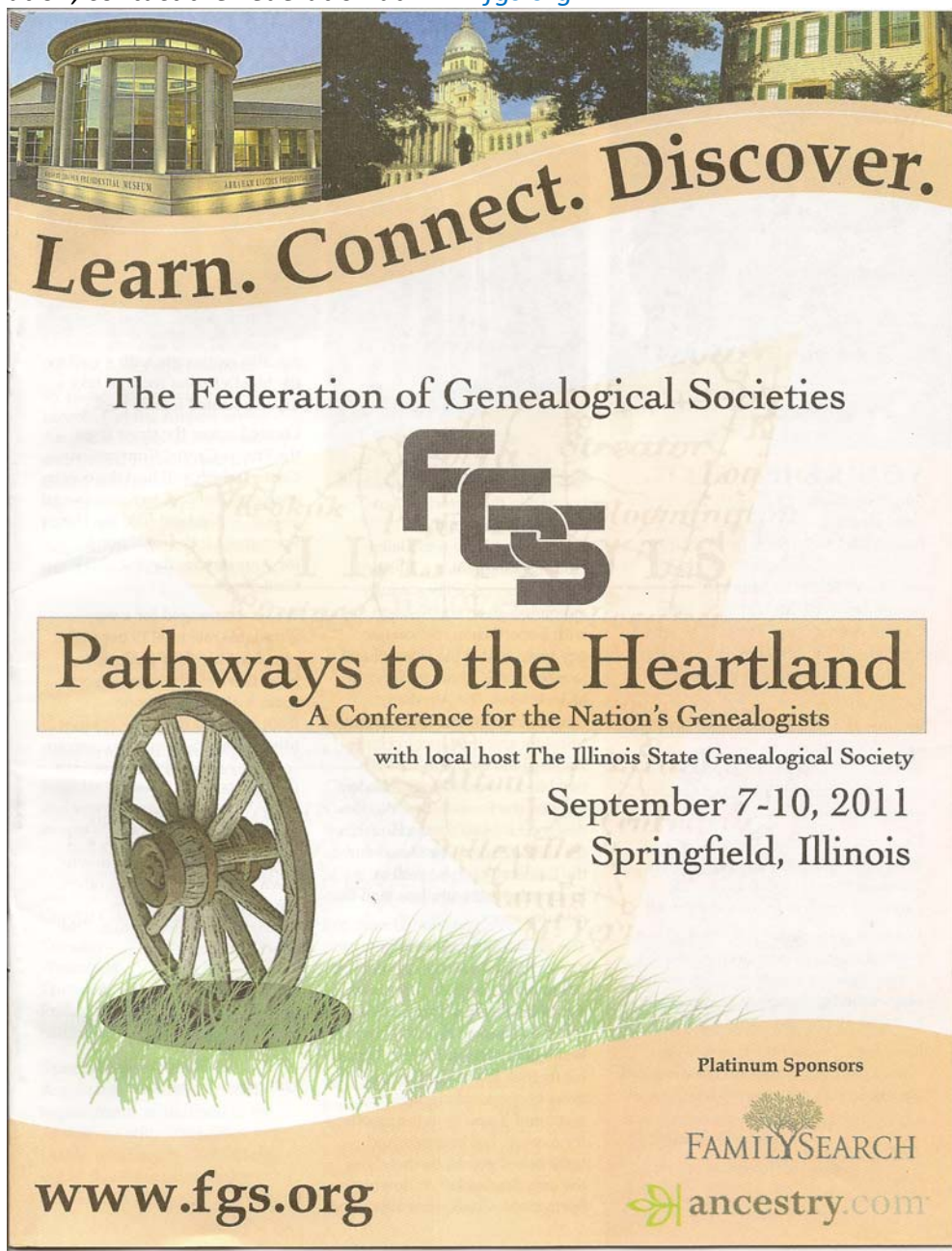
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315 W. OHIO STREET, INDIANAPOLIS, IN ♦ (317) 232-3689

