



ANCESTORS

Bartholomew County Genealogical Society

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Jane Murphy

1913 - 2019

A 20th Century Genealogy Pioneer



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 Prose -by Becky

What a wonderful summer we have planned for BCGS members! The first Saturday in May on the 4th we have a great program set up in collaboration with the Bartholomew County Public Library. Speaker and writer Joy Neighbors will talk about her book, The Family Tree Cemetery Field Guide. Published two years ago by Family Tree Books, her book will help us "Discover tools for locating tombstones, tips for traipsing through cemeteries, an at-a-glance guide to frequently used gravestone icons, and practical strategies for on-the-ground research." Then on July 27, we will go down to Brownstown to visit the Jackson County History Center. I have found many books and clues in other family histories during my many visits to the History Center! After our visit, we'll meet for lunch and to get know each other better. Wrapping up the summer, we will again support the Steps Through Time at the Bartholomew County Public Library. This year is the 50th anniversary of the library and the 60th anniversary of the bookmobile, so a lot of the exhibits will be celebrating the library. So we will be sharing the tools of genealogy by focusing on the life of Cleo Rogers, long time librarian and namesake for the current library. In 1964 the Board of Trustees voted to name the future library after Cleo Rogers, just days before she passed away. We are excited to help shine a light on this amazing woman. As always, we will be asking our members to help during this event – meeting the various school children on Friday and supporting questions about genealogy. And although it is not a BCGS event, I also wanted to recommend Midwestern Roots, a bi-annual conference on genealogy in Indianapolis, July 19-20 this year. It's a great way to get inspired and break down some brick walls. Cemetery field trips, visiting a history center, attending a conference – hopefully these event will help inspire you to get moving on your genealogy research this year!

2019 BCGS Calendar

Unless otherwise noted, all sessions begin at 10:00 am in the Red Room
of the Bartholomew County Public Library

SATURDAY, MAY 4

“Discover tools for locating tombstones, tips for traipsing through cemeteries, an at-a-glance guide to frequently used gravestone icons, and practical strategies for on-the-ground research”

Presenter: Joy Neighbors

SATURDAY, JULY 27

FIELDTRIP: Brownstown - Jackson Co. History Center

Welcome to Our New Members:

Virginia “Erin” Thompson, Columbus

Advice and Peter Thomas, Columbus

Mary Stoughton, Columbus

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's Prose -by Becky Speaker	2
2019 BCGS Calendar	2
Jane Murphy -by Donna Kuhlman	3
Highlights : Jan - Mar -by Marcus Speer	4- 5
The Famous and the Infamous Visitors - by Bob Hobbs	6- 8



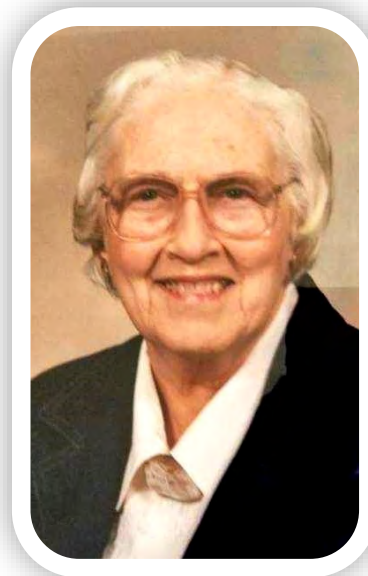
Jane Murphy

A 20th Century Genealogy Pioneer

-by Donna Kuhlman

Modern genealogy is very popular - and big business - and is primarily conducted on the internet. It's hard to convince new researchers that it's not ALL on line. A great deal of it is, though there is still plenty of work to be done. It's easy to lose sight of the origins of this readily available information.

Jane Murphy was a genealogist, an enthusiastic family history researcher. She became that when it was a far cry from the easy and familiar resources available now. Those modern databases were created from scratch, from information collected by thousands of diligent and dedicated researchers like Jane. She, like so many others, rummaged in musty courthouse basements, wrestling huge tomes off shelves high and low, emerging covered in dust and mildew. She wrote letters - always including a stamped, self-addressed reply envelope - and waited patiently, weeks, months, (and sometimes never) for a reply. She copied information by hand, long before the photocopy machine or digital camera was available; and laboriously typed out manuscripts, in the age of onionskin paper and "Wite-Out." She tromped off to hidden and neglected cemeteries, braving snakes and poison ivy and brambles, in search of traces of long dead ancestors. She understood this: these were not just names and dates, they were PEOPLE, her people...your people.



