

G. A. R. Charter

This is a copy of the actual Charter for the Pilot Grove Post of the Grand Army of the Republic. The original document can be found in the Indiana State Archives. The copy was sent to us in two pieces, so a bit of the Charter member names are incomplete. Submitted by Beth Bassett.

The Newcomer

A publication of the Newton County Historical Society, Inc. Articles for submission are encouraged and may be sent to the editor, Beth A. Bassett, 1681E 1100S, Brook, Indiana 47922. bethbassett@direcway.com

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The Newcomer

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What's On Our Agenda . . .

The Newton County Historical Society meets every fourth Monday of each month, on the same day, the Family History Division meets at 2:00 at the Resource Center at 224 N. Third Street in Kentland and the Society general meetings are held in different locations in the County at 7:00 p.m. Local members are notified of the place and time each month. Don't Forget - Memberships Make Great Gifts!!

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

The Newcomer

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Indiana's YOUNGEST County

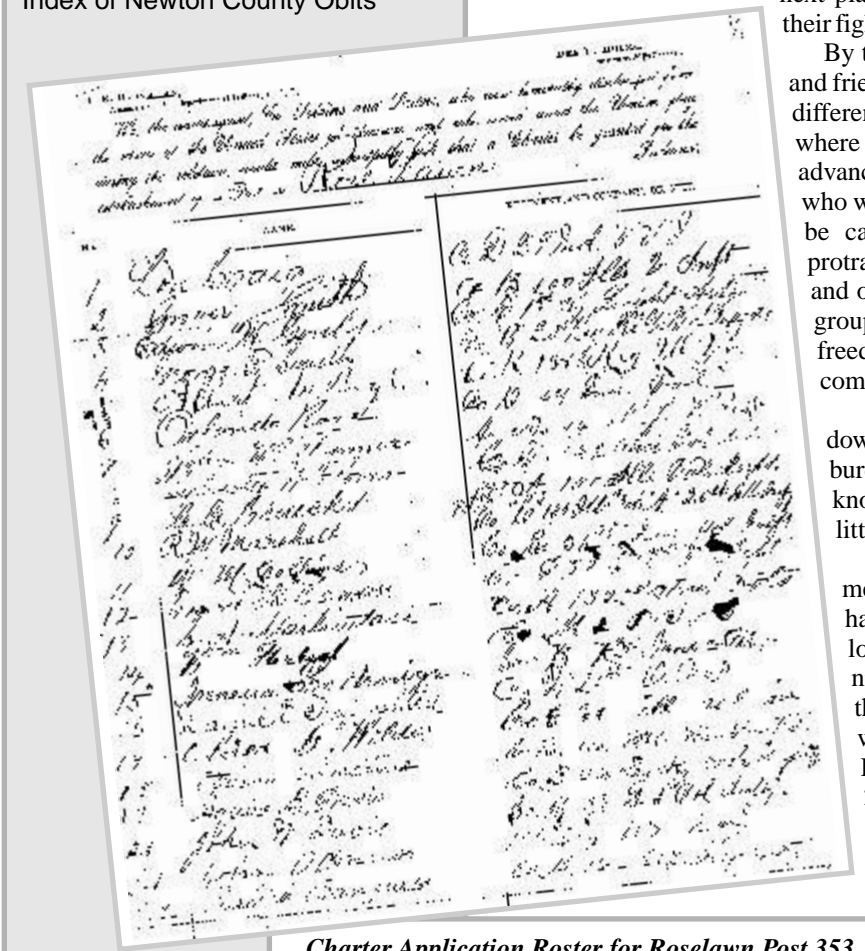
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Newton County Posts of the Grand Army of the Republic

There were a total of six Posts of the G.A.R. in Newton County., those being Post 57, Goodland, 1882-1912; Post 102, Kentland, or "McHolland", 1882-1931; Post 111, Morocco, 1882-1923; Post 253, Roselawn, 1883-1916; Post 298, initially named Pilot Grove, 1884-1888, then Mt. Ayr, 1884-1896; and Post 588, Brook, 1891-1932.

Before we begin a look at a collection of records of these Posts that were found in the Indiana State Archives in Indianapolis, a bit of history on the organization as a whole and in Indiana will help clarify their significance to the organization in a time period of 1882-1892. In early 1866 the United States of America--now securely one nation again--was waking to the reality of recovery from war, and this had been a much different war. In previous conflicts the care of the veteran warrior was the province of the family or the community. Soldiers were friends, relatives and neighbors who went off to fight--until the next planting or harvest. It was a community adventure and their fighting unit had a community flavor.



Charter Application Roster for Roselawn Post 353.

By the end of the Civil War, units had become less family and friend oriented; men from different communities and even different states were forced together by the onslot of battle where new friendships and lasting trust was forged. With the advances in the care and movement of the wounded, many who would have surely died in earlier wars returned home to be cared for by a community structure weary from a protracted war and now also faced with the needs of widows and orphans. Veterans needed jobs, including a whole new group of veterans--the colored soldier and his entire, newly freed, family. It was often more than the fragile fabric of communities could bear.

State and federal leaders from President Lincoln down had promised to care for "those who have borne the burden, his widows and orphans," but they had little knowledge of how to accomplish the task. There was also little political pressure to see that the promises were kept.

At the close of the Civil War, there were over a million men in the Union armies. Nearly two and a half million had served under the Stars and Stripes during the four long years of warfare, of whom three hundred and fifty-nine thousand had died. It was essential that those still in the service should disband and retire to civilian life. This was effected after a grand parade of the armies of the Potomac, the Tennessee, and of Georgia, on May 22 and 24, 1865, when one hundred and fifty thousand men marched through the wide avenues of Washington in review before the President and the commanding generals. From the glare and glory, the power and prestige of the soldier's career, they went into the obscurity of the peaceful pursuits of American

< from Page 1 > citizenship, and in a few short months the vast armies of the United States had disappeared.

With that as background, groups of men began joining together--first for camaraderie and then for political power. Emerging most powerful among the various organizations would be the Grand Army of the Republic (G. A. R.), which by 1890 would number 409,489 veterans of the "War of the Rebellion."

Founded in Decatur, Illinois on April 6, 1866 by Benjamin F. Stephenson, membership was limited to honorably discharged veterans of the Union Army, Navy, Marine Corps or the Revenue Cutter Service who had served between April 12, 1861 and April 9, 1865.

The Organization of G. A. R. Posts in Indiana, 1866

The local organization of the Grand Army of the Republic were called "Posts" and it was to the posts that each man applied for membership to the G. A. R. Each post was numbered consecutively within each department. Most posts also had a name and the rules for naming posts included the requirement that the honored person be

deceased (usually a distinguished local or national Civil War soldier) and that no two posts within the same department could have the same name. The departments generally consisted of the posts within a state and, at the national level, the organization was operated by the elected "Commander-in-Chief." Applications for post charters had to be signed by at least ten qualified veterans, and were

signed by the Department Commander and the Assistant Adjutant General.

Upon organization, each local G. A. R. post elected and installed the following officers: Post Commander (P.C.), Senior Vice-Commander (S.V.C.), Junior Vice-Commander (J.V.C.), Officer of the Day (O.D.), Officer of the Guard (O.G.),

Chaplain, Surgeon, Quartermaster (Q.M.), and Adjutant. Each member of the post was voted into membership using the Masonic system of casting black or white balls (except that more than one black ball was required to reject a candidate for membership). When a candidate was rejected, that rejection was reported to the Department which listed the rejection in general orders and those rejections were maintained in a "Black Book" at each

post meeting place. The official body of the Department was the annual Encampment, which was presided over by the elected Department Commander, Senior and Junior Vice Commanders and the Council. Encampments were elaborate multi-day events.



G.A.R. Badges

First Badge.



The badges worn by members of the G.A.R.

Source: SUVCW.com

post meeting place. The official body of the Department was the annual Encampment, which was presided over by the elected Department Commander, Senior and Junior Vice Commanders and the Council. Encampments were elaborate multi-day events.

Does Your Family History Have Atmosphere?

If you have spent many, many hours researching your family tree, then I am sure that you have discovered all of the records available that give you the "facts" regarding your ancestors. How many times have you thought, "I wish I could find out a bit more about their specific personalities and their way of life." I know that I have, because I think that is what makes our ancestors "real."

Ancestry.com has a daily e-mail service (that you can sign up for at no charge), that includes tips and information regarding genealogy. This column puts a new prospective on our fact gathering and converting them to a family history. Please take a moment and read through the information.

Along Those Lines Establishing Atmosphere in Your Written Family History

Writing a family history is perhaps the most difficult type of writing I have found. If you are a dedicated genealogical researcher, you have invested a great deal of time in researching the evidence of the family members; researching history and geography; combing through archives and libraries; collecting papers, letters, government-produced documents, photographs, family stories, and artifacts that help tell the story.

In "Along Those Lines . . ." this week, I'd like to provide a few clues to help you create the atmosphere or environment for your writing, and then suggest a few simple exercises.

Physical Context

Where did the family live? This is the most important question for you to answer before you can begin your writing. Sure, you've collected evidence and documented it with paperwork and source citations. However, have you really examined the geographical location? It is important to learn about the physical environment. If your ancestors lived in Pennsylvania, you will want to study detailed topographic maps to determine exactly where the people lived. You will want to understand the appearance of the location so that you can describe it. Did your people live in a mountainous area? Was there a river, lake, canal, or seacoast nearby? What kind of trees and vegetation grew there? What

animals may have shared the area? What was the weather like? What crops were grown there? All of these factors need to be studied in order to truly understand the environment and to describe it for your reader.

Historical Context

What events influenced your ancestor at a personal, local, county/parish, state/territorial/provincial, national, and international level? What were the politics at the time? Were there wars or conflicts that affected or involved your ancestors? You will want to read historical accounts of all types for the periods in which your ancestors lived so that you better understand what events exerted influence on their thinking and their lives. Everything from a birth or death in the family to international wars will have influenced them, and the influences differed depending on where your people lived.

Picturing the Environment

Photographs and portraits are essential illustrations in your family history. However, look deeper at those images. What did the people look like? What were their physical features? What clothing did they wear and how did they arrange their hair? What houses did they live in and what were the architectural styles used in the area? What church did they attend and what did it look like? Are there photographs of the community available on vintage picture postcards, on stereographic cards, and in photographs published from the era your people lived there? If they owned a wagon or buggy, horses, mules, automobiles, trucks, motorcycles, or other forms of conveyance, what were these things? Do you know details about them? Did they own pets or livestock? What other possessions did they own? Do you have any of those artifacts? What items may have been listed or described in a probate packet?

Writing Exercise

With these concepts in mind, why not try a little writing exercise? Choose one ancestor or family member of whom you have a photograph. First, determine the name of the person, the date or period the photograph was taken, and what it depicts. Next, determine where the photograph was taken and perhaps the reason why it was taken. Finally, consider the events that are either depicted in the photograph or study local, national, and international history a bit to place the photograph into historical perspective.

The exercise you want to do is to write three of four paragraphs to describe what you see and what you have learned.

How Successful Is Your Written History Example?

Consider whether your reader will be able to picture the things you write about without necessarily seeing a photographic image. Will your reader be able to get to "know" the person you have written about? If not, you need to perhaps add more detail or, if you don't have more information to use, start seeking more. **The purpose of a written family history is not simply to document names, dates, and locations. You want to bring the details of the people's lives into focus and let them come alive for the reader.**

Take a half-hour and try this exercise and I'll guarantee that you, too, will get to know this ancestor even better!

Happy Writing!

George

Now I am offering you a challenge: take another look at your family tree. You've done all of that hard work, you know the facts, now take Mr. Morgan's suggestions and delve into the "background" information we tend to overlook.

Who better to write your family history but you! Then, submit it to the Newcomer for publication in the upcoming issues! - The editor, Beth Bassett.

