

WARREN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

504 North Buxton Apt. # 7
Indianola, Iowa 50125

Vol. 11

MAY 1985 NEWSLETTER

Number 5

MEETINGS: Monthly, third Monday at 7:00 PM at the Trinity United Presbyterian Church in Indianola. NEXT MEETING: June 17, 1985, Representatives from Curtis Media will be with us to discuss a new Warren County History Book. WCGS Board will meet at 5:00 pm, just prior to the regular meeting. Place to be announced later. The pot-luck supper planned for this meeting will be held in July, as will Marieta Grissom's program on "The Family Archivist" and workshop. NEWSLETTER: Published each month, except August and December. Queries welcomed. Editor: Molly Bowlin, Route 2, Box 211, Indianola, IA 50125. DUES: \$5.00 single; \$7.50 family. Our year runs Jan - Dec, and dues are payable between Sept. 1 and October 31. Ruth Hall, 705 West 3rd, Indianola, IA 50125 is Registrar.

Announcements:

1. Put this date on your calendar: Saturday and Sunday, October 26 and 27, the Iowa Genealogical Society Annual Conference will be held at the Airport Hilton Inn, 6111 Fleur Drive, Des Moines, IA. This will be their 20th anniversary. Program information will be available later.
2. IGS Quarterly meeting is scheduled for 8 June 1985, Western Tech Community College Gym, Sioux City, IA, sponsored by the Woodbury Genealogical Society. Speaker will be Diana Duff of the Regional Archives in Kansas City, MO. Check IGS April newsletter if you want further details.
3. Barb Rasko and Sheryl Ledlie are headed for Salt Lake City in June. Happy Hunting you two lucky people!
4. Very pleased to report that Louise Pilmer is back at home again following her hip replacement surgery. Welcome Home!
5. We all missed Les Swartlander at our last meeting. He had good reason, a heart attack that morning! Hope things are going well and you are getting back to normal. Our condolences, also, on the loss of your mother.
6. Fair time will be here before we know it. Does everyone have at least one fair project started?? Let's get started!
7. Sheryl Ledlie, our treasurer reports 174 books sold to date. Birth book went to the publisher May 6 and should be ready in time for county fair. She also reports that our Incorporation papers have been accepted at the state level and will soon be in our county recorders office. Our tax exempt papers can then be completed and submitted to IRS.
8. New publications in our Library include: Scottish Roots by Alwyn James, our memorial book for Walter Lawson; I Shook my Family Tree, Peter Hess and Descendants 1755-1982 by Thelma (Hess) Parsons; Jan-Feb and Mar-Apr issues of the Genealogical Helper.
9. WCGS annual trip to Iowa City Historical Library was enjoyed by Enola Disbrow, who drove, Jane Godwin, Lucille Perkins and Molly Bowlin. Everyone reported successful researching. We came home through Pella, where progress of the tulips was checked. A very pleasant trip for all. Hope you can join us next year!
10. Our registrar reports that we now have 64 members. We have a few who have not re-registered and hope to pick them up before long.

QUERY:

SHAVER Edwin E. Smith of 2850 Rhonda Way, Sacramento, CA 95821 has pictures of SMITH Henry & Elizabeth (Wilson) SHAVER which he would like to get into the WILSON possession of any of their direct descendants. He offers to exchange information.

It will soon be time to transfer our library material to the new Indianola Public Library. A workshop will be held to bind periodicals etc. Time will be announced soon.

WCGS 11:5:85

Greetings to Everyone:

On Monday, May 6th, Sheryl Ledlie, Molly Bowlin and I drove to Decorah to take the Birth Records of Warren County, Iowa Through 1920 to Anundson Publishing Company. Our book has 308 pages. We gave them a check for \$5004.60. We expect the book back in time for the County Fair in July!!

It was a beautiful day to travel and we had a nice trip. Sheryl drove the ten hours. We had a good lunch in a cafe downtown and the specials each day cost 95¢. I really thought that was crazy!!

As you have probably realized, the work of the Warren County Genealogical Society is never done. It is time to set new goals and start a new project. We've talked about this one for over a year and it seems it is the most important goal we would achieve. Of course, I'm writing about the publishing of a new WARREN COUNTY HISTORY.

Let me refresh your minds on the details of this project as told to us by Bob Knowler in May of 1984. Bob and his brother in Dallas, TX started a company called National Sharegraphics, Inc. and set up a formula for printing history books for counties. Since 1984, a new company has been formed called the Curtis Media Company. It was formed by the Curtis Publishing Company (Saturday Evening Post) and National Sharegraphics, Inc.