Jane didn't do all this simply for the resolution of her own questions. From the advent of her involvement in the DAR, she went far above and beyond, collecting records public and private, composing articles and books, compiling indexes, creating new resources for others, and placing these where others could reach—on the library shelves, local, state, and national. This - all this, and so much more - underlies the vast network that is contemporary genealogy.

When the Bartholomew Co. Genealogical Society was formed in Columbus in 1990, Jane and a handful of others had already been "in the trenches" for decades, and the Society quickly acknowledged such. She was bestowed with a lifetime membership in the newly-minted organization, in honor of her abundant and excellent contributions to the art and science of genealogy.

Unique to any dedicated genealogist like Jane, her legacy continues well beyond her 105 years of contributions. And for that, we continue to be so thankful.



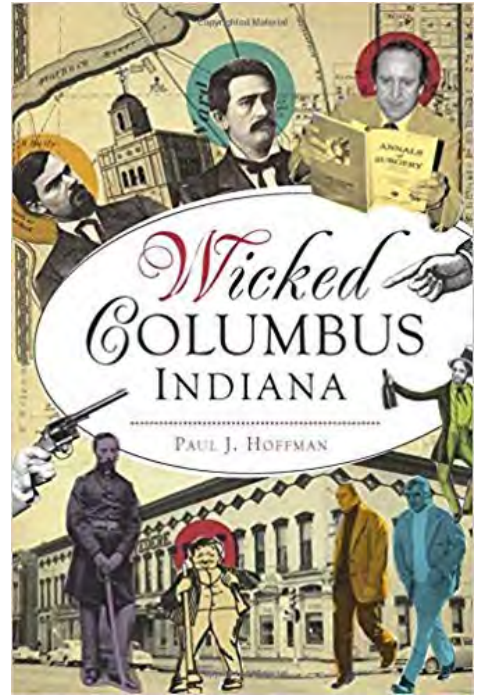
Highlights -by Marcus Speer

PROGRAM MINUTES January 19, 2019

BCGS'S first program of 2019 was on Saturday, January 19 at 10 a.m. Those who attended included 25 members & 2 guests. The presenter was Paul J. Hoffman, author of the book, "Wicked Columbus." Paul first authored the book, "Murder in Wauwatosa: The Mysterious Death of Buddy Schmacer" (2012). Paul is a career journalist and currently is the group special publications editor for AIM Media Indiana, based in Columbus.

"*Wicked Columbus*" is part of a larger Wicked Collection published by History Press. Paul shared that his book is "a look at some of the bad stuff" that happened in Columbus, Indiana. One resource that Paul used in his research was William E Marsh's book: "*I Discover Columbus*." He also used <https://aim.newspapers.com/#> .

Paul with the help of his wife, Kimberly, shared synopsizes of some of the chapters from "*Wicked Columbus*." Some of the titles included "Love & Bullets," "The Other Side of the Tracks," "Mayor Editor Fight," "Breaking the Booze Laws," "The Poisoning of Dr. Griffith Marr," "Will Schreiber Robs First National Bank," "Whitecappers and the KKK," and "Bad Boys." There are a total of nine chapters in "*Wicked Columbus*."



Both of his books are available online as e-books. He can be contacted through his website: www.PaulHoffmanAuthor.com .





Highlights -by Marcus Speer

PROGRAM MINUTES February 16, 2019

BCGS'S SKILLS was held on Saturday, February 16 at 10 a.m. in the Red Room. For our first SKILLS of 2019, we had a "roundtable" meeting allowing all to share about genealogical topics. 10 BCSC members attended the session. One of the big takeaways was a reminder to backup documents and photos including those that are used on programs like Ancestry.

Highlights -by Marcus Speer

PROGRAM MINUTES March 30, 2019

BCGS members (14) and guests (11) enjoyed another great program focused on the preservation of photos, documents, books, scrap-books, and other family treasures. Jennifer Duplaga, Archives and Public Services Librarian at Hanover College was presenter for the program: "Guarding your Treasures." First, we were reminded that anyone can work on preserving materials, but the conservation of materials can only be completed by professionals. When deciding to preserve materials, one should consider future generations, how to display, and access to items. It is important to consider the environment where these items are kept. The temperature, relative humidity, and low light are all important aspects to providing a good location for storage. Preservation "evils" include lamination and most plastic materials.



