

ANCESTORS

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BCGS CALENDAR

S.K.I.L.L.S. Session for Members Only: Scanning Basics

Saturday, Nov 1 10am Indiana Room, Bartholomew Co Public Library

B.C. participants in Spanish-American War By Donna Kuhlman

Saturday, Nov 22 1pm Red Room, Bartholomew Co Public Library



What a great group we had touring the Decatur Co Historical Museum

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 !

Highlights



BY MARGOT GREEN

On July 26, thirteen members and three guests enjoyed a visit to the Decatur County Historical Society Museum in Greensburg. Our capable guide, Diana Springmier, led us on a tour of the museum, which is located in the Lathrop/Shannon House at 222 North Franklin Street. This structure, the gift of an anonymous donor, dates to the mid-nineteenth century when an economic boom led to population growth and the construction of several distinctive residences. In 1872 Ezra Lathrop bought the house and added rooms and a hallway. Over the years, the Lathrop/Shannon family continued to expand the home, where family members lived until 1980.



Our tour began on the first floor with rooms featuring many furnishings linked to early Decatur County settlers. On the second floor we visited several rooms including an International exhibit and a closet containing military uniforms before we descended an elegant period staircase leading to the first floor. Along the way Diana shared more genealogical information about Decatur County and assisted one of our members who had a question about an item in her genealogical collection. Our group then gathered on the front porch for a photo before leaving the museum for a tasty luncheon at Stories, a restaurant known far and wide for its tenderloins.



Decatur Co Historical Museum ... then and now...



Highlights, cont.

Fourteen members and twenty guests attended our **September 20** meeting in the Red Room of the Bartholomew County Public Library. Paulette Roberts presented a fascinating and well-researched program about the Underground Railroad. Surprisingly, Indiana, a free state, contained over 400 slaves before the Civil War. However, Indiana also attracted many settlers like the Quakers and Moravians who were opposed to slavery and willing to help slaves escape. Consequently, the Underground Railroad had several “stations” in Indiana, including one in Azalia, in a house which, sadly, is no longer standing.

Slaves from Africa were not passive victims but used their creativity to better their lot or to gain their freedom. Although enslaved and almost always forbidden to learn to read or write, slaves nonetheless developed elaborate communications systems that were an amalgam of their African traditions and the culture of their new world. One common and complex system was communication through quilts. Hung one at a time outside slave quarters, these quilts conveyed signals – ranging from “get things ready” to “the time has come,” or “steal away.” Such messages could be delivered on the plantation, with the white masters totally ignorant of their significance. Once escaping slaves were enroute, other quilts displayed messages to guide them to places where they could shelter and ultimately to their “safe haven,” often in Canada, especially after the passage of the infamous Fugitive Slave Law. As part of her presentation Paulette showed a number of the quilts and explained their hidden messages.



UP coming!

-by Heather McDonald

Looking Ahead to 2015!

While I do want to remind everyone that we have two events remaining in 2014, I am really excited to share our programs for 2015! In case you do not know, 2015 is the 25th Anniversary of BCGS, and we are using the year to celebrate Bartholomew County!

Finishing out 2014 includes two meetings in November. We have a S.K.I.L.L.S. session on Saturday, November 1st at 10 am. We will discuss scanning and meet in the Indiana Room. Then on Saturday, November 22, our own Donna Kuhlman will educate us about Bartholomew County Participants in the Spanish-American War. This will occur in the Red Room at 1 pm.

Our first event of 2015 will take place on January 24 at 10 am in the Red Room. Tamara Hemmerlein from the Indiana Historical Society will speak on the topic of "Preserving Family History: Caring for Documents and Photographs". We will have a S.K.I.L.L.S. session on February 28 at 10 am, with the topic to be determined. We round out the first quarter with a visit from the wonderful Helen Wildermuth. Helen will be discussing her work at Sand Hill Cemetery. Helen's presentation will occur on Saturday March 28 at 1 pm in the Red Room.

