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Indiana news

10 JANUARY 2013

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Welcome to our first e-mail "blast" of 2013! Whether you're a member of the Indiana Genealogical Society, or someone who signed up to receive our public mailings, we hope you find something that helps you in your Indiana research.

Indiana has been experiencing a harsh winter, so it's great to look forward to Saturday, April 27 and our [annual conference](#) in Bloomington featuring Josh Taylor. We also have opened registration for our [society management seminar](#), to be held in nearby Bedford on Friday, April 26. Registration is just \$5 per person and includes Tamara Hemmerlein from the Indiana Historical Society discussing the care & preservation of documents and photos.

FOUND: 1867 Marriage Certificate from Southern Indiana

Shelley Cardiel (cardiels@comcast.net) has found an 1867 marriage certificate for a southern Indiana couple and would like to give it to a descendant of the family. The marriage certificate is for Joel M. MORGAN and Mary C. SECRIST who were married 8 December 1867 in Harrison County. Shelley's research has found additional information on this family showing their connection to other counties in southern Indiana, including Crawford, Dubois and Orange counties. For the details of this research, please see our [blog post](#).

IGS Database Additions

Here are the premium databases we've added to the [Members-Only](#) area recently:

[County Records:](#)

- Early Residents of Crawford County, Indiana (1820)
- Residents of Delaware County, Indiana Who Served in the Revolutionary War
- Residents of Delaware County, Indiana Who Served in the War of 1812
- Early Settlers of Jasper County, Indiana

--Residents of Marshall County, Indiana Who Served in the Spanish-American War (1898)
--Pioneer Settlers of Parke County, Indiana
--Members of Dunlapville Presbyterian Church, Liberty Township, Union County, Indiana (1829-1912)
--Early Villages Platted in Vermillion County, Indiana

NOT AN IGS MEMBER? We also added free databases in the past month for 4 Jay County cemeteries.

Indianapolis Marriage Records

As home to one of the largest population centers, as well as being a wedding destination for residents across the state, Indianapolis has generated a huge amount of marriage records. Marion County's marriage license books from 1822 through 1944 encompass 82 rolls of microfilm; this microfilm is available at the Indiana State Library and through the Family History Library. Workers from the Works Progress Administration (WPA) compiled an index to the marriage license books for 1822-1920, as well as the marriage supplements records for 1882-1921; these indexes are available on microfilm as well as in book form.

When it comes to online resources, if you have access to a subscription at Ancestry.com, their database "Indiana, marriage collection, 1800-1941" includes an index of Marion County marriages for 1822-1836 and 1861-1925.

Marion County is not one of the counties indexed in FamilySearch's [Indiana marriage index 1811-1959](#), and the digital images available for browsing in this database does not include Marion County. But the Marion County Clerk's office does have a searchable index of [marriages 1925-present](#).

[Internet Archive](#) also has digital images of the books of Marion County ministers' [marriage returns for 1929 to 1944](#). These marriage returns include some of the information that is found in the marriage applications - the age, birthplace and occupation of the bride and groom, as well as the names of their parents.

Indiana State Archives Adds to Naturalization Indexes

The [Indiana State Digital Archives](#) has added a searchable index of Harrison County naturalization records spanning 1830-1926. This is the 40th county in its [naturalization records database](#).

County Roundup

Some genealogical and local history news items from around the state:

ALLEN COUNTY

--Pleasant Valley Cemetery outside Hoagland made news last month for its [poor condition](#) and confusion about who is legally responsible for its

upkeep.

JAY COUNTY

--Judith Myers Ahrens has published a book about the Salamonia Christian Church and its members. *Salamonia Christian Church, 1842-1999* is a 3-volume set (softbound) totalling 662 pages. The author has researched three generations of the genealogy of nearly everyone on the church's membership roll. Many obituaries and Find A Grave memorials are included in the book. There is a section, "Milestones of the Salamonia Christian Church," which details the most important events in the life of the church, from its beginning in a log cabin to the closing of the church in 1999. Transcriptions of all of the church's board meetings are included, along with lists of the pastors and officers of the church. Indices to the major portions of the book aid in navigation. For more information, please contact the author at salamoniacc@gmail.com or the [Jay County Historical Society](#).

