Indiana News - February 2022

Welcome to the February 2022 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.

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SAVE THE DATE: IGS 2022 Conference - Now Virtual!

IGS Conference 2022:

The next IGS Conference will be held April 1-2, 2022 and will be virtual and free thanks to our sponsor VividPix. Our main speaker will be David Lambert, New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS). David Lambert has been on the staff of American Ancestors and NEHGS since 1993. David is an internationally recognized speaker on the topics of genealogy and history. His genealogical expertise includes New England and Atlantic Canadian records of the 17th through 21st century; military records; DNA research; and Native American and African American genealogical research in New England. Lambert has published many articles in the New England Historical and Genealogical Register, the New Hampshire Genealogical Record, Rhode Island Roots, The Mayflower Descendant, and American Ancestors Magazine. He has also published A Guide to Massachusetts Cemeteries (NEHGS, 2009). David is an elected Fellow of the Massachusetts Historical Society in Boston, Mass., and a life member of the New Hampshire Society of the Cincinnati.

His four talks will focus on New England research:

1. Great Migration Immigrants to New England 1620-40 – This lecture is intended to explore the primary and published resources for Great Migration immigrants to New England 1620-40. David will discuss the existing primary source and immigration records both in England as well as New England. This lecture is focused on Mayflower passengers through later settlers into Plymouth Colony, Massachusetts Bay Colony, and settlement in other New England states in the 17th century.

2. Using New England Probate Records – Probate records can be a powerful resources for
genealogists and researchers. These papers document legal decisions that explain how an individual’s estate is distributed to heirs, dependents, and creditors. Probate records often reveal details of an ancestor’s personal life. In this lecture, learn how to get the most out of probate records with a special emphasis on New England resources both on and offline.

3. Discovering Land Records in New England – Land records can often trace generations of ownership of a single parcel of land and help genealogists determine years of family connections. Learn about existing land records and how to access them across New England for your own family history research.

4. Using New England Court Records in Your Family History – Court records are often overlooked in genealogical research, however this record group can help you fill in the sometimes more colorful details of an ancestor’s life, put your ancestor at a certain place at a certain time, or provide information about family connections and relations not found in other records. In this lecture you will learn all about court records in New England – what records exist, what they can tell you about your ancestor, and how to best access them either online or in person.

On Friday, April 1, 2022, there will be three talks scheduled from other experts. Sarah Kirby will do a session on archives; Ron Darrah will do a session on Indiana territorial records; and Allison DePrey Singleton will be doing a session on the 1950 census. A fourth session is currently being determined, and a full schedule is on the way. Be sure to keep checking social media and the enews for more information as it becomes available.

Registration for the conference opens February 15th. Mark your calendars!

How to Care for Vintage Christmas Ornaments

Christmas may be over but that just means it's time to take down those trees and pack away the ornaments for another year of storage. The holiday season is definitely a time of remembering those who have passed, and it's incredibly important to make sure that the items we keep to remember them by stand the passage of time. If you guys are anything like me and my family at large, you'll have several ornaments that are older than you are in need of proper storage. Luckily, the great folks at Familytreemagazine.com have written up a nifty guide to making sure your great-grandmother's Santa Claus tree topper lasts a few more generations yet!

There are many important things to note when it comes to object handling and artifact storage--and isn't that a little wild? Some of your ornaments would qualify as artifacts in a museum setting! The number one rule is to always handle and display them with care, but a lesser known one is to take just as much care in picking your storage materials as you when handling the item itself! It's number three on the list, but it may be the most important for the long-term preservation of your heirlooms.

"Archival, acid-free tissue paper is one of the most useful supplies in an archivist's toolkit. Although it looks like regular tissue paper, archival tissue is manufactured to remove damaging contaminants. Regular tissue paper becomes acidic, discolored and brittle over time—damage that extends to adjacent objects through acid migration."

There are plenty of places where you can purchase archival-safe storage material. Just make sure you look for the note on the package stating that it's acid-free, and take care when you wrap your ornaments. It's easy to snag a sharp edge or bend thin metal.

It's little things like properly padding the space beneath the tree and knowing when to clean an ornament yourself and when to outsource the work to a professional that will keep your precious ornaments around a few generations longer. You can learn all the details on how to safely preserve your ornaments for future family Christmas's here. It's worth a read, especially as you begin to take down that tree!

