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A publication of the NEWTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.
P.O. BOX 303, Kentland, Indiana 47951
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

The Newcomer

The Newcomer is a publication of the Newton County Historical Society, Inc. A 501(3)c approved organization.

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What's On Our Agenda . . .

The Newton County Historical Society meets every fourth Monday of each month, on the same day, the Family History Division meets at 1:00 at the Resource Center in Kentland and the Society general meetings are held in different locations in the County at 7:00 p.m. Local members are notified of the place and time each month. Don't Forget - Memberships Make Great Gifts!!

New Resource Center Hours - all CST - Monday 11:00-3:00; Thursday, 1:00-5:00; Friday 11:00-3:00.

We'd Like Your Input!! We are looking for suggestions for stories, articles and pictures for our next edition of *The Newcomer*. We know that there are many stories of our past ancestors and their way of life that are just waiting to be told! This newsletter is designed to do just that!! If you would like to write an article, submit a photo, contact the editor or a member of our society.

Visit our web site www.ingenweb.org/innewton

The Newcomer

A publication of the NEWTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.
 Indiana's YOUNGEST County

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The Making of a Small Town - Roselawn, 1880-1882

By Beth Bassett

While researching another topic in the 1881 *Kentland Gazette*, I noticed that there were timely entries regarding the growth of the Lincoln Township area, specifically the beginnings of the town of Roselawn. It is amazing what you can find in the local news items of these newspapers. I found it interesting that the actual names of the person(s) who submitted the articles were not published, but a "pen" name was given. For example, "Doubleyou H. Ark;" could this be a synonym for W. H. R. K.? This led me to the census records of the time, thinking I might discover the contributor of the progress of Roselawn, which developed into a related article to this story, also published in this edition. There are many local names mentioned in the entries, as well as businesses.

If you would like to continue reading the locals after the platting of the town in January, 1882, you are welcome to visit the Resource Center and read through our volumes of newspapers. It is a fun way to learn about the history of our county and it's residents.

Thursday, May 20, 1880

We are living in a progressive age, you know, and I do not know but I might as well make "Progression," the subject of this scribbling. We are progressing in the way of buildings, fencing, ditching, road grading and general improvements, increasing in population. Six years ago we had 7 or 8 voters in this township, now we have near 50 voters. Eight years ago I do not think there was an apple tree in the township; now there are a number of orchards bearing fruit. Seven years ago there was not a foot of graded road in the township; now there are about six miles of grade. Two years ago, I believe, the first crop of wheat was raised here; there are some fields here that look about as well as any in the county. Our corn crops have been comparatively light heretofore, but we will soon have our lands drained, so that crops will be pretty sure. The prospect now is good for an abundance of small fruits, such as huckleberries, strawberries, raspberries, and grapes, etc. But I must close for this time for fear you will not find space in your columns. - Doubleyou H. Ark.

November 25, 1880 -
 From Lincoln Township

Please excuse me for my long delay in reporting to you from the region—the solid North—Lincoln township determined to make itself as near a solid North as possible for Garfield—not by fraud in any way, but in an honest way; by comparing the principles of the two parties, and we are proud of the result of our efforts and that of the masses of people in the great Nation. It shows that when the people of this country are put to the test upon questions of vital importance, the masses will stand up for the right.

But I suppose you want some news from this corner of the county.

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Bird's eye view of Roselawn, this postcard, postmarked September 4, 1904, was sent from Roselawn to Fair Oaks. Newton County Historical Society Collection.

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John D. Sink is still singing "for the stars that bind the people in the Union once again."

Our railroad contractors are working away along the line north from Rensselaer. The track is laid to within about twelve miles of the Kankakee River on the north side, about fifteen miles on the south side and about one-third of that distance is graded.

M. Boyle and Sam. Hammond took contract of one mile across the river marsh and they have it almost completed.

There is quite a stir about where our nearest station will be. Stratton & Ather-ton of Momence, have a tract of land on the north side of the river where the road crosses, and they also have one section of the line of road about five miles south of the river. They say the depot shall be at one or the other of those points. But it is not yet decided at which place it will be. They propose to have it near the river if the citizens here will give five hundred dollars, which amount they say they can get at their south point. I think we will raise the amount and have it near Thayer's Landing. Doubleyou H. Ark.

January 20, 1881 - Items from the North End - Lincoln Township

The people here feel as happy over the new near completed railway as they did over the late Republican victory in county and State.

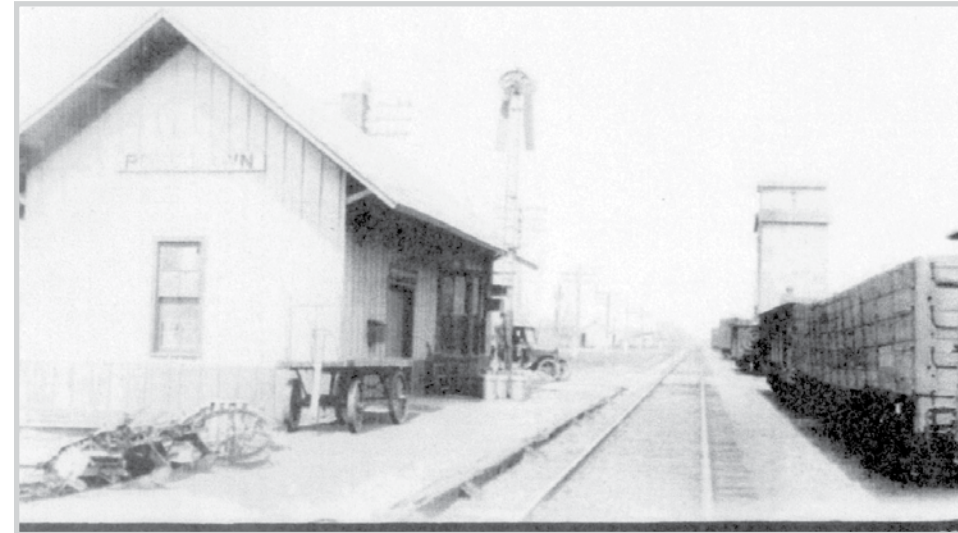
Pile driving is being pushed at the Kankakee River bottoms. Guilford & Sotherland have put on an extra large force of men and teams.

Our town will soon be established; we are to have at once two ice houses, a hay press, warehouse, depot, express office and other buildings, such as a nice town will have—churches and schools—but no saloons. We are strictly temperate in all things, therefore we intend with the help of Providence to have the most thriving town in the county. Why? Because the town will be located in one of the most romantic spots on the Kankakee River.

Jack the sailor, and Henry Ferrell made a desperate charge the other day on a ferocious mad dog, armed with pitchforks. They broke their forks in the melee, but succeeded in dispatching the dog. - Correspondence

February 3, 1881 Lincoln Township

Grover Smith has contract to get out 10,000 ties and he is pushing vigorously the same; he thinks he will be able to fulfill his contract by April next; he has an extra



The Roselawn Depot, photo undated. - Newton County Historical Society Collection.

large force of men on now. There are two pile drivers at the Kankakee River.

Guildford & Southerland think they will be able to move from Jasper county, north of the dividing ridge by March 1st. They are pushing their work through with energy, and the work is a credit to them. They employ a large force of men and teams. No tramps need apply. This is the most favorable winter for railroading for many years. We thank the All-wise providence, because the railroading gave and does give employment to all the needy - COROS.

February 17, 1881 - Lincoln Township

A first-class blacksmith and wood maker wanted in the new town just started. There is progress—two new buildings in our new town already. - Correspondence.

Kinney Newton County

Editors Gazette: In answer to Correspondent from the North end of county, I would say, that he, and Henry Farrell must have had a narrow escape from being torn to pieces, when armed with a musket and pitchfork, they made a raid on Squire Ray's old dog that was both crippled and blind. - One of the Boys.

May 5, 1881

Newton County has a new town, it is on the line of the C. & I. A. It's name is

Rose Lawn, and it is full of business, the first building having been erected about a month ago; it has six or seven dwelling houses, one blacksmith shop, and one dry goods store. Rose Lawn is about two miles

south of the Kankakee River - Rensselaer Republican.

May 26, 1881 - News from the North-East Corner

Rose Lawn, is the name of the new village on the I. D. & C. R. R. in Lincoln Township, and is located on the NW ¼ of the NW ¼ of Sect 14, Twp. 31 N, R 8W. It is not yet six months old, but it presents quite flourishing appearance; eight new buildings, one of which is the store room of Keller, Craig & Co., about 24 by 80 feet, two stories high, and crammed full of dry goods, groceries, hardware, Queensware and notions. They informed us that they have a very good trade. They will soon lay off 40 acres into town lots and offer them on reasonable terms to persons who will improve them; the north-east corner has improved very rapidly for the last few years, splendid mansions loom up where a few years ago all was wilderness. Among the many new buildings we might name that of R. P. Conger on Section 10, M. Adams' on Section 5 and Mr. Slater in Township 32.

Mr. George Watts has a herd of about 400 cattle on Sect 1 and 2; there are also quite a number of other herds near the village.

The I. D. & C. R. R. is approaching completion very rapidly. Messrs Kite &

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Visit David Dye's website, for more Goodland history and photographs.
<http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users/d/y/e/David-Lee-Dye-INDIANA/index.html>

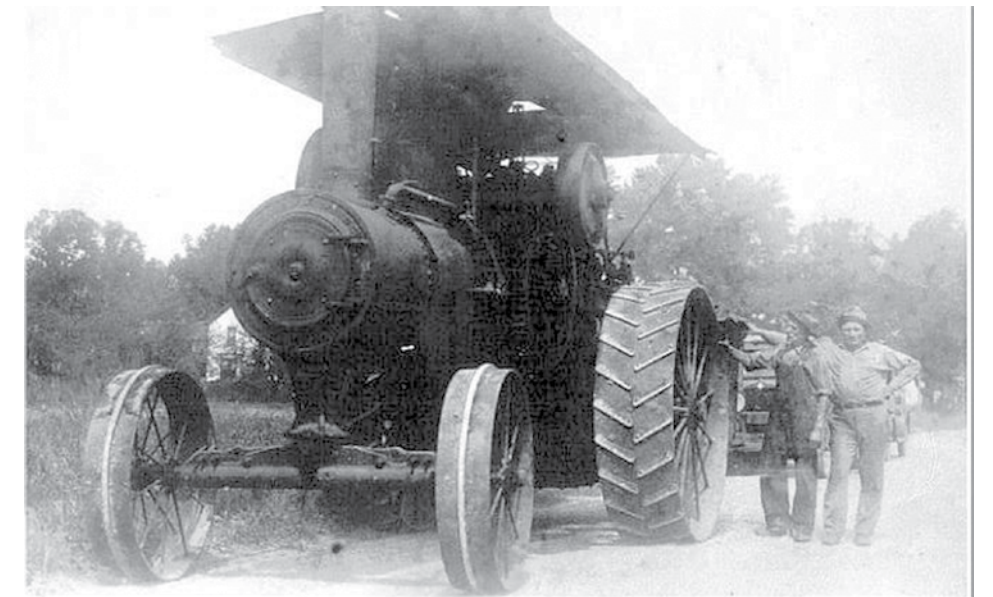
Masonic Lodge

The Goodland Bank with the Masonic Lodge upstairs as seen during the 1920's-30s. The Bank is at the NW corner of Newton and Union Streets. To the right of the bank is some business and then a bakery and a building (now the drive through window for the bank) - where in the 1940's/50's Clement Sainte and Bill Templin had a barber shop. - David Dye Collection



Threshing Rig, 1914

This shows part of a threshing rig used on a threshing run on the farms just east of Goodland, in the early 1900's. Pictured is Charles Welsh (Helen Goff's father) and James Sheldon, (Kate DeWees' father). Picture taken in 1914. Photo courtesy of Kate (Sheldon) DeWees. - David Dye Collection



Early Grant Township Schools

The left picture is of Constable School #6, which was southwest of town near the intersection of 1700S and Indiana State Road 55 on the southwest corner. Date and students unknown. Center is the first school house in Goodland, which started soon after the Civil War as one room and was added to as time went by. The photo to the right is also of Constable School #6, taken about 1900. It shows Raymond Lyle Constable as a student at age nine or ten. There were seven one room schools in Grant Township at one time. - David Dye Collection.

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**Goodland History
Preserved on Web Site**

David Dye, who has contributed many items to our newsletter, has these photos and more on his web site. We encourage you to visit the site soon!

