

Bond County Genealogical Society News

Volume 39, Issue 1

Winter January 2024

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

Premiere of BCM's Night At The Museum Thrills



Bond County history came alive for small group tours the evenings of October 27 & 28 when Smithboro speculator Henry **Smith** (portrayed by John S. **Coleman**), inventor and businessman U.S. **DeMoulin** (Cary **Holman**), government official and Union Army colonel John B. **Reid** (Kevin J. **Kaegy**), and girls' education example and advocate Almira **Blanchard Morse** (Michelle **Haller**) leapt from their exhibits and shared anecdotes from their experiences.

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Special points of interest:

- Halloween & Christmas Events at BCM.
- A Smarter Way To Search a Digitized Book.
- Can You Name All Eight Great-Grandparents?
- Rural Church Potluck Revisits Hurricane Creek.
- Don't Forget to Shop the BCGS Book Store.
- ACPL Genealogy Center New Catalog & Website.
- BCHS is Seeking Oral History Interviewees.
- New Ancestry Pro Tools Enhance Experience.
- Farewell to Friends: Collectors of Historical Objects, Images, and Family Stories.

Bond County Genealogical Society

Officers

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

Appointees

Library - Jane Hopkins
Program - Kevin J. 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

*"Let us, before
we die, gather
up our heritage,
and offer it to
our children."*

*— Will Durant,
The Story of
Civilization*

Bond County Historical Society

2023-2024 Officers

President - Cary Holman
Vice President - Jim Schutte
Treasurer - John S. Coleman
Secretary - Jane Hopkins
Historian - Kevin J. Kaegy (non-voting)

Directors

Burgess Twp - Michelle Haller
Central Twp - Kevin J. Kaegy
Tamalco Twp - Cindy Tischhauser
Mills Twp - Gary Tischhauser
Pleasant Mound Twp - Blake Knox
Old Ripley Twp - Kathy Brewer
Shoal Creek Twp - Tom Varner
LaGrange Twp - Eric Reelitz
Mulberry Grove Twp - Kim Myers

Bond County Historical Society membership dues are \$15 per family for the current year. 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



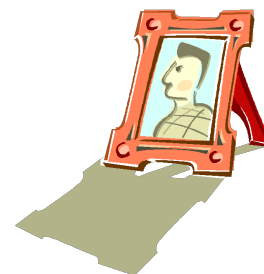


Monthly Society Meetings

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 Bond County Museum's Facebook Page, 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!

2024 Events Calendar

Feb 6 Soup & Chili Supper: K. Kaegy presents @ St Lawrence Church Hall.

Feb 20 Bond County Museum Night @ Joe's Pizza & Pasta in Greenville.

Apr 23 Pocahontas History Program @ Pocahontas. Details TBA.

May 24 Wes Pourchot Cookout @ The Milk House in Greenville.

Jun TBD Greenville Museum Day: BCM & One Room School Museum open.

Jun 20 Pie & Ice Cream plus Myny Band Concert @ Bond County Museum.

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 27.





Bond County Museum is located at 409 S. Fourth Street in Greenville, Illinois.

*January-December:
Open Saturday
10 a.m. to noon*

*June, July, August:
Open Saturday 10 a.m. to
noon and
Sunday 1 to 3 p.m.*

*Tours also available by
special appointment or
during announced events.
Call 618-690-0469.*

Bond County Museum News

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



Financial Gifts Sought to Support Bond County Museum

Bond County Historical Society needs your help to raise funds to complete Phase 2 necessary renovations and ADA improvements to the historic U.S. DeMoulin Mansion. Bond County Museum opened to the public with regular weekend hours in May 2021. 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

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*, *Sun*, 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

If you experience technical difficulties with our microfilm reader, please contact Jane Hopkins (jhopkins4616@sbcglobal.net 618-664-4616) or Kevin Kaegy (kevink@markuscabinet.com 618-971-9140).



Bond County Historical Society President's Note

No more bats, two new chimneys and more visitors than any other year in the past decade. 2023 was a good year at the Bond County Museum. But that's not all. One of my goals for the Bond County Historical Society has been to increase our interaction with other area historical societies. Such interactions provide opportunities to exchange ideas – to learn from each other. In 2023 the BCHS benefitted from such interactions.

In 2023, the board approved sending me to Springfield for the Illinois State Historical Society awards dinner in April. At that dinner I met Linda **Zimmer**, president of the Montgomery County Historical Society. Later year Linda brought a group of dozen of their members to tour the Bond County Museum. I learned that their organization had had Randy **Duncan** present a program as Abraham **Lincoln**. Through that contact we were able to bring Mr. Lincoln to our largest attended annual meeting in memory in the Greenville SMART Center. We also hosted a speaker from Madison County Historical Society and toured Macoupin County Historical Museum. I hope that we can continue to expand our interaction with other area historical societies in 2024.

It was exciting to be able to recommend *The Greenville Advocate* for a digitization grant through the Illinois Newspaper Project. Even more exciting was getting the e-mail that early issues of the *Advocate* would be among the nine papers selected. That was another highlight of 2023.