For summer 2015, we are on the go! We hope to kick off the summer with a trip to the Camp Atterbury cemeteries over Memorial Day weekend. BCGS President, Marcus Speer, is arranging this outing with more details to come at a later date. July will bring a "field trip" to the Bartholomew County Historical Society, where we will learn more about their Cline-Keller Genealogy Library. This will begin at 1 pm that day. Everyone is invited to gather at Zaharako's for lunch at 11 am that same day. Our final meeting of the summer occurs on Saturday, September 26 at the Hawcreek Heritage Center in Hope. We will meet at 1 pm for a presentation, followed by a reception honoring our 25 years of existence.

We will round out 2015 with Librarian Jason Hatton keeping us up to date with technology on Saturday, October 24 at 10 am in the Red Room. Jason's presentations are among our most popular, and he always does a fantastic job. You won't want to miss this one! Our final event of 2015 will be a S.K.I.L.L.S. session on Saturday, November 14 at 10 am. Although the specific topic remains to be decided, I'm sure we will wrap up 2015 with a bang!

The calendar for 2016 is already starting to fill. If you have any suggestions, please don't hesitate to let me know. You can comment on the BCGS facebook page, or send me an email at h-mcdonald@sbcglobal.net. As always, thanks for your support of BCGS!



WHAT DID BCGS
DO THIS QUARTER ?

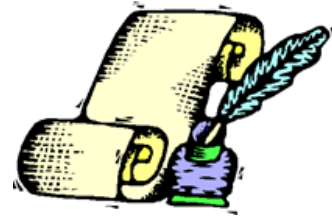


BCGS donated a 4-H Trophy and BCGS membership for ??? 4-H participants



BCGS printed Russell Wilhoit's Decatur Co. Genealogy Books in Martha Davis' honor

Presidential Proclamation



-by Marcus Speer

First, I must thank you the membership for joining and supporting the Bartholomew County Genealogical Society (BCGS). Some have been faithful supporters for all of our 24 years as a Society. Yes, this is a first notice of the fact that in 2015, BCGS celebrates her 25th Anniversary. When you go to www.barthgen.org, you discover this brief history: "Founded on September 22, 1990, the Bartholomew County Genealogical Society is dedicated to helping people interested in collecting and preserving family histories. We do this through programs, publications, and individual research assistance in response to queries. We invite anyone interested in genealogy to attend our bimonthly programs, usually held on Saturdays at the Bartholomew County Public Library, 500 Fifth Street, Columbus, IN."

We have had many members who have been willing to step up to the plate and serve as an officer and/or board member throughout our almost quarter century. This year, Margot Green is "retiring" from our BCGS board after many years of dedicated service. Margot has diligently served as our President (4 years), Past President, & Secretary. She has always provided excellent leadership and service for the board and the entire Society. Margot, "Thank you for your great work! While we will miss you on the BCGS board, we hope that you will continue to enjoy many years of BCGS membership as you continue your genealogical work."

Therefore, you now realize that we are seeking nominations for the BCGS board. Jennie has graciously agreed to chair the nominating committee. Nominations are now being received ahead of our November (22) Program when the Annual Meeting is also held. I have agreed to serve another year as BCGS President. Heather McDonald and Becky Speaker have also agreed to serve another year on the board. Would you be interesting in serving on the BCGS board? Thanks for your consideration.

Lastly, as this year draws to a close, I hope you are preparing to renew your membership for 2015. Have you also considered encouraging someone else to join BCGS in the upcoming year? Or maybe you can encourage someone to renew their membership. A growing membership is a great way to encourage those who serve on your BCGS board. You can always access membership forms and information by going to <http://barthgen.org/membership.php>. Please note that BCGS members enjoy the privilege of viewing past BCGS newsletters through a password protected web page.

I pray that you have a great quarter and enjoy many blessings during the upcoming holidays! It is the most wonderful time of the year!



War of 1812 Veterans 200 Years Later -by Becky Speaker

We are still celebrating the 200th anniversary of the War of 1812. No, not the 202nd anniversary of the beginning of the war, but rather the 200th anniversary of the end of the war. Although the War of 1812 – it's causes, it's battles, even it's timeframe – is confusing to many today, the end of the war was almost as confusing to the participants in 1814. At the beginning of the war, the impressment of sailors into the British Navy, tough trade restrictions and agitation of the Indians in the west by the British led to the US declaration of war on Great Britain on June 1, 1812. Two years of fighting at sea, in the west in Kentucky & Ohio and around the borders near Canada and Florida led to a stalemate with no clear winner by August 1814.

