



ANCESTORS

Bartholomew County Genealogical Society

Jan - Mar Q1 2021

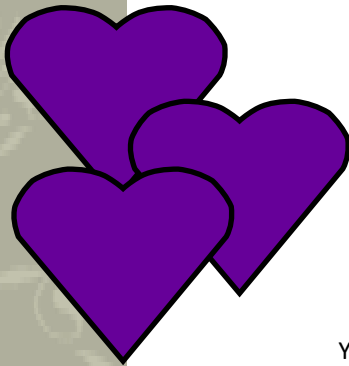
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Happy 200th, Bartholomew County

Please be sure to read Marcus' article for information about this celebration..... Then stay tuned as we share more throughout the year..... Hope you all enjoy the 200th Celebration of our County !

All 2020 BCGS Members will receive a FREE 2021 Membership !



Yes, it's true ! We appreciate you ! It has been a difficult year for everyone due to the closures and shutdowns of Covid 19. We want to thank all of you for your support by giving you a FREE 2021 BCGS membership ! Thank you so much !

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Welcome to Our New Member

Barbara (Deagan) Andrews of Buckeye, Arizona

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 !



2021 CALENDAR

Jan 16 - Zoom Meeting with Dr. Tamara Iorio, Bartholomew County Historian

President's Prose -by Becky Speaker

Good bye 2020, hello 2021! I'm excited about the new year and thinking about new projects and a new world of genealogy discoveries. Although there are maybe other resolutions I should do (quarantine eating, anyone?), I have decided that my main New Year's resolution will be to attend some of the wonderful virtual genealogy programs in 2021. I have already registered for a couple of webinars in January from the Allen County Genealogy Library and the Midwest Genealogy Center. I am also searching for some in other regions where I can learn more about the environment where my ancestors lived. I also registered for the RootsTech Conference (Feb 25-27), which will be a free and virtual conference this year – I figure if I can't travel anywhere, I might as well use my vacation days to do some of my favorite activities like learning more about genealogy! I hope that you can find a way for enjoy genealogy this year, however you decide to focus!

This is a big year for a couple of anniversaries also. I found several seminars referencing the 400th anniversary of the Mayflower, with a lot of new online resources. But a really important anniversary for BCGS is the 200th's anniversary of Bartholomew County! It was officially formed on February 12, 1820 and named for Colonel Joseph Bartholomew, a leader in the regional militia before Indiana became a state. We will kick off our celebration on Saturday, January 16 at 10am with a zoom program by Dr. Tamara Iorio, Bartholomew County Historian. Dr. Iorio will share information about a new Bicentennial video, a forthcoming book and also a few lesser-known Bicentennial facts and pictures. BCGS will be planning more zoom or outdoor sessions for the spring 2021, hoping for more in-person sessions this summer. Stay tuned to hear about our schedule!

Also, because of the cancellation of our November 2020 meeting, our executive board has agreed to serve for another year. We also voted to give all current 2020 members a free membership in 2021 !

Wishing you all a happy New Year and a much better 2021 - I hope you and your loved ones are safe and well.

Aunts, Uncles and Grandparents become greater with each successive generation, cousins just get removed



Highlights

-by Marcus Speer

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Do remember what was celebrated in 2016 in Indiana? Well, Indiana became the 19th state admitted into the Union on Dec. 11, 1816, therefore, Indiana celebrated her bicentennial. All 92 counties celebrated Indiana's 200 years of history and accomplishments. Now, we have another Bicentennial celebration approaching. Yes, Bartholomew County celebrates a Bicentennial anniversary in 2021.

BCGS has been planning to participate in this celebration with the January program and future programs. The BCGS board has also committed to supporting a Bicentennial History Book for Bartholomew County. The book is being completed by the Bartholomew County Historian Dr. Tami Stone Iorio.

