



WARREN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

504 North Buxton Apt. #7

Indianola, Iowa 50125

VOL. 12

MARCH 1986 NEWSLETTER

Number 3

**MEETINGS:** The third Monday of each month except August and December at the Indianola Public Library, 207 North B.

**NEXT MEETING:** April 21, 1986. Program: "Tested By Time" by Marilyn Lentz. Roll Call: Who have you told about the History Book? Tonight's Roll Call: Name a Favorite Heirloom.

**NEWSLETTER:** Published each month, except August and December. Queries Welcomed.

**Editor:** Molly Bowlin, 802 Kennedy, Rt. 2, Box 211, Indianola, IA 50125

**DUES:** \$5. single and \$7.50 family membership. Dues are collected for the upcoming year between Sept. 1 and Oct. 31 and are payable to our registrar: Mary Lou Parks, 2003 West 4th, Apt. 9D, Indianola, IA 50125

**FINAL DEADLINE SET FOR RECEIVING MATERIAL FOR HISTORY OF WARREN COUNTY!!**

It is time to get your family histories completed and turned in for the history book! We need everything by APRIL 15! Again, this is the FINAL DEADLINE! Don't be left out. Get those stories in now. Pass the word!

Please check with friends and relatives who may be putting off writing their family history. This is their last chance to be included in our history!

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**HISTORY PROGRESS REPORT:** Nearly 700 family histories have been turned in at this time. Forty are back from Dallas and have been double proofed. About 250 stories are in Dallas for Keyboarding, with the balance here in various stages of preparation.

We will need proofing help as these come back from Dallas. Please let Barb know if you are available.

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**HISTORY BOOK SALES REPORT:** The early sales price is still in effect! You may order from: Sheryl Ledlie, 3005 SE 72nd Ave., Des Moines, IA 50320. \$45. per book plus \$3.50 if you want it mailed and \$1.80 sales tax for Iowa residents.

Remember, the price goes up when 500 copies have been sold. 334 have been sold to date, so get your order in now while the price is lowest!

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**IGS GENEALOGICAL WORKSHOP:** HOW, WHEN, WHERE and WHY to do your genealogical research. April 3rd, 10th, 17th, and 24th at 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm Thursday afternoons at the Library 6000 Douglas Ave. Seating is limited, so sign up early. Call 276-0287.

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**FORT WAYNE RESEARCH TRIP:** Sept. 28 - Oct. 4, 1986. \$275 double, triple or quad. \$388. single. Includes bus fare, dinner on the way and lunch on the return trip. contact: Margaret Thomas, Travel Planners, 9757 University Ave., Des Moines, IA 50322 or call 515-224-4646 days or 515-225-8851 evenings.

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**SALT LAKE CITY MORMAN LIBRARY TRIP:** June 8-15, 1986. \$370 double, \$450. single, subject to price change. Seven nights - roundtrip Air. Contact Margaret Foster at above address.

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**IGS ANNUAL CONFERENCE** dates have now been set. Mark your calendars: Friday, October 31 and Saturday, November 1, 1986 at the Scheman Auditorium in Ames.

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**IGS DUES** are now due. \$12.50 individual and \$15. family. Write: IGS Registrar, P.O. Box 7735, Des Moines, IA 50322

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SAC COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY reports that all federal and state census records for their county through 1900 are indexed and ready to be printed.

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WAYNE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY still has a few Cemetery Books for sale at \$25. plus \$1.50 postage. 304 North Franklin St., Corydon, IA 50060

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CLAYTON COUNTY HISTORY 1984. \$60. plus \$4. postage. 864 pages. Write: Clayton County Genealogical Society, Box 846, Elkader, IA 52043

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CRAWFORD COUNTY. A new genealogical society is being started in Crawford Co. Contact: Mrs. Lois Blair, Box 26, Vail, IA 51465 if interested.

