



WARREN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

504 North Buxton Apt. #7
Indianola, Iowa 50125

Vol. 11

NOVEMBER 1985 NEWSLETTER

Number 10

MEETINGS: Monthly, the third Monday at 7:00 PM at the Indianola Public Library which is located at 207 North B.

NEXT MEETING: January 20, 1986. Program to be announced.

NEWSLETTER: Published each month except August and December. Queries welcomed. Editor: Molly Bowlin, Route 2 Box 211, Indianola, IA 50125

DUES: \$5. single and \$7.50 family. Dues for 1986 were payable between September 1st and were delinquent October 31st. They are payable to Registrar, Ruth Hall, 705 West Third, Indianola, IA 50125.

SIX NEW MEMBERS GAINED IN OCTOBER! Welcome to the following new members: George and Mary Berry, Leulla Nickelson and Charles Vance of Indianola; Opal Henry of Norwalk and Ronald Bradford of Des Moines.

DUES FOR 1986 ARE NOW DELINQUENT!! THIS IS THE FINAL NEWSLETTER FOR 1985 MEMBERS. Get your dues in right away to be included in our 1986 program booklet. The following members have paid their '86 dues: (Up to Nov. 9)

Pauline Baxendale	Thelma Fuller	Ruth Lehman	Mary Smart
George & Mary Berry	June Gerbode	Marguerite Mahan	Betty Smith
Earnestine Boos	Jane Godwin	G. Raymond Nelsen	Lester Swartslander
Molly Bowlin	Ruth Hall	Luella Nickelson	Shirley Tinstman
Ronald Bradford	Charlotte Hardin	Orpha M. O'Hara	Edna Van Syoc
Tenney Brinkman	Ruth Henry	Thelma Pehrson	Doris Young
Elaine Bumgarner	Opal Henry	Lucille Perkins	Charles Vance
Janace Cole	Marjorie Kline	Louise Pilmer	Maude Wilkins
Bertine Davis	Boris Lawson	Robert Renfro	Evelyn Witt
Enola Disbrow	Sheryl Ledlie	Marjorie Rogers	

PROGRESS REPORT-WARREN COUNTY HISTORY PROJECT: Community, church, organization, and family histories are now being received and processed for mailing to Dallas. Work is progressing on township histories with Louise Pilmer as chairman. Barb Rasko has been handling the executive business and processing the material received for Dallas. Requests for business histories have gone out, thanks to Sheryl Ledlie who is also handling the treasurer's business. Molly Bowlin has been working with the church histories and with the help of Maude Wilkins and Marietta Grissom, calls back to the ministers are almost completed.

WE NOW NEED AS MANY VOLUNTEERS AS POSSIBLE TO BEGIN THE TASK OF CALLING the many residents and businesses of Warren county to request their histories. An instruction sheet is available for use when making these calls. Sign up to help at our meeting, or contact Barb at 961-6758 for your assigned pages in the phone book. This is something you can do in your own home and in your available time. IT IS A BIG PROJECT!! AND WITH YOUR HELP, WE CAN GET IT DONE!! VOLUNTEER NOW!

NOW IS THE TIME TO RESERVE YOUR COPY OF THE NEW HISTORY OF WARREN COUNTY, IOWA while the early sales price of \$45 is still in effect. Iowa residents, please add \$1.80 for sales tax and add \$3.50 if you want it mailed to you. Order from: Sheryl Ledlie, 3005 SE 72nd Ave., Des Moines, IA 50320

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE RESERVED STORY SPACE, remember we are holding your space until December 1, 1985. At that time, if you have not submitted your story, or are not at least working on it, we will release your reserved space. Lets get those stories finished and in to Barb before the deadline!

WESTON Need information on William Weston and his wife Olive McQuire. Their children were: Myrtle, Ada and Agnes. Contact Marcella Hancock, P.O. Box 79, Hanover, Illinois 61041

WAGNER Any information needed on Josphe Edward Wagner (Von Waggoner). Contact
 VON WAGGONER Mrs. Vernon Anderson, Route 2A, Box 197, Fontanelle, IA 50846

CHANDLER Nadine Gemmer, 2257 Daley Street, North Las Vegas, Nevada 89030 needs data for Isaiah D., Ruben P. or Mahulda Jane Chandler.

We were so sorry to hear that Pauline Baxendale had suffered a fall the night of our last meeting and broke a bone in her hand and received a painful burn. She is now back at home and recovering well.