I appreciate the energy and enthusiasm that new, younger members and volunteers have brought these past two years. Through their efforts our grounds have been cleaned up, organization within the U. S. DeMoulin Mansion has been improved, and we have greater access to our garage.

2023 was a great year, and through the efforts of all of our members 2024 may be even better.

Cary Holman, BCHS President & BCHS Program Committee Chairperson



Greenville Advocate Newspaper Selected for Digitization

Exciting news! Bond County Historical Society (BCHS) is pleased to announce their application nominating the digitization of *The Greenville Advocate* was accepted by the Illinois Newspaper Project (INP) advisory board for the National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP) digitization grant. The INP has selected the time frame of 1858-1864 of which they will digitize approximately 1,000 pages of the *Advocate* in this period (about 1% of the INP's funding it received through a grant to digitize 100,000 pages). A total of nine newspapers were selected. The INP has partnered with the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois, to use available master microfilm for the selected titles.

This was the first year that the INP has hosted a nomination process to select titles for NDNP digitization. Over 60 nominations were received and the INP was astounded by the reception of this opportunity. All nominated newspapers will be filed as potential candidates for future digitization opportunities.

"We are glad for the opportunity of this grant to move toward our goal of having as much as possible of *The Advocate* widely available in digitized format for easy access," said BCHS president Cary Holman. "As opportunities arise for additional digitization projects, we hope to secure funds to provide access to even more years of this newspaper and other Bond County historical documents."

In approximately one year, the digitization of the nine newspapers will provide free access to a wealth of historical and genealogical information. These titles will be included in Library of Congress' Chronicling America, as well as the INP's Illinois Digital Newspaper Collections. The INP is an initiative at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign that identifies, preserves, and digitizes Illinois newspapers. Much of INP's work depends on support by grants and donations.

Mulberry Grove Cemetery Walk: A Tour With Tales

We've done it again! Bond County Genealogical Society pulled together a Methodist minister-settler and Civil War Army chaplain, an auto mechanic and dealer, a hard working farmer-settler whose Bond County born son fathered 18 children, a Confederate POW physician, a teacher and school administrator who also served as village mayor, plus a bank vice president whose indomitable wife worked full time at bookkeeping, financial management of the village and school, raising their son, and family history research while confined to her wheelchair since a bout with polio.

Thanks to everyone who came out to our Mulberry Grove Cemetery Walk on Thursday, July 20, 2023! It was a great crowd around the gazebo and we heard some fantastic tales about seven people who

in their time inspired, led, and served to make individuals, the community, and even the world just a bit better place. Many of you also took time after the program to visit the specially marked graves.

Early pioneers began to be buried nearby the first schoolhouse/church in the Mulberry Grove, Illinois neighborhood. The oldest marked burial has a death date of 1832; four are from 1835. The deed of the cemetery was first made to the village in 1884. Two additions were added in 1887 and 1915 and include a Potter's Field. There are presently more than 2,000 burials with much room left in the

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“History remembers only the celebrated. Genealogy remembers them all.” – Laurence Overmire

Bond County Remembered: Video Legacies: Jim Hoiles



This video project is an interview by BCHS friend and media-whisperer Robert **Whiteside** with Bruce “Swamp” **Weiss**, Bond County musician about his mentor, James “Jim” Moss **Hoiles**. A native son who produced some really beautiful art and fiddled his way into the Library of Congress, Jim recorded 4 LPs in Illinois based on Traditional Music. His fourth LP “Different Strokes” included tracks by young upstart Alison **Krauss** in her first recording studio session. Alison’s acclaimed brother, Viktor played amazing upright bass fiddle on most tracks. Visit <https://www.discogs.com/artist/5174578>

Who should BCHS interview next?? Contact us!

[-Jim-Hoiles](#) for more on Jim’s biography and recordings. Bond County Historical Society’s Video Legacies oral history series is available to view on YouTube and www.bondcountyhistorical.org.

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design for more. More than 150 veterans are buried at Mulberry Grove Cemetery; it is no wonder volunteers organized by Mulberry Grove American Legion Post 1180 maintain an "Avenue of Flags" on patriotic occasions. An eagle statue erected by the "Grand Army of the Republic's Woman's Relief Corps and Citizens" was cast in 1898 and stands near the gazebo.

Recognized burials during the Cemetery Walk were Harlie **Hatfill**, Richard **McKean** and Beutonne **Dey** McKean, William Roscoe **Jackson**, the Frederick B. **Willis** and William W. Willis families, Dr. Carrol Jackson **Raglan**, and the Rev. James Ball **Woolard**.

Speakers included Blake **Knox**, Kevin **Kaegy**, Bob **Jackson**, Dan **Willis**, Todd **Nickel**, and Cindy **Tischhauser**.

Donations to Mulberry Grove Cemetery may be directed to: Mulberry Grove Village Hall, P.O. Box 8, Mulberry Grove, IL 62262.

Coming up in 2024 is Camp Ground Cemetery!! Would you like to present for 5-10 minutes on someone?

