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HENDRICKS COUNTY

HISTORY BULLETIN



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THE HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
DANVILLE, INDIANA

HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

ORGANIZED 1967

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H C H S

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H C H S

"To be seventy years young is sometimes far more cheerful and hopeful than to be forty years old."

Oliver Wendell Holmes

GREETINGS FROM OUR PRESIDENT.....

This is the beginning of our twelveth year and I am highly honored that the Historical Society has faith in me to direct them in 1979.

Last year was a most enjoyable one with excellent programs and good fellowship with all of us who are interested in the history of our county as well as our nation.

One of our challenges this year is to sell our history books and to get out of debt. Another one is to increase our membership.

I am looking forward to an interesting and constructive year.

Randall Joseph, president

COMMITTEES FOR 1979

PROGRAM ... Marion Worrell, chairman
Gloria Higgins
Vyanne Chandler
Grace Cox
Darleen Lynch
Maynard Noland

WAYS AND MEANS Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Chandler
Frank Litherland
Marie Hopkins

ARCHIVES ... Dorothy Templin

PUBLICITY .. Jewell Bell

MEMBERSHIP...Brown township - Scott Hosier
Center township - Margery Clay
Clay township - Lois Crayton
Eel River township - Zona Walker
Lincoln township - Robert Carter
Marion township - Harold Templin
Franklin township - Ethel Brock
Liberty township - Roy Pritchard
Guilford township - John Higbee
Middle township - M. O. Scamahorn
Union township - Ruth Hall
Washington township - Rex McClain

H C H S

H C H S Program 1979 - 1980

Marian Worrell, chairman of the program committee, has announced the programs for the coming year. These programs sounds like winners. If there is anything our organization is outstanding for, it is the excellent programs we have had throughout the years and the forthcoming ones are no exception. There will be a great deal of variety this year ... something for every one...and it bids fair to being a fun year.

February 11, 1979

New Winchester Christian Church
Marion, Center and Clay Townships
A Valentine Party

Bring any particularly interesting Valentine you may have, especially any very old ones. Also bring along your creative ideas, scissors and any materials you may want to use in making a Valentine that day.

May 6, 1979

Old Salem Church
Liberty, Franklin and Guilford Townships hostess
Preserving your Memories

Bring old or new pictures. Bring anything that has been used or is being used to record memories for posterity - especially old cameras etc.
(Note date one week earlier because of Mothers' Day)

August 12, 1979

Eaton Hall, Brownsburg
Washington, Brown and Lincoln Townships

Old fashioned home made ice cream social with square dancing for entertainment

November 4, 1979

Montclair Christian Church
Eel River, Union and Middle Townships
Hoosiers in Politics

Bring any old campaign buttons or banners etc. used in in political rallies.
(Note the earlier date because of the 100th anniversary of Hendricks County Christian Churches on the 2nd Sunday)

H C H S

November 12, 1978

Our Society gathered in the Corinth Church in Brown Township, November 12th for a most interesting meeting. Mary Jeanette Winkleman presided with Mildred Smith giving the devotions. The usual business was transacted, Mrs. Scott Hosier gave a detailed report on the Museum and told of plans for Christmas Open House December 2nd and 3rd, and 9th and 10th. Mrs. Clark Kellum presented certificates for perfect attendance and the new officers were elected. They are listed elsewhere.

Gloria Higgins read a selection entitled "What is a Teacher?" and introduced our speaker, Mrs. Vickie Weaver who very ably and charmingly reviewed the book The Hoosier Schoolmaster, by Edward Eggleston who was an Indiana Methodist circuit rider. Mrs. Weaver's review was greatly enjoyed.

Our new president had a few words for us and the meeting adjourned to the fellowship hall for refreshments in charge of Brown, Lincoln and Washington townships.

H C H S

An Interesting Hendricks County Family

Any one who lived in Hendricks County the first half of the century will be familiar with the Hogate name. Julian and Etta Hogate edited the Hendricks County Republican for many years and were well known not only for their journalistic prowess but for their many civic and social activities. For a number of years at Christmas time, they published a miniature replica of The Republican which gave greetings to their friends and included an update on the entire Hogate-Craven families.

Their two sons, Kenneth and Donald, followed in their parents' foot steps and Kenneth reached the peak of journalistic endeavors when he became editor of the Wall Street Journal.