Here's a little history of Bartholomew County's beginnings. This information is provided on http://genealogytrails.com/ind/bartholomew/hist_early_days.html

“The act of the general assembly creating the county of Bartholomew was passed and approved on the 9th of January, 1821. ... In the state's early history the territory now comprised within Bartholomew county was a part of Delaware county and it included the greater part of what is now Brown county. Its present area is about four hundred square miles, approximating two hundred and fifty-six thousand acres. The county was named in honor of General Joseph Bartholomew, who was for many years an honored and distinguished citizen of Clarke county.”

“... on the 15th day of February, that year, William Ruddick, Jesse Ruddick and Solomon Stout met at the residence of Luke Bonesteel and organized as the first board of county commissioners of the new county, producing their certificates of election from the hand of the sheriff. Their first business was the appointment of Edward Ballenger as clerk of the board and the adoption of an official seal, after which they received the report of the commissioners appointed by the legislature to select and establish a permanent seat of justice for the county. ... The new county seat was named Tiptona, in honor of General Tipton, but at a meeting of the board of commissioners, on March 20, 1821, they ordered, without giving reasons therefor, that the town be thereafter known as Columbus.”

“On February 26, 1821, immediately after the organization of the county, the board of commissioners purchased from Luke Bonesteel a small, double log house, to be used as a court house.”

Future newsletters will contain additional historical information of Bartholomew County.

For more information about Bartholomew County's history, check out these links:

https://wiki.rootsweb.com/wiki/index.php/Bartholomew_County,_Indiana

<http://mossyfeetbooks.net/index.php/2020/10/10/sample-chapter-indianas-counties-bartholomew-county/>

[1800-1899 Life In Columbus/Bartholomew County | Historic Columbus Indiana Message Board](#)

Tripping MY ROOTS Over

-by Bob Hobbs

A Place Called Home

I believe I speak for everyone reading this that I hope that 2021 will be a much better year than 2020. I pray this newsletter finds all of our members well. I am thankful that my immediate family and I have (knock on wood) so far have managed to avoid Covid-19. I am grateful that even the assisted-living facility where my mother resides in

Benton, Illinois has managed to avoid any positive cases within their walls. They and a facility owned and managed by the same company in a neighboring county are the only such facilities in southern Illinois that can make such a claim. Unfortunately, friends both locally and in several other states throughout the country have not fared as well. Some have recovered and others, sadly, have not.

Ironically, local activities came to a screeching halt in March on Friday the 13th. More specifically, planned programs and meetings of this Bartholomew County Genealogical Society were either canceled or conducted via Zoom. A few were able to take place in person taking safety precautions including face coverings and social distancing. References to this may have been made earlier in this newsletter, but the decision was made by the BCGS board that any member who had paid their dues for 2020 will have that membership applied to 2021 as well. Feel free to contact me via email at reh052052@gmail.com if you would like an update on your membership status.

In addition to the good news of a recently available vaccine, many of you probably already know that 2021 is historically significant locally.

February 12 marks the bicentennial or 200th anniversary of the formation of Bartholomew County, named in honor of Lt. Col. Joseph Bartholomew (1766-1840) who moved to the newly created Indiana Territory in 1800 by way of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Kentucky. He settled in an area known as Clark's Grant near the town of Charleston, which is a approximately 60 miles south of Columbus. In 1811, he took part in the Battle of Tippecanoe and, for his leadership in that war, was promoted to brigadier general. Fighting in the same battle was the Indiana Territory Governor William Henry Harrison, who would later be elected President of the United States and was grandfather of Indianapolis resident and future U.S. President Benjamin Harrison. Joseph Bartholomew apparently never set foot in the county that bore his name and he later moved to and died in McLean County, located in central Illinois.



Joseph Bartholomew

On March 20, 1821 the town that would become the county seat of Bartholomew County had its name changed from Tiptonia to Columbus. It is one of my favorite Columbus, Indiana stories.



