Indiana is at the crossroads to your genealogy past.
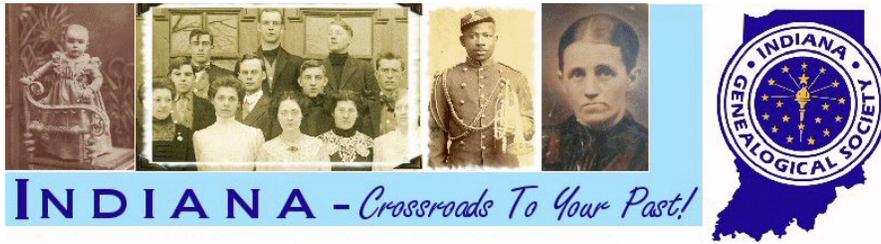
Indiana News - February 2017

Welcome to the February 2017 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 news relating to Indiana genealogy and history. Past issues going back to 2010 are available for **download** in PDF format.

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Funding for the new Indiana State Archives building is in jeopardy.
- Seminar in Indianapolis on digitizing records.
- Philadelphia's Catholic Church records are digitized.
- Learn about digitized books that are on the Library of Congress' website.

Funding for new Indiana State Archives in jeopardy

When the Indiana legislature finally approved $25 million in spring 2015 for a new building for the Indiana State Archives, the funding was dependent on the state reaching a deal to lease the cell-phone towers it owns. Last fall, the cell-phone tower deal fell through, and now the funding must be made through the budget that the legislature is now crafting.

The current building on East 30th Street in Indianapolis is a modified warehouse, which the Archives "temporarily" moved into way back in 2001.

The conditions continue to deteriorate. The Friends of the Indiana State Archives

Storage pallets in the Indiana State Archives in 2015 (photo courtesy the *Indianapolis Star*)

(FISA) report that just since January 1st, there have been 5 leaks in the current building on East 30th Street - including one in the vault that holds the state's 1816 constitution and other treasures.

We have a **blog post** with more information, including who you can contact in the Indiana legislature to let them know the importance of the Indiana State Archives.

IGS Seminar on Digitizing Records

The Indiana Genealogical Society will hold a **Society Management Seminar** on **Friday, April 7** at the **Indiana Historical Society** in Indianapolis, as the lead-up to our conference. Our seminar always focuses on topics that help those involved in the operation of local genealogy organizations, such as societies and libraries. This year's seminar will focus on how to digitize records:

- Connie Rendfeld, the Digital Initiatives Librarian for the Indiana State Library, will talk about how to plan your digitization project before you start scanning
- Ramona Duncan-Huse and Susan Sutton from the Indiana Historical Society will talk about how to preserve records and how to choose what you should put online
- Ron Darrah from the Genealogical Society of Marion County will lead a panel discussion on local digitization projects
- Tours will be given of the Indiana Historical Society's Conservation Lab and their William H. Smith Memorial Library

Free parking will be available in the IHS parking lot (enter on New York Street) and the IHS Stardust Café on the canal level will be open for lunch. The seminar costs just $5 per person. Register **online** or mail in the registration form along with your payment.

Join the IGS Board

Looking to become more involved in genealogy? The Indiana Genealogical Society's board has some open positions:

- **North Central District Director** - represents Carroll, Cass, Elkhart, Fulton, Howard, Kosciusko, Marshall, Miami, St. Joseph and Wabash counties.
- **Northeast District Director** - represents Adams, Allen, Blackford, DeKalb, Grant, Huntington, Jay, LaGrange, Noble, Steuben, Wells and Whitley counties.
- **Recording Secretary** - takes minutes at the board meetings and then e-mails them to the board for any corrections.

These positions report at the board meetings, which are held quarterly, usually at a site in central Indiana. Mileage is reimbursed.
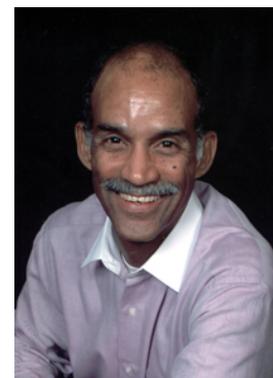
For more information, please contact IGS President Michael Maben (**mmaben@indiana.edu**)

Deadline to register for IGS conference in Indianapolis

The deadline is approaching to register for the Indiana Genealogical Society's annual **conference** at the Indianapolis Public Library. It will be held on **Saturday, April 8**. Genealogist and author Tony Burroughs will be the featured speaker. He will be leading sessions on:

- Digital Research of African-Americans
- Off the Beaten Path: Unusual Sources for Research
- Freedmen's Bureau Research
- Creating Order Out of Chaos

There will also be sessions on researching Indianapolis Public School records (by Ron Darrah) and Hidden Treasures in Midwestern Archives

(by Mauri Stotts Pratt).