Dates Set for the Town of Brook Sesquicentennial Celebration

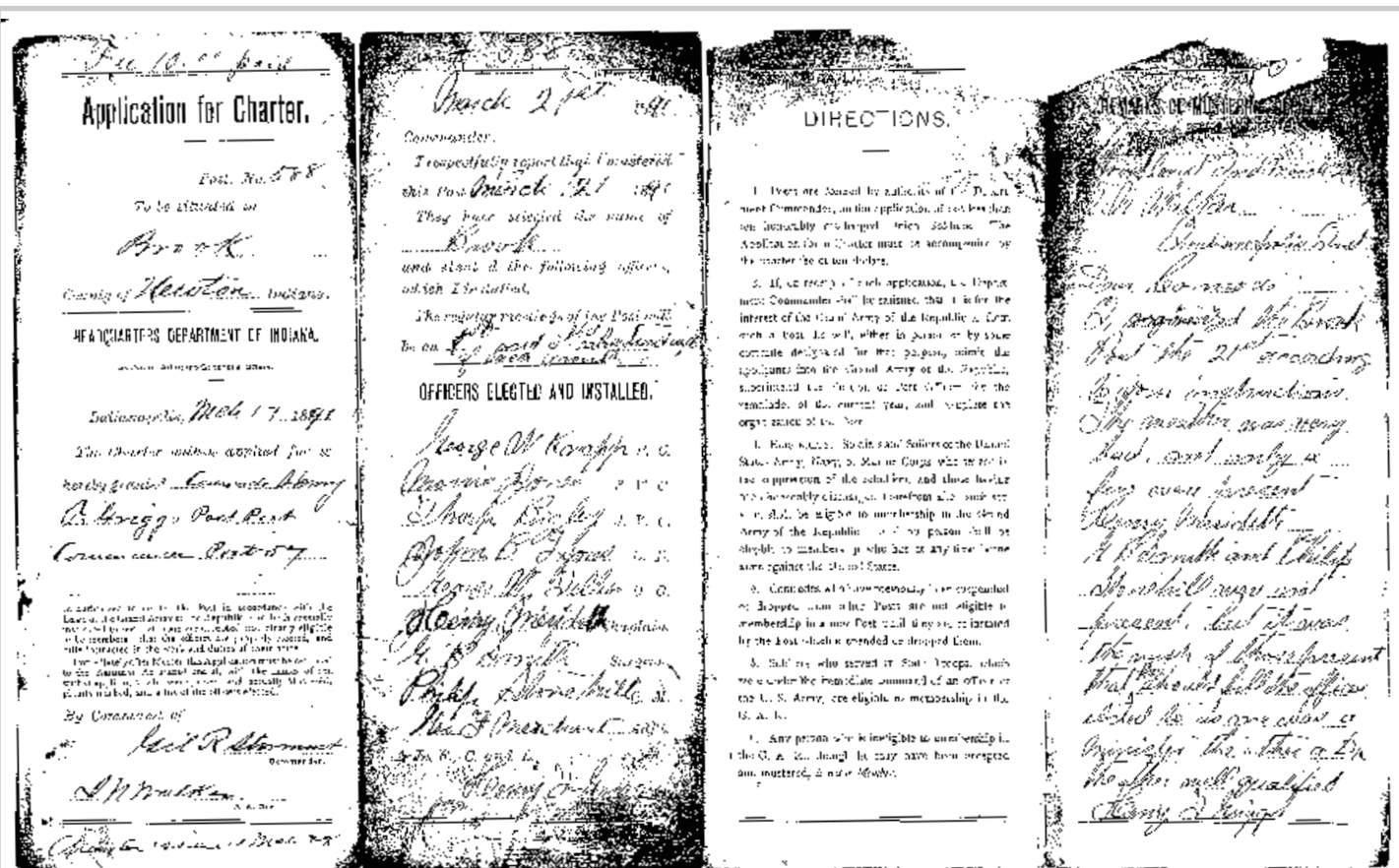
Mark your calendar . . .

Brook will be celebrating their Sesquicentennial July 3rd, 4th and 5th.

Many fun activities are planned including a melodrama, outdoor movie, threshing demonstrations, George Ade Memorabilia auction to support the Wash-O-Quois Museum, Quilt Show, and of course fun, food and games.

Larry and Becky Lyons are heading up the committee and are seeking help with character re-acting of local pioneers and settlers from the area.

If you are interested in participating in the fun, give them a call at 219-275-4355.



A copy of the Application for Charter for the Brook Post. Source: Indiana State Archives.

Decoration Day/Memorial Day History

In 1868, Commander-in-Chief John A. Logan issued General Order No. 11 calling for all Departments and Posts to set aside the 30th of May as a day for remembering the sacrifices of fallen comrades, thereby beginning the celebration of Memorial Day.

With membership limited strictly to "veterans of the late unpleasantness," the GAR encouraged the formation of Allied Orders to aid them in its various works. Numerous male organizations jostled for the backing of the GAR and the political battles became quite severe until the GAR finally endorsed the Sons of Veterans of the United States of America (later to become the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War) as its heir.

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in our nation's service. There are many stories as to its actual beginnings, with over two dozen cities and towns laying claim to being the birthplace of Memorial Day. There is also evidence that organized women's groups in the South were decorating graves before the end of the Civil War.

Memorial Day was officially proclaimed on 5 May 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, in his General Order No. 11, and was first observed on 30 May 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery.

The South refused to acknowledge the day, honoring their dead on separate days until after World War I (when the holiday changed from honoring just those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring Americans who died fighting in any war).

Poppy Days

In 1915, inspired by the poem "In Flanders Fields," Moina Michael replied with her own poem:

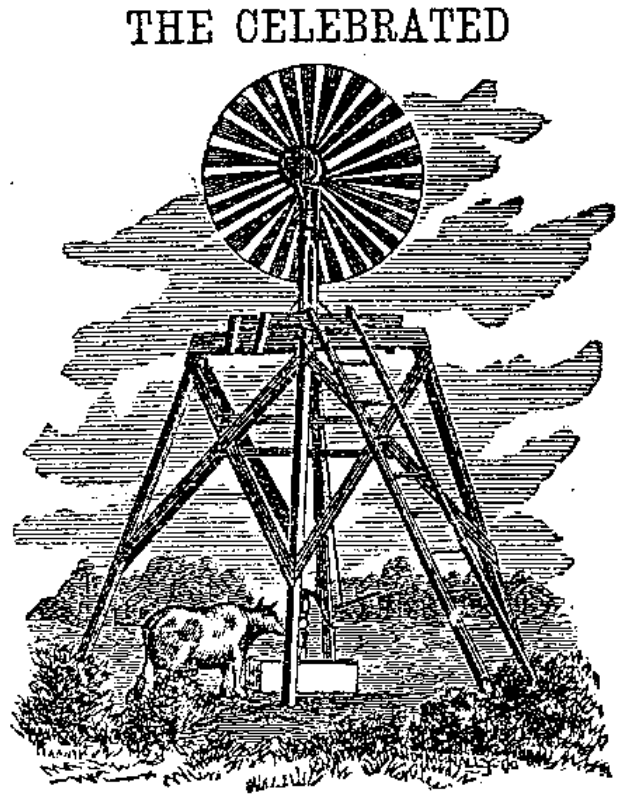
*We cherish too, the Poppy red
That grows on fields where valor led,
It seems to signal to the skies
That blood of heroes never dies.*

She then conceived of an idea to wear red poppies on Memorial day in honor of those who died serving the nation during war. She was the first to wear one, and sold poppies to her friends and co-workers with the money going to benefit servicemen in need. Later a Madam Guerin from France was visiting the United States and learned of this new custom started by Ms. Michael and when she returned to France, made artificial red poppies to raise money for war orphaned children and widowed women. This tradition spread to other countries.



In 1921, the Franco-American Children's League sold poppies nationally to benefit war orphans of France and Belgium. The League disbanded a year later and Madam Guerin approached the VFW for help. Shortly before Memorial Day in 1922 the VFW became the first veterans' organization to nationally sell poppies. Two years later their "Buddy" Poppy program was selling artificial poppies made by disabled veterans.

In 1948 the US Post Office honored Ms Michael for her role in founding the National Poppy movement by issuing a red three cent postage stamp with her likeness on it. Submitted by Beth Bassett.



THE CELEBRATED HURRICANE PROOF WIND MILL, W. C. NELSON, Patentee, KENTLAND, IND.

Each section of the wheel has a spring, attached to the middle portion of the hub, and arranged to hold the section up to the wind when the latter is not too strong, and to yield when it is too strong, and, by allowing the section to swing around toward the plane of the shaft, relieve the wheel, and thus protect it from damage, when the force of the wind is too great for it. The wheel is arranged to receive the wind from behind the standard on which its shaft is supported, and to dispense with a tail-vane, which is required for keeping it in the winds, when arranged to take it in advance of the post. The shaft extends through the revolving cap by which it is mounted on the post, and carries at the projecting end a crank, for working a connecting rod, for giving reciprocating motion to a pump or other machine below. It also carries a bevel wheel, on said projecting end, which drives an upright shaft above, from which to obtain rotary motion.

The power of the Mill is from one thousand horse-power, according to size of Fan Wheel. Orders for territory, and inquiries will be promptly answered by the Patentee, to whom all orders should be directed. Low prices and easy terms.

W. C. NELSON, Patentee.
March 26, 1874—18m6

Reprinted from the Kentland Gazette, April 7, 1874. Submitted by Jim Robbins.

National Encampments of the Grand Army of the Republic were presided over by a Commander-in-Chief who was elected in political events which rivaled national political party conventions. The Senior and Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief as well as the National Council of Administration were also elected. The first being held in Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1866.

The matter of pensions occupied much of the time of the Grand Army encampments, both national and departmental. The order kept careful watch over pension legislation; its recommendations had been conservative, and have been adopted by Congress to a very great extent. Aid was given to veterans and widows entitled to pensions, by cooperation with the Pension Office in obtaining and furnishing information for the adjudication of claims.

The Grand Army has been assisted in carrying out its purposes by its allied orders such as the Woman's Relief Corps, the Sons of Veterans, the Daughters of Veterans, and the Ladies

J. B. CARWALKER
Commander of the Department of Indiana, G. A. R. Indianapolis, Ind.

REN P. HORSE
Major-General

We, the undersigned, Civil War Veterans and Soldiers, who were honorably discharged from the service of the United States of America, and who served under the Union flag during the rebellion, respectfully ask that a Chapter be organized for the establishment of a Post at Kentland, Newton, Cass County, Indiana.

No.	NAME	RANK AND COMPANY, OR REG'T.
1	Francis Mc Connett	Co. 10 th Ind. Vols.
2	William Cummings	" B 101 O. Vols.
3	A. R. Sharp	" B 68 th Ind. Vols.
4	Thompson Mullin	" H 15 th Ky. Vols.
5	John W. Randall	" C 7 th Ill. Vols.
6	Yates Wolf	" B 57 th Ind. Vols.
7	George W. Smith	" B. 51 st Ind. Vols.
8	Arthur B. Lyons	Company 3 rd Ill. Light
9	Robert A. Hatch	Co. C. 2 nd W. V. Co.
10	John J. Johnston	" E 79 th Indiana Vols.
11	Thomas C. Moore	" H 15 th "
12	W. C. Wagoner	" K 54 th "
13	John J. French	" L 27 th Ind. Inf.
14	James Cook	" M 130 th Ind. Vols.
15	John S. Elmer	Co. 12 th "
16	James Brantley	" N 100 th Ill. Vols.
17	Thomas Brantley	" O 64 th Ill. Vols.
18	Charles Maloney	" P 36 th Ill. Vols.
19	Edw. A. Cummings	Co. B 57 th Ind. Vols.
20	Richard A. Conner	Co. A 23 rd Ind. Vols.
21	James H. Adams	Co. B 57 th Ind. Vols.
22	Clark W. Wood	Co. A 23 rd Ind. Vols.
23	James W. Mc Caffee	Co. B 57 th Ind. Vols.
24	James W. Mc Caffee	Co. B 57 th Ind. Vols.
25	John A. Hillman	Co. A 23 rd Ind. Vols.

Charter Application Roster for the Kentland Post.

of the G. A. R.

The G. A. R. founded soldiers' homes, was active in relief work and in pension legislation. Five members were elected President of the United States and, for a time, it was impossible to be nominated on the Republican ticket without the endorsement of the G. A. R. voting block.