The history book itself would be made with acid free paper and a black linen cover so it would last 100 years. It would have a surname index, but not an every name index.

We would not have any money involved in the publishing of this book. When we decide to do it, Curtis Media Corp. will send a check of \$300-\$400 so we can open an account called Warren County History. We will pay expenses from this account (xeroxing, postage, telephoning and 25¢ a mile) WE will deposit money we receive for books ordered. When the books arrive, we keep 20% of the money and Curtis Media Corp. gets 80%. We would make several thousand dollars on this project. The money could be placed in an endowment and we could use the interest each year to buy census or books for the library or for anything else we wanted.

Now, what would we have to do?

(1) Collect family stories from county and other interested people. (Family History Chairman)

Everyone interested in Warren County is invited to submit as many family stories as they want. Each story can be 700 words (two typed pages, double-spaced, ½ inch margins) and have one picture, 1 column wide. Additional typed lines (beginning with page three) costs 40¢ each. Additional pictures are \$6.00 each for one column and \$11. each for two column. Anyone can submit as many 700 word-one picture stories as they desire free!!

We will have about \$900.00 supplied by Curtis Media Corp. to use to collect these stories. We will make one mailing and then hire people or get volunteers to make phone calls throughout the county asking each household if they are going to submit stories.

We will need volunteers to go to homes and tape record oral stories for people who can't write them down.

We will need a couple of typists to type stories that are submitted to us in longhand.

We will need someone to underline surnames in the stories for the index. We will also include an index of the 1953 History in this book and may try to reprint that history book and have it ready soon after this book is printed.

We will need someone to sit in the library one afternoon a week to collect, look over the family stories and take book orders from people who bring their stories in.

(2) Collect Business Histories (Business Chairman)

Contact every business in the county and help them write their story. It is often best to interview them on a tape recorder and then write the story and take it back to them for their approval.

(3) Collect stories from all parts of the county. (Topical Chairperson)

We will find people to write stories about the county. This section of the

book will include an abbreviated history of county and stories on cemeteries, schools, churches, abandoned towns, the railroad, pioneers, century farms, etc.

(4) Our Treasurer will keep track of books sold and of all expenses. Books can be 500-900 pages and will probably cost \$45.00 for the first 400 ordered and then \$60.00 after that. \$5.00 will reserve a book. We will probably print 1800-2000 copies. Curtis Media will market them to the Genealogical and Historical potential buyers and we will sell to Warren county, etc. Curtis Media already has several inquiries about this book. Usually the books will sell within two years of publication. We will continue to receive 20% until the last book is sold. Curtis Media will warehouse the books. We will hold a joint copyright on the book and neither will be able to reprint without the other.

(5) Editor is the 5th member of the main book committee. This person is responsible for coordinating the efforts of everyone else.

We will have 6-9 months to gather all of the material. We could have the book back for next year's county fair. We will pass out flyers this year advertising the book and showing how to submit family stories.

We will proof the book as we go. When we have 100 stories ready, we will keep one copy (xerox) of each and send the others to the publisher. They will put it on their computer and send it back to be proofed.

After we have proofed the last 200 pages, Curtis Media will send plane tickets for two of our members to fly to Dallas to spend three days proofing the general outlay, etc. of the book.

With a concentrated effort, we can do this!!! Curtis Media does not print a book for everyone that wants to. They have three criteria they use for choosing customers.

1. Size of county--we're in good shape with 27,432.
2. Economic situation--not great, but they feel there is plenty of interest in our county.
3. Attitude of the group--our proven successes with the other two books makes them anxious to work with us.

There is a job here for every member of our group and we will enlist the help of many other county people. We have our Treasurer, Sheryl Ledlie, who has agreed to handle the finances of the book. This project has a very high priority with me and I will serve as Editor or General Chairperson.

We will discuss this at the May meeting. Then on June 17th, Bob Knowler and Jay DeYoung will meet with us to talk over more details. We will then vote and if the majority of members feel good about the project, we'll be on our way!

I am hopeful the project will be approved and am going to proceed with this step. For the flyers that explain how to write a family history, we need some examples. Rather than assign people to write histories, I would like to give everyone a chance. There are two qualifications--The name should be recognized as a Warren county name and it shouldn't be someone that a lot of people were mad at!