FamilySearch 2021 Genealogy Highlights/Year-in-Review

The first month of the new year is behind us, but that doesn't mean we should just leave 2021 behind without at least one backwards glance at all that's happened in the world of family history research. The great folks over at Eastman's have compiled a really cool FamilySearch's 2021 in Review breakdown of all the awesome things that transpired, became available, and emerged as new resources for family historians and institutions alike.

In their own words, they discuss how 2021 saw FamilySearch complete the digitization of its massive microfilm collection—2.4 million rolls to be exact—and welcome over 1 million people to its first all-virtual RootsTech Connect online event.”

Highlights at a glance include:
Crowdsourcing contributors worldwide added information about millions of deceased relatives to the FamilySearch Family Tree in 2021, making a total of 1.38 billion people now searchable in the world's largest collaborative—and free—family tree!

- the completion of the monumental task of digitizing its 2.4 million rolls of microfilm. The initiative makes billions of ancestors from over 200 countries and principalities more readily discoverable online. FamilySearch's Explore Historical Images feature enables users to effectively peruse digitized images from most of the microfilm collection online and more with a free FamilySearch account.

- 2021 enhancements that visitors can now enjoy include new discovery pages for ancestors in the family tree. These pages are an easy way to see your relative's life story at a glance, view photos and stories, and understand the historical events they may have lived through.

- The all-virtual RootsTech Connect 2021 attracted more than 1 million participants from 242 countries and territories!

We all hope 2022 is just as successful and momentous as 2021, but until we reach those milestones, check out the full list of notable accomplishments from last year! Who knows, maybe you'll discover something new in the process! Check it out here.

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**Information About 1950 U.S. Census Indexing Efforts**

As some of you very well know, the 1950 census records are nearing their release date! A great blog post on the LDS365 website goes into detail describing this process:

"Upon its release, the 1950 U.S. Census Community Project, a joint initiative between FamilySearch, Ancestry, and other leading genealogy societies and organizations, will coordinate efforts to provide quick access to these digital images and to create a comprehensive index that will be searchable online."

It goes on to describe the process as follows:

"Supported by genealogy giants Ancestry and FamilySearch, along with local and national genealogy and historical organizations, this project will rally hundreds of thousands of volunteers to publish a high-quality, searchable online index of every name in the census."

"Rather than starting from scratch, volunteers will review Ancestry's computer-generated index using groundbreaking handwriting recognition and cutting-edge artificial intelligence technologies. This human review will verify that the data is accurate and complete. Volunteers can visit FamilySearch.org/1950census to review their own family's information and then review other records to refine the index before publication."

It sounds like a really good source of information and is definitely worth keeping an eye on. As I understand it, the release date is scheduled to happen April 2, 2022. You can read more about the process and what to expect here!

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**Attention: Volunteers Needed!**

We here at the IGS have received word that Janet Frey, FamilySearch.org Field Support for several states including Indiana, needs your help to complete an important digitization project! She is in dire need of document preparation help in Sullivan, Boone, Miami, Switzerland and a few other areas working with various records at county courthouses. IGS and FamilySearch.org have partnered to digitize marriage and other courthouse records throughout the state of Indiana.

FamilySearch.org is providing the technology and technicians to do the actual scanning of the records using contractors and missionaries. Volunteers are needed locally to prepare the documents for scanning. Included in this project are scanning of Probate Packets - the paper documents that are created in settling an estate. These documents are a treasure trove of local history - receipts from long gone businesses, lists of items owned by the deceased, beneficiaries of the estate, and even neighbors who purchased items from the estate sale. For over 100 years, these important documents have been folded and placed in a packet envelope. In order to scan fragile documents, they must be unfolded, flattened, and placed in a folder. After scanning, they may, depending on the decisions of the local county clerk, need to be refolded and replaced in the estate packet envelope. In order to keep the project moving
Volunteers are needed to prepare these documents and keep ahead of the contractors doing the scanning. If the contractors cannot keep scanning, they will be moved from that county and the project will stall.

From Rhonda Stoffer, IGS President, Grant County Genealogist:

"I have personally been working on the Grant county digitization project for FamilySearch since October of 2021. There are 7 of us who are unfolding Probate Packets for scanning. I can honestly say that none of us have found the experience boring. We have completed 900 packets and have found some amazing gems in the documents. As the head of the Indiana Room at Marion Public Library, my staff and I are always looking for information on previously unknown people from the area. Using a line from a woman's estate paper that said she was due a payment from her husband's military pension, we were able to determine that her husband was a Black War of 1812 veteran that was previously unknown to us, and is buried in the county. In another file, a local man had died during the Civil War in Andersonville Prison Camp. Years after the war, several men who had been in the camp with him traveled to Grant county to tell the court what his final wishes were for his estate.