The Grand Army of the Republic rules and regulations stated that each post was to keep the following records: Post By-Laws, Descriptive Books, Journal of Proceedings, Order Book (recording orders and circulars issued by the post commander), Letter Book, Endorsement and Memorandum Book, and a Black Book recording rejected and dishonorably discharged members.

Upon its dissolution, which usually occurred with the passing of the last member, each post was to turn over its property, including books of record and post papers, to the Assistant Quartermaster General of the Department of Indiana. Such records were then subject to the disposition of the Department Encampment, the main body of the organization. In < to page 4 >

J. B. CARWALKER
Commander of the Department of Indiana, G. A. R. Indianapolis, Ind.

REN P. HORSE
Major-General

We, the undersigned, Civil War Veterans and Soldiers, who served under the Union flag during the rebellion of 1861-65, and were honorably discharged from the service of the United States of America, and who served under the Union flag during the rebellion, respectfully ask that a Chapter be organized for the establishment of a Post at Brook, Newton, Cass County, Indiana.

NAME	RANK	COMPANY	REG'T.	STATE	DATE OF SERVICE	DATE OF DISCHARGE	AGE	REMARKS
John W. Smith	Private	10th	Ind. Vols.	Ind.	1862	1865	57	Residence
William A. Jones	Private	101st	O. Vols.	Ind.	1862	1865	57	Residence
James W. Smith	Private	68th	Ind. Vols.	Ind.	1862	1865	57	Residence
John W. Smith	Private	15th	Ky. Vols.	Ind.	1862	1865	57	Residence
Yates Wolf	Private	7th	Ill. Vols.	Ind.	1862	1865	57	Residence
George W. Smith	Private	57th	Ind. Vols.	Ind.	1862	1865	57	Residence
Arthur B. Lyons	Private	3rd	Ill. Light	Ind.	1862	1865	57	Residence
Robert A. Hatch	Private	2nd	W. V. Co.	Ind.	1862	1865	57	Residence
John J. Johnston	Private	E	79th	Ind. Vols.	Ind.	1862	57	Residence
Thomas C. Moore	Private	H	15th	Ind. Vols.	Ind.	1862	57	Residence
W. C. Wagoner	Private	K	54th	Ind. Vols.	Ind.	1862	57	Residence
John J. French	Private	L	27th	Ind. Inf.	Ind.	1862	57	Residence
James Cook	Private	M	130th	Ind. Vols.	Ind.	1862	57	Residence
John S. Elmer	Private	C	12th	Ind. Vols.	Ind.	1862	57	Residence
James Brantley	Private	N	100th	Ill. Vols.	Ind.	1862	57	Residence
Thomas Brantley	Private	O	64th	Ill. Vols.	Ind.	1862	57	Residence
Charles Maloney	Private	P	36th	Ill. Vols.	Ind.	1862	57	Residence
Edw. A. Cummings	Private	B	57th	Ind. Vols.	Ind.	1862	57	Residence
Richard A. Conner	Private	A	23rd	Ind. Vols.	Ind.	1862	57	Residence
James H. Adams	Private	B	57th	Ind. Vols.	Ind.	1862	57	Residence
Clark W. Wood	Private	A	23rd	Ind. Vols.	Ind.	1862	57	Residence
James W. Mc Caffee	Private	B	57th	Ind. Vols.	Ind.	1862	57	Residence
John A. Hillman	Private	A	23rd	Ind. Vols.	Ind.	1862	57	Residence

Charter Application Roster for Brook Post.

< from page 3 > general, no specific record of this type of transfer exist today. Some Indiana G. A. R. post records did survive and are located at the Indiana State Archives.

Indiana G. A. R. posts were numbered from 1 to 593, but evidence indicates that when some G. A. R. posts went out of existence, their numbers were used again when a new post was formed. As a result, some G. A. R. post numbers were used for more than one post. The total number of G. A. R. posts that existed in Indiana were 636.

The G. A. R. national membership reached its peak in 1890 at 409,489; membership in the Department of Indiana reached its peak in 1889 at 25,173. As the veterans died, the membership inevitably declined. The national membership dropped to 213,901 in 1910 and 16,597 in 1930, The Indiana membership from 13,006 in 1910 to 611 in 1930. As the doors closed on the Indiana G. A. R. in 1949, there were two registered members listed. The last surviving national G. A. R. member died in 1956.

In 1919, the Veterans of Foreign War's National Council of Administration unanimously adopted the following resolution: All members of the Grand Army of the Republic (G. A. R.) are hereby admitted as honorary members to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. Presentation of their Grand Army identification card or button will entitle them to any meeting of any Post of the V. F. W. and to a seat.

Then, Commander-In-Chief Warner Karling said, "In honoring the G. A. R., we honor ourselves," in subsequent years, V. F. W. and G. A. R. Posts would conduct Memorial Day ceremonies together and hold joint conventions in some states. See related story



on Memorial Day.

Ironically, it was the refusal of the G. A. R. to admit Veterans of the Spanish American War that gave birth to the V. F. W. Though V. F. W. adopted many of G. A. R.'s rituals and organizational structures, it was committed to remaining "evergreen," thus rejecting the last-man syndrome of earlier groups like the G. A. R.

In 1949, there were nearly 19 million living American veterans. That summer, once again in Indianapolis, all veterans of the Civil War convened, or encamped as they called it, for their 83rd and very last time.

In 1949, V. A. records showed fewer than 30 Union veterans were still drawing pensions, ten of whom were G. A. R. members. Of these, only six would attend the encampment to settle the question of who would be the last commander. Theodore Penland, age 102, would be elected to that honored position, and he is quoted as having said, "new heroes would carry on guarding our nationhood." and to quote Barry Yeakle, author of the article, "GAR's Lasting Link in the Unbroken Patriotic Chain," from the VFW Magazine, "He was right."

That same year, the U. S. Postal Service issued a stamp commemorating the last encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic. Sources: www.SUVCW.com; The History of the G.A.R. by John E. Gilman, C.O., G.A.R., 1910; VFW Magazine, April, 2005, "GAR's Lasting Link in the Unbroken Patriotic Chain," by Barry Yeakle; "Indiana Civil War Veterans, Transcriptions of the Death Rolls of the Department of Indiana, Grand Army of the Republic, 1882-1948," by Dennis Northcutt. ■

CHARTER APPLICATION ROSTER FOR THE MOROCCO POST.

W. B. the undersigned, Ex-Soldier and Sailor, who were honorably discharged from the service of the United States of America and who served under the Union flag during the rebellion, would most respectfully ask that a Charter be granted for the establishment of a Post at Morocco, Ind. - Higher Grade - 1890 - Indiana

NAME	RESIDENCE	EDUCATION	EMPLOYMENT
1. Wm. B. ...	12th and ...		
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CHARTER APPLICATION, 1890, Mt. Ayr Post.

W. B. the undersigned, Ex-Soldier and Sailor, who were honorably discharged from the service of the United States of America and who served under the Union flag during the rebellion, would most respectfully ask that a Charter be granted for the establishment of a Post at Mt. Ayr, Ind. - Higher Grade - 1890 - Indiana

NAME	RESIDENCE	EDUCATION	EMPLOYMENT
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What Memorial Day Means

Reprinted from the May, 1907 Brook Reporter

The illustration that appeared is shown here of a G. A. R. member (note ribbon on vest), who has lost an arm to the war effort, explaining the meaning of Memorial Day to a young boy.

So, lad, you don't understand why a lot of grizzled old men should waste a day when God's sun is shining, and march away to the gloom of a cemetery and scatter flowers on mounds that to you are only mounds, but to the world represent a wonderful idea.

Away back, when your granddaddy had two good legs and was as spry as you are today, it became necessary to fight to preserve the unity of the nation. This great country was plunged into war, and you've heard enough to know what a terrible thing war is. And this was worse, for it was a war at home. It wasn't like fighting a foreign foe. It wasn't like defeating the British and driving them out of a land in which then had no business. It was a family war, and it hurt because brothers fought brothers, yes and killed them. And fathers and sons were found in opposing armies. Oh, boy, when you get big enough to understand, and love your country as you must if you are to be a wise and good citizen, you should pray to the good God to whom you say your "Now I Lay Me," every night to preserve us from another Civil War.



It lasted years, lad. It starved thousands, butchered them, wounded them, tortured them. It took the best blood in the country, North and South, for, don't forget, lad, there were good men in gray as well as in blue. They fought for what they thought to be right and so did we, and that means awful fighting, lad. Why, boy, if you should take all the people in ten big towns and bury them right now,

it would not cover the deaths in that big war. And your grandmother and thousands of other mothers and grandmothers cried until they no longer could shed tears. And some of the women fought like man and others went as nurses, and if Carnegie should make medals night and day for a year he couldn't hope to supply them to the heroes of that war, men and women; yes, and children. And most folks who fought in that war fought because of their love of country, lad. It is as fine as your love for your mother. It is something that makes a nation great and strong, and men true and upright. You

know, lad, a good soldier is always a good citizen, and a brave man can never be a very bad man. And finally it was all over and the right had triumphed as right must if the world is to live, and then, North and South, a great effort was made to forget, to be brothers and friends again; to build up a stricken land; and to take up the burden of making this the most wonderful land on the globe. And we are succeeding, lad. The flag that your daddy hoists on Memorial Day is the flag of Alabama, and Texas, and Ohio, and of all of us, and I love it, for I fought for it, and every one of those green mounds represents love for it, and every boy should grow up to feel that it belongs to him and that, if trouble comes, he should lay down his life for it.

So you see, lad, Decoration Day represents love of country; devotion; appreciation; self-sacrifice. Those are long words, dear lad. Perhaps they are too long for a little boy, but they are the things that help transform youngsters like you into strong men and good men. And while we keep step to the music of the fife and drum, we are glad that the big world isn't too busy to devote one day each year to memory and the men who fought for the grand idea. Submitted by Beth Bassett. ■

Answers To Do You Know?

By Janet Miller Questions on page 9

- The contract for the partially constructed courthouse was awarded to Eric Lund of Hammond, IN, for the sum of \$18,525.00. Mr. Lund was the original builder. No fault was found with his work or in the class of material furnished. Mr. Lund predicted that he would have the building under roof by the first of April. The contract called for the completion of the building, including heating and electric wiring. The only change made from the original plan was substituting a tile roof.
- The cornerstone was laid in the northeast corner of the building.
- The Newton County Commissioners accepted the new courthouse on Monday, August 6, 1906.

- The four offices on the first floor of the new courthouse were the offices of the Auditor, Treasurer, Clerk and Recorder. The Sheriff and the Superintendent of Schools occupied the two offices on the second floor.
- The first official business to be conducted in the new courthouse fell to County Clerk Reuben Hess. The granting of a marriage license to Isaac McKinney and Mary Adaline Tyler at 11:45 o'clock Tuesday morning was the first business of the day, and before any of the books and papers were put in order in the Clerk's office. It is considered a good omen by the superstitious that Cupid took precedence over lawsuits or any other business. ■

A Youthful Highwayman

Reprinted from the Kentland Gazette, December 15, 1887.
Submitted by Janet Miller

About two weeks ago a boy giving his name as George Schmilke came to Kentland seeking a home. He claimed that he was an orphan and that he was fifteen years old, but it was probable that he was not older than thirteen years. By his gentlemanly manners and apparent intelligence, he won the sympathy of Mr. And Mrs. Thomas Search, who took the little wanderer beneath the shelter of their roof, and furnished him a home. He told a pathetic story of the tragical death of his parents, who he claimed were killed by the red savages in Nebraska, also told a vivid and exciting narrative of his narrow escape from a horrible death at the hands of these red rovers of the plains. He told all his stories, and answered all questions propounded to him with the tack and intelligence that is seldom equaled.

He possessed that tack and knowledge of names and places the he never crossed himself, not told two different stories regarding the same occurrence. By his conversational powers, which were attractive and displayed his intelligence and his youthful innocence, he was universally admired by all with whom he came in contact. He was not what is known as a "smart boy," but was apparently an intelligent boy. But subsequent events proved that combined with his intelligence was a dangerous amount of cunning.

On Sunday last his kind benefactress, Mrs. S., dressed him in a new suit of clothes and sent him to the M. E. Sunday school. As he arrived at the door of the church he met Master Harry Davis, a lad about his own age, when he asked Harry to let him see his watch. The request was granted, and when the little rascal secured the watch in his hands he deliberately broke it from the chain and calmly started to walk off.

Harry was not going to part with his prized property with out an effort to recover the same, so he attempted to take it away from the little thief, but his efforts proved futile on account of the superior strength of his opponent, so he did the next best thing and went to inform his friends of the affair.

In the meantime, George quietly walked over to the livery barn of Padgett Bros., and in a cool and businesslike manner told them he wanted to hire a horse to go to Raub station on an errand for his parents, who just lived north of town. He secured the horse and started in the direction of Raub, letting the animal travel in a slow walk, until the limits of the town was reached, when he started off at full speed.

As soon as Harry had made his loss known, parties sought to capture the little robber. After it was learned the he had left town, Messrs. Search and Padgett started for Raub, and Messrs. Lowe and Borders started for Sheldon.

Shortly after the latter parties had reached Sheldon, they discovered that the horse had been left a livery stable at that place. About this time a freight train arrived in Sheldon going north, so the pursuing parties concluded the boy would attempt to leave on this train.

They carefully watched the train to capture him if he attempted to get aboard, but they failed to see him. As the train started the pursuers were amazed to see George appear on the rear end of the train and politely holding the watch, and in a provoking tone said, "come and get your watch."

But the train was then going at a high rate of speed, and, as the

pursuers could not fly, they had to be content with the recovery of the horse, and swallow the mortification of being outwitted by a little boy. Although an extended search has been made for the boy, this is the last that has been seen of him. Since his departure numerous wily acts of his has come to light, by which several have been the looser of their small change.

It's Here!! The Brook, Iroquois and Washington Township Sesquicentennial Collection, 2006

Committee members have researched, compiled, typed and scanned material that totals 862 pages.

- Over 300 pages include family histories of current and past residents of Iroquois and Washington Townships
- A large, general history of each Township, containing stories about churches, schools, community events and much, much more.

- A collection of never before published photographs from private collections, residents, the Wash-O-Quois Museum, and the Brook-Iroquois Township Public Library.
- A complete, every name index.

Pick up and purchasing copies will be available beginning April 15th at the Brook Library from 9:00-12:00 and each Saturday thereafter through May 15th.

This hard bound history book will be considered a family heirloom, to be passed down through the generations.

The lowest, possible price has been established for this book, and all profits will be utilized by the committee for future preservation of our two Townships' history.

Price: \$37.73 plus tax (\$2.27). Total: \$40.00

Mailing available via USPS. Please include \$10.00 for each book for shipping and handling.

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Sesquicentennial Collection, 2006

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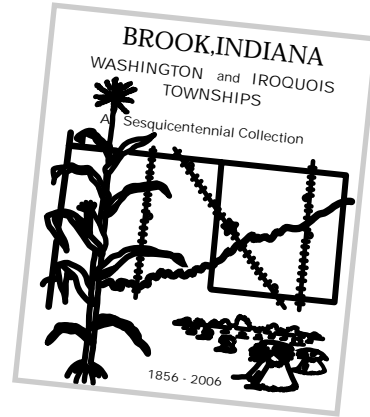
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Thank You For Supporting the Preservation of Our History!



The Newton County G.A.R. Post Records

The State Archives have a record for each Newton County Post, but not from the same year. Some have been reproduced in this newsletter, and the remaining are on file at the Newton County Historical Society's Resource Center in Kentland, Indiana. On page six is an index of the names on the documents on file. Please note that these names were hand written, and some were very hard to decipher, they are listed here to the best of my ability to read them.

The first step in creating a Post required that an application be made by the Post Commander to the Commander of the Department of Indiana, G. A. R. at Indianapolis. A Chief Mustering Officer was then assigned by the Commander in Chief and would visit the Posts, then initiate the Post and its members, and in turn, send a roster back to the Commander in Chief for approval. Notes from the various Chief Mustering Officers indicate that every effort was made to "gather the boys together," in an organized fashion, and as quickly as possible. After all, our Posts were chartered beginning in 1882, which was 17 years after the end of the war, perhaps they felt they had waited long enough to re-organize the "boys in blue."

The Charter Application reads:

"We, the undersigned Ex-Soldiers and Sailors, who were honorably discharged from the service of the United States of

America and who served under the Union flag during the rebellion, would most respectfully ask that a Charter be granted for the establishment of a Post at (town, county written here,) Indiana."

Prospective members would then sign their name, and name their Regiment and Company, or Ship. Due to space restrictions, I will only list the names of those Veterans that appear on each Posts' Charter Application. ■

Descriptive Book of Mt. Ayr Post 298

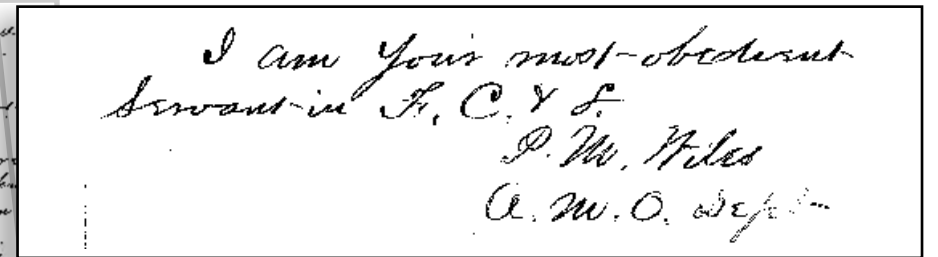
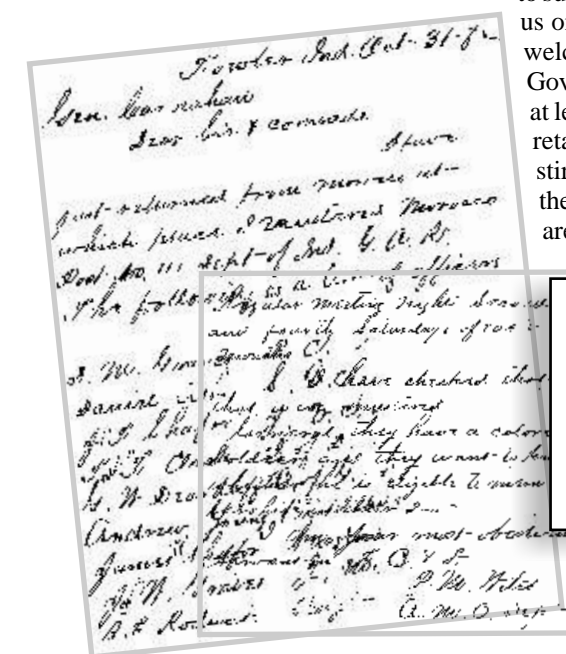
Copies made from the Newton County G. A. R. Post records included copies of pages from the Descriptive Book of the Mt. Ayr Post 298. The year these descriptions were taken is not stated, however, with close examination, there are duplicate entries for some of the Comrades, and the ages for those are different.

This book contains the following information: Comrade's name; age; birthplace; residence (current); occupation; entry into the Service (date, rank, Company and Regiment;) Final Discharge (date, rank, Company and Regiment;) length of service (month); and date of muster into the G.A.R. These columns were left blank: when honorably discharged, when suspended, when dropped, when dismissed, when reinstated, nature of wounds received, when and in what engagements wounded, and remarks. Just think of the knowledge we could have if they would have taken a few more minutes to "fill in the blanks!" Submitted by Beth Bassett. ■

"I am your most obedient Servant in F. C. and L." - What does that mean?

Amongst the copies of the Post information provided by the Indiana State Archives, (a Morocco letter is shown here,) were a few letters from the Mustering Officers, and the Post Commanders that accompanied the Charter Applications. I noticed that on the application, there was a common closure: "... yours in F. C. and L." Society member Kyle Conrad, who also is a member of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW), was able to provide information regarding my question as to the meaning of the initials.

"The Grand Army of the Republic proclaims as its fundamental creed **Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty**, - malice toward none, charity for all. We canonize no living man, but our dead heroes are the jewels in our imperial crown of glory, whose dazzling effulgence will kindle the spark of patriotism in the hearts of the next generation. We admire courage, manliness, and skill, even if opposed to us, and to such of our former enemies as have shown by their deeds - a willingness to embark with us on the great ocean of the future we concede perfect equality, an ardent friendship, a welcome to our campfires and a share in the charitable retreats established by Government for distress occasioned by the war; but we are human, and for one generation at least must prefer our own heroes, of which we have an abundance, and the privilege of retaining a suspicion of those men who did not fight, but from their places of safety stirred up sedition and conspiracy and fanned the flames of bitter discord which blinded the judgment of those who had a right to look to their leaders for the truth. Happily these are now nearly all gone, and the day seems near at hand when every intelligent man in



America will recognize the holy cause for which we fought and for which so many of our brightest and best youth so freely and so nobly gave their lives." This information was taken from the SUVCW web site, www.suvcw.com where you

will find additional information regarding the Civil War and more. - Thanks Kyle! Sources: Indiana State Archives, www.suvcw.com. Submitted by Beth Bassett. ■

Newton County G. A. R. Post Charter Application Roster Names

Goodland Post 57

A. J. Potter, S.V.C.
F. G. Tubbs, Adj't.
H. Meeker, P.C.
E. L. Hall
Alexander E. Woodin
D. P. Harper
W. J. Oram
H. T. Griggs, O. G.
Anson Coppock, Surgeon
Joseph Monty
S. W. Wilson, O.D.
J. E. Carney, Sgt. Maj.
H. L. Brundags
Calvin "Call" Creek, Q. M.
Ernest N. Strubbe
Sylvester Dyter
George H. Smith
Levi H. Scott
Elisha R. Rockwood
Stephen P. Mather
B. Davidson
J. J. Jenkins
Smith B. Cones
B. P. Davidson
George H. Hawley
A. W. Scott
Asa Murphy
John Higgins
Wm. Miller
H. J. McIntyre, J.V.C.

A note was included from the Chief Mustering Officer, J. B. Shaw of Lafayette stating that he had been confined to his home due to the fact that he had an attack of Typhoid Fever upon his return from Goodland.

Roselawn, Post 253

Pictured on page one.
Lon Craig, S.V.C.
Grover Smith, J.V.C.
Edwin W. Gould, Surgeon
George F. Smith, Adj't.
Albert M. Boyle
Orlando Rose, Q.M.
John W. Tamer
Sylvester W. Flover
G. G. Bruchet
Ralph W. Marshall. P.C.
W. M. Collins
Enerice M Sanders
J. A. Martindale, O. D.
Wm. Halsal
Ireneus Shortridge
Daniel E. Fairchild
Oliver G. Wilder

Adam Vanastine
Squire B. Davis
John W. Davis
John O'Conner, O.G.
Ralph Bangarts
Charles R. Ball, Chaplain

Note: Regular meeting held first and third Saturday of each month. Charter granted on Oct. 15, 1883, organized November 10, 1883.

Kentland or "McHolland" Post 102

Pictured on page three.
H. K. Warren, P.C.
John French, S.V.C.
John B. Lyons, J.V.C.
John J. Johnston, O.D.
James Davis, O.G.
Jerome McChaffee, Surgeon
I. C. Denney, Chaplain
Wm. Cummings, Adj't.
A. R. Sharp, Serg. Maj.
J. W. Ulrey, Q.M.
Charles Frankenburger. 2 M.O.
Francis M. Oswall
Thompson Mullen
John W. Randall
Peter Wolf
George W. Smith
Jethro A. Hatch
Thomas C. Moore
Jerome Yeck
Thorp Beagley
Charles Waling
George A. Cummings
Richard J. Conner
Jacob H. Seager
Clark A. Wood
James Kenoyer
Noble M. Stielman
J. R. Lake
George G. Jenkins
S. W. Noble
John Dearduff
B. Stonehill
John W. Williams
John Sower
Henry McFarland
Thomas Haywood
Alec Heilman
George A. Shoure
Aaron Kenoyer
F. A. Breckenridge
Jake Alter
J. W. Myers
George M. Magurlou

A. B. Moore
Note: Meeting nights first Thursday in each month. Mustered September 14, 1882

Brook Post 588

Pictured on page four.
George W. Knapp, P.C.
Philip Stonehill, Q.M.
Morris A. Jones, S.V.C.
George W. Tullis, O.G.
Thorpe Beagley, J.V.C.
Patrick Curran

John B. Lyons, O.D.
Henry W. Meredith, Chaplain
Elisha B. Odle
George F. Merchant, Adj't.
O. P. Merryfield
John Lowe
Joseph Schofield
Jacob Hosier
Thomas Allen
Charles Wailing
G. B. Smith, Surgeon
Note: Charter granted March 17, 1891, Post mustered on March 21, 1891. Fee paid \$10.00. Charter Application

Morocco, Post 111

Pictured on page four.
D. M. Graves, P.C.
B. F. Roadruck, Adj't.
Wm. L. Graves
John Bell
Jonathan Bell
Joseph Wright
H. A. Rimer
Harry Watts
D. P. Smith
John Brown
Zebedee Craig
Wm. Handley
Joseph Zoborosky
George W. Dearduff, O.G.
Madison Rush
Benjamin Geesa
John F. Shafer, J.V.C.
James W. Shafer, Surgeon
Andrew Young, Chaplain
B. F. Force
Charles Page
Frederick Bartholomew
Isaac Smart
James W. Graves, Q.M.
John D. Goddard
Theodore F. Clark, O.D.
H. H. McClain

Joseph McKinetry
John W. Dearduff
John Don
Daniel Ash, S.V.C.
Note: Organized Oct. 30, 1882. A letter from the A.M.O. states: "Regular meeting nights second and fourth Saturday of each month. General, they have a colored soldier and they want to know whether he is eligible to membership in their Post." P. M. Wiles, A.M.O.

Pilot Grove Post 298. 1884 Application Roster

H. M. Goin
Geo. W. Patton
Isaac Stucker. O.D.
George L. Morgan, O.G.
Richard Conner
A. D. Seward
C. P. Acres
Geo. Pumphrey
H. S. Philibaum
John Seward
Jacob Epler, Adj't.
Adam Seward
Morris Thomas
B. J. Geesa
E. L. Page
George Clark
A. W. Beabout, Chaplain
H. Young, J.V.C.
George Dearduff, P.C.
D. P. Smith, S.V.C.
Henry A. Rimer, Q.M.
M. L. Zroose, Surgeon
M. Rush

Mt. Ayr Post 298 1890 Application Roster

Andrew Young, J.V.C.
Abram Beaboute, P.C.
D. P. Smith, S.V.C.
C. S. Baker
George W. Dearduff, O.G.
Andrew Seward, Q.M.
Edward L. Page, Chaplain
Geroge W. Patton
Isaac Stucker
T. H. Watts
Henry A. Rimer
W. J. Miller, Adj't.
W. M. Brown, O.D.
Dr. Mary, Surgeon
Submitted by Beth Bassett. Source: Indiana State Archives.

Scrapbook From Early 1900's Provides Over 100 Newton County Obituaries

by Beth Bassett

Kay Babcock, NCHS member and NCHS Treasurer, was loaned a scrapbook from Jasper County Historical Society member LaVerne Meyer of Rensselaer. Their society was given this book, and he thought that our society would like to see the Newton County obituaries that it contained.

Kay shared this scrapbook with me, knowing that Donna LaCosse is working on the history of Mt. Ayr, Jackson and Colfax Townships, and that there were many Mt. Ayr residents throughout the pages. I took the scrapbook home and photocopied the pages, then created an Acrobat PDF, enabling us to read the pages on the computer, as well as print out the actual obituaries for future researchers.

The person who created this scrapbook made notations of dates under each obit. However, some of the death dates, and the inscribed dates do not coincide, therefore, it will be up to the research to delve into the correct dates.

What excites me the most about this scrapbook is the fact that the newspapers from this era are no longer available to genealogists, as *The Mt. Ayr Pilot*, and early editions of the *Morocco Courier* are extinct. Several of my relatives' obits were here, that previously were unavailable for my records.

However, the pages indicate that there were additional obituaries pasted below these entries. I can only imagine what year they were, who they were, and what we've missed!

I have created an index of the obituaries, which I provide for you here, and hope that if you would like to obtain copies of these obituaries, please submit the names to me via e-mail: newtonhs@ffni.com or drop your request in the mail to me at Beth Bassett, 1681E, 1100S, Brook, IN 47922. Eventually, these will be added to our web site, www.rootsweb.com/~innewton.

Some of the pages were in bad shape, and were frayed along the edges, therefore losing some text.

There are two interesting photographs in this scrapbook as well. One of Early Settlers of Jasper County, which also appeared in "Jasper and Newton Counties, 1916;" and of the first courthouse for Jasper and Newton Counties. ■

Ade, Adaline Wardell
Archer, Nicholas
Babb, Henry
Baker, Charles
Baker, Mary Elizabeth
Baker, Mrs. John
Baldwin, George
Barbour, Daisy B.
Barker, Samuel
Bengston, Mary Jane
Benjamin, Jared (2)
Benjamin, Mary
Benjamin, Rial Philander
Bingham, Francis
Blankenbaker, Eliza A.
Blankenbaker, Elizabeth
Bowers, E. L.
Brenner, J. J.
Brenner, Margaret Lillian
Bringle, William L.
Brockus, David
Brown, Cecil
Brown, Headley, Mrs.
Brown, Leotha
Bruce, Henry
Burns, Charles (2)
Burns, Johnnie
Callow, Joseph
Carmichael, Mrs. Warren
Chupp, Simon Edward
Cleveland, Grover Pres.
Cline, Margaret
Coen, John
Coovert, William
Cotton, William
Courthouse, First Newton Jasper
Crisler, Alfred
Crisler, Jane
Crisler, Mary Alice
Dawson, Infant Son
Dearduff, George Washington
Deweese, Margaret
Deweese, Jesse
Dewey, Mr.
Earl, Anthony
Eger, William
Elijah, Mary Jane
Fisher, Henry
Forsythe, Cora E.
Gaines, Mrs. Joseph
Geesa, Ben
Goble, Mrs. Ollie
Goddard, Reece
Goetz, Caroline
Gore, L.
Grant, Frank
Grant, Lovina
Greenfield, Mary E.
Greenlee, Howard
Grow, Pleasie
Guthrie, Minnie B.
Halstead, Infant Child
Halstead, Laura C.
Halstead, Orpheus C.

Halstead, Rev. D. T.
Halstead, Virginia
Hammerton, Elias
Harmon, Rev. John Newton
Harris, Joseph C.
Harris, Margaret
Hawkins, Oscar William
Hemphill, Angelina
Hinkle, Wesley
Hinkle, June
Holley, Vivian Marjorie
Hope, V. P.
Hopkins, Clinton
Jensen, Martin
Johnson, Arthur "Dock"
Kaufman, Mrs. G. N.
Keefe, Patrick
Kennedy, Dwight Ernest
Kenton, Simon
Kessick, Rosa Alice
King, Sidnial
Lakin, Francis M.
Lakin, Gerald James
Lane, Barbara (2)
Lane, Charles W.
Leahy, Jack
Leatherman, James
Leek, Claude
Light, Ruby
Makeever, Jasper
Makeever, John
Marion, Sarah Mrs.
McGimpsey, James G.
Merry, George Anson
Miller, "Grandma"
Miller, Mrs. David
Miller, Mrs. William
Monnett, Almira
Monnett, Mary
Moody, Tom
Murphy, Thomas
Nay, Ezra
Norris, James
Nowels, David
Nowels, Pulina Jane
O'Meara, Sylvester
Osborne, Frank
Parker, Samuel
Parkison, Addison
Penwright, Lois
Penwright, Madeline
Phillips, Simon (2)
Plott, Augustus
Ploutz, Ernest
Pollock, Donna
Pollock, Twin Son
Ponsler, Mrs.
Putman, Rev. A. J.
R?Brown, Phillip
Ramey, Will
Rice, Anna Jane
Richardson, Adelina/Adeline
Rider, Lulu
Rimer, Henry A.

Roberts, James B.
Robinson, William
Rolls, May
Ross, Mabel
Rowan, Daisy D.
Sanderson, John N.
Sanderson, Thomas Miller
Sayler, Isaac
Sayler, Micah
Schanlaub, Infant Son
Schryver, Paul
Sharp, Harriet Elizabeth
Shindler, Elizabeth
Shindler, Veronia
Shipman, Irene Jane
Shriver, Martha
Sigler, George
Smith, Henry
Spitler, Sallie
Stahl, Addie Peralla
Steward, Sidney
Stucker, Bessie
Stucker, Isaac
Thomas, William
Thompson, Simon P. Judge
Thornton, Louisa M.
Triplett, Alice
Troxell, Jacob M.
Trussell, Fred
Vestle, Jane
Warren, Myrtle Addline
Wheeldon, David
Whiteman, Effie
Whiteman, Joshua
Wildrick, Joe
Wildrick, John
Willey, Ortel
Willey, Roy
Willey, Thomas Eldridge
Williams, Jay W.
Williams, Joseph
Wiseman Sr., James
Wishard, Mrs.
Wishard, William
Wolfe, Pauline
Wood, Delos M., Rev.
Wooley, Wm.
Wootin, Josiah
Wooton, Infant
Wortley, Alma Jane
Wortley, Henry
Wortley, Jane
Wright, Joseph
Wright, Matilda Catherine
Wright, Mattie A.
Wuerthner, Sr., Erhardt
Yeoman, James
Yeoman, Joseph
Yeoman, Martha Elizabeth
Yeoman, Mary Emily
Yeoman, Abbie
Zerbe, Blanche
Zoborosky, Joseph

Pages of The Past

The following excerpts are from *The Newton County Enterprise*, January-March, 1906, commemorating life 100 years ago. transcribed by Janet Miller

Kentland

Angus Washburn expects to move his family from Rensselaer to Kentland in a few weeks, or as soon as he can find a suitable residence property.

A new feature of interest to womenfolks, and especially those who do their own dressmaking is inaugurated in the inside pages of the *Enterprise* today, and will be carried regularly. It is a pattern department. The same is in charge of one of the best known and most reliable pattern houses of the country, and is run in this paper for the benefit and convenience of our lady readers.

Passenger service on the Indiana Harbor Railroad will be inaugurated on January 21st, 1906. Through trains will be operated between Chicago and Cairo, Illinois, via Danville and Big Four Route. A through Pullman buffet sleeper and ladies' car, in addition to ordinary equipment, will be operated in these trains. The north-bound will probably leave this station (Kentland) between 4:30 and 5:00 in the morning, reaching Chicago at 7:30. The train leaving Chicago at 8:20 at night will reach Kentland about 11:30. The schedule will doubtless be somewhat elastic for a few months, or until the roadbed properly settles. The train service as now arranged will give a full day in Chicago, and in this respect is entirely satisfactory to the people of Kentland.

The annual report of Clerk Hess to the Bureau of Statistics for the year 1905 shows that there were 171 civil suits filed in the Circuit Court and 128 were disposed of. Letters of administration were issued to 21 and 11 guardianships. Thirteen decrees of foreclosure were entered, and six were adjudged of unsound mind. The hullabaloo often raised over the frequency of divorce is not sustained in this county. But eleven decrees were granted during the year, nine of these going to the wife and two to the husband. To offset this 88 marriage licenses were issued. Not a naturalization paper was issued during the whole year. The county has likewise made no very bad record in the way of being bad. Out of the 33 cases filed on the criminal docket, there were but 18 convictions, six cases dismissed and nine pending. Of the eight cases filed during the year for violation of the liquor laws there were but three convictions, which would indicate that the liquor-business is being conducted according to law, or that there is not a very close watch on the lid.

School Notes: There is a disposition on the part of the pupils to stay inside of the building at recess times instead of going out and getting some exercise. It is not a good habit.

