Indiana News - October 2015

Welcome to the October 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.

In this issue, we've got news about hitting a database milestone (7 databases for each of Indiana's 92 counties), an explanation of the criminal courts that briefly existed in Indiana, and more.

Purchase an IGS Extended Membership

Not a member of the Indiana Genealogical Society in 2015? From now until December 31st, you can purchase an extended membership, which will not expire until December 31, 2016 - that's more than 12 months of access at the regular price ($30 for individuals, $35 for joint members).

Visit the Membership page

Indianapolis Star (1907-2015) now available on Newspapers.com

Digitized issues of the Indianapolis Star from 1907 through 2015 are now available via subscription to Newspapers.com. As we reported in our September 2015 issue, Ancestry.com and the Gannett Co. recently announced a partnership where daily newspapers from the Gannett publishing family would be added to Newspapers.com, which is owned by Ancestry.com.
New IGS databases - "7 for 92" milestone

With all of the databases that we've added in the past month, we've hit another milestone - "7 for 92", meaning that we have at least 7 databases for each of Indiana's 92 counties (and for some counties, we have more than 7 databases).

Here are all the databases for IGS members that we've recently added:

**College Records**

- Franklin College - students (1891-1899).
- Hanover College - students (1880-1899).
- Moores Hill College - alumni (1858-1875).
- University of Indianapolis - students of Indiana Central University (1913-1917).
- University of Notre Dame - students (1888-1889).

**County Records**

- Boone County - early history & settlers of Eagle Township.
- Dubois County - coroner's inquests (1909-1919).
- Floyd County - students at New Albany High School (1927).
- Fulton County - students & teachers at Rochester High School (1931 & 1948).
- Hendricks County - students & teachers at Plainfield High School (1930).
- Jasper County - delinquent taxpayers (1874); students & teachers (1883-1884).
- Jennings County - index to published biographies in 1884 atlas & 1889 history.
- Martin County - index to 1860 mortality schedule.
- Newton County - index to 1870 mortality schedule.
- Rush County - students & teachers at Rushville High School (1926).
- Shelby County - phone directory for Fairland (1959).
- Starke County - students (grades 1-12) in Grovertown schools (1953).
- Vanderburgh County - rosters of Brownlow Guards and Gray Jaegers in Indiana Legion (1863).

Not an IGS member? We also added some **FREE** databases:

- Monroe County - [Bloomington businesses in 1976](#)
- Perry County - [1835 tax list](#)

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**PBS to air new season of "Finding Your Roots"**

PBS has announced that the third season of their genealogy show "Finding Your Roots" will begin airing on Tuesday, January 5, 2016. Actors Neil Patrick Harris, Julianna Margulies and Shonda Rhimes will be featured. The show had been suspended during an investigation of how actor Ben Affleck's slave-owning ancestor was portrayed.
Help IGS on October 24 in Indianapolis

The Indiana Genealogical Society is seeking volunteers to take a 2-hour shift at our information table at the Indiana State Library’s Genealogy and Local History Fair on Saturday, October 24. The fair is free and runs from 9:30 am to 4 pm, and will feature Judy Russell (pictured) as one of the speakers.

For more information, please contact IGS Corresponding Secretary Ron Darrah - rdarrah@att.net

September 2015 Quarterly Available

IGS members can now access the September 2015 issue of Indiana Genealogist, our quarterly, in the IGS Records section of the Members-Only area. This issue includes information on Indiana Civil War veterans who were buried in Portland, Oregon and some newspaper nuggets from around the state, including this item about an attempted elopement in Lawrence County in 1896:

"Two youthful lovers had their plans frustrated here last evening. Archie Tow and Lola Bass, daughter of a prominent farmer living near this place, decided to elope, because their parents objected to the wedding. Tuesday night they started south from here on horseback, but Miss Bass's father overtook them at Orleans and brought his daughter home. She is only fifteen years old. Tow is the son of W. H. Tow, who was murdered here several years ago. The Tow-Bass feud that resulted in the murder of Tow three years ago was one of the most celebrated in the State. This attempt to wed on the part of the young scions of these two warring families would indicate that the children have decided that the feud shall end."

Login to IGS Records

Indiana Civil War insignia sought

Scott Thomas (scott@plainofsharon.org) is seeking images of the Civil War insignia, flags, uniforms, etc. of Indiana’s 100-day regiments. He is specifically interested in images for the 137th Indiana Infantry, where his 3rd great-grandfather Samson Thomas served in Company D as a private.