Free parking is available in the library's parking garage (the free parking pass will be given to you at the conference).

Lunch is on your own - a box lunch (which has a choice of 3 entrees, plus chips, a cookie and a drink) is available for pre-purchase. The deadline to purchase the box lunch is **Wednesday, March 8**.

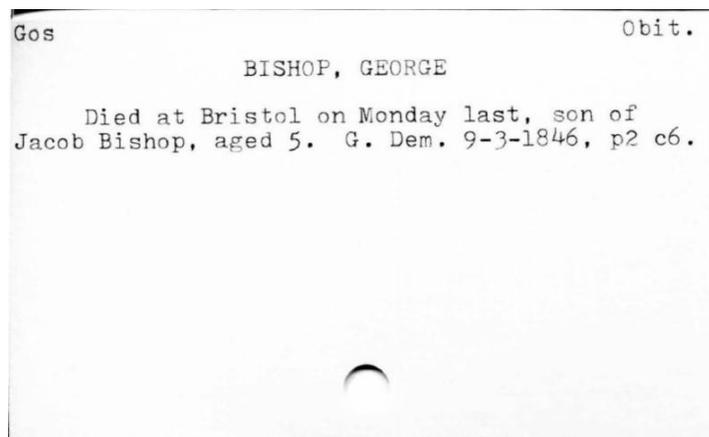Indiana Genealogical Society members will receive a $10 discount on the conference if they pre-register.

You can register and pay for the conference and box lunch **online**, or mail in the **registration form** along with your payment.

Free databases from IGS scanning kits added

Here are some of the databases we've added recently from our **Indiana Genealogy Digitization Project** - a project to give portable scanning kits worth $500 to qualified Indiana non-profit groups:

ELKHART COUNTY (contributed by the Elkhart County Historical Society):

An example of a death notice indexed from an 1846 Goshen newspaper (see **full-size PDF**).

- **Index to Deaths Mentioned in Goshen Newspapers, Elkhart County, Indiana (1837-1852)** - a card file of the deaths mentioned in various Goshen newspapers.
- **Index to Marriages Mentioned in Goshen Newspapers, Elkhart County, Indiana (1837-1852)** - a card file of the marriages mentioned in various Goshen newspapers.
- **Index to Vital Statistics Mentioned in the Goshen Times, Elkhart County, Indiana (1859-1869)** - a printed index of the births, marriages and deaths mentioned in a Goshen newspaper.

HENRY COUNTY (contributed by the Henry County Historical Society):

- **Veterans in Henry County, Indiana (1991)** - an article from a New Castle newspaper (reprinted with permission) listing area residents who had served in World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War and the Gulf War.

HOWARD COUNTY (contributed by the Kokomo-Howard County Public Library):

- **Graduates of District Schools in Center Township, Howard County, Indiana (1907)** - a commencement program from June 26, 1907.
- **Graduates of District Schools in Center Township, Howard County, Indiana (1922)** - a commencement program for June 14, 1922.
- **Graduates of Kokomo High School, Howard County, Indiana (1930)** - a commencement program for June 6, 1930.
- **Graduates of Kokomo High School, Howard County, Indiana (1933)** - a commencement program for May 5, 1933.
- **Graduates of Kokomo High School, Howard County, Indiana (1934)** - a commencement program for May 31, 1934.
- **Graduates of Kokomo High School, Howard County, Indiana (1945)** - a

commencement program for June 1, 1945.

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY (contributed by the Kosciusko County Historical Society):

- **Directories of Teachers in Kosciusko County, Indiana (1930-1940)** - Directories of teachers and school staff for the 1930-1931 school year through the 1939-1940 school year.
- **Directories of Teachers in Kosciusko County, Indiana (1940-1950)** - Directories of teachers and school staff for the 1940-1941 school year through the 1949-1950 school year.

MORGAN COUNTY (contributed by the Ten O'Clock Line Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution):

- **Graduates of Centerton Common School, Morgan County, Indiana (1897)** - a March 26, 1897 commencement program for Clay Township District School #4 in Centerton. NOTE: A common school went up to 8th grade.
- **Graduates of Centerton Common School, Morgan County, Indiana (1901)** - a May 16, 1901 commencement program for Clay Township district schools in Centerton. NOTE: A common school went up to 8th grade.
- **History of Centennial Christian Church, Martinsville, Morgan County, Indiana (1876-1976)** - a booklet.
- **History of First Baptist Church, Martinsville, Morgan County, Indiana (1886-1946)** - a directory/historical sketch of the church.
- **History of Paragon Christian Church, Morgan County, Indiana (1852-1954)** - a booklet.
- **Minutes of Samarian Baptist Church, Morgan County, Indiana (1829-1935)** - a typewritten manuscript.