Without this project these events would remain lost to history. Please consider helping with this worthwhile project. The goal is to complete each of the 92 counties in Indiana. Currently, about 18 counties have committed to the project which has no cost to the county for the digitization. Please contact your local county clerk to encourage them to take advantage of this wonderful project that will preserve these important records for years to come. After scanning, all of these records will be available for everyone on FamilySearch.org, for free!"

Doesn't that sound pretty cool? The group managing the project will be asked to pack up the cameras and return them if new help isn't found soon. Volunteers won't be digitizing the material but preparing documents for digitization by carefully unfolding them, putting them in folders, and returning them to storage once they've been successfully digitized. The work needs to be performed in a timely manner and the documents themselves need to be handled delicately, so if you've got some time and have a gentle touch, this could be a great opportunity to help out your local courthouse!

If you or anyone you know are interested in a really hands-on experience with the oldest records in your state please contact Janet Frey at 615-992-5829 or freyjl@familysearch.org.

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COUNTY ROUNDUP OF EVENTS

Northeast

>> Allen County submitted my Margery Graham, Allen Co. ICG:

The Society holds regular monthly programs on the second Wednesday of each month (except July and August), at 7:00 PM. To expand our audience and bring the amazing resources of the Society to a wider audience, our 2021-2022 season of programs will continue as virtual programs on the Zoom platform. Registration for the virtual programs will be on the ACGSI website. For more information and current program offerings, please see www.acgsi.org, our blog at acgsi.wordpress.com, or visit us on Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest or Twitter. ACGSI members will be emailed an invitation to each Free Educational Program. Membership in the Society is open to all. Any changes to the meeting platform will be announced on our social media sites. All times listed below are Eastern Time.

- February 9, 2022 at 7:00 PM online. Gail Blankenau will present “Finding Your German Ancestral Village.”
- March 9, 2022 at 7:00 PM online. Glen York will present “Get More Out of Your DNA Matches with Autoclusters.”
- April 13, 2022 at 7:00 PM online. Amy Johnson Crow will present “Using Land Records Effectively.”

From the Genealogy Center

To learn more or register for the programs, visit https://genealogycenter.org, call 260-421-1225, or email...
From the Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society

We hold quarterly, public programs to discuss and promote Jewish genealogy, as well as several more intimate events just for our members. Our purpose is to present educational programs relevant to Jewish genealogy, to support our members in their pursuit of their family histories, to collaborate with other organizations on areas of Jewish genealogical interests, and to protect, preserve and share Jewish genealogical records from the region of Northeast Indiana. Visit https://neindianajgs.org/ for more information.

- February 13, 2022 at 2:00 PM – Warren Blatt, “Jewish Names.” Warren Blatt will present two programs, “Jewish Given Names” and “Jewish Surnames.” The first will focus on the history and patterns of Jewish first names and how to recognize names in genealogical sources. The surname presentation will discuss the types and origins of surnames, how they developed and how they transformed with immigration. Warren Blatt is the former Managing Director of JewishGen and the co-author of Getting Started in Jewish Genealogy (Avotaynu, 1999).

- April 3, 2022 at 2:00 PM – Ed Mitukiewicz, “Location, Location, Location: How Genealogical Research Can Benefit from Historical Maps.” Identifying the places where our ancestors used to live can be a critical step in finding sources of genealogical information but locating those places can be quite a challenging task, particularly in Eastern Europe. Ed is a mathematician and computer scientist by education, researcher and technology consultant by profession, and amateur cartographer and genealogist by coincidence. He worked as editor, translator and map consultant during the production of the 2015 documentary film, “Raise the Roof.”

- May 1, 2022 at 2:00 PM – Todd Knowles, “Making the Most of FamilySearch for Jewish Research.” This presentation will focus on new features at FamilySearch, and techniques to use for Jewish genealogical research. Todd Knowles is an Accredited Genealogist who specializes in English and Jewish research. His quest to find more about his G-G-Grandfather, a Polish Jew, has led to the creation of the Knowles Collection, six databases that contain the records of the Jewish people. It currently (as of Jan 2020) contains the records of over 1.4 million people.