C. S. and A. Depot

This building was later expanded on all sides and in 1947 became the home of Better Coil and Transformer Corporation. Later a beer distributorship. The tracks ran down Iroquois Street in Goodland, and no longer exist. - David Dye Collection



Goodland Hotel

This is a very old picture of the Sluz Tavern in Goodland where it was a hotel and owned by cousins of Jesse James. - David Dye Collection



Pan Handle Depot, Showing Park, Goodland, Ind.

**Goodland
Pan Handle Depot**

From an early postcard showing the East/West tracks through Goodland. The depot was erected in 1871 and is a simple wood frame, shingle structure. Efforts are being made to move and restore this depot by Goodland citizens. - David Dye Collection

Burton have their contract nearly finished. Guilford and Sutherland have about half a mile to grade; they are working quite a large number of men and teams, and if good weather continues, they will finish their contract before the first of June. This road is built in a first-class style. It's 30 miles the shortest route from Indianapolis to Chicago, which will insure it a fair share of patronage, besides it being the principal connection of the Wabash Valley Road with Chicago, and its depot which is said to be in the best location in the city.

June 30, 1881 - Lincoln Township

Rose Lawn is in a swearing frame of mind. Wm. Walters is going to start a wholesale saloon, for which he now has a stock of liquors, and is making preparations for erecting another superb mansion in the new town. Still they come. Walters will make the Lawn Roses reverberate with jollity.

The C. & I. A. S. RR have their track laid from Rensselaer to within 1 1/2 miles of the Kankakee River, and we hope to soon see the C. & E. intersect at Thayer's Grove.

One of Lincoln's oldest residents, John Hamman, died the night of the 16th instant - Kenny, Newton County Ind.

August 25, 1881 - From the North End

Rose Lawn is still flourishing. The drug store is completed and contains a full stock in that line. The railroad is completed and the telegraph wire up, and freight is received and discharged at Rose Lawn.

The town is still improving; good demand for town lots. Come one, come all.

Sept 1, 1881 - Notes from Kenney

Chief Engineer and Superintendent E. Le M. Hoarer, of the C. & I. A. L. RR came out from Chicago on the 24th and staked out the two depots south of the Kankakee River. The first depot south of the the River is in Thayer's Grove on Section 4, Range 8 Township 31, being half a mile from the river and is to have 2 side tracks 1,400 feet in length. The second depot on Section 31, Range 7, township 31, in Jasper County.

Rensselaer gents are now erecting a club house at the Kankakee River and have \$625 subscribed for the same.

Messrs. Sigler and Goff of Rensselaer propose building a storehouse at Thayer's Grove, where they will purchase all kinds

of grain. Several others intend building as soon as the depot is built.

We have a train running from the south as far as Lowell in Lake County, and will soon be able to get out of the black marsh on the steam horse.

Sept 8, 1881 - From Roselawn

The saw mill has been moved from Bumboloo to this place and will be ready

for work in one week.

The population of Rose Lawn now is about 200, and is only five months since the first building was erected.

The American Express Company has established an office here. Lawn Craig is heir agent.

The American Insurance Co. has es-

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Roselawn Plat, June 28, 1882

(Editor's note: this is transcribed as it was filed with the plat that I picked up from the Newton County Surveyor's office.)

Know all men by these present, that we Jacob Kellar and Clara Kellar his wife of Cook County and State of Illinois, Lou Craig and Nellie Craig his wife and Orlando Rose and Belle Rose his wife of Newton County and State of Indiana hereby plat and lay of a Town to be named and known as Rose Lawn. Said Town is situated on and comprises the whole of the North West quarter of the North West quarter of section Fourteen (14) in Township Thirty one (31) North Range Eight (8) West in Newton County Indiana. Said Tract of land is hereby subdivided and platted into Blocks Lots, Streets and Alleys of number and names and herein after as delineated and set forth in the accompanying plat which is made a part hereof and to wit reference is hereby made for full and complete description of the number size and shape of said Blocks, and Lots and for the name width and direction of said streets and alleys all of said streets and alleys hereby layed out are hereby declared highways and dedicated to the public to be used as such.

To Testimony as hereby affixed our signatures and seals this 19th day of January, Eighteen hundred and eight two, 1882. - Submitted by Beth Bassett

Bullet Scarred Car of the Famous Outlaw, John Dillinger, Found

Editor's note Chuck and Dennis' Uncle Herbert Farrell, and their father Eugene were the eyewitnesses to this event. Eugene's account was typed up many years ago by their mother, which they submitted along with copies of articles from local newspapers of the time.

After a month spent in hiding, John Dillinger and his gang made another of his bold public appearances at South Bend, Indiana, at noon Saturday, when they held up the Merchants National Bank and escaped with nearly \$29,000 leaving in their wake one policeman slain on duty and three other persons injured from their gunfire.

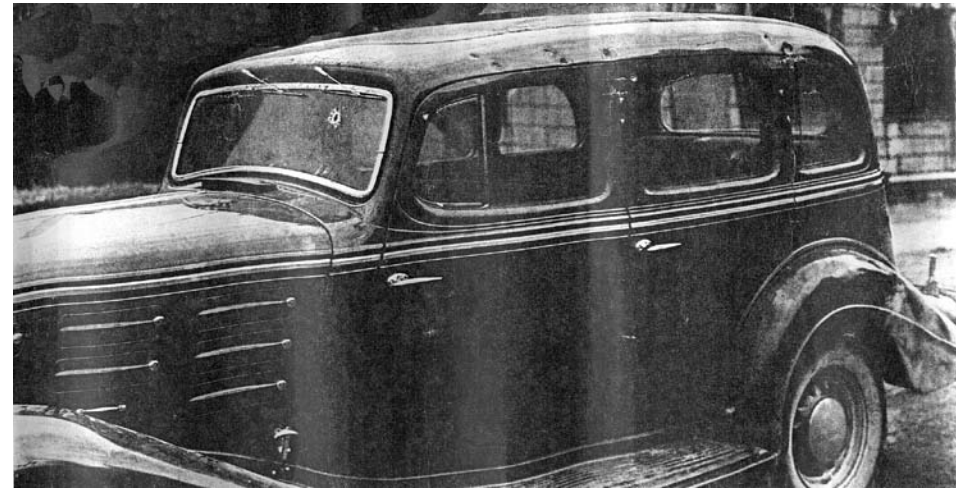
Shortly after two o'clock the large tan Hudson sedan used by the Dillinger gang was found just north of town. Herbert and Eugene Farrell were cultivating corn on their farm near Percy Junction, 4 miles west of Goodland, when they saw two cars pull up in the road about a quarter of a mile away, one a brown Hudson straight eight sedan, and the other a gray or light tan coupe with a rumble seat. The occupants of the sedan, four and possibly five men, according to the Farrell brothers, deserted the Hudson and clambered into the coupe, the car heading straight west at a high rate of speed.

Becoming suspicious of the actions of the men, Herbert and Eugene hurried to the abandoned car, and found it bullet riddled, with two bullet holes in the windshield and 16 slugs had riddled the left side of the car. The rear glass of the vehicle was completely out, and bloodstains were much in evidence on the rear seat. One clip of 32 and a clip of 45 cartridges were found in the car, in addition to a part of a sack of roofing nails, which had been used to scatter in the wake of the fleeing car to halt pursuit.

Mr. Farrell notified Sheriff Hampton of his find and Mr. Hampton went to Goodland where the car was taken for safe keeping at Harry's Garage.

Sgt. Frank Falk, fingerprint expert of the Lafayette police department came here with State Police and made an examination of the car. Saturday evening a squad car from South Bend came to Goodland and identified the car as the car used by the bandits and drove the car back to South Bend. It is not known whether the car was a stolen car or purchased for use in this robbery.

No trace of the outlaws was found from here until two o'clock Sunday morning when a man called at the home of Dr.



Contributed by
Chuck and Dennis Farrell

Leslie A. Laird at North Webster, Indiana and asked him to treat an accident victim at this office. Upon arriving there he was forced to treat a man for gunshot wounds in the lower left arm. The doctor was unable to positively identify his patient. Af-

ter treating the man he was knocked unconscious and the telephone wires in his office were cut, causing a delay of about 45 minutes before an alarm could be given. — *Accounts taken from Goodland Herald, Morocco Courier and Kentland Enterprise.*

HISTORICALLY YOURS BY COUNTY HISTORIAN, DONNA LACOSSE

This is my last year to serve as Newton County Historian. An Historian can serve for three years and then has to be approved by the Indiana State Historical Society board in order to serve another term of three years. I have held this office for many years and am now asking to be replaced when this three-year term expires. I am no longer able to attend meetings in Indianapolis; therefore I don't think I am serving the county as well as I should. I feel someone younger should be representing our county, and it should be someone who can travel easily to Indy where most of the Indiana Historical meetings are held.

I have enjoyed the years I have served as the county historian. The Round Tables held once a year in Indianapolis gave me a chance to meet historians from other counties and to share with those who work on the State level.

The trip to Indy was two-fold for us — while I attended the meetings, Harold spent the day with our daughter who lives in Indy. They have been missing out on their father-daughter days since I can no longer attend those meetings.

It is not the traveling that is a problem; it is the walking after reaching Indy that

was murder on my poor worn out knees! And, the time difference is also a factor.

Our society lost a valued and dedicated friend with the passing of Jim Robbins on June 7. He was an historian in every way — gathering material, savoring facts and fiction, and verbally sharing the information with everyone who would listen.

Jim, the son of the late Wesley and Francie Robbins, was 77 years young. He was a 1948 graduate of Mount Ayr High School and was a veteran of the Korean War. He is survived by a brother and sister-in-law, Jack and Neva Robbins of Wisconsin; a nephew, Sam Robbins of Illinois; four nieces, Mary Gehrke, Lorene Fobia, Sara Robbins and Janet Robbins, all of Wisconsin; three first cousins, Vivian Ames of Rensselaer, Harold (Donna) LaCosse of Morocco and Joyce Padgett of Brook. He will be sadly missed.

Have a great summer and keep on making history — both in the family and in the community. That's what this history business is all about.

Visit the Resource Center!

Monday - 11-3; Thursday 1-5; and Friday 11-3.

Visit our web site www.ingenweb.org/innewton

Family History Division Republishes "Hoosier Hunting Grounds or The Beaver Lake Trail"

The Family History Division is pleased to announce the republication of "Hoosier Hunting Grounds, or The Beaver Lake Trail." Written in 1904 by Bill Bat, aka John Alter, this work of fiction, based on fact, depicts the life of trappers, horse thieves, counterfeiters, Indians and the wildlife of our area in 1840.

Jim Robbins, to whom the book is dedicated, suggested that we reprint this book because of its accurate description of the Beaver Lake Country, which included Lake, Lincoln, McClellan, Beaver and Colfax Townships in Newton County, as well as bordering townships of Jasper County, specifically Union Township, where the author grew up and walked the Indian trails, hunted and trapped in the Beaver Lake Country.

From the first chapter, Mr. Alter draws the reader in by detailing a trapper's cavern; the flora and fauna of Beaver Lake; the antics and anxieties of hunting and trapping as a lifestyle; to sitting amongst the Bogus Island counterfeiters while they listen to a man named Barker deliver a sermon on living a "straight and narrow" life.

The characters are of mixed heritages, all coming together in several seasons sharing their own stories of horse thieving, honor and friendship.

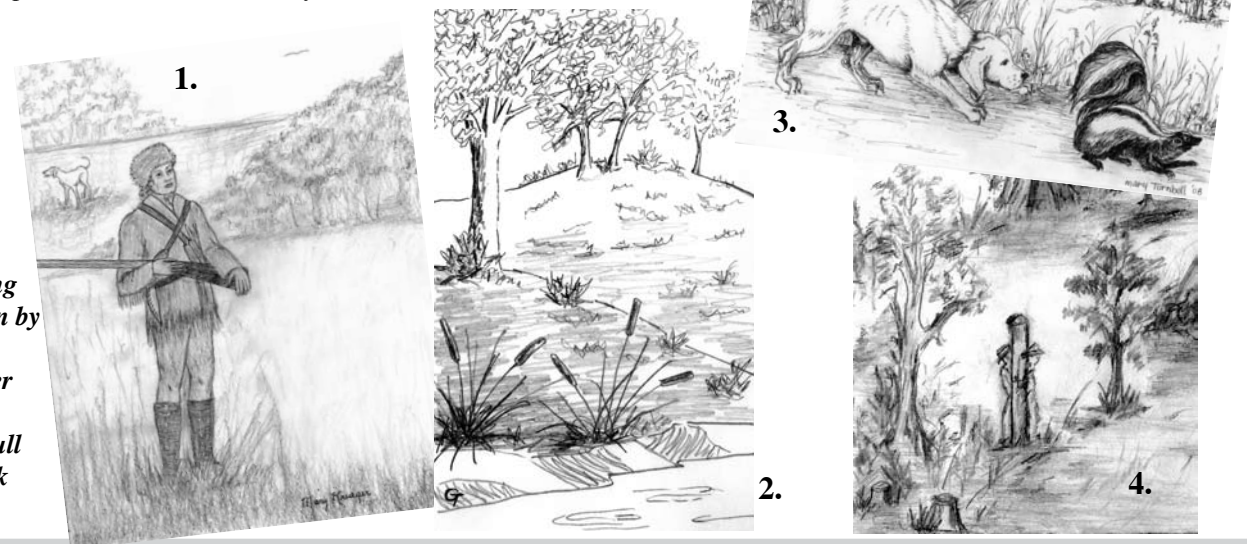
Josie (Pullin) Zacher, a descendent of John Alter, had an original copy of the book, which had been leather bound, and included a drawing on it's cover of the homestead of the Alter family, which was dated 1912. We have reproduced that cover in paperback form.