So I encourage you to write your 700 word family history and include one picture. Get them to Molly or Maude by June 10th. We will choose two interesting ones from different parts of the county to place on the flyers. The people whose stories are not chosen will have one story ready for the book. The stories should include the regular genealogical information plus interesting things about the family. Just write it as you would speak it. Have fun!!

Barbara Rasko

NEW METHOD OF LISTING DATES: The new method, 1985DE05, uses only eight characters instead of the usual ten. There is no way of confusing the year, month or day because of the numeric, alpha, numeric sequence. Putting the year, month and day in descending order is more suited to computer sorting. Computerizing may well force this conversion in the near future. It is possible to use only two alpha characters to represent the month: JA, FE, MR, AP, MY, JE, JL, AU, SE, OC, NO, DE. From the Chicago Gen Soc., Nov 1984 reprinted in the Clark Co. WA Feb 85 newsletter.

WCGS 11:5:85

WHO NEEDS A GYM??

Genealogical research is a seasonal avocation which contributes to physical fitness.

RESEARCH IN COUNTY COURTHOUSE--To heave weighty tomes of land records, will books and administrative accounts develops biceps, triceps and pectoral muscles.

RESEARCH IN GENEALOGICAL LIBRARIES--To balance on one foot on a tiny, metal roll-around stool and reach to a top shelf for a ponderous county history while, simultaneously, trying to read the title, side ways, with bifocals, develops coordination and grace--or patience, during convalescence.

RESEARCH IN CITY CEMETERIES--to walk, briskly in invigorating early morning air, through neat rows of well-marked stones, stretching and bending to read inscriptions, will aerate the thoracic area and strengthen calf muscles.

RESEARCH IN COUNTRY CEMETERIES--To clamber up briery banks, to wade the muddy streams, to plod meadows and fields where the remote burial grounds are located can be accelerated to maximum physical benefit when a four-footed landowner makes an unfriendly appearance and decides that one is an intruder to be chased away.

So, as a four-season sport, requiring no license, indoors or out, combing the best of hunting, fishing and cross-country dashes, genealogy has many devotees.

(KEO-MAH TRACERS J,F,M '85 "Mary Spies, Cumberland, MD, a member of the Poweshick Co. Historical & Genealogical Society sent them this little gem.")

PENNSYLVANIA RESEARCH: The following are four-page leaflets (8½x11) of basic and essential information. \$2.50 postpaid, each.

The Maryland Pennsylvania Border Controversy - The Mason Dixon Line, sites upwards of 300 sources that may be of help on solving a problem.

PENNSYLVANIA - Connecticut Controversy Bibliography, possible title in these lists to find ancestor in Wyoming Valley.

Western Pennsylvania - River bibliography, Extensive list of titles dealing with migration via the Ohio River.

Chronology of Western Pennsylvania and District of West Augusta, VA, titles relating to; six-page leaflet for \$3.00.

Order from Jean Morris, PO Box 8530, Pittsburgh, PA 15220

BAPTIST HISTORY: Between 1770 and 1793 Rev. Morgan Edwards, a native of Wales, gathered information pertaining the the United States' Baptist congregations and members in an effort to record their history. Materials Towards a History of the Baptists, two volumes, 267 and 208 pages, were printed by Heritage Papers, Danielsville, GA 30633 and are available postpaid for \$37.00. (IN Hist. Sec. Genealogy #91)

GUTHRIE COUNTY newsletter April '85 contains their Will, Probate, and Guardianship Index for 1900-1924, N-R. See newsletter file in interested.

MISSOURI LIBRARIES: The editor of the Wayne County Genie News suggests the Mercer county, Putnam and Grund libraries located at Princcton, Unionville, and Trenton respectively, as having excellent collections of interest to a genealogist with Missouri connections.

INDIAN ANCESTORS?: Shirley Hoskins, 2321 Brookwood Dr., Chattanooga, TN 37421 publishes the Cherokee Indian Letter.

WEST IN A WAGON TRAIN?: The Bancroft Library at Berkley, CA has a list containing the names of people who were in the wagon trains, for those who had ancestors traveling to one of the western states via wagon train. (Hartland Quarterly, Madera, CA, Via Wayne Co. Genie News)

WASHINGTON STATE VITAL RECORDS: Call 1-800-551-0562 for a recorded message giving general information and directions on obtaining copies of b, d, m, fetal death, m, and di. records. (Clarke Co. WA Gen. Newsletter)

NEW JERSEY RESEARCH: The New Jersey State Library, 185 West State Street, Trenton, NJ 08625 has a family name Index File. The staff will check this index for a SASE.