>> Grant County  submitted by Rhonda Stoffer, Grant Co. ICG:

The Marion Public Library has a genealogy database of over 900,000 entries that index birth, death, and marriage records, obituaries, cemetery listings, orphan's home, funeral homes, and some court records. The Indiana Room is taking appointments for use of microfilm and other resources, emphasizing social distancing.

The Marion Public Library Virtual Genealogy Club meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month at 6:30 PM via Zoom. Everyone is welcome to attend. You can contact the Indiana Room at mplih@marion.lib.in.us for more information.

>> Huntington County

The Huntington County Genealogy Society meets at 6:30 PM on the first Wednesday of most months in the Indiana Room at the Huntington City-Township Public Library, 255 West Park Drive, Huntington. The public is invited, and new members are always welcome. For more information, contact the Indiana Room at 260-356-0824. Visit the library website at http://www.huntingtonpub.lib.in.us/calendar/ to learn more.

Any adult interested in genealogy or local history is invited to our monthly club. Meeting in the Joan B. Keefer Genealogy and Local History Center, each session brings together hobbyists and professionals for discussion, learning, and research.

>> Noble County

We meet on the 3rd Monday night of March, May, July, September, and November at 6:30 PM usually at the Noble County Public Library. Our Genealogy Room is located in the Noble County Public Library on East Main in Albion, IN. We maintain a wonderful collection of books, manuscripts, various indexes, census information, etc. in the Indiana Genealogy Room. Visit http://sites.rootsweb.com/~innwcs/ to learn more.

North Central
>> Elkhart County  submitted by Mona Gehring, Elkhart Co. ICG:

The Elkhart County Genealogical Society holds its meetings on the third Thursday of the month at 1:00 p.m. at the Bristol Public Library, State Rd. 120 (Vistula) Bristol, IN. Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 17, 2022. We do not meet in the months of January, February and August and December. More details can be found on our website: www.elkhartcogensoc.org.

>> Howard County  submitted by Cindy Stover, Howard Co. ICG:

The Howard County Society isn't meeting yet. The Library is open regular hours, but masks are required. Normally, the Howard County Genealogical Society meets the 2nd Monday of the month at 6:00 PM at the Library, 220 N. Union St., Kokomo, Indiana 46901. Visit the Kokomo-Howard County Public Library website to learn more at http://www.KHCPL.org.

>> Kosciusko County  submitted by Sharon Whetstone, North Central District Director:

The Kosciusko County Historical society genealogy library is open from Wednesday through Friday 10 AM - 4 PM. Saturday hours are 10 AM - 2 PM. Currently the group is working on adding obituaries to the online cemetery project and 1890 census substitute. Gleen Team from North Webster meets at the North Webster Community Public Library every Wednesday at 10 AM. Contact 574-834-7122 for information. Coming events are:

December's Christmas celebration will be December 21. Holiday hors d'oeuvres, teas and Family History activities are planned.

KCHS Genealogy Group will meet the 3rd Tuesday of January, February and March in the Genealogy Library at the Old Jail Museum from 10-12, weather permitting. No masks are required if you are vaccinated. Contact librarian@kosciuskohistory.com or 574-269-1078. The library is closed to the public during January and February; opening again on March 2, 2022. Staff checks phone and email on Wednesday.

>> Marshall County  submitted by Sharon Whetstone, North Central District Director:

The Marshall County Genealogical Society is changing its meeting date to the first Tuesday of the month beginning with January 2022. We will meet at 6 PM on the first Tuesday of every month starting in 2022.

- February 1: Monty Peden will share “Sources for Genealogy”
- March 1: Anuta Watts Kopetski discussing “Census Research”

Meetings are at the Marshall County Museum located at 123 N. Michigan St, Plymouth, Indiana. Please call 574-936-2306 with any questions.

>> St. Joseph County  submitted by Greta Fisher, St. Joseph Co. ICG:

Great news from St. Joseph County! Not one, but TWO library history rooms are open after major renovations, and genealogists will be happy with the results. The St. Joseph County Public Library at 304 S. Main St. in South Bend is now open after undergoing a major remodel over two years. The Local & Family History area has been expanded and is now ready to serve patrons. For more details, check out the website at https://sjcpl.org/lfh/. Also, the Heritage Room materials at the Mishawaka Penn Harris Public Library have been moved into Adult Services and are now accessible during all open hours. If you have research to do in the area, now is a great time to start!