Contractor Lund expects to have the brickwork completed on the new courthouse by the end of this week (Feb. 1) The north, south and east walls are now completed with the exception of the cornice, and there is but little more work to do on the west or front wall.

Before taking a ride on the new railroad better post up on your geography. The names of the stations on the Indiana Harbor from Chicago to Danville are: East Chicago, Grasselli, Gibson, Osborn, Highland, Hays, Hartsdale, St. John, Hanover, Hayden, Schneider, Lake Village, Conrad, Enos, Morocco, Ade, Kentland, Sheff, Freeland, East Dunn, Handy, Tab, Stewart, Sloan, Allison, Campbell and Danville.

Miss Grace Light and Miss Mary Seal are assisting at Braden Bros. this week during the special reduction sale. Crowds of buyers have visited the store each day since the sale opened, and prospects are good for a flourishing business the remainder of the week.

Washington Township

Mrs. Amanda Light and sister, Mrs. Ella Whaley, Commissioner James A. Whaley and Mrs. R. Swiggett were called to Jay County Tuesday to attend the funeral of a relative.

The little four year old daughter of Mr. And Mrs. J. E. Hooker, at the county farm, was frightfully burned about the body one evening last week. In striking a match to light a lamp the child's clothing caught fire and before help could reach her serious results followed.

The new town of Ade six miles north of Kentland, on the Indiana Harbor (RR), is now on the map, and is the first town for Washington township. A new depot has been erected and McCray, Morrison & Co. will begin work next week on the construction of a grain elevator.

George Ade has promised to build a store building in his namesake town, and the promoters of the village expect to have something doing in that part of Newton county by next fall.

Beaver City

Rensselaer Democrat: A religious store for Beaver City. The Rev. J. B. Bair has traded his residence property in

Rensselaer for a store and stock of goods in Beaver City, a little town north of Brook, on the Coal Road, and will move there at once. Rev. Bair will have charge of a church at Beaver City, and also one at a place a few miles west of there, and his son, Floyd, will have charge of the store.

Roselawn

Squire Sorenson's court was in session all of last week. Three boys were fined and paid their fines, but Ben and Bert Baker decided to board with John O'Conner, the sheriff at Rensselaer.

Morocco

In an impressive manner Judge Charles W. Hanley united in marriage yesterday afternoon Miss Edith M. Zoborosky and George T. Spangler. Clerk Reuben Hess was master of ceremonies and ushered the young couple into the court room attended by their friends, Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus L. Sterner of Brook. Mr. and Mrs. Spangler will live in Morocco until spring, and will then move to Brook.

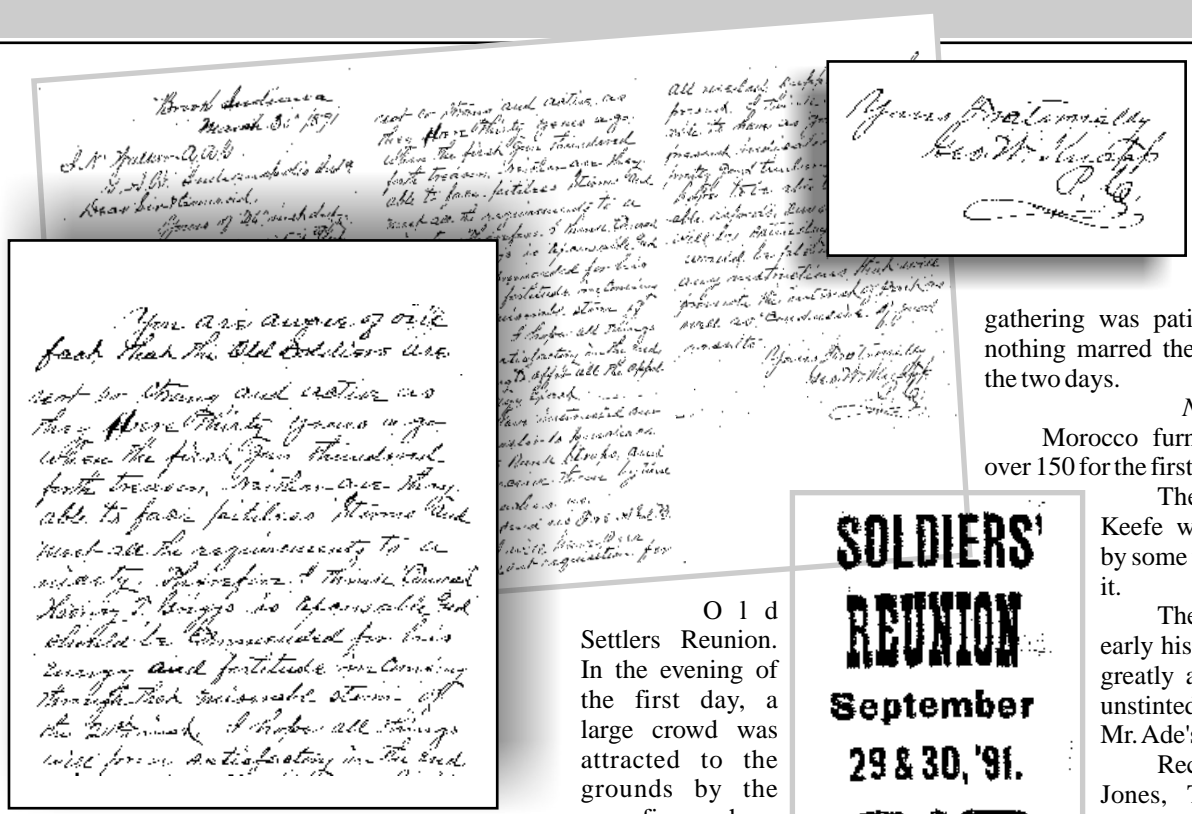
A Whist Club was organized last week, Misses Ellis, Axe, Cassell, Spry, and Messrs. Rogers, Chizum, Harpole, Schanlaub, and Dr. Lewis are the members.

Goodland

Roy Shepard announces that he has leased Mr. Kitt's interest in the *Goodland Herald* and will have full control of the business management. Mr. Kitt will continue to fill the editorial chair, or do so jointly with Mr. Shepard.

Brook

John Esson of Brook was in Kentland Monday, and while there delivered a short but effective speech regarding the two mile link between the rock road system of Iroquois and Jefferson townships. "Iroquois township has always stood by you people," said Mr. Esson, "and it is your duty to do something in return, and the first thing to do is to make the two mile dirt road between Kentland and Brook into a good rock road, and then when we want to come to Kentland we will have a good road all the way. It is but justice to the people who are required to come here in bad weather, and now that every part of the county can get to Kentland conveniently by rail except Brook, it is no more than right to give us a good road." The complaint of Mr. Esson is reasonable, and the justice of his observations cannot be disputed. Several miles of road should be built in Jefferson township this summer, in order that justice may be accorded to all. ■



A letter from Geo. Knapp regarding the Brook Post Comrades.

Reunited Again. Old Soldiers and Settlers Have A Grand Time - 13th Annual G. A. R. Reunion Held Here Thursday and Friday.

Brook Reporter, September 1, 1899

The Thirteenth Annual Reunion of the Old Soldiers of Newton County was held in the grove south of town, Thursday and Friday of last week. The register showed that there were 116 Veterans present, the largest number of ever present at a reunion in this county since the organization of the G. A. R.

While not as many were present as was expected, many were detained and others attended fairs and various attractions in the vicinity. The greatest number were present in the afternoon of the two days, Friday, where the crowd was estimated to be over 3,000.

On the forenoon of the first day, the people were entertained by a speaking by Ex-Congressman Hatch, Chaplain Beabout, Geo. W. Knapp and others. In the morning the meeting was called to order by President J. B. Lyons, after which the welcome address was delivered by Mr. Knapp, and the remaining time until noon was filled by other speakers.

In the afternoon was the First Annual

O 1 d Settlers Reunion. In the evening of the first day, a large crowd was attracted to the grounds by the campfire, where good speaking and splendid music by the choir filled the program for the evening.

The second day was opened up with music by the band and choir followed by miscellaneous business matters and an election of officers.

Mr. A. U. Beabout was elected President and Capt. Graves Secretary, both of Morocco, where it was decided to hold next year's reunion. The principle speaker of the afternoon, Col. James Dodge of Elkhart, Ind., arrived on the afternoon train from the north and was escorted by the band and Veterans to the grove, where he was introduced and delivered one of the best speeches ever heard in this vicinity.

The Brook Band furnished a delightful part in the program; the exercises being interspersed with some of the choicest selections.

To the Choir, whose music furnished one of the best attractions on the program, we can only say as many on the grounds said, that it was well worth going miles to hear. Brook can well be proud of her sings. The heat was intense, but the large



gathering was patient and attentive, and nothing marred the beautiful exercises of the two days.

Notes

Morocco furnished a delegation of over 150 for the first day of the reunion.

The speech by Patrick Keefe was greatly appreciated by some while others did not like it.

The talk by Mr. Ade, on the early history of our county, was greatly appreciated by all, and unstinted praise was accorded Mr. Ade's efforts.

Recorder Boyles, Auditor Jones, Treasurer Ade, Clerk Drake and Supt. Kellenberger attended the reunion Friday.

Geo. Pumphrey and wife of Rensselaer came over Thursday to attend the reunion.

We don't like to mention the act, but nevertheless it is true, that the young men from one town in the county furnished twice as many drinks here on Thursday as all others put together.

Judge Thompson of Rensselaer was numbered among one of the ablest speakers present.

The welcome address by Ex-Sen. Geo. W. Knapp was highly gratifying to the old boys that wore the blue.

The committee can be commended for one thing, that is, they kept the streets and road leading to the grove sprinkled and free from dust.

As a commissary, Jack Esson can be classed as a No. 1, and the old soldiers who partook of the eatables furnished, can simply testify to that fact.

Grant Township may have the popular extemporaneous speaker, but some people do not think that way, unless he would stay within the vale of decency in language used before the public, and not make an ass of himself. Submitted by Beth Bassett. ■

Program for Old Soldiers and Sailors Reunion, held August 24th and 25th, 1899

Vic and Betty Carlson shared a copy of a program for the Thirteenth Annual Reunion of Soldiers and Sailors of Newton County, held August 24 and 25th, 1899, in Brook, Indiana. It is interesting to note that there was a Confederate Soldier living in Grant Township, and that many of the soldiers came from all over the Union States.

Many of the men listed in this program are not listed as members of the G. A. R. in the records that we have collected from the State Archives, but remember, this is a reunion of the Soldiers and Sailors of Newton County, not an Encampment for the G. A. R. The names are re-printed here as they appeared in the program.

Within the pages of the program, we find a Roster of the soldiers and sailors whose names were submitted for this specific gathering. J. B. Lyons, President, along with M. A. Jones, Secretary, added a note in the program that follows:

"Brook, Indiana, August 24, 1899. At the Soldiers Reunion in 1898, it was ordered that the Vice President of each Township send the names of all Ex-Soldiers in their Township to the Secretary for publication. The foregoing is an incomplete list."

Lake Township: Henry Burton, 12th Ill. Cav.; G. C. A. Bryant; J. B. Hess, 113th Ill.; J. S. Borders; Sam Oastander; Mr. Crane; Joseph Wells; Fred Mashino.

Washington Township: J. H. Jackson; Sam Pierce; John L. Lake; H. M. McFarland; Fred Vogland; Wm. Burton; John T. Brown; J. F. Jerrard; John F. Myers; Ebin Gates.

Iroquois Township: Elisha B. Odle, 19th Indiana; Henry C. Pierson; Daniel Johnson; George Spaulding; James J. McCabe, 20th Illinois; George L. Sawyer; Peter Wolfe; William Fleming, 12th Indiana Cavalry; Charles Waling, 61st Illinois; Morris L. Thomas, 99th Indiana; Patrick Curran, 40th Ohio; Morris A. Jones, 87th Indiana; John B. Lyons, 51st Indiana; J. W. S. Ulrey, 118th and 120th Indiana; George W. Knapp, 68th U.S.C.I.; Philip Stonehill, 99th Ohio; William Lafoon, 25th Indiana; D. P. Smith; Joseph L. Whiting, 10th Illinois Cavalry; W. W. Michner, 71st Illinois; Nathan Dunn, 100th Illinois; Barden B. West, 51st Indiana; Thorp Beagley, 100th Illinois; G. F. Merchant, 9th Indiana Cavalry; J. R. Hooper.

Grant Township: Benj. Kauffman, 192nd Pa. Inf.; James Wellington, 69th Ill. Inf.; Louise Tice, 104th Ill. Inf.; Asa

Murphey, 48th Ind. Inf.; J. H. Sawyer, 18th Conn. Inf.; B. P. Davidson, 3rd Ohio Art.; Jean Park, 43rd Ohio Inf.; Henry Sherrew, 25th Ind. Inf.; Robert Wamsher, 11th Pa. Cav.; R. T. Moody, 4th Wis. Cav.; John Ortner, 209th Pa. Inf.; D. R. Harper, 121st Ohio Inf.; Joseph Laing, 53rd Ill. Inf.; James Work, 113th Ill. Inf.; Thomas Barnett, 9th Ala. Confed; S. Mather, Sappers and Miners; E. Morton, Hospital Aid; Abe Dunham, 53rd Ind. Inf.; Henry Bellows, 4th Ill. Cav.; B. F. Huggs, 1st Ind. Cav.; J. A. Wickersham, 32nd Ill. Cav.; George Galbraith, 4th Ill. Cav.; Dan Pool, 1st Md. Inf.; G. G. Jenkins, 12th Mich. Inf.; E. E. Rockwood, 15th Ill. Cav.; Alex Bramble, 104th Ill. Inf.; Sam Verrill, 2nd Cal. Inf.; J. E. Carney, 137th Ind. Inf.; A. J. Potter, 17th Ill. Inf.; J. Sapp, 36th Ind. Inf.; M. G. Traugh, 4th Ill. Cav.; H. T. Griggs, 76th Ill. Inf.; George Ormiston, 28th N.Y. Art.; Wm. Toyne, 29th Ind. Inf.; Steve Hamlin, 112th Ill. Inf.; John Huff, 107th Ky. Inf.; Jim Lynch, 86th Ill. Inf.; A. E. Woodin, 76th N. Y. Inf..

Beaver Township: J. W. Don; Fred Bartholomew; Jacob Hosier; Dr. C. E. Triplett; James U. Shafer; A. J. Flower; Wm. Handley; A. U. Beabout; Samuel Thomas; Cyrus Brunton; George W. Clark; John Broadrick; J. S. Deardurff; Capt. D. M. Graves; John Grant; Joesph Zoboroska (Zoborosky); James A. DeWolf; J. D. Goddard; George Benjiman; John Vayette; Daniel Dexter; Joesph Wells; W. L. Graves; A. D. Peck; George W. Webber; John Branson; B. F. Rodrick (Roadruck).

Jackson Township: George W. Dearduff, 15th Indiana; Isaac Stucker, 67th Indiana; S. O. Standish, 100th Illinois; H. C. Rimer, 1st Michigan; James Ricker, 100th Illinois; G. K. Haskell, 128th Indiana; A. Keney, 17th Kansas; John W. Merry, 1st Michigan Art.; David Nay, 53rd Illinois;



Civil War Veterans of the 51st Ind. Vol. Reg.



Old Soldiers on Decoration Day, 1918; l-r, M. E. Rogers, C. E. Ross, S. A. Means, M. E. Alexander, T. W. Burton, J. D. Conklin, John Lowe and C. A. Woods.



The War Mothers of Kentland. Date unknown. Note: these photos were reproduced from the Kentland Centennial Book, 1960.

Jacob Schock, 36th Indiana; Si Brunton, 99th Indiana; G. W. Clark, 5th Indiana Cav.; Andrew Seward, 16th Indiana.

Lincoln Township: O. G. Wilder, 91st Ill. Inf.; Charles R. Ball, 29th Ind. Inf.; C. C. Bruechet, 100th Ill.; John Brady, Thomas Beamis, 39th Ill.; Capt. D. A. Pfrimmer; John Tanner; Fred Tanner; Geo. F. Smith; John Mellinger; Ira B. Robbins; J. H. Bishop; W. H. H. Baxter.

McClellan Township: W. H. Beckwith; Andrew Ellis; John Wilson; Wallace Grooms. Submitted by Beth Bassett. ■

the suburbs of Cincinnati, and died January 26th, 1907, at Kentland, aged 73 years, 5 months and 18 days.

She was united in marriage to John Ade, May 20th, 1851, which relation was sustained nearly 56 years, fulfilling that part of the marriage promise to continue faithful to each other until death do us part.

In April, 1853, with her husband and one child, she removed to Morocco, Indiana, where she resided until June, 1860, when she changed her place of residence to Kentland, Indiana, being the second family to make the new town their residence, where she resided continuously until her

death.

She was the mother of seven children, six of whom with her husband survive her; the other a daughter, dying in 1865 in her fifth year. She leaves surviving her eleven grandchildren to all of whom she was attached by the strongest ties of love. She also leaves a brother and a sister, both residing in Kentland.

Mrs. Ade was a faithful member of the Methodist Church for over sixty years, a regular attendant at all the services of the church and of the Sunday School as long as her health permitted. One of the many things for which she was noted was her

devotion to the welfare of the soldiers in that long and fearful struggle from 1861 to 1865, and many a sick or wounded soldier spent nights and days under her roof, and were blessed by her motherly, faithful care and love for them.

Her life has been an open book in this community for over fifty years, and it may be truthfully said of her.

"She looked well to the ways of her household, and ate not the bread of idleness; Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her; She opened her mouth with wisdom and in her tongue was the law of kindness." ■

You Must Take the Ade-Way . . .
. . . I think it would be easier just to stop and ask someone . . .

Chicago, Ill., Mackinaw & Aves. and 92nd St.; left turning Av. left onto Indianapolis Av. Indianapolis Av. is read it is advisable to keep on Ewing Av. to 106th where turn left. right on Calumet Av. on Indianapolis Av. is 1 to Toledo. left from trolley. 66.2 4-cor.; left. 72.1 4-cor.; left. 73.1 Right-hand road; right. Thru Morocco 77.7. 80.1 End of road; left and next right. 81.3 End of road; left. 81.5 Right-hand road beyond RR; right. 83.5 Ade, end of road. Left. Thru Brook 87.8. 90.8 4-cor.; right. 97.2 End of road; left. 97.8 Right-hand road; right. 98.3 Goodland, 4-cor. at park. Keep ahead across RR. Left at 98.3 is Route 44 to La. gansport. 99.1 End of road; left. 99.4 4-cor.; right. 100.8 4-cor. at school; left onto Ade way and Highway No. 9. 101.1 Fowler, Washington & 5th St. Thru. Keep ahead where State highway leaves 116.9. Left at 116.9 is Route 46 to La. fayette; right is Route 46R to Bloomington. 120.9 End of road; left. Thru Rainville 124.2. 124.6 Fork at cemetery; left. 125.4 Right-hand road; right. 126.5 4-cor.; right. 127.5 End of road; left.

People, Places & Things

*Mrs. John Ade Obituary
Taken from a scrapbook
containing newspaper obits.*

A Beautiful Life Closes In Death, Mrs. John Ade Passed Away Saturday Morning.

A Resident of Kentland Nearly
Half A Century, Funeral Held
Sunday Afternoon

Mrs. John (Adeline Wardell Bush) Ade, one of the best known women of Kentland and Newton County, died at the family home in this city at an early hour Saturday morning, January 26, 1907. She had been in failing health for several months, her last serious illness of heart trouble, however, dating from shortly before Christmas. Though hourly expected for several days, the announcement of her demise cast a wave of sadness and sorrow over all of Kentland.

And why should it not? Mrs. Ade was the second woman resident of Kentland, she and her husband moving to Kentland when the town sprung into existence in 1860. Capt. McHolland and wife, a half dozen businessmen and a handful of laborers engaged in erecting the first houses of the new town, had preceded them here. As far as known, all these have since passed away leaving Mr. and Mrs. Ade the oldest residents of the town not the oldest in years, but in length of continuous residence.

To say that she was born, had lived a noble life, and had passed to her reward honored and respected by all, is not sufficient in a review of Mrs. Ade's life. For forty-five years she has been a commanding figure, a living inspiration, a very pulse beat of Kentland. What a grand and active life she led. Though her hair was tinged with silver, and though she had more than succeeded the allotted three score years and ten, Mrs. Ade was not an old woman. She never grew old. The one striking beauty of her interesting life was her inclination to grow with the times. Life presented to her the same charms in recent years as it did in the golden years of her youth. At seventy she entered into the joys and pleasures of life and battled with its sorrow and disappointments with the same interest she manifested a half century previous.

In this community Mrs. Ade never lost command of her station. For forty-five years she was a moving spirit of the town. Her work in the homes of affliction, in the church, the societies, clubs, lodges and

social life of the town was that of a trained leader. No home of sorrow rejected her kindly offerings, no person on the bed of suffering but who welcomed her presence and found comfort in her words of love. She was constantly laboring among the sick and extending aid to the unfortunate. During her early residence in Kentland, Mrs. Ade turned her home into what might properly be termed a soldiers' hospital. It was Civil War days and many a weary and sick soldier found refuge under her roof, and was nursed back to health by Mrs. Ade. And it has always been thus. "Doing unto others" was her ruling passion, and charity was the kindle that keep the fire of her life burning so brightly; and it was that which inspired in one of our citizens to remark on the morning of her death that the best woman in Kentland has passed away. A page of eulogy could not more clearly express the general estimation this community placed on the life and character of Mrs. Ade.

But it was not alone in the sick room, in the church, or in administering to others that Mrs. Ade derived all her pleasures. She lived a full life unsullied by narrow prejudice, and enjoyed the good things as God intended one should. Using a homely expression, but one which Mrs. Ade would sanction, she liked to be on the move, and scarcely an entertainment, public meeting or public function of reputable nature but what Mr. and Mrs. Ade were in the audience. As a member of the Methodist Church and its auxiliary societies, and as a member of the Eastern Star Lodge and the order of Pythian Sisters, Mrs. Ade found much that appealed to finer nature and she made herself an active, moving spirit in every organization with which she identified herself. She enjoyed the companionship of her friends and probably maintained a more extended acquaintance over the immediate and surrounding communities than any other woman of the county. She was ever attracting new friends,

and never sacrificed a friendship once formed.

Her home life was but characteristic of her public life. The model mother of a large family of children, the inseparable companion of her husband; with possibly every worldly wish gratified, she fairly radiated the beauties of noble womanhood.

When her body was laid to peaceful rest Sunday afternoon the family did not weep alone. In a sense, Mrs. Ade was a local public character and public bowed its head over her casket as sorrowing members of one large family.

Funeral services were conducted from Trinity M. E. Church Sunday afternoon at half past one o'clock, the church being filled to its utmost capacity with friends of the deceased, many attending from all the neighboring towns. The members of the two lodges above mentioned marched in a body as an escort from the home to the church. The casket lay hidden in a wreath of floral offerings, and the day following numerous other pieces from distant points that had been delayed in transit

arrived, and were distributed among the sick and aged of Kentland who could not be present at the funeral.

Rev. Stockbarger delivered the funeral sermon, and it was with great effort he recounted the beauties of the Christian life that had passed away. His words were out of the ordinary and were spoken as a congratulatory message to the family and the community that they have been left such a rich heritage in the example of this life.

Rev. Father McCain, Rev. Billman of the Presbyterian Church and Rev. Brady of the Christian Church occupied seats in the pulpit and assisted in the service.

The following from the pen of Mr. John Ade was read by Rev. Brady at the opening of the service, and is a fitting tribute from the husband and life long companion of the deceased:

Adaline Wardell Bush was born August 8th, 1833, at Cheviot, Ohio, one of



Adeline Wardell (Bush) Ade

Historically Yours

*By Newton County Historian
Donna LaCrosse*

It has not looked like spring this week! One day it snowed, turned to rain which was followed by sunshine, and then the snow came again and the cycle continued in like fashion the rest of the day. Hardly what one would expect in the spring, however anything can happen in March, and it usually does.

