



Indiana News - August 2015

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Welcome to the August 2015 edition of Indiana News! This e-mail is sent out once a month to members of the Indiana Genealogical Society, as well as to the public who sign up to receive it. It focuses on aspects of Indiana genealogy and history. Past issues going back to 2010 are [available](#) in PDF format.

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COMING SOON: IGS BYLAWS VOTE

If you are an Indiana Genealogical Society member, watch your mailbox in September. We'll be sending you a ballot concerning 4 proposals to amend our bylaws for 2016. One of the proposals involves changing our memberships from being calendar year (December 31) to 12 months from the date of purchase.

REMINDER: DISCOUNTED IGS MEMBERSHIPS

Until September 30, you can purchase a 2015 membership for only \$20 instead of the usual \$30 or \$35. This membership will still expire on December 31, 2015. Visit our [Membership](#) page to get the discounted rate online or to download the special registration form to mail in.

AUGUST 2015 ISSUE OF IGS NEWSLETTER

A reminder to IGS members: the August issue of *IGS Newsletter* is now available for download in the [IGS Records](#) section of the Members Only area. In this issue, newsletter editor Jennifer Alford shares some good resources for finding old maps, while President Michael Maben talks about the problem of getting county government officials to comply with Indiana's public records laws. We've also got news of upcoming genealogy events and webinars you can attend.

JOIN OUR LIST

Received this e-mail from a friend?



INDIANA STATE LIBRARY REDUCES SATURDAY HOURS



Beginning in September, the Indiana State Library will be open on Saturdays from 10 am to 4 pm (previously, it was open from 8 am to 4 pm).

In a press release, State Librarian Jacob Speer said, "The new Saturday hours will align with the Indiana Statehouse and the Indiana State Museum. This alleviates any confusion to

anyone visiting the downtown historic sites and focuses the hours we are open during the times when we have our most customers."

A reminder about what hours the library is open during the rest of the week:

- Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday: 8 am - 4:30 pm
- Thursday: 8 am - 7 pm

NEW IGS DATABASES

Here are all the databases we've added for members in the past month:

College Records:

- Evansville College - students (1951). This later became the University of Evansville.
- Hanover College - students (1833-1836).
- Indiana State Normal School - graduates (1914-1918). This later became Indiana State University.
- Manchester College - students & faculty (1921).

County Records:

- Adams County - Geneva High School students (1913).
- Cass County - Logansport High School students (1947).
- Huntington County - Huntington High School students & teachers (1927).
- Jasper County - registration of civilian women in Remington for World War I efforts (1918).
- Lawrence County - Bedford High School students & teachers (1932).
- Marshall County - Plymouth High School students & teachers (1923).
- Morgan County - Martinsville High School students & teachers (1930).
- Porter County - Valparaiso High School students (1922).
- Steuben County - roster of the Orland Home Guards (1863), which was part of the Indiana Legion formed to protect Indiana's borders during the Civil War.
- Warrick County - roster of the Newburgh Guards (1861), which was part

of the Indiana Legion formed to protect Indiana's borders during the Civil War.

- Washington County - roster of the Blue River Grays (1863), which was part of the Indiana Legion formed to protect Indiana's borders during the Civil War.

Statewide Records:

- Indiana Boys' School, Plainfield - alumni of the institution's Charlton High School (1935-1939); students at Charlton High School (1940).

NOT AN IGS MEMBER?

We also added some free databases:

- [Revolutionary War veterans](#) buried in Indiana - as listed on applications to have the federal government purchase a tombstone for their graves.
- [Burials of Mexican War veterans](#) from Indiana (1846-1903) - veterans who either served in an Indiana regiment or were buried in an Indiana cemetery.
- [Burials of Spanish-American War veterans](#) from Indiana (1898-1903) - veterans who either served in an Indiana regiment or were buried in an Indiana cemetery.
- Monroe County - [index of yearbooks](#) for Smithville schools (1936-1974).