100-day regiments were created in 1864 by 5 Midwestern states - Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Ohio, and Wisconsin. Their primary mission was to provide short-term labor and guard duty, enabling other regiments to be used in combat.

County Roundup
Here are some genealogy-related 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.

**CLARK COUNTY**
A Clark County museum is now being **built** in Jeffersonville, to be dedicated for Indiana's bicentennial in 2016. It was recently designated an Indiana Bicentennial Legacy Project. The museum will include artifacts that were previously part of Purdue University's archaeology collection.

**FLOYD COUNTY**
Fairview Cemetery in New Albany held its **5th annual tour** last month, with a theme of "Disease, Disaster and the Downtrodden." There were re-enactors at designated gravesites sharing the stories of those who had died from smallpox and polio, as well as floods and fires. **Stories Behind The Stones Society** organized the tour, with money raised going to help preserve and restore the cemetery. The cemetery dates back to 1841 and has over 30,000 burials.

**HOWARD COUNTY**
The website for Howard County government has changed its address to www.howardcountyin.gov - make sure to update your bookmarks from the old address (http://co.howard.in.us)

**MARION COUNTY**
Crown Hill Cemetery in Indianapolis will soon be home to a separate cemetery for veterans and their families. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs recently **purchased** 14.75 acres within Crown Hill to be used as the state's only national cemetery for cremated veterans and their families.

**RANDOLPH COUNTY**
Workers with Graveyard Guardians (pictured above) recently repaired and reset some of the tombstones at White River Cemetery in Winchester. The earliest known burial in the cemetery was in 1830.

**WAYNE COUNTY**
The town of Greens Fork celebrated its 197th birthday in September - it was organized in 1818. A Richmond newspaper has an **article** on the various names the town went by, and why it finally settled on Greens Fork.

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**FOUND: Photo of Union County couple (1890's)**

Jo-Ann Murphy (jo-ann@spicemail.net)
has found these 2 photos taken in the 1890's, identified as being Hattie White and her husband Ora McCreary. She is looking for family members to give these photos to.

Research has found that Hattie M. WHITE (born March 1876 in Indiana; died after 1930) married Ora E. McCREARY (born September 1857 in Indiana; died between 1920-1930) around 1895 and they lived in Union County, Indiana. Hattie and Ora had children: Mary M. McCreary (born September 1899 in Indiana) and Harry R. McCreary (born about 1907 in Indiana).

Hattie was the daughter of Jonathan White (born 29 November 1839 in Indiana; died 14 May 1885; buried in Bath Springs Cemetery, Union County, Indiana) and Mariah COLSON (born October 1843 in Indiana; died after 1920), who were married 1 January 1863 in Union County.

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

Download a full-size PDF of this photo

Research Tip: Criminal Circuit Courts

In our September 2015 issue, we talked about the brief use of a court of common pleas in Indiana's counties in the 1800's, to relieve some of the case load on circuit courts. The importance of this bit of Indiana's history is knowing that it generated another set of loose papers, court order books, etc. for researchers to check.

There was another experiment in the 1800's to relieve the case load, this one concerning criminal cases. Beginning first with Marion County in 1865, the Indiana legislature allowed a handful of some of the more populous counties to create a "criminal circuit court" (later known as just a "criminal court") to hear all of the county's criminal cases, be they misdemeanors or felonies.

With the exception of Marion County, this experiment was short-lived, and Superior Courts were later utilized to divide up the case load instead. Here are all of the counties that had criminal courts, and what their county seats were:

- Allen County (Fort Wayne) - established March 1867; abolished October 1884.
- Clark County (Jeffersonville) - established April 1869; abolished February 1877.
- Floyd County (New Albany) - established April 1869; abolished February 1877.
Legal terms explained: Substitute Plaintiff

In civil court cases, you might see the notation that someone is a *substitute plaintiff*. If a plaintiff is unable to continue participating in a lawsuit - either because they have died, become mentally incapacitated or have transferred their interest to someone else (e.g. if they held an IOU and had sold it to someone else) - they can be replaced by someone else. This substitute plaintiff then becomes legally responsible for the remainder of the case.

So if the original plaintiff has died, you may see the administrator or executor of their estate be named as the substitute plaintiff. And in foreclosure proceedings, you may see that the original plaintiff was a bank who had then sold the mortgage to another institution, who then became the substitute plaintiff.