

ANCESTORS

B A R T H O L O M E W C O U N T Y G E N E A L O G I C A L S O C I E T Y , I N C

BCGS 2014 Board Members

President: Marcus Spear

Vice Pres: Heather McDonald

Secretary: Margot Green

Treasurer: Becky Speaker

Membership: Frances Land

Genealogist: Donna Kuhlman

Genealogist: Karen Loy

Newsletter Editor: Kim Ray



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CONTACT US

(see back page)

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BCGS 2014 CALENDAR

- 1pm 25 Jan Sandhill Cemetery Revisited
-by Ron Shadley
- 10am 22 Feb Facebooking Your Past
-by Allison Singleton
- 1pm 22 Mar New Technology
-by Jason Hatton
- 10am 26 Apr S.K.I.L.L.S. for Members
(topic TBA)
- 7pm (Thurs) 29 May Interesting & Influential Columbus People
and Research Techniques Used -by Tami Iorio
- 10am 26 Jul Decatur Co. Historical Museum Tour
and Lunch at Stories Restaurant
- 1pm 20 Sep Underground Railroad Connections
in Jeffersonville -by Paulette Roberts
- 10am 25 Oct S.K.I.L.L.S. for Members
(topic TBA)
- 1pm 22 Nov Barth. Co. participants in Spanish-American
War of 1898 -by Donna Kuhlman



Unless otherwise noted, all programs are held in the Bartholomew County Public Library Red Room (S.K.I.L.L.S. are for members only, held in BCPL Conf Rm)

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 !

2013 Annual Report by Marcus Speer

As a result of a dedicated Bartholomew County Genealogical Society board, our Society has had another great year. Board members not only performed their duties but made substantial improvements to the way their work was done. I hope you will take the time to thank them for their service in 2013.

Officers and Board Members

First, I want to thank outgoing officers, Jennie Rauch and Carolyn Wheeler, for their service on the BCGS board over several years. During my presidency, Jennie has served as our Vice-President. Jennie was instrumental in planning and organizing all of our BCGS programs for 2013 and for 2014. Along with securing our speakers, our Vice-President takes care of all of our room reservations. During my presidency, Carolyn has served as our Secretary demonstrating her excellent record keeping for the BCGS board. She has always kept accurate minutes for both our monthly board meetings and programs. On behalf of the BCGS membership, we extend a special thank you and best wishes to both Jennie and Carolyn. We look forward to seeing them at our future programs. I am sure their contributions will not end with their retirements from the BCGS board.

Next, I want to thank Margot Green for her continuing service on the BCGS board as our Past President and her willingness to be our Secretary in 2014. Her support of the BCGS board and programs has been outstanding. I am delighted that she continues to find fulfillment through her service on our board.

During 2013, Heather McDonald graciously accepted the position of BCGS Webmaster. She has done an excellent job especially with posts on our BCGS Facebook page. She was delighted when we surpassed 50 "Likes." Heather has agreed (and was elected) to serve as our Vice-President in 2014. Therefore, we are hoping to appoint a new Webmaster in the coming year.

We began 2013 with Sarah Bush as our Treasurer, and after her resignation in April, Becky Speaker (2012 BCGS Webmaster) stepped up to serve as our Treasurer for the rest of the year. Becky has continued to report to the board concerning all BCGS accounts and to receive membership dues. Becky has agreed to continue her serve (and was elected) as BCGS Treasurer in 2014.

BCGS continues to be served well by our two genealogists, Donna Kuhlman and Karen Loy, who assist with the 30 plus queries that come to the Society throughout the year. Both are very capable in assisting those who submit queries often through our webpage, and providing support for those who need additional genealogical information for their families. Donna and Karen will continue to serve as our BCGS genealogists in 2014.

Our Membership List is overseen by our Membership Chair, Fran Land. Fran accounts for all of our BCGS members including lifetime members. She also has assisted with attendance recordkeeping (members and guests) and nametag distribution at all of our Programs. It was reported that we had 72 members in 2013.

Editor Kim Ray compiles, edits, and submits our quarterly newsletter, *Ancestors*. With her assistance, we have been able to transition to full-color e-newsletters for our membership. During 2013, we transitioned to less than six printed newsletters for those unable to receive electronic copies. These newsletters can also be found posted on the BCGS website: www.barthgen.org. Kim will continue as our BCGS Editor in 2014.