Northwest

>> La Porte County  submitted by Harold Henderson, La Porte Co. ICG:

The La Porte County Genealogical Society (LPCGS) has resumed meetings. Visit the society website at http://sites.rootsweb.com/~inlcigs/ to confirm the event is continuing as scheduled. Meetings of the Society are free and open to the public at the La Porte Parks & Recreation Dept. Office Bldg. Meeting Room, 250 Pine Lake Ave., La Porte, IN. The business meeting is at 7:00 PM followed by a brief social time, and the evening’s program.

>> Lake and Porter County  submitted by Marlene Polster, Lake Co. ICG:

Northwest Indiana Genealogical Society has a website at www.nwigs.com. Northwest Indiana Genealogical Society has been meeting on line at Google Meets. If anyone would like to join in on our next meeting, contact us at mylouisb @ aol.com.
meetings they can go to www.nwigs.com to find out how to join.

If anyone would like to research at the Larry J. Clark Genealogy Center they can contact the Valparaiso Public Library to set up an appointment. Ask to speak to Chris Hough. The library is located at 103 Jefferson, Valparaiso, IN 219-462-0524.

>> Pulaski County  
submitted by Janet Onken, Pulaski Co. ICG:

The Pulaski County Genealogy Society meets the 1st Thursday of each month at the Historical Society Museum, 500 S. Monticello St. (US35) in Winamac at 5 PM. The society members continue to add updates to the county cemeteries and/or veteran's burials spreadsheets. Pulaski county contacts: Mary at geniehistory2021@gmail.com or Ronda at ronda.loehmer@gmail.com

At the Winamac library in the genealogy room, researchers can now use the Scan-pro 3000 to read microfilm and to access the internet. As yet, there are no public computers or a copy machine handy for researchers in the room. You are welcome to bring your own laptop, I-Pad or other electronic device. Resources having to do with Cass, White and Jasper are among the counties that have been added to the resources available in the genealogy room.

Winamac library hours: Mon-Fri 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM and Sat. 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Masks required.

East Central

>> Delaware County  
submitted by Karen Good, Delaware Co. ICG:

Delaware County Historical Society Ancestor Hunters meet each month on the last Monday. Email Karen Good - markerfinder@gmail.com - for the link to the zoom meeting.

>> Hancock County  
submitted by Paul McNeil, Hancock Co. ICG:

Marking a Tragedy: Historical Plaque will Memorialize 1875 Lynching

Greenfield - Cheryl Armstrong was always interested in her family's history; she knew she came from a long line of free African-Americans who helped form a community in central Indiana, and that many in her family were successful professionals. What she didn’t know was that her family tree included William Keemer, a Black man who was lynched in Hancock County in 1875 by a mob while a crowd watched. When she found out, it changed how she viewed the Keemer family legacy of success.

>> Henry County  
submitted by Kaye Ford, East Central District:

The Indiana Room at the New Castle-Henry County Public Library is open for research. You may also contact the Indiana Room genealogist, Kathie Ward, at kathie@nchcpl.org or 765-529-0362, ext. 1368. Kathie is at the Indiana Room on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays, between 9am and 5PM.

The Clarence H. Smith Genealogy Library is open by appointment only at the Henry County Historical Society. Please contact Henry County Genealogist, Kaye Ford, at henrycountymuseum@gmail.com or 765-529-4028 to schedule an appointment or request research. Research is $15 per surname, payable by cash, check, or PayPal (at www.HenryCountyMuseum.org by clicking the ‘donate’ button).

>> Randolph County submitted by Kaye Ford, East Central District:

RCHS is slowly getting projects ramping up for spring. As with all communities, we are slowed with Covid19 but it has not deterred our project volunteers, just slowed the pace for a bit. A project focus that covers the entire county is having a small American flag mark the grave of every Veteran in county cemeteries. We have a database that has volunteers working on adding to it daily. In due time, we hope to have graves of those without military stones/plaques also marked. Managing RCHS for the past four years, there has not been a collection of lists of men and women who have served in general and notebooks were not updated after the WWII era. It has been a project to help us also enlighten attention needed on properly cleaning stones as well as maintenance needed at defunct cemeteries.