After reading the book, several members of the Family History Division felt the book revealed very vivid pictures in the reader's mind, and decided to enlist the help of local artists to illustrate several of the events in the book.

Mary Krueger, Greta Taylor, Mary Turnbull, and Ruth Warrick were sent copies of the book, which they read, and submitted

Just a few of the illustrations in *Hoosier Hunting Grounds*, drawn by local artists.

1. Mary Krueger
2. Greta Taylor
3. Mary Turnbull
4. Ruth Warrick



the original artwork for illustrations in the book. Members also indexed the book of places, even though many of those mentioned in the book were merely landmarks, not actual towns. Descendents of John Alter have added family pictures and biographical sketches of John Alter, adding to the authenticity of the book.

If you are a fan of the tales of Bogus Island, curious about the lifestyle, layout of the land, of the residents of the Beaver Lake Country, this book will be a definite asset to your collection of local histories.

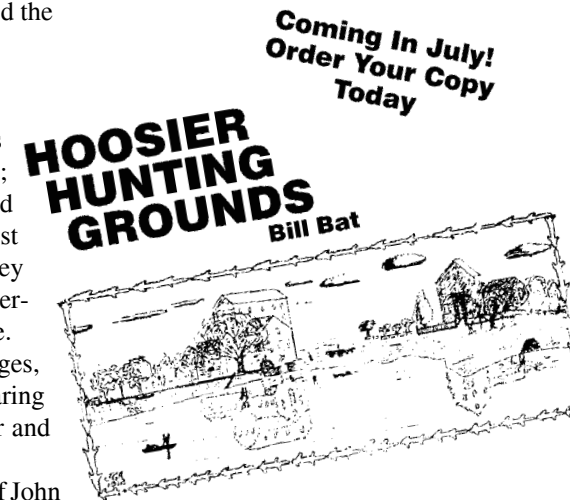
Release date will depend upon delivery from the printer, which we anticipate to be the end of July. An open house will be held, with the date to be announced. Order your copy now, they are selling for \$15.00 each, tax included. If mail orders are needed, there will be a shipping and handling charge of \$3.00 for each book.

Contact the Newton County Historical Society at 219-474-6944, or email newtonhs@ffni.com to reserve your copy now.

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Bogus Island

By Jim Robbins

Editor's note: This is the text that Jim would use when he gave a presentation about Bogus Island. It is only fitting that we print it here, in celebration of the reprinting of "Hoosier Hunting Grounds or the Beaver Lake Trail." It was Jim that suggested we reprint this book, written in 1904 that depicts the Beaver Lake Country in the year 1840, and it is to him the book is dedicated.

His first note states that the cave of the Bogus Island counterfeiters and thieves was located on the Northwest end of the island, which was 13 acres, 25'-35' high on the North-Northeast end, and sloped South to Southwest. It could be approached from the Northwest via sandbars.

He also states that the reason why it was called Bogus Island was that counterfeit money was created there, and horse thieves hid horses there, moving the heavy horses to Chicago, Wisconsin and Michigan, and trading to the East, low grade horses, and using "queer" money to boot!

"In the 1830's thieves started using Bogus Island as a hideout. It was impossible to approach the island undiscovered. Vegetation was so thick on the island that if someone did manage to land they could easily be ambushed. In 1839, the thieves passed some bogus coin in the vicinity of Iroquois (Bunkum) and points south. A party of vigilantes headed by Aaron Goodnow was formed with the goal of punishing the thieves. They approached from the Northwest in a wagon. When they couldn't go any farther on dry land, they converted the wagon to a boat and continued to the island.

"They captured three men and counterfeiting equipment. These men and their equipment were taken to the home of Jacob Troup near Iroquois on the Indiana/Illinois border. They were tried by Wesley Spittler, a J. P. (Justice of the Peace,) and bound over to the court, which was in Williamsport. One of the men named Crane managed to escape. The other two were taken by the sheriff's posse but were never tried. Evidently the raid was carried out in the night.

Sometime after that raid the thieves again started using the island until 1858 when they were driven out. They were a bit more cautious however, and did most of their theft farther away. There was a group in Warren County, which was evidently connected with the Bogus Island group. They were known as the Redwood Bandits. Their leader was a man known as George High.

Horses were stolen in Ohio, Kentucky, and other Eastern states. The horses were brought to Portland and crossed the Wabash River at Hanging Rock at the mouth of the Redwood Creek. Once over the river it was impossible to find them as the area was a wilderness. The horses were taken to Redwood Point. From there they were taken either to Bogus Island or Salt Fork of the Vermilion River. From Salt Fork they were taken to Iowa, Kansas or Nebraska and sold. Bogus Island's heavy horses were sent to the logging or farming areas. Light horses went to cities or towns.

When the state finally authorized militia groups, a group was formed in Montgomery County by Sant Gray, called the Horse Thief Detective Association.

Some stolen property was discovered on George High's property and the association arrested him. High had an exceptional horse and managed to escape from the arresting group. An ally had the horse waiting for him. High mounted the horse and started west. The Posse followed. High crossed the Indiana/Illinois state line and continued west. So did the Posse.

When High reached the Mississippi River he was five hours

ahead of the Posse. He did not pause, but rode into the river to swim across. Unfortunately, no one knows whether horse and rider made it.

Meanwhile in the Beaver Lake area, in the early 1850's a man from Iowa came to the area to visit his brother, their names were Handley. He was riding an exceptionally fine horse. The horse was stolen from the stable. They went to Thomas Barker, one of the early settlers of the Beaver Lake area (1840). Barker in turn went to Bogus Island and demanded to see the leader. The leader appeared and courteously asked what he wanted.

"I came here," said Mr. Barker, "to cause no trouble or raise no disturbance but on a matter of importance."

"What is the nature of that business?" answered the leader.

"Last night, a neighbor of mine had a very fine mare stolen and a coach, and I am demanding that the mare be returned. We have not bothered you here nor do we propose to be bothered on the other side. You are getting too close to home."

"But what if I say," replied the outlaw, "that I do not know anything of this mare, that none of my men are responsible."

"You may say what you please and do what you please. But remember this: that there are men over there who have rifles in their hands and they know how to shoot them."

At those words the outlaw looked Mr. Barker over very carefully and recognized that he was dealing with a determined man.

Personally he said, "I know nothing of this mare nor did I know that your neighbor's property had been disturbed. However, I will make inquiry among my men and if possible find out where this mare is. That may take three or our days."

"Take all the time required," said Mr. Barker, "but remember that you will be held responsible and I will not answer for what may occur."

One morning, three or four days after this conversation had taken place, the mare was found tied in the stable from whence she had been stolen.

In 1857, a group of vigilantes was formed in the area. Mr. Barker was the Captain of a Company. They met at Mr. Barker's cabin on the south shore of the lake and formed a plan to remove the outlaws from Bogus Island. This plan was never carried out.

A horse was stolen near Milford, Illinois. About 15 men started in pursuit. They found the horse at a house a little east of what is known now as Conrad. They also found the thief. He ran and they caught up with him at the ditch between Beaver Lake and the Kankakee River. He jumped the ditch and as he was climbing the bank he was shot and killed. They then returned to the house and arrested the man living there. They took him to Rensselaer where he was later tried and sentenced to three years in the penitentiary for harboring horse thieves. His name was William Shaffer. It was said he had killed his daughter.

This action threw terror into the Bogus Island thieves and they left the island. They left behind saddles, guns, ammo, bogus coins and dies and equipment.

My great grandfather who was a doctor, supposedly rode on the last raid. No-one was there.

Shaffer was the first prisoner in the new jail in Jasper County. He escaped immediately because the lock was improperly installed. He was immediately put back in the jail. That night he escaped again but was evidently confused as he appeared at the sheriff's door for breakfast.

Editor's note: the original pages of this tale were given to the society by Jim's family.

- continued from page 3

The Making of a Small Town
established an office at Rose Lawn—Bishopp & Pfrimmer agents.

October 13, 1881 - Kenney News

Business still lively at the north end.

Rose Lawn is improving in way of buildings; but there is not a population yet of two hundred inhabitants, as was stated a few weeks ago by some correspondent.

Rose and Craig are doing a lively business in their big store and say they are selling at the rate of \$40,000 worth of goods a year. There are two very nice sporting houses just put up at the river bridge.

Richard Andrews, of Lake Village, is putting up a hotel in the village of Thayer, in Thayer's Grove, near the depot grounds. There are about 60 acres of land laid out in town lots there, and his will be the first house on it.

The depot is to be built this month, and the switches made, and which time the trains will not be allowed to stop at Rose Lawn.

Stratten & Atherton, of Momence, say they are going to put up two ice houses at Thayer's Landing, large enough to hold one thousand tons each.

January 19, 1882 - Items From Roselawn

The post office at Roselawn is now ready for business. Roselawn is a regular flag station. Trains commenced to run regular on the road on the 9th instant, through to Chicago. Now is your time to go to the city and avoid mud by taking the train at Roselawn instead of going to Momence.

February 9, 1882 - Items from Roselawn

It takes courage, energy and enterprise as well as money to make a town, and Rose-Lawn now stands well to the front. Today work has begun here for a side-track; it is to be 1,500 feet long. There will also be one of the nicest depots on the line, here; there will be in connection with the side-track, stock pens for the accommodation of shippers. At present, arrangements are made to have the telegraph office in Keller, Craig & Co.'s Store.

The R. R. Co. is building a double car house here. There are two express offices here: the L. N. A. C. in K. C. & Co.'s store, and the American in C. A. Harrington's drug store.

There is another large store being built here, which will be ready soon. The

Gorman M. E. Church will be commenced in two weeks.

J.N. Castlen intends to build a good-sized steam grist mill here this summer.

Roselawn is going to ask for a school-house. A change in our township administration is needed.

The man in Lake Village, that bet so many hats, will now have a chance to get them.

Feb 16, 1882 - Lincoln Township News

Mr. Kenney's new store at Thayer will soon be completed.

Rumor has it that Rose Lawn is to have a depot. Keller, Craig and Co. are making a switch to the place.

Mr. Mulder, the blacksmith is putting up a dwelling house at Roselawn.

Thayer still flourishes. It was a news-hub factory. Mr. A. M. Boyle has contract of getting out hub timber for it.

Mr. C. B. Scott is the proprietor of a saloon in Thayer. A large ice-house is being erected on the river.

April 13, 1882

Seven more new buildings up and others in course of erection. We are now receiving our mail by rail.

From this point on the news continued regarding the businesses and comings and goings of the people of the area.

PEOPLE - PLACES AND THINGS



Kentland Rotary Group?

Can you identify the year and purpose of this gathering? We do know most of the men pictured from left to right, Ralph Bower, Lyle Hunter?, George Tilton, Chaffee Shirk, John Cochrane, Bob Batton, Emory Towers?, Bud Baumer. Member Submitted.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR COUNTY OF NEWTON?

BY JANET MILLER

Answers on Page 19

1. In 1887, two Newton County men laid out the town of Fair Oaks in Union Township, Jasper County. Can you name them?
2. Where in Newton County was the first school established and in what year?
3. Do you know why the Newton County Historical Society named their quarterly publication "*The Newcomer*"?
4. When did George Ade establish his golf course and Hazelden Country Club?
5. Do you know the name of the State Representative who authored the bill that established Kankakee State Park?

Notice!

The Family History Division will hold their monthly meetings the fourth Monday of each month at a new time - 1:00 p.m. CST.