In July, Annette Blount began attending our board meetings as a "library liaison." Annette is the Reference Librarian for Bartholomew County Public Library, and she assists with those doing genealogical research while at the library. The board has enjoyed having her presence and input at our monthly meetings.

As you can tell, BCGS has a wonderful group of active and effective officers, directors, and liaison support who have faithfully met on the third Tuesday of every month (except December) throughout 2013.

Programs

During 2013, BCGS hosted eight interesting programs, which included a new S.K.I.L.L.S. Program for BCGS members. On January 26, Jason Hatton, Library Assistant Director, provided information to a total of 23 (22 members & 1 guest) about two online resources: Dropbox & Evernote. We learned of the usefulness of both of these resources when conducting genealogical research and communicating with other researchers.

Although BCGS does not regularly have a February program, on February 23, we had a special (excellent) program: "BCGS Goes to DC: The National Archives Experience." Attending were 21 members and four guests. Presenters were the four board members who traveled to the National Archives, namely, Becky Speaker, Fran Land, Donna Kuhlman, & Kim Ray. Information was shared about preparing and researching at the Archives, and we learned how to research veterans without actually traveling to DC.

In March (23), the BCGS program was presented by Ron Shadley, a Columbus funeral director, and 34 were in attendance with 22 members and 11 guests. Ron's historical presentation centered first on burial traditions such as caskets, burial boxes and containers. Then, he shared information about burials and gravestones in Van Pelt Cemetery in Shelby County. Ron also shared information about his involvement with the restoration at Sandhill Cemetery. Restoration work was to begin in April, 2013.

On May 18th, our program: "Let's Get Organized" was led by one of our own: BCGS member Toni Rogers Whiteside. She shared excellent information to 28 attendees, with 20 members and 8 guests, about getting records, pictures, etc. organized for presentations or sharing opportunities (maybe at a County Fair).

The BCGS annual luncheon occurred on July 27 with a program at Atterbury-Bakalar Air Museum and lunch at Blackerby's Hangar 5 Restaurant. Our Membership Chair, Fran Land reported that there were 13 members and two visitors at the July outing. It was an excellent program about local and international history that most of us were unaware of right here in Bartholomew County. We all enjoyed a great lunch as always at the Hangar.

After a change in the schedule, our program on September 21 was a Roundtable. Honestly, many were unsure how this would work and how successful it would be. We were all pleasantly surprised to find an enjoyable and productive Roundtable program. Because of great contribution from the 14 members and three guests who were present, we all declared the program a success.

For the first time, BCGS hosted a SKILLS meeting on October 25 for our BCGS membership. Facilitators were Kim Ray and Becky Speaker who shared useful information about timelines in genealogical research. As noted in the e-mail that was sent after the session: "Our next S.K.I.L.L.S. session is the last Saturday in April on Apr. 26. We hope that these "Sharing Knowledge in Light Learning Sessions" will help us get to know each other, learn from each other, and become better genealogists. Let us know if you have something that you would like to share with others - perhaps something that you've learned from a training session or from your experience in genealogy."

Then, to wrap up the year, 15 members and four guests gathered on November 16 to learn about the "Mayflower Society." Jon Wardlow, a member of the Indiana Society of Mayflower descendants shared an excellent presentation about this Society, and it was a timely one too! The November meeting also included our election of officers with the re-election of two officers and the election of two new officers.

Updates

BCGS continues to maintain and update our BCGS website (www.barthgen.org) and our Facebook page. For those on Facebook, you can "like" BCGS at the following link:

<https://www.facebook.com/BartholomewCountyGenealogicalSociety?fref=ts>

Our Webmaster will continue to assist BCGS officers in maintaining these web pages.

Donations

Consistent with the mission to increase local genealogical research resources, the BCGS board was able to contribute in the following ways in 2013. Here is the list:

- *BCGS paid \$115 for copies of Records from the National Archives for 43 War of 1812 Veterans with ties to Bartholomew County.
- *As a result of our March program on the Sandhill Cemetery Restoration Project, BCGS -members and guests contributed \$525 for the benefit of Friends of Sandhill Cemetery.
- *Becky Speaker, BCGS Board Member, and Toni Whiteside, BCGS Member, held our first 4-H Genealogy Workshop.

