

Bond County Genealogical Society News

Volume 36, Issue 1

Winter January 2021

Official Newsletter of the Bond County Genealogical Society of Greenville, Illinois,
published jointly since 2014 with the Bond County Historical Society

Farewell to Watson's Drug: Anchor of Greenville Square



Left: A costumed reveler poses on Main Street in front of the Watson's sign during Greenville's Sesquicentennial Celebration June 12-19, 1965. Photo from Bond County Historical Society color slides collection.



Right: A Watson's employee serves a young man a cold treat from the soda fountain menu - "the home of the famous Liggett's Chocolate Malted." Photo from 1963 Greenville High School Yearbook.

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Special points of interest:

- Renovations Begin at U.S. DeMoulin Mansion.
- New Details on First Construction at Mansion.
- Mortality Schedules Enumerate Deaths & Details.
- Watson's Drug Served Greenville 139 Years.
- Halloween Cemetery Walk Popular Event.
- Lester Harnetiaux Benches Installed at Park.
- An Historical Museum Proposed Early as 1900!
- Surprising Facts About New York Immigration.
- In 1920, Greenville Asked For Census Recount.
- Uncle Ed DeMoulin's Cocktail Recipe.

Bond County Genealogical Society

Officers

President - Cindy Tischhauser
Vice President - Kevin Kaegy
Treasurer - John S. Coleman
Recording Secretary - Jane Hopkins
Corresponding Secretary - Cindy Tischhauser
Historian - Kevin Kaegy
Editor - open
Director(s) - Mike Evans

Appointees

Library - Jane Hopkins
Program - Kevin Kaegy
Membership - Jane Hopkins
Publicity - open
Hospitality - Cindy Tischhauser
Cemetery - open
Research - Cindy Tischhauser & Rebecca Clausen
Newsletter Editor - Rebecca Clausen
Webmaster - Rebecca Clausen

Bond County Genealogical Society membership dues are \$10 per 2-person household for the current year. A lifetime membership for a 2-person household may be purchased for a one-time payment of \$175. Members are eligible to vote and to serve as BCGS officers and appointees.

If you would like to become a member please send your name, address, phone number, email address, and the surnames you are most interested in researching with appropriate check or money order to:

Bond County Genealogical Society,
P.O. Box 172, Greenville, IL
62246-0172

Membership forms also are available on our website. www.bondcogen.org

"Leaders are the ones who keep faith with the past, keep step with the present, and keep the promise to posterity."

- Harold J. Seymour

Bond County Historical Society

2020-2021 Officers

President - Kevin Kaegy
Vice President - Jim Schutte
Treasurer - John S. Coleman
Secretary - Jane Hopkins

Directors

Burgess Twp - Kim Myers
Central Twp. - Sharon Grimes
Tamalco Twp - Judy Schroeter
Mills Twp - Cindy Tischhauser
Pleasant Mound Twp - Cary Holman
Old Ripley Twp - Kathy Brewer
Shoal Creek Twp - Tom Varner
LaGrange Twp - Gary Tischhauser
Mulberry Grove Twp - Jeanette Dothager

Bond County Historical Society membership dues are \$15 per family for the current year. Lifetime memberships are also available. Members are eligible to vote and to serve as BCHS officers, directors & appointees.

If you would like to become a member please send your name, address, phone number, email address, and a check or money order for \$15 to:

Bond County Historical Society,
P.O. Box 376, Greenville, IL 62246

Membership forms are also available on our website.

www.bondcountyhistorical.org

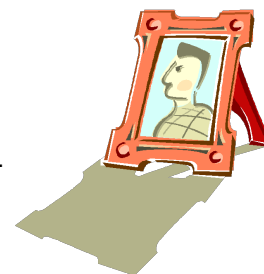


Monthly Society Meetings

It was decided in 2013 that the two societies would meet jointly for Program Meetings and this practice continues. Meetings are generally the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. Please check the Greenville Advocate newspaper, www.bondcogen.org or WGEL Radio (101.7 FM) for times and locations. Announcements will be made ahead of time whenever there is to be a business meeting for one or both of the two societies. Also, there will be no December meeting.

The Bond County Historical Society specializes in questions about the history of the county and communities. If you have questions about family history, burial sites, census records, birth records, or death records from Bond County, please contact the Bond County Genealogical Society instead.

All genealogy requests submitted via email to info@bondcogen.org will be researched and answered in order received as time permits. There is no flat fee for requests as we attempt to reply with electronic documents, but if your request requires printing, postage, or original document access and retrieval you may be responsible for those charges.



**Invite a friend to
an interesting
and educational
program meeting
or special event!**

2021 Events Calendar

**Details for all gatherings, meetings and programs to be determined
and pending Covid-19 Pandemic Restrictions.**

January 26, 2021 Historical & Genealogical Societies Business Meeting.

February 2021 Annual BCHS/BCGS Soup Supper & Program (TENTATIVE).

Spring 2021 Bond County Museum opens for the season!

October 2021 Historical & Genealogical Societies Dinner/Elections (TENTATIVE).

*Share your
ancestor's
tale in the
Bond County
Genealogical
Society
News!*

Uncharted Territory: What's Your Story?

"Uncharted Territory" are the stories found deep in your family tree. What's Your Story? Was your ancestor a Bond County native or did he pass through, stay briefly and then move on? Where did she live? What kind of work did he do? What clues did your ancestors leave to mark their path in, around or across this county?

Have you considered sharing your ancestor's tale in the B.C.G.S. News? If you have a story you'd like to share, please contact the editor. Please find submission details and guidelines on Page 31.





The future “Bond County Museum” located at 409 S. Fourth Street in Greenville, Illinois is currently closed to the public.

Thanks for your patience while the Bond County Historical Society completes the move and arrangement of our collection inside the new location—the U.S. DeMoulin Mansion. The new Museum is tentatively scheduled to open in Spring 2021.

Tours are only available at this time by special appointment or during announced events.

“Bond County Museum” News

*Support the
New Museum!
Donations are being
MATCHED!*



Financial Gifts Sought to Open New “Bond County Museum”

Bond County Historical Society needs your help to raise funds to complete necessary renovations to the historic U.S. DeMoulin Mansion so that we can open to the public. Please consider a donation to help us reach our goal! As BCHS is recognized as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, your contribution may be tax deductible. Donations of any size are encouraged; all contributions above \$50 will have their name on a special donor's plaque inside the museum unless marked anonymous. Download the donation form at www.bondcountyhistorical.org, the society's Facebook Page, or mail check to: Bond County Historical Society, attn. ADA Renovations, PO Box 376, Greenville, IL 62246.

Genealogical Society Library Shelf

 **Our library has been intermittently closed to the public in 2020-2021 to reduce the risk of transmitting COVID-19 coronavirus. Please contact Greenville Public Library or follow them online for updates on the status of Grab & Go appointments and other services.**

The Genealogical Society Library collection is housed on the lower floor of the Greenville Public Library. There is a booklet in the room which lists all the holdings and a microfilm reader/printer for doing research in the Greenville Advocate and other Bond County newspapers. The building has wireless internet access so you can do supplementary research while you are there. The room is kept locked, so the key must be requested at the Circulation Desk. The Greenville Public Library's hours are posted on their website: www.greenvillepubliclibrary.org ~ 414 W. Main Ave. Greenville, Illinois (IL) ~ Phone 618-664-3115 ~ Fax 618-664-9442



Retrospective on a Family Drug Store: Watson's, 1881-2020

Locals were shocked and saddened by news that Watson's Drug Store, a long time institution on the south side of Greenville's county courthouse square, would be closing in November 2020 after 139 years.

A sign from owner and pharmacist Bart **Caldieraro** greeted customers approaching the front door of Watson's Drug Store Monday morning, November 2. It stated, "This is to inform you of an important transition taking place here at Watson's Drug Store. Effective, November 17 at closing time, Watson's Drug Store will be closing... Your patronage and loyalty to our business is, and always has been, very much appreciated. Even though this is a necessary transition, I will sorely miss the opportunity to serve you, along with smiling faces, the great stories and the relationships we have cultivated. With sincere gratefulness, Bart J. Caldieraro."

James **Garfield** was President of the United States when Watson's first opened in 1881 and it remained an integral part of the community, operated by generations of the Watson family and then the Caldieraros. The business offered Greenville its drugs, medicines, cosmetics, books, stationary, sweets, and notions. Watson's started business in the center of three buildings with Italianate features erected by William S. **Smith** in 1868 and 1869. In addition to other businesses in other locations, Smith ran a hardware store and a bank in this new block.

On July 30-31, 1893 fire of unknown origin started in a frame building occupied by Carl **Leidel**, a furniture repairer, back of James M. **Miller's** shoe store on the southwest corner of the square. The fire soon reached the brick Miller building (known as Smith's old National Bank building), damaging The

Sun newspaper office on the second floor and the first floor Miller's Shoe Store, and destroying the third floor. Next door C. W. **Watson's** drug store caught fire several times and the contents were badly damaged by water and heat. Upstairs of Watson's and next door west, William **Akhurst's** grocery, were slightly damaged; **Hoiles & Sons** owned those two buildings. All the block's estimated damage combined to the extent of \$11,000 and all were insured except the Leidel building (1905 Historical Souvenir & Greenville Advocate).

A storm damaged the third floor mansard roof

(Continued on page 7)



Watson's Drug Store on November 18, 2020, one day after the business closed its doors forever. Photo by editor.



Marilyn Spies, Mary Smith, Katie Iberg, and Margie Yeldell enjoy the friendly atmosphere at Watson's. Photo: 1950 GHS Yearbook.

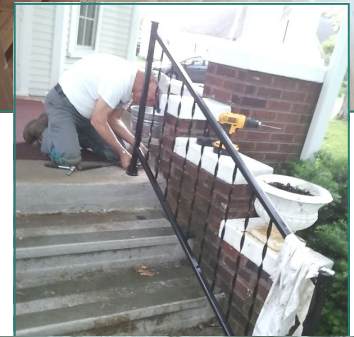
Raised Floor, Patched Ceiling; Refurbished, Relocated Railing

With the sale of the former Hoiles-Davis Museum house in July 2020 and early financial donations, Bond County Historical Society secured the funds to complete the most necessary Americans with Disabilities Act renovations to the historic U.S. DeMoulin Mansion, new home of the society.