The 1927 Christmas edition came to light recently and here are some items that will interest those who remember the Hogates:

"Kenneth Hogate is an active member of the G.O.F.P.O.P. which, being translated, means Guild of Former Pipe Organ Pumpers. It has recently been discovered that, with many men, the path to fame leads from pumping a pipe organ. Kenneth formerly agitated the handle of the organ which stood in the southwest corner of the Methodist auditorium. His compensation was 25¢ per week with nothing extra for revivals. He early learned how much more steam to give an anthem than a solo. Occasionally he would, during the sermon, finish the nap from which he had earlier been rudely awakened."

"Although married all these years, the better half of the union has never reached the point that she fails to say, when a decision is pending on some matter of family policy: 'Well, we did not do it that way at Center Valley.'"

Center Valley

The new year will bring a great occasion for this community. On the second Sunday in August there will be a home-coming for all who ever received their mail at the village post office. The Old Homestead will be the scene of the festivities and Justamere cottage will be headquarters. At the same time, the Craven-Barker-Richardson reunion will be held. John W. Craven will be host and generalissimo and is most happy in anticipation. The entire Brill family has been asked to serve on the reception committee.

Wednesday evening, December 7, a baby cyclone hit the Old Homestead, destroying the windmill and overturning a large chicken house."

The Old Attic

The attic at the old home is just waiting for the boys of yesteryear to come back. And the girls who played there in the golden days. And the neighborhood boys, too.

The electric engine awaits the hand of a youthful engineer. The hobby-horse is anxious to be ridden again. The boxing gloves and the roller skates and the big house ball are all there. The attic would not be complete without them, and it is lonesome.

H C H S

A Letter From the Past

An interesting letter from Miss Evelyn Butler, Dean of Women, Butler College, Indianapolis, postmarked July 10, 1919, and addressed to Miss Frances Weaver, Pittsboro, Indiana. (If anyone in our Society does not know who Frances Weaver is now, he should go to the foot of the class, for anyone who knows anything knows Frances is now the bride of over 50 years of Roy Fisher.)

Dear Frances,

Your note telling me you would be back at Butler next year came last week and you know how glad I am of your decision. I am delighted to have you in the dormitory and have reserved room there for you. (There follows quite a lengthy discussion of the rooms.)

The price of Room 3, second floor, is \$25.50 a semester; board is \$90.00 a semester. Room 1 is \$30.00, that is \$15 a piece if two occupy it; room 15 is \$22.50, or \$11.25 a piece. Let me know if your assignment doesn't suit you

Even if your experience of shocking wheat didn't equal the classical pastorals on the subject, it is quite possible that a poet beholding you in the field cutting and shocking the golden grain might have been inspired to write a poem on the subject! The moral of which is if you want to write the poetry, sit under a tree and watch the other fellow work!

Miss Butler closes her letter: Remember me to your mother and tell her I'll take good care of you next year.

(Editor's note: I knew Frances was an outstanding graduate of Butler in 1921, graduating magna cum laude, with other honors, too, but I didn't know she had sharpened her remarkable wits shocking wheat!)

H C H S

NELLIE STORM BEAGLEY

Nellie Storm Beagley, a charter member of the Hendricks County Historical Society died on Wednesday, January 17, 1979 in the Clinton County Hospital.

Nellie was a native of Lizton and lived there until 1977 when she moved into Wesley Mannor at Frankfort.

She had been a teacher in the Hendricks County Schools and Central Normal College. Her husband, Russell Beagley did roofing. They had lived on North Indiana Street in Danville.

She was a graduate of Central Normal College and had attended Butler University. She had traveled extensively and gave lectures about her trips.

We shall miss her.

H C H S

MUSEUM MUSINGS

by
Jewell Bell

We didn't get snowed under for "Christmas at the Museum" as we did last year. We got rained on instead. The first week-end was as wet and miserable as it could get. The next week-end was clear and cold.

The museum was a nice place to wait for Danville's Christmas parade to start. Several came early and toured the museum and had cookies and some of Dorothy Kelley's hot spiced cider. Those of you who haven't tasted her spiced cider have missed something! She kept it hot on the coal range too!

Rita Lieske, Danville, Sharon Brock, Stilesville, Theresa Russell and Connie Power, both of North Salem, decorated the house. Kathi Kelley's sixth grade pupils of Brownsburg trimmed the tree. Every year the decorations are the best yet! There were lots of tree decorations from the craft shop peeking out of the greenery decorating the stairway. If one found a new home, a new one took its place. Paula Gauner, Brownsburg, Kathi's craft shop assistant, sewed up a storm while tending the store. She turned out socks in tree decorations like you wouldn't believe! Any kind and all kinds. All done in needle-point.