Looking ahead to 2014

The BCGS board continues to look forward to the many ways that we can benefit genealogical research in Bartholomew County and beyond. At each board meeting, we continue to pose the following question: "Additional BCGS projects?" and we will continue this in 2014. Along with our bi-monthly programs, the BCGS board is looking forward to offer two SKILLS meetings specifically for our BCGS membership. During 2014, the BCGS board will continue to meet monthly on the third Tuesday at 4:45 p.m. at the Bartholomew County Library. Any time a BCGS members has a question or contribution, they should contact a BCGS officer and/or director. On behalf of the BCGS board, thank you for being a member of BCGS.

Blessings,

Marcus, BCGS President

Highlights

Hello All...

This is my last *Highlights* article as I am retiring from the BCGS Board after three years as secretary. Taking over that post for 2014 is Margot Green who is no stranger to you. Besides having served as president for several years, she has continuously provided great advice and service to our society. Look for her name to accompany the next *Highlights* column.

Now for a quick summary of our last two programs...

The September meeting was most worthwhile as it was a Round Table Discussion, something we do only occasionally. Seventeen were present to share their expertise or ask questions.

Toni Whiteside advised those who plan to visit Sandhill Cemetery to do it before the harsh weather sets in. Becky Speaker related some of her experiences with reading tombstones. Shapes and types of stones and whether they are carved or machine made all matter.

Veteran researcher Jane Johnson shared some tips with us. They included checking the internet for new information and checking what resources are available before beginning your research. And if you have trouble getting started on a genealogy project, you might try a method Jane uses. She sets aside each Monday morning to work on some type of research.

Margot Green recommended going on line at the state library website to find obituaries from

the late 19th century. Toni said the book *Hope Area Families* located in the Indiana Room has many obituaries of local interest. Also, Find-a-Grave is always an excellent source for research.

A highlight of the meeting was a wonderful project Eleanor Halstom shared with us. She had done miniature paintings of very old photographs of her family on an outing in the early part of the century. She had mounted the paintings on canvas to make a suitable wall hanging. I hope the whole membership can see them sometime.



At the November meeting we first elected officers and approved the revised By-Laws, then Jennie Rauch introduced our speaker, Jon Wardlow, who spoke about the Mayflower Society.

He began his talk by reviewing the history of the 1620 voyage which brought the Pilgrims from Plymouth, England to the eastern shores of America. Some key points were...

--There were 100 or so at the beginning, but after a harsh winter and disease, only about

-BY CAROLYN WHEELER

half remained. Only four of 18 women survived the winter.

--There were 23 households, three family men who came without their families and eight single men. William Bradford was their leader. John Alden was in the group but was a crew member.

--40 of the group were Protestant Separatists who were dismayed with the Church of England and the British government.

--To create a government, they drafted the Mayflower Compact. By 1691 they merged with the Puritans of the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

Later in the meeting Mr. Wardlow explained the Mayflower Society is a lineage society open to those who are 18 years or older, of good character and can adequately prove they are direct descendants of one of the people on the voyage. He told us one in ten Americans is descended from a Mayflower passenger. Some of the names are Alden, Mullins, Allerton, Billington, Bradford, Brewster, Browne and Chilton. There are 24 in all.

When one is accepted into the society, he/she becomes a member of a state organization. Indiana's chapter meets twice a year and has \$45 yearly dues or \$600 lifetime dues.

Hello, Genealogy Buddies! It is time to take a minute to welcome Heather McDonald to her new role as our Genealogy Society Vice President! You've "met" Heather in the last Ancestors, so know she has most recently served as Webmaster, but now she'll be the one telling you about upcoming 2014 programs - this issue will be her inaugural column in that position. I hope you've enjoyed the previous three years' offerings, and thank everyone for the support and ideas you've suggested. Please continue to share any program ideas with Heather, or any Board Member, as you think of them. Jennie Rauch

UPcoming!

-by Heather McDonald

Happy New Year! 2014 is certainly going to be a busy and productive year for BCGS! We have some great programs planned. First we have Ron Shadley returning to speak with us about Sandhill Cemetery. This will occur on Saturday, January 25 at 1 pm. He always does a fantastic job and I know this will be no exception, especially when it is a project so near and dear to many of us.

