



INDIANA - *Crossroads To Your Past!*

Visit our Website

Indiana News - March 2021

Welcome to the March 2021 edition of Indiana News! This e-mail is sent once a month and focuses on news and resources relating to genealogy research in Indiana. You are receiving this e-mail either because you signed up on our website to receive it or because you are a member of the Indiana Genealogical Society. Not a member? [Click here to join!](#)

MISSED AN ISSUE? Past issues of this e-mail going back to 2010 are available for [download](#) as PDF files.

IN THIS ISSUE:

- SAVE THE DATE: IGS 2021 Virtual Conference
- Editor and Social Media Director Wanted
- Genealogy Q&A: Free and Enslaved African American Ancestors
- 85 Million Historic U.S. Newspaper Pages Now Available from Advantage Archives
- Is this the best gravestone ever?
- Hundreds of Holocaust Testimonies Translated, Digitized, and Now Online for the First Time
- County roundup of events
- Word of the Month: Helluo librorum

SAVE THE DATE: IGS Virtual 2021 Conference

IGS Conference 2021:

Mark your calendars! The Indiana Genealogical Society's 2021 conference will be held on **Friday and Saturday, April 9-10, 2021** virtually. Lisa Louise Cooke will be the featured speaker Saturday, and Friday will showcase sessions led by Genealogy Librarians from the Allen County Public Library.

Attendance is free thanks to our sponsor [Vivid-Pix.com](#)! Links to register early are now available below.

For Friday, [register here.](#)

For Saturday, [register here.](#)



Both days will offer LEUs for attending librarians, so don't miss out on this opportunity! For more information, see our website [here](#) for more details.

Editor and Social Media Manager Wanted



In search of an editor



for the “Indiana Genealogist”, an quarterly journal, of the Indiana Genealogical Soceity*

Did you find the errors in our header? If so, you may be our next *Indiana Genealogist* Editor!

The *Indiana Genealogist* is a 16- to 20-page genealogical journal published quarterly that includes source-cited articles of a genealogical interest, particularly Indiana; methodology tips; book and repository reviews; and more. The position of Editor is a compensated position. Contract is written for one (1) year.

Qualifications to be considered:

- Associate’s Degree or higher in an applicable field
- Previous experience as an editor or freelance reporter
- Published author/history of genealogical writing (client reports)
- Strong background of genealogical practices, such as the GPS
- Familiar with *Chicago Manual of Style* and Elizabeth Shown Mills’ *Evidence Explained* citation styles
- Knowledge of publishing software and periodical design

Duties and Responsibilities of the *Indiana Genealogist* Editor (not an exhaustive list):

- Solicit essays, case studies, abstracts, transcriptions, et cetera, of interest to those researching Indiana ancestors
- Layout, create, and transmit a proofed electronic file to Publications Committee Chairperson
- Write the Editor’s Column for each issue
- Report to the Indiana Genealogical Society Board prior to every meeting

For more information or to apply, please send questions and résumé to president.indgensoc@gmail.com no later than March 15, 2021.

***Errors in the header: 1. editor; 2. *Indiana Genealogist*; 3. a; 4. comma inside the quotes; 5. quarterly; 6. Genealogical; 7. Society**



In search of a Social Media Director

Do you enjoy sharing information through social media? If so, you could be the new Social Media Director for the Indiana Genealogical Society!

The IGS would love to boost our social media presence. The position of Editor is a compensated position. Contract is written for one (1) year.

Qualifications to be considered:

- High school diploma or equivalent
- Experience using different social media platforms
- Interest in genealogy (specifically Indiana ancestors) and industry trends
- Knowledge of content creation and design

Duties and Responsibilities of the Social Media Director (not an exhaustive list):

- Design social media marketing strategies and campaigns
- Review, proofread, and edit completed content before posting
- Engage with comments and/or refer to appropriate IGS officer
- Coordinate timely delivery of content
- Review and interpret social analytics to measure and guide effectiveness of marketing strategies and campaigns
- Develop and maintain a consistent IGS brand tone, image, and style online
- Report to the Indiana Genealogical Society Board prior to every meeting

For more information or to apply, please send questions and résumé to president.indgensoc@gmail.com no later than March 15, 2021.