John Tipton

General John Tipton (1786-1839), also of Battle of Tippecanoe, among others, built a cabin in 1820 on a small hill overlooking the White River. Soon other cabins were built nearby and the new town was named Tiptonia, in honor of General Tipton. For reasons not clear, the town's name was changed to Columbus, much to the chagrin of the general. He was so upset, he left town and eventually got his revenge. He later was appointed highway commissioner for the State of Indiana and was put in charge of building a road from Indianapolis to Louisville. As the road made its way south toward Columbus, Tipton in an act of apparent vengeance, routed the road west of Columbus, thereby constructing what could be considered the first bypass around and avoiding Columbus as it made its route to Seymour in adjacent Jackson County. Tipton was also elected as U.S. Senator from Indiana and the towns of Tipton, Indiana; Tipton, Iowa; and Tipton County, Indiana were named after him.

My questions are these: Did they change the name from Tiptonia because they didn't like the name or was it because they didn't like him? If the answer is the former, would the town Tipton have had more appeal?

Tripping MY ROOTS Over

-by Bob Hobbs

A Place Called Home (cont)

Unlike many of you reading this, I have absolutely no previous ties to Bartholomew County. I have no ancestral “roots” here and consider myself a recent “transplant.” Oddly enough, despite living in Indianapolis from the time I graduated from Southern Illinois University in 1974 to the time I left in 1990 to teach in West Palm Beach, Florida, I had never been to Columbus until the summer of 2013. I had decided to retire from teaching in June of 2014 and at the time I had one daughter living on the south side of Indianapolis and one in Bloomington. I was a recent grandfather as each daughter had a daughter. With a sister and an aging mother still in Illinois and two little granddaughters in Indiana, the pull to move back North was stronger than the mild year-round temperatures in The Sunshine State. I looked at a map and discovered that Columbus was a nice-sized town equidistant from both Indianapolis and Bloomington.

So in the summer of 2013 after having done online research, I included Columbus as part of my annual tour of the Midwest to visit family. I was pleasantly surprised what I found. I took the Architectural Tour and fell in love with the place. My last year of teaching in Florida was coupled with my making plans to relocate. In early July of 2014 I flew into Indianapolis, rented a car, and drove to Columbus to find a place to live. I only allowed myself three days and a couple of hours were set aside for the Miller House Tour. As a kid I used to draw floor plans of houses and later used to visit construction sites and guess what the rooms were going to be. I had even at one time considered being an architect. Let’s just say I know a good floor plan when I see one! At any rate, I found a suitable apartment in the downtown area with an interesting view of the two prominent church steeples along 5th Street.

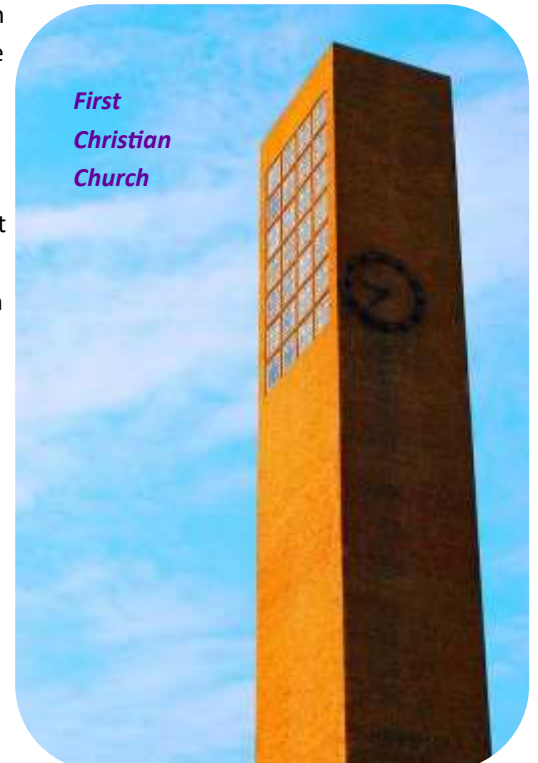
Later I discovered that on a clear day, when there are no leaves on the trees, I can see the top of the county courthouse.

Approximately a month after signing a lease, I drove my packed car the 1,100 miles from West Palm Beach and the next day arrived in Columbus as an official resident on August 1, 2014. A moving van with every other possession arrived a week later.

As fate would have it, a couple of years ago one of my sons-in-law changed jobs. As a result, he, my daughter, and granddaughter moved from Indianapolis to Bloomington! Would I have moved to Columbus almost six and a half years ago if both daughters had been living in Bloomington? Probably not. Am I still glad I moved to Columbus? Yes, I am.



*St. Peter's
Lutheran Church*



*First
Christian
Church*

Let’s keep our fingers crossed that conditions improve in 2021 to allow us to properly celebrate the 200th anniversary of the birth of Bartholomew County. I look forward to learning more about both the county and small city I now call home.



New Books

New Genealogy Books at the Bartholomew County Library

- from Annette Blount, Bartholomew County Genealogy Librarian

Women Patriots in the American Revolution: Stories of Bravery, Daring and Compassion.

Jack Darrell Crowder
Gen 973.3082 Cro

Observations and Reflections on the Brice Burn(e)s Family in Indiana With an Addenda of William Burns, Sr. and Charles Burns, Sr.

Pamela Thomason
Ref Gen 929.2 Burns

Researching in Germany: A Handbook for Your Visit to the Homeland of Your Ancestors.

Roger P. Minert
Gen 929.3 Min

19th Century Death Notices & Obituaries Scott County, Indiana.

Scott County Genealogical Society
Ref Ind 977.2183 Nin

Marylanders to Ohio and Indiana Migration Prior to 1835.

Henry C. Peden, Jr.
Gen 929.3752 Ped

Changes While You Are Away From the Library

-by Annette Blount, Bartholomew County Genealogy Librarian

With the closing of the library to patron traffic I hope you have been able to take advantage of Ancestry.com on our library genealogy page. Normally it is only available from inside the library but since the last half of March 2020 it has been available at home through the library webpage. The remote access is supposed to cease at the end of 2020. We will keep it going as long as we are allowed.

A new addition to our webpage is an obituary index. This will be a fantastic addition! Now we will be able to look up people who had obituaries in the local newspaper. This is, however, a work in progress. Right now the index only has obituaries from 2019 and 2020. This is a software program that allows us to input information so that the patron can then go to the newspaper and find the actual obituary or they can contact the library and we can email it to them. Karen Loy has been indexing obituaries on index cards for some time and those cards will be very helpful when adding people to the obituary index. It is just going to take some time and it will be available online! We are making progress!

Another change coming to the library Indiana Room is some shifting and re-cataloging of books. The books have always been arranged strictly according to the Dewey Decimal system. We are making some changes to that in the Indiana Room. They will not be huge changes but we are changing the cataloging of some items so that all Indiana county information will be grouped together. For instance, all vital records (births, deaths, marriages) were under one call number and county history information was at a different call number. The changes will allow the vital records to be cataloged with the call number of the county they belong to. The spine of the book will have the call number and the county name under the call number. Hopefully that will make the books easier for patrons to find. Also, if they are put back incorrectly at least they can be shelved with the correct county. It has always been difficult to find some books unless you knew exactly what the book looked like and where it is kept on the shelf. That also means that if you knew where to go to find a certain book on the shelf it may not be in the same location now. Hopefully, in the future, we can also add labels to indicate where subjects and counties are located. This time that we are closed has allowed us to address some of the changes we have long been wanting to make.

As you can see we are keeping busy while you are away. I believe the changes we are making will be for the better; at least that is the goal. The library staff has continued to work during the time we are closed to the public. We are also trying to bring good quality programming during this difficult time. I hope you have taken advantage of some of our virtual programs. Hopefully, we can resume in person library visits after the first of the year. Until then we are still doing curbside pickup at least through the end of 2020. See you in 2021!



Congrats, Donna!

If you missed it, Donna Kuhlman was in The Republic 29 Dec 2020 with a wonderful article talking about her passion for genealogy and gravesites. The Bartholomew County Genealogical Society has known Donna from its beginning, as she was a Charter Member of our Society. She has shared her knowledge and experience with our Society many, many times over the years and we are very glad she continues to be a prominent member of our Society. Thanks, Donna!



Marcus Speer is also mentioned in the article and was also a Charter Member of our Society. We are also grateful to have Marcus as a dedicated member of our Society. Thanks, Marcus!



CARVED IN STONE

QUERY:

Looking for information on marriage of nancy cox to Solomon cox in your county 12-23-1838. Looking for her maiden name too. Did they have any children They were married a short time I guess he died. Then she married Bryson Armstrong in bartholomew co in 9 24 1843. JBR



Jeffrey N Cox 11



Closeup of Jeffrey N Cox 11

Response:

This Nancy Cox was a daughter of Jeffrey Cox and Nancy Tillett.

See Jeffrey Cox on Find A Grave, born Talbott Co., MD:

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/70493051/jeffery-n-cox>

See Nancy Tillett Cox on Find A Grave:

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/70493182/nancy-anne-cox>

Solomon Cox was mostly likely a cousin of some degree; don't really know who he was, and he does not seem to have a marked grave here, although most likely also buried in the Spaugh Cemetery. (There IS another Solomon Cox there, but he's too young to have married in 1838.)

I found two entries in the abstracted court records that apply, although neither one mentions children specifically:

Complete Record Probate Book C, p. 170

Jeffrey Cox and Nancy Cox are appointed administrators of the estate of Solomon Cox deceased. [This would presumably be the widow and her father.] Joseph Wood and Moses Joiner were appraisers of the personal property. Nancy Cox later listed as Nancy Armstrong. Final settlement made of this estate Feb. 14, 1844.

Probate Order Book D, p. 250

Nancy Armstrong formerly Nancy Cox files a final report as admx. of the estate of Solomon Cox deceased. Feb. 14, 1844.

Brison Armstrong also had children by a previous spouse; so their 1850 household was yours-mine-and-ours. As nearly as I can tell, it looks like Nancy Cox Cox and Solomon Cox probably had William Cox, about 1839; George Cox, about 1841; and Nancy Cox, about 1843. This is just a guess, though, as I did not find anything definitive to verify the identities of these kids. Rebecca Armstrong Titus, Elizabeth Armstrong Sweeney and Matthew Armstrong were Brison's with Margaret Mow, who died about 1835. Brison and Nancy's first child was Margaret, born Sept. 9, 1844.



Nancy Anne (Tillet) Cox

CARVED IN STONE

-by Donna Kuhlman



Best laid plans of.....

Gertrude C Harrington Shindel

Found at Garland Brook.

Gertrude did NOT expect to live to be a hundred... much less a 110.

I've done some work this week for June Davis, who posted that memorial along with others in the family; and I've added some related listings.

These were the Jewish families, who came to Bartholomew Co. in the mid-1850s. I had known of them for a long time, but hadn't ever actually looked closely at the whole community. Had not known that there WAS a Hebrew Cemetery in Indianapolis, nor that local families used it. Many (most, actually) of them intermarried with non-Jewish families, and eventually began using GB and City Cemetery.

See Gertrude on Find A Grave:

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/116553196/gertrude-cornelia-shindel>



YOUR Society at WORK

What did BCGS do this Quarter ?

- Purchased "Nineteenth Century Obituaries for Scott County, IN" book for the public library.
- Donated \$2000 to support the 200th Bartholomew County Bicentennial book.
- FREE 2021 Membership for all 2020 Bartholomew County Genealogical Society Members

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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