ON LINE WITH OUR OFFICERS

As the old song goes, "June is Bustin' Out All Over"! The Historical Society holds their annual meeting with a picnic in June. This took place at the Conservation Club south of Brook. A most interesting program was presented by Steve Diedam on "Diedam Family Painting". Their company has been in business since 1904 when Steve's grandfather, Herman Diedam, came to America.

Our Society had a loss in June with the death of Jim Robbins. Jim was the president of our Family History Division, and chairman of our Public Relations Committee. He was a willing worker and good friend to the Society. We will miss his dedication, wit and wisdom.

The Resource Center has had many guests and visitors recently. During the Kentland Alumni weekend Bob and Nancy Prue and Rich and Janet Miller kept the building open Friday evening and Saturday afternoon. We were rewarded with many alumni visitors. The Society has been host to a "Red Hat" group from Goodland, two County Extension Homemakers Clubs from Kentland and Goodland, and Delta Kappa Gamma a teacher's organization. The fourth grade students from Lincoln Township School and South Newton Elementary have also toured our center this spring. Jim Robbins told the students many interesting stories about Newton County, Beaver Lake and Bogus Island.

After the publication of the 2008 Newton County Historical Coloring Book this spring, the society held an "Open House" to honor the artists. Five artists, Greta Taylor, Carol Whaley, Mary Krueger, Ruth Warrick and Barbara Wilfong, were in attendance on April 21st as fifty or more people dropped by to say "hello", greet them and tour our Research Center. Thanks to County Historian Donna LaCosse and her husband, Harold, for greeting people as they arrived; Larry Lyons the tour guide, Sue Humphrey for the refreshments and the other members who made this an enjoyable day.

At our March meeting we were delighted to have Carl Carpenter of Kentland, to speak to us on "The Civil War". His topic was the life of Ulysses S. Grant preceding the Civil War. The topic was so informative we felt as if we had known President Grant personally.

Linda Reiners, Executive Director of the Jasper-Newton County Community Foundation, presented us with a program in April about the nature of the foundation and the grants that are available. The Foundation has selected the area of Historic Preservation as their major focus for their fall Community Impact Grants.

"Unfit for Cultivation" was the topic that Chris Knochel, Newton County Surveyor, chose to speak to us about at our May meeting. He told of the formation of the Northwest Territory and how it developed into Indiana and then Newton County. In the old surveyor's records much of Newton County was once considered unfit for cultivation.

Thanks go to Sue Humphrey and Larry Lyons for the excellent job they have done

providing us with programs this past year. We are looking forward to enjoying what they have for us this next year!

Stop by our Research Center and get a hands-on close-up look at Newton County history! - Janet, Mike, Becky and Darlene.

Pictured left, the Coloring Book Artists who attended the open house. Back row: Carol Whaley, Brook, Greta Taylor and Barbara Wilfong, Kentland; seated, Ruth Warrick and Mary Krueger, Morocco.



Resource Center Events

Photos by Larry Lyons and Beth Bassett



Members Sue Humphrey and Darlene Truby at the Coloring Book Open House.



Jim Robbins spoke to the South Newton and Lincoln Elementary fourth grade students this spring about Beaver Lake.



Harold and Donna LaCosse, Becky Lyons and Avalynne Cooper pose during the Coloring Book Open House.



Goodland Red Hat Club Meeting.



Grant II Extension Homemakers Meet

NOW YOU KNOW YOUR COUNTY OF NEWTON!

BY JANET MILLER

Questions on page 5

1. Newton County residents, Carroll C. Kent and John A. Kent, laid out the town of Fair Oaks in Jasper County. The town has a street named for them, Kent Street. It was surveyed by Jasper County resident, Lewis Alter.

2. The first school established in Newton County was in Morocco in 1854.

3. The Newton County Historical Society named their quarterly publication "The Newcomer" because Newton County was the last county in Indiana to be formed, thusly, the newcomer in the state.

4. The Hazelden Country Club and golf course were established in 1911—in an article written by George Ade in 1932 he tells this about Hazelden and the course: "The Hazelden Country Club is over twenty years old. When it came into existence there were no other golf courses within fifty miles of here. For two years, we played on a little approaching and putting course, inside the Hazelden grounds, the longest hole 100 yards. The only clubs used were approach irons and putters. In 1913 we jumped the fence and laid out a little 1500 yard course in the pasture." (This complete article is available to read at the Newton County Historical Society Resource Center in Kentland.)

5. Howard R. Hiestand, attorney from Kentland, was the Joint Representative of Newton and Jasper Counties from 1937-1949. He was the exclusive author of the bill establishing the Kankakee State Park in Newton and Lake Counties.

"If you could see your ancestors all standing in a row, there might be some of them perhaps you wouldn't care to know, but there's another question which requires a different view, if you could meet your ancestors, would they be proud of you!" - Author unknown - submitted by Tim Fagan



Mt. Ayr Band, 1919

Top row, left to right: Dick Harris, Gilbert Brown, Robert Hufty, Forest Asby, Perry Stucker, Ernest Corbin, Charlie Longwell, Carl Faylor, Fred Hardy. Second row: Bill Faylor, Cecil Shaw, Loran Snow. Front row: Donald Lynch, Hamlin Crisler, Kenneth Lynch, Clarence Corbin, Charlie Lynch, Mr. Tranbarger, Burdette Honn, Lloyd Blankenbaker, Bruce Summers. Photo submitted and donated by Janet (Chamberlain) Burton.

New Hours At The Resource Center

Monday 11-3; Thursday 1-5; Friday 11-3. All times are CST.



Mt. Ayr Railroad Station Interior

This very dark post card shows (look closely) A. J. Hufty, agent of the Mt. Ayr Depot. Submitted and donated by Janet (Chamberlain) Burton

Mt. Ayr Photographs Donated

Janet (Chamberlain) Burton recently donated several photographs that were in possession of her grandfather, Percy Chamberlain, four of which we have published here. Janet felt that the historical society would be the best place for them, as they will be preserved and viewed by future generations.. Thank you Janet for thinking of us!



Mt. Ayr School, Class of 1917-1918

Bottom row: Hazel Jenkins, Faith Lambert, Jennie Benson, Ruby Standish, Vera Wicher, Vera Standish, Lera Standish. Second row: Ellsworth Warren, Ernest Harris, Lysle Elijah, Herbert Miller, Percy Chamberlain, Frances Warren, Teacher unknown. Photo submitted and donated by Janet (Chamberlain) Burton.



Mt. Ayr Hotel

This is a photo of the Mt. Ayr Hotel, with Frank and Mary Johnson in the horse and buggy. In later years this hotel was occupied by Allen Yoder. Photo submitted and donated by Janet (Chamberlain) Burton.

Morocco Businesses - 1881 A Strole Through the Ages

My recent research of the 1881 Kentland Gazette revealed a bit about the businesses in Morocco in that year. This article was in the "local" column of the front page.

"We were at Morocco last Saturday, and found the citizens of that thriving town alive to their own interests in business matters. We first stopped at the Graves House, where we found the hospitable landlord, Mr. Graves, ready to entertain us and to bountifully supply the inner man with the necessities of life.

"The firm of Graves and Johnson is doing a good business in the dry goods and grocery line.

"Mr. Ed. Partlow, the harness maker, is crowding business lively. He told us that he had been working on orders for some months which speaks well for his trade.

"The firm of Enslin and Patrick is alive to trade and doing a rushing business in dry goods and groceries.

"Mr. Nick Simons is still in the drug trade, and claims trade fair.

"Will Kennedy, the hardware man, is still sending to the country lots of his wares.

"G. W. Bemenderfer is the furniture and undertaking business with a good stock and lively trade.

"The drug store of Kennedy and Ketcham is doing a thriving business, with Ketcham at the helm; things must move, as he understands his business thoroughly.

"Mr. Isaac Timmons has opened up a hotel in the old Deardurff stand where he is prepared to take of the hungry and weary.

"Uncle Ward Anderson is still running the post office for Uncle Sam and his better half is supplying the hungry with food and the weary with rest at the Anderson House.

"Will Darroch is dealing out the law to all those who want anything in the line, and can give those in need of legal advice what is best for them.

"Last but not least is the dry goods and grocery establishment of Joseph Kennedy, which is well filled with goods and doing a big trade. Mr. Geo. Murphy is the head clerk and has so crowded with trade that he scarcely had time to speak with us.

"Morocco is a good business point with a fine country surrounding it, and its people are clever as you want to get among." - submitted by Beth Bassett

MCCRAY SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY WINNER

This year's essay was chosen from the submissions of South Newton High School. We did not receive any entries from North Newton. Ian Reed received a scholarship for \$500.00 for his entry.

Controversy—County Seat—Courthouse

By Ian Reed

These four words could have been headlines of the weekly newspaper of Newton County several times over the last forty-five (45) years between 1860 and 1905.

The location of county seats in the state of Indiana was of important financial interest to local businesses and professions during the nineteenth century. It was the opinion that the location of county government provided an important financial advantage for any city or town. Sixty (60) of Indiana's ninety-two courthouses were built in the middle to late 1800's. Another twenty-three (23) courthouses were built between 1900 and 1930.

In the nineteenth century, these county seats were situated near the center of the county so that it would never be further away than a day's ride by horse from any part of the county. Yet, from the beginning, this central location was not to be found in Newton County. The first site of the Newton County Courthouse was to be at a farmhouse (Spitler) in 1839 situated two (2) miles south and one (1) mile east of Brook. In 1861, the county seat and courthouse were moved to Kentland. Yet, Kentland was found to be two (2) miles north of the southern county boundary and two (2) miles west of the meridian line. For a county that is approximately thirty (30) miles long by approximately fifteen (15) miles wide, Kentland was an exception to the above opinion of central location.

In 1899, the first of the controversies began over the location of the county seat/courthouse as situated in Kentland. That year a new state law provided for the relocating of county seats by election. The towns of Brook, Goodland and Morocco tried to take the county seat/courthouse away from Kentland. Goodland (a town two (2) miles north of the southern county boundary and four (4) miles east of the meridian line) won the election for the relocation, but it lost a court battle when the Indiana Supreme Court found the 1899 statute unconstitutional.

In 1905, the second of the controversies started over the building of a new courthouse in Kentland. That year, Newton County government officials were in court fighting an effort to stop them from replacing the forty-five (45) year old courthouse in Kentland. The opposition sued to stop the building of the new courthouse and won, by arguing that the county had failed to appropriate the needed monies. It was a weak and short victory based on an easily corrected technicality.

Finally, in 1905 through 1906, the existing courthouse was built. The simple buff brick and limestone building cost the people of Newton County approximately \$35,000. This cost was modest to the costs of Benton County's courthouse built in 1874 at \$62,000, Lake County's courthouse built in 1878-1879 at \$52,000, and Jasper County's built in 1896-1898 at \$142,000. Huntington County courthouse built in 1906 cost a total of \$347,000.

In retrospect, Morocco as the oldest town in Newton County

is also the closest to geometric center of Newton County. Morocco is approximately two (2) miles south and approximately two (2) miles west of this center.

Historical Coloring Contest Winners

This year's annual coloring contest initiated Volume Two of the Newton County Historical Coloring Book. Fourth grade students utilized the book in their studies of local history this spring, and the Public Relations Committee sponsored the coloring contest.

Four winners were selected from each class, receiving four coins, one uncirculated presidential dollar coin, two Susan B. Anthony dollars and one Sachajawea dollar coin. From those entries, one over-all winner for each class was awarded, receiving a T-shirt showing their winning entry. From the over-all class winners, a county-wide winner was selected, and received a copy of "Ralph, the Story of Bogus Island," written by J. A. Hatch.

The winners from Lake Village Elementary, Mrs. Davis' class: Morgan Kutsch, over-all winner, Samantha Voorhies, Sarah Scott, and Sunshine Biggs. Mrs. Norris' class: Aaron Burgess, over-all winner, Hannah Richardson, Michelle Denton, Carly Boyd. Morgan Kutsch was the over-

all county wide winner.

The winners from Lincoln Elementary, Mrs. Reyes' class: Baylee Florence, over-all winner, Destiny Lockard, Linden Urbano and Calin Mauck; Mrs. Gray's class: Jonathan Bigger, overall winner, Chase King, John Nartnig and Becca Poulston; Mrs. O'Dor's class: Patrick Garcia, over-all winner, Clinton Woodward, Payton Sylvester and Caitlin Lathrop.