Then on August 24, 1814, the British won a decisive battle at Bladensburg, Maryland. In the rushed retreat by the Americans, the path to Washington, DC was left open to the British. Troops reached DC in the afternoon and looted the Capital, attempting to burn the mostly stone building. Leaving a trail of fire in their path, the soldiers moved up Pennsylvania Avenue towards the White House, where Dolley Madison was organizing the staff effort to save valuables from the British. The troops torched the President's House and camped on the front lawn. A sudden heavy thunderstorm and tornado passed over DC that night, putting out the fires and pushing the British back to their ships. After just more than 24 hours, the only foreign occupation of American soil ended.



*Several weeks later, the British marched on Baltimore's industrial center and port. After both a land battle and sea battle, the city of Baltimore remained safe – with the flag at Fort Henry still waving, inspiring Francis Scott Key to write *The Star Spangled Banner*. Against the background of these battles, negotiations for a peace treaty went on for months in Ghent, Belgium, as both sides were tired of a war that seemed unwinnable. Finally, on Dec. 24, 1814, the negotiating teams signed the Treaty of Ghent, ultimately leaving all property as it was at the beginning of the war. Contemporary Canadian author Pierre Berton wrote "It was as if no war had been fought, or to put it more bluntly, as if the war that was fought was fought for no good reason. For nothing has changed; everything is as it was in the beginning save for the graves of those who, it now appears, have fought for a trifle..."*

Over 2,000 American soldiers died in battle, with 5,000 more wounded and possibly three times as many dying from disease. Thousands more joined the army or local militias, whether to protect their homes or seek adventure. Veterans of the War of 1812 were essential to the founding of Bartholomew County in 1821. Our county was named after perhaps our most famous veteran, Lt. Col. Joseph Bartholomew, who was wounded in the Battle of Tippecanoe. Twenty-one War of 1812 veterans were early pioneers, in Bartholomew County by May 1821. Many more vets took advantage of the land to move west to Indiana. At least sixty-one veterans are buried in Bartholomew County, while more than eighty other veterans lived and perhaps died in our county. BCGS will be publishing a book, detailing more about our War of 1812 veterans, ensuring that their stories are still known 200 years after the battles ended. The book is founded on the service, pension & bounty land records collected at the National Archives and posted on our website, barthgen.org. (See next quarter's newsletter to learn about the battle after the end of the war and about some of the battles our veterans participated in!)

*Carol Becker, Columbus**Barbara Blackie, Prescott, AZ**Michael Compton, Columbus**Peggy Fleishmann, Tacoma, WA**Jim Green, Columbus**Eleanor Haltom, Columbus**Helen Hiebsch, Shreveport, LA**Shannon Watts Michael, Bothell, WA**Mary Cain Minton, Sonoma, CA**Janet Monk, Shawville, IL**Thecla Patterson, Elizabethtown**Eileen Pierce, Hope**Ed Probst, Columbus**Betty Ryle, Columbus**Donna Sasse, Columbus**Marjorie Schmeckebier, Columbus**Jackie Speaker, Columbus**Edward Stratton, Philomath, OR**Thomas Talbert, Columbus**Irna Glick, Hartsville**Marwin Glick, Hartsville**Donna Glick, Columbus*

Introducing our 2014 Membership

As a way of getting better acquainted with each other, we have published membership photos and intros. This last issue will have the rest of our 2014 members.

Thanks to all our members for your support !



“STEPS THROUGH TIME”

-by Kim Ray

BCGS manned a booth at the Bartholomew County Public Library Event. A large attendance by local school children as well as the public enjoyed learning about local history as several organizations had booths to share their memorabilia, knowledge, and preservation of our heritage. Friday volunteers were Donna Kuhlman, Marcus Speer, and Heather McDonald (pictured above). Saturday volunteers were Donna Kuhlman and Kim Ray. Tips, pointers and other questions were answered encouraging others to enjoy our sport !