We had a manger scene in the basement. Part of it could be seen from the top of the stairs, but one had to go down stairs to really appreciate it.

Thirteen school classes, grades 3 to 6, toured the museum during the time it was all dressed up for Christmas. The students were from Brownsburg and Danville.

Our appeal for an old ironing board was answered, and now we have a laundry room in the basement. Now we want an old wash stand!

If the weather holds out and we can get around, the museum will be open on Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. to about 3:30 p.m. and on Saturday from 1-4 p.m.

H C H S

An old "programme", yellow with age, came to our attention recently. Many of the names on the programme seemed vaguely familiar, but one name stood out. Nora Walsh is your Editor's mother. She was teaching at North Salem in 1895. Although she was a Primary teacher, she is credited with introducing public school music in Hendricks County. North Salem natives will recognize many of the other names.

LADIES * CHORAL * UNION

at the

Christian Church

LIZTON : : : INDIANA.

Saturday Evening, Nov. 9, '95.

PROGRAMME

PART I

1. Chorus—"Day is at Last Departing." Raff
L. C. U.
2. Piano Solo—"Polka Caprice." Epstein
Emma Williams
3. Vocal Solo—"As the Dawn." Cantor
Mamie Kennedy
4. Chorus—"Primavera" Moderati.
L. C. U.
5. Cornet Solo—"Theme and Varie" Millers
Arthur Waters

PART II

6. Chorus—"Spring and Love" Lob
L. C. U.
7. Vocal Trio—"Awakening of the Birds." Concione
Ada Clark, Nora Walsh, Maud Clements
8. Piano Solo—"Grande March De Concert" Wollen Hempt
Miss Georgia Leak
9. Vocal Solo—"Friends" Lohr
Diné Emmon's

- | | | |
|-----|------------------------------|-----------|
| 10. | Cornet Trio. | Selected |
| | Messus Waters, Clay And Rudy | |
| 11. | Vocal Duet-- "Fair Janet" | Franz Abt |
| | Minnie and Ada Clark | |

PART III

- | | | |
|-----|---|-----------|
| 12. | Chorus--Drawn From Samson and Delilah | |
| | L. C. U. | |
| 13. | Vocal Solo | Selected |
| | Mr. George Waters | |
| 14. | Vocal Trio--"Warrior." | Macfarren |
| | Nettie Clay, Mamie Kennedy, | |
| | Lettie Clements | |
| 15. | Chorus--"Fairy Elves" with Soprano Solo | |
| | by Nettie Clay | Murray |

R. B. Rudy,	Musical Director
Lida Waters	Accompanist

H C H S

At the present time Grace Cox, 494 West Clinton Street, Danville, IN 46122 is in possession of three old photograph albums. In the album that I keep are the following pictures:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. John & Elizabeth (Betsy) Canary | 4. Aaron & Rebecca Wilhite |
| 2. Anna McKnight (McNite) | 5. John & Sarah Wilhite |
| 3. Polly Green | 6. Hattie Little |

All of the above women, except Hattie Little, are daughters of Alexander Little and sisters of Samuel Little.

In the second album it must be relatives of the late James R. Ward, who married Melissa Cox.

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1. David Ward | 5. Celia Morrison |
| 2. Catharine Ward | 6. Mary Ward |
| 3. James Ward 1872 | 7. Rhoda Ward |
| 4. Melissa Cox 1872 | |

In the third album

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Alfred Elmore | 8. Charles S. Cox |
| 2. Will Weaver | 9. Ezra Woodward |
| 3. Tiry Hunter | 10. Melissa Craven |
| 4. Theodore Rader | 11. Rebecca Craven |
| 5. Mary Lindley | 12. Ira Woodward |
| 6. Josie Miller | 13. Riley Woodward |
| 7. James R. Ward | 14. Joe Woodward & Allen Craven |

In each album there are unidentified pictures.

- In the last list, #5. Mary Lindley is the daughter of Aaron & Louisa
Cox Lindley
#6. Josie Miller is daughter of Michael and Jane Cox Miller
#8. Charles S. Cox is a brother of Melissa Cox Ward.