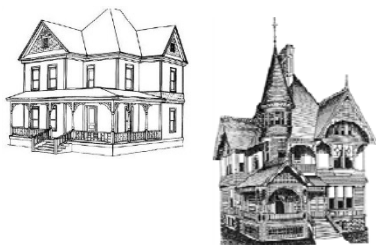
We will be having a special presentation in February! Mark your calendars now for Saturday, February 22 at 10 am. Allison Singleton from the Indiana Historical Society will be here to talk about "Facebooking Your Past". This event is co-sponsored by BCPL and will be open to all. It will take the place of our members-only SKILLS session, which has been moved to April 26.

In March, Jason Hatton will be with us to share new technology tips and helpful hints. His presentation will occur on Saturday, March 22 at 1 pm. His presentations always leave me ready to dive into the latest and greatest technological marvel, and I'm sure it is the same for many of you.

I hope to see you at each of these programs. Check out our BCGS facebook page for more information on each program as well as other genealogical gems.

One last item--I would be remiss if I didn't give a huge THANK YOU to Jennie Rauch for her wonderful planning of the 2014 BCGS programs. She has left me quite large shoes to fill, as well as a promise to present a 2015 program! Thank you Jennie, we all appreciate the interesting programs you've provided to us over the past few years. You will be missed as a BCGS officer!





These Old Houses

... and the Families Who Lived in Them ...

-by Margot Green

The Ueberroth-Seward Cottage

628 Lafayette Ave.



Built around 1865 by contractor and plasterer William Henry Ueberroth (1830-1905), the cottage at 628 Lafayette is considered one of the most distinctive smaller homes in Columbus and has earned the nickname of “the wedding cake house” because of its scale and ornamentation. Although it has been extensively altered over the years, it retains its nineteenth century charm, and in 1977 it received the Historic Preservation Award from the Bartholomew County Historical Society.

A letter from Evelyn Seward, who grew up in the home, to Ross Crump of the Bartholomew County Historical Society, noted that the home stood on the south forty feet of Lot 28 in the plat of the Sims and Finley addition laid out on March 6, 1851, by Lewis Sims and Mary S. Finley. However, according to Miss Seward, the land was first recorded even earlier, in 1820 Tract Book #1 covering all of the southeastern quarter of section 24, in Township 9 North, Range 5. A patent dated September 3, 1821, from the fifth President of the United States, James Monroe, granted this land, which totaled 160 acres, to John Tipton.

Lewis Sims and his wife sold Lot 28, along with several others, to Washington L. Woody in 1853 for \$100, and Woody and his wife then sold it to Ueberroth, a contractor credited with laying the first sidewalks in Columbus. Ueberroth, who was evidently known by his middle name, “Henry,” was one of a large number of Ueberroths who lived in Columbus in the 1800s, with many engaged in the building trades. Although many family members anglicized their name to Everroad, according to his obituary, Henry remained a Ueberroth.

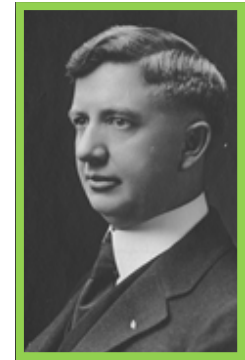
The first Ueberroth to come to America was Johann Nikolaus Ueberroth, great grandfather of Henry. Born on 3 April 1743 in Reichenbach, Starkenburg, Hessen, in what is now Germany, Johann Nikolaus married Agnesa Catharina Rettig (1741 – 1827) there in 1762 when he was nineteen, came to America in 1764, and died in Lehigh, Pennsylvania in 1822.

By the time Henry was born on 11 April 1830, the family was living in Allentown, Pennsylvania. It is not entirely clear when Henry’s family came to Bartholomew County: Henry’s obituary in *The Evening Republican* states that he came in 1856, but his grandfather, George Edwin Ueberroth, was buried in the Enon Moravian Cemetery in Hope after his death in 1849, so it is likely that the family came earlier.

