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Indiana News

20 DECEMBER 2014

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Indiana - Crossroads To Your Past!



Welcome to the December 2014 edition of *Indiana News*! This e-mail is sent out 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.

Happy Birthday Indiana!

Indiana recently celebrated its 198th birthday - on December 11, 1816, Indiana was officially admitted as a state.

IGS Memberships To Expire on December 31, 2014

Have you purchased a 2015 membership yet? Unless you purchased a membership after October 1st, your Indiana Genealogical Society membership will expire on December 31, 2014. A 2015 membership can be purchased [online](#), or download and mail in our [membership form](#) along with a check or money order.

FOUND: Photo of Bartholomew County Family

photo of Sayre family



Shelley Cardiel (cardiels@comcast.net) has found this photo of the SAYRE family of Bartholomew County, Indiana, including: Elizabeth Charity; David Colvin Cora Neuton Sayre (1837-1928); Mary (Tabor) Sayre (1842-1911); Mary Kenton "Molly" Sayre; Annie Viola Sayre; Israel Donaldson Sayre (1864-1933); Robert Owen Sayre (1875-1926); Alfred Martin Sayre (1866-1938); and Jen Nettie Sayre.

It appears to have been taken in the 1880's - no studio or location is listed.

Photo of Sayre family - see [full-size PDF](#)

read our [blog post](#).

For details on this family, please

More LEU Credits Approved for IGS Conference

Attention, Indiana librarians: LEU credits have been approved for Tim Phipps' DNA sessions at our April 2015 conference:

- Which DNA Test Is Right For Your Research? A Layman's Guide to Genealogical DNA Testing (1 LEU credit)
- Using Y-DNA to Enhance Genealogical Research: A Detailed Exploration of Y-DNA Testing (1 LEU credit)

The conference will be held on Saturday, April 25, 2015 on the campus of Indiana State University in Terre Haute, with the [Wabash Valley Genealogy Society](#) as the local host. Judy Russell of The Legal Genealogist will be the featured speaker.

Judy Russell's sessions have already been approved for LEUs; the LEU information for the other sessions will be updated when they are approved by the Indiana State Library.

FOR IGS MEMBERS:

Your membership entitles you to a \$10 discount on conference registration. If registering online, make sure you use your Members Only login in order to receive the discounted price at checkout.

For more information - including the full conference schedule and how to register - please visit our [Conference](#) page.

Address Change for Indiana Digital Archives

The Indiana Digital Archives, which is the home for the searchable databases of the Indiana State Archives, has changed its website address - please update your bookmarks. It can now be accessed at <http://digitalarchives.in.gov>

IGS Database Additions

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

College Records:

- Hanover College - graduates (1893-1898)
- Manchester College - graduates (1914-1922)
- Notre Dame - graduates (1888-1889)
- Taylor University - students (1945-1952)

County Records:

- Boone County - history of Thorntown Academy (1854-1867); reunion of students & teachers of Thorntown Academy (1907)
- Dubois County - 1860 mortality schedule index
- Huntington County - students & teachers at Huntington High School (1924)
- Jasper County - 1860 mortality schedule index
- Newton County - 1860 mortality schedule index
- Rush County - 1860 mortality schedule index; students, teachers & selected alumni of Rushville High School (1925)
- Union County - 1860 mortality schedule index

Statewide Records:

- Indiana School for the blind students (1869)
- Christian Church ministers in Indiana (1881)

NOT AN IGS MEMBER? We also added:

--A free [listing](#) of Grand Army of the Republic members appointed in Indiana in 1885, courtesy of Wayne Klusman.

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.

DEARBORN COUNTY

The tombstone of a Lawrenceburg police officer at Riverview Cemetery in Aurora was recently [vandalized](#) with spray paint. The spray paint was successfully removed from the tombstone.

STEUBEN COUNTY

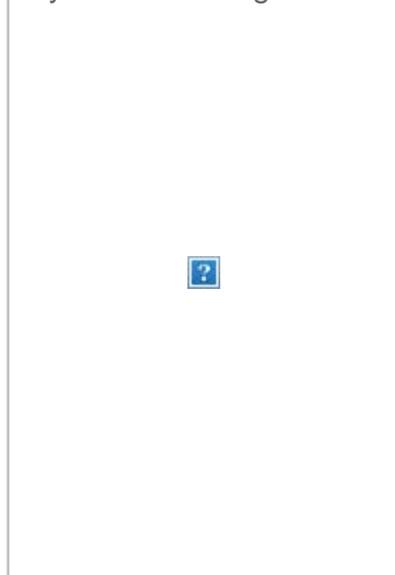
The remains of Corporal Leland Ford Smith of Angola, who was 18 years old when he died in a prisoner of war camp in North Korea in 1951, were recently buried in a ceremony at West Jamestown Cemetery. His 3 sisters were among those present. Smith's remains were only recently [identified](#).