The second and third albums will return to Helen Maxine Ward Wilson

Grace would like to urge everyone ... and she means everyone ... to have their Bible Records zeroxed for her files. Much, much valuable information is recorded in family Bibles, many of which are gathering dust and will eventually be lost. If you don't know how to proceed, give Grace a call, and she will be glad to help you. Telephone 745-2552. This information is very important and we are fortunate to have some one like Grace undertake the project.

H C H S

INTERESTING ITEMS OF THE PAST

The Danville Advertiser March 11, 1854

School

The undersigned respectfully announces to the citizens of Danville and vicinity, that he will open a school, in the Old Presbyterian Church, on the 27th of February, inst., where pupils will be taught the different branches (sp) of an English education. He solicits the support of those friendly to improvement. The tuition (sp) will in no case exceed three dollars per quarter per pupil; but it will be regulated by the number in attendance. If necessary a lady assistant will be procured
H. Crea

Danville, February 24th 1854: 24: tf

James Lockridge

Chair and Cabinet Maker

Shop on the south east corner of the Public Square, Danville, Indiana
Coffins made on short notice

Estray Notices

Taken up by James McClain, in Washington Township, Hendricks County, two estray fat hogs, one sow, of a sandy color with black spots, marked with an under bit out of each ear, the other is a barrow, mostly white with some black spots and appraised at \$15.75 by Robert Barker and James Campbell on the 30th of December, 1853, before Squire Seth Hurrin.

Bradley Bartholomew

Henry Cox

Drs. Bartholomew and Cox,
have associated themselves together in the practice of medicine.
Office corner of Washington and Clinton Streets--Bartholomew's old stand, Danville.
Calls promptly attended to at all hours.
November 15, '53:13;ly

L A R D L A M P S

Kinnear's newly invented oxygen Lard Lamps - the cheapest and best lamp now in use. Although this lamp is designed expressly for lard, yet oil may be used as in all other lamps. For sale Wholesale and retails by

H. S. KELLOG

Sign of the Big Padlock
Indpls., Sept 29:7

The Danville Advertiser Saturday May 27, 1854

Donation Party

The friends of the Rev. C. S. Burgner, will pay him a donation visit on Tues the 30th of May 1854. The public of town and country generally are invited to attend, married people are requested to attend during the day and young people in the evening. A supper will be prepared for the occasion at the parsonage. Come one, Come all.
Danville, 25, 1854.

The fare from Indianapolis to New York City has been reduced to thirteen dollars.

The Danville Advertiser Saturday July 22, 1854

Female Postmasters

The number of females at present holding the office of postmaster (or rather mistress) in the U. S. is 128. They are appointed, give bond, are commissioned and receive the same compensation for their services as other postmasters. Unmarried females only can hold the office of postmaster.

Republican
April 2, 1891

For Sale - A two room house and lot. Will sell for \$100 cash. John M. Vawter.
3 12 3t

Calico, special sale Saturday next - 3 3/4 cents at Schwartz's store, one door east of post office.

Misses Ada Brill, Kate Tout and Etta Wells, of Pittsboro are attending the State Normal.

Rev. Mr. Dickerson will preach at the Cumberland Presbyterian church next Sunday night.

Miss Kate Irons, an experienced trimmer, has been engaged by Mrs. Julia Wills for this summer.

Mrs. Pike closed a successful school last week. Those who were neither tardy nor absent in the 120 days were Mary Whyte and Claudie Arnold.

Two very old poems have turned up on our desk. The first, entitled SIXTY YEARS AGO, had to have been written many more than 60 years ago, and the second is dated.

SIXTY YEARS AGO

I'm very glad I did not live
Some sixty years ago,
For children then had no such fun
As they have now, I know.

My grandma says when she was young
She had no pretty toys
That Santa Claus now brings
To little girls and boys.

My grandma thinks that little folks
Are now-a-days allowed
To have too many handsome toys ...
She says they're spoiled and proud.

Why, only think, I've heard her say
When she played "Come to tea",
She only had old broken plates
Or saucers, it might be.

Or such cracked dishes as she found,
That had been thrown away,
And these, she said, were treasures rare
With which she loved to play.

Such playthings I should not have liked
And so I say again,
"I'm very, very glad indeed
I wasn't living then."

Dear Grandma says the happiest time
It has been her lot to know
Was when she was a little girl
Some sixty years ago.

Well, I am glad for Grandma's sake
Since it has pleased her so,
That she lived then and I did not,
Some sixty years ago.

Another, also yellow with age, was dated January, 1891 and its title The New Slate

I'm glad I've got a good sized slate
And lots of room to calculate
Bring on your sums, I'm ready now,
My slate is clean and I know how.