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GREEN COUNTY Cemetery records now complete and available through IGS. Reprinted "Past and Present of Green Co.-1907" also available. \$23. plus \$2. postage from Green County Genealogical Society, Box 133, Jefferson, IA 50129

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HANCOCK COUNTY HISTORY now being compiled. Your Hancock Co. related family stories can be included, free, Contact: Hancock Co. Gene. Soc., % Susan Whitehurst, 465 W. 5th, Garner, IA 50438

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NORTH CENTRAL IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY has indexed its cemeteries. For information on their holdings send SASE to: Box 237, Mason City, IA 50401

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FADED DOCUMENTS? Have you been halted in your search by encountering a certificate, letter, photo or other document from which a signature or other notation has faded to where it no longer can be distinguished? The faded information often can be recovered through a unique retrieval process. Faded ink images and sometimes those in pencil can be recovered using special lighting techniques with no risk to the document being examined. No chemicals are used. For further information contact: IMAGE RECOVERY SERVICE, Box 31275, Dayton, OH 45431. (IGS Newsletter)

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DOCUMENTS IN FRENCH?? G-TREE will translate documents to English from French or translate correspondence into French. The fee is \$4. per page. The material to be translated should be accompanied by a \$2. deposit per page. Oversized pages or extremely small print will be charged extra accordingly. The balance can be paid after the translation is complete. contact: French Division, G-TREE, 43 N. Eighth, Ste. Genevieve, MO 63670 (Poweshiek Co. Tracer JFM '86)

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WANTED: TIME MACHINE. Must be able to travel back at least 200-250 years and return user to present time. Also must be able to transport user to other countries and return them to homebase. Would be nice if computer programmed with genealogical resource information. Hopefully cheap. Contact anybody unable to obtain assistance in locating relatives over 200 years old. (Gateway Diggers, Clinton, IA via SACOG News 7:1) DON'T WE WISH!!!

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"OLD GENEALOGISTS NEVER DIE, THEY JUST LOOSE THEIR CENSUS." (Poweshiek Co. Tracer)

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QUERIES QUERIES QUERIES QUERIES QUERIES QUERIES QUERIES QUERIES QUERIES QUERIES

SMITH Diana M. Rayburn, 4050 Rhoads Road, Hillsboro, OH 45133 is researching the  
GILBERT John and Charity (Gilbert) Smith family. John Smith (born Feb. 9, 1810 in  
OLDAKER NC - died Dec. 25, 1902) owned land in Belmont and Otter Twps. at time of  
McDANIELS death. Surviving children were Pleasant, Asa, Nathan, James H., William R.,  
Mary Ann Oldaker, Levi and Amanda. Were Hiram and John brothers? Charity  
Gilbert Smith was from Highland Co., OH. What was her mother's maiden name?  
Is searching for the Gilberts & McDaniels in the Belmont Twp. area. The  
Smiths came to Warren Co. in 1860, coming here from Ohio and Illinois.

ELUSIVE MAIDEN NAME: A wife's maiden name can be one of the most difficult 'blanks' to fill in on an ancestral chart. States such as Pennsylvania and New York did not begin to register marriages until the late 1880s. And records for women who married overseas, then immigrated to the United States are even harder to locate, for the place of residence in the old country must first be determined.

When this circumstance arises, review all you know about the ancestor and then make a list of the alternative sources, such as:

\*Some states provide space for maiden name on death records but death records did not begin early.

\*Sometimes a wife's maiden name is listed on her tombstone.

\*Census schedules do not normally list a wife's maiden name, although clues can sometimes be found in surnames of others listed on the same page or a child whose name could be a surname-his mother's maiden name.

\*Sometimes Federal Mortality schedules lists a maiden name. They include deaths only from June 1 of the year preceding the census to June 1 of the census year.

\*Pension records for widows usually contain an affidavit of marriage.

\*Death notices and/or obituaries were seldom published in early papers but newspapers should be checked.

\*Consider birthplace and church affiliation, if known, whether the church still exists and has old records - these should be checked. (Wayne Co. Genie News Vol. VIII, '86)

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MORE ON THE MAIDEN NAME from the Marin Kin Tracer, CA VIA Poweshiek Co. Gen. Soc. :