PERRY COUNTY

--Beard Cemetery near Bristow [was vandalized](#) last month. At least one of the tombstones dates back to 1905.

PUTNAM COUNTY

--Part of a letter from a Greencastle resident imprisoned in Georgia during the Civil War [was recently sold at auction](#). The envelope, dated 1864, was from William S. Marshall, who served in the 51st Indiana Infantry.

VANDERBURGH COUNTY

--An Evansville resident has written a [history of Evansville](#) specifically for elementary school students. The book was written with the cooperation of Willard Library.

Indiana State Archives & State Library's Websites Honored

The [Indiana State Archives](#) and the [Indiana State Library - Genealogy Collection](#) have been named to *Family Tree Magazine's Top 75 State Websites for 2012*. They were the only honorees from the state.

Links to Indiana Death Resources

Joe Beine's [DeathIndexes.com](#) website recently added links to several [Indiana resources](#). The website compiles free as well as pay links for death records, obituaries and cemeteries.

Indiana Historical Society Adds Free Access To Digitized Indiana Newspapers

The [Indiana Historical Society](#) in Indianapolis, in partnership with

Newspaper Archive, has added free access to digitized Indiana newspapers for visitors to the society's Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana History Center (located at 450 W. Ohio St. in downtown Indianapolis).

For 25 years, the Indiana Historical Society (IHS) supported the Indiana Newspaper Project, which gathered historic newspapers from around the state to be microfilmed by IHS's Preservation Imaging staff. In 2011, IHS entered into an agreement with Newspaper Archive to digitize 5,625 reels of microfilm, which represents more than 2.5 million newspaper page images dated 1924 or earlier. Now visitors to IHS's William Henry Smith Memorial Library can search or browse these Indiana newspapers for free through a site that is co-hosted and supported by Newspaper Archive.

Access to these Indiana newspapers, as well as newspapers from all 50 states and several other countries, is also available via subscription at www.NewspaperArchive.com.

Research Tip: Check in Illinois for Northwestern Indiana Naturalizations

Among FamilySearch's collection is [Illinois, Northern District Naturalization Index, 1840-1950](#). This database (in progress) is an index of naturalization petitions that were filed in U.S. district courts as well as county circuit courts. But don't let the title fool you - it is not just of Illinois residents, but also includes residents of northwestern Indiana. The example below is a card for Albert Goede, a resident of Michigan City, LaPorte County, Indiana, who petitioned the LaPorte County Superior Court in 1921.

TIP: The cards were arranged on the microfilm by Soundex, so you may want to use a [Soundex calculator/converter](#) to figure out what the code for the last name is before you begin browsing the digital images.



Allen County Library Joins Twitter

The [Allen County Public Library](#) in Fort Wayne has added Twitter to its social media repertoire. You can view their updates at <https://twitter.com/ACPLGenealogy>

Research Tip: Don't Overlook High School Yearbooks

In last month's e-mail, we mentioned how several yearbooks from Indiana schools had been digitized by [Mocavo](#). Did you know that high school yearbooks (particularly older ones) can also contain the names and/or class photos of students and teachers in other grades? As late as the 1950's and 1960's, it was not uncommon for the yearbook produced by the high school to include information about kindergarten through 12th

grade for that entire school district.

Legal Abbreviations Explained: Dr.

If you're looking at a civil court case, or the papers filed in a probate case, you may run across the abbreviation "Dr." after someone's name. Don't assume this is an indication that person was a doctor. It usually refers to them being a "debtor" - someone who owes money.

Learn Online Through Webinars

Webinars - seminars conducted on the web - are a great way to further your genealogy knowledge. GeneaWebinars.com has compiled a [calendar](#) listing the various webinars (both free & premium) that you can attend, including Legacy Family Tree's [free webinars in 2013](#).

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