Daylight savings time is early in April and when we move our clocks forward an hour, those people just south of us will also turn their clocks up, and they will still be an hour ahead of us. We can't win for losing!! We will still need to leave early when we decide to visit our children and grandchildren in Lafayette, and we can arrive back home at the same time we left that city. Sounds crazy, but that is what will happen.

Won't this be interesting reading a hundred years from now? History in the making.

Easter is late this year so the Easter Bunny will hopefully have warmer weather in which to deliver the eggs. White shoes won't look so out of place, and going somewhere without a coat sounds like a mighty good plan to me!

It has been a good winter: first Harold turned 80, then I turned 77 and a week later we celebrated our 58th wedding anniversary. Not everyone can brag about spending all those years with one person!

However, all that celebrating is over and I am ready for warmer temperatures and more sunshine. I did have a few health issues this winter and did not get out and about as much as I usually do, but I think that is all behind me now and I am ready to swing into spring!

I had an interesting experience two weeks ago and want to share that with you, even though it is not about Newton County. I

received a free copy of a magazine through the mail that I thought sounded like a publication I would like to subscribe to. As I was checking it over, I discovered the magazine was published in Grandview, Indiana, the hometown of our oldest daughter-in-law. I had never heard of this "river" town until Roger began dating Linda, whom he met while he was attending Rose Hulman and she was a student at Indiana State, thirty-five years ago. Needless to say we had a wedding in Grandview and visited there many times over the years while her parents were still alive. It is a small town full of friendly people.

I just happened to remember the name of one of the ladies in Grandview that I enjoyed visiting with each time we made the trip there, so I asked the editor, Stan Coy, if he by chance knew her and he answered that he lived across the street from her. How odd is that?

The Hoosier Heritage, filled with information about the state of Indiana, is published four times a year and is just two years old. I found out so many things I did not know, that I decided to subscribe, I e-mailed Stan to see if I could get all the back issues, and he e-mailed back that he would start my subscription and send the first copies to me. They came three days later! Such service!

So far I have learned the first car was manufactured in Indiana and I have read about small towns in Indiana I didn't even know existed. There was a huge flood in 1913 that even flooded parts of Lafayette and almost all of the smaller towns in the south. One does not think of Indiana as being a flood area, but I guess when the Ohio and Wabash rivers get too much water

for the banks to hold in one place, the water must go somewhere and the water is not choosey where it goes!

By the time I finish reading these stories that fill the pages of *Hoosier Heritage*, I will be a much smarter person at least about the State of Indiana.

Now, back home again in Newton County. The farmers will soon be traveling the fields, schools will be out for three months and festivals will be fun things to attend on the weekends. Lots of things will be happening for the next few months and, we will be having our second great-grandchild in a few weeks!

I am still waiting for those people in the town of Mount Ayr and the townships of Jackson and Colfax to send me their family histories. Every family has a history, so don't tell me you don't know what to write.

Maybe writing is not your "bag," but you can make an outline and some of us can write your story.

History is still being made, even though it sometimes goes unnoticed; all you have to do is put your thinking cap on and begin. It is just that simple. A history book about this area is not complete without your family story.

And, until next time, keep on making history and tell us about it! ■

Publications For Sale from NCHS

Joe Hiestand's Archaeological Report
Beaver Lake, Land of Enchantment
The Morocco Sesquicentennial Collection
Ralph - The Story of Bogus Island
Newton County Historical Coloring Book
CD - The Morocco Centennial
Past Issues of *The Newcomer*
Call 219-474-6944 for more details.

Do You Know Your County Of Newton?

By Janet Miller

Answers on Page 17

This year, 2006, the Newton County Courthouse will celebrate its' 100th anniversary. See if you can answer these questions about our courthouse.

1. On January 1, 1906, the Newton County Commissioners met to award the contract for the completion of the partially constructed courthouse. To whom was the

contract awarded and at what cost?

2. On which corner of the courthouse was the corner stone laid?

3. The Newton County Commissioners accepted the new courthouse on what date?

4. There were four offices on the main

floor of the new building and two offices on the second floor along with the court room, Judge's private office, library, jury room and witness room. Can you name what offices were on the first floor and the two that occupied the second floor?

5. What was the first official business to be conducted in the new building?

HOME *is where your story begins*

Several families in Newton and Jasper Counties have common ancestors in the McCurtain family. John McCurtain, son of Charles McCurtain and Margaret Ogden, was born in Bath County, Kentucky in 1799. He married Esther McGill, daughter of Christopher McGill and Rebecca Stilley, in November 1817 in Champaign, Ohio. John and Esther had located to Tippecanoe County, Indiana in 1836-1837.

John and his oldest son, Charles, traveled to the area that is now in Jasper County, ½ mile east of what is now the Smith Cemetery in Barkley Township. They soon built a shelter and the family, John, Esther and their twelve children, the youngest having been born in Tippecanoe County in January 1837, moved into this shelter with dirt floors and straw beds. The lives of their children are followed here.

Charles went West and was never heard from again; Valera married Joseph McKinney and settled in Benton County; Emily married Henry Henkle and stayed in Jasper County; Lucinda went West to Oregon; Solomon married Teresa Daniels, and their daughter Bessie married Rex Ott; John Alexander settled in Iroquois County, Illinois and raised his family; Rhoda married Job English and from that union springs Kennedy and Hunter families in Newton County; Elizabeth (Lizzie) married William Reed, their daughter, Emma married Joseph Brunton, and from that union springs the Brunton, Strole, Murphy and Snyder families; Isaac married Mary Haines Parker and that family ended up in Kansas; Evaline, the daughter born in January, 1837, died in 1838; Vastine was another daughter that died as an infant; lastly, Martha Isabel married Samuel Nichols and some of the Nichols line of Jasper County descends from that union.

John and Esther are buried at Smith Cemetery, Barkley Township, Jasper

County, Indiana. John and Esther's original gravestones have been replaced with a granite marker. Their daughters that died early are buried there, but the stones are barely legible.

Job English and Rhoda Ann McCurtain
In 1862, some years after their marriage in 1854, Job English and his wife Rhoda Ann McCurtain moved to the Beaver Prairie settlement in Jackson Township in Newton County. In that locality, he made his success as a farmer, and accumulated the prosperity which enabled him in 1900 to



Luther Brunton

Amy (Ellis) Brunton

retire from activity and move to a comfortable residence in Brook, Indiana.

When he came to Newton County, Job paid \$10.00 in trade, for 80 acres of land, and all around him land sold at that time for \$6-8.00 an acre. Mr. English followed feeding and shipping stock for twenty five years and made a great success. He shipped to Chicago. They had three daughters, Jennie, married John Kennedy; Malissa, married James Crisler; and Hermina, married Curtis Carpenter.

Lizzie McCurtain-Reed-Bridgeman-McKinney

Lizzie McCurtain married first William Reed II, in 1852 in Jasper County, Indiana. Their children were Luther, who after their divorce, moved with his father to Missouri, then Oklahoma, where he died in 1911; Emma, who married Joseph Milton

McCurtain-Brunton Families

By Nancy Honn,
granddaughter of Luther Brunton

Brunton, son of Daniel Brunton and Margaret Kessler. Their children were Luther, who married Amy Ellis, whose children were Arlie, Altie, Lloyd, Ruby, Clara and Eunice; Foster, who married Emma Protzman, whose children were Walter, Lucy, Roxie, Kenard, Kenneth, Gertrude and Margaret; Lora, who married Frank Luther Strole, whose children were Joe, Jim and Maxine.

Lizzie's second marriage was to Levi Bridgeman in 1870. They had a son, Arthur Burke Bridgeman, who is buried in Arlington Cemetery. He served with the Navy at the Panama Canal.

Lizzies' third marriage was to her brother-in-law, Joseph McKinney in 1888. He passed away in 1895.

Joseph and Emma (Reed) Brunton

Joseph and Emma Brunton were blessed with three children, Foster, Lora and Luther. Emma, it was told by one of her great grandchildren, would sit on the front porch and say, "Those children need a playground." Brook School at that time had to block off the street so the kids could play at recess.

Emma passed away in 1945. She saw to it that a portion of the Brunton farm was donated to the school for a playground, and it is still there today, sixty years later. I'm sure they would be real proud of it.

Luther and Amy (Ellis) Brunton

Luther Brunton married Amy Ellis. She had two boys, Harry and Bill from her first marriage. Luther and Amy had six children: Clara (Murphy), the twins, Arlie and Altie (Chamberlin), Lloyd, Eunice (Sterner) and Ruby (Snyder).

Bessie Hybarger, Amy's sister, passed away, and Luther and Amy took in her four children, Vera, Mina, Susie and Billy.

It was told by Amy's children that their mother got sick and they called the doctor. He said she had indigestion, but she only got worse. They called another doctor and he said it was gallstones. She later died from the infection from the gallstones.



The children of Luther and Amy Brunton, left to right, Arlie, Lloyd, Altie, Ruby, Clara and Eunice.



The Brunton home.

Amy died in 1931, she was 56. Luther was left with twelve children. Times were hard, the Depression, a war. He saw his girls get married, sent one to college, and then saw his grandchildren arrive.

Luther's (Grandpa Lewey) kids all came from near and far around June 21st to give their Dad a birthday party. Soon with so many they just had an all day get together; it was soon known as the Brunton Reunion.

Being one of the 32 grandchildren, I can tell you that all the cousins may only see each other only that one time a year. We started out shy and bashful, but it wasn't long before we were running around Grandpa Lewey's farm like a bunch of wild

Indians. In the haymow, we would swing from the rope like Tarzan, then find some baby kittens.

Mike and Mina Stephens always brought a huge bunch of bananas and would hang them in a tree. One year, we found a Tarantula spider! The boys caught it in a fruit jar and chased the girls around. One year, the boys found a nest of hornets, and being boys, the wouldn't leave them alone. They threw rocks and sticks at it, and when nothing happened, they got closer. They were stung so badly that they ran around and round the barn lot. Their mother made soda plasters, and they looked like monsters all swollen up with white lumps.

I don't remember Grandpa Lewey

getting mad at us. But, now we can't go to Grandpa's anymore. He passed away in 1954. He was putting shingles on his roof at the age of 82 when he suffered a stroke. Later, he died at the Rensselaer Hospital.

His barn is gone, the barn lot, the hornets, the new kittens and the birthday parties.

We still have Brunton reunions, but all that remain are the grandkids now. All the children of Luther and Amy are with them in heaven now.

Thank you for the memories. From the children of Bill, Harry, Clara, Altie, Arlie, Lloyd, Eunice and Ruby. Also Vera, Mina, Susie and Billy Hybarger. ■



W.W.W.

Who-What-Where . . .

some inquiries to the Society from our web site - ww.rootsweb.com/~innewton

Hi Beth- Can you direct this email to someone in the county who can help me?

Attached (at left) is a photo of a young man I believe is my great grandfather, Daniel Chambers **Darroch**. The uniform could be that of a military school student. He was 14 years old in the 1860 census and is shown on line 28, HN 401, and FN 401. He served in the 51 Indiana Infantry during the Civil War. Does anyone recognize that uniform? He became a medical doctor, moved to Fredericksburg, Texas and practiced there. Later, he moved to Vienna, Virginia around 1917 and died there in 1934.

Thanks, Don Payne, Federal Way, WA, payne.don@comcast.net

Alphonse and Catherine Hetzner, Walzer Newton, Co., IN

Looking for Alphonse and wife Catherine **Walzer**. Children born to this union are: James A., Frank, Barbara, Mary Catherine. Year range would be late 1800's to late 1900's. Martha Karch jamkar@cox.net.

Daniela Haughton, daughter to Robert T. Arron/Aaron/Aron, Kentland, IN

Daniela **Haughton** is trying to find her father Robert T. Arron/Aaron/ Aron. He would be 60-ish:has relatives in Kentland, IN. and would have been in Germany in 1960-1961. Can someone please help her. I found this message in the Dec. 2005 issue of the Good Old Days magazine, I am not related to the family but trying to help her. betty.efacciuto59@yahoo.com