The winners from Morocco Elementary, Mrs. Watts' class: Alexis Neal, over-all winner, Cole Geller, Jessica Walstra and Anyssa Long; Mrs. Deno's class: Dylan Kingston, over-all winner, Kaley Fincher, Cortnie Dumas and Angel Pratt.

The winners from South Newton Elementary, Mrs. Groover's class: Karen Barillas, over-all winner, Colton Cothran, Hunter Wirtz, Jarrett Todd Hammel; Mrs. Hoffman's class: Kelsey Schulz, overall winner, Haley Smart, Jazmin Ramirez, and Britney Zussman; Mrs. Dewing's class: Christian Hernandez, over-all winner, Stephanie Wood, Ann Clifton and Kelley Roberts.

The winning entries were on display at our booth in the commercial building during the Newton County Fair. Congratulations to all of our winners.

A Look At The Heritage of the Residents of Lincoln Township

By Beth Bassett

The census taker for Lincoln Township in 1880 was John L. Oswalt, enumerated the 12-14th of June. The heritage of the residents are quite diverse, however the main occupation was that of farmer. You can trace the path that led them to our county by noting the birthplaces of the family members. The average age of the heads of household appears to be 25-60. This is just another way to discover the lineage of your ancestors. Part of the census report is reproduced here as they appear in the transcription that can be viewed in its entirety on our website www.ingenweb.org/innewton.

Head of Household	Age	Occupation	Birthplace	Father BP	Mother BP
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Fuller, Merritt 51 Works on Farm Indiana Indiana Unknown
His wife Harriett was born in Indiana, her parents born in France; a daughter Valeria, and two sons, Frank and Frederick were born in Illinois. Two servants, George Bicknell, born Wisconsin and Martin Burton, born Kentucky, as well as a boarder, John Brady, born Indiana are in this household, listed as a foreman on a farm.

Bardwell, David 49 Works on Farm Pennsylvania Pennsylvania Pennsylvania
His wife Nancy was born in Illinois, her parents born in North Carolina. Three sons, Frederick, Daniel and George, and two daughters Mattie and Ida were born in Illinois.

Sink, John 38 Farmer Michigan Pennsylvania Pennsylvania
His mother, Francis, born in Virginia and two daughters, Grace and Mirttie, born in Indiana are listed in this household.

Downer, Frank 28 Works on Farm New York New York New York
His wife Emily and parents were born in Indiana; their two sons, Henry and Harvey, born in Indiana.

Wilson, Aaron 52 Works on Farm Indiana Unknown Unknown
His wife Mary and her parents were born in Indiana; their daughter Hannah and son George were born in Indiana.

Wilson, William 21 Works on Farm Indiana Indiana Indiana
His wife Annie and their son Charles were born in Indiana. A boarder, Susan Ferrier resides with them.

Ray, William 47 Farmer Indiana Indiana North Carolina
His wife Maggie and her parents were born in North Carolina. Also listed are three sons, Benjamin, Robert and Thomas and four daughters, Rebecca, Hellen, Clarrissa and Laura, all born in Indiana.

Cool, Frederick 26 Farmer/Herder England England England
His wife Marg and her mother were born in Indiana, her father, Kentucky. The daughter Jane and son Harvey were born in Indiana.

Slater, Benjamin 45 Lumber Merch. Indiana Indiana Indiana
His daughter Mamie resides with him.

Rowe, George 43 Works on Farm New York New York New York
His wife Sarrah was born in Illinois, and residing with them are daughters Henriette, Artensie and son Herbert were born in Illinois. Boarder John Russell, born in Ohio, worked on farm.

McDowell, John 43 Farmer Canada Canada Canada
His wife Sarrah was born in Ohio, living with them is their son John and daughter Mary Ann were born in Illinois, another daughter Harriet was born in Indiana. Her sons Samuel and William were both born in Indiana and work on farm.

Boyle, Albert 39 Farmer Illinois Virginia Kentucky
His wife Charlotte was born in Indiana, her parents Kentucky. Their sons, Dagley, Mason, James and William; daughters Elizabeth and Minnie were all born in Indiana.

Kenney, William 32 Merchant Canada Canada Canada
His wife Alice and her parents were also born in Canada.

Boyle, Edward 36 Farming Illinois Virginia Kentucky
His wife Sarrah was born in Indiana and her parents were born in Kentucky. Their two sons Clarence and Charles were born in Illinois, and a daughter Clara in Indiana.

Grover, Smith 45 Farmer New York New York New York
His wife Lottie was born in Ohio, her father unknown, her mother Germany. Daughters, Cora, Maud were born in Illinois, Mary and son Joseph in Indiana.

Strope, William 60 Works on Farm Pennsylvania Pennsylvania Pennsylvania
Ahlgrim, Chris 49 Farmer Prussia Prussia Prussia
His wife Minnie and her parents were also born in Prussia. Their three sons, William, Frank and Henry were born in Illinois.

O'Conner, John 26 Plumber/Fitter Ireland Ireland Ireland
His wife Jane and her parents were born in Canada.

Park, James 59 Farmer Indiana Indiana Indiana
Basket, Charles 29 Farmer Prussia Prussia Prussia

His wife Josephine and her parents were born in Canada

Visit our web site www.ingenweb.org/innewton

Recipes From Days Gone By

Old Fashioned Rhubarb Cake

submitted by Becky Lyons

½ c butter or margarine	1 ¼ cup sugar, divided
1 egg	1 cup buttermilk
1 tspn. vanilla	2 cups flour
1 tspn. baking soda	½ tspn. salt
2 cup chopped rhubarb	½ tspn. cinnamon

Cream butter and 1 cup of the sugar. Add egg; beat well. Combine buttermilk and vanilla, set aside. Combine flour, baking soda and salt; add alternately with buttermilk/vanilla to the creamed mixture. Stir in rhubarb. Spread in greased 13x9x2 pan. Combine remaining sugar with cinnamon, sprinkle over batter. Bake 350 for 35 minutes or until cake tests done.

Topping

1 ½ cup milk	1/3 cup sugar
1 tspn. vanilla	

Combine all ingredients and pour over each cake piece as you serve it. Frozen rhubarb works well, too.

them.”

“Where did your mother live?”

The woman named the same small town in New York where we'd been last spring!

“I'd like to buy the quilt if it's for sale.”

“No. But I will give it to you.” I took the quilt down and packed it carefully in a box.

“One last question. What was your mother's name?” I knew the answer already, but I had to ask.

The woman smiled at me with tears in her eyes.

“My daughter is named for her. Her name was Martha.”

When they were gone, I felt a wonderful peace come over me. The voice spoke for the last time.

“Thank you.”

“My pleasure, Martha.”

Editor's note: Carol is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Kellenberger of Fowler, Benton County. Her husband, Dave, is a Kentland native, son of Keith and Norrine Stonecipher.

Teachers Gather in Goodland in 1893

Tim Fagan submitted this photo (right) of an 1893 group of Goodland teachers, including J. B. Fagan, his ancestor, on the far right, is the only individual he could identify. I searched through the 1893 Kentland Enterprise, the only periodical we have from the time, and could not find a notation regarding the group. However, a bit of history was found in the “History of Newton County Schools,” published by Katherine Clark that mentioned Mr. Fagan. The following is an excerpt from the Grant Township school information.

“In 1887 the community had grown prosperous enough to erect a modern brick building. It contained two stories with four rooms on the first floor, and three on the second. A superintendent's office was also provided. There was a laboratory and a furnace room in the basement.

“Early principals in the building were F. C. Cassel and C. L. Davis. Other teachers included Charles Humston and Wilkes Morgan. In September 1893, J. C. Dickerson came from Mitchell, Indiana where he had engaged in teaching at the Southern Normal School, to take charge of the school. He remained 10 years. He was principal with no assistant. A school board was then functioning which desired to secure a commissioned high school. Through the efforts of Mr. Dickerson and the Board of Education, this was accomplished during the early days of his administration. To meet the requirements of the State Board of Education, changes were made to entitle the high school to receive a commission. The three-year course was changed to a four-year course and the length of the school year was increased from eight months to nine months, a standard hat has been maintained ever since.

“Mr. V. B. Fagan, (should be J. B.,) was promoted to the principalship and Mr. Dickerson became superintendent. Mr. Fagan resigned to enter State Normal School at the end of his first year and I. A. Humbred was elected principal. Upon request, Mrs. Emma Mont McCrae of Purdue University inspected the school and it was on her recommendation, the long talked of and much desired commission was secured in 1894. The class of 1895 with four graduates out of twenty-two from eighth grade were members of the first commissioned class of the Goodland Public School. Members of this class were Hattie Stevens, Willard Carney, John Summerfield McCurry, and John Jenkins. The school board included Dr. K. Clymer, President; Dr. M. L. Humston, Secretary; E. R. Bringham, Treasurer; and George Jenkins, Grant Township Trustee.

“This commission made it possible for graduates from the Goodland Schools to reenter without examination, the freshman class in the State Normal School, Terre Haute, Purdue University, Indiana University, and perhaps other colleges. This was done by graduates of the class of 1895 and 1896 and thereafter. All credits, including higher mathematics, four years of Latin, science, including physics and chemistry, and other required subjects were accepted. Because of his commission, high school students from non-commissioned schools completed their courses at Goodland Public Schools to entitle them to enter college. The classes of 1903 and 1904 had graduates from Morocco and Brook.”



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Quill & Ink

Martha's Legacy

Do you believe in ghosts? Not the Halloween kind, all clanking chains and spooky screams, but a gentle spirit seeking help to complete an unfinished task. I never thought such things existed but now I'm not so sure.

The whole strange episode started last spring, not a very ghostly time of year. My husband had to go out of town on business for a week. Things were slow at my quilt shop so I went along for a vacation.

We were staying in a small town about 700 miles away from home. While David was busy during the day, I explored the town. When I saw an advertisement for a church rummage sale, it sounded like fun so I went.

The small room was jammed with people. They were digging through piles of clothing, examining old books and dishes, or just visiting. I poked around for a few more minutes, then decided to leave.

As I turned toward the door, a large box I hadn't seen before caught my eye. When I lifted the lid to see what was inside, I caught my breath in surprise.

The filthy box was full of quilt pieces! The fabrics were old but clean and crisp, the colors unfaded. Someone must have donated the box by mistake. But as I touched the top piece, I felt a tingle run down my spine and heard a voice whisper, "You must buy these pieces and make the quilt. It is special." I spun around to see who had spoken but there was no one there.

I grabbed the box and hurried to the check out table. Two elderly ladies were collecting money so I handed them the box.

"Where on Earth did this grubby old thing come from, Esther? Who brought it in? There's not even a price on it."

"I've never seen it before, Hazel. Someone probably found it in her attic and dropped it off this morning. Looks like just some old material. Would you pay \$5 for it, dear?"

"Certainly." I smiled as I handed her the money.

When I got back to the motel, I carefully spread the pieces out on the bed.

The patches were cut for a Grand-

mother's Fan design. The spokes of the fans were of colors and prints popular in the 1930s. The bases of the fans were from a solid green also belonging to that era. When set together with the plain white squares also in the box, and bordered with more of the green, it would fit a double bed. My little voice repeated, "This quilt is special."

I'd brought my sewing supplies, so I started piecing the fans that afternoon. I usually prefer to work on my sewing machine, but I somehow knew this was to be hand sewn. I lost all track of time and when my husband returned that afternoon, I'd completed several blocks.

Stitching the blocks was pure pleasure. The patches were cut perfectly and made an exact fit. The old fabrics seemed to glow. Even though they must have been scrap from sewing projects, the colors blended like a rainbow. By the time our trip was over, I'd finished half the blocks.

As I worked on the patchwork I wondered about the woman who had started it so long ago. Who was she? Did she have a family in the area? Why didn't she finish the piece? Some answers were clear, she was a skilled, precise seamstress. She liked the colors blue, rose and green. The rest remained a mystery.

All spring I stitched and thought about the unknown quilter. One evening about dinner, I sat down and picked up the last block.

"I'm almost done with Martha's quilt." The words came out before I knew what I was saying.

"Who's Martha?" my husband asked from behind the newspaper.

Tingles ran down my spine again and I said softly, "I don't know. I don't know anyone with that name."

David looked at me strangely. Was this my mystery woman's name?

The weather was turning warmer. I decided to put "Martha's quilt" away until next winter. But as I packed it away, I was overcome with anxiety. The soft voice whispered again, "Time is getting short. You must finish this quilt this summer." I felt compelled to begin so I gathered backing and batting and prepared to sew.

Featuring local poetry and prose
Prose written by Carol (Kellenberger) Stonecipher

Every day I stitched on the quilt. The sense of urgency stayed with me. The special quilt had to be completed by summer's end. The needle flew through the fabric as if guided by an unseen hand. I kept hearing the voice.