The RCHS facilities primary project focus is storage and accessibility of bound newspapers and the microfilm collection. Grant funding in 2021 is allowing great progress to occur in 2022. We also have community businesses assisting us to help the project budget and keep as much of the funds as possible supporting our local community small businesses.

>> Wayne County Genealogical Society  
submitted by Kaye Ford, East Central District:
Meetings are held the second Saturday of each month (except December and January), at 10:00 AM in the lower level of the First Friends Church at 2010 Chester Blvd, Richmond, Indiana. You are welcome to join our Facebook Group to keep up to date on what the society is doing. Meetings are open to all persons who wish to attend. Visit the website at http://www.waynet.org/nonprofit/wcgs.htm for more information.

Central

>> Boone County  submitted by Teresa Price, Boone Co. ICG:

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 at https://www.facebook.com/BooneCountyIndianaGenealogicalSociety.

>> Hamilton County  submitted by Nancy Massey, Hamilton Co. ICG:

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 at https://hepl.evanced.info/signup/Calendar

Registration with email required for Zoom meeting invitation information for all virtual programs. Registration can be made online at the Hamilton East Public Library events page. For discussion groups, HEPL staff will work to ensure patron safety during virtual programs.

We are working with the Carmel and Sheridan Public Libraries on a countywide scan-athon to collect photos for a bicentennial book celebrating Hamilton County's 200 years of change. This will occur over a three-weekend spread in November. If you have questions about this event, please let me know. Details about the event and a link to register for an appointment are included in the attached document.

>> Hendricks County  submitted by Janet Mobley:

At the Danville-Center Twp Public Library the genealogy support group regularly meets on the second Monday of each month:

>> Marion County  submitted by Darlene Anderson:

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 the second Saturday each month from 1 PM to 3 PM at our Library. Registration is available on their website at http://genealogyindy.org/ December 11, 2021 from 1-3 PM: “Annual Luncheon and Show and Tell or Tell A Story”

The Genealogical Society of Marion County Research Library is located at 9370 E. Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46229. Visit their website at http://genealogyindy.org/ for more information.

>> Morgan County  submitted by Janice Kistler, Morgan Co. ICG:

The Morgan County History and Genealogy Association (MCHGA) will have it’s annual meeting at 5:30 PM on December 9, 2021. The meeting is open to all dues paying members and will be held at Greek’s Pizzeria located at 10 S Morgan St, Martinsville, Indiana. Those attending should purchase their own drinks and/or dinner in exchange for allowing us to use a portion of their dining area. Anyone wishing to become a dues paying member can find the form at MCHGA’s facebook group page under “files.” Or email a request for a MCHGA membership form to: jkistler@morgancountylibrary.info.

This is the Blackstone House which has gone through many uses. First, of course, it was the home of the Blackstone family, later it became a mortuary, the First Christian Church acquired the property many years ago and is now rented out to serve as the Morgan County History Center and Museum. Hours are 10 AM – 2 PM on Mondays and Saturdays and 4 PM – 7 PM on Thursdays. Displays are dedicated to local history such as heritage farms, early railroads, the evolution of local radio station WCBK and much more. It is located at 127 S Main St in Martinsville, Indiana.

West Central
>> Clay County from the Clay County Genealogical Society website:

The Society meets each month, and meetings are open to members and the public. The meetings are held at the Society Library in Center Point, Indiana. Everyone is welcome to attend meetings at the library. Meetings are held each month on the third Tuesday of the month. All meetings will be at 1:00 PM at the Library. Visit their website at http://ccgsilib.org/

>> Montgomery County submitted by Dian Moore, Montgomery Co. ICG:

The Genealogy Club of Montgomery County meets at 7 PM on the second Tuesday of each month in the Crawfordsville District Public Library. There are programs planned for 2022:

- February 8, 2022 will be Amie Cox on Newest Things and 8 March will be a celebration of our 20th anniversary.

Visit the group’s Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/GenClubMontCo/

>> Putnam County submitted by Maggie Champion, Putnam Co. ICG:

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 submitted by Jennifer Cruse:

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

Southeast

>> Dearborn County submitted by Cassie Blankenhorn, Dearborn Co. ICG:

Lawrenceburg Main Public Library has reopened. The North Dearborn Branch is open with hours Monday and Wednesday (Noon to 7 PM), Tuesday and Thursday (10 AM to 5 PM), and Saturday (10 AM to 2 PM). Please check our website at https://www.lpld.lib.in.us/locations-hours or Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/LawrenceburgPublicLibraryDistrict for updates.

