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Indiana News

18 AUGUST 2014

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Indiana - Crossroads To Your Past!

Welcome to the August 2014 edition of *Indiana News*! This e-mail is sent out during the first half of every month and focuses on Indiana genealogy and history. It is sent to members of the Indiana Genealogical Society, as well as to the public who sign up to receive it**.**

IGS Issues War of 1812 Match Challenge!

In honor of 1816 (the year of Indiana statehood), the Indiana Genealogical Society is seeking a total of **$1,816** in donations to help the Federation of Genealogical Societies in its project to digitize the pension files of War of 1812 veterans. If donations total **$1,816**, we will match that with another **$2,016** (in honor of Indiana's upcoming

bicentennial). And because of the matching programs from other organizations, that **$3,832** total will grow to so much more:

- The Illinois State Genealogical Society will donate **$3,832**, for a total of **$7,664**
- The Federation of Genealogical Societies will donate **$7,664**, for a total of **$15,328**
- Ancestry.com will donate **$15,328**, for a total of **$30,656**

The digitizing of the War of 1812 pension files is about 20% complete - there are already 188 files of Indiana veterans **online**. Because pension applications required proof of certain events, the pension files are often filled with original family documents - a **blog post** shows how one pension file included original Bible records.

HOW TO DONATE:
Even a $5 donation is enough to digitize 10 pages. Donate online through the **IGS website**, or mail your check (please indicate "War of 1812 donation" in the memo line) to:

Indiana Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 10507
Fort Wayne, IN 46852-0507

New Location Eyed for Indiana State Archives

According to an **article** in the *Indianapolis Business Journal*, state government officials are considering moving the Indiana State Archives to the former site of the American Legion headquarters in downtown Indianapolis. Real estate developers are being asked to submit possible plans for the $17 million project, which would involve renovating the 4-story building as well as creating a 36,000 square foot addition that would serve as an archival storage facility. The project is slated to be finished around the time of the state's bicentennial in 2016.

The State Archives has been in a warehouse on the southeast side of Indianapolis since a "temporary" move back in 2001. Among the weaknesses of the warehouse is that it does not have any climate-control system.

Hendricks County Probate Records Project

We recently added 12 more **digitized files** of Hendricks County probate records to our website - bringing the total that are online to 924. The newest files span 1828 through 1897 and cover these surnames:

TINCHER, TINDER, TINSLEY and TONEY

Indiana Territory 1804 Newspaper Digitized

A recent **blog post** by the Indiana State Library concerning their newspaper digitization project included digital images of an August 1804 issue of *Indiana Gazette*, which was published in Vincennes. It is the earliest known surviving newspaper from Indiana's pre-statehood era. Like many other newspapers from the 1800's, it is a mix of pre-printed national news (such as the warning from the State Department to get a new passport if your ship was traveling in the Mediterranean) as well as local news (including court notices from Knox County, which at that time encompassed most of Indiana).

IGS Database Additions

Among the databases for members that we've added in the past month:

College Records:

- Butler University - graduates (1937)
- Indianapolis Normal School - students & faculty (1922)
- IUPUI - graduates of Benjamin Harrison Law School (1930)

County Records:

- DeKalb County - students at Butler High School (1923)
- Fayette County - 1860 mortality schedule index
- Fountain County - 1860 mortality schedule index
- Gibson County - 1860 mortality schedule index
- Grant County - 1860 mortality schedule index
- Greene County - 1860 mortality schedule index
- Porter County - students & teachers at Chesterton Junior-Senior High School (1958)
- Pulaski County - graduates of Winamac High School (1911 & 1912)
- Randolph County - students at Winchester High School (1918)
- Shelby County - students at Morristown High School (1917)
- Tipton County - students & teachers at Tipton High School (1910)
- Wabash County - students & teachers at Wabash High School (1943 & 1944)

Not an IGS member? We also added a free database of members of various Indiana GAR posts who died in 1885 to the **Military Records** section.

Using Facebook for Genealogy

Hopefully if you are on Facebook, you are already aware of **Indiana Ancestors**, the Indiana Genealogical Society's Facebook page. But you may not be aware of the many other genealogy-related pages and groups

that are on Facebook - not just for your interest in a particular location, but also about a specific subject (like adoption, lineage societies or the Civil War).

As noted in *Family Tree Magazine*'s 101 Best Websites of 2014, Katherine R. Willson has compiled a free **113-page PDF** listing various genealogy links that are on Facebook, current as of April 2014.

County Roundup

Here are some genealogical and local history news items from around the state. NOTE: Items on news sites often change or are removed without notice - we apologize if you encounter a link that no longer works.

ALLEN COUNTY
Congratulations to the **Genealogy Center** of the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne - *Family Tree Magazine* recently named them to their list of **"Best US Genealogy Websites"** for 2014, noting their "formidable online presence."

HARRISON COUNTY
The old Capitol site in Corydon - which was the state capitol during Indiana's territorial days - will be getting some much-needed **renovations** in time to celebrate the state's bicentennial in 2016.

HENRY COUNTY
Lewisville Cemetery was recently **vandalized**. The cemetery dates back to 1837 and includes several Revolutionary War veterans.