"Time is running out. The work must be done by September 15th."

In late August, the quilt was finished. It truly was special and very beautiful. I took it to my shop and put it on display. The corner where it hung seemed to light up and it drew people to it like a magnet. Even though I'd been offered several hundred dollars for it, I refused to sell. "Martha" and I seemed to be waiting for something, or someone.

September 15th arrived, a lovely, sunny day. Classes had resumed at the local college so the town was full of students and visiting parents. Late in the afternoon two women came in the shop. The younger was a student showing her mother around town. We chatted for a few minutes while they strolled back to the corner where the quilt hung.

"Mom, isn't this a beautiful, old-fashioned quilt. Why don't you make me one like it?"

"You know I don't quilt. Your grandmother did, though. I remember watching her when I was a little girl. This was one of her favorite patterns too. She always said she'd teach me to quilt but since she passed away when I was 12, I never did learn."

The older woman stepped up to get a closer look at the aged patchwork. Suddenly she gasped! When she turned to me, her face was stark white.

"Where did you get this quilt?"

I explained about the rummage sale and how I'd felt pressed to complete it this past summer.

"Why?" I felt those familiar tingles again!

"I recognize the fabrics from dresses my mother made me when I was child. I remember her saving pieces to make a quilt for my child when I grew up and became a mother. She even chose the Grandmother's Fan as the appropriate pattern. When she died, she had almost enough pieces to start. I always wondered what happened to

Head of Household	Age	Occupation	Birthplace	Father BP	Mother BP
Gould, Edwin	45	Farmer	New York	New York	New York
<i>His wife Marg and her parents were born in Switzerland. Their three daughters, Ada, Lydia and Eva and a son Edwin were born in Illinois.</i>					
Wiseman, John	28	Farmer	Indiana	Indiana	Indiana
<i>His wife Orinena and her parents were born in Prussia. Their two sons, Henry and Charles were born in Indiana.</i>					
Freeman, Wesley	31	Farmer	Canada	Canada	Canada
<i>His wife Marg and her parents were born in Canada.</i>					
Roush, John	25	Farmer	Illinois	Unknown	Unknown
<i>His wife Eliza was born in Missouri, her father, Pennsylvania. A son, Charles born in Indian.</i>					
Graves, Claud	61	Farmer	Schleswig	Schleswig	Schleswig
<i>His wife daughter Marg and son George, were also born in Schleswig. (editor's note: region between the German/Danish border)</i>					
Kingen, James	54	Farmer	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
<i>His wife Mary and her parent's birthplaces are unknown. They have four sons, Riley, William, John and Elijah and three daughters, Elizabeth, Edna and Etna (twins), all born in Indiana. Also in the household was boarder John Wingard, 38 works on farm.</i>					
Cobb, Sarrah	34	Farmer	Illinois	Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania
<i>Her household consisted of a son John, daughters Mary, Louisa and Adaline. Also living in the home was a boarder, Sylvester Williamson, 46 works on farm; Sarrah's brother, John O'Brian and his wife, Julia, housekeeper, who were both born in Illinois, but whose parents were born in Ireland. Minnie O'Brian was their daughter, born in Illinois. (editor's note: brother/sister parental birthplaces differ.)</i>					
Starkmann, Wm	48	Farmer	Prussia	Prussia	Prussia
<i>His wife Elizabeth and her parents were also born in Prussia. They had two sons, Robert and William born in Prussia and two daughters, Annie and Emma born in Indiana.</i>					
Hammond, John	81	Farming	Maryland	Prussia	Prussia
<i>His wife Louisa and her parents birthplaces are unknown. Living with them are two sons, Samuel, born in Maryland and Charles, born in Indiana.</i>					
Walters, William	30	Farmer	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky
<i>His wife Gertrude and her parents were born in Illinois. They had two sons, Larkin and William, both born in Indiana.</i>					
Moore, Henry	54	Farmer	Canada	Canada	Canada
<i>His wife Eliza and her parents were also born in Canada, as well as two of their sons, Peter and George. Sons Simon, Harry, Lewis were born in Michigan and daughter Maudie was born in Indiana.</i>					
Basket, David	57	Farmer	Prussia	Prussia	Prussia
<i>His wife Augusta and her parents were born in Prussia; their sons, August, William and George in Illinois.</i>					
Williamson, Hugh	60	Farmer	Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania
<i>His wife Rebecca and her parents were born in New York, their daughter, Sarrah and son Francis were born Illinois.</i>					
Graves, George	24	Farmer	Vermont	Massachusetts	Massachusetts
Gleason, Oliver	34	Farmer	Canada	Massachusetts	Massachusetts
<i>His wife Allice was also born in Canada, parents in Massachusetts. Three daughters, Jennie, born in Michigan, Myrtle, born in Indiana and Birtha, was born in Kansas.</i>					
Bruchett, Constant	40	Farmer	Switzerland	Switzerland	Switzerland
<i>His wife Sarrah was born in Illinois, her parents in New York. Their son Charles and daughter Emma were born in Illinois. A boarder, George Claffland works on farm; parents and he were born in Indiana.</i>					
Larson, Christian	36	Farmer	Denmark	Denmark	Denmark
<i>His wife Christena and her parents were born in Denmark; their daughter Mary, and two step-daughters Christianna and Mena Jenson were also born in Denmark.</i>					
Vanalstine, Adam	64	Farmer	Michigan	Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania
<i>His wife Susan and her parents were born in Pennsylvania.</i>					

This photo is of Roselawn, taken in 1955. This and many other Newton County towns and businesses can be viewed at our updated website. New records, projects and photos have been added for researchers and historians alike! Please contact the editor if you have any ideas or suggestions for the new site.



HOME is where your story begins

John and Mike Sapp, great-great grandsons of John Williams Sapp have created web sites honoring the family. You can visit John's site: <http://home.comcast.net/~mnsapp/jwisapp/>; and Mike's site: http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=main_file&id=114 for more detailed information regarding the family. They have created these sites to share information about their Great-Great-Grandfather. They hope that others who find this site will have additional information to contribute. And of course, any comments or corrections are welcome.

John lived a rich and full life from his birth in 1836 to his death in 1922. He was a farmer, soldier, and liveryman. He lived in Ohio, Indiana, Iowa, Nebraska, and Michigan.

This is a narrative based on information from family and other sources.

John Williams Sapp was born March 25, 1836, in Ohio to Thomas and Nancy (Williams) Sapp. Most documents show he was born in Madison County, but one source indicates he may have been born in Hamilton County near Cincinnati (his parents resided for a time in Colerain, Hamilton Co.). He was probably named after his paternal grandfather (John) and his mother's maiden name (Williams). He was the fifth of six children, first son. Shortly after his birth, his family moved first to Liberty, Henry County, Indiana, then about 2 1/2 years later to just outside the New Castle town limits (western side - still in Henry County).

Sometime between March and August of 1839, John's parents and one sister died, probably of cholera (apparently, two other sisters had died previously). John, age 3, his sister Hester, age 9, and his brother William, age 2, were taken in by their maternal grandparents, William & Rebecca (Loar) Williams, who were living nearby (almost neighbors) in Henry County, Indiana. Between 1850 and 1855, John's whereabouts aren't certain. He seems to be counted in the 1840 census living with his grandfather, but he is not in the 1850 census. According to his obituary, he became a laborer just after his fourteenth birthday. However, on

John Williams Sapp Family
Goodland, Indiana



Top to bottom - abt 1902/03, *Teressa Ellen (Rogers) Sapp; John Williams Sapp and a baby(?), wife/husband; Rev. John Wesley Sapp, Sarah Olive (Lester) Sapp, wife/husband; Abraham C. Lester, (father of Sarah); "Linnie" (Malinda Sapp), daughter of John and Sarah. - Sapp Family Collection.*

October 13, 1855, he married Teressa Ellen Rogers in Henry County. (I have very little information on Teressa; b. 28 Feb 1839, IN; d. 10 Mar 1910, Mecosta, Mecosta Co, MI.) (Of note is the 1840 Federal Census; next door to the William Williams household is a George Rogers household. Teressa's father was named George.)

Shortly after their marriage, John and Trissie moved to Iowa onto 42 acres. This journey was taken when John was 19 and Teressa was 17. They traveled with others, including John's uncle Henry Williams. While in Iowa, two children were born: William (April, 1857) and George (August, 1858). For whatever reason, John and Teressa decided to move back to Indiana first to Grant County, then to Henry County, where their next child, John, was born in January, 1860. The following is a story passed down in our family which possibly relates to their move back to Indiana.

John Williams Sapp moved in a covered wagon. In preparation for the move,

he converted all his savings into gold. He put the gold in a cloth bag, and the bag into an iron pot. He put the pot under the seat of the covered wagon, then piled in all the household goods and furniture and other worldly possessions to hide it. When they reached their destination, they found that the gold coins had rubbed the cloth bag to pieces, but the gold was not lost, because it was still in the iron pot.

Two more sons were born here in Henry County: Needham in 1861 and James in 1865. And here is where one of John's more significant experiences began - he enlisted to serve with the Union forces during the Civil War. Fortunately, he wrote a "Civil War Memory" of his experiences. This also appears in his issue.

After John's enlistment was up in September 1864, he returned home to Henry County and resumed farming. However, a few years later, in 1866, he, his wife and kids packed up and moved to Iroquois Township (near Brook), Newton Coun-

Washington Township, 1873

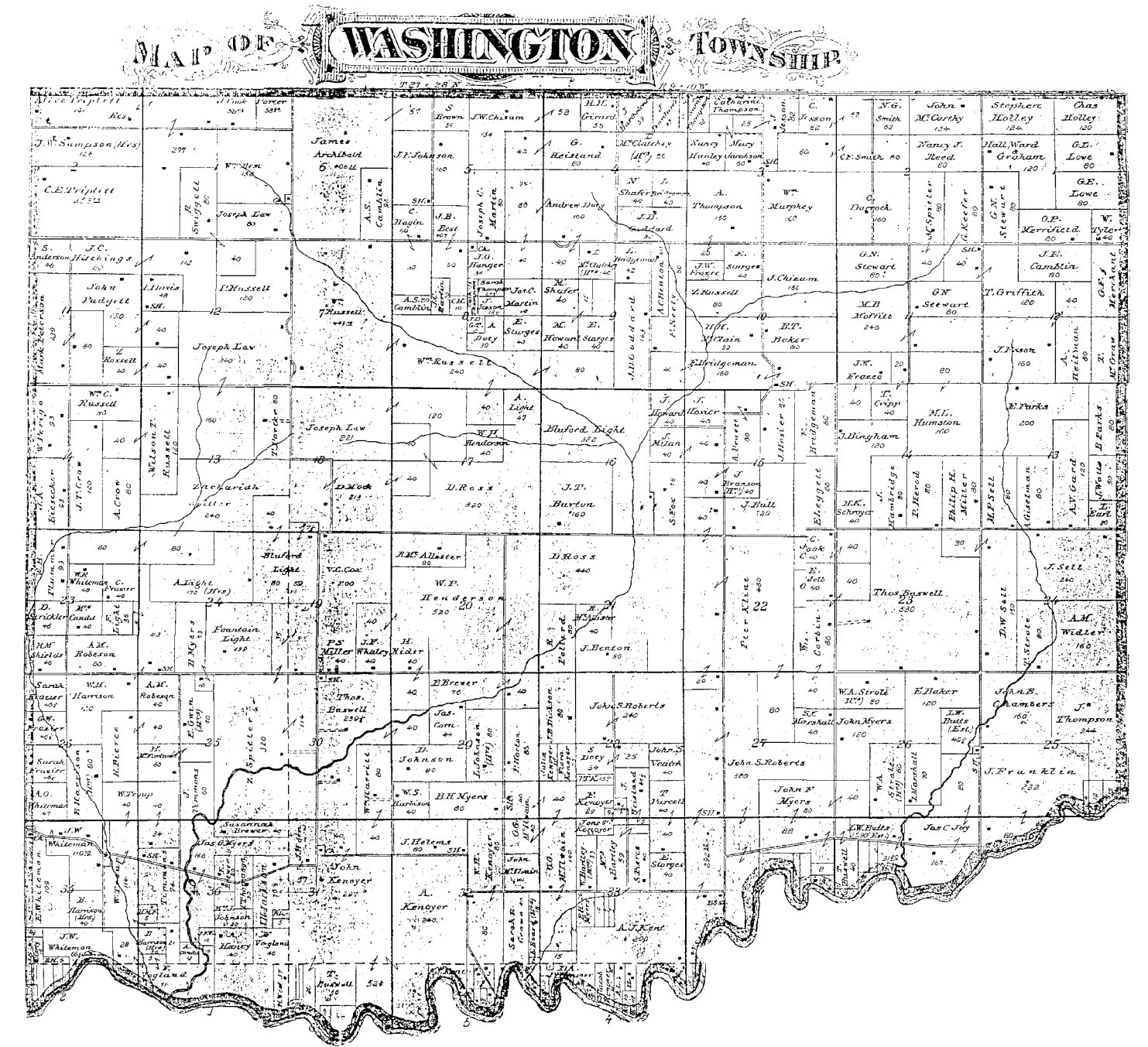
The Washington Township map included the following commentary on the left side:

Among the first settlers of Washington Township were Bruce Dunn, James W. Lacy, Mathias and Joseph Redding, Wesley Spittler, James Cuppy, Frederick Kenoyer, Jacob Troup, John Myers and Z. Spittler. The two last named, we are informed, are the only ones now remaining in the township of the original settlers.

