# Warren County Genealogical Society

Indianola, Iowa

Volume 28, Number 2

March-April 2001

# Center Stage: Ruth Hall

by Ev Brightman

Ruth first became interested in family history during high school. She accompanied her mother and grandmother to Iowa City area cemeteries placing flowers on family graves and learning about ancestors in the process. She now wishes she had recorded those locations.

Ruth inherited her mother's genealogy notes as well as various pieces of family furniture. She has a walnut daybed, originally with cornhusk mattress, dating back to the 189s. It came from the home of her great-grandfather, David Borts, of Iowa City. Aunt Nettie slept on the day bed. She moved in to help raise Ruth's grandmother after Emma Borts Clark died in childbirth. The Borts house was built around the original log cabin in the Iowa City area, which was built by John Irish. An elderly cousin, Edna Borts, who will be 101 years old in October, went with Ruth to tour the house and placed the various pieces of furniture, including the day bed.

Ruth's father, Paul Ross, was recruited by a baseball scout to play for the University of Iowa at age 15. He was from Fulton, Missouri. He rented a room in the home of Lillian Clark Jones, where he met and later married Gladys Jones.

Ruth met Steve Hall while at the University of Iowa. She worked with Steve's roommate, who introduced them. The couple married in 1967. They have two children and two grandchildren.

Surnames researched are: Jones (on both sides of family-Welsh), Ross, Borts, Paulus (German), Wentz, Hall and Forley (Irish).

Ruth became aware of Warren County Genealogical Society by an article in the newspaper. She has been a member for 10 years. She has held the office of vice president and edited the newsletter for two years.

After a course in Welsh history given at Pella, Ruth founded the Iowa Welsh Society in 1985. She has held offices of historian, president, secretary, treasurer and edited their newsletter at the same time as she was doing the newsletter for WCGS.

In addition, Ruth belongs to the State Association for Preservation of Iowa Cemeteries, The Lewis and Clark

#### Calendar:

March 19	REGULAR MEETING, 7:00 p.m. Indianola Public Library Program: Sharon Avery "Iowa State Historial Archives" Roll Call: How many family lines have you researched or have information on?
April 10	BOARD MEETING, 7:00 p.m.
April 16	REGULAR MEETING, 7:00 p.m. Indianola Public Library Program: Patricia Shaw "SAPIC - State Association for the Preservation of Iowa Cemeteries" Roll Call: Name a cemetery where many of your ancestors are buried.
April 27-28	IGS Spring Conference Sioux City, Iowa
May 15	BOARD MEETING, 7:00 p.m.
May 21	REGULAR MEETING, 7:00 p.m. Indianola Public Library Program: County Fair Exhibits

Regular meetings and activities of the Society are held at least nine times a year genearally on the third Monday of the month. These meetings are usually held September through June (except December) and are usually held at the Indianola Public Library.

Contents of this issue:	Page(s)			
Center Stage: Ruth Hall	1-2			
Calendar	1			
Marieta's rambling comments	2			
Bit and pieces about Pioneer Women of Warren				
County	3-13			
Computers, Software and the Internet	13			
Book Reviews	14			
Research Helps: The Best Kept Research Secret in				
Warren County	15-16			
Warren County Fair exhibits	17			
Index of this issue	18			
Publications about Warren County	19			
Membership form	19			
Genealogical research sites	20			

# Marieta's rambling comments:

Help! Has anyone used PERSI on the internet? What has anyone found on Cyndi's List? Has anyone found birth records (the original documents) on the internet? Out-of-state members, you can help us with this, too! On page 13 of this newsletter, in the "Computers, Software and the Internet" column, I am soliciting assistance from everyone who is currently doing genealogy research on the internet. I hope you will assist me with this project, so we can help others who have lots of internet questions. You only need to submit one or two sites at a time. I'll publish your findings in upcoming newsletters to share with everyone.

Hopefully, by now, everyone has received their WCGS 2001 program book. I think we have some excellent programs lined up for this year.

In the program book, you may have noticed an addition to our County Fair program schedule. In addition to our regular exhibits and judging, we are offering genealogy classes. These classes will be free, "stop-by and learn" sessions approximately one hour each. We are hoping this will be a good way to draw some new people into our hobby as well as our organization.

Our "Research in Indianola" brochure is ready to go to the printers. Last year as I was researching at the Recorder's Office, I ran across a lady who was only in Indianola for the day, for research. I felt a need to be able to hand her a brochure about the locations and resources available for her limited time. Then, when we were walking the cemetery for the update, other people were trying to find family member graves and it would have been helpful if we could have handed them a similar brochure. Therefore, the brochure is nearly ready for distribution. It will be placed at the motels, Chamber of Commerce office, the libraries, the courthouse and administration offices, some of the restaurants, IGS in Des Moines, and anywhere else we find that we can put it.

We have purchased four books in memory of Warren Simpkins, Kenneth Smith, Georgia Walker and George Berry. These people were members of WCGS at the time of their deaths. We have selected map books. Three of these books are reviewed on page 14 of this newsletter. The fourth book is the William Thorndale and William Dollarhide Map Guide to the U. S. Federal Censuses, 1790 - 1920. I encourage everyone to stop by the Indianola Public Library and take a look at these books.

As the weather warms, Virginia Wheeldon and Dianna Parker will begin walking cemeteries again and are still look for more volunteers to assist them with this undertaking.

Foundation and Questers, a group studying antiques. This summer she plans to attend meetings of the Lewis and Clark Foundation in Pierre, South Dakota, and Questers in Rapid City.

When asked what she has learned in genealogy research, Ruth states, "It is a lot more complicated than you might think." She says there is a great deal of information to access. For now, Ruth is doing more fun activities than actual research, as her schedule involves watching her two grandchildren. She is enjoying her grandchildren; research will wait.

If you are available even a day or two, please contact them.

Hope you enjoy the newsletter!

Home phone: 515-961-7542
Internet address: Marieta51@aol.com
Residential address: 505 West Jackson Avenue
Indianola, Iowa 50125

Officers 2000:

President Marieta Grissom
Vice President Dorothy Stearns
Secretary Joanne Amos
Treasurer Jane Godwin
Corresponding Secretary
Registrars Virginia Nelson
Kay Putz
Historian Willa Grissom

Historian Willa Grissom
Newsletter Editor Marieta Grissom
Past President Ev Brightman

IGS Representative (Area 4) open

**Active Committees:** 

Library Doris Young Jane Godwin

Joanne Amos
Elaine Baumgarten

Records/Projects Virginia Wheeldon

Dianna Parker Dorothy Stearns

Obituaries Dorothy Stear County Fair Superintendents Joanne Amos

Virginia Nelson

IGS Liaisons Maxine Weinman

Kay Putz

Newsletter Indexing Mary Cae Pancratz

Newsletter published six times per year. Membership dues \$6.00 per individual or \$9.00 per family.

The following is a collection of newpaper articles and others describing the background and experiences of some of the pioneer women of Warren County. Words like tenacity, courage, struggle, hopelessness, loneliness, despair, endurance, ingenious, proud, determined all come to mind while reading these stories.

#### Mary B. Allen

Advocate-Tribune, Indianola, Iowa, March 12, 1885 Mary B. Allen was born in Spencer county, Ind., August 26, 1821. Should her days be lengthened out until the 26<sup>th</sup> of August, 1885, she will have reached her 64 years. Her father was born in Kentucky, Nov. 10, 1794. Her grandfather on her paternal side was born in Ireland, emigrated to this country several years before it threw off the allegiance to the crown of Great Britain. Whether he was a connection of Col. Eathen, of Ticonderoga and Crown Point fame, we are unable to learn, Miss Mary herself, not being able to give us any information on that point. When the Revolution broke out, we find young Allen enrolled in the cause of freedom-he shouldered his musket, marched to the front. Her grandfather on the maternal side was born in Pennsylvania, of German parents, and he, too, as far as we can learn took a part in the scenes of the Revolutionary struggle. So that she has sprung from good strong patriotic blood, from families that were capable of enduring the hardships of a pioneer life.

At an early period of her life she with her parents moved to Pike county, Illinois, and there remained until she was sixteen years of age. Her native state was only five years old when she was born. They both have grown to womanhood; yet while Miss Mary has turned the downward lane of life, her state is in its maidenhood; both have endured the privations of the early settlements. Her first adopted state, Illinois, was only three years of age when she was born. They both being born on the same day of the month, August 26.

Miss Mary was born and raised a farmer's daughter, was taught the art of laboring and doing the work that had to be done by the farmers' wives and daughters of that early day. A great portion of this work was given in the sketch of Miss Martha Bassett, now Mrs. Martha Smith. Pike county at the time of their emigration was a thinly settled county and of course the conveniences of life were nothing extra. Although some fourteen years had passed and the Allen family had by economy and industry made a good living and laid by something for "a wet day." The country was either not the kind he wished to remain in or it was becoming too thickly settled for an early pioneer. He made up his mind to try another new country, so they emi-

grated to Van Buren county, Iowa, in 1837.

Here Miss Mary fell in love with a young man by the name of Wm. C. Cimmons, and was married Dec. 24, 1837. The young couple remained here for three years, and then pulled up stakes and emigrated to Andrew county, Mo. They lived there for six years. Not liking it very well, they then returned to Iowa, came to Warren county and settled upon the farm they now reside upon. This was in 1845, March 16.