Genealogy Q&A: Free and Enslaved African American Ancestors

Navigating the difficult path of researching enslaved ancestors has never been easy. Records are sparse, details are slim, and tracing paths through slaveholders can be difficult. Familytreemagazine.com has published a recent Q&A outlining common problems and misconceptions of searching through this type of family ancestry, and there are plenty of great pieces of advice in it for those of us seeking to make headway into this line of research—or even for those who have learned that their families owned slaves, and how to provide resources to the descendants of those they enslaved.

As February comes to a close, it's important to remember that Black History Month (and our duty towards the black community at large) does not end with the inception of March. The process of reuniting the descendants of enslaved African Americans with their ancestry is incredibly important. Some tips on how to go about providing information and sharing it with the appropriate parties goes as follows:

- In a Q&A with The Root, "Finding Your Roots" host Henry Louis Gates Jr. offers some suggestions. Start with Ancestry.com, which has several relevant message boards, and the forums at AfriGeneas. Next, explore historical and genealogical societies in the area where your ancestor lived. These organizations may have projects that compile this sort of data. FamilySearch is also reportedly exploring ways to incorporate such information in its family trees. For now, the closest thing we've found to a site that is specific to what you describe is the Slave Name Roll Project. It includes user-submitted documents, such as wills, with information on those enslaved.
- The Bittersweet Blog shares stories of "linked descendants," people who have a joint history in slavery—a pairing of a descendant of an enslaved person with a descendant of his or her slaveholder, who have found each other and who are in communication."
- The blog is associated with Coming to the Table, an organization that aims to promote racial healing through national gatherings and training workshops. Among the group's efforts is the book, *Slavery's Descendants: Shared Legacies of Race and Reconciliation* (Rutgers University Press).
- You can also search the web for state-specific projects such as the Texas Slavery Project, which is compiling a database of Texan slaves and slaveholders during the Republic era (1837–45), and Low Country Africana, which is compiling a database of slaveholders in South Carolina. The Virginia Historical Society has an ongoing project, *Unknown No Longer*, compiling the names of slaves.
- The site Reclaiming Kin echoes Gates' advice to share your finds with "the library, state archives and genealogical society of the location where the farm/plantation was located." The site also offers these words of wisdom for descendants of slaveholders: "We are very clear that you did not own any slaves. We do not hold you personally responsible for holding slaves, any more than we hold ourselves responsible for the reprehensible things any of our ancestors did. The past comes with the baggage of both good and bad. It shows us all how human we are."

(Answer provided by David Fryxell)

Learn more about this important line of inquiry and others [here](#).

85 Million Historic U.S. Newspapers Available from Advantage Archives

Any family researcher worth their salt will tell you that access to newspaper articles and obituaries is paramount to the discipline, and in our digital age it can be both easier and harder than ever to find access to the articles we need most. Thankfully, there are lots of amazing sites actively updating their digital archives to provide us with the most comprehensive collection of newspaper articles possible. The most recent update from Advantage Archives totals 734 collections from 45 states (plus one Canadian province) and a total number of pages exceeding 85 million. There really has never been a better time to take a dive into the archives and see what you can find!

An important note from the blog responsible for bringing this bevy of new sources to our attention that I thought was particularly poignant: "Although Advantage Archives gets the credit for making these available, much of the credit should go to the individual libraries, library systems, historical societies and other institutions, who do the really hard work of obtaining the funds via grants and other funding sources to digitize these old newspapers and make them available online for their patrons. In these times where funding for digitization of old newspapers from libraries, archives and other institutions is not easy to get, those of us who want to research our genealogy through newspapers and other documents owe a large debt of gratitude to the librarians and archivists who make all of this possible."

Supporting the efforts of local libraries and archives really is the lesson of the day!

For a comprehensive list of available newspapers and the states on tap, go [here](#).

Is this the best gravestone ever?



On an exciting installment of the *Mondays With Myrt* webinar, panelist Frank Jatzek in Germany shared this gravestone located in the Sweetheart Abbey cemetery in New Abbey, Dumfries and Galloway, Scotland, but it is not on Findagrave.com.

The gravestone includes ten generations of family lineage as well as a fun little bit of etymology on the origins of the family name Jardine. Interestingly enough, the family history also goes into greater depth on the reverse side. An image of that can be found [here](#).