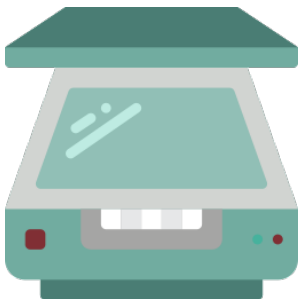
The Brubaker firm from Shobonier completed raising the sunroom floor during September and October 2020. They installed quarter-sawn oak flooring to match the rest of the main floor, plus repaired the ceiling cracks and patches in the sunroom and resprayed it. Daniken and Sons Builders of Greenville is currently working on the first floor bathroom expansion and building an accessible entrance into the sunroom with a small deck and ramp outside. They are working outside in nice weather and inside in poor weather.

A smaller, but very welcome project, was completed in May 2020. Historical society member Eric **Reelitz** rebuilt the wobbly metal handrail at the west entrance and installed a section of that same railing on the north entrance stairs. The work included stripping old paint and rust and reapplying black paint.

The new Bond County Museum is tentatively scheduled to open Spring 2021 in the U.S. DeMoulin Mansion, 409 South Fourth Street Greenville. Keep your eyes peeled to local media & our Facebook page.



Back Issues of Quarterlies Digitized to OCR PDF!



Great news! The entire back catalog of Bond County Genealogical Society News Quarterlies, published 1982-2011 and previously only available in printed format, has been digitally scanned! These Volumes 0-28 (4 issues per year) are currently available at no charge and with no password to members and the general public. Download and read the issues in OCR PDF from our Sync.com "cloud" shared directories.

Access the Sync.com directories at <http://www.bondcogen.org/newsletter.html>

All newsletters are copyrighted by Bond County Genealogical Society. They are to be used solely for research purposes for genealogists and historians and not to be redistributed.

Volumes 1-28 are also available to read and research in bound book form in the BCGS Library located on the lower level of the Greenville Public Library.

BCGS membership benefits include early access and direct emailing of two e-newsletters annually. If you are a society member but not currently receiving the e-newsletter or our semi-regular meeting announcements, please send an email message to info@bondcogen.org and request your subscription!

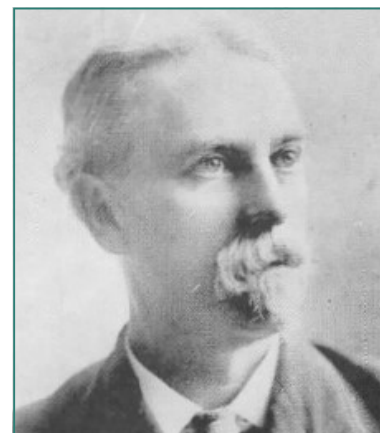
Watson's Drug, continued...

(Continued from page 5)

section of the westernmost building about 1900 and it was removed.

Druggist and founder Colonel Charles William Watson who had married Julia **Bennett**, the sister of another Greenville druggist and whom the Greenville Sun called "the best-liked businessman in Greenville... always pleasant, full of wit and good nature... [and] His drugstore was always the brightest place in town for the menfolk after supper," (Tales, Trails and Breadcrumbs) sold the business to his nephew Frank Elijah Watson on August 2, 1902 and returned to Belvidere, Illinois. Frank died in November 1938 and his son, businessman and pharmacist Charles Ide Watson, assumed ownership in 1941. Pharmacist Frank Charles Watson took over from his father in November 1972, expanding the store to include all three "Miller Block" buildings.

Over the decades Watson's Drug affiliated with Rexall Drugs and with Health Mart. Mid-20th century Greenville High School yearbooks touted Watson's "excellent fountain service" and "the home of



Charles W. Watson. A leading druggist from 1881 to 1902, member of Colby Post, and connected with many lodges and organizations in Greenville. Photo: BCHS's 1979 "Red Book" History.



Magnificent pressed metal ceiling above narrow well-stocked aisles marks the period when original owner Charles W. Watson sold the business to nephew Frank E. Watson in 1902. Photo courtesy Frank C. Watson.

the famous Liggett's Chocolate Malted." They later provided specialty candies, greeting cards, Christmas ornaments, and gifts - being a Hall-mark Gold Crown store. In a 2009 interview for the Decatur Herald & Review, a retired Frank and his wife Susan revealed, "Now pieces of the more than 100-year-old family business adorn [their Greenville] home: a glass 'Pharmacy' sign built into [the] living room and the back bar of the old drug store soda fountain performing the same function in [their] basement recreation room."

After over a century of ownership by the Watson family, Frank, also an Illinois State Senator for more than 20 years, sold the drug store in 2006 to the last owners Bart and Carmen Caldieraro. Bart is a native of Staunton, Illinois.

At one point Caldieraro had considered moving off the square but city officials talked him out of it. A drive up lane behind the store opened in 2018, convenient for those with mobility issues, a quick and simple purchase, and avoiding the limited parking available in front. For the lane to become a reality, the adjoining building to the south, between Watson's and Greenville Tire, had to be brought down, and about 14 feet of the store's back warehouse needed to be taken out.

Comments on social media regarding the store's closure range from sadness to well wishes to

(Continued on page 10)

Online Genealogical Resources

New NYC Birth, Marriage, and Death Indexes Now Available

from Frederick Wertz for New York Genealogical & Biographical Society

In late February 2020, Ancestry.com added three new collections of New York City vital record indexes. These new Birth, Marriage, and Death indexes are separate entities from the already-existing indexes on the website – this means there are now multiple New York City vital record indexes on Ancestry.

The new indexes are particularly exciting because their entries contain very detailed information. Other vital indexes that have been on Ancestry for a number of years contain little more than the name, date of event, and certificate number, entries in these new collections have extracted far more information from each certificate.

It's still a good idea to order the full certificate from New York City, but it looks like almost all fields of the certificate have been added to entries in this database. Not only can you learn a lot more instantly, but this information helps confirm that this is the individual you are looking for, so you can be confident that you're ordering the correct certificate.

Researchers can conveniently query all NYC vital record indexes at once from Ancestry.com's New York City Department of Records search page:

<https://www.ancestry.com/collections/search/ny/nycdor>

Where Did Your Ancestors Enter the United States?

It was not until 1819 that Congress passed the first law to require captains of ships to compile a list of passengers, called a ship's manifest. And for the next four decades, records were kept – though not very carefully – by the states. And there were many cities besides the popular New York, Boston, Baltimore, Philadelphia, New Orleans, and San Francisco where our ancestors may have entered the U.S. You can find a list of nearly every U.S. arrival port, including Canadian and Mexican border crossing records, at: <https://www.genesearch.com/ports.html>.

Immigration records, also known as "ship passenger arrival records," may provide genealogists with information such as: one's nationality, place of birth, ship name and date of entry to the United States, age, height, eye and hair color, profession, place of last residence, name and address of relatives they are joining in the U.S., amount of money they are carrying, etc.

The National Archives in Washington, D.C. holds all of the nation's passenger lists. <https://www.archives.gov/nyc/finding-aids/passenger-lists.html#online>.

If you are traveling to do genealogy research, you might want to stop by one of the National Archives' Regional Branch Offices. Go to <https://www.archives.gov/>

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New indexes on Ancestry.com to New York City vital records cover the following boroughs & years. More records will be added in the future.

Birth Certificates:

Bronx: 1898 - 1909

Brooklyn: 1866 - 1909

Manhattan: 1866 - 1904

Queens: 1898 - 1909

Richmond: 1898 - 1909

Death Certificates:

Bronx: 1898 - 1948

Brooklyn: 1862 - 1948

Manhattan: 1866 - 1867,

1870 - 1875,

1934 - 1948

Queens: 1898 - 1948

Richmond: 1898 - 1948

— from Frederick Wertz

Online Genealogical Resources, continued...

(Continued from page 8)

[genealogy/topics](#) and <https://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2005/fall/regions.html> for info before you leave home.



Death Records in the Census? Yes!

from Amy Johnson Crow's popular blog: Modern Genealogy Made Easy

Some federal censuses took some schedules in addition to the population schedule, which is the part of the census that we typically use. In the censuses of 1850 through 1880, along with some state censuses that were taken in 1885, there is a special schedule all about deaths. These **Mortality Schedules** were supposed to record the deaths that occurred in that area in the 12 months prior to the official census date (1 June).

The mortality schedules was a way of compiling public health data. Many states weren't yet keeping civil death records (I'm looking at you, Pennsylvania), so the mortality schedule provided at least rudimentary statistics. They ended after 1885, as most states by then had some level of vital records by then.

The 1850 and 1860 mortality schedules are pretty similar. They include the person's name, the month that they died, where they were born, their age, occupation, cause of death, and the length of the illness.

Beginning in the 1870 mortality schedule, we get the family number (from the population schedule) of the family that reported the death. This can help better identify the person so you can make sure it's the person you're looking for and not just someone with the same name.

In 1880, we get the birthplace of the deceased's father and mother, along with the name of the attending physician. We also have sections to note if the person died in another area or if they died in that area, but normally lived somewhere else.

The mortality schedules themselves were offered back to the states. For the states that took them back, you'll find them often in state archives or state historical societies. For the states that didn't take them back, some are in the DAR Library in Washington, DC.

Some have been digitized and are available on Ancestry.com or FamilySearch.org. If your state hasn't been digitized, check with the state archives or state historical society to see if they have them. Also check with state and local/county genealogy societies to see if they have published any, either as books or as articles.

Find Illinois Mortality Schedules at <https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/2334599>.