ORANGE COUNTY (contributed by the Paoli Public Library):

- **Oral Histories of Residents of Orange County, Indiana (1987-1989)** - transcriptions of interviews with area residents, conducted by Indiana University's Oral History Research Center.
- **Scrapbook of American Legion Auxiliary, Paoli, Orange County, Indiana (1931-1932)** - newspaper clippings, photos and other memorabilia of American Legion activities for 1931-1932, compiled by the Auxiliary connected to American Legion Clarence A. Keeth Post #63 in Paoli.
- **Scrapbook of American Legion Auxiliary, Paoli, Orange County, Indiana (1932-1933)** - newspaper clippings, photos and other memorabilia of American Legion activities for 1932-1933, compiled by the Auxiliary connected to American Legion Clarence A. Keeth Post #63 in Paoli.

FindMyPast to digitize Catholic Church records

In our **January 2017** e-mail, we told you how the New England Historic Genealogical Society is going to digitize Catholic Church records of the parishes in and around Boston. Now comes word that FindMyPast has **digitized** the Catholic Church records for the parishes in and around Philadelphia for 1757 through 1916. They also plan to digitize the records for the parishes in and around New York and Baltimore.

For more details on FindMyPast's Catholic Heritage Archive, visit

www.findmypast.com/catholicrecords

County Roundup

Here are some genealogy and history-related news items from around the state. NOTE: Items on other websites often change or are removed without notice - we apologize if you encounter a link that

no longer works.

FLOYD COUNTY

The New Albany-Floyd County Public Library hosted an **event** to discuss the impact of the Division Street School in New Albany. The state's second oldest school for African-American students, it was a high school from 1885 through 1946.

A log cabin built in 1835, discovered in Markle (photo courtesy of Indiana Landmarks)

HUNTINGTON COUNTY

Demolition crews working on a vinyl-sided house in Markle discovered there was a log cabin **hiding** inside its walls, one that had been built in 1835 by Albert Draper. The Markle Historical Society, in conjunction with Indiana Landmarks, saved the log cabin from demolition and recently had it moved to Mill Park.

LAPORTE COUNTY

The LaPorte County Public Library has **digitized** their yearbook collection for area high schools, including LaPorte, Michigan City and Rolling Prairie. The digital yearbooks are available on the library's new **digital collections** website.

MIAMI COUNTY

Parts of downtown Converse have recently been **added** to the National Register of Historic Places. The 5 blocks in the designation include a house built in 1865 and an Odd Fellows lodge built in 1879.

PORTER COUNTY

The **Larry J. Clark Genealogy Center** at the Valparaiso Public Library will hold their first-ever Genealogy Day on Saturday, March 18 beginning at 10 am. Please register by calling (219) 462-0524 extension 5.

- From 10 am to 3:30 pm, there will be a genealogy book sale, with the library selling their extra copies of genealogy indexes, CDs and yearbooks so they can make room for more items.
- From 1 to 2:30 pm, Marlene Polster will give a presentation on "Hitting the Stacks" - for ancestors that you can't find online, learn how the library's collection can help.
- Beginning at 5 pm, there will be a research lock-in (you must be in the library by 4 pm) - staff will be available for individual help and there will be door prizes.

WARRICK COUNTY

An **article** talks about the role southern Indiana played in smuggling slaves north for the Underground Railroad, including the area around Boonville.

WAYNE COUNTY

--**Hoosier State Chronicles**, the Indiana State Library's free site for digitized newspapers, recently added scattered issues from the Richmond *Weekly Palladium* (1875) and the Richmond *Daily Palladium* for 1898-1902 and 1904-1907. These issues were digitized with the support of the Wayne County Foundation, in cooperation with the Morrison-Reeves Library in Richmond.

--Mary Lou Griffey has **written** a 300-page book about the glory days of area basketball, *The Goal, The Towns, The Teams, The Times.* It details how before 1963 (when state law consolidated the schools), the county enjoyed 12 high school basketball teams. Copies of the book can be purchased for $50 (which includes shipping) - make checks payable to Mary Lou Griffey and mail to: P.O. Box 281, Fountain City, IN 47341.

--A Richmond newspaper **article** has items that were making headlines in 1877, including a baby boy left on a childless couple's doorstep.