## FGS Genealogy Conference “Pathways to the Heartland”

-by Margot Green

The Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) invites people interested in tracing family histories to Learn, Connect and Discover at its September 7-10 Annual Conference in (relatively) nearby Springfield Illinois. According to its announcement, the conference offers more than 160 educational lectures by many of the nation’s leading family history experts and is appropriate for all family historians – from people just getting started to experienced genealogists. Wednesday September 7 is devoted to genealogical societies, and presentations on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday are organized into several tracks such as “In the Heartland” covering the Midwest, “Our Military Ancestors,” “Strategies and Techniques,” “They Came From,” and “FamilySearch Technology.” There are also several workshops.

Cost for the entire conference (not including hotel) is \$235, and one-day registrations are priced at \$99 each. For more information, contact the Federation at [www.fgs.org](http://www.fgs.org).



**Learn. Connect. Discover.**

The Federation of Genealogical Societies

**FGS**

**Pathways to the Heartland**  
A Conference for the Nation’s Genealogists

with local host The Illinois State Genealogical Society

September 7-10, 2011  
Springfield, Illinois

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## Ancestors in the News

*Transcribed by J. Johnson*

### ***Columbus Republican***

*July 6, 1876*

*Petersville*

A little girl of John **Drake**'s fell from a spring wagon on last Saturday, and broke one of her arms.

Miss Fannie **Pope**, of Columbus, has been visiting Miss Ida **Robertson**...this past week.

Jacob **Nestow** preached in the ville....

*July 20, 1876*

*Personals*

Mr. Will **Dickey**...is visiting Dr. L W. **Comstock**. Mrs. Dr. **Hudson** has been quite ill for the past few days.

Marriage license was issued to John H **Elkins** and Susan C. **Elkins** on the 13<sup>th</sup>.

Lizzie, daughter of Henry F and Rachal **Shultz**, aged about 14 years, died on Tuesday.

Lowell **Valentine**, who was killed at the the Black Hills, by the Indians in a recent raid is a brother of Mrs. Charley **Hamilton**....

John **Godfrey** was arraigned the second time on a charge of passing counterfeit money and acquitted before Esq. **Arnold** on Tuesday.

The safe of B. **Busch** & Sons was blown open.... Fred **Volland**'s horse ran way with him.....

*August 17, 1876*

Miss Hattie **Morledge** is confined to her home by sickness.

Mrs Wm **Hamilton** of Franklin is in the city visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. F. **Jones**.

Mr. Wm **McEwen** has been dangerously ill...

Miss Alice **Pope** returns home....

W D **Storey**, of Elizabethtown, was in town.....

Mrs. **Jones** and daughter, Emma, were in town..

### ***The Evening Republican***

*Monday, September 4, 1911*

Ben C. **Thomas** whose grain elevator was destroyed by fire a month ago, has acquired ownership of the old ceraline mill and will probably convert it into a grain elevator with a capacity of 100,000 bushels. The ceraline mill property was held by Mrs. Carrie **Bostwick**, sister of Mr. Thomas, and Mrs. Lulu **Nemethy**, a daughter of the late Joseph **Gent**.

John **Ong** left this morning for Lafayette to attend the Y.M.C.A. convention and to reenter Purdue.

Mrs. Bert **Greenlee** and children went to Clifford this morning to spend the day with her mother, Mrs. M J **Butler**.

Mrs. Fred **Kline** returned from Seymour Sunday evening where she has been visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph **Niemeier** for a week.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford **Weithoff** and daughter, Florence, of Seymour, visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs John **Rothrock**....

Mrs. Graham **Ong**, of Detroit, Mich., who has been visiting her mother, Mrs. Belle **Wilson**....

*Monday, September 18, 1911*

Mrs. Jane **Norton** entertained her children yesterday at her home on Mechanic street in honor of her eighty-third natal day.

*Patterson Family Reunion*

Oldest...Mrs Sarah M **Patterson** who is ninety-three and the youngest, infant daughter of Mr and Mrs Walter **Cooper**.