Wm. C. Cimmons was born Oct. 6, 1819, in Meade county, Kentucky, across the Ohio river from Indiana. The Cimmons's were originally from Pennsylvania. Wm. C's father was born in Maryland, emigrated to Illinois in 1824. Here they remained until 1833, when they moved to Henry county, Iowa. This was before the Indians had left. Wm. C. then went to Van Buren county where he became acquainted with the subject of our sketch. On their arrival in Warren county they found but few neighbors, but what few they found were neighbors. They raised a house, or a cabin, and moved into it the same day. They, like all of the early settlers, found no mills, no school houses, no churches, nor anything but wild animals and wild land. On their arrival here they had to go 75 miles to mill, none being nearer than Oskaloosa, Iowa. We find in this family a strong friend of the common school system; and a man that did as much for the foundation of schools as any other man in the county of Warren. Mrs. C. told the writer that all the cooking utensils she had for some time after her coming to this place was composed of an iron skillet, an iron bake kettle with an iron cover and a cofee pot, her cooking all being done by a fire place. Young lady of today, what think you of this? I fear we are more than filling our allotted space and we will have to concentrate. They came here in an early day, they tried to do their duty as to education, they lived a hard, yet enjoyed life, even in these new settlements. Mrs. Cimmons told the writer that she would be perfectly willing to go to another new country, even at her age, if she could enjoy life as she enjoyed it in Iowa, she would like no greater pleasure, even at her period of life.

Mr. C. for several years before his death endured very poor health, being confined to his house, a great part of the time to his room. The great destroyer finally came and he had to go, leaving what he had worked for for the enjoyment of others. Some seven months before his departure he gave up all hope as he was confined to his bed the most of the time, yet he lived as one that had a future hope. He believed in what his Bible told him. His death took place Sept. 17, 1876, leaving his wife and large number of

Year arrived in		Approx age	Possible birth &
Warren County	Name	when arrived in Warren Co	
1844	Roxey Myrick James	19	1825 – 1917
1845	Mary B. Allen Cimmons	24	1821 - ?
1845	Martha Jane Myrick	11	ca 1834 - ?
1846	Lucy Snyder White	8	1838 -
1846	Esther Kitchel	33	ca 1813 – 1910
1846	Lucinda Hedrick Farley	20	1826 - ?
1848?	Margaret Adamson	30	1818-1892
1848	Julia A. Wallace	23	1825 - 1900
1848	Mary Blake Cox	42	1806-1888
1848	Hester Cox Barker	10	1838 - 1933
1849	Mary Parker	34	ca 1815 – 1907
1849	Rebecca Liston	28	ca 1821 – 1900
1850	Mary Jane Pendry Cochrane	10	1840 – 1916
1851	Betsey Bramhall Buxton	18	1833 – 1901
1852	Mary J. Switzer	19	1833 – 1902
1853	Jane N. Woodside McKimmy	24	1829 – 1904
1855	Mrs. A. E. Goldizen	28	ca 1827 – 1906?
1855	Amanda Lutz	27	1828 – 1912
1855	Mary M. Fitts Nutting	33	1822 – 1904
1856	Mary Mathews	32	ca 1824 – 1916?
1856	Mrs. Enos Jury	28	ca 1828 - ?
1856	Catherine Taylor	64	1792 - ?
1856	Mrs. Pearson	6	1850 - ?
1868	Mrs. Foust	68	1800 - 1880

\*Marieta's Notes: Most of the dates are approximate, as I calculated them from the newspaper articles. I also checked the Warren County Cemetery Book for burials and I checked the newspapers for obituaries. What you see is what you have, and these may not be accurate. I was particularly interested in trying to determine further identification for Mrs. Pearson. I found an Eliza L. Pearson, b. 22 Aug 1849 and died 14 June 1935 in the cemetery book, but could not find an obituary in the old newspapers in my effort to correlate the article with Eliza.

friends to mourn his loss. She remains yet behind to follow him soon. His religious views were Calvanistic Baptist. He died as he lived, a Christian. May her days be lengthened that she may teach her children that when the frost of age shall come upon them how blessed it is to follow in the Christian path of life.

#### Sixteen Early Settlers of Palmyra

Advocate-Tribune, May 30, 1901 Friday, May 17 Mr. and Mrs. Coy Craig entertained sixteen of the early settlers of Palmyra, in honor of Mrs. Esther Kitchel, grandmother of Mrs. Craig. Mrs. Kitchel was born

in the state of New York. She is 88 years old, came to Palmyra in 1846, was a charter member of the M. E. church at Palmyra. Since the death of her husband 34 years ago she has lived with her children.

Mrs. Mary Parker was born in Highland county Ohio, is 86

years of age, came to Palmyra in 1849, is one of the charter members of the M.E. church at Palmyra.

Rev. David Craig was born in West Virginia, is 84 years of age, came to Palmyra in 1868, served as pastor of the Presbyterian church at Hartford for 32 years, served four years as county superintendent of public schools. His wife Nancy Craig was born in Ohio, is 71 years old.

Enos Jury was born in Ohio, is 79 years old. His wife was born in Ohio, is 73 years old. They came to Palmyra in 1856, are members of the M. E. church.

M. T. Bruce, born in Highland county, Ohio, is 78 years of age, came to Palmyra in 1856, member of M. E. church, has been class leader for 40 years. His wife was born in Warren county, is 47 years old, a member of the M. E. church.

Mrs. A. E. Goldizen was born in Indiana, is 74 years old,

came to Palmyra in 1855.

Mary J. Switzer was born in Ohio, is 68 years old, came to Palmyra in 1852, member of the M. E. church.

Mary Mathews was born in Indiana, is 77 years old, came to Warren county in 1856, member of the Presbyterian church.

Martha Jane Myrick was born in Indiana, is 67 years old, came to Palmyra in 1845 when 11 years old. She is well versed in early history of Palmyra.

Aunt Roxey James was born in Ohio, is 74 years old, came to Palmyra in 1844, and was the first white woman to set foot in Palmyra twp.

Amanda Lutz was born in Ohio, is 73 years old, came to Palmyra in 1855.

G. M. Bartholomew was born in Illinois, is 74 years old, came to Palmyra in 1854 and was for many years engaged in mercantile business.

Arch Payne was born in Kentucky, is 79 years old, came to Palmyra in 1855, worked at blacksmithing, served in 120 Iowa as first lieutenant.

A good dinner was served and the old folks enjoyed themselves. This will probably be the last time that these old pioneers will all meet on this earth, but Coy Craig and wife will always have a warm place in the hearts of those who shared their hospitality on that day.

#### Mrs. Myrick (Lydia Jackson Myrick)

Indianola Record, July 18, 1891 in Maine in 1804. She came to

Mrs. Myrick was born in Maine in 1804. She came to Palmyra township with her husband Elias Myrick on 11 October 1845 when it was still occupied by Indians.

Her husband came ahead to look over the area. With him came Henry James and William Freel.

They camped one night one mile northeast of what is now Palmyra. They awoke the next morning to see smoke curling from the Indians wigwams. After looking over the area and picking out the place they hoped to settle, they returned to eastern Iowa, Washington County, where they had left their families. There they remained until the government would let them settle west of Red Rock.

When they returned to the land he had chosen, Mr. Myrick build his log house 1 mile north of (now) Palmyra.

The wild prairie, brush patches, hazel nut bushes and wild fruit grew in abundance. The deer and elk were also plentiful for meat. There were wild turkeys, prairie chickens and quail, which provided them not only with meat but their eggs. They were well supplied with meat, fruit, nuts and eggs, but BREAD, the staff of life, was sometimes a luxury.

It was their next summer that they found their corn meal was running low . . . South River, Middle River and the Des Moines River were all overflowing their banks all over the lands.

The Myricks, the James and the Freels cut dead elm logs and made a raft large enough for their wagon and rowed it across South River.

They then made the oxen team swim the river. When they reached the river bank on the other side, the oxen were hitched to the wagon and William Freel started on his way to Washington County (Keokuk) where he obtained a supply for corn meal for bread.

Now in those days the wagon wheels had to be kept greased, but they did not have anything compared to what is used today. Pine tar and animal fat were mixed to lubricate the wagon. The tar bucket was carried outside the wagon, but when he came to a stream Mr. Freel put the tar bucket inside the wagon to keep out the water, but the tar bucket became upset. When he returned home they were happy to have bread again until they found the bread had a very bad taste and found the pungent odor of the pine tar had perfumed all of the corn meal and they were forced to eat the off-flavored bread or go without.

In the fall of 1848 the Myricks cut and stacked about 70 tons of blue steam grass hay and stacked it a few rods west of Turkey Creek where the north and west branches of the creek join in Section 32. About 20 feet from the stack a furrow was plowed and 40 feet away another furrow was

Thelma Pehrson is helping me with "Bits and pieces about ..." This will include information about various communities, events, or whatever strikes her fancy. The same subject may be featured more than once, depending upon the information found. Thelma is Librarian for the Warren County Historical Library and is gleaning this information from articles, scrapbooks, books, etc in the WCHS Library. For more information about the WCHS Library you may contact Thelma at 515-961-4409 (home). The Library is open Thursdays 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

plowed. When the frost had killed the grass between the two furrows, the grass was burned to give the hay protection from prairie fires. But the prairie fires did come with a high wind, the flames leaped the space and destroyed their hay.

They had worked so hard with only the old scythe, a wooden pitchfork and a wooden hand rake they had made themselves, were the only tools or implements used for making hay in 1848.

The other tools used on the farm were the ax, maul, wedge, hoe, grain cradle, the sod plow and a simple shovel plow.