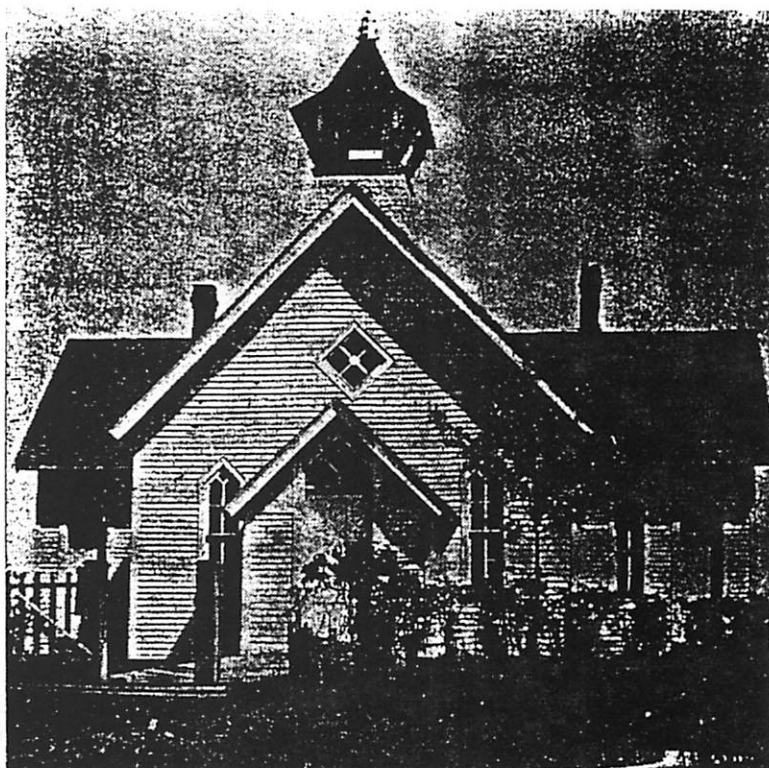
\*Death certificates if within the past 100 years.

\*If more than 100 years, check all of her children's death records, newspaper obits, her children's marriage certificates, published church records found in libraries. Unpublished records on microfilm, at branch LDS Libraries. International Genealogical Index on microfiche at LDS Libraries.

\*Divorce papers from county courthouse where filed, newspaper indexes, county histories, biographies of individuals and their families, military pensions, widow's affidavits, bounty land warrants, deeds and other land records, wills, published family genealogies, survey of American Genealogical Periodicals indexes by K. Sperry, place queries in periodicals and quarterlies in the state or areas in which your ancestor lived.

\*Census records, sometimes the mother-in-law is living with the family.

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This is an early photo of the old Center Chapel Church west of Indianola which was built in 1893 by Elias Proudfoot. In September 1941, it was struck by lightning and burned to the ground. This structure had faced south with a row of four large trees along the front lawn. The Church was rebuilt using material from the old Christian Neck Church. The new building faces east and the row of trees remain. Photo was taken by Charlie Zarley who operated a studio in Indianola in the nineties.



Early information on Liberty township by Edith Conn.

Liberty township lies in the south tier of townships.

It is recorded that the first settlement of Liberty township was when Adam Sees located near a spring and just south of what became old Laurenceburg. He came in 1847 James Bales came in 1848 and bought this cabin and land rights from Sees. Sees then went to Fairfield and entered the same piece of ground at the government land office in his daughter's name and paid for it with money Bales had paid him for it. He then came back and removed Bales from it, even taking his provisions of dried venison and other cured meats.

Mark Williams located in the vicinity of what later became Laurenceburg. The first land entry for the township was that of John Williams on June 29, 1849 at the government land office which was then located at Chariton for entering land in Warren county.

It is believed Samuel James was probably one of the earliest settlers coming here from Zanesville, Ohio in the fall of 1850. Other early settlers were Asa Mosher, J. P. Mosher, Robert Kester, W. A. Story, James Coles, also Joseph and James Hall.

Robert Kester's wife, Mary Ann, was the first burial in the Christian Neck cemetery.

It is said James Coles named the township "Liberty" because many of the settlers including Mr. Coles were abolitionists and had left their homes in the east because of slavery. James Coles worked as an agent for the underground railroad.

The first road was marked by oxen team and plow by J. P. Mosher. This same road later became the state road from Chariton to Indianola and is now known as Highway 65.

Joseph Michael started the first blacksmith shop in the Green Plain neighborhood. Mr. Michael lived to be 102 years of age. His 100th birthday was a county-wide celebration held at the Milo park August 19, 1905.

Liberty Center was laid out by J. W. Proctor and J. Davidson in 1875 on land owned by Jeremiah Boston. The plat originally contained  $7\frac{1}{2}$  acres. The plat was not recorded until 1878. The post office was established in 1867, long before the town was laid out.

In 1853, Samuel James and James Coles formed a settlement on the banks of Otter Creek. there was good logging timber in the area so Coles and James built a steam sawmill and began turning out native lumber for the neighborhood. they also installed a set of burrs and ground cornmeal as there was no grist mill closer than Middle River. Benjamin Coles, brother of James Coles, came from Zanesville, Ohio soon after and built a watermill on Otter Creek just below the sawmill. Both mills flourished during the Civil War but the water in the stream was too irregular to depend upon and often would become too low or tear out the dam during heavy rainfalls. This area was nicknamed Fort Gimlet during the war. It was also known as Gospel Ridge because of the revival meetings. It was also called Round Top in honor of the original schoolhouse built by John Coles, which was octagonal in shape, surmounted by a round roof. It was used frequently for church purposes by Rev. Lamb who organized the Christian Society there. the church community became known as Christian Neck.

The churches of the township were the Green Plain, Friends and Methodist in Liberty Center and Otter Creek Christian Church at Christian Neck.

Although Otter Creek is the main river in the township, it is also drained by tributaries known as Indian Creek, Honey Creek, Turkey Creek, Wolf Creek, and Cotton Creek.

the schools of the township were Laurenceburg, North Liberty, Green Plain, Liberty, Otter Creek, Liberty Center, Mt. Olive, Round Top, Hawkeye, and Primrose.

Cemeteries in the township are: Liberty Center, Christian Neck, Hendrickson and Shaver.

The township had no railroads. The old town of Laurenceburg and the Laurenceburg Mill are important landmarks.

On every historical tour we always hear so many legends of history one would never hear otherwise. this was true of our last tour on October 7. Near the site of the old Laurenceburg school, an old red barn was pointed out as being quite old, and as the legend goes, it was once used to hide th horses of Jesse James' gang. The man who occupied the farm at that time was a good friend of Jesse James. Jesse and his gang would ride in with their horses and pick up fresh ones and ride on, gaining distance on the sheriff and his posse. The horses left behind were let down into a secret stall under the barn. They were disguised before turning them out to pasture. A hot baked potatoe was put on their foreheads, leaving a white spot. When they were turned out to pasture they were never recognized or suspicioned as the posse was not looking for horses with a white spot on their foreheads.

Notes from our February program "Glimpses of your Ancestors Life: 1760-1780, 1830-1840, and the 1880s" by Barbara Rasko.

1770-1780:

This time is part of the age of Enlightenment, or age of reason, a time of great intellectual revolution which gave the modern mind its temper and spirit. Western man sought to interpret the universe, the world and himself in terms of logic and reason.

Previously everything was interpreted in terms of scripture, the Age of Faith. Now the basis is Knowledge, people want to be practical and there is a feeling of optimism and self-confidence.

By 1770 the world's work was shifting from hand tools to the use of the power of machinery. The Industrial Revolution increased production of more types of products with better distribution of goods. Production shifted from homes to factories. The middle class got more power. There were more jobs available and more cash flow.

There were changes in legislation concerning female & child labor laws, safety, sanitation, education and working conditions.

Factories weakened and destroyed family solidarity, community feeling and intellectual enthusiasm. Urbanization took place. Man became more independent on a wage with a predictable income.

Some happenings at this time include: In Music: Hayden; Mozart at age six tours Europe and at eight writes his first symphony; J. C. Bach gives recitals in London; Handel's "Messiah"; Benjamin Franklin improves the harmonica, turning it into a practical instrument. The Potato becomes the most popular European food. The first Veterinary school is started in France. A permanent settlement at St. Louis. Chambers of Commerce are begun. London introduces the practice of numbering houses. There are paved sidewalks in London. Encyclopedia Britannica published. A school for Deaf and Dumb started in England. London has a Sunday newspaper. Edward Hoyle laid down the rules for Whist and Josiah Wedgwood founds a pottery works in England. The waltz becomes fashionable in England. Tahiti, New Guinea and Hawaii are discovered. Blue Boy is painted.

