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Indiana Genealogical Society banner



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Indiana Genealogical Society News

1 December 2011

Hello Members!

December means it's time for the latest issues of our 2 publications, *IGS Newsletter* and *Indiana Genealogist*. We've already posted the December newsletter online; look for our e-mail alerting you to when the December quarterly has been posted.

December also means the end of our membership year. We sent an e-mail last month to all those whose members are set to expire in 2011 - thanks to all those that have renewed already, we appreciate your promptness. There's still a few days left to [renew online](#) or print out & mail in our [membership form](#).

Members Only Additions

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

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[College Records:](#)

--Faculty of Butler University, Indianapolis (1891)

--Students of Butler University, Indianapolis (1891)

[NOTE: This database does not include students from the class of 1891]

--Faculty of Huntington College, Huntington (1923)

--Students of Huntington College, Huntington (1923)

--Faculty of Purdue University, West Lafayette (1892)

--Students of Purdue University, West Lafayette (1892)

--Faculty of Wabash College, Crawfordsville (1940)
--Students of Wabash College, Crawfordsville (1940)
[NOTE: This database only includes students from the class of 1940]

Military Records:

--Veterans Who Died At Indiana State Soldiers Home, Lafayette, Indiana (1914-1915)

Name Changes for Indiana Colleges

Indiana is home to numerous colleges and universities, but over time several of these schools have reorganized, merged with other institutions or changed their names to reflect their changing mission. For example, Indiana University was originally "State Seminary."

When you try and find the records of these schools, it helps to know what they changed to, to know where their records might have gone. Here is a list of former names and what they are known as today:

- Anderson Bible Training School --> Anderson University
- Central College --> Huntington University
- Eastern Indiana Normal School --> Ball State University
- Elkhart Institute --> Goshen College
- Fort Wayne College --> Taylor University
- Friends' Boarding School --> Earlham College
- Indiana Asbury University --> DePauw University
- Indiana Central College --> University of Indianapolis
- Indiana Dental College --> Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI)
- Indiana Normal College/Indiana Normal Institute --> Ball State University
- Indiana State Normal School/Indiana State Teachers College --> Indiana State University
- Indiana State Normal School, Eastern Division --> Ball State University
- Indiana Technical College --> Indiana Institute of Technology
- Indiana Vocational Technical College --> Ivy Tech
- Indianapolis College of Pharmacy --> Butler University
- Jefferson Academy --> Vincennes University
- Marion College --> Indiana Wesleyan University
- Moores Hill College --> University of Evansville
- Muncie Normal Institute --> Ball State University
- Northern Indiana Normal School --> Valparaiso University
- Northwestern Christian University --> Butler University

- Roanoke Classical Seminary --> Manchester College
- Rose Polytechnic Institute --> Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
- Butler University School of Religion --> Christian Theological Seminary
- St. Francis Normal --> Marian College
- State Seminary --> Indiana University
- Teacher's College of Indianapolis --> Butler University
- Terre Haute School of Industrial Science --> Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
- Territorial University --> Vincennes University
- Tri-State Normal College --> Trine University
- Wabash Teachers Seminary --> Wabash College

Family History Affiliate Libraries

Hopefully as researchers you are already aware of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah and its fantastic collection of microfilmed records from across the United States (with some of these records being put online at [FamilySearch](#)). Their microfilm can be loaned to a Family History Center near you for a small shipping fee, but now there is the added convenience of Family History Affiliate Libraries - public and private libraries around the country that have been certified by Family History Library to receive and view the loaned microfilm.

Under this new program, you can go [online](#) and order the microfilm yourself and designate what Affiliate Library you want it shipped to, then pay by credit or debit card. The Affiliate Library will notify you when they have received your order, and they will also be responsible for mailing it back to the Family History Library when you are finished with it.

Is there an affiliate library in your area? These are the Family History Affiliate Libraries in Indiana:

Allen County

--[Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center \(Fort Wayne\)](#)

Grant County

--[Marion Public Library](#)

Hendricks County

--[Plainfield-Guilford Township Public Library](#)

Howard County

--[Kokomo-Howard County Public Library](#)

Jackson County

--[Jackson County Public Library \(Seymour\)](#)

Jennings County

--[Jennings County Public Library \(North Vernon\)](#)

Perry County

--[Tell City-Perry County Public Library](#)

Porter County

--[Porter County Public Library \(Valparaiso\)](#)

Vanderburgh County

--[Willard Library \(Evansville\)](#)

Vigo County

--[Vigo County Public Library \(Terre Haute\)](#)

Indiana Marriage Indexing Update

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Our [Indiana Marriage Indexing Project \(1811-1959\)](#) (done in partnership with FamilySearch) has made more progress since last month. Entries from Gibson County and Jackson County have been added, bringing the

number of Indiana counties included in the index to 32 so far.

Indexers are currently working on batches from Hamilton County, Jay County, Jefferson County, LaGrange County, Lake County and Lawrence County - sign up with [FamilySearch Indexing](#) to help out!

Damage to Indiana Cemeteries

Cemeteries from across the state have been in the news because of their condition:

--The Burch-Covalt Cemetery in Fountain County was unintentionally damaged by construction crews working on a nearby road (read this [article](#) for more details).

--Oak Hill Cemetery in Lake County has been neglected for many years, but this Veterans Day it was even more apparent, with a World War II marker discovered in the trash (read this [editorial](#) for more details about the history of the neglect).

--Silver Creek Cemetery in Union County suffered extensive damage from vandalism (read this [article](#) for more details and photos of the 80+ toppled tombstones).

Hendricks County Probate Records

Project

We've added more [digital files](#) since last month - there are now 450+ files online.



We've added to our database of the [dates of death](#) mentioned in the estate cases - there are now 600+ entries in it.