For entertainment they would hold a party called a frolic. They would often have to drive their oxen and wagon 20 miles to go to a frolic. A good fiddler was much sought after. Later when school houses were built, they had church services, spelling schools, and singing schools.

Indians would often enter the home when mother was cooking. They would go to the fireplace and look in the pot. If they liked what they saw in the pot they would stay to eat. They did not wait for an invitation, but just took seats at the table and helped themselves. The Warren County Indians were known as Woodland Indians. They lived from the woods and the land. they evidently were friendly Indians as there is no record of any trouble in Warren County with the Indians. for many years they returned to Warren County to hunt and fish.

Mrs. Myrick had 11 children. Among them was Roxy who married Henry James and came to Warren County with her parents. Mrs. Myrick had a son Alva Myrick, who lived in Kansas.

Mrs. Myrick and her daughter Roxy Myrick James were the first white women to pick wild flowers in Warren County.

She lived to be 97 years old and at that time had 235 descendans, which included 70 grandchildren, 146 great grandchildren and 12 great, great grandchildren.

#### **Five-Generation Picture**

Indianola Record, July 18, 1901 Stephen James of Palmyra has a picture representing five generations of people all living at this time. Mothers and daughters, Grandmother Myrick and her daughter, Mrs. Roxie James and granddaughter Mrs. Lydia Todhunter and great granddaughter Mrs. Alta McWherten and her little daughter Mae are the persons representing the five generations. Grandmother Myrick is 97 years old, was born in Maine in 1804, came with her husband to Palmyra town-

ship, Oct. 11, 1844 and took a claim where Rev. David Craig now lives. She is the mother of 11 children, 7 of them now living. She has 70 grandchildren, 146 great grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren, making 235 descendants. The combined ages of the five persons represented in the picture is 248 years. Grandmother Myrick is now in Kansas visiting her son Alva. She enjoys good health, can get in and out of a buggy and ride many miles without fatigue. She and her daughter, Mrs. Roxie James were the first white women to pick wild flowers in Warren county. Th Myricks, James and Todhunters were true pioneers and relate many interesting stories of pioneer life in this township, which we hope at some future time to give to the readers of the Record.

#### Mrs. Myrick

Advocate-Tribune, 5 November 1903 Word has been received here that grandmother Myrick died at the home of her son Alva Myrick in Kansas, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 1903. Mrs. Myrick was born in the state of Maine, August 11, 1806, making her at the time of her death 97 years, 2 months and 14 days old. She with her husband settled on the farm north of Palmyra, where Mrs. Darice Craig now lives, on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of October 1845. her husband dying a few years after his arrival here. Mrs. Myrick lived with her children in this county until three years ago when she went to Kansas to live where he son Alva. She retained her mental powers until the day of her death, could see to read and sew, and could ride for a long distance in a buggy without fatigue, until a year ago she fell and injured her hip. She was the mother of 11 children, 7 of them still living. She has 70 grandchildren, 150 great-grandchildren, and 12 great-grandhildren, making in all 249 descendants. Eli Myrick and Mrs. Henry James, of Palmyra, are son and daughter who reside near the old homestead.

#### Mrs. Henry R. James

Advocate-Tribune, February 15, 1917 Roxy Myrick was born April 12, 1825, in Athens county, Ohio, and died February 15, 1917, at the home of her son, Stephen, at Hartford, Iowa, at the age of ninety-one years, ten months and three days.

She was the daughter of Elias and Lydia Myrick, both natives of Maine, where they were reared and married. From this state they removed to Athens county, Ohio, and subsequently went to Lake county, Indiana, where she grew to womanhood, and was married to Henry R. James in 1841.

They came to Iowa in 1845, settling on the farm three quarters of a mile north of Palmyra known as the James farm where they endured all the hardships and difficulties of the earliest pioneer life. She had often been heard to say that she was the first white woman in Warren county.

To this union was born twelve children, eight boys and four girls, six of whom survive her, Stephen, of Hartford; Charles, of Burt, Colorado; Millard of Spencer, Nebr.; Mrs. Lydia Todhunter, of Collins, Iowa; George F., of Fowler, Calif.; John E., of Burt, Colorado. Those who preceded her were her aged husband, who died March 21, 1901, Warren, who died in Andersonville prison; Irving, also in the service, at New Orleans; Mrs. Marillia Mason, of Palmyra, Iowa, and Mary Joseph and Emeline, who died in early childhood. Besides these sons and daughters, she leaves to mourn, eighteen grandchildren, forty-eight great grandchildren and one great, great grandchild, two brothers and two sisters, together with a host of loving friends.

She became a member of the Methodist church at Palmyra about the year 1858 and remained a member until her death. No matter how urgent her home duties were their Bible and family worship were never neglected and the Bible which they used in their home for many years and which had been such a constant companion was used in the funeral service.

Her last illness was of about two months duration caused by a fall. She passed away peacefully without pain Thursday morning about eight o'clock.

The funeral service was held at the home of her son, Stephen, in Hartford, Saturday, February 17, at ten o'clock, conducted by Rev. A. M. Eastman. The body was laid to rest in the Palmyra cemetery.

#### Mrs. Rebecca Liston

Advocate-Tribune, 25 January 1900 Mrs. Rebecca Liston, relict of Jesse Liston, died Tuesday night, at the residence of her son-in-law, Mr. T. T. Anderson, with whom she has made her home for many years. She was in her seventy-ninth year. Mr. and Mrs. Liston settled in what is now Indianola in 1849, and is said to be the last of the early settlers who settled in or before that year. Indianola had not a place and a name till later. Mrs. Liston was one of 10 or 12 who organized the M. E. church in this place and for many years took an active part in the church work. For a number of years the infirmities of age had compelled her to retire from active work in church, society or home life. But to the last she retained a

lively interest in the church and a warm place in the affections of her large list of friends and acquaintances. The funeral services will be held at the M. E. church at 10:30 o'clock this forenoon. In compliance with the request of some of the early pioneers, the business houses will be closed during the hour of service, 10:30 till 11:30. This is a mark of respect that has seldom been shown in a like manner to a citizen of Indianola. The funeral will undoubtedly be very largely attended.

#### Mrs. Mary Jane Cochrane

Indianola Herald, 3 August 1916 There died out at Pasadena, California, in the home of her daughter, Mrs. W. S. Buchanan, . . . one of the pioneers of Warren county who dated her arrival in this county as far back as 1850. Mrs. Mary Jane Cochrane . . . was the eldest daughter of the late Thomas Pendry, who settled near Hartford, Iowa, in the fall of 1850. Mrs. Cochrane was ten years old that fall and with her father, mother and brothers, made the trip in a covered wagon from Wilmington, Ohio.

It was in Clinton, Ohio, that Mrs. Cochrane was born in the year of 1840. In making the trip across the then unsettled country, sometime before her death, she said: "I remember well the trip. The hoop-pole roads over the swamps in Indiana and the valley prairies of Illinois with here and there a log cabin formed a scene which I never can forget. When we got to the Mississippi, it took two days to ferry over our party of six or seven wagons. We then journeyed on to Central Iowa, landing in Warren county late in the fall. We were a tired lot and glad to make our final camp."

For nearly fifty years Mrs. Cochrane lived in Warren county. When a girl, she attended the public school at Hartford and later on took a course of study in the Blue Bird Academy in Indianola, which later became the present Simpson College. Taking the profession of teaching school as her vocation she followed the trend of her disposition for a few years, when she met Joseph Cochrane, then a young practicing attorney, who had been in Kansas, taking part in the spirited events preceding the John Brown agitation and the constitutional convention. Their marriage took place in 1866 at the family home near Hartford. Three children were born to the couple, Mrs. W. T. Buchanan of Pasadena, California, Mrs. Rachel Hatfield of Los Angeles, and T. P. Cochrane of Sioux City, Ia. All are living and enjoying good health.

After residing a few years at Cherokee, Iowa, the Cochrane family moved to Des Moines, where Mr. and

Mrs. Cochrane resided with their daughter, Mrs. Buchanan. They remained in Des Moines for fourteen years and moved with their daughter to Portland, Oregon in 1909, remaining there until 1913 when Los Angeles became their home. Here Mr. Cochrane passed away in 1914 and now two years afterwards, lacking a month, his helpmate for over forty-five years passed into the next world.

Mrs. Cochrane had a keen mind and possessed a vigorous and strong intellect. Her memory of the early days of Warren county was especially keen and it was a rare treat to sit down and listen to her story of the early vicissitudes of the settlers who laid the foundation for Warren county's present proud position among the sisterhood of counties in the commonwealth of Iowa.

In telling of her coming to the state she said that they crossed the Mississippi at Burlington.

