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## Indiana Genealogical Society banner



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## Indiana Genealogical Society News

*1 October 2011*

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### *Hello Members!*

Welcome to our newest members for 2011, including all those who joined at the Federation of Genealogical Societies' conference in Springfield, Illinois last month. See our October newsletter (coming soon!) for a wrap-up from the FGS conference.

In this month's message, we remind you of our Saturday work session for our Hendricks County probate records project. This project is a great example of how the goodwill from one collaboration can have a ripple effect. In our case, the trust our volunteers have gained from the courthouse staff while working on their probate records led to access to another records set. The result is a divorce index that we've added to our Members Only area.

Here's to more goodwill between recordkeepers and genealogists!

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### Indiana's Homes for Soldiers

The latest additions to our Members Only area include some databases about veterans at the State Soldiers Home in Lafayette, but did you know that Indiana was home to both federal and state government homes for ex-soldiers?

These homes were the result of the growing need to care for veterans in the years after the Civil War, particularly as the population aged. In 1865 Congress passed a law

establishing a national system of homes to care for disabled soldiers and sailors. In the decades leading up to World War I, a total of 13 such National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers (DVS) were established at sites across the country. In the midwest, DVS homes were established in: Danville, Illinois; Dayton, Ohio; Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and Marion, Indiana (1890). Veterans did not have to be a resident of the state in order to be admitted to that state's DVS home.

At the same time, efforts were also being made by the individual states to care for their own residents, particularly with the help of funding from Congress. The Indiana State Soldiers Home opened in Tippecanoe County in 1896 with 274 inmates; by 1917, its population had swelled to 1,425, ranging in age from 42 to 94 years old.

The DVS home in Marion, Indiana (known as the Marion branch) was also home to a large population - according to a 1907 report, its population was 2,204. Our Members Only area includes a database about veterans at the Marion branch that were enumerated in Grant County's 1890 soldiers enrollment list.

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### Members Only Additions

computer keyboard

Here are the databases we've just added to the Members Only area:



#### College Records:

- Students of Hanover College, Hanover (1849)
- Directory of Students of Indiana University, Bloomington (1936)
- Students of Valparaiso University, Valparaiso (1914)

#### County Records:

- Civil War Soldiers from Switzerland County, Indiana

#### Military Records:

- Veterans at Indiana State Soldiers Home, Lafayette, Indiana (1902)
- Veterans Who Died At Indiana State Soldiers Home, Lafayette, Indiana (1901-1902)

#### **OTHER ADDITIONS**

Haven't visited the Members Only area recently? We also added databases over the past month about:

- Franklin County church records
- Hendricks County divorce cases 1953-1975
- Noble County's 1860 mortality schedule
- African-Americans in the Civilian Conservation Corps who were stationed in Gibson, Marion and Posey counties

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## Work Session for Probate Records

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If you're curious to see what kind of things can be found in old records, or just want to do something completely different, stop by our work session for Hendricks County probate records. It will be held at the [Plainfield Public Library](#) on Saturday, October 15 from 9:30 am to 4 pm. We'll be unfolding records from the 1870's and 1880's and putting them into folders, so wear comfortable clothes.



Register to attend through the library's [Events Calendar](#), or contact their Indiana Room - phone (317) 838-3800.

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## Cemetery Preservation Workshops

### *Monroe County*

The Wabash Valley Genealogy Society is holding a cemetery preservation/restoration workshop on **Saturday, October 8** from 9:30 am to 4 pm at the Rose Hill Cemetery in New Goshen, Vigo County. Brad Manzenberger of Stone Revival Cemetery Restoration, Inc. will lead the workshop. Registration is \$10 for WVGS members, \$15 for non-members. Please visit their [website](#) for more information and to register.

### *Vigo County*

The Monroe County History Center in Bloomington is sponsoring a cemetery restoration workshop on **Saturday, October 15** from 9 am to 4 pm at the Cole/County Farm Cemetery in Monroe County. You can work on tombstones as well as the cemetery's iron fence. Registration is \$20 per person, which includes lunch. Please visit their [website](#) for more information and to register.

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## Jackson County Research Lock-In

The [Jackson County Public Library](#) in Seymour will hold a research lock-in on **Friday, October 28** from 6 to 11 pm. The evening will include soup, sandwiches and dessert, plus a talk on riverboat travel and records by Dan Back, river historian from Patriot, Indiana. There is a registration fee of \$8, which must be received by Thursday, October 20.

For more information about the lock-in and to register, please contact Local History Specialist Charlotte Sellers - phone (812) 522-3412 ext. 240 or e-mail [csellers@myjclibrary.org](mailto:csellers@myjclibrary.org)

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## Elkhart County Workshop

calendar

Dick Eastman of Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter will be the speaker at the Elkhart County Genealogical Society's Fall Workshop on **Saturday, November 5** at the Rush Memorial Center (304 W. Vistula St., Bristol, IN). Topics will include photographs, genealogy searches on Google, organizing and technology.



Registration is \$25 if before October 29 or \$30 if after October 29 or at the door. The registration fee includes lunch - see their [website](#) for registration and more information. The Elkhart County Genealogical Society is a chapter of the Indiana Genealogical Society.

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## African-American Newspaper Digitized

newspaper

The University Library of Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) has digitized issues of the *Indianapolis Recorder* newspaper ranging from 1899 to 2005 and placed them [online](#) for free access.



You can also [read more](#) about this great collaboration.

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## Indiana in the News

Here are links to some interesting news items from the past month:

--[National news boosts Lyle Station fest](#) - about an annual festival in Gibson County to honor an historical African-American settlement.

--[Inquest into old bones continues](#) - about the continuing effort to identify 200-year-old remains found in a riverbed in Tippecanoe County.

--[Courthouse needs more extensive repairs](#) - about the Knox County courthouse in Vincennes, which was built in 1876.

--[Coughing fit blamed for big clock crash](#) - about a truck that crashed in Ohio while carrying a clock destined for the Randolph County courthouse in Winchester, Indiana.

--[Georgetown seeks listing on National Register of Historic Places](#) - about a Floyd County community that

dates back to 1807, before Indiana officially became a state.



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