The following material was submitted by Lucille Perkins, our present historian.

SOUVENIR Spring Hill High School June 11, 1897 G. W. Lee, principal, Nellie Brand, assistant. George Dillard, president; J. C. Higen, secretary. Advanced Department: Fred Adamson, Cora Alexander, Left Alexander, Fred Alexander, Evert Alexander, Walter Aubert, Evert Aubert, Ella Bedwell, Nora Bedwell, Harry Bedwell, Stella Bedwell, Irvin Bedwell, Nellie Brewbaker, Milton Brewbaker, Roye Brewbaker, Eva Brubaker, Mabel Callahan, Frank DeTar, Annabell Dillard, Martha Dillard, Charles Dillard, George Dillard, Jr., Alice Eilbert, Sherman Higen, Fred Higen, Franklin Henry, Artie Hopper, Alice Hopper, William Hopper, Jr.. Elmer Hughes, Edith Hughes, Jessie Leap, Stella Leap, Nora McGlothlen, Mamie McGlothlen, Rettie McGlothlen, Callie Myers, Virtus Perkins, Forest Perkins, Myrtle Perkins, Belva Perkins, Ora Smith, Ina Stephens, Maud Stephens, Bessie Seuber, Laura Utsler, Tie Utsler, Anna

Wayman, SOUVENIR Brush College District, Warren County, Iowa 1900 Keel Jackson, teacher; Board of Directors: Leander Gates, president; Jacob Dillard, David Lockridge. Pupils: Jennie Lockridge, Dick Coffman, Dora Dillard, Henry Stephens, Nana Lockridge, Bertha Willis, Linnie Wood, Nell Chiles, Evertt Chiles, Lyle Gates, Charley Wiland, Benny Weeks, Mattie Willis, Walter Stephens, Beatrice Perkins, Beulah dillard, Alva Allen, Leland Weeks, Leone Perkins, Ester Gates, Frank Wood, Eddie Wood, Mae Dillard, Maury Weeks, Willie Stephens, Roy Leap, Arthur Chiles, Emmet Willis, John Lockridge, Minerva Allen, Cora Gates, Eddie Stephens, Charlie Allen, Roy Willis, Ruby Gates, Emmet Wood, Curtis Wood.

Brush College School, Iowa Presented by Belva Perkins, teacher. CA1906-07 Pupils: Marie Todd, Stella Burg, Raymond Burg, Beatrice Perkins, Ruby Gates, Gladys Lockridge, Leona Todd, Harold Cashman, Emmett Wood, Curtis Wood, Lois Lockridge, Rebecca Burg, Charlie Burg, Eddie Voss, Keithel Lockridge, Warden Lockridge, Earle Lorimor, Eugene Wood.

From a newspaper clipping 1916: The Independent Dist. of Brush College is no more. It has been absorbed by a progressive age--merged into the consolidated district of Spring Hill.

Mr. N. F. Wood who purchased the building for the sum of \$132.00 has moved it to his farm, and after remodeling, it will be occupied by his son, Emmet as a tenant. There are many pleasing and interesting associations connected with the district, being organized in the year 1852. The first school house was built with logs, (hewed on one side) about 18 feet square, 8 feet high to the square, clapboards for roof, a loft of native lumber, and puncheons for a floor. The "cracks" were chinked and daubed with mortar made of lime and sand. A log was cut out almost the full length in the north, the space being filled by a narrow window, which, with a window in the east about two feet square supplied all the light, and when the sun was not obscured by lowering clouds, answered tolerably well.

The seats were composed of slabs from six to eight inches broad, two holes being bored as each end to receive "legs" of different lengths for --???

Divine services were held in this cabin many times, the most noted among the divines was Rev. Andrew Surber, an uncle of Dr. Levi Surber of Indianola. Sabbath School was also in operation here with one I. W. Porter, Supt. Thus did things move spiritually and intellectually until the year 1865, when the old building was sold for a few dollars and moved a mile and a half west on the farm now owned by Mrs. N. F. Todd where it was occupied for a time as a dwelling, but of late years used as a storage room.

In 1865 a new and more up to date house took its place which was burned down in 1905, a new one built in its stead being the one just sold to Mr. Wood.

The first schools were by subscription, each patron paying so much per pupil, and this occurred before our wisecracks got busy taxing everything in sight.