>> Fayette County submitted by Patricia Summan, Fayette Co. ICG:

Meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of every month except December at 7:00 PM at the Fayette County Museum, 200 W. 5th Street, Connersville, IN.

South Central

>> Bartholomew County submitted by Penny Mathiesen, South Central District:

The Bartholomew County Historical Society is open Tues.–Thurs. 10 AM–4 PM To schedule an appointment in the historical research library, please call (812) 372-3541. The Society is located at 524 Third Street, Columbus, IN. Visit the website to learn more: https://bartholomewhistory.org

>> Brown County from the Brown Co. Historical Society website:

The Brown County Historical Society Archives collection is open and available for researchers on Tuesdays and Fridays from 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM, as well as other times by appointment. Local history and genealogy volunteers are available during this time to assist you in your research. The Archives are located on the 2nd floor of the Brown County History Center, 90 E. Gould Street, Nashville, IN 47448.

>> Clark County submitted by Diane Stepro, Clark Co. ICG:
The Jeffersonville Township Public Library's main library is open Mon.–Th. 9 AM–8 PM, Fri.–Sat. 9 AM–5 PM For information on the Indiana Room collection and the Genealogy and Local History Librarian's schedule, call (812) 285-5641 or email dstepro@jefflibrary.org. The library is located at 211 East Court Avenue, Jeffersonville, IN. Visit the website to learn more: https://www.jefflibrary.org/local-history

The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution Library in Louisville, Kentucky, has digitized the George Rogers Clark Papers. This collection contains General Clark's military papers from 1778 to 1834, and thus is of great interest to Indiana historical and genealogical researchers, especially those in the Southeastern Indiana counties near Clarksville, where General Clark settled. The papers provide information about many members of the Illinois regiment and the persons with whom they interacted. An index was included in the digitized documents. You may view the papers by scrolling to the bottom of this page in the Sons of the American library catalog and clicking on the appropriate links: http://sarl.tlcdelivers.com:8080/#section=resource&resourceid=216675#Index=2&view=fullDetails

>> Crawford County submitted by Anne Hager, Crawford Co. ICG:

The headquarters of the Crawford County Historical and Genealogical Society will be open Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. It is located at 310 Oak Hill Circle in English, IN.

>> Floyd County submitted by Susan Covey, FOGS Media Chair:

The Falls of the Ohio Genealogical Society (FOGS) is a newly formed 501(c)3 dedicated to collecting, preserving, and making available genealogy material especially for Floyd, Clark, and Harrison Counties in southern Indiana. FOGS hosts a program of genealogy or history the first Thursday of each month, currently via Zoom. Please visit fallsgenealogy.org for information about upcoming presentations and the First Families of Floyd, Clark and Harrison Counties Legacy Project.

>> Harrison County submitted by Lynne Keasling, Harrison Co. ICG:

A new chapter of Daughters of the Union 1861-1865 is in the organizing stage here in Corydon. We did have the Battle of Corydon in July of 1863 when John Hunt Morgan and his men came across the Ohio River and met the local militia at the area now called the Battle Park. This was the only Civil War battle fought in Indiana. I am accepting contacts from anyone who may wish to join that chapter or who may have had someone who was involved in that or in the Civil War in Indiana with ties to Harrison County.

>> Jackson County submitted by Penny Mathiesen, South Central District:

The Jackson County Public Library’s Seymour Main Library is open Mon.–Fri. 10 AM–6 PM, Sat. 10 AM–3 PM For information on local history and genealogy, call (812) 523-4636 or email ref@myjclibrary.org. The main library is located at 303 West Second Street, Seymour, IN. Visit the website to learn more: www.myjclibrary.org

>> Lawrence County from the Lawrence Co. Historical & Genealogical Society website:

The Lawrence County Museum of History and Edward L. Hutton Research Library are open Tues.–Fri. 9 AM–4 PM, Sat. 9 AM–3 PM Monthly speaker programs have resumed. For more information, call (812) 278-8575. The museum and library are located at 929 15th Street, Bedford, IN. Visit the website to learn more: http://lawrencecountyhistory.org/

>> Monroe County submitted by Penny Mathiesen, South Central District:

The Monroe County History Center Research Library has added a new resource, Mapping Monroe County, Indiana: An Annotated Bibliography, 1815–1941 (2021), compiled by David Paul Nord, to the collection. This work is an annotated and illustrated bibliography of historic maps of the county, the city of Bloomington, and the Indiana University campus, from 1815 through 1941. It lists items in dozens of map collections around the state and country. The book is available in the library and on sale in the Museum Store for $15.00. For more information, send email to: library@monroehistory.org or call (812) 332-2517.