In 1859, Henry Ueberroth married Maggie L. McCallie, who was born on 1 January 1842, in Tennessee, to David Eagleton McCallie (1814-1893) and his wife, Nancy Hart (1818-1900). Henry and Maggie had two children, Minnie [Sayre] (1861-1890) and Eva [Smith] (1873-1893), who grew up in the small home. Maggie passed away on September 12, 1881. In the 1898-99 Columbus City Directory, Henry was listed as co-proprietor of Ueberroth and Gilbert, a cement firm located at 1413 Sycamore. By the 1903-04 edition, he had retired but continued to live at 628 Mechanic Street (which would be renamed Lafayette Street during World War I) until he died on 11 March 1905. Both Henry and Maggie are buried in

Columbus City Cemetery. Following Henry Ueberroth's death, the home became the property of his granddaughter, Jose Sayre, who sold it to Norval and Edna Hege, from whom Robert Seward purchased it.

Seward (8 November 1879 – 25 November 1950) was the youngest child of James Seward (1818-1897) and his wife, Susan Matilda Trotter (1831-1897), who were married in 1855. He was the grandson of John Seward (1790-1873), who had served in the War of 1812 as a private in Captain David Sutton's Company, Ohio Militia, in the 2nd Ohio Infantry. John later settled in Bartholomew County and is buried in Sharon Cemetery beside his wife Phebe.



Robert Seward

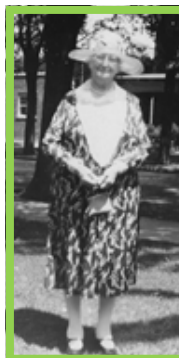
Robert Seward was the proprietor of a men's store, Seward Clothing Company, at 417 Washington and an active participant in the community, serving as secretary-treasurer of the Columbus Chamber of Commerce. His wife Hallie (12 March 1880 – 23 November 1959) was the daughter of Chalmers and Amanda Reed Brown, who lived next door at 632 Lafayette, and the granddaughter of Isaac M. Brown, co-founder of *The Weekly Republican* newspaper, now known as *The Republic*.

According to a 1978 article by Susanna Jones, a past president of the Bartholomew County Historical Society, "The years since Mr. Ueberroth's death had not been kind to the little house. It was, in fact, simply 'thrown in' for the price of the lot. Mr. Seward would not allow Mrs. Seward to set foot inside until he had scrubbed it down with lye water."

The *2003 History of Bartholomew County Indiana* notes that Hallie Seward spent years perfecting her home, supervising every detail. Originally, the porch and entrance had faced north. The Swards moved the entrance to the street side and turned the former front porch into bedrooms for themselves and their daughter. A rear addition housed the kitchen and bathroom.

Double doors were installed at the new front entrance, and a small porch was built over them. Benches on either side of the entrance were rebuilt from pews from the Dirty Foot Baptist Church near the village of St. Louis Crossing northeast of Columbus. A fireplace – originally on the west wall in the front (east) room or parlor – was altered to open into the east wall of the room behind, and the Swards cut arched doorways on either side of the fireplace between the two rooms to create a more open interior.

Robert and Hallie's daughter Evelyn (22 May 1909 – 10 May 1993) was an outstanding student and prominent educator. After earning her bachelor's degree *cum laude* from Butler with a double major in Latin and French in 1929, she returned to Columbus to teach at Columbus High School.



Hallie Brown Seward



Evelyn Seward (seated, center)
with other language faculty members

From 1930 until her retirement in 1972 (with the exception of two years spent in the Waves during World War II), she taught Latin, French, and journalism as well as serving as advisor to the *Triangle* school paper. Besides leading a number of state and local organizations, she was elected to the Bartholomew County School Corporation Board of Education, serving as a member from 1978 to 1982.

Evelyn lived in the house at 628 Lafayette for many years before moving next door to 632 Lafayette, where her grandparents, Chalmers and Amanda Reed Brown, had lived. At her death in 1993, Evelyn willed her childhood home, then rental property, to the Bartholomew County Historical Society, which in 2006 made several repairs to the structure and installed a modern kitchen.