World War II in the News

--A [post](#) on Dick Eastman's blog talks about the importance of a database of 9 million Army enlistment records for World War II that the National Archives created back in 2002. The blog post links to the database that's on the National Archives website; FamilySearch has a free, [easier-to-search version](#). If you have a subscription to Ancestry.com, they also have a searchable [version](#).

Research Tip: Farm Registration Law (1913)

July 1913 farm registration



A farm registration from July 1913 - see [full-size PDF](#)

farm owners did not participate. This registration program appears to have ended around 1967.

In February 1913, the Indiana legislature passed a law "to provide for registration of farm names." For a \$1 fee, the owner of a farm could have the name of their farm, along with the legal description of its location, written in a special book by the county recorder. In exchange, the owner would receive a special certificate. If the farm was later sold to someone else, the deed had to include the registered name of the farm. If the owner wanted to cancel the registration at any time, they would pay 20 cents and that cancellation would be noted in the margins of that page of the record book.

This law did not REQUIRE the registration of farm names, it only provided the registration books and certificates to do so; thus, many

FOR IGS MEMBERS: The [County Records](#) section of the Members-Only area includes a database of farm name registrations for Lake County.

Civil War in the News

--An Archives.com [blog post](#) explains the makeup and command structures of the various units in the Civil War - including why no companies were designated by the letter "I".

--The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) has started a [Grand Army of the Republic Records Project](#), which aims to create an online inventory of where the records for various GAR posts are stored. A

[press release](#) explains the importance of GAR post records and the challenges of locating them.

Long-Delayed Murder Trial in Benton County (1873)

In June 1865, Grant County resident William C. Morgan was murdered in Benton County by James L. McCullough of Henry County. The murder was not discovered until December 23, 1867, when Morgan's skeleton was discovered submerged in a pond. In March 1868, McCullough was indicted in Benton County Circuit Court; however, he was not arrested until January 28, 1873, when he found in Henry County. On February 18, 1873, McCullough escaped from Benton County Jail. He was recaptured after a reward was offered, and found guilty of murder and ultimately sentenced to life in prison (he unsuccessfully appealed to the Indiana Supreme Court, arguing that the skeleton could not be positively identified as Morgan).

The murder trial involved witnesses from Wisconsin and Illinois and the Benton County court incurred a whopping \$973.70 in trial expenses. In 1878, the Indiana Secretary of State's annual report recommended the state reimburse Benton County for these expenses. Finally, in April 1881, the Indiana legislature passed a law approving the payment of these funds to Benton County.

Source: *Laws of the State of Indiana passed at the special session of the General Assembly, begun on the eighth day of March, A.D. 1881* (Indianapolis: Carlton & Hollenbeck, 1881).

Indiana Historical Society To Offer Grants

The Indiana Historical Society in Indianapolis recently announced the establishment of the Indiana Heritage Support Program, whereby it will award \$2.5 million in grants to local historical organizations beginning in 2016. This grant money is thanks to funding from the Lilly Endowment and IHS will begin accepting grant applications in late 2015. Read the [press release](#).

Genealogy on TV

--The next season of "Who Do You Think You Are?" will start on Tuesday, February 24, 2015 at 10 pm Eastern on TLC. According to the [press release](#), the celebrities featured will include Julie Chen, Angie Harmon, Sean Hayes and Bill Paxton.

--The next season of "Genealogy Roadshow" will start on Tuesday, January 13, 2015 at 8 pm Eastern on PBS.

Researching the History of Your House

This Old House magazine has an [article](#) explaining how to create a history of your house, not just by finding records and dating the architectural features, but also by analyzing samples of paint.

Legal Terms Explained: Prochein Ami

In court records, a plaintiff's name may have the notation "prochein ami" next to it. It is old French that translates to "by next friend". As we explained in our [December 2012](#) e-mail, by next friend refers to a neutral third party (not a lawyer or guardian) being entrusted to represent the plaintiff's interests, because the plaintiff is not legally capable themselves (either because of age or mental incapacity).

Indiana State Library on Pinterest

Are you already on Pinterest? The Indiana State Library has several [Pinterest collections](#), including one of illustrated envelopes from the Civil War.

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Indiana Genealogical Society, Inc. | P.O. Box 10507 | Fort Wayne | IN | 46852