Please visit our website at: www.monroehistory.org

>> Scott County submitted by Jeannie Noe Carlisle, Secretary, SCGSI:

The Scott County Genealogical Society, Inc. has reopened its Research Rooms on Saturdays from 10 AM – 1 PM. Please call (812) 752-3388 about 10 days ahead of the time to schedule an appointment.

Questions or comments, call 812.752.3388 or Marsha, 812.528.4072.
Southwest

>> Knox County  submitted by Brian Spangle, Knox Co. ICG:

The Northwest Territory Genealogical Society meets on the third Monday of the month (March through December) at 7 PM at the McGrady-Brockman House in Vincennes and can be contacted through the Knox County Public Library. Visit the library website at http://www.kcpl.lib.in.us for more information.

>> Pike County  submitted by Sandy McBeth:

The Pike County Genealogical Society meets the 4th Monday of each month (except December) at the Pike County History Center, 1104 Main Street in Petersburg at 6 PM. The mailing address for the Pike County Genealogical Society is 309 N Center St., Petersburg, IN 47567. The Pike County History Center is currently open weekly on Friday and Saturday 9 AM-1 PM.

>> Spencer County

Spencer County Historical Society has meetings the first Tuesday of each month at the Spencer County Public Library, 210 Walnut St. Rockport, Indiana 47635. Membership is open to all and dues are $20.00 per year. For more information, contact Raymond Dawson at rdawson@psci.net

>> Sullivan County  submitted by Donna Adams, Sullivan Co. ICG:

The Sullivan County Public Library Genealogy/Local History Dept. will do research in response to personal and written inquiries. Only a limited amount of time may be devoted to each request. Letter, email & phone requests will be answered as soon as time allows depending on other staff demands and the number of inquiries received.

Staff will do research in indexed, printed sources and will only search materials dealing with Sullivan and surrounding counties. If a request includes sources beyond this geographic area, staff may recommend other libraries to contact.

Requests should be in the form of one or two briefly stated questions and should include specific names and dates to search, or a range of dates within a ten-year period (example 1850 - 1860) Your full name & mailing address must be included with your query.

The Genealogy/Local History Dept. charges $3.00 plus postage per query. This includes up to 12 copies of material. After the 12 copies the charges are per page .15 for microfilm and .10 for Xerox copies. Checks & or money orders should be made out to Sullivan County Public Library/Genealogy/Local History Department. For further assistance please contact:

Donna K. Adams dadams@sullivan.lib.in.us
Sullivan County Genealogist & Historian
Sullivan County Public Library
Genealogy/Local History Dept.
100 S. Crowder St.
Sullivan, Indiana 47882
www.sullivan.lib.in.us

>> 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 at http://tristategenealogicalsociety.weebly.com/

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.
Call for IGS Journal, Newsletter, and Social Media Submissions

IGS has filled the positions of Social Media Editor and Indiana Genealogist Editor. We invite your contributions to all our publication outlets.

The Indiana Genealogist is a quarterly online journal that publishes abstracts or transcriptions of genealogical records, articles on Indiana-related resources, and historical studies of people or groups related to Indiana genealogy. The Spring Issue 2022 topic is: Communities, and the deadline to submit to the editor is February 15, 2022. For example, what communities did your family belong to? This can include their town, religious communities, ethnic groups, social organizations, occupational groups, etc. How did this group affect their lives? Were they a tight-knit organization, or a broad-reaching association? If you have an article or something interesting to share, please contact the Editor: Joy Neighbors.

The IGS Newsletter is a bimonthly online publication that includes upcoming events, forthcoming publications, research tips, resources of interest to Indiana genealogists, and queries. Editor: Jennifer Alford.

The IGS has several social media outlets that publish announcements, time-sensitive information, and other items of genealogical interest. Social Media Director: Jon-Marie Pearson.

Submission guidelines and more information on all these publications can be found on the IGS web site under “Publications.”

Word of the Month:

SCRAGGLING

(adj.) describing a very thin or meagre covering of frost [18thC]