WELCOME IGS VOLUNTEERS

Welcome to our latest volunteers:

- Linda Malooley - IGS Chapters Manager. Linda is with the Wabash Valley Genealogy Society and was instrumental in organizing our April conference in Terre Haute with Judy Russell.
- Marlene Polster - IGS Vice President. Marlene is with the Northwest Indiana Genealogical Society and is also the Indiana County Genealogist for Lake County. She was formerly the IGS Corresponding Secretary and the Publications chair.

If you are interested in volunteering, or have questions, please contact IGS President Michael Maben (mmaben@indiana.edu).

FOUND: PHOTO OF KOKOMO COUPLE (1890's)



Photo of Ellsworth and Minnie (Beall) Atkinson

(see full-size [PDF](#))

Shelley Cardiel (cardiels@comcast.net) has found this photo of a man and woman, identified as being Ellsworth Atkinson and his wife Minnie (Beale) Atkinson of Kokomo, Indiana. The photo appears to have been taken in the 1890's or early 1900's and it says on the back that Ellsworth was the "headman at West Virginia Wesleyan College between 1903 and about 1910." The couple appears to be in their 40's at the time the photo was taken. In addition to their names and Ellsworth's career information, someone has also written "Step Mother's Sister".

If you are a descendant of this family, or you know someone who might be, please contact her.

This is the information Shelley was able to find on this family:

Minnie Harriett BEALE was born 14 December 1869 in Kokomo, Howard County, Indiana and died 3 August 1963 in Grant County, Indiana. She was the daughter of Louis or Lewis George BEALE (1840-1900) and Nancy Ellen ALDRICH (1845-1908; daughter of Paris ALDRICH and Lavina PARKS). Minnie also had two sisters, Josephine BEALE (1868-1875) and Edna Gertrude BEALE (1876-1949).

Minnie married in about 1901 to Charles E. ATKINSON (born 11 June 1862; died 3 August 1928 in Grant County, Indiana). Minnie and Charles Atkinson are buried in the Park Cemetery in Fairmount, Grant County, Indiana.

Minnie is shown with her parents in the 1870 census in Ludlow Township, Champaign County, Illinois:

L. G. BEALE, age 30, a Music Teacher, born IN
Nancy E. BEALE, age 25, a Housekeeper, born IN
Josephine BEALE, age 2, born IN
Minnie H. BEALE, age 7 months, born IN (December birth)

By the 1880 census, Minnie's family had moved to Indianapolis, while Charles E. Atkinson was in Monroe County, Indiana:

James ATKINSON, age 47, a Farmer, born LA, parents born MD/NY
Huldah ATKINSON, wife, age 47, Keeping House, born IN, parents born IN
Orrin C. ATKINSON, son, age 19, Works on Farm, born IN
Charles E. ATKINSON, son, age 17, Works on Farm, born IN
Robert H. ATKINSON, son, age 16, Works on Farm, born IN
Nancy B. ATKINSON, daughter, age 13, born IN
Cora E. ATKINSON, daughter, age 5, born IN

By the 1900 census Charles' family had moved to Fairmount, Grant County, Indiana. In the 1910 census, Charles and wife Minnie were listed in Fairmount.

DEARBORN COUNTY GENEALOGIST APPOINTED

The Indiana Genealogical Society welcomes Cassie Blankenhorn of Lawrenceburg as the new Indiana County Genealogist for Dearborn County, replacing the outgoing Joyce Baer. Cassie was appointed by the IGS board at the August meeting. She is a Genealogy Assistant at the Lawrenceburg Public Library and on the board of the Dearborn County Historical Society. She co-hosts a class on local history for home-schooled children as well as a monthly Genealogy Club.

If you have any questions about Dearborn County research, please contact her at cassbhorn1@gmail.com.

ANCESTRY.COM'S NEW SOCIAL SECURITY DATABASE

The Social Security Death Index (SSDI) is available by subscription on Ancestry.com, and for free at various sites such as FamilySearch and Mocavo. But if you have a personal subscription to Ancestry.com, or access through a library's subscription, you'll want to check out a new database they have, [Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007](#).