"Here we laid in our flour and other commodities," she continued. "Enough to last for months. The last day of our journey was over a trail from Knoxville to Ackworth where we landed at the home of my uncle, Alexander Ginder. William Ginder, a brother of my uncle had settled at Hartford on what is now known as the Joshua Rhine farm. His wife having died the previous spring, he offered to share his home with us. So we with our two teams made our way from Ackworth north to Hartford. Crossing Short Creek we traveled up the hill past the home of Evan George, now the John Perry farm. This was the last house until we reached the Haworth home, where Mahlon Haworth occupied a little cabin. The next place was the Father David Taylor farm, I think there was a cabin there and no more until we came in sight of Palmyra. The next place was the William Myrick farm now owned by G. W. Parsons. The road ran across to the Samuel Black farm now the Coon place. Black was a bachelor at that time, living alone in his little cabin. From there we drove straight to Hartford to the Uncle Bily Reynolds farm. Then we arrived at Hartford. From there we drove straight through the woods to the Sherman place and were soon at the Ginder place. The cabin was a small one, stood on low ground. It was completely hidden from view by a luxuriant growth of wild sunflowers. After slashing them down, we moved in. It was built just high enough for a person to stand up straight. no ceilings, one little window, the chimney built of clay and sticks, but luckily a floor. I cried myself to sleep the first night of pure homesickness. Our nearest neighbors were Uncle Johnny Roe, Jerome Davis, Uncle George Leslie and Levi Osborne. That winter we attended school taught by "Azzy" Ward as everyone called him. The school house was down in a hollow on the Guinn farm then known as the Winpigler farm. It was heated by a great big fire place and on a cold morning it was filled with great crackling logs around which we pushed and scrambled for the hottest place. Attending this school were the Taylor's, Driscols, Shetterleys, Winpiglers, Plummers, Wards and Freels."

It certainly was a treat to listen to the story of the days of 50 years and '51 as told by Mrs. Cochrane. Her mind was a store-house for all those incidents which so often escape publication. While it might be within the realms of expectancy that at the age of seventy-six that the final call should come, yet it is a matter of sincere regret that one possessed with so kind a heart and one whom it was a pleasure to associate with should no longer be with us. Her thousands of friends in Warren county will be glad to learn that her death was a peaceful and painless one. She was taken ill a week or two before her death and the doctor ordered her to the hospital. He diagnosed her case as cancer of the gall duct and this it proved to be. She began sinking slowly at first, but Sunday witnessed a turn for the worst and by Wednesday it was over. Her daughters were with her throughout all and made her last moments as free from pain as within their power. Later on the remains of Mr. and Mrs. Cochrane will be taken back to Iowa for final interment.

#### Party for Mrs. Catherine Taylor

Advocate-Tribune, 28 June 1888 A party was given by Elizabeth Morris, of Squaw township, in honor of her mother, Mrs. Catherine Taylor, who was born June 16, 1792, in Chester county, Pennsylvania. She moved to Lancaster county in 1800 and was married Nov. 7, 1813 to John Taylor who died in 1864. She joined the Episcopal church at the age of 20. She moved to Ohio, thence to Indiana and from there, by wagon, to Iowa in 1856, where she has made her home in her declining years. She is a cousin of the noted Indian fighter, Lewis Whetzel. She has been in 10 different states as she followed the wave of civilization from the Atlantic to the Pacific. She had eight children, 44 grandchildren, 80 great-grandchildren and thinks she has some great-greatgrandchildren. She was well acquainted with Phil Sheridan, and 3 of her boys served under him. At the party were 54 including a few friends. The dinner was a grand success and all present enjoyed themselves highly. The presents were too numerous for publication. All joined in the wish to hel celebrate her centennial.

#### Mrs. Pearson's Pioneer Days

by Lois McElroy Indianola Herald. 9 June 1932

Mrs. Pearson came to Iowa in a covered wagon when six years old. There were two covered wagons. There was another family who came along with them. There was a trail from Indiana to Iowa, which they followed and the country was very wild. They were five weeks on their journey. They crossed on a ferry at Burlington.

When they reached Iowa they lived in a cabin which had a fireplace and used for cooking. At first in their cabins there was only a dirt floor, then later boards were put in. There were no curtains at the windows. She woke up many mornings to find snow all over her bed after a snowstorm. The beds which they had, had only one leg. They had trundle beds. Their kettles, skillets, etc., were made of iron. They baked their pie, cake or bread over some live coals at the fireplace.

All the clothing was made by their mother. The girls had two dresses for every day, which were supposed to last one year, and also had five-cent calico for a good dress. Women's shoes cost from \$1 to \$2. The women's shoes had no eyelets, just punched holes and were not lined. Men's and boys' boots cost \$8 to \$10. Their shoes came from Indiana.

Their eggs cost six dozen for 25 cents and land cost \$1.25 an acre. For lights they had home-made candles.

The first school she went to she was 8 years old. They only had three months of school

There were no church buildings so they used the school-houses. There was one minister who made round trips. The people were notified ahead as to when the services were and where it was to be. Her father gave an acre of land for a cemetery.

They had no machine to do their planting with. They planted their corn by putting the soil into squares, then the children dropped corn into the rows and covered the corn with a rake.

There was only one newspaper for the people to read. One family found out who had a newspaper and then they would go and get it and read it and pass it on to another family. There was a steamboat, which brought the mail to Des Moines. Her mother had one home-made carpet which she did not use very much. She put it down in the one room, which was not used much.

They had one clock, which was wooden and it had to be wound every night and morning.

There was one doctor in Indianola when she came here.

Later there was a doctor who came from Indiana.

Mrs. Pearson has lived here for 76 years.

#### Mrs. Lucinda Farley visiting daughter

Advocate-Tribune, 22 March 1888

Mrs. Lucinda Farley, who is visiting with her daughter, Mrs. S. W. Morris, is one of the oldest settlers of Warren county. She was born in Tippecanoe county, Indiana, Dec., 1826 and was 61 years old last December. Her maiden name was Hedrick. At the age of 19, in 1845, she was married to Thomas Farley. The following spring they came to Warren county and settled near Palmyra, where they lived until the year 1877, when they went to Monona county, Iowa. In 1879 she lost her husband. Since that time she has lived with her children in Monona county. In 1846 her first child was born, Matt Farley, who now lives at Carlisle. He was the first white male child born in the county. She has ten children living and two dead. Six of them live in Monona county, three in Warren and one in Missouri. Iowa was at that time a territory, a blank leaf in the book of states, but she has since gone through the press and where the wild beast and untutored savage, then roamed we have herds of domestic animals, fine farms, curches and schools. All honor to the early pioneers who toiled and labored to make this great change. Mrs. Farley has good health and bids fair to live many years to enjoy Iowa's prosperity.

#### Jane N. McKimmy

Indianola Record, 24 March 1904
Jane N. Woodside was born in Henry county, Indiana, Nov.
21, 1829, and came to Burlington, Iowa, with her parents
when but a small child and was there married in the fall of
1853 to John S. McKimmy, and came at once to Warren
county. To this union were born eleven children, of whom
only two sons and three daughters are now living. For
about two years she has suffered from a disease of the
stomach and early this winter went to Des Moines to be
under the care of a specialist, and died there March 17,
1904, age 74 years, three months and 26 days.

Hers was to know much of pioneer life for when she came to Burlington the territory of Iowa was not yet organized. The first entry of land in Jefferson twp. this county was by her brother and the first in Jackson twp, was by her brother-in-law. With them came Mr. McKimmy who went back to claim her as his bride and bring her at once to this new country when they could shoot the deer and wild turkey from their cabin door. But they were of a persevering nature and endured the toil and privations and helped

in the development of the country adding little by little to their resources, till at the death of her husband they had a good home and over four hundred acres of land.

Mrs. McKimmy was of a quiet, loving and motherly disposition by nature and to these traits of chracter there was added the abiding faith of a Christian, for in early life she accepted Christ as her personal savior, and united with the M. E. church in which she gave faithful service till the Master said "It is enough."

Funeral services March 18, were at the church at Wick conducted by the pastor, Rev. M. Rarick. Rev. S. W. Lee also spoke words of loving remembrance of one whom he had known for over thirty years.

#### Mrs. Margaret Adamson

from a folder of information found at the Warren County Historical Library

Margaret Adamson with her husband John Adamson and their two small children, Mary and Thomas, came to Warren County and located in a log cabin, which they built themselves It was in Section 10 of White Oak township, not far from Squaw Creek.

On October 11, 1849 John Adamson died leaving his wife, 2 small children and an unborn baby. When the unborn baby was born, his mother named him Simon. John Adamson was 33 years old at his death.

On April 7, 1851, the young son. Thomas died and was buried beside his father. Thomas was 9 years old.

Margaret lived on the homestead after the death of her husband. She did not have many neighbors until about 1852 when the Randolphs, McClures and Parks came from Indiana. They were brothers-in-law and settled in the same neighborhood.

In 1855, Mr. Albert Randolph's wife Sarah died. He then married Margaret Adamson. Later Mrs. Adamson's daughter Mary married her step-brother John Randolph.

Margaret later gave the acre where her husband, son and others were buried, to be a cemetery. It stands today with gravestones and fenced, but not properly cared for. It is referred to both as the Adamson Cemetery and the Randolph Cemetery.

#### Mrs. Julia A. Wallace

from a folder of information found at the Warren County Historical Library

Mrs. Wallace came to Warren County in 1848. Before there were churches here, she opened her home for a preaching place for itinerant preachers and later for Sunday school. The church was organized in 1850. The beds were removed except one which was for babies.

Julia and her husband John S. gave the land for the cemetery (now known as the Wick Cemetery) from the farm they originally entered from the government in 1850.

The black walnut seats in the church built at Wick were given by them from their woods.

Mrs. Wallace was born September 20, 1825 and died April 5, 1900.

#### **Lucy Snyder White**

The Indianola Herald, February 20, 1930 Born in Ohio in 1838 as a small child Lucy moved with her parents from Ohio to Missouri. They did not own slaves as their neighbors did, so had no social recognition. In 1846 they moved from Missouri to Warren County, Iowa. Since there was the opening of Iowa lands, the county was unsettled and was infested with roaming tribes of Indians. This made security and protection very uncertain.