"Once A Hoosier...Always A Hoosier" blog

If you have ancestors who spent any time in Indiana, you'll want to visit our "Once A Hoosier..Always A Hoosier" blog. It is our blog to share information about all your Indiana-connected ancestors who were born before 1930. You can search by name, or browse all the entries for a particular county. You can leave a comment on an entry. You can also add information about your own ancestors, via an easy form. There are over 1,500 ancestors so far.

[Visit the "Once A Hoosier...Always A Hoosier" blog](#)

Charles Allen

Leave a reply

Charles Allen
birth: 2 March 1800 in Virginia to Daniel and Martha (Barker) Allen
death: 2 June 1874 in Jasper County, Iowa
burial: Bethany Cemetery, Sully, Jasper County, Iowa

    marriage: 14 January 1837 in Marion County, Indiana
    Cela Jackson
    birth: 30 September 1802 in North Carolina
    death: 25 June 1877 in Jasper County, Iowa
    burial: Bethany Cemetery, Sully, Jasper County, Iowa

Children of **Charles Allen** and **Cela Jackson**:

- Anna Allen Perfect, b.1837, d.1924
- Eliza J. Allen Hopper, b.1840, d.1931
- Charles Wesley Allen, b.1841, d.1932
- Thomas Jefferson Allen, b.1843, d.1870
- Martha Allen, b.1847, d.1897, m. Hillary Lee Vestal, b.1842, d.1918

A sample entry from the "Once A Hoosier...Always A Hoosier" blog.

Ancestry.com adds Presbyterian Church records database

Ancestry.com recently added a database, **[U.S., Presbyterian Records, 1743-1970](#)**, which contains Presbyterian Church registers (baptisms, marriages & burials) for parts of 38 states. For Indiana, this database includes Blackford County (Hartford City) and Grant County (Marion). This database comes from the records of the Presbyterian Historical Society in Philadelphia.

New IGS databases

We have 1,916 total databases, including at least 8 databases for each of Indiana's 92 counties.

Here are all the premium databases (accessible only to IGS members) that we've added since last month:

College Records

- Evansville College - graduates (1930). NOTE: Evansville College later changed its name to University of Evansville.
- Indiana University, Bloomington - graduates (1925).
- Oakland City College, Gibson County - graduates (1930). NOTE: Oakland City College later changed its name to Oakland City University.
- Taylor University, Upland - graduates (1916).

County Records

- Blackford County - students of Blake School (1906). NOTE: Blake School was District No. 10 in Jackson Township.
- Crawford County - roster of Hartford Guards, Indiana Legion (1861).
- Dearborn County - graduates of Aurora High School (1967); teachers in Aurora schools (1967).
- DeKalb County - students & teachers at Auburn High School (1933).
- Gibson County - roster of Warrick Rifle Guards, Indiana Legion (1861).
- Jay County - history of Portland (1836-1936).
- Jennings County - roster of Freedom Guards, Indiana Legion (1863).
- Marion County - yearbook index of Seventh Day Adventist School, Indianapolis (1966).
- Vermillion County - students in Newport schools (1964); teachers in Newport High School (1964).
- Whitley County - graduates of Columbia City High School (1936).

- Indiana Masonic Home High School, Franklin - students & teachers (1936).

Not an IGS member? We also added a database that is FREE to the public:

- Bartholomew County - **Columbus business directory (1930)** - contributed by Wayne Klusman.

New season of "Who Do You Think You Are?"

According to Dick Eastman, the new season of the genealogy TV show "Who Do You Think You Are?" will begin **airing** on the TLC channel on Sunday, March 5 at 10 pm Eastern. Celebrities who will be featured will include Smokey Robinson, Courteney Cox and Jennifer Grey.

Legal terms explained: Moiety

Moiety comes from Latin, and it means "half" or "a part". This term is usually used in reference to inheritance and an heir's share of an estate or share of a piece of land.

However, this term has also been used historically in criminal law to define the monetary benefits that may be given to informants - such as receiving part of a fine paid by a person who is convicted of the crime they informed on.

Research Tip: Digitized books on Library of Congress' website

The Library of Congress' website has some great **digital collections**, including:

- **Chronicling America** (digital images of United States newspapers from 1789-1924)
- **Historical plat maps** (plat maps show who owned a piece of land and who all the neighbors were)
- **Sanborn fire insurance maps** (these are maps of a town's buildings, created to help insurance companies assess risk)

But did you also know they have digitized books, which you can find by searching the Library of Congress **website**?

Library of Congress' search screen (see **full-sized PDF**)

By default, the search screen is set to display only results that are available online.

In this example, we searched for Dearborn County Indiana, and found a result for an 1885 history of Dearborn County and Ohio County:

A search result for Dearborn County, Indiana
(see **full-sized PDF**)

You can then click on the link to see the digitized book, which may be stored at another site.

STAY CONNECTED: