



The Thunderbird claspng a salmon.



The Whale



The Frog, The Bear



The Mask

The Newcomer

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< *Continued from page two*

The Salmon is known as the provider of life, he is a symbol of the abundance of prosperity. Salmon was, and still is one of the main source of diets for many Salish People.

The Watchman is a small human wearing a conical rain hat. They are said to guard the village and give warning when unwelcome people or spirits approach.

The Killer Whale is the manifestation of Wolf; it is held in great awe for its size and power. Note his curled tail at the top, just below the salmon.

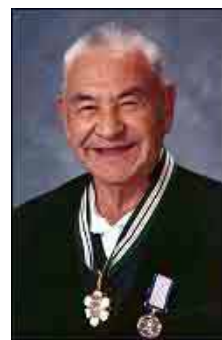
The Frog is a symbol of a new beginning to all things, though very small the frog plays a great role in Cowichan culture, he lets them know when it is time to put away winter activities and prepare for the new season.

The Bear symbolizes consistency and stability of action, has the ability to discover the inner truth about oneself, and has great self awareness, with a desire to deliberate about choices and actions.

The Killer Whale's Mask he assumes when he comes to man's world, also worn by the tribesmen of the Cowichan Tribe.

Some of the additional signs that indicate this is a Salish tribe carving are the arrows and ovals that appear, as well as the outlining of the lips – all common symbols used by Salish carvers.

Photos by Beth Bassett



Simon Charlie, (1920-2005) carver of the Marriage Totem Pole on the Deardurff property.

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Indiana's YOUNGEST County

The Cowichan Tribe Totem Pole - Beaver Township *by Beth Bassett*



One of the highlights of the Willow Slough tour that Janet Miller and I were given by Mike Schoonveld earlier this spring was stopping at the home of Shirley and Dennis Deardurff where the famous totem pole was located. I, myself had not seen it, and was totally taken aback by its beauty and splendor standing tall against a backdrop of pine trees and typical Newton County flora.

After snapping several shots of it, the tour moved along, but in my mind, I was fascinated by the symbols, colors and name "Cowichan Totem Pole" that was engraved on a plaque at its base. I knew I had several clues to search the internet for information, and Mike assured me that the Deardurffs would have details as well.

When I finally gathered my thoughts and gave Shirley a call, she was delighted to hear from me, and told me that indeed she had information regarding the pole. I planned to meet with her the next morning to see what information she might have, as well as visit the pole one more time, a bit more informed this time. Prior to that meeting, I sat down and did some extensive researching regarding the Cowichan Tribe, as well as the symbolism of the carvings on poles.

The meanings of the carved figures on totem poles are as varied as the cultures which make them. Totem poles may recount familiar legends, clan lineages, or notable events. Some poles are erected to celebrate cultural beliefs, but others are intended mostly as artistic presentations. Poles are also carved to illustrate stories, to commemorate historic persons, to represent shamanic powers, and to provide objects of public ridicule.

Vertical order of images is widely believed to be a significant representation of importance. This idea is so pervasive that it has entered into common parlance with the phrase "low man on the totem pole." This phrase is indicative of the most common belief of ordering importance, that the higher figures on the pole are more important or prestigious. A counterargument frequently heard is that figures are arranged in a "reverse hierarchy" style, with the most important representations being on the bottom, and the least important being on top. Actually there have never been any restrictions on vertical order; many poles have significant figures on the top, others on the bottom, and some in the middle. Other poles have no vertical arrangement at all, consisting of a lone figure atop an undecorated column.

In 1968, the present property of the Deardurff's was owned by Elmer and Earl Rix. They were brothers who used the property as a weekend retreat.

The Rix brothers, both bachelors, may have attended the Expo '67 held on Victoria Island, British Columbia, for this is where the pole was carved by Simon Charlie, a former chief and well admired member of the Cowichan Tribe.

His obituary stated: "Simon Charlie, renowned First Nations carver and respected Elder, passed away Tuesday evening, May 3rd (2005) after a sudden re-occurring illness. He was 85. For his contribution to art and culture and forging ties with other communities, Charlie received the Order of British Columbia in 2001 and the Order of Canada in 2003. Charlie was a cultural ambassador. He took pleasure in teaching heritage, culture, and traditions as well as carving to both First Nations and non-First Nations. He was passionate about his Cowichan culture and

Continued on page two >

heritage; he embraced learning from other cultures and was a strong advocate of sharing the creative process.

"Simon contributed to our community in so many ways. He honoured us by sharing so much of his life with us, as a teacher, as a leader, as a role model," said Harvey Alphonse, Chief of Cowichan Tribes. "He inspired us to each find our own unique gift we bring to the world. He challenged us to step forward and be proud of whom we are. He provoked us to set aside our differences and work together in harmony. We are truly going to miss his smiling face."

From an article that appeared in the August 28, 1969 edition of the *Newton County Enterprise* I found two photos of Elmer Rix standing next to the newly erected totem.

The article read as follows:

"TOTEM POLE: A 24-foot marriage totem pole, which weighs almost a ton, towers over Sand Hill Farm, owned by Elmer and Earl Rix, northwest of Morocco. Carved by Simon Charlie, a Cowichan Indian, was one of the carvers for Expo '67, it was made on the southern tip of Victoria Island, British Columbia. From the first telephone conversations to negotiation with the Canadian consulate, almost three years passed before the brothers obtained the pole. Elmer Rix is an engineering liaison, between foundries and engineering departments in Chicago. The farm is planned as a retirement home. The top figure on the pole is the thunderbird, an all powerful spirit. Next to the bottom figure is a bear, symbolic of the closeness of family ties. The bottom figure on the marriage totem is the mask that the killer whale assumes when he comes to man's world. In front of the totem pole is a ceremonial fireplace which is used sometimes by the Boy Scouts."

Initially, Shirley and Dennis were not the owners of the totem, but undertook the huge task of refurbishing it when they purchased the property in the early 1990s. They did a large amount of research regarding techniques in restoring, as well as the type of paint needed to keep the totem in its splendour.

They spent more than 100 hours in restoration utilizing two ladders that would reach 20-25 feet. Only the wings of the thunderbird were removed during restoration. They carefully applied the recommended mineral oil based paint to the cedar structure, matching the colours and following the carvings as they proceeded.



Research stated that it is typical that totem poles do not remain standing after 70 years without restoration. It is obvious that the Rix brothers were aware of this and had planned on many generations to follow to observe the totem pole because they along with the Newton County REMC, erected a steel I-beam to which the totem pole is attached. In my opinion, time and effort well spent.

It is highly unusual to find a totem pole in this part of the country. The American tribes of the Pacific Northwest are the only known carvers of such splendid totem poles. Much information can be found on them on the internet.

The carved symbols on the pole are, from top to bottom: the Thunderbird clasp ing a salmon in his talons; a face carving known as a "watchman"; the plunging whale, with his tail curved up under the thunderbirds' talons; a frog, a sitting bear; and at the bottom a carved killer whale's mask, which he assumes when he comes to man's world. Shirley told me that this type of mask was also worn by the Cowichan men in ceremonial gatherings.

To get to the totem pole, drive three

miles west of Morocco on State Road 114, turn north on the Indiana/Illinois State line; proceed north about one mile to 300W going east about .7 of a mile. The once named "Sand Hill Farm" is on the north side of the road.

I believe the Rix brothers, as well as the descendents of Simon Charlie would be very happy to know that the Deardurffs have taken very good care of their totem pole, giving it the attention and respect that it commands. Thanks so much to Mike Schoonveld and the Deardurff family for allowing me to share the story of this hidden treasure of Newton County.

The Symbolism of the Carvings on This Matrimonial Totem Pole

The Thunderbird is the most powerful supernatural creature. He lived in the mountains and fed on whales. When he flapped his wings, thunder rolled; when he blinked his eyes, lightning occurred. He was a hero in the legends of the Coast Salish Legends, part of the culture of the Cowichan tribe.

Please turn to the back page for pictures of the carvings and continued explanation of their meanings.



One of the Rix brothers stands alongside the newly placed Cowichan totem pole in 1969. Note how small the pine trees are in this photo compared to the front page photo. Reprinted from the *Newton County Enterprise*, 1969.

ON LINE WITH OUR OFFICERS

Submitted by President Janet Miller

It's summer and Fair time for Newton County! This is being written the week prior to the fair, so by the time you read this the fair will be over. The NCHS enjoys having a booth in the Commercial Building at the fairgrounds. We appreciate Mike Haste taking charge of our booth. We take old pictures, various displays, our publications, and present the winning pictures of the county coloring book contest. But the most enjoyable thing for us is meeting and talking with the people of the county who stop by our booth. We welcome you.

Tim Storey of "Renewed Heritage" spoke to us at our April meeting. He told us of the plan to restore old buildings in our county using local people to complete this project. Several buildings in Morocco are currently being restored by the group. We thank Tim for sharing his story with us.

The society has purchased a new lap top computer and projector for the use of the members as we present various programs to our local students. At the May meeting, Larry Lyons used this new equipment to present a powerpoint presentation on animals, habitat and vegetation of the time when Beaver Lake was still undrained. This show was somewhat adapted from our most recent publication, "Hoosier Hunting

Ground". Beth Bassett and Larry Lyons established this program to be shown to Newton County 4th graders next year. The new equipment is a great aid for us. Members are always interested in Beaver/Lake/Bogus/Island territory. Several artifacts from this area were brought for display.

We are happy to give our McCray Scholarship this year to Corrine Burton of Goodland. The scholarship is based on a history essay by a Newton County Senior at North or South Newton High Schools. The essay may be found elsewhere in this publication of the Newcomer.

David and Darlene Truby represented the society at the Community Foundation Grants and Awards Banquet. Darlene told of our recent grant being used to microfilm old issues of the Morocco Courier.

A great crowd enjoyed our Annual Meeting held at the Brook Conservation Club with a carry-in dinner. New officers were elected for the new term. Donna LaCosse, county historian, Becky Lyons, secretary and Janet Miller, president. If these names sound familiar, they are. These are the same officers that served the NCHS the last term. Our speaker for the evening was Kyle Conrad of Brook. His work for Newton County is immeasurable. He has

worked for several years getting names of all the Civil War veterans that are located in Newton County Cemeteries. Through a Newton County Foundation grant he was able to purchase Civil War markers that he has placed at most of our local cemeteries. This is a continuing project. If you are aware of a Civil War veteran that has not been marked, please contact Kyle.

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

Join Our Membership!

- General Society Membership
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 - ___ Family \$15
 - ___ Individual Life \$100
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- Family History Division
 - Must be a general member.
 - ___ Individual \$5
 - ___ Family \$7
 - ___ Individual Life \$50
 - ___ Family Life \$100

Dues are valid January 1- December 31 of current year. Membership includes free copies of *The Newcomer*.

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

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Members Ron Humphrey (front left) and Larry Lyons discuss a bit of history prior to the opening of the annual meeting in June. Back, left: Lynn Wilfong, Dave Truby, and Barbara Wilfong share their thoughts. - photo by Beth Bassett

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George Ade: How He Supplemented His Income

By Carol Light

George Ade was one of the most well known and beloved citizens to come out of Newton County. Even those not personally familiar with his books and his plays know about his Tudor style home just east of Brook on the Iroquois River and the George Ade Nursing Home and the Hazelden Country Club that adjoin it. And every Purdue fan has heard of the Ross-Ade football stadium. Here in Newton County, we may not know who Mr. Ross was, but we know that the "Ade" half of the title was one of our own.

George Ade was a popular "show-biz" celebrity during the early years of the 20th century. If the paparazzi had existed at the time, they might have been chasing him down the streets of Kentland or Brook. He wrote his famous "Fables In Slang" as newspaper columns, collected them into popular books, broke out into playwriting (twelve plays), and dabbled successfully in that newfangled entertainment, called the talking movies. Since he was unmarried, he was often seen in the company of pretty actresses as well as other well known figures of the time. Theodore Roosevelt visited. William Howard Taft launched his presidential campaign from the steps of Ade's Hazelden home.

All of this mostly happened between the years of 1900 and 1912. It is not the purpose of this exercise to enumerate all of Ade's accomplishments. Not at all. Instead, it is to raise the question: How did he survive--and survive quite comfortably--long after the spotlight had dimmed? He was advised by his doctor to slow down after experiencing poor health caused by exhaustion (also known as burning the candle

at both ends) about the year 1912. He took his doctor's advice to heart. He didn't really quit writing, but he never again produced a huge hit. How could he afford to do that? How was he able to pay his considerable bills? From 1912 to 1944, when he passed away in Brook at age 78, he was able to spend his winters in Miami and his summers at Hazelden, where he lived like a country squire.

For those living in Newton County at the time, there was no secret. George Ade owned about 2,000 acres of prime Newton County farm ground. During his most productive years, he had, with the advice of his brother, Will Ade, purchased seven farms, all located in Iroquois, Grant, and Jefferson Townships. The purpose of this paper is to show exactly how George Ade, who made his fortune from an occupation not known for its financial security, was able to sustain a comfortable and interesting life style throughout his declining years.

Before discussing the specifics of Ade's farms, it might be a good idea to tell about William, his older brother by seven years. Will Ade, a Kentland resident, was well known around the county as a prosperous farmer who was able to purchase quite a bit of land during his lifetime. He sold several of his land purchases to his brother, George, and to his son-in-law, James Rathbun. Rathbun was also George Ade's business manager.

One of George's most popular plays, "The County Chairman," was put on with local talent in Kentland, with his brother Will in the title role. I am old enough to have known people who saw Will perform the part. With a shrewd knowledge of hu-

man nature, the County Chairman was a country bumpkin, who really wasn't really such a bumpkin after all. According to my sources, that pretty well summed up Will Ade. Perfect type casting.

Will passed away about 1920, leaving behind a wife, Katie, along with a son, Rolland Ade, and two daughters, Ardis Ade Kurfess and Nellie Ade Rathbun.

George Ade was born into a family of seven children. His father, John Ade was a well known Newton County pioneer. When George passed away in 1944, he still had two living sisters, and they each inherited a farm. Deceased sister, Anna Ade Randall's daughter (George's niece) received a farm, Brother Will was deceased, but he had three children, who each also inherited a farm. The seventh farm, the Hazelden Farm, was to be left to the Indiana Dept. of Conservation. The income from the Hazelden Farm was to support George's Hazelden Home, along with its extensive gardens and out-buildings.

Following is a list of the farms that supported George Ade and his lifestyle and the names of his heirs when he passed away:

1. Streight Farm. Approx. 400 acres. Located in sections 4, 5, 8, and 9 of Grant Twp. along the east-west South Newton School road. This farm was left to Ella Ade McCray, George's sister and wife of Gov. Warren T. McCray. McCray is a story in his own right, as the governor of Indiana from 1920 to 1924, who was then convicted and served 10 years in a U.S. prison for mail fraud. It makes sense that Ella would inherit this property, since it was just down the road (to the east) from the McCray farm

headquarters in section 6 of Grant Twp. The Streight Farm remained in the family until spring of this year, 2009, when it was sold.

2. Brookside Farm, a.k.a Sunnybrook. George Ade identified it as Brookside in his will. Approx. 230 acres. The buildings are located south of Brook on 150 E., sections 30 and 31 in Iroquois Twp. Purchased by George Ade from Alexander Bower in 1911. This farm was inherited by niece Nellie Ade Rathbun (Will's daughter). Nellie was married to James Rathbun, who purchased a sizeable farm from his father-in-law, Will Ade, just to the west of Brookside Farm. The buildings of the Rathbun farm, still owned by Rathbun heirs, are located on 50 E. (school road). When Nellie and James Rathbun were gone, the Rathbun farm was inherited by a son, and Ade's Brookside Farm was inherited by a daughter. Brookside Farm was sold out of the daughter's family several years ago.

There is an interesting footnote to the Brookside Farm. In 1939, when a tornado came through, it took down the buildings on Brookside Farm and then moved on to the northeast, where it did damage to both the Hazelden Farm and the Hazelden Home. Lois Harper Padgett was a young girl and living with her parents, tenants, on the Brookside Farm. Lois tells what a terrifying experience it was; but she is alive and well and living in Washington Twp. today.

The name, Brookside Farm, poses an intriguing question. Was George Ade aware that this farm bordered the two creeks from which the original town of Brook was named? Brook's first location was south of the Iroquois River, and the postmaster of the time named it after the stream running past his post office. The very same stream running past Brookside Farm. Hmmm!

3. Brecourt Farm. 313 acres. This farm was inherited by Alice Ade Davis, a sister. It was then passed on to her son, George Ade Davis, who also inherited all the copyrights of George Ade's works.

George Davis Manor on Cumberland Ave. in West Lafayette is named after him. Brecourt Farm is located across the fields to the west of the Rathbun farm and in sections 1 and 2, Range 9, in Jefferson Twp. The buildings have been gone for many years, and it has been sold out of the family.



The Streight Farm.



The Brecourt Farm.



The Riverside Farm.

Farms 4, 5, and 6 were actually two farms while George Ade was alive. They were located on both sides of Rt. 55, just north of the Iroquois River. Acreage total-892 acres.

4. The first of these farms was Riverside Farm. The buildings were located on the west side of Rt. 55, on the banks of the river, section 15, Iroquois Twp. Adah

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Randall Plugge inherited the farm, and it remained in the Plugge family for many years. Adah was a daughter of George's sister, Anna Ade Randall. The farm sold out of the family a few years ago.

The house was interesting, because a wing of it had obviously once been an old one room school. The bell tower was still there until the buildings were tom down, several years before the farm sold. I have talked to a relative that remembered that it was a school, but no one remembers where the school had originally been located.

The John Ekstrom family moved there as tenant in the mid 1950s. His son, Norm Ekstrom, namesake of the hog building at the Punkin' Vine Fair and pork chop chef extraordinaire, lived there as a teenager.

5. County Chairman Farm. This farm, named after Ade's most successful play and movie, was located just north of the Riverside Farm on Rt. 55, section 10, Iroquois Twp. The buildings, now gone, were about 1/2 mile north of those on Riverside Farm. "County Chairman" was proudly painted on the side of the barn.

Will Ade sold the farm to George in 1906. George left to it to Will's daughter, Ardis Ade Kurfess, when he passed away. The farm is still owned by the Kurfess family.

This writer remembers the Poss Antcliff family and the Harold Myers family living there as tenants. Norm Ekstrom says he also lived there as a small boy.

6. Unnamed farm #6. This farm was carved out of the Riverside Farm and the County Chairman Farm, and it straddles Rt. 55 in sections 10, 14, and 15 of Iroquois Twp. R. Rolland Ade, George's nephew and a son of Will, inherited this farm with no buildings. According to Rolland's daughter, present owner, her father was disappointed that he did not inherit a fine set of buildings. She now considers this an asset, as she has not had the expense of either maintaining or tearing down old buildings.

7. Hazelden Farm. Approximately 400 acres. Sections 21 and 22, Iroquois Twp. George Ade left the Hazelden Farm, the farm surrounding his home, to the In-



The picture on the left was the inspiration for Carol's article. Beth Bassett recently submitted it to the Historical Landmarks Foundation for their Newton County project. They inquired as to where this barn was located in the county. All the local historians were asked, and Carol Light came up with the answer, and much more - the article you see here regarding the George Ade farms in Newton County. The left picture was taken in 1912, right picture in 1955.

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Newton County Historical Crossword #1

Submitted by Nancy Jo Prue and Beth Bassett

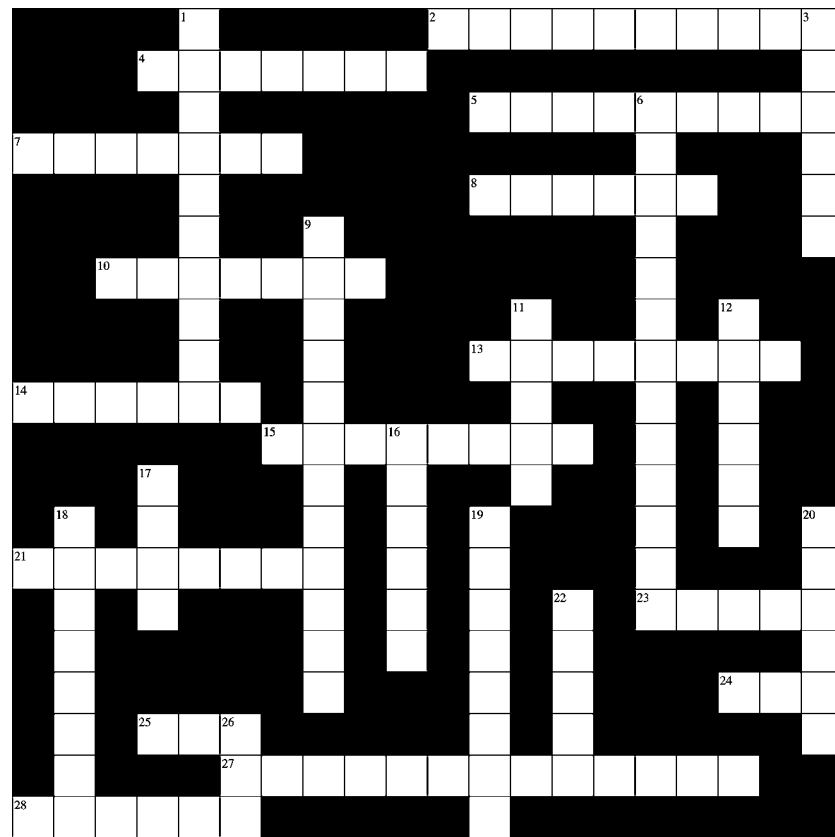
Test your knowledge of the county - some of the articles in this edition hold the answers to a few of the questions!

ACROSS

- 2. Grove in Beaver Township named after an Indian.
- 4. McClellan Township section number where Bogus Island was located.
- 5. A "sun" resort.
- 7. A well-known Newton County Lawyer.
- 8. What Newton County resident served as Indiana's Governor?
- 10. Name of the lake located in Willow Slough.
- 13. The first Newton County Courthouse was located in this township.
- 14. A former shallow lake in Newton County.
- 15. Where is the Newton County seat?
- 21. George Ade's home.
- 23. Name of the island that was known as a home for horse thieves and counterfeiters.
- 24. Sometimes called "the Capital" of Washington Township.
- 25. Author of "Hoosier Hunting Ground or The Beaver Lake Trail."
- 27. The year our county was created.
- 28. Our county is named for this Revolutionary hero.

DOWN

- 1. What was the first name for Mt. Ayr?
- 3. Name of one of the artists in the NCHS Historical Coloring Book.
- 6. A former hunting resort in Lake Township still standing today.
- 9. What Newton County woman organized and platted her own town?
- 11. Perfection Fairfax's monument resides in this township.
- 12. Who is the current Newton County Historical Society President?
- 16. Once the name for the town of Goodland.
- 17. What was the mascot for Brook High School?
- 18. This river divides Newton and Lake Counties.
- 19. Pioneers husked corn by hand; today these aid in harvest.
- 20. Our county neighbor to the east.
- 22. Namesake for the town of Morocco.
- 26. How many townships are in our county?



Solution on page 19.

< Continued from page five

George Ade's Farms

diana Dept. of Conservation. It was to be managed by several trustees, including E.C. Elliott, former Purdue president, J.A. Hillenbrand, president of the Purdue Board of Trustees, and James D. Rathbun, Ade's business manager; and its income was to support the maintenance of the home. The trustees decided that the home and the farm were a troublesome liability, and, according to legend, the heirs needed the proceeds from its sale to pay their considerable inheritance taxes. So, the farm was sold. The buyer was a family member-Ardis Ade Kurfess, who inherited the County Chairman Farm, and her husband. The farm sold out of the family several years ago.

Some older people still refer to the farm as the "Kleinkort place," because Charles Kleinkort, State Senator and husband of an Ade descendant, was the farm tenant for seventeen years before his death in 1972.

That leaves only the home and Hazelden Country Club remaining out of George Ade's estate. The country club, 60 acres of converted cow pasture, was to be left to the club's board of trustees, providing that they could make it a going concern for 5 years.

The house and yard were eventually taken over by Newton County. George had requested in his will that it be considered as the location of a hospital. The George Ade Memorial Hospital opened in 1960.

Not counting the cow pasture known as Hazelden Country Club, George Ade's properties totaled almost 2,000 acres. George had a reputation as a very outgoing, sociable person, well known for his parties. The income from his farms allowed him to continue to live in style as long as the party lasted.



The Hazelden Farm.



The County Chairman Farm.

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Newspaper Article Unveils Unknown Burial at Doran Cemetery

He Winged His Bird: J. W. Tanner of Thayer Shoots a House Breaker

Newton County Enterprise, July 7, 1898

A shooting affray occurred early Sunday morning at Thayer which resulted in the death of a tramp burglar twenty-four hours later.

Mr. John W. Tanner was awakened about two o'clock Sunday morning by a noise at the window of his residence. He went to the window and found a man on the porch attempting to gain an entrance. Mr. Tanner asked him what he wanted and the man said he wanted nothing and turned and made a hasty retreat. Mr. Tanner then said he would give him something and drew a revolver and shot out into the darkness, not aiming at anything.

The next morning the tale was told to the regular customers at the popular store of the latter, and considerable sport was made of the fact that a man of Mr. Tanner's age and courage should be shooting at shadows, etc., but the joke took on a serious aspect towards the close of the day.

A tramp appeared at the farm home of Mr. Adam Miller, about one mile south of Thayer, early that morning and said he was sick. He remained there all forenoon and then strolled out into an adjoining timber and later turned up at the home of George Allis for water. He made several trips to the Allis home in the afternoon for water but always returned to the woods. About six o'clock in the evening Mr. Allis heard of the shooting at Thayer and began to question the man. Dr. Leeson was called and an examination made and a fresh ugly bullet hole was found in the middle of the back, the ball taking a downward course and lodging in the stomach, from which the man was suffering terribly. Trustee Hopper was then summoned and, as we are informed, the doctor refused to take charge of the case and Mr. Hopper ordered the man taken to the county farm. Mr. D. K. Fry and Mr. Allis left with the dying burglar at one o'clock Monday morning and made the long drive to the farm by five o'clock that morning. As day was breaking, and while near Brook, the man died on his bed of hay in the rear of the spring wagon.

Superintendent Armstrong phoned to Coroner Oswalt and on the latter's order the remains were placed in the Doran cemetery Monday evening.

The man refused to talk much, but acknowledged that he had been shot but would not state when or by whom. He gave his name as Charles Smith and also the name of a brother and sister residing

in Pennsylvania. He was about thirty years old, reasonably well dressed; had some small change in his pocket, but his face reflected a confirmed outcast.

It is reasonable to suppose that Mr. Tanner fired the shot that later resulted in the man's death, but no direct evidence can be secured to prove it. He was protecting his life and property and acted as most men would have done under like conditions.

It is to be regretted that the man, though a criminal and a vagabond, had not received better care in his condition and not been compelled to ride the length of the county on a bed of straw and die without any assistance. Mr. Hopper knew no law, however, whereby he could hold the man and consequently acted on his best judgment in sending him to the county farm.

Coroner Oswalt went to Thayer Tuesday and held a trial and will give his decision in a few days. The next week in the "News of the County, Lake Village" the following item appeared.

Doctor Leeson's Statement

"The following from Dr. Leeson of Rose Lawn is printed at the Doctor's request. The statements in our last issue concerning the shooting affair, were given to the people exactly as stated to our reporter by people familiar with the facts and if error has been made it is not the fault of this paper. Dr. Leeson says:

"I notice in your last issue of the Enterprise under "He winged his bird" about the middle column statement "Trustee Hopper was then summoned and as we are informed the doctor refused to take charge of the case etc., which is untrue the fact being that after examining the man as well as I could I asked the crowd if any of them would take the man in and care for him while he lived, no one would do it so I got him into my own buggy and with the help of Geo. Allis brought him to Rose Lawn to West's Hotel where I administered to his wants; he was in no condition for bullet searching so I made him comfortable by relieving his pain and stimulating the circulation. Mr. West could not keep him only till something else could be done with him so having no authority myself I sent for Trustee Hopper and turned the case over to him, he could not get anyone to keep him so ordered me to prescribe something for him so that he could better stand his journey to the poor farm, and sent him there. I may say the man was as comfortable or

more so on a good hay bed in the open air than he was on a hard lounge in the hotel office." -Submitted by Beth Bassett.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR COUNTY OF NEWTON?

By Janet Miller, answers on page 19

All the questions this month involve the Newton County Fair. Good Luck! Sorry, no blue ribbons!

1. We all know that the Newton County Fair is called the "Pun'kin Vine" Fair. Do you know why?
2. When the first fair was organized it was in a different location. Do you know what location?
3. This is our 89th Newton County Fair. Since the fair has been at this location there have been very few presidents of the fair. Do you know how many presidents there have been? Can you name them?
4. There have been many different events at the fair over the years. Which of the following do you think was NOT at the Newton County Fair: Airplane crash in front of the grandstand; Barnum & Bailey Circus; Comedian George Gobel; the year of the Mud; Girlie Shows; outside Ice Show; the old corn game, the Ward Beam Daredevils and the Radio City Rockettes.
5. In 1993 a new office was constructed at the fairgrounds. It was named after a man who served many years as Secretary to the Newton County Fair. Can you name that man and how many years he served as Secretary?

Visit our Resource Center

310 E. Seymour Street
 Kentland, Indiana
 Open to the public
 Monday and Friday
 11:00 - 3:00
 Thursday 1:00 - 5:00
 219-474-6944
 newtonhs@ffni.com

Visit our web site www.ingenweb.org/innewton

2009 McCray Scholarship Winner

Orchard Lake Stock Farm

Corinne N. Burton - South Newton High School

I have chosen to write my essay on the historical background of the Orchard Lake Stock Farm ran by the late Warren T. McCray and his famous bull "Perfection Fairfax".

I have interviewed my Grandma Steiner whose father worked in the mid 1930's at the farm. In 1936, my grandma was just one year old when her family moved from Sullivan County (southern Indiana) up to a small country house in Newton County. Back in those times, work was very hard to come by and she had four sisters. My great grandfather was out of work and his passion was in farming and livestock. The McCray farm was very well known, not just in the community, for its large annual livestock auctions and prize bull. The family hoped the job outlook would be very good up north.

So, they took a chance and moved here (there was already one of his brothers living in Kentland but did not work for Mr. McCray). He was hired the next day, to be one of the main men to run the field farming. She said that most farm work was done with horses but the track tractor was just coming out. I believe Mr. McCray had some of these and it sounds like they were similar to that of a dozer track. My great grandpa worked at the farm for a couple of years, he later moved again to the Otterbein area to work for another farmer.

I found this to be very interesting since it did have something to do with my ancestors and have therefore, researched more on the subject. As this was pretty much all my grandma could remember since she was just one year old when they moved here.

Warren T. McCray was born near Kentland, was a banker's son and was educated in the public schools. He was born in 1865 and later died in 1938. McCray's financial interests included a chain of grain elevators and his farm in which he bred Hereford cattle. He served on many boards and during World War I, he held an office relating to agricultural planning. He was elected Governor of Indiana from 1921-1924, but was forced to resign after being convicted of mail fraud in a case relating to his financial collapse. But was later pardoned by the late Herbert Hoover.

Mr. McCray started in 1890, with 258 acres of unimproved and undesirable land and a small amount of money. He had unbounded faith in good Hereford cattle, broad vision, unlimited energy and a rock-ribbed policy of square dealing. The fame of Perfection Fairfax Herefords has spread like fire among stubble. They are known the world over and its last eleven years the total annual sales reached the astounding figure of \$1,423,417. The Orchard Lake enterprise covered a tract of 2,000 acres and was highly developed and improved. Which included many outbuildings and a big sale barn that held annual livestock sales that buyers from all over the world would attend.

The breeding herd at Orchard Lake consisted of over 350 females. Mr. McCray has a product in the form of blooded stock in which bears the trademark of Perfection Fairfax. This stock was well known all over North and South America. Perfection Fairfax combines two fundamentals of a great sire. Himself a show bull, he sires prizewinning stock and received grand champion in many shows. Sales records add to the evidence in which has accumulated through the years that Fairfax Herefords average higher than other families of white faces.

Perfection Fairfax was such a well-loved creature that when it died, McCray had a monument built in its honor. An American flag flew over the gravestone which still stands. Perfection Fairfax



The majestic Sale Pavillion barn that once stood at the Orchard Lake Farm in Grant Township, Newton County, has been preserved on another farm in White County. Photo by Beth Bassett.

lived from 1903 - 1920. McCray buried its body beneath the stone and had its head mounted and hung in his living room.

In my closing, the McCray farm was located across the road from South Newton High School and I am told that the gravestone is still there but all of the buildings are gone. The famous sale barn was purchased for \$1 and moved to White County (20 minutes away,) where it was reconstructed to look like the original sale barn.

Historical Society 2009 Coloring Contest Winners

The Family History Division's Coloring Contest held in the fourth grade classes of the county elementary schools challenged the judges once again this year. Awards of a presidential coin, Susan B. Anthony dollar and a Sacajawea coin were given to 4 winners of each class; one of these winners was then selected as the over-all class winner and awarded a t-shirt with their entry on the back; one over-all county winner was chosen from each over-all class winner and awarded a copy of "Ralph, the Story of Bogus Island." All of the winning entries were displayed at the society's fair booth in July.

Lake Village Elementary

Mrs. Davis: Riley Anglin; Syrena Felty (over-all class and county winner), Haley Gatewood and Brianna Michaels.

Lincoln Elementary

Mrs. O'Dor: Miquel Espino, Billie Corning, Kyle Rice, (over-all class winner), and Gaby McClain.

Mrs. Reyes: Madison Peters, Maddie Lockhart, (over-all class winner), Nolan Conner and Brittney Childress.

Mrs. Gray: Bailey Dargo, Kirsten Suetich, Ryan Lucas (over-all class winner), and Sydney Wilson.

South Newton Elementary

Mrs. Groover: Allee Sutherlin, Kelsey Honn, Victor Aguilera and Makaila Wittenborn, (over-all class winner).

Mrs. Hoffman: Keeleigh Summers, Laura Hopkins, Kaila Ramirez, (over-all class winner), Jacob David.

Mrs. Dewing: Sarah Warrick, (over-all class winner), Jill Beasley, Sophia Fredickson and Jose Sanchez.

Morocco Elementary

Mrs. Mitsch: Kelsey Call, Sydney Archer, Alexander Dowden and Sierra Belt, (over-all class winner)

Mrs. Green: Jake Williamson, (over-all class winner), Heidi Durlflinger; Amy Morgan and David Hobson.

Thanks to teachers, students and judges in making a successful contest this year!

HISTORICALLY YOURS

By County Historian, Donna LaCrosse

It is that time again – time to fill up this space in the Newcomer. Anyway, Miss Beth tells me she needs typed words to put on this page, and so I had better get with it!

I fully expected July to be very warm and it has been but not as drastic as I thought it would, or could, be. This summer has been an unusual one for us; some good and some not so good.

The air conditioner went out on our van and we spent several very hot travel days before we finally found someone to replace the compressor. Now we have a cool van!

Two days after the van "got cool again," and two flat tires later, we discovered the van needed a "shoe change" so we purchased four new tires and found ourselves safely on the road again! About this time, I wondered if a horse and buggy might not be the way to go – fresh air traveling and no rubber on the wheels to go flat – but then, a horse needs food, shelter and a rub down and if anyone is going to get a rub down, it is going to be me, so I scratched the horse and buggy idea!

The roof over the dining room developed a leak and Harold kept tarring but could never seem to find the right place where the rain was coming in. A "roofer" came, took a look and patched the roof, so that job is done – we hope. The ceiling over the dining table needs to be mended but that can't be done until we find for sure the roof has been sealed so it will leak no more.

To add to the confusion at this house, Harold developed a sore on the bottom of his right foot that the doctor could not find a cure for so he made an incision and found a piece of wire, almost an inch long imbedded in the instep of his foot. The stitches have now been removed, the foot still is a little tender and the wire has

found a home in a plastic pill case so we can share it with our family and friends!

Our foster grandson and his wife have a due date of July 22 for the delivery of their first child, a girl, if the tests were correct. We can hardly wait!

Our minister-grandson and his wife found out this week they can expect a little girl in December. That will make our little girl a grandmother!

Another granddaughter is due in November and our other foster grandson and his wife are looking for a little one in January.

On October 10, our oldest grandson is being married to the woman of his dreams. This is a happy event and we look forward to celebrating with them. Isn't God good?

So history is being made here at our house and another chapter is being added to the Harold and Donna saga!!

Our Historical Society membership enjoyed a summer picnic in June with Kyle Conrad the speaker after a most delicious meal. It is always fun to meet and eat with friends from different parts of the county.

At the business meeting, the nominating committee reported that Janet Miller will once again head up the society as president and I will continue as County Historian. Beth is still doing a great job as editor of *The Newcomer*, as well as serving as director of the Family Division of the Society.

And, now I am off to do some housework even if I do it wrong! Until next time, keep well, keep cool and keep making history.

Morocco in 1856*Newton County Enterprise, 1891*

"Thirty-five years ago there were only four houses in the town of Morocco. The town was laid out and arranged by John Murphey. He did all he could for the good of the town while he lived. Through his efforts, the first M. E. Church was built in Morocco.

He also built the house in which Mr. Andrew Doty now lives. Mr. Murphey also had the first stock of dry goods ever brought to Morocco, which consisted of a few bolts of calico and muslin and some thread.

John Ade, now a banker at Kentland, conducted the first blacksmith shop in Morocco. He also ran the first bank, known as the Bank of America, in Morocco. He kept his cash in a coal bucket under the coal, (some say in a barrel with his potatoes!)

The first fair was organized by Capt. Daniel Ash. It was exclusively a horse show. Horses were shown for both speed and beauty. The grounds were enclosed by a low fence and all those who did not feel disposed to pay 20 cents, the price of admission, looked over the fence. Notwithstanding, the fact that the fence was low, the enterprise was a success and all premiums were paid in full, and there was a balance of \$15.00 in the treasury. – Correspondent *Morocco Courier*"

Civil War Trivia: How Did the 51st Regiment Keep Their Tents Warm?

The Fifty-first regiment, Colonel Steight, have a very simple yet effective contrivance for warming their tent. A trench is dug where the tent is to be erected, some feet longer than the diameter of the tent, and covered with stones, over which the earth is placed and the tent raised. At one end of the trench a square hole is dug in the ground and a sort of furnace mouth made, while at the other end a chimney is constructed. The fire is built at the furnace end and the smoke escapes at the other, warming the tent as it passes through. Once heated, the ground retains the heat 24 hours. The great advantages are, the whole tent is reserved for the occupants, while it is entirely clear of smoke and the danger of catching fire from within is avoided." - *Indianapolis Journal, November 22, 1861*

A Donation from South Carolina

I received an email from Nancy McCormick, whose grandfather was the Rev. Voris Broshire Servies, a Methodist minister at the Griggs Memorial United Methodist Church in Goodland.

She was looking for a home for the small cup on the right, and contacted me to see if the society wanted it. Naturally, I said yes, and replied to her that I had a shoe that matched her cup-painted dark blue with gold trim and a picture of the Goodland School on the front.

The history of the church related that Rev. Voris B. Servies was pastor there during the flu epidemic of 1918 and World War I. The present brick parsonage was built in 1916.

The cup can be seen at the Resource Center, the shoe, still on my bookshelf!

Newton County and the Spanish American War

Militarily, the Spanish-American War (1898) was not a monumental war. The war was brief, included few battles, and the U.S. generally had an easy time of it, with the war's outcome never in much doubt. Secretary of State John Hay called it a "splendid little war." Internationally, however, the war had major historical sig-

Chronology of the Spanish-American War 1898-1899

January 25, 1898

US Battleship Maine docked at Havana, Cuba to protect U. S. property and American's lives.

February 9, 1898

Famous deLome letter from the Spanish minister to the U. S., published by Hearst, depicting McKinley as feeble-minded and lacking integrity.

February 15, 1898

US Battleship Maine explodes in Havana harbor, killing 258 crew members, "Remember the Maine" became the US war cry against Spanish tyranny.

April 5, 1898

U.S. Consuls in Cuba recalled by President McKinley.

April 19, 1898

Congress authorized the use of armed force to end Cuba's Civil War.

April 22, 1898

A blockade of Cuban ports was ordered by McKinley; the Volunteer Army Act was passed, authorizing the 1st Volunteer Cavalry, or "Rough Riders," commanded by Col. L. Wood and T. Roosevelt.

April 23, 1898

McKinley called for 125,000 volunteers to fight in the Cuban war.

April 24, 1898

War officially begins when Spain declared war on the U. S.

April 25, 1898

Congress passed a declaration of war.

May 1, 1898

At the Battle of Manila in the Philippines, one of the most stunning defeats in naval warfare history when the six-ship Asiatic Squadron of Com. George Dewey destroyed a large but outgunned Spanish fleet.

May 25, 1898

A call for 75,000 more volunteers was issued.

June 11, 1898

600 U. S. Marines land at Guantanamo, Cuba.

nificance. The U.S. emerged from this war as a major player in international relations and diplomacy.

This war also introduced the growing power of the media to control public opinion in the U. S. Around the turn of the century, and most powerfully just before and during the war, newspapermen like Hearst and Pulitzer practiced yellow journalism, sensationalizing stories and whipping the public into frenzy for the simple purpose of increasing circulation. There is a great deal of historical proof that the "yellow journalists" tried to instigate the Spanish-American War. This is evidenced by the amount of ink that was dedicated to the weekly updates that appeared in the *Newton County Enterprise*. At this time, the local papers were not "home print" as they are today. Usually 1/3 of the pages were pre-printed plated material or pre-printed newsprint that carried national and international news, thus the extended coverage that appeared in the *Enterprise*.

The demands by the Cuban patriots for independence from Spanish rule made U. S. intervention in Cuba a paramount issue in the relations between the U. S. and Spain from the 1870s to 1898. Sympathy for Cuban insurgents ran high throughout America, especially after their Ten Year War, and an unsuccessful revolt of 1895. After many efforts by Spain to quell guerrilla activity, they instituted a concentration camp system in 1896; Cuba's rural population was forcibly confined to centrally located garrison towns, where thousands died from disease, starvation and exposure.

A series of incidents early in 1898 intensified U. S. feelings against Spain. The first of these was the publication by Hearst of a stolen letter that had been written by the Spanish minister at Washington, in which the diplomat expressed contempt for McKinley. This was followed by the sinking of the U. S. Battleship Maine in the Havana harbor on February 15, 1898, with a loss of 258 men. Although Spanish complicity was not proved, the public opinion was aroused and war sentiment rose. The cause of the advocates of war was given further momentum as a result of eyewitness reports by members of the U. S. Congress on the effect of the concentration camp system in Cuba.

In March, 1898, President McKinley proposed to Spain an armistice in Cuba, but under pressure from Congress, he was soon won to the war cause. On April 11th,

By Beth Bassett

he addressed Congress asking for authority to intervene in Cuba. On April 22nd, Congress authorized the enlistment of volunteer troops, and a U. S. blockade of Spanish ports was instituted. On April 24, Spain declared war on the U. S.; the next day Congress retorted by declaring war on Spain, retroactive to April 21st.

At the beginning of the fiscal year, 1898, the Indiana National Guard consisted of forty-one companies of infantry and three batteries of artillery, with an aggregate of 2,822 officers and men. On December 31, 1897, a company of infantry was mustered into the State service at Brownstown, and on April 21st, one at Huntington. On or about April 1st, war between the U. S. and Spain being imminent, company commanders were instructed to recruit their companies up to the maximum number of eight-four.

Following the declaration of war on Spain, on April 25th, a telegram was sent from the Secretary of War to the Governor of Indiana, James A. Mount informing him that under the President's orders, Indiana was to provide four regiments of infantry and two light batteries of artillery. Regiments of the National Guard or State Militia were to be used as far as their numbers will permit, for the reason that they are armed, equipped and drilled.

Governor Mount immediately dispatched a message to the people of Indiana stating that 125,000 volunteers, of which number four regiments, approximating 1,000 men each, and two batteries have been appointed to the State of Indiana. The Indiana National Guard was commanded to report without delay to Brigadier-General McKee at the fair grounds of the State Board of Agriculture, near Indianapolis, a designated camp, where they would be mobilized and mustered into service of the United States government.

The following companies were accepted to fill vacancies in the several regiments, some of which were organized before the breaking of the war: Company I, 4th Infantry, at Tipton; Company C, 2nd Infantry, at Frankfort; Company L, 1st Infantry, at Vincennes; Company K, 2nd Infantry at Martinsville; Company M, 3rd Infantry at Plymouth; Company L, 4th Infantry, at Anderson; Company M, 4th Infantry, at Logansport.

Telegraph orders were sent to all Company Commanders, and Company C, 2nd Infantry at Frankfort was the first to ar-

rive on the 26th, and before night the companies had all arrived and were encamped in the fair grounds, either in tents or barns belonging to the fair grounds, now known as Camp Mount.

In numbering the regiments after being mustered into the United State service, it was determined to begin the numbers where the War of Rebellion (Civil War) left off. The 3rd Regiment being the first ready to be mustered was designated as the 157th. The 2nd Regiment was next and was made the 158th, the 1st was next and was made the 159th, and the 4th was designated

the 160th.

On the 10th of May, the 157th and the 158th and Battery A, designated as the 27th Light Battery, and Battery E, 28th Light Battery, Indiana volunteers were mustered into the service of the United States. The 157th and the two batteries were paid by the State for their services while in camp, on the 15th, and left for Chickamauga Park on the same day. The 158th was paid off and moved South on the 16th. The 160th was paid off and left for Chickamauga on the 16th. The 159th, having been stripped of arms and equipments to finish equipping

Patriotic Kentland-Reserve Military Company Organized Saturday Night

Forty Sign the Muster- Properly Offered and Ready for Drill Work
Newton County Enterprise, April 28, 1898

It is with a feeling of pride the *Enterprise* announces the organization of a military company at this place. As the war news began flashing over the wires last week the patriotism of the young men of this township began to show itself and steadily increased with the important dispatches. When the sad fact became apparent that the old stars and stripes were about to be assailed, a call was made for a mass meeting for the purpose of organizing a reserve military company to be drilled and kept in readiness for the first call to arms. The meeting was set for Saturday evening and the court room was crowded to the doors. The meeting was called to order by Judge William Darroch and Hume L. Sammons was made secretary. On taking the chair Mr. Darroch made a few appropriate remarks suitable to the time and was followed by Hon. J. A. Hatch and Will H. Ade.

One of the first acts of the meeting was a unanimous vote of praise for the courage and patriotism of John Chamberlain, Jr., in leaving his home and friends and joining the regular army. As claimed in these columns last week he is the first citizen of this county to take up arms in defense of the flag, and is entitled to the honor thus voted him.

A committee composed of T. B. Cunningham, Geo. Kassabaum and A. E. Hawkins were appointed to formulate plans which were shortly presented to the meeting, recommending that a muster roll be opened and then an examining board be appointed. Dr. R. C. McCain, Dr. J. A. Hatch and Dr. C. A. Miller were appointed members of the board, all of whom freely gave their services to the cause. The roll was opened and forty-one applications were received after which the meeting closed.

The board met Monday afternoon and examined the applicants, approving all but two or three of the smaller boys. Following is the roll in full: C. A. Miller; Conrad Pfrimmer; Clarence Boatman; H. L. Sammons; Ray Cummings, Charles Fletcher; Fred Higgins; Wm. Bohanan; Newton Wickwire; Clyde Ashby; Francis M. Frye; Archie Vondersmith; Guy Myers; Joe Hartman; John Nelson; T. B. Cunningham; Charles Bair; John Tuberty; George Kassabaum; Frank Cunningham; William Marley; Frank Ross Jr.; Frank Coover; Lee Ashby; A. E. Hawkins; Henry Duttonhaver; George Carrothers; Joe Kendall; John O. Burns, Wilber Howe; John H. Jones; Joe Hubertz; Harvey Hurst; Joe W. Lower; C. Rider.

Another meeting was held Monday evening to elect officers and receive additional enlistments. H. L. Sammons was elected captain; T. B. Cunningham, 1st Lieutenant, and Henry Duttonhaver, 2nd Lieutenant. The muster roll will be left open until a full company is secured. Tuesday and Saturday evenings were designated as drill nights, and the boys will make the first appearance Saturday night of this week.

A private letter from Governor Mount states that Indiana has already her full quota of soldiers, and while the boys may never see active service yet the organization of a reserve company is a patriotic move and shows the true metal of the Jefferson Township boys.

Editor's note: The Newton County Enterprise was the only source that I had for local news at the time of the war. Therefore, only local information regarding their community was available for reprint.

the other three regiments, was detained in Camp Mount until May 22, when it left Dunn Loring, Va.

On June 24th, by direction of the War Department and the President's second call for volunteers on May 25, 1898, to provide Indiana's quota, the following companies

Continued on page twelve >

Chronology of the Spanish-American War 1898-1899

June 15, 1898

Annexation of Hawaii approved, signed by President McKinley on July 7.

June 21, 1898

Guam, a Spanish possession, surrenders.

June 24, 1898

At the battle of Las Guasimas in Cuba, U. S. troops won the first major land battle of the war with Spain.

July 1-2, 1898

El Caney and San Juan Heights, Spanish outposts to Santiago de Cuba, were taken with stiff resistance and heavy casualties on both sides; the Rough Riders participated in this attack.

July 3, 1898

Spanish fleet destroyed by U. S. ships; 323 Spaniards died, 151 wounded; the U. S. lost one man.

July 17, 1898

Santiago de Cuba was surrendered along with 24,000 Spanish troops by Gen. Jose' Toral to U. S. Gen. Sharter.

July 25, 1898

U. S. troops invade Puerto Rico under Maj. Gen. Miles

July 28, 1898

Ponce, Puerto Rico's second largest city surrenders.

August 1, 1898

From disease, 4,200 U. S. Personnel in Cuba are sick, mostly from yellow fever and typhoid; fewer than 400 troops were killed in battle or died of wounds in Cuba.

August 12, 1898

Hostilities ceased when Spain promised to give Cuba its independence, cede Puerto Rico and Guam to the U. S., and negotiate the status of the Philippines.

December 10, 1898

The treaty ending the war was signed in Paris, called the Treaty of Paris.

February 10, 1899

The peace treaty with Spain is signed by President McKinley.

12 The Newcomer

> Continued from page eleven

were ordered to report to Camp Mount: Jeffersonville, Hammond, Lawrenceburg, Columbus, Monticello, New Castle, Richmond, Mount Vernon, Rushville, Shelbyville, Madison and Michigan City were ordered to Camp Mount. From these companies, the 161st Indiana Regiment Volunteer Infantry was formed. The Captains, Jacob Porter and John J. Buckner of Indianapolis also raised two independent colored companies in accordance with the allotment made by the War Department, in other words, the 161st consisted of one regiment of white volunteers and two companies of colored volunteers. The 14th Signal Corp was also organized and sent to Washington, D. C.

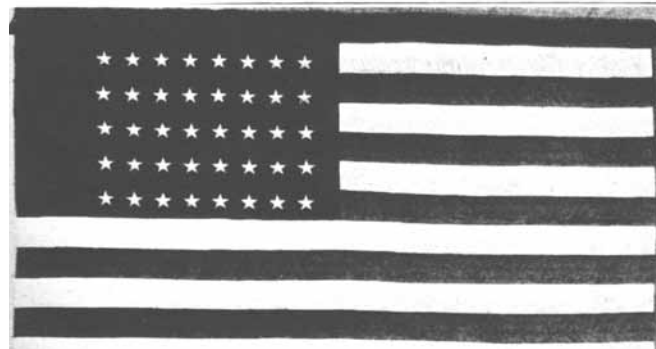
The 27th Battery was the only organization that was sent to the enemy's country during the war, though the 157th had their horses and camp equipment loaded on transports at Port Tampa City, Florida, and the 160th were ordered to Newport News, VA, and were ready to embark, but for some reason, the order to move was countermanded. The 27th Battery was sent to Puerto Rico, and they were on the firing line ready for action when a messenger arrived announcing that Spain had sued for peace and that hostilities must cease.

Some of the Newton County Volunteers in the Spanish-American War

By Beth Bassett

It was not an easy task locating Newton County volunteers. *The Newton County Enterprise* only mentioned the Jefferson Township recruits, and no other county papers exist from that time. I knew that there had to be other volunteers from the county, and the mention of John Chamberlain, Jr. from Jackson Township as the first volunteer from the county sparked my interest in locating others. To this date, I am positive there are others. I have researched the internet and our local histories; contacted the Indiana State Archives; visited several libraries and walked a few cemeteries. I've come to the conclusion that the document I used for reference did not include those that were not considered volunteers, but may have been members of the Indiana National Guard. Two soldiers, Bert Dorton and Horace Kent could not be found in the listings of the Regiments or Battery companies. Therefore, I will report what I have with hope that others will be discovered after the

The destruction of the Spanish fleet at Santiago July 3rd, followed by the surrender of all the Spanish troops in and about Santiago, and the occupation of Puerto Rico, virtually ended the war, and on July 26th, Spain made overtures of peace to the United States Government.



The banner for the 161st Regiment, Indiana Volunteers, Infantry of the Spanish American War

On or about the last days of August, the 157th, 158th, 159th, and the 27th and 28th Batteries and the Signal Corps were ordered to Indianapolis and furloughed for thirty days, the 27th being given sixty days furlough. By November these organizations were mustered out of service.

The 160th and the 161st were ordered to Cuba with the army of occupation. They remained there until orders arrived for them to be mustered out of service. Both

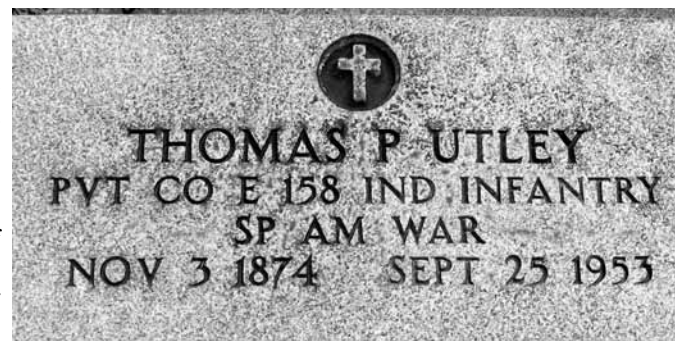
divisions were mustered out at Savannah, GA – the 160th in April, 1899; the 161st on April 30th, 1899.

Although none of the Indiana organizations were in any of the battles of war, they were ready and eager to do their part to keep the flag from being trailed in the dust.

Peace was arranged by the Treaty of Paris signed December 10, 1898, ratified by the Senate on February 6, 1899. The Spanish Empire was practically dissolved. Cuba was freed, but under U. S. tutelage by terms of the Platt Amendment, with Spain assuming the Cuban debt. Puerto Rico and Guam were ceded to the U. S. as indemnity, and the Philippines were surrendered to the U. S. for a payment of \$20 million. The U. S. emerged from the war with new

international power. In both Latin America and East Asia it had established an imperial foothold. The war tied the U. S. more closely to the course of the events in those areas.

Sources: *Spanish-American War: Causes of the War – Infoplease.com; Record of Indiana Volunteers in the Spanish-American War.*



The stone at Riverside Cemetery in Brook for Pvt. Utley is inscribed with his Company and Regiment of the war.

publishing of this article.

This document I refer to is *The Record of Indiana Volunteers in the Spanish-American War* was issued by the authority of the 61st General Assembly of Indiana. The Adjutant-General of the State of Indiana was empowered and directed to prepare, print and bind 10,000 copies of the records, with one distributed to each volunteer, as well as several public officials, and state libraries. Four thousand dollars was appropriated to help defray these ex-

penses. This document was vital in my research, as it contained the names of all of the volunteers from Indiana for each Regiment, Battery and Signal Corp of the war. It listed their name, residence and date mustered in and out. In the table included with this article, you will see the only soldiers who listed their residence as a Newton County town. The Indiana State Archives told me that they had microfilm of all of the registration cards that were used to create the lists for this record, and that the information in those lists reflected that held on the cards. Pension files were of no help, as you need to know the last name of the individual – our local history books and obituaries gave me a few additional Newton County volunteers. A county compilation was never done.

From the Record of Volunteers in the Spanish-American War

161st Regiment Indiana Volunteers, Company I – this company was organized at Monticello, White County, for the Span-

ish-American War. Newton County volunteers were listed as follows:

Kassabaum, George W., Kentland; **Strubbe, Harry E.**, Goodland; **Dexter, Jacob W.**, Goodland; **Fehrl, John G.**, Goodland; **Scott, Franklin G.**, Goodland; **Smith, Bruce W.**, Goodland; **Tice, Stephen E.**, Goodland; **Chamberlain, John**, Indianapolis.

Additional Newton County Volunteers

Buried at Riverside Cemetery, Brook, Indiana:

Charles Osgood – (1873-1918). **Thomas J. Long** – obituary 7/31/1947 *Brook Reporter*, died at this home in New Castle, Indiana last Tuesday after a short illness. Mr. Long was a member of the Christian Church at Brook, where he had resided prior to moving to New Castle 22 years ago. He was a Spanish-American War Veteran; survivors were his wife Alva; son Marion and brother Robert E. of Brook.

Thomas Utley – obituary 10/1/1953, *Brook Reporter*, died Friday morning at the Veterans Administration hospital in Indianapolis. He had been ill for several years and hospitalized for a week. Born in Boone County, he came to Newton County in 1922 and had lived at Brook since that time. He was a veteran of the Spanish American war and a former carpenter. Survivors were wife Anna; two daughters from a previous marriage, Beulah and Verna; two sisters and a brother.

Spanish-American soldiers in local history books:

“**Robert O. Graves** was born April 1, 1875 in Newton County, Indiana, the son of Daniel M. and Rachel A. (Barkhurst) Graves. He left his studies at the State Normal of Terre Haute, Indiana to enter military service in the Spanish-American War, serving in the 159th Indiana Infantry, and also in the naval branch of the service. Subsequent to this service he received a commission as Lieutenant, Junior Grade, and later as Lieutenant in the naval reserve service, in this capacity he served as executive officer on the cruiser, Boston, which was formerly the flagship of Admiral Dewey. He served as instructor for the 11th Coast Artillery at the beginning of the World War.” *Excerpt written by Gerald Born, and Mr. Grave's photo are reprinted from The Morocco Sesquicentennial Collection, 2006, compiled by Born and Bassett, pub-*

lished by the Family History Division of the Newton County Historical Society.

“At the age of 18 years and 4 months **Bert M. Dorton** volunteered for a 3 year hitch in the Army, being assigned to the K Battery 3rd Regiment of Artillery serving in the Philippines, during the Filipino Insurrection. He took part in 27 battles and countless skirmishes. While at San Fernando P. I., he was wounded in the right foot. This was on February 10, 1899 and he also contracted malaria, dysentery, yellow fever, and spinal meningitis, receiving a disability discharge on August 22, 1899.

“During one of the battles, casualties



Robert "Orth" Graves.



Bert Dorton.

were heavy, and the Filipinos were gaining ground. The Commander of the K asked for a volunteer to swim the river to get back to another battery, and it was less than a half mile to swim the river. Mr. Dorton volunteered to make the swim at night and return with the reinforcements. The new battery swung into action, killing a lot of the enemy and taking the rest prisoners.

“For this feat Mr. Dorton was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. (This medal and picture of Mr. Dorton hangs in the Goodland Legion Club Rooms.)

“This was told by Mr. Dorton and has been verified by the American Legion. He swam the river and returned to his outfit. He was told several days later, “That the river was crocodile infested.” He often said, had he known this, the whole U. S. Army could not have persuaded him to make this swim.

“John T. McCutcheon and George Ade were on the *Chicago Tribune* staff of

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Correspondents and were present when Mr. Dorton made the swim. Quite an article appeared in the *Tribune*. George Ade, up to the time of his death, held Dorton as his number one hero.

“At the time of discharge, Mr. Dorton was given his pay and was told he would have to wait for a boat going back to the states with troops or he could pay his way and be reimbursed when he got back to the states. This he did and put in for his money several times to get a standoff. During World War II he asked the Veterans Service Department to try to get his money. This was done through the American Legion.

He received his travel pay just 45 years, 5 months and 20 days after discharge.

“Bert M. Dorton lived in Goodland with his wife Nettie Eveline, one daughter Florence, and two sons, Donald and Norman. Donald served in World War II. Returning Mr. Dorton worked for the west elevator several years then was custodian of the Goodland Public School. His health forced him to retire.” *Article and photo reprinted from the Goodland Centennial book, "One Hundred Years of Good Life in a Good Land," published in 1961.*

The *Newton County Enterprise* credits John Chamberlain as the first volunteer from Newton County for the war effort. The following article appeared describing the Battery A., Indianapolis, of the National Guard.

“The State Artillery. Indiana's artillery and particularly Battery A, Indianapolis, is probably the best in the National Guard. This company is the one to which John Chamberlain was last week admitted and a few words in regard to it will interest our readers. Battery A. better known as the Indianapolis Light Artillery, was organized in 1882, and has been in active service since that time. Its active work has been in attending all the camps of instruction and prize drills. It has been called out by the governors in various mining and railroad strikes, and is well known for its action in the suppression of the Roby race track gamblers. Expecting as regards armament, perhaps, the battery is in perfect condition. For 14 years it has held the drill championship, as is evidenced by the numbers medals and souvenirs hanging on the walls of its armory at Senate Avenue and 16th Street. In all it has been in 21 com-

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> Continued from page thirteen
Volunteers

petitive contests in all parts of the country, contesting against the best drilled batteries in the country, and has carried off 18 first prizes and three second prizes. The battery is commanded by the most popular officer in the National Guard Captain James B.

Much to my delight during a recent search of the 1974 *Morocco Courier*, I found a listing of War Veterans from Beaver Township. Sadly, however, I was unable to find any information on them. Their names were **Charles Gilbert, David Geller and Arthur Graves.**

And on another date, a note in the social column of April, 1898, *Newton County Enterprise*: The list of naval and military reserves of Chicago, published in the Sunday papers, contained the names of **Melvin Bush and Fred Groves**, both are old Kentland boys. It is possible these soldiers were in the war as well.

Editor's note: If anyone has any further information regarding Newton County Spanish-American War volunteers, please contact the society.

Don't Miss the Vietnam Memorial Traveling Wall Foster Park - Goodland, Indiana August 28-30th, 2009
Visit the American Veterans Traveling Tribute at <http://avtt.org>
For More Information:
Contact John Meyer 219-297-3490
jmamgood@mchsi.com
or John Schwartz 219-297-4546

DeKoker's Garage and Allis Chalmers Dealership

Don DeKoker has been very helpful over the past months in retrieving information regarding his mother and father's Ford dealership in Morocco, as well as answering some questions brought up at a recent program on the Implement Dealers of Newton County given by Bob Dewing. Since Don was very successful in providing the purchasers of the 1955 Thunderbird written about in an earlier edition of *The Newcomer*, I knew he could help me with a question "Was DeKoker's a Ford Implement Dealer too?"

His reply was with these two photos, stating that in 1940 DeKoker and Sons was an Allis Chalmers Dealership (upper left). The photo to the right is his father, Les DeKoker standing outside and Ed (Pop) Dekoker inside at the shop.

A follow up to the T-bird story will appear in the next issue. Thanks Don for helping answer historical questions - keep them coming!!

Other Spanish American War Notes

December 1, 1898. John Chamberlain returned from Indianapolis Sunday night, where he had been called to be mustered out of the army. He is again a private citizen but the honor that he won in being one of the first to enlist in the Spanish-American war will follow him until his hairs are whitened and his form is bent with age. Americans forget some things, but never the patriotic services and loyalty of her soldier boys.

Notes from the Newton County Enterprise regarding the local soldiers, published through the duration of the war - Additional Volunteers Named.

January 5, 1899. Kassabaum letter.

January 12, 1899 – Enlisting continues, **Levi Rhoadocker** and **Harry Shindler** enlisted in Chicago, and are going to Manila.

January 19, 1899. **Jacob Dexter** died of small pox at Havana. He contracted it from his two townsmen, Scott and James while caring for them. The 161st wants to come home . . . from the *Chicago Record*.

January 26, 1899. Clinton Marshall letter.

February 9, 1899. 161st at Havana erects a monument 20' at base, 20' shaft in memory of comrades who perished in Havana. It is made of Coral rock at a cost of \$5,000.

February 16, 1899. **Bert M. Dorton** is injured in battle at Manila, the first Kentland boy to see powder. His group, Battery K, 3rd U. S. Artillery, left June 14, 1898 - he is the only boy to go so swiftly to Manila.

March 2, 1899. Letter from **Bert Dorton** dated January 16, prior to the battle, but he sensed "unrest."

March 9, 1899. War Relics Museum established at the National Museum in Washington.

March 23, 1899. **Wilber Howe** states that at Puerto Rico the Kent boys were happy and waiting to come home; Mrs. Dorton received a letter stating Bert had been wounded on February 10th in Manila – he suffered an injury to his foot and will recover in 2-3 weeks.

April 22, 1899. **Elmer West** at Puerto Rico received his discharge. He has not seen any other Kent boys, but expects them to be home soon.

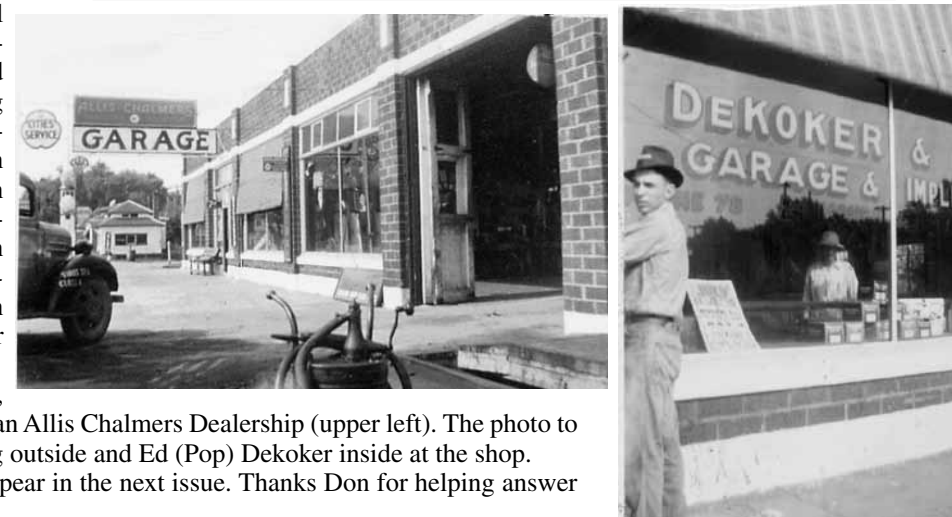
May 18, 1899. **Wilber Howe, Lee Ashby, Frank McIntyre** discharged from regular army – looking well and feeling good at home; **Bert Dorton** letter, states he is well and back in the service, Battery K, 3rd U. S. Artillery. "I don't think I will join again unless a war breaks out at home; for a foreign country is no place for a soldier."

May 25, 1899. **Clinton Marshall** home along with 13 other enlisted from Kentland; nine have received discharges; **Col. Kassabaum** is home and enjoying farm life putting in his son-in-law's crop.

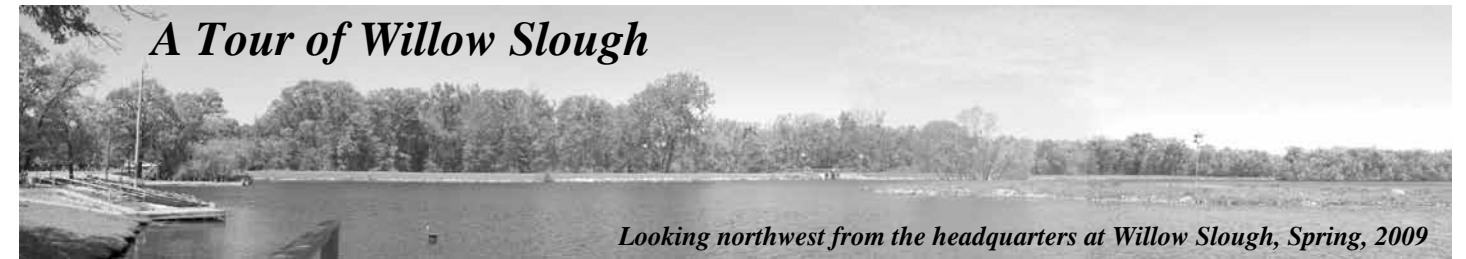
June 1, 1899. **Horace Kent** discharged, re-enlisted in the 1st Kansas Calvary with headquarters in Ft. Riley, KS. He will be sent to the Philippines in October.

July 27, 1899. **Lee Ashby** rejoins the army, assigned to 1st U. S. Calvary.

October 26, 1899. Welcome home party planned at the Presbyterian Church. George Kassabaum addresses the group; also honored Howe and West, and presented Dorton with a gold watch. *Submitted by Beth Bassett.*



A Tour of Willow Slough



Looking northwest from the headquarters at Willow Slough, Spring, 2009

The article that follows is one that Mike Schoonveld sent to me regarding the naming of the islands on Murphey Lake in the Willow Slough Game Preserve which was published recently in the *Newton County Enterprise*. His quick response to my request prompted me to ask him if he would give our president Janet Miller and I a tour of the area. He said he could do so, so earlier this spring, Janet and I had the pleasure of taking a tour.

Anyone growing up in the county is aware of this site, but how many of us have really explored the entire properties of the "slough?" I discovered on this tour that there is a lot more to the area than admiring the lake; or encountering a Canadian Goose or deer in a "drive through the slough," or having a family picnic on the grounds.

Mike, having worked over 30 years there, had a vast knowledge of the history of Willow Slough, and Janet and I thoroughly enjoyed our tour. We began viewing the infamous totem pole located near the Rix Wildlife Sanctuary; a drive down Pogue Road to view the eagle's nest, and getting a glimpse at the once busy Pogue Station, or Pogue Ranch as I knew it growing up, as my father had worked there. Then on to the Old Chicago Road.

The Old Chicago Road was first an Indian Trail, which eventually became a dirt road that led to Chicago from our area – appropriate name, right? After we had made it up the Old Chicago Road, we stopped and walked up to the banks of the Riner/Houseworth Ditch, which is also the channel that runs through Murphey Lake. The ridge in which this ditch was dug is at least 25-30' high, and since it was dug in 1895, Mike explained that the dredge took many months to get through this high sand ridge. From where we were standing, we could see where the bed of Beaver Lake once laid . . . an amazing sight for me.

Back in the truck, we headed for the McClellan Cemetery, noting that there was a dog buried here, but who did it is still unknown . . . then on to the Morgan-Tracy Cemetery, and eventually back to headquarters.

So, the next time you decide to take a leisurely drive to the "slough," stop by headquarters and ask about the history of some of the area – and ask how you can drive to some of the sites other than the lake – it is so great to have this type of area in our own backyard! *Thanks Mike for the tour – and hope you enjoy your retirement!* - Beth Bassett.

The Islands of Murphey Lake - And Other Stories

By Mike Schoonveld

Beth Bassett, editor of the *Newcomer* asked me if I knew any of the history of the named islands shown on the DNR's official

map of Willow Slough and Murphey Lake. She came to the right person! The state surveyor (Bob Vollmer) and I named most of them back in 1977.

Back when winters were winter, the winter of 1976-77 still reigns as one of the worst ever. Water pipes froze 4 feet under the ground. Plowed snow piled over 10 feet high along US 41 north of Enos. The fish died from lack of oxygen in Murphey Lake, the lake at Willow Slough.

Murphey Lake was named after J.C. Murphey, an attorney in Morocco instrumental in having much of the land which is now Willow Slough Fish and Wildlife Area become Indiana's first Department of Conservation Fish and Game Area to be purchased with funds from the Federal Aid to Fish and Wildlife Funds. The lake was named but few other areas on the lake had names at all.

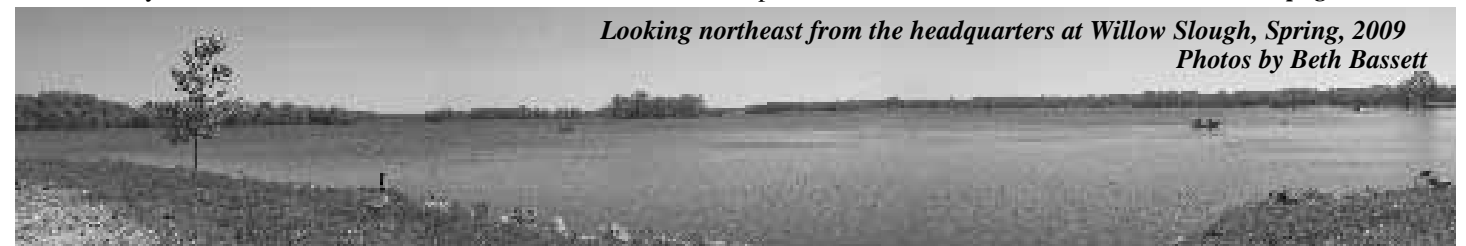
When spring finally arrived in 1977 and the extent of the lake's winterkill became known, plans were made to renovate the lake's fish population by draining it, eliminating any residual carp and complete projects in the dry lake basin which would be impossible to do when the lake was filled. Once all was ready, the dam would be closed and the lake would refill.

One of the first steps was to survey the lake basin, especially to establish survey benchmarks in the areas where any earth moving the projects would be conducted. Bob Vollmer, the DNR's surveyor came to the property to do the survey and since I'd recently graduated from Purdue and had taken a basic course in land surveying, I was assigned to be Bob's assistant.

The benchmarks we established were recorded in a notebook with a description precise enough others could find them in the future. Near roads a description might read the northwest corner of the concrete curb on the west side of the bridge across the Lawler Ditch on Division Road. Out in the field, where the land was wild, there were few manmade, permanent structures to describe. We'd often pick a healthy oak tree and drive a railroad spike into it, and then describe the location of that tree.

There was no GPS in those days so when we'd get to a spot to establish a benchmark we'd have to create a brief, understandable description we or others could use to relocate the spot. A description which read: "An iron spike in a black oak tree along the north shore of Murphey Lake where the shoreline forms a corner leading west towards the dam then north along the west shore" . . . yadda yadda, was both too long to enter into the notebook and too vague to be easily understood.

Our solution at these remote locations was to name the spot. *Continued on page sixteen >*



Looking northeast from the headquarters at Willow Slough, Spring, 2009
Photos by Beth Bassett

< Continued from page fifteen
Willow Slough

The above location was entered into the survey book as an iron spike in a black oak tree at Eagle Point. (I once spotted a bald eagle in a tree at that location.)

So as we surveyed across the lake, the islands and other features were named. Mayor Island was named after John Callo-way, long time head of the town board of Morocco who worked part time at Willow Slough during his retirement. Deer Island was named for a doe and her fawns we chanced upon near where the benchmark was made. Year's earlier cypress trees had been planted on several of the lake's islands and two of those became Big Cypress and Little Cypress.

Bob was a hard worker but he would always take a mid-morning coffee break. If we were close to the truck, we'd head for Merchant's Restaurant (US 41 & SR 114) for pie and coffee. Vollmer also loved to tease the ladies. To shorten a long story, Carol's Point on the official map was named after Bob's favorite waitress at Merchant's.

There are a few other areas at Willow

Slough which still carry unusual names. The road bed of the C. & E. I. railroad which cut through Newton County early in the 20th Century ran through Willow Slough. It was abandoned before WWII and I've heard the rails were removed and recycled during the war. The grade was bulldozed flat most places and you'd never know a rail track was ever there.

At Willow Slough, a road was created and named the Patrol Road on the old grade. When I was a youngster in Brook, I can remember the steel tracks buried, but visible on Main Street where they were in front of the current Post Office. Take a ruler and lay it on a map and you'll see how the C. & E. I. ran straight from Morocco, through Beaver City, Brook, Weishaars and Percy Junction north of Goodland.

There were 3 stops on Willow Slough property. Sandy Knob was located on the ridge between the railway and CR 500W, Pogue Station was located where the tracks crossed Division Road and Elmer's Switch was located where the tracks crossed 100N. Rand McNally maps showed the town of Elmer until the early 1980s.

The Willow Slough Headquarters was

located at Elmer until 1979. The hunting units were all numbered except the section north of the headquarters was called Headquarters Unit. Once the property offices were moved to its present location that area was renamed Area 14; however, for years hunters would ask to hunt in Headquarters Unit.

When Willow Slough was purchased, there was a family named Mowman living on a rise above what would become Murphey Lake. Once they left and the buildings razed the area was called Mowman Hill, a name which soon morphed into Morman Hill and perhaps because of the number of Indian artifacts found there, the fable of the great battle between Morman pilgrims and Indians is still believed true by many.

There's Totem Pole Road on the property's south border, Old Chicago Road west of Enos, and Pinocle Hill. Some names are given. Other names just occur. Willow Slough has a wealth of both and a story for each.

Editor's note: a map can be picked up at the Willow Slough Headquarters that indicates the locations of several of these aforementioned landmarks of the slough.



The 1904 Morocco Football Team. Morocco could boast of an undefeated professional football team in 1904, Champions of Indiana. Allen Archibald was the captain of the team which was coached by John Erickson, with A. M Robertson, manager. M E. Graves, Asst. Mgr; S. J. Crane, Sec., and Wm. Hitings, Treas. The team had a terrific schedule for the year which included games with Rush Medical College, International Harvester, Logansport, Chicago Heights, Rensselaer, Brook and Morgan Athletic Club. In the picture above, back, l-r: Ben Tuggle, Oscar Holley, Elmer Reel, John Erikson, Joe Zoborosky and Ora Tuggle; front, l-r: Levy Smart, Sam Murphy, George Flowers, (holding football,) Allen Archibald, Carl Templeton (center part in hair), Arthur Egan, Charles Brown and Ed Puett. (This photo was submitted by George Flowers in 1969 to the Newton County Enterprise for publication, who was the only team member living at that time.)

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Submitted by Beth Bassett

Focus On Newton County Families - Jacob C. Nottingham

HOME IS WHERE YOUR STORY BEGINS . . .

In May of this year, we received an inquiry regarding Jacob C. Nottingham. The email was from David Schaeffer trying to research his great-great-grandfather. It read as follows:

"Hi Beth - I am researching my great-great-grandfather, Jacob C. Nottingham (04-15-1814 - 08-13-1890), who lived in Newton and Jasper counties. I located him in the 1850 Jasper County census and the 1860 Newton County census records, and found his gravestone in Rose-lawn Cemetery. However, I have very little additional info about him and his family. I was wondering if there were any newspapers in Newton County from 1890 to search for an obituary. I did contact the library in Rensselaer for Jasper County, but was told to contact you by the Newton County Public Library. Do you have any suggestions of how I could possibly obtain an obituary for him? Any help would be appreciated, thanks. - David Schaeffer."

I replied to David that I would see what I could find for him by looking in the newspapers of the county at that time as well as our local history books on file and get back to him with my results.

My first look was into the newspapers, which was the *Newton County Gazette* at the time. Nothing. Next source, our family files at the Resource Center, nothing. Having his death date (August, 1890) gave me the idea that he may have served during the Civil War. The Resource Center library has a copy of the *Indiana Civil War Veterans, Transcription of the Death Rolls of the Department of Indiana, Grand Army of the Republic, 1882-1948* by Dennis Northcutt. Bingo! Jacob was a Private in Company H, 15th Indiana Volunteer Infantry. On to John Ade's book *Newton County, 1853-1911*, where he was listed as a member of that Company.

The next step was to check the local history book indexes. In the *"Morocco Sesquicentennial Collection, 2006,"* the article on page 24 entitled "A Day in the Life of John Ade" was indexed to have Jacob Nottingham's name. I found the following: "The winter's school had closed and the teacher, who had been boarding around with the pupils during the term, had gone back home to the southern part of the state. The children (John's) were urging their

mother to get me to take them for a ride that afternoon and as Jacob C. Nottingham had failed to furnish the charcoal, which he had promised, there was nothing to be done in the shop, we being entirely out of coal. So after a little further coaxing we hitched up the team to the lumber spring seat, filled the wagon bed full of prairie hay, loaded in the three children, after taking a vote as to which way we should go - east or west - as they say in Congress, "West seems to have it," west it was, and we started west."

From here, the article describes their ride and the neighbors that they encountered during that blustery day in 1860.

According to the census records of 1860, Jacob was residing near the Charles Triplett family, which would have put him southwest of Morocco. In the 1850 census, he is listed living in Jackson Township, Jasper County, of course, with his wife Nancy, daughters Nancy, Polly, Susannah and son Josiah. In the 1860 he was enumerated in Beaver Township without his wife and daughter Polly.

Further investigation of the local histories came up with nothing, until I looked into the *"Source Materials Used for the History of Roselawn, Shelby and Thayer"* published in 2006 by Kandu Press of Morocco, compiled by Born and Harvey. Here we find the listing of his burial in the Roselawn Cemetery. I also find an obituary, extracted from the *Kankakee Valley Review* February 8, 1915, for his daughter Polly Biggs. Her information reveals that in 1843 Jacob was living in the Lafayette area, as that is where she was born, and lived there until she was the age of 22, (1865). Since Polly is not listed in the 1860 census with Jacob, there are many things that may have happened . . . perhaps his wife Nancy passed away and young Polly stayed with relatives from that area - or perhaps the couple parted ways, with the majority of the family members moving north without their mother and sister. Possibly Mr. Schaeffer will be able to unravel that tale one day. In that same obituary, Polly left to mourn one daughter, Ruth Bierly, and five grandchildren and three sisters, Mrs. Susan Luchene of Michigan, Mrs. Sarah Luchene of Hammond, and Mrs. Ruth Cyphers of Thayer. No mention of her brother Josiah.

In the social items from the same

book, many refer to the Cyphers and Biggs families gathering together for different occasions. They obviously were a well respected family with ties to the community, their friends and neighbors in a variety of events.

Within the extractions of items from the *Thayer-Shelby News*, something caught my eye.

"June 14, 1902. Counterfeiters. Oscar Sorensen and Albert Merrill, the two counterfeiters who were arrested in Newton County near Bogus Island are now behind bars. They were caught by secret service officers at a farmhouse, where they had rented the upstairs. The officers found all the dies. The molds were fixed for making silver dollars, quarters and nickels."

Not thinking that this was tied to our Nottingham family, I continued through the pages, but kept this in the back of mind, as what a great lead for a Bogus Island bandit story.

Then, same newspaper, dated December 13, 1902: "Judge Baker, the Federal Court at Indianapolis, administered punishment to two farmers of Newton County who were caught in the possession of Plaster of Paris molds to make counterfeit dollars, quarters, nickels and also some of the spurious money. Albert Merrill of Lake Village, received a sentence of nine months and Oscar Sorensen, of the same place, ninety days in the Marion County workhouse. The sentence was pronounced Monday afternoon. The men said they had been induced to go into the business by a man named Nottingham, who escaped arrest. The court believed this and minimized the punishment."