The first schoolhouse was built about the year 1856, and the first church edifice some ten years later. At the present time there are ten school houses and five churches. The latter belong to the United Brethren, Baptists, Christians, and Methodists.

Originally most of the land embraced in the township was prairie. The principal crops are corn and oats. A small portion of the northern part of the township is somewhat marshy, but all of it is considered tillable. This township is estimated to be among the best in the county, and is rapidly improving. The farms are generally small, but the improvements good. There are some extensive land-holders, among whom may be designated: Thomas Buswell, Z. Spittler, Joseph Law, William Russell, P. Kline, J. S. Roberts, Doctor Triplett, J. Kenoyer and others.

Kentland, on the line of the Pittsburg, Cincinnati and St. Louis R.R., is the nearest station and the principal trading point.



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What Good Is A Map?

Submitted by Janet Miller

The Newton County Historical Society has been gifted with three single maps of Beaver, Washington and Jefferson Townships. These maps all appear to have come from some sort of atlas. There is no printed date on any of the maps. On the Jefferson Township map the year 1873 is written in pencil on the edge of the map. After doing some research we believe these maps are from the years 1874-1876. This is a time period that we have little information about residents in our county. We have very little newspaper coverage of this time period. So, what good is a map? It shows us landowners and names associated with our county that perhaps no one was aware. It also shows school houses, many less than on the 1904 map available to us.

The Beaver Township map was published in the Spring 2007 issue of *The Newcomer*, and the Jefferson Township map was published in the Summer/Fall, 2007 issue. Robert Simons presented us with the framed copy of the Jefferson Township map. (Editor's note: It was incorrectly stated in the Summer/Fall 2007 issue as given by Ross McKee.) Ross McKee donated the Washington Township map. If anyone has copies of other township maps of this period, we would enjoy having a copy.

Range 9 West, Township 28 North

Section 1: Chas. Holley, G. L. Lowe, Stephen Holley, Hall-Ward & Graham, G. N. Stewart, O. P. Merrifield, G. E. Lowe, W. Tyler; **Section 2:** John McCarthy, Nancy J. Reed, N. G. Smith, C. Jesson, C. F. Smith, C. Darroch, M. Spitler, G. Keefer; **Section 3:** C. Jesson, C. F. Smith, J. Jesson, School House, Catharine Thompson, Sarah Thompson, Mary Jacobson, Nancy Hanley, A. Thompson, Wm. Murphy; **Section 4:** Sarah Thompson, J. Deardurff, J. Bartholomew, D. McClatchey Hrs., H. H. Girard, J. W. Chizum, G. Heistand, Andrew Doty, N. Shafer, L. Bridgeman, J. D. Goddard; **Section 5:** J. W. Chizum, G. Heistand, S. Brown, James Archibald, J. F. Johnson, School House, C. Hagin, J. B. Best, Joseph C. Martin, Andrew Doty; **Section 6:** James Archibald, A. S. Camblin.

Section 7: Wm. Russell; **Section 8:** Andrew Doty, J. G. Hanger, Church, Sarah Thompson, Jos. C. Martin, J. Jesson, Cath. Thompson, J. B. Best, C. Hagin, A. S. Camblin, J. C. Martin, C. H., Wm. Russell, J. D. G. T., A. Doty, G. Sturges; **Section 9:** F. Seely, A. C. Benton, L. Bridgeman, J. D. Goddard, D. McClatchey Hrs., Andrew Doty, M. Shafer, M. Howard, E. Sturges, Wm. Russell, F. Bridgeman; **Section 10:** J. Chizum, E. Sturges, A. Thompson, J. W. Frazee, Z. Russell, H. H. McClain, F. Bridgeman, School House, B. T. Baker; **Section 11:** School House, T. Griffith, M. Spitler, G. N. Stewart, M. B. Moffitt, J. W. Frazee, T. Cripp, M. L. Humston; **Section 12:** G. F. Merchant, J. E. Camblin, J. Jesson, T. Griffith, A. Heilman, T. McGraw.

Section 13: B. Parks, E. Parks, M. P. Sell, A. Giselman, A. V. Gard, J. Watts, L. Earl; **Section 14:** M. L. Humston, T. Cripp, J. W. Frazee, J. Bingham, H. K. Shroyer, J. Hambridge, P. Herod, Philip H. Miller; **Section 15:** E. Bridgeman, J. Hosier, A. Pruett, J. Milan, J. Branson Hrs., Peter Kline, J. Bull, E. Leggett; **Section 16:** J. Howard, J. Milan, Bluford Light, J. T. Burton, S. Fox; **Section 17:** A. Light, Wm. Russell, W. P. Henderson, Joseph Law, D. Ross, D. Mock; **Section 18:** Joseph Law, D. Mock, Bluford Light. **Section 19:** V. C. Cox, Bluford Light, Z. Spitler, R. C. D., P. S. Miller, J. F. Whaley, W. P. Henderson; **Section 20:** W. P. Henderson, R. McAllister, H. Rider; **Section 21:** D. Ross, R. Polard, R. McAllister, J. Benton; **Section 22:** J. C. Cook, E. Odell, Peter Kline, W. F. Corbin; **Section 23:** D. Sell, Thos. Buswell, J. C. Cook, E. Odell; **Section 24:** J. Sell, D. W. Sell, T. Strole, A. M. Widler.

Section 25: J. Thompson, J. B. Chambers, J. Franklin, three small lots by river numbered 4, 12, and 15 acres with no names; **Section 26:** E. Baker, L. W. Batts Est., School House, W. A. Strole Hrs., John Myers, John F. Myers, L. Marshall, Jas. C. Jay; **Section 27:** W. F. Corbin, S. K. Marshall, Peter Kline, John S. Roberts, School House, John F. Myers; **Section 28:** John S. Roberts, J. B. Dickson, Julia Kenoyer, Flora Kenoyer, O. G. McIlwain, S. Doty, J. T. K., F. Kenoyer, Jane T. Kenoyer, J. Heistand, John S. Veatch, T. Parcell; **Section 29:** B. Brewer, H. Rider, Thos. Buswell, Jas.

Corn, D. Johnson, W. S. Harbison, L. Johnson Hrs., B. H. Myers, School House, O. G. McIlwain, P. Horton; **Section 30:** Thomas Buswell, School House, Z. Spitler, Wm. Harritt;

Section 31: Wm. Harritt, John Kenoyer, Church, J.J. Corn; **Section 32:** O. G. McIlwain, John McIlwain, W. H. Kenoyer, J. Helms, School House, A. Kenoyer, Sarah E. Crown, E. Board Hrs., **Section 33:** T. Parcell, E. Sturges, J. Hiestand, Mrs. Bartley, S. Pierce, Jane T. Kenoyer, O. G. McIlwain, W. Bartley Hrs., B. H. Myers, A. J. Kent, three small lots number 10, 7, and 3 acres; **Section 34:** John S. Roberts, B. S., J. F. Myers, four small lots by river, one 8 acres, no acreage on other three; **Section 35:** James C. Jay, L. W. Batts, T. Buswell, two small lots of the river with no acreage listed; **Section 36:** J. Franklin.

Range 10 West, Township 28 North

Section 1: Porter, J. Cook, Wm. Best, Church, Alice Triplett, R. Swiggett, Joseph Law; **Section 2:** Alice Triplett, J. W. Sampson Hrs., C. E. Triplett.

Section 11: J. C. Hitchings, John Padgett, S. Anderson, Mark Peterson, Z. Russell; **Section 12:** P. Russell, R. Swiggett, J. C. Hitchings, I. Davis, School House, John Padgett, Z. Russell, Joseph Law.

Section 13: T. Porter, Joseph Law, Wilson T. Russell, Zachariah Spitler, Bluford Light; **Section 14:** Wm. C. Russell, Wilson T. Russell, W. Perigo, J. A. Biesecker, J. T. Crow, A. Crow.

Section 23: Zachariah Spitler, W. R. Whiteman, C. Frazier, W. B. Plummer, D. Strickler, Mrs. Condit, F. Light, W. H. Harrison, R. M. Shields, A. M. Robeson; **Section 24:** Bluford Light, A. Light Hrs., Zachariah Spitler, W. H. Harrison, School House, B. Myers, Fountain Light, Z. Spitler.

Section 25: Z. Spitler, B. Myers, E. Gwin Hrs., A. M. Robeson, R. Pierce, H. McFarland, W. Troup, J. Timmons; **Section 26:** W. H. Harrison, Sarah Frazier, G. W. Frazier, A. O. Whiteman, R. Harrison Hrs., W. Troup, R. Pierce.

Section 35: W. Troup, J. W. Whiteman, Church, E. W. Whiteman, B. Harrison Hrs., S. McCarty, F. Voglund; B. H.; **Section 36:** Susannah Brewer, Jas. G. Myers, W. Troup, School House, J. Timmons, H. M. P., B. Harrison Hrs., F. Voglund, A. Condit, J. F. W., E. Brewer, I. Thompson, Mrs. J. Johnson, A. Haney, L. H. Jackson, R. L.

Range 9 West, Township 27 North (north of the river)

Section 3: John S. Roberts; **Section 4:** D. A. Pfrimmer, Jacob Kenoyer, W. T., A. L., I. L., several other lots not readable. **Section 5:** A. J. Kent, John Kenoyer, several lots not readable. **Section 6:** John Kenoyer, T. Buswell, Cemetery, two small lots not marked.

Range 10 West, Township 27 North (north of the river)

Section 1: H. West, F. Voglund; **Section 2:** F. Voglund, four lots not marked.

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ty, Indiana (Federal Census of 1870 and 1880). He and his family moved to Goodland, Newton County, Indiana sometime between 1883 and 1889. John and Terressa lived about 35 years in Newton County.

Their last two children, Xerxes and Sue Mabel, were born in Newton County, probably in Iroquois Twp. Their children grew up and married in this area. And here is where John, because of his Civil War disabilities, gave up farming, moved to Goodland, and became a "livery man" with the help of family and his son-in-law, John Jenkins. I think he owned the livery stable. He and Terressa bought and sold land, some as lots in his new subdivision. While in Newton County, four of their seven children died. Xerxes just after he was born, William, Needham, and James. Needham may have died in Kansas. William and James probably both died in Newton County; both are buried in the family plot in Goodland.

Sometime in 1902, John, now 66, left Indiana to live near his son John Wesley Sapp in Brownville, Nebraska. He (John Williams Sapp) went with his wife and daughter and son-in-law. About 1908, the four again moved, this time to Big Rapids, Mecosta County, Michigan, near son George. And here it appears they remained. Terressa died in 1910, but was buried back in Goodland, Indiana. John lived with his daughter and son-in-law, for the most part, but would periodically stay at his son George's house. Of course, George and Mabel lived near each other.

The last two years of his life, John

was very sick. He was taken care of at his daughter's house by both Mabel, his daughter, and Mary Ellen, his granddaughter. On April 10, 1922, John finally died. He had just passed his 86th birthday. His body was returned to Goodland, Indiana, and he is buried next to his wife, Terressa. His sons William and James are buried here as well as his daughter, "Aunt Mabel," and son-in-law (John Jenkins).

Parents of John Williams Sapp

Thomas and Nancy (Williams) Sapp

Thomas, son of John and Hettie (Barcus) Sapp, was probably born between 1802 to 1808 in Bedford Co., Pennsylvania. He was one of twelve children by this marriage.