As its title suggests, it uses the information from when people applied for a Social Security number or when relatives put in a claim to get their benefits after they died. This database includes the person's full name, their birthplace and race, which are helpful in trying to narrow down whether it's the "right" person you're looking for. And for people who were born before 1940, it includes the names of their parents, which is particularly helpful if you're looking for a woman and you don't know what her married name was at the time she died - you can search for her by just her first name and her parents' names.

Here is an example of the limited information provided by the SSDI for a particular woman - birth date, death date and the fact that her Social Security number was issued in Indiana:

Name:	Ruby G. Patterson
SSN:	313-16-5646
BORN:	10 May 1912
Died:	Sep 1989
State (Year) SSN issued:	Indiana (Before 1951)

Entry for Ruby G. Patterson
(see full-size [PDF](#))

Now compare that to what you would find for the same woman when searching the Social Security application and claims database. From the information in the notes section we can deduce that her name change (marriage) occurred sometime between September 1940 and April 1960.

Name:	Ruby Geneva Rutledge [Ruby Geneva Patterson] [Ruby Patterson]
SSN:	313165646
Gender:	Female
Race:	White
Birth Date:	10 May 1912
Birth Place:	Hendricks, Indiana [Danville Hen??, Indiana]
Father Name:	Ernest M Rutledge
Mother Name:	Nancy P Mitchell
Death Date:	Sep 1989
Type of Claim:	Original SSN.
Notes:	Sep 1940: Name listed as RUBY GENEVA RUTLEDGE; Apr 1960: Name listed as RUBY GENEVA PATTERSON; 03 Jun 1993: Name listed as RUBY G PATTERSON

Entry for Ruby Geneva Patterson
(see full-size [PDF](#))



The Indiana Genealogical Society welcomes Nancy Strickland of New Albany as the Indiana County Genealogist for Floyd County.

Nancy was appointed by the IGS board at the August meeting. She is the senior genealogy specialist at the New Albany-Floyd County Public Library and for the past 5 years has led genealogy classes.

If you have any questions about Floyd County research, please contact her at nstrickland@nafclibrary.org.

INDIANA VIETNAM WAR VETERANS SOUGHT

A veteran in Greenfield, Indiana is seeking to find photos of all the Indiana soldiers that were killed in the Vietnam War, to add them to an [online memorial](#) by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund. As explained in this [article](#), there are only about 65 Indiana soldiers who still don't have photos. If you recognize any of these names, please contact Dave Hine (mrdavidlhine@att.net):

Allen County

William Stanley Kleint (Fort Wayne)

Cass County

Rex Michael Hoover (Logansport)

Roy Douglas Jordan (Logansport)

Clay County

Johnny Leon Young (Brazil)

Clinton County

Gregory Stan Mundell (Frankfort)

DeKalb County

Earl David Miller (Garrett)

Elkhart County

James Norbert Galey (Elkhart)

Floyd County

Jerry Douglas Clark (New Albany)

Grant County

Harry E. Mitchell (Marion)

Steven Melvin Poe (Marion)

Donald Joseph Smith (Marion)

Hamilton County

Benjamin D. Coy, Jr. (Noblesville)

Huntington County

Daryl Lee Lowery (Warren)

Jackson County

William Manson Daulton (Medora)

Martin Douglas Goen (Medora)

James Elmore Harrell (Cortland)

Thomas Arthur Stevens, Jr. (Seymour)

Jasper County

Columbus Virgle Gross (Rensselaer)

Jefferson County

Leonard Irvin Moore (Hanover)

Lake County

Percy Beasley, Jr. (Gary)

Calvin Curtis Nash (Gary)

Andrew James Robertson (Gary)

Matthew Woods (Gary)

LaPorte County

Henry Herbert Measley, Jr. (Westville)

Lawrence County

George Sherman Goode (Bedford)

Monty Douglas Prush (Bedford)

Marion County

Jack Lee Allen (Indianapolis)

James Otis Allen (Indianapolis)

James Edward Arnold (Indianapolis)

David Colvin (Indianapolis)

Everett Frederick Cox (Indianapolis)