Literary works by Oliver Goldsmith, Samuel Johnson, Voltaire and Rousseau. Chemists are discovering new chemicals. The American Revolution takes place. James Watt perfects his invention, the steam engine. Chippendale's furniture. Experiments prove semen is necessary for fertilization. The poinsettia is named for Joel R. Poinsett, a US diplomat. An act of Congress prohibits importation of slaves into the US. The circular saw is invented.

1830-1840:

Happenings in this time period include: Ladies skirts grow shorter, sleeves become enormous, hats extremely large with flowers and ribbons. Belva Lockwood, American Lawyer becomes the first woman to be nominated for presidency. Authors of this time include: Tennyson, Victor Hugo, Edgar Allan Poe, Louisa Mae Alcott, Harriet Beecher Stowe. 15,000 Germans emigrate to America. The London Bridge opened. Population of Great Britain is 13.9 million, America 12.8 million. Lewis Carroll writes Alice in Wonderland. Magnetic north pole is discovered. The first American book on baseball is written. The first sewing machine is invented. More authors: Hans Christian Andersen, William Wadsworth, Mark Twain, Ralph Waldo Emerson. US showman P. T. Barnum begins his career with the exhibition of Joyce Ketchum, a black woman, alleged to be George Washington's nurse and over 160 years of age. Melbourne, Australia was founded. The first negative photograph was taken in England. Betsy Ross died. American Presbyterians split into "old" and "new" school.

England introduces official birth registration. John James Audubon—"The Birds of America." Abner Doubleday lays out the first baseball field and conducts the first baseball game ever played. The first bicycle is constructed.

1880s:

Rodin sculpted "The Thinker." Gilbert and Sullivan wrote their musicals. Edison devised the first practical electric lights. Bingo is developed. Canned meats and fruits appear in stores. Picasso, Monet, Cézanne and Van Gogh are producing art. Music: Brahms, Debussy, "The 1812 Overture." The American Baseball Association founded. First skyscraper was built in Chicago, ten stories high. Statue of Liberty dedicated. Golf introduced to America. Eastman perfects the Kodak box camera. Jack the Ripper murders six women in London. DAR founded in Washington.

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Rt. 2, Box 211  
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LEARN FROM THE MISTAKES OF OTHERS--you can't live long enough to make them all yourself.

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THE LAST WORD: WILLS. Wills may be an important source of genealogical information; contested wills can be particularly useful. All interested parties may appear in the suit, including the husband's of female heirs. Wills may specifically state how people are related, may be available for an ancestor at a time when few other records were maintained, give residences or clues to residences, lead to other records such as land records, religious affiliation and thus church records, military records, date of death. Executors and those signing as witnesses may be relatives; searching records concerning them may lead to information, including the family bible of the deceased. However, care must be taken when securing relationships from wills. A man may have been married more than once; a wife named in the will may not be the mother of the children.

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Material from the above was gleaned from Ancestors Unlimited, McCook, NE. A number of Warren Co. people settled in this area in the 1870s and named their new town: Indianola, NE.

QUERY COLUMN NEW YORK: For those with a central or upstate New York connection queries of 30 words or less, typed or printed, including name and date. Queries printed on alternate Sundays in the Syracuse Herald American, P.O. Box 4915, Syracuse, NY 13221. (Cost not given)

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MAINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY will conduct a limited search for birth, marriage and death data for one individual. Cost is \$10. which covers postage and up to ten photocopies. Additional copies 25¢ ea. They search indexed genealogies, town histories, directories, vital statistics and references from their own files. They do not search census microfilms, manuscripts, or unindexed materials. Send fee & large SASE with brief statement on what has been found on individual to: MHS, P.O.Box 221, Farmington, ME 04938. (The Searcher, July 85)

From Ancestors Unlimited 10:1:86

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EUROPEAN RESEARCH: A new book to help the researcher, "In Search of Your European Roots 1985" by Angus Baxter. All major countries and most smaller countries are covered, with special sections on Jewish records. 290 pages, softcover. \$12.95 plus \$1.50 postage & handling. From: NGS Sales Dept, 4527 Seventeenth St. North, Arlington, VA 22207-2363