Jane Murphy, Life Time Member, Retired

Son, Michael E Murphy

Hobbies: Reading, grandchildren

Surnames researching: Davis, Isgrig, Murphy, Friedrodorg



Janet Bay, Life Time Member, Retired

Daughter, Misty

Sons, Patrick and Michael

Hobbies: Reading, learning to quilt, family preparedness

Surnames researching: David, Bay, Borden, Lockridge



Cara Jeffries, Life Time Member, Retired Cummins Secretary

Brother-in-law, nieces and nephews

Hobbies: Reading, knitting, crocheting, tatting

Surnames researching: Jeffries, Rathsmen, Greenfield, Lambert



Fayette Beecher

Retired Teacher

2 daughters

2 grandsons

Hobbies: Basketmaking, reading, gardening

Surnames researching: Carney, Pember-ton, Hill, Biehle



Imogene Weisner, Life Time Member, Retired

Sons: Kurt, Kraig, Kris

5 grandchildren

Hobbies: Reading - historical novels and mysteries

Surnames researching: Chafin, Hannah, Cassell, Violette



Wanda Williams, Life Time Member, Retired

Husband, Donald K. Williams Sr

Sons: Donald Jr and Steven Ray

Hobbies: Crafts of any kind, scrubbies (crochets), quilts, dolls

Surnames researching: Jackson, Marshall, Williams, Latimer



Donna Watkins, Retired Teacher

Husband

Hobbies: Spending time with family and friends, sightseeing, traveling

Surnames researching: Kiel, Forster, Striotelemeier, Behrman



Larry Haak

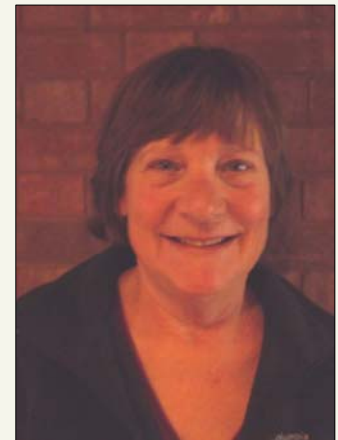
IT Architech

Wife: Sally

Son, Nikolai; daughter, Lydia

Hobbies: Repair electronics, collects Brownie cameras

Surnames researching: Haak, Wespohl, Werfelmann, Knust



Linda Glick

Landscaping and playground Representative and Inspector

2 children

Hobbies: Knitting, horses

Surnames researching: Glick, Elliot, Spear, Burkett, Reynolds, Hauk, Anderson, Hendricks, Solomon, Morrison



Jane Johnson,

Husband: William

Hobbies: Travel, gardening, crocheting, reading

Surnames researching: Bosse, Schaefer, Percifield, Thomas



Jim Lower, Retired

Hobbies: Skiing, tennis

Surnames researching: Miller, To-brocke, Kreinhagen, Gerkenmeyer

Introducing our 2014 Membership

As a way of getting better acquainted with each other, we will publish pictures and a short profile of each member in *ANCESTORS* throughout the 2014 year. (Board Members can be found in Q4 2013)

Please be prepared and willing to have your picture taken at one of our programs (or please provide us with one).

We will also have a short form for you to fill out for the interview. (or email to us)

Thanks for your participation

S.K.I.L.L.S. FOR MEMBERS

SHARING KNOWLEDGE IN LIGHT LEARNING SESSIONS

TIMELINES

-by Becky Speaker & Kim Ray

We talked about how timelines can help you gain insight into your ancestor's "story", identify gaps, and where generations 'meet', as well as how timelines helped clarify across 3 people with the same name. We also showed how historical data can help you understand more about your ancestors decisions - such as economic (jobs, land) and also educational factors can give you more insight.

Getting started on a timeline is usually the hardest part - how to get from a jumbled mess to something that makes sense? Thinking about the purpose (what question or mystery are you trying to solve) will help

you scope your work plan how to use the timeline, including whether historical data will be helpful. It's ok to do a temporary timeline - something that helps your research, or to do multiple timelines, if they help you.

*Timelines can be
anywhere
between fancy
charts with
historical data
or simple
sketches to help
clarify our
research.*



**Becky Speaker (right) and Kim Ray (left)
first facilitators**

New Books

New Genealogy Books at the Bartholomew County Library

-from Annette Blount, BC Librarian

Indiana Source Book IX
with Index

Indiana Historical Society
Ref Ind 929.3 Ind
(Material from the Hoosier
Genealogist, 1993-1994)

Indiana Source Book X with
Index

Indiana Historical Society
Ref Ind 929.3 Ind
(Material from the Hoosier
Genealogist, 1995-1996)