Nancy, daughter of William and Rebecca D. (Loar) Williams, was born 09-Sep-1809 possibly in Hamilton Co. or Jefferson Co., Ohio. What little I "know" about Nancy, is based on her husband Thomas - marriage, land purchase and sale, etc.

Sometime in 1820, Thomas' mother, Hettie, died and shortly afterwards his father married Abigail Willis. With seven children at home at the start of this marriage, some of the older children were probably encouraged to leave. And as John and Abigail began their family, Thomas also probably left about 1822-1825. He settled in the area of Colerain, Hamilton Co., OH.

Thomas and Nancy married on 24-June-1826 in Hamilton Co, OH. During their marriage, they had six children: Rebecca, Hester, Maryann, Abiriah, John Williams, and William. Both Hester (b. 1830) and John (b. 25-Mar-1836, Madison

Co. are believed born in Ohio. However, I have no records or knowledge of the family between their marriage and John's birth. Thomas came from a farming family, and appears to have continued in this profession. During this period, 1826 to 1836, Thomas may have started out by helping his father-in-law on the Williams' farm, but then struck out on his own.

Shortly after John's birth, the family moved to Henry Co., Indiana, where they bought land in Liberty Township on 13-Dec-1836. A few months later, their son William was born 22 May 1837. While in Henry Co., Thomas and Nancy bought and sold a few parcels of land.

Sadly, the next document I have is from Probate Book - A-B, Page 503, dated 19-Aug-1839 concerning the administration of "the goods and chattels of Thomas Sapp late of said County deceased who died intestate." And the following is from [A History of the Sapp Family](#) by J. Gooden Sapp and H. W. Stanley (1910):

"Thomas, son of John Sapp and Hettie Barkus married Nancy Williams and both died the same day, one at sunrise and the other at sunset. One daughter died three weeks later. Grandfather Williams took the children to Indiana and they were raised near Newcastle."

I received the following from a researcher in the Henry County, Indiana area: "I don't have any info for you on Thomas and Nancy. I can tell you according to one book that I have, there was a terrible Cholera epidemic outbreak in Henry Co. in 1833 and I seem to recall

This is the livery which stood where the firehouse now is in Goodland. The house next to it is currently Gert's Funeral Home. J. W. Sapp ran the livery up until 1902. He was a Civil War veteran and is buried in the Goodland Cemetery with his family. - submitted by David Dye, compliments of John and Mike Sapp.



Visit our web site www.ingenweb.org/innewton

Visit our web site www.ingenweb.org/innewton

- continued from page 11

seeing somewhere that it struck again in 1839/40 but I can't for the life of me remember where I read that so I can't confirm with certainty that it happened again in 1839/40."

So, only three young children, Hester age 9, John age 3, and William age 2, survived their parents with very few memories, stories and artifacts to pass down to their descendants.

Children of John Williams Sapp

Rebecca Sapp born July 5, 1827, probably in Ohio, died by 1839.

Hester Sapp born 1830 in Ohio, died September 28, 1879 in Ellinwood, Barton Co., KS. Married Joseph Kelso Bennett, March 25, 1849 in Spiceland, Henry Co., IN.

I received the following from a descendant of Hester: "(in Grant County, Indiana) you will find that Joseph K. and Hester lived there about 25 years. Then approximately 1878 they moved to Kansas. Hester died in Ellinwood, Barton Co. Kansas approximately 1879 of a virus. Her married daughter, Catharine, also died of it a few months later. They were both buried in the local cemetery at this time; however, the Arkansas River overflowed and washed out the cemetery and most of the buried."

Maryann Sapp born April 27, 1832, probably Ohio, died by 1839

Abiriah Sapp born June 8, 1834, probably in Ohio, died by 1839. Nothing more is known. One of the "unknown" daughters died shortly after Thomas and Nancy. The other two probably died sometime before as there is no other mention of them.

William Sapp born May 22, 1837 in Henry Co., IN (Liberty Township).

William Henry Sapp: born April 23, 1857 in Iowa, died March 6, 1890, Aka: Will. I know nothing else about Will. I have a couple of photos, and a book given to him in 1885 by his mother.

George Rogers Sapp born August 4, 1858 in Iowa, died Oct 7, 1935. Married (1st) Elnora F. Farley 14 Mar 1885; (2nd) Mary Jane Burgess 18 Oct 1889. George remained in the Newton County, Indiana area for quite awhile before eventually moving to Mecosta County Michigan. He worked as a farmer (1880 and 1920 census) and in-

surance agent (1900 census). His first wife died in 1888. I don't believe they had any children. He and his second wife had one child, Harry Barrett, born in 1890 in Indiana.

John Wesley Sapp born 13 Jan 1860 in New Castle, Henry Co., IN. Died 22 Jun 1942 in Brownville, Nemaha Co., NE. Married Sarah Olive Lester 24 Apr 1879 in Kentland, Newton Co, IN. This is my Great-Grandfather. While still in Indiana, two daughters were born: Malinda (1880) and Edith (1881). A son, Stanton, may have been born here also or in Nebraska where the family moved. around 1882 to 1884. Two more sons, John (1885), and George (1886) were born in Exeter, Fillmore Co., Nebraska. John farmed for a while. Eventually, he became a Christian minister and settled in Brownville, Nebraska, around 1900. He remained in the Brownville area, except for a four-year ministry in Smith Center, Kansas, until his death.

Needham Nelson Sapp born 25 May 1861 in New Castle, Henry Co. IN. Died 31 Aug 1893. Married Ruth M. Bennett 4 Nov 1882 in Watseka, Iroquois Co. IL. aka: Nelson. Currently, the only information on Nelson has come from his namesake who stated the following: "He was a U.S. Marshal in Kansas and was killed by outlaws." Also, on the back of a copy of a photograph sent by the same kind relative was the caption "Needham Nelson Sapp, U. S. Marshal in Kansas and Nebraska, 1882 to 1887." His marriage license shows his wife's parents as J. Bennett and H. Sapp.

James Walter Sapp born 2 Aug 1865 in New Castle, Henry Co., IN. Died 14 Jul 1888. Married Ella W. Wescott 25 May 1887. I have no further information on James. I don't know how or where he died, or if he had any children.

Xerxes Sapp born 4 Dec 1869 in poss. Iroquois Twp, Newton Co., IN. Died 6 Dec 1869 in poss. Iroquois Twp., Newton Co, IN. Certainly an uncommon name; I know of none other in my family. Perhaps, John heard stories while sitting around campfires during the Civil War of Xerxes I, the king of Persia and his war against Greece. The Grecian war started successfully, but ended in unexpected defeat for Xerxes.

Sue Mable Sapp born 16 Jan 1878 in possibly Iroquois Twp, Newton Co., IN. Died 1959 aka: Mable. Married John C. Jenkins 18

Feb 1897. Mable appears to be a "change of life" child, born almost ten years after her previous sibling. She and her husband John lived with her parents, then appear to have taken care of them in their later years. Her daughter, Mary Ellen, was born during their residence in Nebraska.

Sapp Family Photographs



Hester Sapp,
John's sister.



J. W. Sapp, Civil
War Era Photo

Children of John W. Sapp



William
Henry Sapp



William Sapp



George Rogers
Sapp



John Wesley Sapp



Needham Sapp



Sue Mable Sapp

Civil War Memories of John William Sapp

Extracted from John Sapp's website

The following are notes from another researcher: Served in Co F, 32nd Indiana Infantry, during the Civil War. He seemed to have lived in the towns of Anderson and Summitville, both in Madison Co., IN, for most of his life after the war.

He was infirm toward the end of his life, living and being cared for by his daughter Lizzie in Foley, Alabama. He died there on 30 Oct 1921. His remains were transported to Indiana where he was buried in the I.O.O.F. Cemetery in Summitville, IN.

"We organized at Richmond, Ind. went from there to Indianapolis, from there to Jeffersonville, crossed the Ohio River into Louisville, Ky., went from there to Bowling Green, from there to Ft. Donaldson where we had a fight with the Confederates under Buckner. Grant was the Union Commander. Buckner's forces were routed, and from there we marched up the Cumberland River to Nashville, Buel in command, with a force of 30,000 men, 26 steamboats and two gun boats. We landed in Nashville in March and lay in camp about six weeks, we were then ordered to Shiloh, or Pittsburg Landing, going out under Nelson's Division. After a hard march we waded Duck River at Columbia, Tenn., camping for the night on Pres. Polk's farm. The next day Nelson got in advance and pushing his Division hard, landed at Pittsburg Landing just in time to save Grant's army. Our regiment being the first to cross the Tennessee River. Grant's army at this time was almost routed, being forced to the water's edge, and many soldiers were standing waist deep in the river and imploring us as we were crossing to take them back, but we were fresh and eager for a fight and we certainly had a hard one for about two days. The Confederates were routed, there were about 32,000 killed and wounded on both sides.

"After the evacuation of Corinth, Buel's army came back to Nashville. Our Brigade marched from there to McMinnville, a distance of 86 miles. This was in 1862. At this time Bragg invaded Kentucky so we were marched back to Nashville, and from there to Louisville after Bragg and from there to Perryville, where we overtook Bragg and had a fight, driving him through Cumberland Gap. From here we marched back to Nashville, arriving there in October, having marched across the state of Kentucky three ways.

Then in December, we marched on to the Confederates at Stone River. There we fought almost hand to hand off and on for four days. Finally, we routed them holding the battlefield. There were in this fight about 24,000 men killed and wounded on both sides. We camped here for a while and recruited. This was the first of the year of 1863. After a rest we marched on to Chattanooga with Rosencrans in command. The Dutchman was all right and as brave as a lion. He marched us around through Chattanooga and struck the Confederates on Chickamauga Creek at Ringgold, Ga., and had a hard fight for two days. The Confederates outnumbered us two to one and we were repulsed at this point, falling back to Chattanooga a distance of sixteen miles. There we held until reinforced by Uncle Joe Hooker with the 11th and 12th Army Corps.

"Then our Brigade with four others was ordered across the

Tennessee River at Chattanooga and marched over the Cumberland mountains to Shellman, then we re-crossed the river and went into camp at Whitesides, Tenn., making the route in four days and nights, two days and nights of that time I never had a mouthful of anything to eat. This march was made to reinforce Uncle Joe Hooker on that side of the river.

"After a rest of three or four weeks, we went after the Confederates who were stationed on Lookout Mountain. We charged up the mountain three columns deep and did not stop for anything, capturing six thousand prisoners. This fight was made above the clouds, and the next morning everything had cleared away and we could see everything. It was a grand sight as Lookout Mountain is 2700 feet above Chattanooga. In a little while Sherman with his division opened up on the enemy on Missionary Ridge, and the fight raged all day. The Confederates were driven off the Ridge with heavy losses, we having captured 80 pieces of the enemy's artillery. Our Lieutenant was killed in this fight. Then Gen. Bragg retreated to Dalton, Ga., and we came to Whitesides, Tenn. and spent the cold winter of '63 and '64 there.

That winter my wife's house was burned and everything she had in the world was burned with it, as she and the little boys were eight miles from home visiting. I tried hard at this time to get a furlough as it certainly looked as if I was needed at home, but couldn't make it at that time as the Government needed every able bodied man in the front. How Mrs. Sapp and the little ones got along, God only knows, I don't.

Next came the campaign of the summer of '64. Gen. Bragg on the Confederate side and Gen. Sherman on the Union. The first stand was made at Dalton, Ga., by the Confederates with 80,000 men. We had at this time 180,000 men, --the first time that we had outnumbered the Confederates. They were driven from Dalton to Resaca, from Resaca to Rome, from Rome to Big Shanty, at which place our first Lieut. was killed. From Big Shanty to Peach Tree Creek, from there to Atlanta, from there to Jonesboro. This was a continual fight and a hard one. Every day for about three months there was fighting some where along the line and some days we were all at it.

"About the 16th of September we started home, our time having expired nearly two weeks before we left. I arrived home October 1st at midnight and found my wife and the boys living in a little log cabin, getting along fine. I had been out just thirty-eight months and had only seen them once during that time. I secured a twenty-day furlough after the battle of Shiloh and this time was spent with my family. After my furlough expired I reported to Indianapolis for duty. From there was sent with about seventy-five others to Iuka, Tenn. When we arrived there the Regiment was gone so we went to Decatur, and from there to Athens, where we found our Regiment after having been on the road twenty-one days.

"I write this at the request of my only daughter that she might remember a part of my trip through the war after I am dead. I am seventy-two years old and live with the same woman I married when I was nineteen years old." - John W. Sapp Corporal Co. D. 36 Indiana.

- Reprinted from the John William Sapp website.