CARVED IN STONE

-BY DONNA KUHLMAN

QUERY:

Hello, I am trying to find information on my mother in law's ancestors, John and Rosina (Richter) Schroer. I have located their marriage license, and I see them on the 1930 census, and I found her as a widowed boarder on the 1940 census. I found a city directory in 1934 that lists her as widowed. So he died sometime between 1930 and 1934. However, I cannot find exactly when he died. I also cannot find any record of her after 1940 to find where she lived and when she died. I believe they spent most or all of their lives in Bartholomew County. They were married May 21, 1898. I believe he was born in 1875 and she in 1877 or 1878. They had a child, Mary Louisa Schroer. If you have any information on their deaths (and/or her exact date of birth), I would greatly appreciate it! Thank you! JW

Response:

Ah, the unexpected twists and turns.....

St. Peter's Lutheran Church records, 1898 Marriages, entry #4: May 21 (1898) Joh. H. Schroer, *foster son and nephew* of the widow Schroer in Walesboro, son of Fr. Plump, Born 30 Mar. 1875 in Dudleytown, Jackson Co. (Indiana).

This is when John H. *Plump* Schroer married Rosina Richter. Oddly enough, even though they used the name Schroer all through their lives....when he *died*, Plump came back out. Don't know when this marker was put up, but here it is:

John Schroer Plump is Find A Grave Memorial #52235411

There is no marker for Rosina, but an entry in the Columbus City Cemetery records notes she was BURIED Nov. 18, 1942, on Lot 91, Crump Addition. This is not with John, who's on Lot 8, of the Irwin Addition.

Anna Maria Rosina Richter was born May 17, 1875, in Columbus, baptized June 20, 1875. Father Heinrich Richter, mother Maria.(St. Peter's records)

Heinrich/Henry Richter married Mary Ann Ballage, Oct. 29, 1856, in Bartholomew Co. Indexed as "Barlow," but appears in St. Peter's records mostly as Ballage, sometimes Barlage. The church record of the marriage is in *St. Paul's* records, and lists her surname as Barlau. Neither's parents are mentioned. (St. Paul's is the older congregation, just south of Columbus, est. 1848. St. Peter's was est. in town, 1858.)

Henry Richter died May 9, 1916. Civil death record, but no mention in either Lutheran Church--odd. Buried in Columbus City Cemetery, but not marked. Mary Ann (Anna Maria) Barlau/Barlow/Ballage et al Richter was born Mar. 30, 1841 Pennsylvania, died at Columbus, May 15, 1881, buried Columbus City Cemetery, not marked.

Have not researched Plumps in Jackson Co., don't have their church records. John F. Plump, age 5, was living with H. A. "Scharer" and Sophiah

Scharer, in Jonesville in 1880 Henry Schrier married Sophia Christopher, April 6, 1865, in Jackson Co. One son, William, born abt 1869, living 1880. Lots of spelling variations, typical for these German families. Not seeing how these people were his aunt and uncle--no relationship listed in 1880. The terms aunt and uncle were sometimes broadly applied, and don't necessarily mean exactly the same as modern usage. Also did not see any likely Friederich Plump in Jackson or Bartholomew records; so still don't have John's mother's name. Maybe birth record at Emanuel Lutheran Church at Dudleytown.



New Books

*New Genealogy Books at the Bartholomew County Library
-from Annette Blount, BC Librarian*

The following titles were added to the genealogy collection of the Bartholomew County Public Library. These books previously belonged to John Mace and were donated to the library by his wife, Jan Mace.

Early Kentucky Household-
ers 1787-1811

Sutherland, James F.
Ref Gen 929.3769 Sut

Marriages of Rowan County,
North Carolina 1753-1868

Holcomb, Brent H.
Ref Gen 929.3756 Hol

Marriages of Surry County North
Carolina 1779-1868

Holcomb, Brent H.
Ref Gen 929.3756 Hol

The Whitehead Story

Chorlian, Ruth Whitehead
Ref Gen 929.2 Whitehead

Chadwell Heritage: A Family His-
tory

Braun, Myrtle Wolfenbarger
Ref Gen 929.2 Chadwell

Howards in Southeastern Ken-
tucky

Dunham, Frances Yeager
Ref Gen 929.2 Howard

Caldwells and Their Cousins of
Virginia and S.E. Kentucky

Caldwell, Archie
Ref Gen 929.2 Caldwell

Trails Into Cutshin Country: A
History of the Pioneers of Leslie
County, Kentucky