Ronald Francis Donohue (Indianapolis)

William Kenneth Garrity (Indianapolis)

Richard Dale Gordon (Indianapolis)

Harvey Gene Graham (Indianapolis)

Kenneth Lee Hearn (Indianapolis)

Ralph Edward Johnson (Indianapolis)

Ronnie Lee Logan (Indianapolis)

Carl Wayne Phillips (Indianapolis)

Roy Rogers Roark (Indianapolis)

Bradley Andrew Saint Clair (Indianapolis)

Michael Lynn Scisney (Indianapolis)

James Nelson Steen (Indianapolis)

James Edward Taylor (Indianapolis)
Harry Allen Watson (Indianapolis)
Michael Francis Weissert (Indianapolis)
Kenneth Eugene Willard, Jr. (Indianapolis)
Bobby Joe Wilson (Indianapolis)

Montgomery County

Samuel Henry Howard (Wingate)

Newton County

Hollis Garnell Maple (Goodland)

Pike County

James William Ragle (Velpen)

Randolph County

William Arnold Westlake (Lynn)

Scott County

Clarence Bowman, Jr. (Austin)

Shelby County

Charles Wayne Richardson (St. Paul)

St. Joseph County

Tadeusz Jan Borowski (South Bend)
Larry Floyd Jankowski (South Bend)
Paul Michael Roberts (South Bend)
William Julius Safrit (South Bend)
Robert Paul Sheely (South Bend)
Donnie Ray Harley (Walkerton)
John Van Driessche (Mishawaka)

Tippecanoe County

Robert Joe Hardesty (Lafayette)
David Leroy Howard (Lafayette)
William Robert Jennett (Lafayette)

COUNTY ROUNDUP

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

BENTON COUNTY

The Journal & Courier has an extensive [article](#) about the history of a largely-unmarked cemetery in Oxford, which was formerly the county home (aka the poor farm). The article points out that the county home's records only provide burial information on 12 of its 74 residents, and that for several years after the

home closed, the cemetery was regularly plowed under and planted by farmers.

DELAWARE COUNTY

--Elm Ridge Memorial Park, which is one of the oldest and largest cemeteries in Muncie, will be undergoing some [renovations](#) in coming months. Last fall the property was sold to an Indianapolis-based company, which also oversees Crown Hill Cemetery. The new owner plans to improve the landscaping and to make the graves more accessible by improving the roads.

--The Delaware County Commissioners recently [tabled](#) plans to sell some county-owned property on the east side of Muncie, over continuing concerns that the land could be the burial site for some residents of the former county home. County Commissioner Shannon Henry told *The Star Press*, "I don't think we need to sell the property until we know [if the rumor is true]. It's not just a piece of property, you know?"

FRANKLIN COUNTY

The Genealogy Center in Fort Wayne has added a searchable [database](#) of an 1858 landowners map of Franklin County, which was contributed by John J. Newman. This database also includes links to digital images of that section of the map, allowing you to see who their neighbors were.

HENDRICKS COUNTY

Linda Lichte Cook of the Brownsburg Public Library has compiled *Brownsburg*, which is full of old photos of the town of Brownsburg. It is part of the *Images of America* series by Arcadia Publishing. The book can be purchased through Amazon.com and other major booksellers, or ordered directly from the [publisher](#).

KNOX COUNTY

Statues at the Knox County Courthouse in Vincennes, which was built in 1873, are showing signs of decay after 140 years of exposure. The statues, which are 9-feet tall, include one of George Rogers Clark.

MARION COUNTY

The grave of the first African-American believed to have been buried in Crown Hill Cemetery in Indianapolis finally has a headstone after 150 years, thanks to [efforts](#) from a local ministry. Josephine Jones died February 19, 1865, a year after the cemetery opened, but her grave never had a marker. Legend has it that she was the daughter of one of the grave diggers at the cemetery.

WAYNE COUNTY

Thomas D. Hamm (Professor of History and director of Special Collections at Earlham College) and Susan E. King (Archivist at Morrisson-Reeves Library) have compiled *Richmond*, which includes more than 200 historic photos of the people and places of Richmond. It is part of the *Images of America* series by Arcadia Publishing. The book can be purchased through Amazon.com and other major booksellers, or ordered directly from the [publisher](#).