There was no such an officer in those days as County superintendent, so when a teacher was employed he was required to get a permit from one Dr. Davis, a practicing physician, located in the old town of Greenbush. On one occasion when our applicant presented himself for examination, was asked if the letter "b" was ever silent, to which he answered "No." "Well," said the Dr., "don't you think that "b" is silent in the word 'Lamb'". He replied that he thought it was. "All right" said the Dr., "Here's your permit." (continued next page)

Corporal punishment was considered on of the leading principles that a first class teacher was to employ in order to enforce obedience, and if he got by one term without using such authority he need not apply for a second term.

Betty Smith, 3120 Hampton Dr., Santa Maria, Ca 93455, a current member, sends this interesting information on one of her ancestors from Warren county which appeared in the New Virginia newspaper years ago.

Died-at the family residence in New Virginia, on Monday, May 11, 1908, at 10:25 pm, aged 66 years, 5 months and 10 days, Mr. Abraham Loman Thompson.

Mr. Thompson was born in Preston county, Virginia, Dec. 1, 1841 and came to Iowa in 1859, arriving in New Virginia a few days before Christmas.

In 1862 he started for the wild regions of the northwest accompanied by a Mr. Adams. They drove two yoke of cattle and followed the course of the Platte and Sweetwater rivers. On this trip their entire outfit was captured by Indians, but the two men escaped with a few clothes, their lives and fifty cents between them. They were after some time wandering picked up by a wagon train near Salmon Falls. He afterward went to the Pacific slope, and spent some time in mining, afterwards boarding a steamer at San Francisco bound for New York. After thirty days sailing and encountering a severe storm while at sea, he arrived safely in New York harbor. He then came across country to New Virginia, the second time in Jan. 1866.

On the 1 Jan. 1867, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Bowers, a native of Luzurn county, PA. To this union were born five children-one daughter and four sons. Two sons preceeded him to a better land. Brother Thompson was converted and united with the Methodist Episcopal church in Feb. of 1874, at a revival meeting held by Rev. Geo. Clamer and has lived a consistent Christian life to the day of his death. His absence from the class meeting, prayer meeting and preaching services was very rare.

Abraham Loman Thompson is buried at the New Virginia Cemetery.

Betty has also sent obituaries or death notices for the following: Claude Campbell Roy, b 1878, d 1928, bur New Virginia; John W. Roy, b 1868, d 1939, bur. Oakland, IA, Thomas J. Roy, b 1859, d 1935, bur. New Virginia; P. R. Roy, d-age 92, in 1967, bur. NV; and Lee Roy, d-age 80 in 1965, bur. NV; Sons of Leonidas and Cordelia Thompson Roy. Also William J. Roy, b 1867, d 1934, bur rose City, OR.

More names from the Patron's Directory of the Warren County, Iowa 1887 atlas:

Greenfield township:		Post-Office	Section
Anderson, A. L.	Farmer and Breeder of Thoroughbred Stock Norman, Clyde, and Hamiltonian Horses, Poland China Swine, and Feed Mill	Spring Hill	
Alexander, W. F.	Farmer and Graded Stock Breeder, Clyde Horses, and Poland Chine Swine	Spring Hill	6
Brubaker, D.	Farmer and Graded Stock Breeder. Owner of Trotting Stallion "Honesty," Patchen Breed	Spring Hill	29
Dillard, J. T.	Farmer and Graded Stock Dealer	Spring Hill	32
Dey, Washington	Farmer and Breedor of Graded Stock	Spring Hill	33
Foust, E. M.	Farmer and Graded Stock Breeder	Spring Hill	28
Handley, J. M.	Farmer and Breeder of Graded and Thoroughbred Stock	Summerset	35
Lawrence, W. H.	Farmer and Breeder of Thoroughbred Stock. School Director of District No. 7	Norwalk	19
McIntire, Tho. E.	Dealer in Live Stock and Butcher Shop	Vil. Spring Hill	
Oldham, Watt	Farmer and Graded Stock Dealer	Spring Hill	34
Patterson, Samuel	Farmer and Breeder of Thoroughbred Stock	Norwalk	18
Reeves, C. W.	Farmer and Graded Breeder. Township School Treasurer	Spring Hill	29
Stark, J. M.	Farmer and Graded Stock Breeder	Spring Hill	6

Otter township:

Moon, Jacob	Farmer and Stock Raiser. Breeder of Graded Stock	Liberty Center	34
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