There were only two families living north of North River at that time. They were the Joseph Young family and his son-in-law and daughter Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Crow.

The Snyder family located there for two weeks, but decided to move into Old Fort Des Moines for a while. There was no town there, only a few rows of log houses located along the Des Moines and Raccoon Rivers. These were occupied by U. S. troops, located where Cherry Street is now located in Des Moines.

The family then moved to about where Norwalk is now located. Later her father hired a guide to locate for them a place known as "Crusse's Grove" which is about where Churchville is now located. They lived there, but a short time, then returned to near Norwalk and finally bought a claim with an 18x20 log house on it. The house had a puncheon floor and also the same type door. It had a fireplace almost as large as one wall of the house. A large log was rolled into the fireplace and served as cooking as well as heating. The windows were about 18 inches square and were covered with greased paper for glass.

Twelve persons lived in this one room one winter. The first year the Snyders had to drive to Oskaloosa for grocers and what flour. There was a grist mill for corn, but

they could not afford to go there so cooked corn on the cob, then grated it into flour.

The United States furnished these scattered families with their mail and employed Samuel Snyder, a brother of Lucy, as mail carrier. He carried mail from Fort Des Moines to Winterset. Some days he would have but two letters to deliver. He was to be paid \$130.00 per year, but he continued 3 years and at the end of that period he received only \$130.00. He continued and finally was paid his full salary.

The settlement continued to grow and one of their neighbors was Hoyt Sherman.

The children did not have a school to attend then.

January 9, 1855 Lucy married George W. White. They moved to Ringold County near Shannon City, then returned to the North River settlement just south west of present Norwalk, then later to Old Fort Des Moines. About 1858 they settled at a small tract of land north of Norwalk and there raised 10 children. Her husband served in the Civil War.

#### A Pioneer Gone.

Indianola Record, 24 March 1904
Mary M. Fitts was born in Auburn, Wooster county,
Mass, May 30, 1822. She was the eldest daughter in a
family of six children born to Robert and Lucy Fitts. She
lived at Auburn until she was fifteen years of age. During
this time she received her education in the public schools
and at an academy in Connecticut.

She then moved with her parents to Leverett, Franklin county, Mass., where on May 13, 1846, she was married to David H. Nutting. To this union were born two sons and one daughter, William P., Frank O., and Sarah L., all residents of Warren county.

Mr. and Mrs. Nutting remained in the New England states for seven years following their marriage. They then moved to Cincinnati, Ohio, where they lived about a year. From there they went to Missouri where they remained nearly a year, following which they moved to the place in Otter twp. which has been their home ever since. Two years before Mr. Nutting had bought the farm and August 6, 1855, with their ox team hitched to a farm wagon, they with their two boys, William and Frank, landed on the farm that was destined to be their home for many years. For nearly forty-nine years they have lived on the same farm.

Mrs. Nutting endured all the hardships of early days in Warren county. The first fall after their arrival she taught a private school for the benefit of the youth of the community. That was before the township was organized with school districts. Some are still living in the county who attended her school.

Mrs. Nutting was converted when young, but did not unite with the church until 1891 when she became one of the charter members of the Milo Presbyterian church.

On account of the condition of her health, she has not been able to attend church but a very few times since. For some twelve years she has been practically shut in. Only once in the last three years has she been away from the house. During last December she had the grip and never fully recovered from the effects of it. Since Sabbath, Feb 28, she has rapidly declined and on Monday, March 24, 1904 at 1:30 p.m. she passed peacefully away while sitting in her chair.

#### Death of a Remarkable Woman

The Tribune, Indianola, Iowa, December 9, 1880 The old lady Foust, of Jackson township, died last week and was buried in the Wallace graveyard last Thursday. The life of Mrs. Foust was quite an eventful one. From the time she was twenty years old until her death at the age of eighty, she followed the occupation of a midwife, attending, during the time, over eight hundred births, and never but twice having to call in the assistance of a physician. She was twice married and had reared fourteen children of her own, ten or twelve of whom are living. Her second husband died about ten years ago, since which time her home had been with her son, C. W. Foust. She had lived in this county about twelve years, her home previous to that time being in Delaware county.

#### In Memoriam.

The Indianola Herald, Indianola, Iowa, February 28, 1901

Mrs. Betsey Bramhall Buxton was born Jan. 5, 1833, at Lowell, Mass. She was the daughter of John and Elone Bramhall, who moved to O. in her infancy. In 1851 they moved again to Iowa, making a home in Warren county near Carlisle. She was the oldest of a family of ten children, five of whom yet remain. On April 23, 1858, she was joined in wed-lock to Wm. Buxton, at the age of 25 years. She was the mother of seven children; two of whom died in infancy. The five remaining children all being present at the funeral, with the exception of Mrs.

Agnes Little of Chicago. At the age of ten years she was converted in a meeting held near Minerva, Ohio, and joined the Methodist Episcopal Church, and has been a devout and consistent member from that day until her death. The years of her married life, as well as her girlhood were those of a pioneer; she saw wild prairies cultivated into fields, and the forests leveled for homes. The first ten years of her married life were spent in a log cabin, but this humble home as made a place of generous hospitality. The early itinerant preacher was always welcome and for years her home was the stopping place for the Methodist preachers. She loved the Gospel, her life was spent for others, and the influence upon her own family brought all the children into the church and the faith of her fathers. She was always a friend of the poor and the oppressed, even to the black man, who was befriended by her and her father in his escape from slaver, their home being one of the stations on the famous underground railway. She moved to her late home at Indianola in the spring of 1893. Her life here has been an open book of good deeds, of devotion to the Church, of high Christian living. Her life was one of intense activity until about three years ago, when a sudden stroke of paralysis left her practically helpless. The hardest for her to bear was her inability to help others.

A vast audience of sympathizing friends attended the funeral services which were held in the Methodist church. It was said in one of the addresses that, doubtless everyone present was moved by feelings of profound respect and sympathy to attend these last memorial rites. Her neighbors remarked that it seemed almost impossible for the ministers, who delivered the funeral addresses, to exaggerate her excellencies of character. She was a person whose mind was naturally of large mould; her views of matters were naturally large. But her heart was larger than her mind. A remark she made to a neighbor about a week before her death was very characteristic of her: "If I were twenty years younger I would like to give away all we have got, and go at it and make it over again." It was well said in one of the funeral addresses that she combined in a commendable degree the qualities of both Mary and Martha, she could have been a mystic like Mary and sit in devotion at the Master's feet. Or like Martha she could exhaust the energies of body and mind in practical serving. She was deeply devotional and yet intensely practical in the exercise of her religious life; not only giving liberally of her means, but laboring with her hands to wash and scrub and cleanse the persons and houses of the sick and poor. Besides the general conduct of the funeral rites by her pastor, the prayer was offered by Rev. Joseph Stephen, of Leon, the first address was delivered by Rev. J. H. Senseney, the Presiding Elder, and the second address by Rev. J. B. Harris, of Boone, formerly pastor at

Indianola. Three appropriate hymns were rendered with excellent effect by Mrs. Don Tarleton. The leave-taking had been given at the residence before the cortege moved to the church, and after the last hymn the journey to the cemetery was begun. At the grave side amid tears and sobs and sighs we lowered to its last resting place the earthly tabernace, vacated by the brave, true, unselfish spirit who had passed to te presence of him who had been her strength and consolation here. The floral offerings were many and exceedingly beautiful.—Emory Miller.

# Came To Iowa 83 Years Ago, Mrs. Hester A. Barker, came to Warren county in 1848.

by Don L. Berry, *RHT*, March 1931 For a good while I've had it in mind to find the longest time resident of Warren county. I suppose I've been hesitant to start the inquiry on account of modesty, for I think I know where the honor will go. I don't like to push my own family forward unduly. I believe my Grandmother Barker has been in longer continuous residence in Warren county than any other person.

Her misfortune of being my grandmother ought not to deprive her of the recognition of her place as the oldest pioneer; so, this being her ninety-third birthday, here goes for a bit of publicity for Grandma. If there is any contender for the honor, I hope some friends will send in a brief history of his or her life together with a picture.

J. H. Henderson was in the county when Grandmother arrived. He was at Ackworth, a babe of a few weeks, the first white child in the county. Judge Henderson now lives in Des Moines. Despite the fact that he maintains his legal residence in Indianola, I believe Grandmother is entitled to the decision over him for continuous residence

Grandma was born near Plainfield, Ind., March 24, 1838. On her tenth birthday she started to Iowa in a covered wagon with her father and mother, Noble and Mary Cox. They stopped among friends in Jefferson county the first summer. While there they heard of the marvelous "Three River Country," and the father set out to explore it, finally puchasing 160 acres of land from a settler near where the McClelland school stands in Otter township.

He erected a cabin and moved his family out there in the fall of 1848. Leaving the six children with their mother he drove back to Burlington with team and wagon to bring on supplies for the winter. Weeks passed and he did not return. Finally a letter came saying that he was ill at Richland in Keokuk county. The mother started to him and before going far on the road met a messenger saying he had died and

been buried. So the pioneer father lies in an unknown grave somewhere near Richland. With his father came Nathan Cox, (a son by a former marriage) already married, and settled on a nearby farm, where he lived until his death. He was the father of George and Kenny Cox of the Milo vicinity.

Mary Cox took up the task of keeping her brood together and making a home in the new country. No county seat had been selected. Indianola was not surveyed until the following spring.