But please don't ask me to subtract,
I like to have my slate well packed
And only two long rows, you know,
Make such a miserable show.

And, say, don't ask me to add,
Well, multiplying is just as bad,
And I'd really rather not divide ...
Bring me something I haven't tried.

H C H S

The following interesting article about North Salem was written by Myrtie Barker and appeared a few months ago in THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR. We thank Mrs. Charles Long, Indianapolis, for sending it.

NORTH SALEM'S A LITTLE PEARL

NORTH SALEM, Ind. - In North Salem, the main drag is not called Main Street, as it is in most small towns.

It is Pearl Street.

Things are looking good along Pearl Street. A year ago, there were many vacant storerooms in the heart of this little Hendricks County village (population 650), 30 scenic miles from Indianapolis. A number of local firms had either gone out of business or moved away, leaving empty store windows.

Today, everything is filled.

Parked in front of Basham's Antique Store, across the street from the North Salem post office, there was a kind of a town meeting. When the word got around that a reporter was in town, a number of the townsfolk came out to tell their stories.

It was soon learned that the North Salem State Bank (\$10 million in assets), of which Russell Owen is president, is currently engaged in erecting a handsome new bank building. The new building is immediately in back of the attractive, 2 year-old post office, headed by Postmaster Robert McGown.

Later, browsing in Basham's, tended by Lelah Duncan, 80 the ceiling-high collection of thingamajigs appeared to date back as far as 1835, the year North Salem became an incorporated town. There were things like an old, weatherbeaten board, used in stretching the hides of foxes, bears and deer.

There were old-time heating stoves, cook stoves and cast iron pots and pans -- and yes, beautiful pie safes.

If ever there was a pie-happy town, this is it.

Hungry Indians

History records that once Mrs. John S. Woodard, wife of the first storekeeper, spent the day baking pies. She then lined them all up to cool on the window ledge of the Woodard cabin and went next door to mind her husband's store while he made a trip to the mill.

During her absence, a party of Indians passing through the area chanced to notice the long row of pies lined up before the open window. The Indians took every pie.

A hundred years later, in 1935, at the time of the North Salem Centennial celebration, local housewives, perhaps recalling the thievery of the Indians in the early days, decided to emulate the incident to this degree. The women of the town volunteered to contribute 500 home-baked pies to the centennial occasion.

"Right now," says town board president Robert Bridges, "we are trying to upgrade the North Salem water system."

That statement touched off another fascinating happening of days past, one that is included in the Eel Township history.

"In 1893, a stock company was formed and money raised for the purpose of drilling for oil and gas on the east edge of town. A pipe was sent down several hundred feet, but the drill broke and could not be raised. Another well was sunk nearby."

Instead of gas or oil, flowing wells resulted.

Those wells have continued to flow for the 84 years since, supplying North Salem with an abundance of fine water.

In the upgrading program now planned for the town's water system, the Comprehensive Employment Training Act (CETA), a Federal agency, has provided North Salem with two young men to handle the necessary manual labor needed in carrying out the project.

"We have other goals, too," Bridges said. "Momentarily, the town is grappling with the matter of installing their first sanitary system. Then we would like to complete the erection of our new street lights."

A Pirate Tale

CETA employe Tom Lovins guided us to North Salem's pretty little three acre park, which was recently completed for use. Then we were taken to the home of Mrs. Zona Walker, 80, who furnished the historic details on North Salem's first teacher, who excitingly enough was a pirate named William DeWitt.

As the story goes, DeWitt left New Orleans after his involvement in some sort of crime. In his effort to flee, he boarded a pirate ship, sailing around the world several times. He eventually came to this community, teaching in a school with a stick and mud chimney.

DeWitt, lived to be 104 years old, and is buried in the North Salem Cemetery.

En route home, thoughts drifted into a total rerun of North Salem and its hospitable people, folks like Postmaster McGown and his staff; Lola Adams, whose home once sheltered the North Salem postoffice; 40 year-old Robert Porter, who must be ranked as one of the town's leading businessmen.

Porter operates the town's mortuary, its drug store and an insurance agency. Juanita Klein and her husband presented the Town Barker with a pot of ivy geraniums. The Kleins own the town's greenhouse.

Really, before leaving North Salem, the writer should have placed that pretty potted plant on the grave of the pirate schoolteacher. After all, how many small Indiana towns can count a pirate among their first citizens?