The Ozols' Journey from
Latvia to America

Ozols, Sigurd Herman
Compiled by Irida and Alisa
Miller
Ref Ind 929.2 Ozols

Without Indentures: In-
dex to White Slave Chil-
dren in Colonial Court
Records

(Maryland and Virginia)
Phillips, Richard Hayes
Ref Gen 929.3752 Phi

Family History: Digging
Deeper

Fowler, Simon
929.1072 Fow



CARVED IN STONE

-BY DONNA KUHLMAN

Martha Marshall Staley Vaughn

I've been adding memorials to Springer Cemetery on Findagrave, from my listings taken some twenty years ago. On Lot 58N, purchased by Edward Vaughn, are two markers which say little—but provided leads to a great deal of information—and made a long-sought-after connection for distant relatives. The markers are:

*E.C.V., 50 Years (An old Springer record said this was Edward Vaughn.)

*Martha Marshall Farmer Staley Vaughn, 77 Years

Wanting more information about these two, I went searching! Martha Vaughn's Bartholomew Co. death record says she died Jan. 11, 1909, aged 81 years. I had made this notation some years ago, and didn't have immediate access to more details than that. I looked for her in the 1900 census and then 1880, but didn't see anything likely; the first "hit" surfaced in the 1870 census, in Sandcreek Township: Martha M. Vaughn, 42, was with husband Elias C. Vaughn, 38, and Edward C. Vaughn, 11. All were born in Virginia.

Hoping to establish a Virginia county, at least for Edward's birth, I looked there in 1860. Sure enough, infant Edward Vaughn was in Fayette Co., VA, along with "Staly" step-children in the household! "Creed" Vaughn was 28, Martha, 30, Agnes Staly, 15, Wm. Staly, 14, Mary J. Staly, 12, and little Edward Vaughn, 6 months.

Working back one more census, James and Martha "Staly" were in Allegheny Co., VA, with three chil-



dren whose profiles were recognizable matches to the Staley children in 1860. The two older children had switched between first and middle names, but Mary J. was the same--and the age spacing was right. Listed were James Staly, 37, Martha, 24, Martha A., 6, Charles W., 5, and Mary J. Staly, 2.

The next search was to see where Martha lived *after* 1870. This inquiry went in a totally unexpected direction--Lafayette Co., MS. That can't be right! *Mississippi*? But surely enough, it was them: E.C. Vaughn, 48; Martha Vaughn, 53; and E.C. Vaughn, 21. All Virginia. The elder Vaughn was working as a farm laborer, and Edward's occupation was "peddler." This was the last place I found any trace of Elias Creed Vaughn.

In 1900, a widowed Martha Vaughn and her son Edward were residing at Greenwood, in Johnson Co., IN.

And finally, there is her 1909 death record, back in Bartholomew Co. There does not seem to be a corresponding death record for Edward, but extrapolating from the age given on the E.C.V. marker, he must have died close to the same time. He does not seem to be on the 1910 census, but he was listed as the purchaser of Lot 58.

An Ancestry.com profile provided an exact date of birth for Martha Marshall Farmer, and sufficient data to locate a Findagrave memorial for the oldest daughter, Martha Agnes Staley Hamilton, who stayed in Virginia. I posted an edit note on that memorial, providing the link to the mother. This was the return message from that contributor:

I received your suggestion to connect Martha Agnes Staley Hamilton to her mother Martha Marshall Farmer Vaughn. I have several letters written to my great-grandmother from Martha Agnes. I have re-searched the family for months and had found no information on her mother. The letters Martha Agnes wrote had an enormous amount of information on her family, but nowhere did she mention her mother. What you have given me is a gold mine. You cannot imagine how much I appreciate this information! It will take me a little while to go through everything carefully, but I will. Any other information you can send eventually will be great. I also would be glad to send information I have at this end about the Staley-Hamilton-Trent families and transcribed letters plus copies of the originals if your genealogical society would be interested. I have a photo of Jennie [Mary Jane Staley Trent] with my great-grandmother. I have a letter written by May Hamilton who was living with her Aunt Jennie about 1899 because she was attending school in Elizabethtown if my memory is correct. The 1860 census is what sealed the information for me. I never could locate that one. Because I have these original letters written by this branch of my family, an accurate record of their history is important to me. Again, thanks. P. W.

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