SCHEDULE 3.—Persons who Died during the Year ending Jan 1, 1880, in the

County of *Blaine* State of *Missis.*, enumerated by *Wm. P. Blaine*

47

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County of *Blaine* Is the

NAME OF DECEASED PERSON WHO DIED									
during the Year ending Jan 1, 1880, in the County of <i>Blaine</i> State of <i>Missis.</i> , enumerated by <i>Wm. P. Blaine</i>									
Place of Abode at the Time of the Death									
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Sex									
Color									
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Page from Bond County 1850 Illinois Mortality Schedule. At the bottoms of many pages, there is information about the general health of the population. In 1849, Bond County experienced pestilence, crop failures, famine, and a cholera epidemic. *Source: FamilySearch.org. Film Roll 007283672.*

Watson's Drug, continued...

(Continued from page 7)



In the era of Senator Frank C. Watson, the business expanded to include all three "Miller Block" buildings. *Photo by Dr Daniel Junod.*

anger to prayers to resignation to nostalgia. Memories include:

- ◆ "I so enjoyed popping in there to browse around while waiting for prescriptions when we lived in Greenville."
- ◆ "Was honestly the best pharmacy before during and after I worked there. True family feel, and actually cared about you."
- ◆ "Makes me so sad! Our family loves shopping at Watson's! I always loved shopping at the Rainbow House growing up and Pamida; stopping at Randy's Red Fox to get gum before school, and loved walking to Pizza Hut after junior high dances. So many wonderful stores that have come and gone in Greenville, but Watson's, this one truly saddens me."
- ◆ "I'm a Hallmark girl so I really like the card selection & gifts. Plus, I'm always needing 'little somethings' for people, so that was my go to store. I bought decor for home & office, candles, birthday gifts, Christmas, etc. plus our prescriptions. Bart and his entire crew will be sorely missed. We will be lost without them."
- ◆ "Thank you, Bart, for years of great service and donations to our community. Wishing you many blessings in your next chapter!"

Bart Caldieraro and his team at Watson's showed great kindness and dedication through their years of operation, including facilitating donations to health related charities like the Lemuel Rhodes Cancer Foundation. Watson's regularly served as a "box office", selling tickets for all community events and fundraisers such as meals, awards programs, theater productions, and entertainment shows. The Bond County Genealogical Society's annual dinner meeting sold its advance tickets through Watson's.

Bond County Historical Society's Hoiles-Davis Museum featured Watson's in a temporary exhibit in their 2016 season, displaying photos, chemist/pharmacist tools, advertising, and interpretive panels.

The Greenville Advocate reports that no decisions have been made about the future of the three story buildings at the intersection of Main and Third Streets.

Halloween Cemetery Walk a Popular Event: People Are Dying To Get In

Greenville Public Library celebrated Halloween and local history by holding a Cemetery Walk, Saturday October 31, 2020. Historians John **Goldsmith** and Kevin **Kaegy** presented two sets of face mask-wearing, socially distanced tours of Montrose Abbey and Montrose Cemetery in northwest Greenville. Library Director, Jo **Keillor**, introduced each tour of the morning with a charming speech of ghost and grave puns.

As a former member of the Greenville Cemetery Board and author of a booklet detailing the history and restoration of the Abbey, Goldsmith explained the saga of the construction in 1914 and maintenance ever since of Montrose Abbey Mausoleum – an architectural jewel of marble, vitrified brick, stained glass, and copper-coated bronze – which at one point had fallen into severe disrepair but was renovated beginning 2001 – just in time. It has again become its intended desired resting place for citizens seeking to spend eternity in Greenville.

Goldsmith highlighted a few prominent people in the crypts: Dr Katherine **Luzader**, newspaperman Will **Carson**, druggists Frank and Charles **Watson**, merchant F. P. **Joy**, and real estate broker and insurance man Ward **Reid**. A fifty-year time capsule commemorating the 2015 Greenville Bicentennial is also in the mausoleum.

Kevin Kaegy, Bond County Historical Society President – and in Civil War re-enactment garb! –



took over the tour, spinning the tale of the larger monuments within view of the entrance and main hilltop of Montrose Cemetery. He focused on the **Lindly** family monument, an angel with an outstretched hand, which was damaged in a 2011 incident with a lost eighteen wheeler. An insurance settlement allowed for much needed improvements to the cemetery.

Kaegy also gave the history of the founding of Montrose. Many of those buried at Old City (aka Lansing aka Sixth Street) Cemetery with living family were disinterred and moved up to Montrose.

“In 1870 there was talk of a new cemetery as there were complaints about the condition of the old cemetery. It was suggested that a piece of ground be found at a proper distance from town, have it enclosed, laying it off in lots and sell them to persons wishing to purchase and with a trifling tax, keep the grounds in good condition.” (“Trivia About Greenville and Environs,” Evelyn McCracken, BCGS News Winter 1988).

“Montrose was originally established as Mount Rose.

(Continued on page 12)



[Top] Greenville Public Library Director Jo Keillor welcomes attendees to the Halloween Cemetery Walk.

[Bottom] Local historian and author John Goldsmith explains how Montrose Cemetery's mausoleum works and points out some of the prominent people laid to rest there.

Photos by editor.

Grave Matters: Halloween Walk continued...

(Continued from page 11)

The site at the north end of 4th Street was selected and surveyed April 29, 1877 and was turned over to the city later. Greenville Advocate editor, W. W. **Lewis**, lived on nearby Piety Hill (at the NW corner of 3rd and Oak) and he hated the proposed location of Mount Rose; he wrote a critical editorial July 19, 1877. There were originally 500 shares sold in the cemetery at \$10 each; one man bought 497 of them. Four hundred veterans are buried in Montrose, including five confederate soldiers," (BCGS News Winter 2016).

Prominent citizens who have been laid to rest at Montrose Cemetery include businessmen, religious and civic leaders, college faculty and administration, and veterans. There is manufacturer U.S. **DeMoulin**, merchant family **Von Weise**, showy Reverend J. G. **Wright**, pioneer preacher Reverend Thomas **Hynes**, hotel family **Thomas**, banker family **Hoiles**, Almira **Blanchard Morse** who gave an endowment to the college named in her honor, Greenville College chemistry professor and president Dr H. J. **Long**, post-master Col John **Reid** and his father-in-law William **Holden** who served as both a very young and very old enlisted drummer in different military conflicts.

A peculiar story, and deemed especially appropriate for a Halloween day tour, is that of the curious "Unknown Man." His stone today reads: "Buried about 1874. Reburied 1970." His plot in the city's cemetery information database is listed as E,171A,1. But he used to rest a few plots to the south-east. When gravediggers preparing for a funeral of a **Denny** family member struck a metal casket that was not supposed to be there, they accidentally cracked it and a mystery ensued. The unusual metal casket also had a window looking in on the deceased face. The man's head was pillowed on a newspaper dated 1874, several years before the land was surveyed to become a cemetery. Who was he? No one at the time knew, but donors purchased a new casket and stone for him anyway. There were strong suspicions that he was not the only person buried in the immediate area so measures were taken to protect possible related graves when more Dennys were buried. Kevin Kaegy and others have consulted old land deeds and plat maps and come to the cautious conclusion that the "Unknown Man" is in fact a member of the J. B. **Pinneo** family: it was listed as his farm in 1875 records. Now the question remains: Who was J. B. Pinneo?



Local historian and Historical Society President Kevin Kaegy (in Civil War garb) gave historical accounts of citizens who have been laid to rest at Montrose Cemetery. The event Halloween morning event was sponsored by the Greenville Public Library. Photos by editor.

Bicentennial Park Legacy from City's 200th Birthday



Above: Bicentennial Park at 4th and Winter Streets in Greenville features playhouses for young children and a swing set. *Photo by editor.*



Bicentennial Park at 4th and Winter Streets honors the 200th birthday of Greenville and the memory of Lester Harnetiaux—Bicentennial Committee Board Member, lifelong historian, and collector of local memorabilia. *Photo by editor.*

Two benches in memory of Lester **Harnetiaux** have finally been placed in the new Bicentennial Park at 4th and Winter Streets in Greenville. Lester, who passed away February 18, 2015, is a former president of Bond County Historical Society and vice-president of Bond County Genealogical Society. Bicentennial Park is located directly north of the Historical Society's future Bond County Museum and we have all enjoyed seeing the park's pieces coming together.

The park is a legacy project of the Greenville Bicentennial, which was held in September 2015. The Greenville Bicentennial Committee, of which Lester was a huge part, donated funds remaining from its 200th birthday celebration to help with the creation of the park.

Bicentennial Park is the only Kingsbury Park District park exclusively for small children. The smaller playground unit is designed for boys and girls ages six to 24 months, and the larger unit is designed for children ages two through five. There is a swing set as well. The park district placed a black aluminum fence with 2 child-proof gates around the property. Bicentennial Park will include plaques honoring event sponsors and others who were involved with the city's 200th birthday celebration.

The park district had already arranged with the City of Greenville to flatten the ditch on the Winter Street side of the park after installing one culvert. Then, when the Bond County Historical

Society was given the U.S. DeMoulin House, south of the proposed park, and decided to move its museum into the house, Greenville's city manager suggested additional work to improve access to the park and museum, adding culverts to two ditches in the area and extending curbs to the sidewalks with pavement in between. This would allow for parallel parking on both sides of the street in the area. This street-side work remains in progress.

Bond County Historical Society and a Museum

Proposed by William N. Smith: A Splendid Suggestion

Found in the August 2, 1900 issue of The Greenville Sun, the "Splendid Suggestion" below may be the earliest anyone suggested a Historical Society in our area. It may be viewed as prophetic in what Bond county and many mid-western communities would ultimately accomplish.

Professor William N. **Smith**, a former Bond County boy, a son of T. N. Smith, and who is now a part of the faculty of Massey's Business College in Birmingham, Alabama, yet takes an interest in the old soil, and its historical associations. In a recent letter to the editor of The Greenville Sun he says:

Dear Sir: In the last issue of The Sun, I noticed two articles, the "Old Settlers' Association" and the "Cox Monument," which recalled to my mind two things of which I have often thought, namely, a "Bond County Historical Association" and a "Bond County Museum" containing Indian relics, the peculiar implements that were used and the peculiar articles of dress that were worn by the early settlers, also curiosities that have been found in the county.

I think it would be both profitable and pleasant for "The Old Settlers' Association" to take up these ideas and develop them.