If you've ever been curious what to expect with your own future gravestone, maybe this can serve as some inspiration to aid future descendants in their own research!

To learn more about this fascinating gravestone, go [here](#).

Hundreds of Holocaust Testimonies Translated, Digitized, and Now Online for the First Time

Just a few scant weeks ago, people around the world marked International Holocaust Remembrance Day—the anniversary of the January 27, 1945, liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration and extermination camp.

Due to pandemic restrictions, survivors and educational groups couldn't visit the sites of Nazi atrocities as they have in years past. But a new digital resource from the [Wiener Holocaust Library](#) in London offered an alternative for those hoping to honor the genocide's victims while maintaining social distancing. As the library [announced](#) earlier this month, hundreds of its survivor testimonies are now available online—and in English—for the first time.

The archive, titled [Testifying to the Truth: Eyewitness to the Holocaust](#) currently includes 380 accounts. The rest of the 1,185 testimonies will go online later this year.

You can read a lot more about this new online archive (and the amazing, important work being done for those seeking to learn more about the victims) in an article by Livia Gershon in the Smithsonian website [here](#).

COUNTY ROUNDUP OF EVENTS

ALLEN COUNTY:

Welcome to March Madness Month! Typically, we have a solid week of dedicated in-person programs to celebrate March Madness, Genealogy Style. This year, we are doing things a bit differently. Instead of just seven programs in one week, we are sticking to our Tuesday/Thursday virtual program schedule to bring you NINE virtual programs this month. We will also be sharing a "Gem from The Genealogy Center Collection" each Monday via social media. On Facebook Fridays, we will be featuring questions about YOUR family. Last but certainly not least, sometime during the month there will be a Brick Wall Question posted on Facebook. Keep an eye out for all the fun March Madness activities with The Genealogy Center!

- March 2, 2021, 2:30P, "Introduction to WorldCat Tools" with Aaron Smith and Kasia Young - <https://acpl.libnet.info/event/4870967>
- March 4, 2021, 6:30P, "Can DNA Testing Help Solve Your Genealogical Problem?" with Sara Allen - <https://acpl.libnet.info/event/4906609>
- March 9, 2021, 2:30P, "Who, What, Where, When, How to Look at Your Photographs: Analyze, Organize, and Preserve" with Kay Spears - <https://acpl.libnet.info/event/4913634>
- March 11, 2021, 6:30P, "Expanding Your Family History Journey" with Melissa Tennant - <https://acpl.libnet.info/event/4930877>
- March 16, 2021, 2:30P, "Introduction to Irish Internet Sites" with David Rencher - <https://acpl.libnet.info/event/4913183>
- March 18, 2021, 6:30P, "A Lonely Voyage: Late 19th Century Irish Immigrant Women in the United States" with Elizabeth Hodges - <https://acpl.libnet.info/event/4907467>
- March 23, 2021, 2:30P, "Genealogy Research in Poland and Their Former Territories" with Tom Szymkowiak - <https://acpl.libnet.info/event/4916194>
- March 25, 2021, 6:30P, "An Extraordinary Irish Immigrant: Dr. Gertrude B. Kelly" with Miriam Nyhan Grey - <https://acpl.libnet.info/event/4907493>
- March 30, 2021, 2:30P, "Digging Deeper: Lesser Used Court Records, County Court Orders & Circuit Court Case Files" with Deborah Lord Campisano - <https://acpl.libnet.info/event/4913213>

BOONE COUNTY:

As many counties are Boone County Genealogy has been struggling with Covid-19. We had to cancel all meetings after February 2020 for the remainder of the year. Also put on hold was our Cemetery Restoration Project. We did lose a board member Nikki Barton to cancer in November. We sent out a survey to our membership on the question of in person meetings the majority stated they would not attend. So the board recently met to discuss 2021. We are currently working on setting up virtual meetings for at least the next few months plus some webinars/virtual programs to assist our membership with research. We have lots of ideas just working out the kinks.

The Boone County Genealogical Society normally meets at the Lebanon Public Library in the top floor meeting room at 6:30 PM on Tuesday evening. They have a new website that you can visit at <https://bcgsin.org/> and learn more about their activities and research. The Society normally meets on the 4th Tuesday of every month except July and December. The Society now has a Facebook page that is available [here](#).