In the summer of 1849 Moses Russell Barker came riding a horse through the country looking for a location for a store. He stopped for dinner with the widow Cox. He established his store in the new town of Indianola, went back to the Cox home and selected the oldest daughter, Rachel, as a promising wife for a merchant. This was my own grandmother. She died less than eight years after her marriage.

Being well satisfied with the family of the widow Cox, Moses Barker married the younger daughter, Hester, in 1861. At 93 today she is still keeping her own house. She manages her own financial affairs and knows better than many men in the prime of life how to make the budget balance. Grandfather Barker died in 1903. He was in the mercantile business in Indianola for nearly fifty years, and life a record for square dealing of which his descendants are proud.

Grandmother served well as mother to the three children of her older sister, A. W. Barker, Alice M. Berry, and Kate McCune, as well as to her own two boys, George and Warren. Of the five only A. W. is living.

Of the descendants of Mary Cox there remain in this vicinity the children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren of Amos Cox, her youngest child.

Don Berry was always very proud of Mary Blake Cox. In a "Rowen" newspaper column some years later he wrote, "Grandmother Cox was an unsung heroine, but I will say that she was appreciated fully by her descendants who know her. . . With heavy hearts the mother and child returned to the farm in Otter township (after learning of Noble's death). They didn't give up and return to Indiana, not Mary Blake Cox. . . Mary Cox was perhaps typical of the fortitude and devotion of many of the pioneer mothers who made this country in which we are now blessed to live. She set an example for her progeny, who revere her memory. She did not sit and nurse her troubles. She was blessed with courage, industry, common

sense, faith in God and a sense of humor that cheered everyone around her."

# Computers, Software and the Internet

Over the past several issues of this newsletter, I have published information about many internet web sites. At this point I'd like to know whether you have tried any of these sites and what you found as you explored them (or any other sites that you have tried). I am seeking specific information about your experiences.

- 1. Did you like the site?
- 2. Was the site helpful?
- 3. Was the site easy to explore?
- 4. Were you asekd for information?
- 5. Does the site require a membership? If so, what is the fee? Do you consider the site worth the cost?
- 6. Did the site include specific genealogy informatioin, such as birth records, death records, marriage records, census records, land records, etc? If so, what records does it have?
- 7. Was the information abstracted (taken from) an original source or did you see copies of the original document?
- 8. If the information was abstracted from the original source, did it include complete documentation of where the information was obtained and where the original source can be located?
- 9. Was the site an exchange site where you obtain information from other researchers? Did these researchers include documentation for where they obtained their information? (Specific location of the information, i.e. name of library, name, author, publisher, date of book, page number; or, name of courthouse, name of book, page number?)
- 10. Was the site more of a general information site, that is did it give "how to do genealogy" information rather than have specific records?
- 11. Was the site a "catalog" of items that can be viewed at a specific libary or can be purchased?
- 12. Anything else special about this site?

Please take the time to send me an e-mail at Marieta51@aol.com with your responses to one or more of these questions or with any other internet search information that you have experienced. You don't have to give me everything at once. Just one or two sites at a time. I'd like to begin publishing some "personal experience" information. THANKS!

# **Book Reviews - Maps**

by Marieta Grissom

Eldridge, Carrie. An Atlas of Appalachian Trails to the Ohio River, Huntington, WV: CDM Printing, 1998.

Eldridge, Carrie, An Atlas of Southern Trails to the Mississippi, Huntington, WV: CDM Printing, 1999.

Eldridge, Carrie, An Atlas of Northern Trails Westward from New England, Huntington, WV: CDM Printing, 2000.

These are three of the books that WCGS has purchased in memory of four of our members who have died in the last few years: Warren Simpkins, Kenneth Smith, Georgia Walker and George Berry. They have been placed in the Indianola Public Library, Genealogy Section for use.

These publications are informational and easy to read. They are very helpful for anyone trying to understand the routes followed by many of the westward-bound pioneers. The key word is "understand." Entitled "Atlas," they include maps, but the volumes include so much more. They are combination map book and history book.

In the first volume, Ms. Eldridge discusses the history of the European settlement of the Atlantic coastline. Then she adds the role of topography with the formation of the earliest trails connecting the colonies, and the significance of the Appalachian barrier with the development of the colonial coastline. The buffalo/animal trails that were followed first by the Indians, then by the earliest pioneers are also included. One thing I really liked about this book was her in-depth discussion of the major trails, why and how they were formed. I also liked her discussion of the way each country handled their colonies or explorers, the goals of the home country and the net result of this strategy. Of course, no discussion of this sort would be complete without including the French and Indian War and factors leading to the Revolutionary War. The book concludes with the movement of pioneers from the Great Valley of Virginia into Tennessee, Kentucky and toward Ohio. In addition, Ms. Eldridge helps the reader nderstand roughly where these trails are today-which highways follow closely the same paths of the animals, then Indians, then pioneers.

In the Southern Trails book, she discusses the southern area, rather than mid-Atlantic region with pioneers rushing westward after the Revolution and the influence of physical features, Indians, Carolina settlement, Appalachian trails, movement into Tennessee, Georgia, mil-

itary bounties, and finally trails across the southern region to the Mississippi and reaching New Orleans.

In the New England Trails book we learn about early trails and portage paths taking the traders and pioneers inland in the northern regions toward the Great Lakes, Ohio River and eventually the Mississippi River. English and French forts and trading posts are identified. The opening of western New York, Pennsylvania and finally Ohio, is reviewed. Ms. Eldridge considers the building of the canal system, including the Erie Canal and the Ohio canal system and how these changed settlement patterns. Then, she adds the role of land speculators and the problems of military districts and bounty lands. And, of course, there were the problems of the Indians: the conflicts and the "solutions."

In the volumes, by the time Ms. Eldridge describes the similarities and differences in the settlement and expansion of the colonies and the role of the French and Indian War and then the Revolutionary War, the reader is thinking "Duh." Many of the things she mentions seem like the obvious, yet are things that are very often forgotten or are things that are taken for granted. I found myself thinking, "Why didn't I put that together?" Or, "Why didn't I think of that before?"

The information contained in these publications is very help-ful. The author has an easy way of leading the reader through some heavy material and she writes concisely, not dragging. It is obvious she has done her research to write the text and prepare the maps for publication. This migration information needs wider distribution. And, from communications with the author, I know that she is currently writing a fourth book, covering trails west of the Mississippi.

I used these books as the basis for much of the "Maps, Migration, and More" program I presented at the November 2000 WCGS meeting.

The books are large-format, 11" x 17", soft cover, and are not easy, armchair reading, but rather work best while reading at a table. Also, each volume has been written so that it can "stand alone.' Interested people only need to purchase the volumes that serve their needs.

If purchasing these books at the reasonable price of \$15 each, however, I recommend that you be sure to order direct from the author to get the latest revised copies. Two of the first copies in distribution were printed in a somewhat difficult-to-read font and all three volumes contained a few too many typographical errors. However, I especially want to point out that Ms. Eldridge has worked to correct these problems and improved volumes are available. She can be contacted: Ms. Carrie Eldridge, 3118 CR 31, Chesapeake, OH 45619 or eldridge1@zoomnet.net.

# Research Helps: The Best Kept Research Secret in Warren County

by Marieta Grissom

It's filled with gem after gem and it's tucked away in a windowless corner of the Warren County Historical Society's museum building. More items are stored on shelves behind cabinet doors at one end of the Society's dining room, and still more items are tucked away in environmentally controlled basement storerooms. En total it's the Library for the Warren County Historical Society. This Library contains thousands and thousands of answers for genealogy and local history researchers. At first the casual observer will say, "OK" and move on. But look closer and things begin clicking in your head—"There really is something here." Dig even deeper and realize the volume of materials available is nearly overwhelming.

Thelma Pehrson is the volunteer librarian who took over her position in 1996. Since then she has worked nearly fulltime. Though her official hours are Thursday afternoons 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., she spends many hours more every week at the library, and she often takes work home for her evenings. She is also usually available to open the library at special times for appointments. Part of her time is spent answering queries received by the genealogy society as well as the historical society. But a vast amount of her time is spent organizing the library.

Over many years Edith Conn, the previous librarian, had diligently collected a immense amount of records and other historical material. Thelma, and a handful of other volunteers, took a room filled with this precious material and have been organizing it so the researcher can find whatever they are looking for. These people have sorted, labeled, and alphabetized, then sorted, labeled and alphabetized some more. Then they have tackled the basement storerooms and worked on them as well. The amount of time Thelma and others have spent has been vast and, as a result, we have the best-kept research secret in Warren County.

Late one afternoon this winter as I was beginning to write this article, I enticed my husband to go out to the library with me. Three hours later, we felt we had hardly started looking. I have visited the library several more times specifically for writing this and each time I have been amazed at the kinds of things I have found.

First and foremost are the **newspapers**. This is the section I am most familiar with as I use these newspapers for writing my weekly "County Kaleidoscope" article for *the Record-Herald and Indianola Tribune*. Original copies of old newspapers, many dating back into the 1880s, fill shelf after shelf of storage cabinets. Many of these are very brit-

tle and some history is lost every time they are handled. Fortunately, most have been microfilmed and most of these films are available at the Indianola Public Library and/or Dunn Library on the Simpson College campus, but somehow there is just nothing like seeing and touching the original. Before digging into the newspapers, however, the researcher may find it helpful to check the notebooks of newspaper abstractions for the earlier newspapers and the little pink folder with the topical index for the newspapers. These will help to find specific things faster and will add a little more life to the newspapers from less handling.

Scrapbooks. These are a myriad of different scrapbooks. Sometimes people only had access to an old book that was no longer useful to them, so this book was turned into a scrapbook and obituaries were pasted into the old book. There was no rhyme or reason to how the scrapbooks were organized—they just happened. Fortunately, Thelma has indexed most of the obituary scrapbooks to make them more researcher friendly. This includes many obituaries for scattered years; some as early as 1857 and lots beginning 1920s and 1930s until current. There are also scrapbooks of births, scrapbooks of marriages and dozens of "misc" scrapbooks.

Other items in the library are:

- 1. Family histories—about a hundred or so.
- 2. Tax records. These are huge, heavy book after huge, heavy book of records organized by township dating from the earliest days until the 1960s.
- A Register of Old Setters of Warren County. This
  book lists the individual's name, post office, when
  born, county and state born, year came to Iowa, year
  came to Warren County and date of death. This does
  not include all of the early settlers, but does include
  many.
- 4. Militia Register 1864 1876, names of the men who would have been eligible to serve in the military. Names are in alpha order by township for many of these years. Also, there is a Militia Register 1917 1924. Information included is name and age.
- Personal War Sketches written in 1905 by Civil War Survivors. This is not all-inclusive, but does include several stories.
- Notebook with Petition for Naturalization record.
   These are an exact transcription of the original records, which are located at the court house.
- Old Age Pension Fund Receipts 1935 1937 and Delinquent Old Age Pension books for the same years.
- Coroner reports for 1927 1935 and 1935 1942.
   These are interesting accounts in cases if cause of death was questioned.

### Research Helps: The Best Kept Research Secret in Warren County, continued

- 9. Country Schools. While there is a long shelf of country school information, the researcher needs to know that when the office of the country superintendent was eliminated, the official country school records were taken to an office in Ankeny, where they later burned in a building fire. As a result, the information available today is a collection of miscellaneous other information. The old newspapers are an excellent source for country school information. Be forewarned, however, that searching for country school information this way will take grass roots research and many hours.
- 10. Church histories. This would not be a first place to search for church membership records, but again there is quite a long shelf of records here, especially for some of the earlier churches that either suffered from lack of attendance and were closed or for churches that later merged with other congregations. However, don't overlook this resource. I found some church information here for the church where we have been members for 50 years, so it isn't all just defunct church information
- 11. Index to Original Land Entries in Warren County.
- 12. Tax List for 1855.
- 13. Two notebooks with photocopies of delayed Birth Certificates. These copies were used to prepare the delayed birth portion of the Warren County Genealogical Society birth book.
- 14. A few notebooks and scrapbooks with information about Veterans.
- 15. Indianola Library Card Holder Names dating from the early 1900s.
- 16. County Farm notebook with clippings, etc.
- 17. A book with Medical Doctors of Warren County.
- 18. A shelf of information about many of the **Indianola Clubs**.
- 19. A dozen or so Family Bibles.
- 20. Post offices in Warren County.
- Vertical files packed with various topics of local interest.

The "catacombs" in the basement—this is where the real nitty-gritty information is stored, literally as well as figuratively! Be prepared to get dirty if you are going to research in the basement.

As the Clerk of District Court has run out of storage room, documents have been transferred to the Warren County Historical Society and placed in their library/archives. Some of these items include:

- Wills from the earliest until 1992, these have been alphabetized and a listing has been created.
- Probates, again these are the original documents, and again these have been alphabetized.
- 3. Criminal records, law and equity cases. Again these are the original documents.
- 4. Conservatorships.

Then there is a group of very old, very large, heavy books. Included here are:

- 5. Executor's, Administrator's & Guardians Bonds from the 1860s and 1870s
- 6. Chattel Mortgage Records
- 7. Inheritance Tax Records
- 8. Liens
- Court Docket Books
- 10. Register of Claims
- 11. Clerk Warrant Book
- 12. Recorder's Fee Books
- 13. Ledger for Auditor's Accounts
- 14. Hunter's License Records

These lists are not by any means complete. In many cases I have only included items that I could easily find. The "Thursday Afternoon Vounteers" have been working on a shelf list, but it may be a while before it is completed. There is a lot of stuff here!

The Warren County Historical Library is not a place where you can go for an hour and find everything in it for your family. Instead, it may take you an hour just to get started and you will feel compelled to return again and again, and you will find something during every visit. I encourage everyone, however, to make that first visit and see for yourself what draws people to it. I'd love to think every county would have a place like this for this is where you find the details that form the flesh over the bare bones, and, until now, it has been Warren County's best-kept research secret.

# **Examples of 2000 Warren County Fair Exhibits**

Category: Ancestral Church Photograph

1st Ev Brightman:

The Whitebreast Christian Union Church sat on the Newburn road west of the Williamson corner. It was built in the early 1900s as a Swedish Mission Church. My maternal family was involved in its building. My great Uncle Gus Hagg was not a church goer by any stretch of the imagination. However, he did order the church bell from Sweden so he could sit on the porch and hear "Mine bell ring." It was last tolled announcing the death of my older neighbor. After the church was torn down, the bell went to a Christian Union Church Camp in Missouri. My cousin went to court and now Uncle Gus's bell sits in her yard. The Newburn road was one of the original stage coach routes from Warren to Lucas county. From my mother's childhood (Cheerful Wiggles Class) to my own with memories of my mother's singing and playing guitar or piano and Christmas pageants with angel wings out lined with tinsel, the church remains. Directions are now confusing as people continue to direct to the Whitebreast Church, which is no longer there.

Category: Ancestral Home Photograph

Dorothy Stearns:

"This is the Henry Langebartel's home, my husband's great, great grandfather. He was born October 28, 1860 at Lacona, Iowa and died May 17, 1933 near Lacona. He brought the land in 1854 from the US Government, but we don't know when the house was built, probably around 1860. The house is now owned by Henry Langebartels, a great, great grandson of the Henry who purchased the land. The small house and the front porch on the big house is not there now. Ernest Langebartels, who is the son of Henry, lived on the farm at the time this picture was taken. I haven't found the original photo, as I copied this 20 some years ago and don't remember who I got it from."

Category: Household Tool or Item

1st Jane Godwin

"In order to use pencils when they became too short to hold comfortably, my parents bought a box of pencil lengtheners. By inserting a pencil stub into the lengthener, the combination was long enough to hold easily. The pencil lengtheners were sometimes used as advertising give-aways, as the one my dad received from his DeKalb dealer."

Category: Book

3rd Rick Bentley

"When my Grandmother Coulter died we were going through her things and we found this book that belonged to her mother (my great grandmother Cawthon). Dr. A. W. Chase published this book in 1917 a combination of three books. The first book is "The Favorite Medical Receipt Book and Home Doctor." The second book is "Dr. Chase's Receipt Book." And the third book is "A Practical Law and Business Guide for Home and Office." You probably would not be able to buy this book from a catalog or a store. In the front of the book it has a selling creed, to motivate the person selling the book. I do not know if my greatgrandmother tied selling this book, or if someone bought it for her; it does have her name in the front of it. She also made a few notes in this book. I am pretty sure she used the book as a reference guide, since she lived out in the country with no close neighbors."

Category: Map

2nd Anthony Bentley

Anthony had a map showing the location of his 4th great-grandfather's home and land in Warren County.

Category: School Records

1st Rick Bentley

Rick had a wonderful collection of school memorabilia which he entitled "Mary Jean Cawthon's School

He included a brief biography of Mary Jean. "Mary Jean (aka Mary Virginia) Cawthon was born on April 1, 1922 in Tulsa, OK. She spent most of her life in Siloam Springs, AR. Mary Jean married Anthony LeRoy Coulter on October 1, 1942 in Missouri. They moved to Des Moines and raised a family of 3 children. The children were named John, Mary Claudette (my mother), and Jerry. She enjoyed gardening and church activities. During the winter months Mary Jean was a housewife and during the summer she operated the lake resort that they owned. She died in her sleep on April 23, 1997.

Category: Organization Records

1st Joanne Amos

Joanne entered her husband's 4-H record book.

2nd Dorothy Stearms

Dorothy entered her 4-H record book.

Deciding between these two 4-H record books was a difficult decision for the judge.

Everyone should begin thinking about what they can enter in the 2001 county fair!