If the recollections of Rev. Thomas **Hynes**, and others were put in manuscript and preserved, they would be a source of great benefit and pleasure to future generations of Bond County citizens.

These recollections should contain facts concerning the settlement of the county, the schools, the churches, and many interesting stories of men, women and children who have long ago passed beyond.

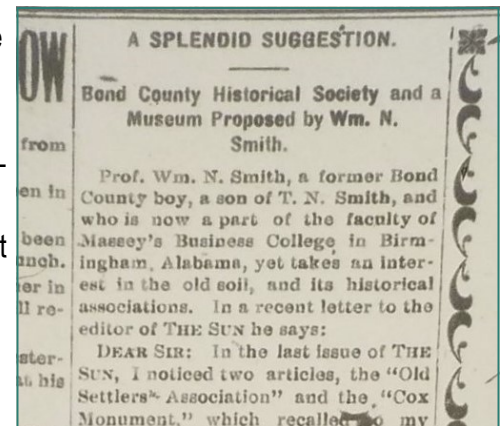
The manuscripts could easily be cared for by the Ladies' Library Association, and possibly a place for the museum could be found in the association's rooms. I have no doubt but that the ladies of the Library Association would gladly take it upon themselves to care for any papers or relics left with them. Doubtless many families in the county have curiosities and relics lying about and receiving no care that would be better off were they placed in the museum. I would suggest that any article placed in the museum should be receipted for and properly tagged, and its history recorded on the books of the museum, also that the party who left it with the museum retain ownership in the article.

A brief history of the county containing matters of record, the manuscripts and a description of the articles in the museum could be published by the "Historical Society" and sold for a few cents to the school children of the county.

Most children have an intense desire to know the history of their home neighborhood. Are there not many children living in Bond County who have a better knowledge of United States history, or even of English history than they have of Bond County history?

Yours truly,

Wm. N. Smith

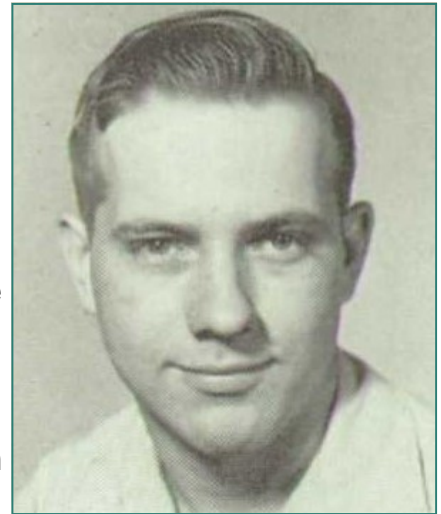


Bond County's Last Timber Wolves

Submitted by Max H. Lude, Jr.

The Setting:

My parents, Max Sr. and Dorothy **Lude**, and my great uncle and aunt, Chester "Chet" and Della **Harris**, lived next to each other in the 700 block of East Vine Street, Greenville, Illinois. I was born at the Highland Hospital in September 1942. I grew up in town living on Vine Street, but Chet and I walked to the farm daily to feed the horses, cows, and pigs, which we raised. Chet was a 100% "shell shock" disabled World War I veteran. He had locked into life as it was before going to France in 1918. He eventually recovered enough to farm with a team of horses on his brother-in-law's farm north of town on Red Ball Trail. Chet also suffered from chronic arthritis which caused him a great deal of pain in both knees. However, this condition did not impair his love of hunting and trapping. Chet transferred this love of the outdoors to me with a set of six steel traps for my sixth birthday.



Max Lude, Jr in his junior year of high school. Photo: 1959 GHS Yearbook.

After fall weather set in and the chores were done, Chet and I would distribute 75 steel traps in and around Little Shoal and Kingsbury Creeks. In a good year we would harvest some thirty muskrats, ten raccoons, and an occasional mink. We ran our line daily and threw our traps on Saturday afternoon – NO ANIMALS WOULD SUFFER ON THE LORD'S SUNDAY!! Our trap line overlapped Ed **Rench's** trap line. Ed only ran his line every two or three days, as weather allowed. Nearly all of us children knew "Old Ed" as we called him from seeing him around town. He was an independent soul, who to my recollection was never married or held a regular job. *[Editor's note: Edgar Wallace Rench, nearly 52 at the time of Max's story, subsisted on a third grade education according to U.S. Census records. He was one of nine (eight living) children who grew up on family farms, first in Pleasant Mound township / Seminary township on the boundary between Bond and Fayette counties, and then closer to rural Greenville. Ed helped out as a farm laborer through the 1930s. His 1917 WWI Draft Registration card claims heart trouble; his 1942 "Old Man's Registration" card (intended not for military draft, but to complete an inventory of manpower resources in the U.S.) identifies him with a "wart between eyebrows".]*

Ed lived in a small house south of the railroad tracks and east of the fairgrounds. He raised an extensive garden, managed some eight or nine beehives and generally fished, hunted, and trapped for cash money. The county offered a 25 cent bounty on groundhogs, \$4.00 for foxes, and a whopping \$50.00 bounty on wolves. No one had seen a live wolf in Bond County for decades! Ed travelled over some ten square miles in his trap line. It basically ran from Smithboro to Woburn to Millersville [sic].

The fall of 1947 was not much different from any other. We harvested our corn and fed our livestock every day. Hunting quail and rabbits for table fare was normal. Life as a second grader in Mrs

(Continued on page 16)

Timber Wolves, continued...

(Continued from page 15)

Patton's class was great! [Editor's Note: Most likely Mrs Verna Cunningham Patton.] We always had story time, we sang the National Anthem, repeated the Pledge of Allegiance in unison and opened class with a short prayer. However, by mid-March of 1948, the weather was warming and our typical winter snow cover beginning to melt.

The Wolves:

Big Shoal Creek ran north to south near the western edge of Bond County. We fished there quite often but it was too far for us to hunt or trap. Ed was probably the best known trapper in the area so when a local farm [Editor's Note: Most likely in the Shawnee neighborhood] called the sheriff's office and complained about a pack of wild dogs killing his sheep, the sheriff sent Old Ed to the rescue. Ed tracked the dogs through the snow to a flat spot where he could easily set up a dirt hole set. The idea was to attract the killer animal(s) into a leg hold trap – Ed used a Victor #4 double spring trap – where it could be... dispatched. WOW – what a surprise! The next morning when the farmer checked the trap he found the biggest “dog” he had ever seen! It turned out to be a huge male TIMBER WOLF! Ed was summoned to take care of the wolf and soon spotted a second set of tracks near the trapped wolf. After dispatching the male wolf, he reset the trap and added fresh bait. The next morning the sheriff, the farmer, and Ed all approached the trap together. Yep, there she was: the big male's female mate. Ed dispatched her and was being congratulated by all when he noticed that she was NURSING BABY PUPS! Even Old Ed, as hard hearted as he was reported to be, could not allow the pups to starve to death without their mother.

The sheriff and the farmer went back to their daily routines and Ed went on a search for the wolf den site. Finding it some one quarter mile north of the trap location, he cleared the brush away from the opening and began digging. The ground was soft below the frost line and within two hours, Ed had three tiny baby wolves tucked gently into his hunting coat. By now, the sun was beginning to set and Ed had a half mile walk back to the farm house to get a ride home. Upon reaching the farmhouse, the farm wife made a pitcher of warm cow's milk and administered it to the pups. Ed loaded the dead mother and her three babies into his old car and headed for home.

Daylight comes around 6:15am at this time of year and Ed was up and ready with nursing bottles for all three of his newfound charges. They had spent the night in a warm wicker basket lined with a towel and covered with an old dish cloth. The male had been skinned and stretched the night before and now the female was similarly treated. He would be sent to a taxidermist and the hide

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Postcard featuring photograph of Shoal Creek.
Image from Bill Davidson's collection.



Timber Wolves, continued...

(Continued from page 16)

tanned. She, on the other hand, was stretched and dried for the Chicago Fur Auction. Her pelt was worth \$35.00. Adding the $\$50.00 \times 5 = \285.00 in bounty and skins for the five wolves, this was a large amount of money for any of us in those days.

The baby wolves were alive and bright eyed as Old Ed drove to Inglis Grade School about 10:00am that morning. We were all speechless as prim and proper Mrs Patton's classroom door opened and we saw Old Ed! There he was, [rugged outdoorsman,] standing in the doorway with

his wicker basket covered with a worn dish cloth. To our stunned amazement, he was invited in whereupon he placed this shabby basket on the teacher's desk. We all gasped for breath. Had our beloved teacher lost her mind? She took the floor and instructed us to remain in our seats and be very quiet so as not to scare the babies. A moment later she removed the dish cloth and revealed three beautiful grey bundles of fur. They were possibly four weeks old with bright shiny blue/black eyes and silver grey fur as soft as any silk you ever touched. A second adult came into the room and each took a baby in hand. Walking down each aisle way, they allowed us children to pet the wolves gently and admire their true beauty. After ten minutes or so they were returned to their basket and transported to another

classroom for exhibition.

I believe the pups were eventually taken to the Chicago Zoo, but I have no real knowledge thereof. The male wolf's pelt was hung on Ed's bedroom door – it reached from the top of the door to the floor with maybe 6 inches of the tail dragging in the dust. Sadly, I saw it only twice that I remember. The pelt was made of heavy fur with long dark guard hairs. The overall color was white with a hint of grey/black. A kitchen fire destroyed the pelt in the mid-1950s and I moved away to continue my career in 1961. I never saw Old Ed again but I will always remember him as a true woodsman for saving the lives of these beautiful baby wolves!



Aerial image of Inglis School. Eastern Ave runs horizontally through center, Durley St runs vertically on the left hand side. *Photo by Dr Daniel Junod.*



Ed Rensch's house on Killdeer Dr in October 2020. The condemned structure currently stands in a horse pasture between the Bond County Fairgrounds and Ridge Ave.

Photo by editor.