We've added more examples to our [Facebook photo album](#) in the past month:

- an 1885 order for a tombstone to be placed at a Boone County cemetery
- the seal of the Hendricks County Circuit Court from 1889
- an 1883 advertisement for a train excursion from Indianapolis to High Point, North Carolina to attend a Quaker yearly meeting

We've posted a transcription on our blog of a document written [September 24, 1888](#) where Enoch G. Hogate, the Hendricks County Clerk, listed all the business that had been transacted while the probate court was on vacation after its June term.

We also found a similar document written January 7, 1889 which lists:

Letters of Administration issued to the following estates:

- Curtis King, deceased - William R. McClelland, administrator
- Marshall Robards, deceased - Mary Robards, administrator

Wills Probated and Letters Testamentary issued to the following persons:

- Last Will and Testament of Margaret Reeve, deceased - Mordeci Carter, executor

Letters of Guardianship issued to the following persons:

- Frederick Neiger, upon the persons and estates of Etta May Stutsman and John F. Stutsman, minor heirs of John Stutsman, deceased
- Oliver P. Phillips, upon the person and estate of Estella M. Phillips, a minor
- George P. Sherrard, upon the persons and estates of Alonzo, Izzie, Millie and Thomas Armstrong, minor heirs of Eppa H. Armstrong, deceased
- Marion Bailey, upon the person and estate of Lial Leak, minor heir of Ethan A. Leak, deceased

At its November board meeting, the Indiana Genealogical Society appointed 4 more [Indiana County Genealogists](#):

--Sue Caldwell for Jasper County. Sue has been doing genealogical research for about 40 years and has several future projects under consideration, including digitizing some of the genealogical records available at the Jasper County Historical Society.

--Barb Mulholland for LaGrange County. Barb is currently partnering with the LaGrange County Historical Society, the LaGrange County Public Library, the local DAR Chapter and 4-H leaders to form a strong LaGrange County Genealogical Society.

--Debby Warren for Vermillion County. Debby volunteers in the genealogy department of the Vermillion County Public Library, helping them with indexing and enjoys helping others with their research.

--Terri Wargo for Warren County. Terri is the director of the West Lebanon-Pike Township Public Library and is also the Warren County Historian. She enjoys writing articles for the Danville, Illinois Commercial News.

Congratulations also to Russell Wilhoit, the Indiana County Genealogist for Decatur County. The Indiana Historical Society is presenting him their Willard C. Heiss Family History/Genealogy Award for his years of service. Read this [article](#) for more information about his many accomplishments.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Indiana County Genealogist (ICG) is a program of the Indiana Genealogical Society. Its goal is to appoint qualified individuals to represent each of the 92 counties in Indiana. The ICG promotes genealogical and historical research and education within the county, is familiar with the genealogical records and repositories in the county, is aware of record retention policies and issues and acts as a resource person for those doing research in the county.

Changes to Social Security Records

As genealogists, we appreciate the value of Social Security applications because in addition to listing their occupation and address at the time of their application, it also lists the applicant's birthdate and the names of their parents. We also appreciate the Social Security Death Index (SSDI) that is available for free online and updated every month, because it is a way to track down 20th century ancestors and find out when and where they died (or at least where their last benefits were sent to).

Unfortunately some changes were recently implemented

to both these resources. As reported in [Dick Eastman's newsletter](#), the Social Security Administration will no longer be using death records issued by states as one of the sources when it issues its monthly update to the SSDI. Furthermore, an estimated 4.2 million entries that were already in the SSDI will be removed because they used state death records for their source.

And as reported in [Megan Smolenyak Smolenyak's blog](#), if you request a Social Security application and that person's birthdate is not 100 years ago or more (i.e. 1911 or before), the copy you receive will have their parents' names blacked out. This privacy measure means that you will not be able to discover the names of people who would have been born 120-150 years ago.

Indiana Supreme Court Records Project

The Indiana State Archives is working on a project to preserve and index the records of Indiana Supreme Court cases from the court's formation in 1817 up to the 1970's. The project will also eventually include eventually court records dating back to 1791, when Indiana was still a territory. So far the [online index](#) covers 1817 to 1878. For more information about this project, see the [article](#) by the Society of Indiana Archivists.

War of 1812 in the News

With the 200th anniversary of the start of the War of 1812 coming this June, the War of 1812 is already in the news:

--[Battle of Tippecanoe 200th memorial recalls nation's birth pangs](#) - about the commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Tippecanoe in Battle Ground, Indiana.

--[Battle of Tippecanoe's 200th anniversary stirs historians, re-enactors](#) - about the historical details of soldiers who participated in the Battle of Tippecanoe.

--[A War of 1812 mystery has been solved by historians](#) - about tracing what happened to Betsy Doyle, who became famous for helping load the cannons at Fort Niagara, New York during a battle with the British in 1812.

--The [Bartholomew County Genealogical Society](#) in Columbus, a chapter of IGS, is honoring the county's War of 1812 veterans with a 2012 calendar. Proceeds from the sales of the calendars will go towards restoring the graves and putting War of 1812 markers on them.

Indiana in the News

Here are links to some interesting news items from the

past month:

- [Region Civil War veterans honored with new headstones in special ceremony](#) - about Civil War veterans in Lake County and Porter County whose graves were honored.
- [Monroe County courthouse's dome sold as scrap](#) - about pieces of copper from the old dome of the Monroe County Courthouse in Bloomington being sold at auction.
- [Women give new life to old Harrison County documents](#) - about DAR members who are extracting records from the Harrison County courthouse in Corydon.
- [Adoptees seek birth certificates under new Illinois law](#) - about a new Illinois law that allows adoptees to get a copy of their own birth record.



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