Stidham, Sadie W.
Ref Gen 929.3769 Sti

Biographical and Historical Rec-
ord of Putnam County, Indiana

1887
Ref Ind 977.249 Bio

Washington County, Tennessee
Records, Vol. I

Washington County Lists of Taxa-
bles 1778-1801
McCown, Mary Hardin
Ref Gen 929.3768 McC

Marriage Bonds and Ministers'
Returns of Surry County, Virginia
1768-1825

Knorr, Catherine L.
Ref Gen 929.3755 Kno

Marriage Bonds and Ministers'
Returns of Southampton County,
Virginia 1750-1810

Knorr, Catherine L.
Ref Gen 929.3755 Kno

Through Two Hundred Years:
Pictorial Highlights of Harrods-
burg and Mercer County, Ken-
tucky

Chinn, George M.
Ref Gen 929.3769 Chi

Early Marriages Coles County,
Illinois 1851-1870

Coles County, Illinois Genealogi-
cal Society
Ref Gen 929.3773 Mar

Index to the 1835 Census of the
Cherokee Indians East of the

Mississippi
Felldin & Tucker
Ref Gen 929.3 Ind

Index for Old Kentucky Surveys
& Grants Microfilmed by Ken-
tucky Historical Society Old State
House Frankfort, Kentucky
40601

Ref Gen 929.3769 Ind

Clay County, Kentucky Deed
Book Abstracts "A", "B", "C",
1806 to 1848 and Clay County,
Kentucky Court Order Book "B",
1815 to 1832

Young, Florence Nelson
Ref Gen 929.3769 You

Pioneer Families of Clay County,
Kentucky

Morgan, Kelly
Ref Gen 929.3769 Pio

History of Clay County, Kentucky
1767-1976

Morgan, Kelly
Ref Gen 929.3769 His

Early Settlers of Lee County, Vir-
ginia and Adjacent Counties
Vol. II

Bales, Hattie Byrd Muncy
Ref Gen 929.3755 Lan

New Books, cont.

These are New Genealogy Books

Marriages of Bertie County North Carolina 1762-1868

Fouts, Raymond Parker
Ref Gen 929.3756 Fou

Index to the 1800 Census of Massachusetts

Bentley, Elizabeth Petty
Ref Gen 929.3744 Ben

Abstracts of Fauquier County, Virginia: Wills, Inventories and Accounts 1759-1800

Gott, John K.
Ref Gen 929.3755 Got

Pennsylvania Place Names

Espenshade, A. Lowry
Ref Gen 917.48 Esp

Rose Hill Cemetery 1821-1976

Matson, Donald
Ref Ind 977.2255 Mat

Early Indiana Marriages, Vol. 5: Bartholomew, Boone, Decatur, Elkhart, Floyd, Harrison, and Hendricks

Ridlen, Colleen Alice
Ref Ind 929.3 Rid

Cemeteries in Effingham County Illinois, Vol. 2

Effingham County Genealogical and Historical Society
Ref Gen 929.3773 Cem

History of Fayette County, Indiana

Barrows, Frederic Irving
Ref Ind 977.2623 His

Connecticut Revolutionary Pensioners

The Connecticut Daughters of the American Revolution
Ref Gen 929.3746 Con

Signers of the Mayflower Compact

Haxtun, Annie Arnoux
Ref Gen 974.402 Hax

Loyalists in the Southern Campaign of the Revolutionary War

Vol. 1,2 and 3

Clark, Murtie June
Ref Gen 929.373 Cla

Some Early Emigrants to America

Nicholson, Cregoe D. P.

Also

Early Emigrants to America From Liverpool

France, R. Sharpe
Ref Gen 929.3 Nic

Port Arrivals and Immigrants to the City of Boston 1715-1716 and 1762-1769

Whitmore, William
Ref Gen 929.3744 Whi

Decatur Co. Indiana Genealogical Records

These genealogical resources, created and collected by many hands and many hours of volunteer labor, were shared with the Bartholomew Co. Genealogical Society, by Russell Wilhoit, of Greensburg, Indiana.

Shared with

Bartholomew County Public Library

by Bartholomew Co. Genealogical Society 2014

In memory of

Martha (Graham) Davis

April 14, 1912 - April 30, 2013

Bartholomew County Genealogical Society Membership

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

1 year Membership: Individual (\$10) Couple (\$15)



Thanks for your Support

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