Spanish Influenza Pandemic's Toll on Bond County

Before COVID-19, the most severe pandemic in recent history was the 1918 influenza virus, often called "the Spanish Flu." The virus infected roughly 500 million people—one-third of the world's population—and caused 50 million deaths worldwide (double the number of deaths in World War I). In the United States, a quarter of the population caught the virus, 675,000 died, and life expectancy dropped by 12 years.

Seasonal influenza tends to kill the oldest and youngest in a society but in 1918, roughly half of those who died were men and women in their 20s and 30s. People were getting sick and dying in the prime of their lives. "As many as 8 to 10 percent of all young adults then living may have been killed by the virus," historian John M. **Barry** wrote in his best-selling book "The Great Influenza."

The Spanish Flu came into Illinois through the Great Lakes Training Station in September 1918, in the waning days of World War I. It spread quickly to Chicago, to Camp Grant outside Rockford, to Springfield, and to the rest of the state. There was no diagnostic testing and there were no effective medicines or vaccines to combat the disease. The ways in which authorities attempted to deal with it have a familiar ring: people were urged to isolate, quarantine, observe curfews, practice good personal hygiene, and limit social interaction; schools, churches, and businesses closed.

By late October the influenza curve had flattened and the number of new cases was declining. Over the next few weeks the prohibitions on public activities were withdrawn. The ban on public dancing was one of the last to be lifted, on November 4. "On Nov. 27, the day before Thanksgiving, St. Louis reported its highest new daily case count since the epidemic began" (Hauck). A third wave in January 1919 engulfed the USA, killing thousands more.

In spring 1920, a fourth wave occurred in isolated areas. New York City alone reported 6,374 deaths between December 1919 and April 1920, almost twice the number of the first wave in spring 1918. Other US cities including Detroit, Milwaukee, Kansas City, Minneapolis and St. Louis were hit particularly hard, with death rates higher than all of 1918.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, the Spanish Flu of 1918-1920 killed nearly 23,500 in Illinois.

The first obituaries published in the Greenville Advocate newspaper that autumn of 1918 which explicitly mention influenza appeared in October. Typically the influenza developed into deadly pneumonia, but sometimes other conditions. There were fifty-six deaths attributed to the illness in October, though a number of the October deaths were reported several weeks after they occurred. The obituary numbers then hold steady from November 1918 to February 1919, averaging 17 deaths per month.

The first and second waves abated, leaving Bond County in relative safety with two deaths in March 1919, one in June, and one in September.

Then in February and March 1920, one Sorento area family suffered an incredible loss. Six people -

10,000 NEW "FLU" CASES BREAK OUT IN ILLINOIS CLOSING RULE EXTENDED

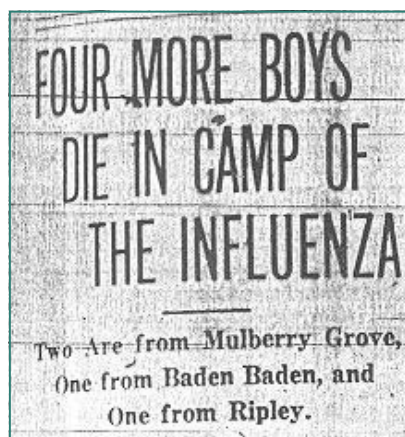
CHICAGO, Oct. 15.—With more than 10,000 new cases of influenza reported in Illinois today, public health officials prepared to extend the order closing all night schools, theaters, motion picture houses, lodge meetings, skating rinks, and the other places of public amusement.

An extension of the order to include all saloons in the vicinity of big industrial plants, and a possible ban on political meetings was forecast.

(Continued on page 19)

1918 Influenza, continued...

(Continued from page 18)



the father and five children – died within twenty days of each other. The wife and children's mother survived; she remarried twice, had another son, and died in 1975. Census records show the man's mother also lived at the residence and she went on to live until 1942.

While all of these numbers of influenza deaths and obituaries seem staggering, of the 131 total, just 92 deaths occurred in southern Illinois including Bond County. The rest are deaths reported for people who no longer lived in the Greenville/Bond area or who were away from the city serving in the military. Still, the constant barrage of pandemic news must have kept the community on edge, in mourning, and hopefully observing the recommended guidelines of limiting their social interactions.

A sampling of the obituaries printed in the Greenville Advocate follows:

- ◆ RUFUS DONALDSON, son of Mrs. Lucy Yonkers of Greenville, died of Spanish influenza at Camp Hancock, Georgia, on October 4, 1918. He entered the service from Alton about five weeks ago.
- ◆ ALBERT L. KNEBEL, son of Mr. and Ms. Joseph Knebel, formerly of near Old Ripley, died at the base hospital at Camp Custer, Michigan, October 11, 1918 of pneumonia. Private Knebel was born on a farm near Old Ripley, January 31, 1896.
- ◆ MRS. ROSCOE PERKINS died October 22, 1918 at home in Pleasant Mound township of Spanish influenza followed by pneumonia. Her death followed that of her husband, a grandson of Ed Mayo of this city, who passed away October 20, 1918. He was 28. Mrs. Perkins' maiden name was Leila Rhea Potts, a daughter of Mrs. James Potts. She was born March 22, 1892 in Pleasant Mound township. A double funeral was held for Mr. and Mrs. Perkins at Maxey Cemetery.
- ◆ HAZEL MERRY, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Merry, died at the family home in Greenville, October 25, 1918 of pneumonia following an illness of influenza.
- ◆ REV. A. L. CANTANESE, a student of Greenville College and a native of Italy, died at his room in the college, October 29, 1918 of pneumonia following influenza, aged 30 years, 1 month and 15 days.
- ◆ MRS. HATTIE AMMANN, aged 38, wife of Albert Ammann, died at her home on Pocahontas November 15, 1918 of influenza followed by spinal meningitis.
- ◆ MRS. MOSES HODSON, formerly of Smithboro, died at the Deaconess Hospital in St. Louis, November 23, 1918 of influenza. Ms. Hodson's maiden name was Miss Laura Enloe.
- ◆ AUGUST IBERG, JR., son of Mr. and Ms. August Iberg, Sr. of near the Bond County line, died at the hospital in Highland, following influenza and pneumonia, November 26, 1918. He was aged 21 years and 55 days.
- ◆ FRED STREUBER, who was born and reared in Greenville, died December 11, 1918 at Lafayette, Indiana, of influenza. He was a son of the late Rudolph Streuber and was born on the Streuber homestead on Mill Hill and lived there until a few years ago.
- ◆ The five year old daughter of Mr. and Ms. Philip Huber of Reno, died December 19, 1918 at the home of her parents following an illness of pneumonia and influenza.
- ◆ JOHN BAUER, son of Louis F. Bauer of this city, died at the home of his sister, Mrs. Victor Plog, at East St. Louis,

(Continued on page 20)

1918 Influenza, continued...

(Continued from page 19)

January 20, 1919, after a week's illness of influenza, which terminated in pneumonia. He was aged 17 years and 27 days. He was born at Pocahontas, February 24, 1901, and came to Greenville with his parents when he was two weeks old. He went to St. Louis about a year ago and accepted a position in a round house, where he was employed at the time he became ill.

- ◆ MRS. EDNA GORST STAUFFER, wife of Elmer J. Stauffer, cashier of the Mulberry Grove Bank, died January 22, 1919, after a week's illness of influenza. A baby was born several hours before she died.
- ◆ MISS ETHEL HARNETIAUX, aged 16 years died February 4, 1919 only one week to a day after the death of her father, Isaiah Harnetiaux, at the family home southeast of Wisetown of pneumonia which followed influenza.
- ◆ A. BLISS HARRIS, proprietor of The Greenville Dairy, which retails milk in this city, died at his home on the Hentz farm one-half mile south of Greenville February 17, 1919, after several days' illness of pneumonia. Mr. Harris first became ill with influenza over a week ago, and after his fever had broken he went on his milk route last Tuesday, and suffered a relapse. The deceased was aged 35 years on October last.
- ◆ MISS ESTHER ANITA BONE, who has been an employee of the Bond County Telephone & Telegraph Company for the past two years, died at the home of her parents in Greenville February 21, 1919, after two weeks illness of influenza which terminated in pneumonia, Miss Bone was born December 8, 1900 at Mulberry Grove and was aged 18 years, 2 months and 13 days at the time of her death.
- ◆ JOHN TRACE CANTRILL, died of double pneumonia, February 26, 1919 at the home of his father-in-law, Lyman Hilliard, southwest of town, aged 26 years, two months and six days. Mr. Cantrill was the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Cantrill of south of town. He was born December 21, 1892 in Beaver Prairie and October 5, 1916, he married Miss May Hilliard and she with one daughter, Virginia Ruth, three weeks old, survive. The young widow is also quite ill with influenza.
- ◆ MRS. GEORGE GIPSON, who had been ill since December 23, with influenza and complications, died at her home in Sorento March 5, 1919, aged 37 years, 2 months and 4 days.
- ◆ CHARLES HUDDLESON, who resides about three miles south of Wisetown, died at a hospital in Centralia June 14, 1919, after a short illness of tuberculosis resulting from influenza. He was aged about 28 years. Mr. Huddleson had been employed for some time in Centralia when he became ill, but his wife, who was formerly Miss DeEtta Wirmirth of near Talmalco, and his two children resided south of Wisetown. He is also survived by his father, three brothers, Thomas, Wilbur and Willard, and by two sisters, Mrs. John Season and Miss Dorothy Huddleson. His mother succumbed to an attack of influenza last fall.
- ◆ CLINTON TITSWORTH, aged 7 years, the last of five children died March 3, 1920 at the Titsworth home northeast of Sorento. The father and Opal aged one year, died February 12 and Russell, aged 3 years died February 13. A triple funeral was held and while the service was being held Dorothea, aged 5 died on February 14. Clifford, aged 9 died February 28. Deaths were due to influenza. Clinton was laid to rest beside the bodies of his father, two sisters and two brothers in Waveland Cemetery. Surviving is the wife and mother, Mrs. Azelia Titsworth.