# Index of this issue

			_		
Adamson, John	10	Forley	1	Nutting, Mary M. Fitts	4, 11 11
Adamson, Margaret	4, 10	Foust, C. W.	11 4, 11	Nutting, Sarah L. Nutting, William P.	11
Adamson, Mary Adamson, Thomas	10 10	Foust, Mrs. Freel	4, 11	Osborne, Levi	8
Allen, Mary B.	3	Freel, William	5	Pancratz, Mary Cae	2
Amos, Joanne	2, 17	George, Evan	8	Parker, Dianna	2
Anderson, T. T.	-, ., 7	Ginder, Alexander	8	Parker, Mary	4
Avery, Sharon	i	Ginder, William	8	Parks	10
Barker, A. W.	13	Godwin, Jane	1, 17, 19	Parsons, G. W.	8
Barker, George	13	Goldizen, Mrs. A. E.	4	Paulus	1
Barker, Hester Cox	4, 12	Griggs, Paula	20	Payne, Arch	5
Barker, Moses Russell	13	Grissom, Marieta	2, 14, 15	Pearson, Mrs.	4, 8, 9
Barker, Warren	13	Grissom, Willa	2	Pehrson, Thelma	2, 5, 15, 19, 20
Bartholomew, G. N.	5	Guinn	8	Pendry, Thomas	7
Bassett, Martha	3	Hagg, Gus	17	Perry, John	8
Baumgarten, Elaine	2	Hall, Ruth	1	Plummer	8
Bentley, Anthony	17	Hall, Steve	1	Putz, Kay	2
Bentley, Rick	17	Harris, Rev. J. B.	12	Randolph	10
Berry, Alice M.	13	Hatfield, Mrs. Rachel	7	Randolph, Albert	10
Berry, Don L.	12, 13	Haworth, Mahlon	8 9	Randolph, John	10 10
Berry, George	2, 14	Hedrick, Lucinda	12	Rarick, Rev. M.	8
Black, Samuel	<b>8</b> 1	Henderson, J. H.	12	Reynolds, Bily Rhine, Joshua	8
Borts, David Borts, Edna	i	Irish, John James, Henry	5, 6	Roe, Johnny	8
Bramhall, Betsey	11	James, Roxey Myrick	4, 5, 6	Ross, Paul	1
Bramhall, Elone	11	James, Stephen	4, 5, 6	Sensenev, Rev. J. H.	12
Bramhall, John	11	Jones, Gladys	i	Shaw, Patricia	ĩ
Brightman, Ev	1, 2, 17	Jones, Lillian Clark	i	Sherman, Hoyt	11
Bruce, M. T.	4	Jury, Enos	4	Shetterley	8
Buchanan, Mrs. W. S.	7	Jury, Mrs. Enos	4	Simpkins, Warren	2, 14
Buchanan, Mrs. W. T.	7	Kitchel, Esther	4	Smith, Kenneth	2, 14
Buxton, Betsey Bramhall	4, 11	Langebartels, Ernest	17	Smith, Martha	3
Buxton, Wm.	11	Langebartels, Henry	17	Snyder, Lucy	10, 11
Cawthon, Mary Jean	17	Lee, Rev. S. W.	10	Snyder, Samuel	11
Cimmons, Mary B. Allen	4	Leslie, George	8	Steams, Dorothy	2, 17
Cimmons, Wm. C.	3	Liston, Jesse	7	Switzer, Mary J.	4, 5
Clark, Emma Borts	1	Liston, Mrs. Rebecca	4, 7	Tarleton, Mrs. Don	12
Cochrane, Mary Jane Pendry	4, 7, 8	Little, Agnes	12	Taylor	8
Cochrane, Mr.	8	Long, Janet	20	Taylor, Catherine	4, 8
Cochrane, T. P.	7	Lutz, Amanda	4, 5	Taylor, David	8
Coulter, Anthony LeRoy Coulter, Claudette	17 17	Mason, Mrs. Marillia	7	Taylor, John	8
Coulter, Jerry	17	Mathews, Mary McClure	4, 5	Todhunter, Mrs. Lydia	6, 7 <b>2,</b> 14
Coulter, John	17	McCune, Kate	10 13	Walker, Georgia Wailace, John S.	2, 14
Coulter, Mary	17	McElroy, Lois	8	Wallace, Julia A.	4
Cox, Amos	13	McKimmy, Jane N.	4, 9, 10	Wallace, Mrs. Julia A.	10
Cox, George	13	McKimmy, John S.	9	Ward	8
Cox, Hester	13	McWherten, Mrs. Alta	6	Weinman, Maxine	2
Cox, Kenny	13	Miller, Emory	12	Wentz	$\bar{1}$
Cox, Mary	4, 12, 13	Morris, Elizabeth	8	Wheeldon, Virginia	2
Cox, Nathan	13	Morris, Mrs. S. W.	9	Whetzel, Lewis	8
Cox, Noble	12, 13	Myrick, Alva	6	White, George W.	11
Cox, Rachel	13	Myrick, Charles	7	White, Lucy Snyder	4, 10
Craig, Coy Mrs.	4	Myrick, Eli	5, 6	Winpigler	8
Craig, Coy	4, 5	Myrick, Emeline	7	Woodside, Jane N.	9
Craig, Mrs. Darice	6	Myrick, George F.	7	Young, Doris	2
Craig, Rev. David	4, 6	Myrick, John E.	7	Young, Joseph	10
Crow, Samuel	10	Myrick, Lydia Jackson	5, 6		
Davis, Jerome	8	Myrick, Martha Jane	4, 5		
Driscol Eastman, Rev. A. M.	8 7	Myrick, Mary Joseph Myrick, Millard	7 7		
Eldridge, Carrie	14	Myrick, Roxy	6		
Farley, Lucinda Hedrick	4, 9	Myrick, Stephen	7		
Farley, Matt	9	Myrick, Warren	7		
Farley, Thomas	ģ	Myrick, William	8		
Fitts, Lucy	11	Nelson, Virginia	2		
Fitts, Mary M.	11	Nutting, David H.	11		
Fitts, Robert	11	Nutting, Frank O.	11		
		=			

	ns about Warren	County	Price	Chimmina	Тана н
Available fr Iane Godwi		Indianola, IA 50125 (515		Shipping	Tax (IA residents)
♦ Birth Records of Warren County through 1920,			\$15.00	\$3.00	5% (IA residents)
including delayed births, hardbound, 295 pages, indexed.  ◆ Atlas of Warren County for the years 1847, 1872, 1887, 1897, 1902-1903, 1915, 1919-1924, softbound, 162 pages  ◆ Cemetery and Death Records of Warren County, IA, 1980 (			i. \$35.00	\$4.00	5% (IA residents)
			980 (reprint) \$35.00		
	om Warren County rson, 306 West Saler	Historical Society n, Indianola, IA 50125 (5	15-961-4409):		
Railroad	ds of Warren County		\$ 8.95	call to ve	rify shipping
1879 Hi	istory of Warren Cou	nty (reprint)	\$25.00	costs	
Available fr Milo Public		Street, Milo, IA 50166:			
Milo 1880-1980, including Belmont & Otter Townships, hardbound, 364 pages, indexed.			\$25.00	\$3.00	5% (IA residents
Warren	logical Society, PO I County Marriages	Box 7735, Des Moines, IA			
♦ #0473 • #0474	1849-1879, 72 page		\$ 9.40		erify price and
• #0474	1880-1899, 96 page	S	\$12.50	shipping	COSIS
	•	Deaths, Probates & Obita		•• .	
#1947	1857-1876, 55 page		\$ 7.20		erify price and
#1728	1877-1885, 81 page		\$10.50	shi <del>pp</del> ing	costs
<b>♦</b> #1727	1886-1889, 72 page		\$ 9.40		
<ul><li>#1948</li><li>#1949</li></ul>	1890-1893, 48 page 1894-1895, 60 page		\$ 6.20 \$ 7.80		
	hin in Warren Co	ounty Genealogical Sc	nciety•		
Mamharel	•	al membership	\$9.00 for family me	embership	
Members	20.00 for individua				
	<del></del>	-	·		
 Name					
 Name		·			
Name Address  Telephone _			E-mail		
Name Address  Telephone _	erested in helping with	any of the following com	E-mailmittees:	··· -	
NameAddress  Telephone _	erested in helping with	any of the following com	E-mailmittees:Program	Speci	_
Name Address  Telephone _	erested in helping with Fair _Finance	any of the following comLibraryVital Records	E-mail	··· -	
NameAddress  Telephone _	erested in helping with	any of the following com	E-mailmittees:Program	··· -	

#### Genealogical research sites:

INDIANOLA PUBLIC LIBRARY, 207 North B Street, Indianola, 515-961-9418, Mon - Thurs 10:00 - 8:30, Fri 10:00 - 6:00, Sat 10:00 - 5:00

WARREN COUNTY HISTORICAL LIBRARY, Warren County Fairgrounds, Indianola, Thurs 1:00-4:00. except during the winter months. Contact Thelma Pehrson, Librarian, 515-961-4409.

MILO PUBLIC LIBRARY, 123 Main Street, Milo, 641-942-6557, Mon, Wed, Thurs 2:00 - 5:30, Tues 6:00 - 8:00, Fri 9:00 - 11:00 & 2:00 - 5:30; Sat 9:00 - 12:00. Paula Griggs, Librarian. The Milo Library has an extensive collection of obituaries for cemeteries in Otter and Belmont Townships, and some obits for people who have lived in the area and are buried elsewhere.

IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, 6000 Douglas Ave., Des Moines, 515-276-0287. Tues, Wed, Thurs 10:00-9:00. Sat, Mon, Fri 10:00-4:00. Closed Sunday

STATE HISTORICAL LIBRARY, 600 East Locust, Des Moines, 515-281-6200. Tues - Sat 9:00-4:30. Closed Sunday & Monday.

DES MOINES PUBLIC LIBRARY, 100 Locust, Des Moines, 515-283-4152. Mon, Tues, Wed 10:00-9:00, Thurs, Fri 10:00-6:00. Sat 10:00-5:00. Closed Sunday.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS FAMILY HISTORY CENTER, 3301 Ashworth Road, West Des Moines, 515-225-0416. Mon, Wed, Sat 10:00-3:00. Tues, Wed evenings 6:30 -9:00. Closed Thursday, Friday & Sunday. Recommend that you call ahead as their hours sometimes fluctuate.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS, 1800 West Jackson Street, Knoxville. Mon 10:00-2:00. Thurs 6:30-9:30 p.m. Sat 10:00-3:00. Information & appointments outside regular hours call Janet Long, Director, 641-828-8743.

Warren County Genealogical Society 306 West Salem Indianola, IA 50125