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY
The Kosciusko County Historical Society in Warsaw recently completed a 5-year project to photograph and map the tombstones of all 85 known cemeteries in the county. These photos are online and can be searched through the Schneider Corporation's **Beacon website**, which is a portal for various geographic information. Thanks to Kosciusko County Genealogist Teri Wheeler for passing along this bit of news.

LAPORTE COUNTY
Harold Henderson's Midwest Roots site has an **extensive listing** of genealogy resources for LaPorte County research, whether online or in print/in person.

SHELBY COUNTY
The Shelby County Public Library's **Genealogy and History Department** recently relocated to the library's Carnegie East Wing and underwent some renovations. They are open to the public Monday-Thursday from 9 am to 8:45 pm; Friday 9 am to 6:45 pm and Saturday 9 am to 4:45 pm. They will also do research requests by mail.

Columns in 1860 Census Explained

Ancestry.com has a **blog post** by Amy Johnson Crow, CG that is written as if addressed to an enumerator of the 1860 census. This letter to the enumerator actually explains some of the questions they are to ask as they

go door-to-door - including the difference between "idiotic" and "insane", and "real estate" vs. "personal estate."

Research Tip: Inventory of Indiana Mortality Schedules

You may have noticed that among the new databases for IGS members are more 1860 mortality schedule indexes. The **July 2013** issue of *Indiana News* talked about the kind of information you can get from the 1850, 1860, 1870 and 1880 mortality schedules and where you can access the microfilm for Indiana's counties. But before you look at the microfilm, it helps to know about some of its quirks:

--**Indiana's 1860 mortality schedules** are on 1 roll of microfilm. Brown County is not included. Several of the counties are out of alphabetical order, and there are also several counties whose enumerations are scattered across the roll, instead of being all together.

View our **inventory** of the counties in Indiana's 1860 mortality schedule (PDF format).

--**Indiana's 1870 mortality schedules** are on 2 rolls of microfilm. On the first roll, Adams County through Greene County are paginated consecutively (pages 1 through 395), then beginning with Hamilton County, the page numbering starts over at page 1.

View our **inventory** of the counties in Indiana's 1870 mortality schedule (PDF format).

--**Indiana's 1880 mortality schedules** are on 3 rolls of microfilm. On the first roll, Adams County through Crawford County are paginated consecutively (pages numbered 1 through 361), then beginning with Daviess County, the page numbering starts over at page 1. On the second roll, Hamilton County through Lawrence County are paginated consecutively (pages 1 through 466), then beginning with Madison County, the page numbering starts over at page 1. On the third roll, Ohio County through Switzerland County are paginated consecutively (pages 1 through 445), then beginning with Tippecanoe County, the page numbering starts over at page 1. There are also several counties whose enumerations are scattered across the roll, instead of being all together.

View our **inventory** of the counties in Indiana's 1880 mortality schedule (PDF format).

Old Household Objects Explained

Ever wonder about some of the items you've seen in antique stores? Or would you like to know more about the daily lives our ancestors led? The **Old & Interesting** website contains fascinating explanations (with illustrations/photos) about the history of various household objects, including kitchen and laundry implements.

Indiana Teacher Sues for Wages (1878)

Ada Hay was a teacher for the District 2 school in Charlestown Township, Clark County, Indiana for the 1877-1878 school year. She signed a contract with the school district to teach school for 26 weeks at $2.25 per day, beginning September 17, 1877. In accordance with the state's school law, her contract required her to regularly submit attendance records and other reports.

On January 16, 1878, the schoolhouse was destroyed by fire. Hay eventually sued the school district in Clark County Circuit Court in April 1878 for the $96.75 in wages she was owed for the remainder of the school year - the district had refused to pay her because she had not submitted her attendance records and other reports since January. Hay noted that her records had all been in the schoolhouse when it burned; the district claimed it was the teacher's responsibility to keep the schoolhouse from burning.

Hay also argued that she had been "ready and willing to teach [...] for the remainder of the term" and had even found a church to use as a substitute, but the township trustee would not provide her with the materials she needed to resume teaching (such as fuel or furniture).

In 1878 the Clark County Circuit Court awarded Hay the $96.75 for back wages; the school district appealed and in 1881, the Indiana Supreme Court affirmed this judgment.

Source: *Reports of cases argued and determined in the Supreme Court of Judicature of the State of Indiana [...] volume 74* (Indianapolis: Indianapolis Journal Co., 1881).

Legal Terms Explained: Baron and Feme

Court records may include people's names with the notation "Baron and Feme" next to them - this indicates that they are husband and wife.

Abbreviations for Canadian Provinces

A map of the provinces in Canada

This map showing the provinces of Canada is courtesy of Wikipedia (see **full-size PDF**)

Have you come across an abbreviation for a state you don't recognize? It may actually be an abbreviation for a province in Canada. Even in the 1800's, it was not unheard of to travel between Indiana and Canada, particularly northern Indiana.

Just as there are abbreviations for states in the United States that are no longer used today (such as Ills. for Illinois), there were abbreviations that corresponded to the various provinces in Canada:

Alta. = Alberta
B.C. = British Columbia
Man. = Manitoba
N.B. = New Brunswick
Nfld. = Newfoundland
N.W.T. = Northwest Territories
N.S. = Nova Scotia
Nvt. = Ninavut
Ont. = Ontario
P.E.I. = Prince Edward Island
Que. = Quebec
Sask. = Saskatchewan
Yuk. = Yukon

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