The Spanish Flu of 1918-1920 is rated a Category 5 pandemic, according to epidemiologists. How the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic a century later will rank we don't yet know. The nation has recorded more than 17 million cases of COVID-19, and more than 310,000 people in the USA have died. Dozens of states reimplemented coronavirus-related restrictions, and health officials echo the stay-at-home guidance issued decades ago. What is different is our knowledge of what is occurring and our ability to act and in-

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1918 Influenza, continued...

(Continued from page 20)

teract. Pharmaceutical companies are racing to develop and deploy safe and effective vaccines. Statistics are updated instantaneously. Government leaders and medical professionals are ubiquitous through the media. We can work from home and stay connected with loved ones; we can shop online. More so than in 1918, communities can and are pulling together. Food banks, delivery services, and online support groups are making a positive difference in Illinois and throughout the country.

Sources cited and consulted include:

"CDC COVID Data Tracker: United States COVID-19 Cases and Deaths by State." Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker>. Accessed 22 Dec 2020.

Croessmann, Allen W. "Tales From Past Pandemics." *Illinois Heritage*, vol. 23, no. 3, 2020, pp. 28-31.

"The Flu Pandemic of 1918." The U.S. National Archives and Records Administration. www.archives.gov/news/topics/flu-pandemic-1918.

Hauck, Grace. "We're celebrating Thanksgiving amid a pandemic. Here's how we did it in 1918 – and what happened next." *USA Today*, Nov. 24, 2020.

In 1918, Virtie **Reese Nesbit** of Pleasant Mound township wrote letters to her son Robert who was stationed in Long Island, New York during the World War and the devastating flu epidemic. Several members of the family fought through the sickness that fall, but Virtie and two sons would ultimately die in December. Robert saved her letters and the collection passed down to Virtie's great-grandson, David **Beasley**, who transcribed and published them in his 1996 Nesbit family history.

Excerpts from Virtie's letters October 14? - November 7, 1918:

"Bob, I am awful uneasy about you – so afraid you will get that disease... that influenza is raging here. Charlie is running around every night. I look for him to get it and all of us get down here... They can't hardly get the graves dug. It is something awful... I am burning sulfur in the house – doing everything I can to keep it away... Sam... went to Greenville yesterday and is going again tonight... with Roy **Morrow**. They have girls over there and Sam will risk his life to go see her... There is not going to be any school this week again. That is about 3 weeks missed... Sam is over the influenza. He had a pretty hard time of it – but it was his own fault. He wouldn't stay in bed... Charlie went to Terre Haute. I didn't want him to go any place... That influenza is so bad and they say that the most dangerous place you can be is on the train. I couldn't talk or do anything with him. He said he wasn't afraid of getting it... I hope you can tell me when you are coming home... From Your Mother."

Bond County Health Department has reported a total of 1,854 positive cases of COVID-19 in Bond Co. and 18 deaths since the pandemic really hit the United States in March 2020. And since that time, a total of 35,835 tests have been administered in Bond Co. to people age infant to 106. As of Friday January 15, 75 COVID-positive individuals were in isolation and 115 of their close contacts were quarantined. Positive cases have occurred in those aged one to 98.

Source: WGEL 101.7 FM News

The House That Goats Built

Submitted by John E. Goldsmith

When U.S. **DeMoulin** (1871-1955) arrived in Greenville during the early weeks of 1895, he was a 24-year-old blacksmith's apprentice with big ideas on how to invigorate his brother Ed's fledgling lodge paraphernalia business. Within five years, he was overseeing a company that is still thriving today. The rise of Ed DeMoulin & Bro. in the late 1890s correlates with the younger DeMoulin's suggestion to utilize catalog sales to market their products directly to fraternal lodges. The brothers, later to be joined by an older sibling, Erastus, capitalized on the fraternal era, selling wacky contraptions like the Ferris wheel goat, surprise chair, and electric branding iron. By the turn of the century, the company employed around 100 people in a sprawling three-story complex adjacent to the railroad tracks.



Ed and U.S. enthusiastically embraced their status as industrialists and played the part well. With his newfound wealth, U.S. built an iconic mansion that now houses the Bond County Historical Society's museum. U.S. DeMoulin later wrote in his autobiography, "On this land, at the time of purchase, was a drinking well of which the rights were leased for \$100 for a period of four or five years. The barn that was on the premises was sold for \$50."

Construction of the \$5,000 home was announced in the June 28, 1900 issue of the Greenville Advocate. W.B. **Bradsby** was the contractor selected to build the eleven-room house, promised to be "the finest in the city". As winter settled in construction was wrapping up, and the Greenville Sun noted in its December 13, 1900 edition, "The house is one of the most beautiful and thoroughly fitted in our city."

U.S. and his wife, Emma, moved into their new home after the first of the year. The Greenville Sun's January 10, 1901 edition reported, "Monday night it was lighted up for the first time and the attention of all pedestrians was drawn by its imposing appearance."

There were several improvements made over the years including: the laying of a tennis court (August 1902); installation of a granitoid sidewalk on the north and east sides (April 1903); construction of a garage (1921); and addition of a sunroom (1925).

Over the years I've been told countless stories by Greenville residents who, while growing up, performed various tasks for U.S. and his wife—ranging from delivering groceries to chauffeuring them to the airport. In all instances, the helper was required to enter through the "servant's entrance" and not the front door.

The house is still an impressive structure, serving as a reminder of U.S. DeMoulin's successful career and the luxurious lifestyle it allotted him. One might say it was "the house that goats built" as the factory's prolific sales of fraternal goats, like the low down buck and rollicking mustang, provided U.S. with the means needed to build his spacious mansion.

For more information about the DeMoulin brothers or their company visit <http://www.demoulinmuseum.org>

December 1950 Tornado Wrecks Homes, Kills Two

December 2, 2020 marked the 70th anniversary that the City of Greenville was hit by a strong tornado which killed two women, seriously injured nine persons, and left at least twelve more hurt. The tornado lasted only a minute but was followed by heavy rain, causing major damage in the south and southeast parts of the city and vicinity. Over one hundred houses were destroyed or damaged beyond repair; more than three hundred trees in Lindon Grove were stripped. The storm also wrecked rural homes and farm buildings east and west of Greenville. In many cases home and barns were blown away ([The Sunday Pantagraph](#)).

"The twister ran true to form, ripping off roofs, knocking frame houses off foundations, wrapping tree branches around trunks, and throwing automobiles around. Most people here expressed amazement the death and injury toll was as small as it was" reported the [Journal Gazette](#) of Mattoon.

The winds struck hardest in the 12-block Woodlawn section (an area roughly between Pet Milk's facility and the fairgrounds), and also along eastern portions of Harris Avenue, Washington, Ward, and Vine Streets. A gaping hole was ripped in the newly constructed Women's Building on the Bond County Fairgrounds; much damage was caused to lighting fixtures, grandstand, and refreshment stand at the American Legion ball park (site of today's William S Wait Park and KPD Pool). The two women who died – Mrs Esta **McFarland** of 1201 South Prairie Street and Mrs Addie **Word** of the 800 block of South Clarence Ave – were in their homes when the tornado hit. Damage was initially estimated at more than three quarters of a million dollars. This figure did not include loss of communications and power lines.

The tornado, which arrived Saturday afternoon about 4 p.m., knocked out all street lights in the city and caused electric lines and poles to fall. "The twister 'pin-pointed' its destruction in such a narrow lane that persons in the downtown area were unaware of the storm until the lights went out," printed the [Clinton Daily Journal](#). A mile of Pennsylvania Railroad telegraph poles were blown down west of the city plus freight cars and signals along the right-of-way were wrecked.

Many residents in the area drove to Greenville to see the damage, causing traffic jams in the affected area as first responders were trying to do their jobs. Members of military organizations volunteered to guard and patrol the damaged area. Extra police officers were also brought in (WGEL Daily News).

As described in [The Greenville Advocate](#) that Monday evening, "The dead are Mrs Esta McFarland, 50, who was killed when her home... was struck by the storm and she was caught under a stairway which collapsed, crushing her. Mrs Addie Word, 62, was killed when her home... was blown away by the storm. Mrs Word was dead when rescue workers reached her home. Her daughter, Mrs Irma **McCullah**, who was at her mother's home at the time of the storm, was blown through a bay window at the home of Mrs John **Snell**, just north of the Word home, and was seriously injured." Additional newspapers reported Mrs Word's body was found under a neighboring front porch and Mrs McFarland died while being conveyed to an ambulance.

Amidst large headlines announcing UN Forces leave Pyongyang Korea in path of onrushing Chinese



Home of Mrs Addie Word was blown away and Mrs Word killed in the storm. Photo: *Greenville Advocate* Dec 4, 1950.

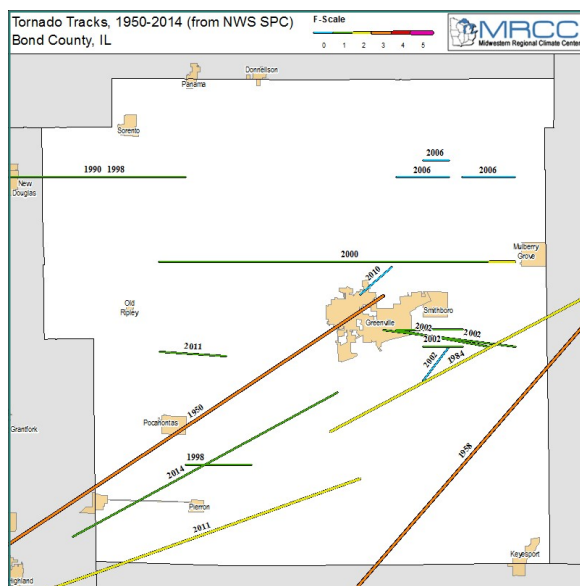
1950 Tornado, continued...

(Continued from page 23)

Reds and the threat of World War Three, Greenville's tornado and its death toll made the front page of at least nine central Illinois and six Missouri newspapers (Newspapers.com by Ancestry). The news of the storm was on the Associated Press Saturday night and was read in California, Dakotas, Oklahoma, and Iowa newspapers the next morning. An overseas soldier and his wife heard the story on the radio in Germany and called their Greenville mothers, Mrs Rilla **Pacatte** and Mrs John **Betterton**, on Sunday morning to see how both had fared (Greenville Advocate).