First there was a focus on photograph preservation. Whether photos are daguerreotype, ambrotype, tintype, carte de Visite (CDV), cabinet card, etc., they should be stored in paper sleeves that are acid-free and lignin-free. It is always important to have a digital scan of the photos for safe keeping in a different storage location.

While wearing gloves when handling photos is important, gloves are not necessary for the handling of other documents. When preserving documents, they should be stored in acid free folders. Proper archival plastic sleeves can also be used for storing these items. Ideally, these sleeves should have 2 open sides.

Books can also be preserved by placing them in archival book boxes for storage. Books might be left on the shelf as well but careful attention should be given for proper care of the binding and spine of the book. Books can be wrapped in archival paper, but never use tape when wrapping books. Scrap books can be preserved in a similar manner but contents should be evaluated to determine what should be kept and what should be removed.

Jennifer closed with details on where to find archival materials and other resources. Some materials can be purchased at stores like Hobby Lobby and Michaels, but one must be certain that they are purchasing proper archival resources. Materials can also be purchased online.



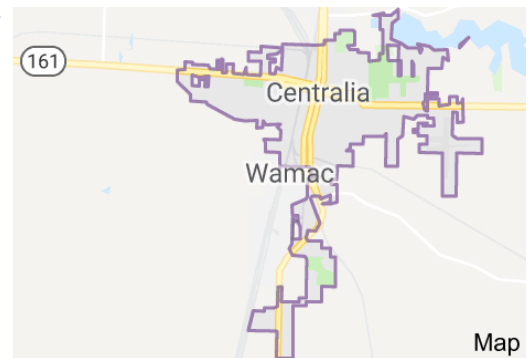
Tripping MY ROOTS Over

-by Bob Hobbs

THE FAMOUS AND THE INFAMOUS VISITORS Part 1

One late afternoon in the Spring of 1965, my dad stood prepared to make a big announcement in front of the RCA color television in the paneled family room of our two-year-old ranch house. It was a house he had drawn the plans for and a home my mother had finally decorated to her liking. His announcement was that he had some good news and some bad news. Which did we want to hear first? My mom, sister, and I opted to hear the good news. It was that my dad, who was a successful, local Prudential Insurance Company agent, was being promoted to the position of staff manager and would be supervising approximately a dozen agents. It was a promotion in both status and salary. The bad news? We would have to leave our hometown, the place where our ancestors had come together from all over Western and Southern Europe and where all four of my grandparents, among other relatives, still also resided.

My mom said she was for the move as long as she got as good or better a house than we lived in now. My dad promised her it would be bigger and better. My sister and I wanted to know where we were moving, a detail that had yet to be addressed. We crossed our fingers and hoped, no prayed, that it would be a larger town than our current one of 15,000 population. A collective moan was released when we learned it was less than half the size at 7,000 and approximately 50 miles away.



Dad was to start his new position right away and made the hour long trip home on the weekends. My sister and I completed our school year in our current Franklin School. The house was soon put on the market with the understanding that if the house did not sell, Prudential would actually buy it. Dad, true to his promise, wasted no time finding a suitable lot on which to build the new house.

Later that Spring or early summer, he took us for the first time on the trip from Centralia, Illinois to Benton, Illinois to introduce us to the town that was to be our new home. Our only relatives in Benton were my dad's first cousin, the president of one of the local banks, and his family. Benton was considered a somewhat depressed area. The coal mines that once provided a livelihood for many of residents were waning. The town, the county seat of Franklin County, was known at the time historically for two things. One was a more recent happening concerning a music icon, while the second was a more sinister historical event, relating back to the 1920s.



Tripping MY ROADS Over

-by Bob Hobbs

THE FAMOUS AND THE INFAMOUS

VISITORS Part 1

The Famous Visitor: The Beetle Came To Town

In the mid 1960s, the teenage populace was at the height of Beatlemania and Benton played a interesting, if relatively unknown, early part in that phenomenon. Prior to the group invading the shores of America, a young housewife and mother introduced the group, gaining popularity in Great Britain, to this area of southern Illinois and beyond prior to them being heard widely elsewhere in the country.