Oh my, the Nottingham name connected with the Bogus Island bandits! How coincidental is this? I then went to the 1902 *Newton County Enterprise* and found this following note in the Lake Village News of the County: "To correct numerous accounts in the different newspapers about the counterfeiters operating in this vicinity we will say that the parties arrested were amateurs. Their rendezvous was in the garret of a farm house two miles west and one mile south of this place. Their names were Albert Merrill and Oscar Sorensen. The wife of Merrill apprised the officers of their

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PAGES OF THE PAST

Submitted by Janet Miller
Excerpts were taken from *The Newton County Enterprise, Summer, 1909*

Kentland

An Even Hundred Graduates Will Pass From Common School to High School.

County Superintendent Schanlaub finished the work of grading papers Tuesday evening, and an even hundred in the county will receive common school diplomas. Nancy Allen of Iroquois township and Ernest Clarkson of Beaver township made the highest grades in the county, each receiving 90.6. Those making the highest grades in the various towns and townships follow: Kentland, Roy Dixon, 86.6; Goodland, Fannie Hoover, 78.6; Morocco, Bethel Guinn, 85.8; Brook, Earl L. Sell, 83.6; Mt. Ayr, Noah Anderson, 84.3; Jefferson township, Chester R. Corbin, 84.6; Grant, Gladys Mabbit, 85.6; Washington, Naomi Hambridge, 86; Iroquois, Nancy Allen, 90.6; Beaver, Ernest Clarkson, 90.6; Jackson, Ethel Bolley, 80.5; McClellan, Edith Skinner, 87.3; Colfax, Elsie Cox, 81.1; Lake, Opal Martin, 85.7; Lincoln, Charlotte Fletcher, 87.3.

John Myers left last evening to resume his mining operations in the Black Hills. He has been home visiting his family for several weeks.

For Sale: Standard croquet sets from 65 cents to \$2.50 at Healy's Drug Store.

J. W. White has raised his cottage on Dunlap Street to a full two story house, and is adding the improvements and conveniences of a modern home.

The water works were shut down Tuesday and yesterday for the purpose of giving the tank a cleaning. It is probably just as well not to tell the consumers what was dug up in the bottom.

A.R. Sawers and family of Chicago were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Warren T. McCray at dinner Monday. They were enroute to Indianapolis, driving through in an automobile.

A band of dirty gypsies, supposedly the same crowd that "worked" Delphi and were arrested at Monticello a few days previous, struck Kentland Friday afternoon. They were given a freeze out all up and down the street and made their call short.

Rensselaer Moved Out of the King Row: Defeated by Kentland in Checker Tournament. Auditor Bringham, E. E. Bloom and Chester Loughridge, Kentland's representatives on the checker board defeated the three champion players of that city in a contest of 36 games, winning 23 to Rensselaer's 13. Messrs. Bringham, Bloom and Loughridge were driven over to Rens-

selaer by Otto Keesler in his automobile, and arrived home yesterday morning just as the roosters around town were crowing over the victory.

A handy hot plate lifter will be given free to every married lady that visits Walzer's grocery store Saturday afternoon.

Lake Village

Village Will Celebrate: Lake Village, the town that never misses an opportunity to honor the old American eagle, or proclaim its patriotism, is arranging for a big celebration of Independence Day. As the Fourth falls on Sunday this year the Villagers backed up one day and will celebrate on Saturday, the 3rd. T. M. Gebhart will serve as Marshal of the Day, and his aides will be W. A. Rainford and Henry E. Stoner. With this trio at the trigger it can be depended on that the cannon will be loaded to the muzzle, and that a good time is in store for all who may spend the day there.

Roselawn

J. J. Fry, former Roselawn banker, was in Kentland yesterday on business. Mr. Fry is now promoting a railroad down in Honduras, and is second vice-president and general manager of the company. His family resides at Michigan City, but he has his headquarters in Chicago.

Frank Girard, 21 years old was drowned Sunday evening at 5:30 o'clock in Brady's Bayou, 4 miles west of Thayer, while in bathing, Girard, who lived near Roselawn, had gone to the river in company with Henry Lee, and both were swimming when Girard suddenly sank in twelve feet of water. Lee made several ineffective attempts to rescue him and failing ran for help. The bayou was dragged all night and early Monday morning B. F. Moore, of Rensselaer, the nearest dynamite expert, was called to raise the body with explosives. John Knapp, Judson Maines, W. S. Parks and W. V. Porter accompanied him up there in Knapp's auto-carriage, but when they reached the river the body had been recovered.

Brook

Mrs. J. D. Davis has been over from Kentland for a week overseeing the opening of Hazelden. Mr. Ade is expected home in a few days from his trip around the world.

Hess Brothers have added a new Jackson automobile to their livery equipment. It is a five passenger car and was brought in yesterday morning by Everett Hess and Earl Kemp, who drove it through from the

factory at Jackson, Mich. This is catering to the demands of the traveling public at a swift pace.

George Ade completed his trip around the world and arrived home Sunday morning. He is looking fine and says he enjoyed every part of the thirty thousand miles of travel necessary in encircling the globe. He brought home many mementos, chief of which is an American flag 17x30 feet in size and made of pure silk. When the American fleet was in Japan an order was given for the flag, but it was not completed when the fleet sailed, and Mr. Ade purchased it. It is said to be very handsome and is probably the finest American flag in Indiana. He also brought a lot of curios, including a ten pound elephant tooth from India, clothing from Japan and China, shoes from Java and India, and innumerable other articles to add to his already fine collection at Hazelden.

Goodland

From the *Goodland Herald*: Henry Griggs, Frank Retterath, Jake White and Tony Schuh came from Logansport to Goodland in two hours and fifty-five minutes via the automobile route Tuesday morning. They out-ran the passenger train on the Pennsylvania, due here at 9:53, and when the latter pulled up at the depot Henry was in the post office entertaining a crowd with a history of his remarkable escape from death. The auto belonged to Jake White, but Schuh acted as chauffeur, and Henry says he opened the throttle at Logansport and wheels struck only a half dozen high places between that city and the sand dunes near Reynolds. After the sand region was passed, although Jake sat with one hand clutching Tony's hair and the other his throat, there was no let up in the speed until Henry and Frank were thrown out at Goodland and, presumably, Tony and Jake safe in Kentland. Griggs says that he may sometime in a fevered moment start to walk from Logansport to Goodland, but he'll never so far pledge his life as to risk it again in an automobile with Tony Schuh at the throttle.

The house being erected on the Meade farm, is being built on a raise and Monday when the contractor, Dolph Day, of Rensselaer, was working with the chimney, took a good look at the surrounding country from his high perch noticed that he could see three county seats from where he stood. They were Fowler, in Benton about ten miles distance, Kentland in Newton, about twelve miles distance, and Rensselaer, in

Jasper, about twenty-five miles away.

Washington Township

(The title of this column was: From Ade, The Capital City of Washington)

Agent H. F. Richter and family were called to Laporte last week of the death of a relative. Mr. Richter returned Monday, the family remaining for a visit. Earl Kemp of Kentland served as agent during the absence of Mr. Richter.

Ridgely Weldon's older son had the misfortune to cut his face on a barbed wire last Friday.

Mrs. Kale, an old resident of Washington township, died at the home of her son, Lemuel Risley, Friday, and was buried at Mt. Zion Sunday.

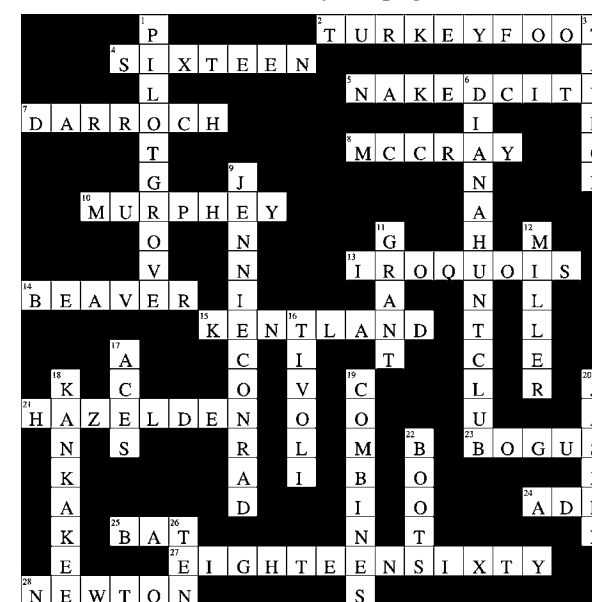
Conrad

The Mission of Conrad will formally dedicate their new church on Sunday, June 13th, beginning at ten o'clock a.m. afternoon service at 2:30. Rev. A. T. Briggs of Hammond, Presiding Elder of the Methodist Church, will have charge of the services, assisted by the ministers from neighboring towns. There will be a basket picnic and beautiful music during the day. Everybody is cordially invited to come, and eat dinner in the park after the ceremony. Officers and Trustees of the Mission of Conrad. Jennie M. Conrad, Secretary.

Morocco

Morocco's postponed celebration of the Fourth was pulled off Saturday under more favorable circumstances. While this section was visited by a heavy rain Saturday forenoon, there was only a light shower in Morocco, hardly sufficient to interfere with the amusement events in progress.

Solution to the Newton County Crossword Puzzle #1 - from page 6



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Jacob Nottingham

doings and they are now languishing in jail at Indianapolis awaiting trial."

My first thought was what is Mr. Shaeffer going to think about this? Later, I realized because of the dates, the Nottingham mentioned could not have been his g-g-g-grandfather, as he had died in 1890, but possibly Jacob's son Josiah. The trail of the Nottinghams went cold from here.

All of my research was emailed and sent to Mr. Shaeffer. As of yet, we have not heard back from him regarding our findings, other than an email thanking me for the time spent finding out this information and sending him hard copies of the material. He thought the bogus money item was quite interesting. I'm hoping that someday I will receive an email from him finishing this Nottingham tale for my own benefit and for future researchers that visit the Resource Center searching Nottingham roots.

NOW YOU KNOW YOUR COUNTY OF NEWTON

by Janet Miller, questions on page 7

1. There seems to be no real answer to why the Newton County Fair is called the "Pun'kin Vine" Fair. Some of the 'old timers' say that when the first fair opened at this location, there were pun'kin vines all around the gates as you entered. Others say that remarks were made that the fairgrounds were only fit to raise "pun'kins".
2. The location of the first fair that became the Newton County Fair was held in the livestable and on the streets of Brook. It was held in this location for two years and it was decided they needed a larger space. A committee was formed to find another space and only two offers were received. They were Lake Village and the Newton County Home through the Board of Commissioners. The latter was chosen and this is the 89th Newton County Fair.
3. The nine Newton County Fair Presidents have been: Rolland Ade 1922-1957, Kentland; Paul Weston 1957-1966, Brook; Leonard Storey 1966-1983, Morocco; George Holley 1983-1984, Fair Oaks; Rich Miller 1984-1991, Kentland; John Frischie 1991-1995, Kentland; Don Olson 1995-2000, Lake Village; Scott Carlson, 2000-2008, Morocco; and our current president, Rick Dawson, Morocco.
4. The only one of those events that did not occur at the Newton County Fair was the Barnum & Bailey Circus.
5. The fair office was named after long-time secretary, John Connell of Brook. He served from 1954-1986, a total of 32 years. The block building to the west of the current fair office served as the fair office. John would have loved our current building—if nothing else, the air conditioning.

Searching for Family Photos

Can you Help?

Jane Anderson of St. Anne, Illinois is researching her Hopkins lineage. Her mother's maiden name was Madeline Hopkins, daughter of Harry R. and Jessie (Johanna) Hopkins. She knows that Harry was a lawyer at Goodland for many years, whose parents were Philander and Ida Hopkins.

Her mother first married Lawrence W. Stovall; secondly Janes' father, Leroy Anderson; thirdly, Eldie Sirois. She has a half-brother, Eric Stovall.

All of the photographs of her mother's family were destroyed early in Jane's life, and she is hoping that someone in Newton County can help her find a few photographs.

When Jane was about eight years old, she and her mother left Goodland to live in St. Anne, Illinois.

If anyone can be of assistance, please contact Jane by writing to her at 9031 E. 400 S Rd., St. Anne, IL 60964 or email mdaysirois@netzero.net



Madeline (Hopkins) Stovall, about 1942-43 with her son Lawrence Eric Stovall.