The case of James H **McKenna** against George W **Robertson** and others has been sent to Johnson county on a change of venue. This is the case in which suit was brought against a large number of local people to collect subscriptions for stock in the United States Amusement Company.

Marriage...Addie **Robbins**, Taylorsville, to Ab **Smith**



## Kim's Korner

-by Kim Ray

Have you ever used Find-A-Grave? Yea, I did too.... like a good research book at the Library. Now and again, you get a hit... and then you move on. But recently, I've had a change of heart.

While researching a Civil War family, where some of the grown children moved to other states, I used Find-A-Grave, like always, to see if there was anything online. What I found was more than a few gravestones.

In Missouri, I found someone requesting a photo for the same person I was looking for. We connected via some emails and found out we're related. I'm learning.

In Idaho, I found where someone had uploaded an entire military cemetery and someone else added flowers. I'm impressed.

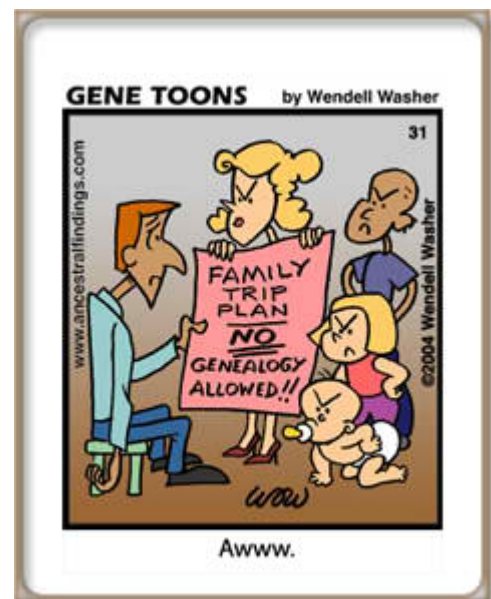
In Illinois, I found where someone posted an obit with the gravestone, someone else added flowers, and a third put a beautiful picture of a dove flying over water with the words "God Bless You". I'm touched.

In Arkansas, I again found flowers, along with 2 veterans who left a patriotic symbol and a note to a fallen Civil War Soldier. One remembering the unit he served, the other adding: "May this nation never forget the sacrifices made for freedom". I'm humbled.

I've decided to register and leave some flowers of my own, and maybe a note or two. I want to upload some of the gravestone pictures I have in my own personal collection. And, I might just look online to see if anyone has a request before I head out to the cemetery with my camera. I'm hooked!

## Genealogy Humor

- Everybody's ancestor could not have fit on Columbus' ship!
- Genealogy Lotto: xxxxx  
Scratch here to reveal ancestor.
- Sure a real job would be nice,  
but it would interfere with my genealogy.
- After 30 days, unclaimed ancestors will be adopted.
- History is written by the winners.
- Never take to sawin' on the branch that's supportin' you, unless you're bein' hung from it.
- He who dies with the most ancestors wins!



**Bartholomew County Genealogical Society, Inc**  
**PO Box 2455**  
**Columbus, Indiana 47202-2455**  
*Member of Indiana Genealogical Society and  
Federation of Genealogical Societies*

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***Bartholomew County Genealogical Society Membership***

*Membership year extends from January – December and includes 4 issues of ANCESTORS*

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_ **CITY:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ST:** \_\_\_\_ **ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Enclosed is a check for 1year Membership:    Individual (\$10)    Couple (\$15)**

\_\_\_\_\_ **NEW MEMBER(S)**    \_\_\_\_\_ **RENEWAL**    \_\_\_\_\_ **NEWSLETTER via. EMAIL**

**RESEARCHING/additional SURNAMES:** \_\_\_\_\_

***Thanks for your Support !!***

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*The public is invited to attend any of the BCGS meetings/outings. The meetings are held in the Bartholomew County Public Library Red Room at 1:00 on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday, bimonthly from January to November. Please always check the calendar for alternative times and locations. For more info, please contact us at: [bcs47202@yahoo.com](mailto:bcs47202@yahoo.com)*