Louise Caldwell had moved to Benton with her husband who was an engineer working for one of the local coal mine companies. She had music she wanted to share and phoned the local am radio station located halfway between Benton and the town of West Frankfort directly to the south. The manager of the station took her call and she made her pitch. He suggested she talk with his teenage daughter who played music popular with teens on Saturdays. If she agreed to play the records, he would agree. Since Louise's husband often took their only car to work, she hitched a ride the nine miles to the radio station with the recordings in tow. She met with the teenager who listened and agreed to play The Beatles' music on the air.

In September 1963, Louise hosted a very important visitor on vacation from Liverpool, England. The visitor was her brother, 20-year-old George Harrison. With him was their brother Peter. It was the first time any member of The Beatles had visited American soil.

During his trip he traveled to the town of Mount Vernon to the north and purchased from Fenton's Music Store a Rickenbacker 425. The guitar was red, but George asked that it be repainted black because he wanted it to match Paul's guitar. George's



George holds his niece with his sister Louise and his brother Anthony as they stand on East Main St. in Benton, Illinois, September 1963.



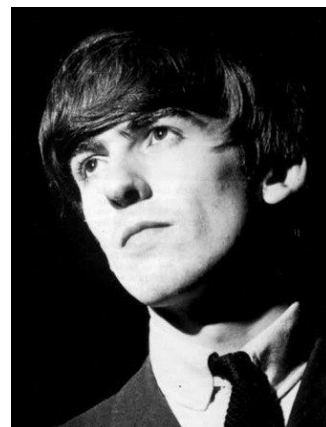
THE BEATLES make their first U.S. appearance on The Ed Sullivan Show, February 9, 1964.

instrument later sold at auction for \$657,000. While in Benton, he also performed with a local band from the area called The Four Vests. Louise, became better known as Louise Harrison Caldwell and, while still living in Benton, gave live daily Beetle activity reports on a St. Louis radio station. I used to listen to her reports while living in Centralia. In an interview, Louise spoke of twenty-year-old George's visit when "he met these wonderful, friendly, real warm Midwesterners....school teachers, retired miners, and all kinds of just wonderful people...and a little band. He had a fantastic time. He thought they were just wonderful people."



Tripping MY ROOTS Over

-by Bob Hobbs



George Harrison: The Beatle
who came to Benton, Illinois.

THE FAMOUS AND THE INFAMOUS VISITORS

Part 1 (cont)

The Famous Visitor: The Beetle Came To Town

What a difference a mere five months would make. The next time George Harrison came back to the United States, he was accompanied to New York City by his bandmates Paul, John, and Ringo. The date was Sunday, February 4, 1964 and the occasion was to appear live in front of a theatre of screaming teenagers and a television audience of 73 million Americans on the Ed Sullivan Show. As they say, the rest was history.

Part 2: More about George Harrison plus

The Infamous Visitor: The Time the Murderer Came to Town



IN MEMORIAM ...

IRMA ANN (MAYFIELD) GLICK, WIFE OF MARVIN H GLICK, BOTH MEMBERS OF THE BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, PASSED AWAY 25 MAR 2019. SHE WAS MOTHER OF 4 CHILDREN - ROGER (DEANNA) GLICK, DEBORAH (ROBERT) EIKENBARY, BRUCE (SUSAN) GLICK, AND SANDRA DOSTERGLICK.

SHE WAS BORN 5 MAY 1930 IN FRANKLIN, INDIANA. HER PARENTS WERE EDGAR COLEMAN AND MABLE (HAMBLÉN) MAYFIELD. OUR HEARS GO OUT TO MARVIN AND HIS FAMILY AT THIS SAD TIME.

SEE WWW.THEREPUBLIC.COM FOR THE COMPLETE OBITUARY



Family Heritage Day



Saturday, April 27, 2019

11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Brown County History Center
90 E. Gould Street, Nashville, Indiana

“Finding Your Family Veterans”

FREE EVENT

We would love to have a copy of your veteran's photo. Bring your family photos in to get them scanned!



There will be family and veterans displays, a research table for visitors to do research, photographs of Brown County veterans, genealogy books for sale, door prizes, and **free** hand-outs on how to find Veteran's records.

If you would like to display your family history call us to reserve a free table. Contact us at rhonda@browncountyhistorycenter.org or 812-320-6237.

Bartholomew County Genealogical Society

Membership year extends from Jan – Dec (includes 4 issues of ANCESTORS)

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

Contact us ! Like us on facebook !

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Thanks for your Support

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