HENRY COUNTY GENEALOGIST APPOINTED



The Indiana Genealogical Society welcomes Amanda Clark of New Castle as the Indiana County Genealogist for Henry County.

Amanda was appointed by the IGS board at the August meeting. She is a member of the Sarah Winston Henry Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, a volunteer with the Henry County Historical Society and a contributor for FindAGrave. She also recently organized the creation of a new genealogy society in her area, the Blue River Valley Genealogy Society.

If you have any questions about Henry County research, please contact her at mandora.cmt@gmail.com.

RESEARCH TIP: COLLEGE CATALOGS

Have you looked to see if anyone in your family attended college, even if only for a class or two? College catalogs are a great resource, as they can provide much more information than just lists of students, graduates and alumni (several of which we've got in our [College Records](#) section for IGS members). They were meant to be advertisements to get people interested in attending, and as such provided more details about daily life than what you might find in a yearbook or even a student newspaper.

These catalogs often ended up at public and university libraries, and thanks to these digitizing partners, many catalogs from Indiana's colleges and universities can be found online at [Google Books](#) and [Internet Archive](#).

College catalogs can tell you:

- The course of study for a particular subject/degree
- The textbooks they used
- The rules of the school
- The school calendar
- The costs of attending
- The benefits of attending

The course of study - In the 1857-1858 school year, Northwestern Christian University in Indianapolis (today known as Butler University) admitted male and female students, but whereas males would receive the Bachelor of Arts degree, females would receive a degree called Mistress of Science or

Mistress of Arts.

Also, it was often required - no matter what you were studying - to take classes in penmanship and elocution. As the 1912-1913 catalog for Muncie Normal Institute (today known as Ball State University) noted, "The ability to write a good hand is one of the most satisfactory as well as valuable accomplishments a person can possess."

The rules of the school - At Northwestern Christian University, any student who got married during the school year could be suspended for the rest of that year, at the discretion of the faculty. Religious services, even at public schools, were often mandatory - at Indiana University in 1869, students were required to attend religious services each day, as well as going to Chapel on Sunday afternoon (besides their regularly Sunday morning attendance at an area church).

The school calendar - You may be used to commencement being held in May or June today, but in the 1800's and early 1900's it was more common to hold it in July or August. Some colleges had long breaks in between sessions, but others, like Northwestern Christian University in Indianapolis (today known as Butler University), had only 3 days off in 1857 between the end of their first term and the beginning of their second term.

The costs of attending - At Hanover College in Jeffersonville, the expenses for the 1832-1833 school year were a whopping \$67 (including \$4 to pay for washing and \$5 to have wood for the fire and oil for the lamps). However, you could get a \$25 credit if you worked in one of the the college's workshops (carpenter, cooper, wagon maker, etc.)

The benefits of attending - These catalogs were first and foremost advertisements, and as such extolled the virtues of attending their school. In 1869, Indiana University touted the fact that Bloomington (population 3,500) was not full of disease but was "free from the malarial influences found in many parts of the West." In 1883, Purdue University was proud to note that its campus included lots of pine and hemlock trees to provide a "wind break", and that its dormitory had a bathroom on each floor.

These catalogs also often included illustrations showing scenes from the campus, inside its buildings, etc.



A drawing of Purdue University's campus in 1883
(see full-size [PDF](#))

These illustrations first took the form of pen and ink drawings, but then beginning in the late 1800's, they started including photographs.



A science lab at Muncie Normal Institute in 1912
(see full-size [PDF](#))

LEGAL TERMS EXPLAINED: TROVER

Trover is old French, literally meaning "to find". In civil court records, a trover suit is one where the defendant has "found" (taken) an item of the plaintiff's personal property and wrongfully used it for themselves (a process sometimes referred to nowadays as "conversion"). The plaintiff sues to get the monetary value of the item from the defendant, not to recover the item itself.