Although we won't be meeting as a group, please watch our Facebook page, our website (<https://bcgsin.org/>), and newsletter for ideas to further your research. If you have a genealogy question or research problem please send an email to info@bcgsin.org.

(Submitted by Teresa Price, Boone Co. ICG)

HAMILTON COUNTY:

From Hamilton East Public Library

The Library has reopened with considerations for social distancing and the safety of all. Visit the Hamilton East Public Library website calendar of events to see more detail and register for the virtual classes [here](#).

- March 9, 2021 at 2 PM: "Genealogy Roundtable: Focus on Your Irish Ancestor" Attendees will discuss how and where they found information on their Irish ancestors. How, when, where, and why did your Irish ancestor come to America? Please join us and share your Irish ancestor's story. Registration for this virtual roundtable is required so you can be sent an invite to join the session. This is an informal genealogy discussion group. We focus on a different topic each month.

(Submitted by Nancy Massey, Hamilton Co. ICG)

MARION COUNTY:

The Genealogical Society of Marion County Research Library has reopened. The GSMC Library will be open on Wednesdays from 11 AM - 4 PM & 2nd Saturdays from 11 AM - 3 PM and by appointment for research & genealogical assistance. GSMC Programs on second Saturday each month from 1 PM to 3 PM at our Library. Registration is available on their website [here](#).

- Saturday, March 13, 2021 at 1 PM: "Those Darn Brick Walls" Panel discussion addressing your brick walls of genealogical research! Watch your email for your invitation to register.
- Saturday, April 3, 2021 at 1 PM: "DNA" DNA topics by Darlene Anderson.
- Saturday, April 24, 2021 at 1 PM: "The Genealogy Do-Over: A Year of Learning from My Mistakes" Thomas MacEntee will present a virtual educational seminar on the topic.
- Saturday, May 8, 2021 at 1 PM: "Cemetery Symbolism" Jeannie Regan-Dinius, with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, will discuss Cemetery Symbolism via Zoom.
- Saturday, June 12, 2021 at 1 PM: "People of Faith: History and Ancestry Through the Lens of the Catholic Church in Indiana" Julie K Motyka, Archivist for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, will speak on the sacramental records (baptisms, marriages, deaths) which are of great interest to genealogists, tips on other resources and information that can be gleaned from the parish histories to aid you in your family history.

(Submitted by Darlene Anderson)

PUTNAM COUNTY:

The Time Travelin' Genealogy Guild meets the first Wednesday night of the month, and every 4th Saturday. We also meet random Saturdays at 10 AM geared toward newbies, research tips, follow up and random acts of genealogical kindness. You can write about anything, but there will be some prompts to plan for.

Wabash Valley Genealogical Society

For more information on upcoming activities, visit our website: www.inwvgs.org and go into the section marked "WVGS Events and Registrations". The events listed below are "Members Only" and you must pre-register.

- March 8, 2021 at 6:00 PM: "The Early Northwest Territory" with Jim Swift. This presentation reviews the transformation of the old Northwest Territory from a wilderness occupied by native inhabitants to a tamed land of farms, towns, roads and colleges.
- April 12, 2021 at 6:00 PM: "Mason and Dixon's Survey: Genealogical Implications of Changing Boundaries" by Jacob Eubanks.

(Submitted by Maggie Champion, Putnam Co. ICG)

VANDERBURGH COUNTY:

Tri-State Genealogical Society

Focus on family tree research for Southwest Indiana, Southeast Illinois & Western Kentucky. Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of September, October, November, January, February, March, April, May & June. Monthly meetings are 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM in the Bayard Room on the 2nd floor of Willard Library, 21 First Avenue, Evansville, IN 47710. Visit their website [here](#).

ONLINE CONFERENCE CALENDAR

Interested in virtual conferences both near and far? ConferenceKeeper.com has a virtual calendar of exceptional genealogy events available for all of your family research needs. [Click here to view it now.](#)

Word of the Month:

HELLUO LIBRORUM

(n.) LATIN | a voracious reader; literally, a 'book glutton'.

Indiana Genealogical Society | www.IndianaAncestors.org

STAY CONNECTED