WCGS BOOK COLLECTION PLACED IN NEW GENEALOGY SECTION OF THE INDIANOLA PUBLIC LIBRARY!!
 A long time goal of WCGS was accomplished November 7, 1985 when approximately seventy volumes and a number of periodicals were presented to the Library. These represent a portion of the total material to be donated. Barbara Rasko, Louise Pilmer and Molly Bowlin were there to give the books to Charles Ginter, library director. A list of the material donated to date will be included in this newsletter. Please visit the new library soon, enjoy the surroundings and use the genealogical resource material.
 The library hours are: Monday - Thursday, 9-8; Friday, 9-6; Saturday, 10-5; Closed Sunday.

A WORKSHOP will be held soon to finish binding the remaining material for the library. If you are able to help, let Louise know. Many thanks to all who have helped so far, including: Louise Pilmer, Maude Wilkins, Barb Rasko, Elaine Bumgarner, Lucille Perkins, Thelma Fuller, Ruth Hall and Molly Bowlin.

OBITUARY FILE: Maude Wilkins has spent many hours working on the obituary file and, with the help of Thelma Fuller indexing, has it in good shape. If anyone has obituaries pertaining to Warren county people, we would appreciate a xerox copy for our file. Xeroxing can be done at Barbs.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, Charlotte Hardin would like suggestions for the programs for 1986. Give her a call at 961-8908 if there is something special you would like to hear or if you have any ideas!!

OCTOBER MEETING: We were pleased to have twenty-two guests at our October meeting for the Workshop on writing a family history. Special guest was member Betty Smith from Santa Maria, California, who was here doing family research on her Roy family. They were from the New Virginia area. Other visitors were from Norwalk, Pleasantville, Carlisle, Winterset and Indianola.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE HELD IN DES MOINES: Sheryl Ledlie, Ruth Hall and Molly Bowlin spent the day at the conference Saturday, Oct 26th, mainly manning a table promoting our History and Birth Books. Ruth attended the session on Maps, Atlases and Gazeteers and was able to pick up some good tips. It was very convenient for our group to have the conference so close to home. Louise Pilmer, Twilla Dillard and Peg Hutchison attended the convention on Sunday.

Pictured here is the old stagecoach stop at Owsego. It was located on the old route from Des Moines to Winterset, according to information in the following story about Jefferson township. Oswego was on the south section line of section 36 in Jefferson township, about midway. The picture was given to Mr. & Mrs. Glen Jones by Virgil Hammon of Joilet, Illinois. The Hammon family was a former owner of the property.



Jefferson township material by Edith Conn:

Jefferson township is located in the west tier of townships and bordered on the west by Madison county.

Middle River passes through the center of the township from west to east with Clanton Creek as one of its tributaries. It was also well supplied with railway service having had the Chicago Great Western going north and south, the Des Moines and Osceola branch of the C, B & Q going north and south, and with the Chicago Rock Island and Pacific going east and west.

Jefferson township had several of the firsts of the county. The first wheat sown in the county was sown in 1845 at Crewe Grove. It was fall wheat and was harvested in 1846 being tramped out by oxen. The first corn raised in the township was raised by Ulysses Berger in 1846. Mr. Berger also had the first plow in the township. The first cloth woven in Warren county woven by Mrs. Margaret Berger soon after their arrival here, from flax she brought with her. She made about 15 yards but could make no more as she did not have money with which to buy rolls for spinning.

Other early settlers of the township were the John Wallace family. William Wallace had a steam saw mill on Clanton Creek. The William Crow family came in Feb. 1846. John F. Woodside entered the first land in the township on March 22, 1849.

Henry Johnson was the first boy born in Jefferson township, to Lewis and Nancy Johnson on June 20, 1847. Jane Berger was the first girl born in the township. She was born to Ulysses and Margaret C. Berger on August 16, 1847. The first death in the township was the drowning of James Ryan in a slough July 6, 1846.

The first school was organized in Jefferson township in August 1854. The first school was taught by L. S. Spencer in the winter of 1854-55. It was a log cabin. His wages were \$20 a month and he boarded himself. The desks and seats were slabs fastened to the wall. The next year a frame school was built and was used as a school and church. It was located about one-half mile north of the present Linn Grove Church. The school known as Brush College was built in 1855. Mr. Spencer was also the first teacher there. Other schools of the township were: Dover, King or Parr, St. Joseph Catholic, Churchville, Spencer, Spring, Middle Valley, Reddish and Smedley.

The towns of the township included Lynn in the southwest corner of section 3. It was on the road that is now Highway 28 from Des Moines to Martensdale. This route was the old stage coach line. Lynn was the half-way station and was kept by L. S. Spencer who was a pioneer of the community and a leader in the church and Sunday school. Lynn was located about one-fourth mile north of the present Prole and near the present Linn Grove Church. Lynn was established as a post office in February 1855 with L. S. Spencer as postmaster. He served as postmaster 18 years. Before this the mail was carried by horseback from Fort Des Moines. Samuel Snyder was the first mail carrier. In the spring of '56 the stage company began carrying the mail from Des Moines to Winterset three times a week. In 1858, it was carried daily.

Montpelier was a post office from 1853 to 1869 with Charles G. Simpson as postmaster. It was located in the northwest part of the township.

Oswego was a post office in Jefferson township from 1864 to 1869. It was located in the southeast quarter of section 36. Granville G. Davison, son of Joshua Davison, was the postmaster. Oswego was on the stage coach route from Des Moines to Winterset and was called "Seven Mile House." The location would be better known to our readers as the Glen Jones farm.

Pryor was the name of the post office established to replace Oswego. It was so named because it was at the Luke Pryor place and the postmistress was a daughter of Luke Pryor--Sue Pryor. She later married G. C. Davis and lived at Indianola.

Churchville was laid out by John Churchman in 1854. It is located in the extreme southeast corner of section 3. Churchville was a station on the Chicago Great Western railroad.

Bevington is located in the township and on the county line with most of the town in Madison county. It was laid out in 1872 and was on the Chicago Rock Island and Pacific railroad. It was named in honor of Dr. C. B. Bevington of Winterset.

Prole was established on the railroad when the railroad came through. It was established about 1884 on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroad. The Lynn post-office was about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile north of Prole but it was discontinued when the railroad came through. Prole was first known as Spencerville, but the name was soon changed to Prole. It is located in section 10 of Jefferson township.

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Lothrop was another station built as the result of the railroad. It was laid out in 1872 on the north edge of section 14. It was named from Colonel Lothrop of Winterset.

The Des Moines and Osceola branch of the C, B & Q railroad came through the township about 1881. The town of Wick was established on the railroad about two years later in 1883 in section 21.

Conger was a station on the Chicago Great Western railroad and was established in 1888. It was located in the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 33.

Martensdale is the youngest town in the township as well as of Warren county. It is located near the center of the township. The town was laid out in 1913 on the crest of a hill, founded by John F. Martens, William Buxton II, Lee Hiatt and Walter Beam. It was incorporated in 1920. Across the highway and down the hill, the junction of two railroads was first known as Rock Island Crossing, later as Yaggy. In 1914 the name of the railroad station was changed to Martensdale.

The editors of the JAM JAR have in their possession some old correspondence between Milton Patrick (then station agent at Prole) and Walter Beam about securing a station agent for the Martensdale railroad station.

The Wesley Chapel M. E. church at Wick was built in 1871. One acre of ground was donated by Ulysses and Margaret Berger for the church. It served its community well for many years.

The Catholic church at Churchville was built in 1890. A parochial school built in 1903, operated with the church, with three Sisters as teachers. The German Lutheran church at Churchville, known as St. Paul's Lutheran church was built in 1903. In 1915 the building was moved to Martensdale and the St. Paul's Lutheran congregation and the Martensdale Community church congregation shared the building.

The Christian church at Prole was organized in 1903. The church building was erected in 1904. The Linn Grove Methodist church was organized in 1853. The first building was erected in 1867. It was dedicated as the Baldwin Chapel. Before the church was built, meetings were held in the school house a half mile north of the present church. The church was rebuilt in 1892, in 1903 and again in 1910. The building was torn down in the past few weeks in preparation for erecting a new church.

Martensdale Community church worshipped every other Sunday until 1936 in the Lutheran church building moved from Churchville. The congregations of both churches had grown until there was a need for separate buildings. The Community Church congregation built a basement and used it for a sanctuary until in 1944 the present building was erected. (Originally printed in the JAM JAR, newsletter of the Warren County Historical Society)

NEWSPAPER GLEANINGS OF YESTERYEAR by Edith Conn

Wick is a station on the K & W Railroad in the western part of Warren county. It is rolling and to the west, hilly and dotted with houses and barns.

The station is a popular shipping and trading place. The postmaster and merchant, A. G. Black is doing a thriving business. He also buys grain. On November 16, 1898 he was paying 25¢ per bushel for corn.

The Methodist Church is being fixed up in fine style. The top was taken off and a new roof put on. The whole building has been refurnished and repainted. -- from the Indianola Record, November 24, 1898.

The Wesley Chapel at Wick was built 30 years ago but is sound. Money was raised to remodel. They will build an alcove on the northeast end 6'x12', reroof, replaster, put in modern windows, new floor, paint with hand finish inside, build a vestibule on the south entrance 6' x 12', put a tower at top of south entrance. -- from the Indianola Weekly Herald, November 17, 1898.

A year of school has been added to the town and village high schools. It will be called ninth or preparatory year. It will precede the two high school years. The county superintendent says it will be a review of the common branches. It has been found those completing the eighth year are not sufficiently grounded in common branches to take the higher branches of study. Most pupils complete eighth year at age 14 and do not have maturity of mind necessary to fully comprehend advanced work of higher school. --Indianola Weekly Herald, September 13, 1898

November 7, 1985

Milo Centennial Book, 1880-1980
Pleasantville Past and Present
Truro Centennial Celebration 1884-1984
Marriage Records of Marion County, Iowa 1845-1915
Cemeteries of Marion County, Iowa 1776-1976
Lucas County, Iowa Cemetery Records
Northwest Iowa Pioneers (2 copies)
History of Marshall County, Iowa 1955
And so they came . . . to Bloomfield Township
History of Adair County, Iowa 1915, Vol. 2
Biographical Index to the County Histories of Iowa
A Biographical Record of Iowa, 1896, Vol. 1 and 2
History of Columbiana County, Ohio
Pennsylvania Area Key
Virginia Antiquary, Vol. 1
Portrait and Biographical Album, Jackson County, Iowa 1889
History of Des Moines and Polk County, Iowa 1911, Vol. 2
County and Township Officers, Township Clerk Book, Swan Tp, 1885
Topical Index to National Genealogical Society Quarterly
National Society Daughters Colonial Wars 1967 Lineage Book IV
State Censuses, Bibliography 1790
The United States Census Compedium
District of Columbia 1820 Census Index
Index of North Carolina Ancestors 1981
Pennsylvania's Boundaries
Your Ancient Canadian Family Ties
Directory Phi Delta Theta Fraternity 1958
A Genealogical and Historical Atlas of the United States of America
Directory of Genealogical Societies in the USA and Canada 1980
Directory of Genealogical Societies in the USA and Canada 1978
Land Records, Military Records, Census Records of America
A Bibliography of Iowa Newspapers 1836-1976
Genealogical and Local History Books in Print 1981
Genealogical and Local History Books in Print 1976
Genealogical Societies and Historical Societies 1983
Meyer's Directory of Genealogical Societies In the USA and Canada 1984
How to Trace Your Family Roots

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Puritanism in Early America

A Survey of American Church Records IV Edition

First Baptist Church, Indianola

Saint John's Lutheran Church, Des Moines, 1965

St. John's Lutheran Church, Des Moines 1967

-Immaculate Conception Parish, St. Marys, Iowa 1870-1970

1863-1963 Spiritual Trails of a People Called Friends

Avon Community Church 1862-1967

-Ackworth Friends Church and Surroundings 1976

Roster Iowa Soldiers, Vol. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.

Ex-Soldiers, Sailors and Marines Living in Iowa 1886

Atlas of Marion County, Iowa (1875, 1901, 1909, 1917, 1937 and 1946)

Plat Book of Warren County, Iowa 1887

Atlas of Warren County, Iowa 1872

1872 Historical Topographical Atlas of Pennsylvania 1872

-1902-02 Warren County Atlas (Xerox copy)

-1933 Warren County Atlas "

-1973 Warren County Atlas "

-1976 Warren County Atlas "

-1977 Warren County Atlas "

-1933 Madison County Atlas "

-St. Charles Cemetery (Copy)

Cemetery and Death Records of Warren County, Iowa

Pennsylvania Roots and Spreading Branches 1721-1980

Viers-Shook Family Record 1976

Descendants of Roger Alling 1st & John Alling Sen.

I Shook My Family Tree, Peter Hess and Descendants 1755-1982

A New Colonial Family History, Lowdermilk, Brown, Hudson, Moore, Vancil,
Donner 1715-1977

Descendants of Robert and Phoebe (L'Estrange) Travis

-Memories of Days Gone By, Des Moines 1883-1894

-Sources of Genealogical Information

-The Development of Early Emigrant Trails in the US East of the Miss. River

Periodicals:

The Genealogical Helper 1965-1976

The Danish Genealogical Helper 1968, 1969

Daughters of the American Revolution Magazine 1971-1978

Hawkeye Heritage, through 1983

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1900 and 1910 Warren county census microfilm donated earlier.

From Summer '85, Genealogy Digest:

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS offers some free publications of interest to genealogists as follows: Library of Congress Photoduplication Services; Library of Congress Publications in Print; Guides to Genealogical Research: A Selected List; Reference Services and Facilities of Local History and Genealogy Room; Out of Print Materials and Reprinted Publications; and Surnames: A Selected List of References. One may request these from: Library of Congress, Genealogy Reading Rooms Division, Washington, DC 20510

CANADIAN RESOURCES: A free 33-page pamphlet published by the Canadian Government is available. Write: Public Archives of Canada, 395 Wellington Ottawa, Ontario, Canada KIA ON3 Via Ancestors Unlimited.

MISSING PERSON?: The United States Social Security Administration will attempt to forward letters to persons whose address is unknown if a demonstrable humanitarian consideration is involved. One may send an unsealed letter for the missing person with a cover letter explaining one's relationship to the person and the urgent reason for contacting the person; include the person's name, social security number, birthplace, birthdate, and names of parents if possible; and mail this to: Social Security Administration, Letter Forwarding Unit, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235.

VISITING FRIENDS - GUEST EXCHANGE NETWORK: This is a way to travel inexpensively to other areas for genealogical research. Members in all parts of the country share their homes with other members. Most of the members are genealogists and are knowledgeable about what to see and where to go in their areas. Membership fees are very reasonable. If interested in more information, write to Laura LaGess, Visiting Friends, Inc., P.O. Box 231, Lake Jackson, TX 77566.

QUAKER INFORMATION: According to Willard Heiss, noted genealogist from Indiana, those of Quaker descent all too often change Quaker plain dates to pagan form. They fail to realize, he writes, that prior to 1752 the tenth month was December, ninth month was November, eighth month was October, and seventh month was September. March was the first month. He recommends learning the difference in "old style" and "new style" dates as well as double dating. And suggest there is a need to comprehend the loss of eleven days at the time of the change when the day after September 3, 1752 became September 14, 1752.

From the National Genealogical Society Newsletter:

STATE OF WISCONSIN VS. BEATRICE BAYLEY: On 26 July 1985 Judge Richard W. Bardwell of the Dane County, Wisconsin, Circuit Court, found Beatrice Bayley, Inc. "guilty of untrue, deceptive and misleading solicitation" in connection with the sale of its "family heritage books," in violation of a consent judgment issued by the court in 1980, and ordered a forfeiture of \$1,500. In addition, the judge set forth a series of guidelines with which Beatrice Bayley must comply in the future in making solicitations to prospective customers in Wisconsin. (Sept-Oct 85 issue)

HUNTING ELUSIVE ANCESTORS IN INDIANA, MICHIGAN OR ILLINOIS: "Michiana Roots" might be able to help. A weekly genealogy column carried each Sunday by The South Bend Tribune, with a circulation of 125,000, "Michiana Roots" offers a free query service to researchers. The column also carries advice about research techniques and passalong news of the genealogical world. The first four years of the column (1972-1977) have been collected in book form and can be ordered for \$15.95. Send queries and orders to Michiana Roots, The South Bend Tribune, 225 W. Colfax, South Bend, IN 46626. Make checks payable to Carol Collins. (NGS Sept-Oct 85)

NEW YORK RESEARCH: Land records on microfilm at New York State Archives are available on interlibrary loan. Write: New York State Archives, State Education Center, Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12230. A Guide to Records in the New York Archives is obtained by writing Office of Cultural Education, State Archives, Albany, NY 12230. (Colorado Genealogical Soc. VIA Ancestors Unlimited 9:4:85)

"To forget one's ancestors is to be a brook without a source, a tree without a root".

-- Chinese Proverb (Marion Co. Newsletter Vol. II '85)

WCCS 11:10:85

Willa Jean Grissom
2400 SE 80th Ave
Route 2
Des Moines, Iowa 50320

W.C.G.S.
Rt. 2, Box 211
Indiana, IA 50125

*With all good wishes
for a very merry Christmas
and the happiest of new years!*



ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS * * *

Dear Santa:

Don't bring me new dishes; I don't need a new kind of game.
Genealogists have peculiar wishes; For Christmas I just want a surname.
A new washing machine would be great, But it's not the desire of my life.
I've just found an ancestor's birth date; What I need now is the name of his wife.
My heart doesn't yearn for a ring, That would put a real diamond to shame.
What I want is a much cheaper thing; Please give me Mary's last name.
To see my heart singing with joy, Don't bring me a red leather suitcase.
Bring me a genealogist's toy: A Surname, With dates and place.

Wyoming Co. PA Pioneers
VIA Clark County Genealogical Society, 1984