Greenville Advocate's Thursday, December 7, evening edition collected "interesting sidelights of storm which wrecked 100 homes here; intimate accounts of the storm and rescue work telling of miraculous escapes from death;" praise from Mayor Raymon **Genre** on the hundreds of volunteer workers from nearby towns; plus an announcement that "good [donated, clean and ironed] clothing is available to all victims of recent tornado" after collections were organized by the American Legion and Auxiliary and the V.F.W. post. The St Louis Globe-Democrat's reporter also gathered shocking tales from hospitalized tornado victims.

There is certainly a peak time of year for tornadoes in the U.S. – typically from April through June. However,



Map showing the geographic distribution of tornadoes across Bond County, Illinois for 1950-2014. Image: <https://www.isws.illinois.edu>

no additional casualties. Overall, the four tornadoes killed three people and injured twenty-eight others (Wikipedia)



Havoc wrought by the tornado in south-eastern Greenville. Photo: BCHS's 1979 "Red Book" History.

tornadoes can be spawned any time of year when the right conditions overlap. Over a 20-year period from 1997 through 2016, the U.S. averaged thirty-one December tornadoes per year. According to the State Climatologist Office for Illinois, fifty-seven December tornadoes have been documented in the state in the 67-year period from 1950 through 2016, an average of one tornado every one to two Decembers (Erdman).

There were four tornadoes confirmed in the United States in December 1950. All four December tornadoes touched down on a single day – Saturday, December 2 – in the form of a deadly tornado outbreak that struck Illinois and Arkansas. The first tornado was a long-tracked F2 twister that struck Dorsey, White City, and Mt. Olive, Illinois, killing one and injuring three. The second tornado was the deadliest; a long-tracked F3 tornado moved through Highland, Pocahontas, Stubblefield, and Greenville, Illinois, killing two and injuring twenty-five. An additional F3 tornado passed east of Franklin, Arkansas, while an F1 tornado passed north of Sparta, Illinois near Tilden, both of which caused

(Continued on page 25)

1950 Tornado, continued...

(Continued from page 24)
and Tornado History Project).

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**"We need to haunt the house of
history and listen new
to ancestors' wisdom."**

– Maya Angelou

**"Now is no time to think of what
you do not have. Think of what
you can do with what there is."**

– Ernest Hemingway

**"There is no such thing
as an insignificant life..."**

– Laurence Overmire



UNCLE ED'S COCKTAIL RECIPE



Courtesy of Betty Wood, niece of Ed's second wife
Anna Diehl DeMoulin

"I remember that Uncle Ed smoked rum-soaked crook cigars. I liked the smell of them. He also enjoyed his cocktails. The following is a favorite cocktail recipe of Uncle Ed's. I do remember Uncle Ed serving it, and even my grandmother, Minnie Diehl, who didn't drink, would have a small one of these. I was too young at the time to sample it, but it sounds potent."

Royal Smile

Juice of one lemon

Same amount of grenadine

2 oz. gin

2 oz. whiskey

1 oz. apple brandy

4 oz. vermouth

2 oz. cream

Add cream after cracked iced, just before shaking.



Was Your Ancestor Missed on the U.S. Federal Census?

By Mary Harrell-Sesniak for <https://blog.genealogybank.com>

Next time you ponder why an ancestor cannot be located in a particular set of U.S. Census records, consider this: even though you may have the correct location and year, your ancestor could have been overlooked. That may have been due to simple oversight – or perhaps negligence or intentional fraud. To illustrate, let's look at the mostly lost 1890 United States Federal Census. In January of 1921, while stored in the Commerce Building in Washington, D.C., about 3/4 of this census was ruined from a fire, water and smoke. Later it was ordered to be destroyed. All that remain are fragments. Family historians have long rued that event, and thus I looked to newspapers to see if the rumor that many people were not counted in that census was actually true.

Was simple oversight a reason? Turns out there was concern that many people were out of town and missed the 1890 count – especially traveling salesmen. A Georgia newspaper article points out another reason: landlords and landladies, who weren't working from registers, might have been remiss in which tenants they reported.

Negligence is commonly alleged for missing records in 1890 – and we see a number of challenges made to the tallies. The most widely published report came from the mayor of St. Louis, who felt that there was substantial negligence on the part of the enumerators. The local office disputed this claim, reporting that 99% was correct. Even if we accept that the figure of 99% accuracy is correct, 1% of errors on the 11th Federal Census is substantial. St. Louis's population in 1890 was about 450,000, so a 1% error rate would result in over 4,500 mistakes. Extrapolate that to the overall United States population at 62,979,766 in 1890, and perhaps there were as many as 600,000 errors in the 1890 U.S. Federal Census.

To examine the charge of intentional fraud, consider the often-overlooked uses of the census — one being to price investments based upon population counts. An Ohio newspaper article noted that by manipulating population totals, the value of municipal bonds would change by as much as 25%.

What efforts were made to get the count right in 1890? Many areas advertised to get citizens involved if they felt they were not counted. Names were then submitted after the fact to the Census Bureau – and the New York Herald went so far as to publish a submission form.

Greenville and the 1920 U.S. Federal Census

Greenville, Illinois experienced a similar situation following the 1920 U.S. Federal Census where citizens, leaders, and the press could “not justify a ready acceptance of the census figures.” When the initial announcement of preliminary census figures showed a shocking loss of inhabitants, concerned businessmen and others demanded a revision, or even a complete recount. The Greenville Advocate newspaper published several stories to keep subscribers informed of the issue and to do their part to remedy the situation. In 2020, the paper used their column, “Through The Years: Local History From The Past Pages of The Greenville Advocate, 100 Years Ago,” to reprint those articles.

(Continued on page 27)

1920 Census, continued...

(Continued from page 26)

Census Figures Are Questioned (excerpt from Advocate July 1920)

Preliminary census figures of Greenville, Bond County and all the civil divisions and villages in the county which show a loss of 1,050 in the entire county may tell a different tale when the final figures are released. If the corrected figures do not tell a different story, there will be a protest filed at Washington and a recount will be asked.

Both Mayor **Andrews** and H. A. **McLain**, president of the Greenville Chamber of Commerce, announced Wednesday they would favor asking a recount so far as Greenville is concerned.

The detailed figures given out by the census bureau for Bond County show that the county has lost 1,050 inhabitants over the last ten years. The losses are spread over the county, including Greenville, which has in the last 10 years lost 107 people, according to the figures. In fact, every township in Bond county lost inhabitants except Burgess township, including Pocahontas and Millersburg villages, which made a gain of 80.

Greenville, according to the figures given out, had 3,178 in 1910 and 3071 in 1920, a loss of 107. Three incorporated places in the county show a gain; Mulberry Grove village, with a gain of 9, Panama village with a gain of 164, and Pocahontas village with a gain of 81.

Other incorporated places in the county which show a loss are Keyesport, which dropped from 320 to 256, a loss of 64; Millersburg which dropped from 336 to 316, a loss of 21; Old Ripley which dropped from 146 to 119, a loss of 27; Smithboro, which dropped from 301 to 227, a loss of 74; and Sorento, which dropped from 1018 to 942, a loss of 76.

Meeting To Determine Census Course To Be Held (excerpt from Advocate July 1920)

If an investigation of the enumeration of Greenville is desired by the boosters, or those who want Greenville to go forward instead of backward, it is necessary to secure a list of names and street numbers of people who were bonafide residents of this city on January 1, 1920, and who believe themselves to have been missed by the enumerators and who are in doubt as to whether or not they were counted.

When The Advocate announced a few days ago that the census of Greenville had dropped 107 in ten years, the forward-looking citizens of Greenville had a real shock. The statement was amazing to many businessmen who expressed themselves in favor of a recount, contending that the fact that houses are impossible to get whereas ten years ago you could get one anywhere, shows something must be wrong.

So The Advocate wired the census department at Washington, stating the situation and asking what steps should be taken to secure a recount. The department, through Assistant Director of the Census **Steuart** wired the following: "If you desire investigation enumeration of Greenville, secure list of names giving also street addresses, if possible, for person who were bonafide permanent residents January 1st and believe themselves missed by enumerators, or are in doubt whether enumerated. Please act promptly. Letter follow. Steuart, Ass't Director Census."

Now it is up to the people of Greenville. The Advocate cannot go from house to house to ask every-

(Continued on page 28)

1920 Census, continued...

(Continued from page 27)

Why Can't I Find My Ancestor on the Census?

- ◆ They are there, you just can't see them
- ◆ They are, or rather were, in the census but in a part of it that has since gone missing
- ◆ They are missing from the census altogether

The census aims to count everyone in the U.S. Of course, that's not so easy.

A percentage of Americans are missed in every census count – 28 % in 2000.

Overall, the 2010 census was accurate, with a net overcount of just 0.01%. Still, some 16 million people were likely omitted from the final count. A few groups are at particular risk of being undercounted: African Americans, Native Americans, Rural Americans, and Young children. Children under 5 "have proven the hardest group to count," writes Heather Hanna of Mississippi State University, with an estimated 1 million left off the 2010 census.

Learn More at:

https://www.ancestry.com/notincensus?sssdmh=dm13.240388&o_iid=43168&o_lid=43168

<https://theconversation.com/whos-at-risk-of-not-being-counted-in-the-2020-census-6-essential-reads-136114>

body whether or not they were enumerated.

If you are a booster for Greenville, help get at the facts of the case. You have as much interest in it as we have. We are doing this because The Advocate is for Greenville first, last and all of the time, and for Bond County first, last, and all of the time. But we do not feel justified in asking the census department to make a recount of the entire county. Well-informed residents of several towns in Bond County stated that their towns have beyond question lost population. The agricultural sections of the county likewise have lost in population. This is true of all agricultural counties in the state and in many other states. But when it comes to Greenville, the situation is different, for existing conditions do not justify a ready acceptance of the census figures.

Census Bureau Admits Error In Enumeration (excerpt from Advocate August 1920)

A letter from M. W. Steuart, assistant director of the census at Washington, received by The Advocate this morning, says that the checkup of the Greenville census reports shows that the contention of the Advocate that R. O. **Cook**, Miss Myrtle **Baxter**, Mrs **Clementz**, and Gilbert **Clements**, and Miss Cecile **Calame** were not enumerated, is correct.

The letter says that the name of Miss Minnie **McNeill**, who informed The Advocate she was not enumerated, appears on the census returns as living at 813 Franklin Street. The Advocate listed her as living at her home at 711 S. Third Street. The letter further says "that Mr and Mrs Vance **McLain**, Mrs J. F. **Carroll**, Miss Elizabeth **Garland**, and Miss Persis Garland were all enumerated at the addresses given in your letter."

(Continued on page 29)

1920 Census, continued...

(Continued from page 28)

Since these names were reported to the census department by The Advocate, the following have given in their names as missed: M. J. **Robinson**, Vallee C. **Sean**, Mrs Vallee C. Sean, Henry **Bingle**, Mrs Henry Bingle, Dallas **Newby**, Mrs Dallas Newby, Mrs Mary G. **Fuller**, Mrs Betty **Harris**, and Mrs Mary **McAllister**.

Greenville Will Gain 19 in Census Recount (excerpt from Advocate August 1920)

At least 19 names will added to the census of Greenville in revised figures to be announced from Washington in a few days. This was the information given The Advocate Tuesday by W. N. **Baltz**, of Millstadt, supervisor of the 22nd Congressional district. Mr Baltz came to Greenville on Tuesday and called together the three census enumerators for the city and gave them instruction to enumerate the 19 persons who had been missed in the county. The enumeration was made Tuesday, Mr Baltz returning home on the evening train.

After the Monday edition, a new batch of names of Greenville people was turned in to The Advocate and these names were given to Mr Baltz to be sent to Washington to be compared with the official list there. If their names are not shown they will likely be added to the Greenville census.

As a result of the investigation, the census revision will give Greenville 3,090 people. This still leaves 88 short of the count of ten years ago. If the ten additional names which have come in since Monday are added, the total will be an even 3,100.

Helpful Facts About Immigration to New York

By Frederick Wertz for New York Genealogical & Biographical Society

<https://www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org/blog/>

New York is the state with arguably the strongest connection to immigration in America—hundreds of millions of Americans can trace their immigrant ancestors to the port of New York, which has been a destination of immigrants for over four centuries. The lengthy time period and the sheer number of immigrants that came through New York can make finding your immigrant ancestors a challenge, but one well worth attempting—New York immigration genealogy can be fascinating and enjoyable. Get started by looking over these helpful and potentially surprising facts about New York immigration.

- ◆ It is useful to know that the port of New York in the City of New York was the only official seaport of entry into New York State; not until 1895 were locations along the northern land border with Canada designated as official immigration stations.
- ◆ Although New Netherland was a possession of the Dutch, the population contained a mixture of European nationalities - probably no more than half of the population was native to the Dutch Republic. There were many English settlers (as well as Scots, Irish, and Welsh) who came to New England and

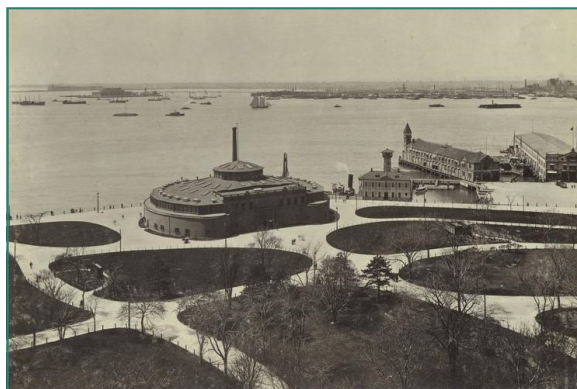
(Continued on page 30)

Immigration to New York, continued...

(Continued from page 29)

migrated down to New Netherland. By the time the colony was transferred to England in 1664, only about half of the 7,000 - 8,000 person population was native Dutch.

- ◆ The Erie Canal and the vast network of waterways it established provided a form of cutting-edge transportation and allowed immigrants an easy path to areas of the state other than New York City. Moreover, the construction of the Canal itself provided a bevy of opportunities for immigrant laborers. Immigrants made up a significant portion of the massive workforce, which drew recent immigrants to the many booming towns north and west of New York City.
- ◆ While Ellis Island is the most iconic immigration station in the Port of New York, it didn't open until 1892. Researchers looking for arrivals prior to that year should instead look to Castle Garden, which saw large influxes of Irish, German, and British immigrants, and was located in the area of modern-day Battery Park, at the southern tip of Manhattan. Unfortunately, in 1897 a major fire destroyed Castle Garden and most of its records.
- ◆ Many ships carrying immigrants were wrecked en route to New York or other ports. While many passengers died in these tragic occurrences, surviving wasn't all that uncommon. The problem for family history researchers is that this greatly complicated the immigration process - many of the wrecked ship manifests are not included in standard immigration record sets.
- ◆ One thing unconsidered by many researchers is that immigrants didn't always stay in America - many returned home either temporarily or permanently. Especially as technology improved, and the journey became safer and faster, immigrants - especially from southern and eastern Europe - would work in America for periods of time and return home, only to eventually travel back across the Atlantic at a later date.
- ◆ Before 1895, many unrecorded immigrants entered America from Canada. The Canadian government collected detailed information on its own immigrants but gathered significantly less on those who were booked to travel on to America. Because the transatlantic crossing to Canada cost much less and entry through Ellis Island could be slow, many European passengers traveled to New York via Canada.



The Battery and Old Castle Garden Emigrant Station in New York Harbor, 1900. *Photo courtesy The Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Division of Art, Prints and Photographs, New York Public Library's Digital Collections.*



Health Inspection of Immigrants in the 19th Century. *Photo courtesy NIAID, licensed with CC BY 2.0.*

Share Your Story: Southern Illinois in the COVID-19 Pandemic

We are living through an important moment in history, and we want to hear how it is affecting the people of Bond County, Illinois and immediate surrounding areas. As COVID-19 changes life to a “new normal,” Bond County Genealogical Society is asking you to share, in your own words, reflections of your experience during the pandemic, for the benefit of future generations. Whether you are in quarantine, sheltering at home, working in the medical field, homeschooling your kids, or adjusting your business model for uncertain times, your story is unique and valuable.

These submissions will be collected into a digital archive. In the short-term, we will share some of these submissions on social media, our newsletter, and in online exhibitions. In the long term, these submissions will be used to inform future generations about life in Illinois during the COVID pandemic. Thank you; get recording!

Submissions and Genealogical Queries

The B.C.G.S. News is published 2 times a year—January & July. The Bond County Genealogical & Historical Societies invite members to submit articles on Bond County families or histories, research techniques, announcements & queries. Typed submissions are preferred. Please E-Mail to the newsletter committee at bcgs_editor@sbcglobal.net or send to: Bond County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 172, Greenville, IL 62246.

All submissions are subject to editing and/or serialization over multiple issues. Your articles and photos shall remain your property. DO NOT send copyrighted material unless you hold the copyright or you supply proof of permission to print with your submission.

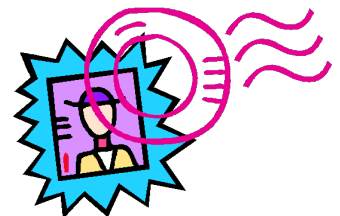
Genealogical queries with connections to Bond County and its communities in Southern Illinois are published free of charge to members (and non-members!) in our Newsletter (though members have priority on query space). Anyone is invited to submit the names and brief identifying information of ancestors they are researching, so that those researching the same persons can exchange information with them.

To make your query more effective, include dates, places and full names whenever possible. The query may also be published on our Website. You may E-Mail your queries to the newsletter committee at bcgs_editor@sbcglobal.net or send Snail Mail to: Bond County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 172, Greenville, IL 62246.

SAMPLE QUERY: Researching Edmond DeMoulin, b 11 Jun 1862 Clinton Co IL, mov to Greenville Bond Co IL abt 1886, m1 Constance Vulliet, m2 Anna Diehl. dpl Los Angeles CA 1935. --Submitter's name, address, and email address

*Good queries
are:*

*Clear—
Specific—
Simple—
Concise*



General questions for Bond County Genealogical Society and requests for Research & Library help should be emailed to info@bondcogen.org

Official Newsletter of the Bond County Genealogical Society of Greenville, Illinois,
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Renew Your Dues for 2021!

Bond County Genealogical Society membership dues are \$10 per 2-person household for the current year. A lifetime membership for a 2-person household may be purchased for a one-time payment of \$175. Members are eligible to vote and to serve as BCGS officers and appointees.

SPECIAL OFFER! Join both societies (Genealogical and Historical) for only \$20.00 - a \$5.00 savings! Find membership information on Page 2 of this issue and on both societies' websites (see URLS at left).

Bregstone Postcard Images in Main Street USA Book

At the annual Bond County Historical Society elections meeting Tuesday evening, October 27, 2020, John S. **Coleman**, BCHS & BCGS treasurer, made members aware of a book published November 2018 by Andrew J. **Theising**, a Southern Illinois University Edwardsville professor. Main Street USA: The Life and Photography of H. H. Bregstone tells "for the first time, his life story, as well as an inventory of his work and a gallery of his craft." Active 1909-1934, **Bregstone** created real-photo postcards from small-town scenes in over one thousand communities across the Midwest – including Greenville, Illinois. BCHS is aware of more than a dozen Greenville postcards published by Bregstone, many of them in Bond County Museum's collection. One can recognize his work by the telltale black bar across the bottom containing each photo's caption and the photographer's name in the bottom right corner. While Bregstone's Greenville postcards did not actually make the final edit of the book, Greenville is included in the book's listing of towns and Bond County Historical Society received a copy in the mail as a gift.

You may be able to find Main Street USA: The Life and Photography of H. H. Bregstone from Amazon.com or through Greenville University's interlibrary loan.