Let us know!



Visit Bond County Museum's YouTube Channel or website to view videos of each tale presented.

**Bond County's
One-Room School Museum**
601 E. Beaumont Ave.
Greenville, IL.



Retired teachers provide tours and in-costume presentations only by appointment and during special events.

Groups welcome. Admission is free. Donations encouraged. Please contact the Tourism Director, City of Greenville, with details to arrange special openings.

618-664-1644 ext. 1010

Back Issues of Quarterlies/Newsletters Available



The entire back catalog of Bond County Genealogical Society News Quarterlies, published 1982-2011 & B.C.G.S. e-Newsletters published 2014-2024 are currently available at no charge and with no password to members and the general public. Access the issues at <https://www.bondcogen.org/newsletter.html>. Volumes of the printed quarterly 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.



Inter-Library Loan

There is genealogy beyond the internet! While the internet is one very convenient tool, it is not the only tool. Check out online library catalogs, then visit the library to access the book or request an inter-library loan. Your newsletter editor spent a good part of the past year researching ancestors in Macon and Shelby counties, Illinois. By contacting libraries, I was able to borrow books about small rural schools where relatives attended and taught. I even found my great-grandfather—age 15—and his sister in a previously unknown photograph!

Online Genealogical Resources

Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness

Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness (RAOGK) is a global volunteer organization. The purpose of this site is to help others obtain copies of documents, pictures of tombstones, etc., that cannot be obtained easily by those who do not live in the area of their ancestors. At one time there were thousands of volunteers in every U.S. state and many international locations. They helped thousands of researchers all over the world. The site also provides U.S., State by State and County by County Research guides. In these you will find resources and information that can be found. Find help or offer help at: <https://raogk.org/>

A Google Books Approach

From Michael John Neill's popular blog, Genealogy Tip Of The Day

Searching Google Books can be challenging for some genealogists. A way to start looking for materials on Google Books (books.google.com) is to try searches like the following—change the names and places to yours.

- ◇ trautvetter hancock illinois
- ◇ rampley harford maryland
- ◇ emmar ross divorce nebraska

These searches located a case involving my **Trautvetter** that was appealed to the Illinois State Supreme Court, a Maryland state law that involved my **Ram-pley** family in 1838, and a divorce from Nebraska in the 1870s that was appealed to the Nebraska State Supreme Court.

Death Certificate Look-ups

The Illinois State Genealogical Society has established this service to assist members and researchers who do not have easy access to the Illinois State Archives to obtain death certificate copies (non-certified copies for 1916-1947 only). ISGS cannot do death certificate lookups for records found in the 1951-1971 database as those records are not in the State Archives. Members (you must be logged into the ISGS website) receive a discounted price of \$6 per certificate. Non-members will pay \$10 per certificate.

There are two ways to order and pay: by mail with a check or online. To get started, search the Illinois State Archives Death Certificate Index 1916-1950: <https://www.ilsos.gov/isavital/idphdeathsrch.jsp>. Place your order. And download the Death Certificate Order Form.

Visit this article for more information and to place an order:

<https://ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=122>

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Online Genealogical Resources, continued...

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How and Why to Use Genealogy Gophers

From Amy Johnson Crow's popular blog, Modern Genealogy Made Easy

There's a problem with OCR (optical character recognition). Yes, it helps us find text that is buried deep in the pages of an unindexed book or newspaper. The problem is that OCR is literal. Search for "William" and it will look for "William," but not "Wm." (Did you just think of how many references to your "Wm." you've missed over the years? Kinda scary, isn't it?)

That's where Genealogy Gophers (gengophers.com) comes in.

Genealogy Gophers is a free, digitized book database that database includes over 80,000 digitized books from FamilySearch and their partner institutions, including the Allen County Public Library and the BYU Library. Most are books that were published prior to 1923. There's a little bit of everything. Free, searchable books include: family histories and compiled genealogies, regional and local histories, city directories, genealogy magazines, gazetteers, newsletters, medieval histories, and more.

There are two ways to search: Texts and Titles. Here's the cool part: It's smart about how it searches. Do a search for George Debolt. With other full-text searching, if you searched for George Debolt, it would give you just that — pages with "George" on the same page as "Debolt." Genealogy Gophers does that, but also finds "Geo" and "G." Searching by Title is kind of a misnomer. Yes, when you search by title, it includes the title, but it also includes the description. You can find some real hidden gems this way!

While you're looking at a book, you can do a search just within that title, using the search box above the image. You can also download the entire book as a PDF.

Genealogy Gophers is free for the first three books viewed, then you can view more books for a monthly or yearly fee/donation as little as \$3/month or \$20/year for unlimited books. Genealogy Gophers also has an additional 100,000 books they're currently indexing and adding to their site. They're also adding books from Archive.org and other free internet book sites. Follow their blog for updated information about new book releases!



Topo Quest Topographic Maps of the Entire U.S.

It is said that approximately 80% of all information has a locational element. When it comes to family history this rises to 100%. Ask yourself the question "what single fact connects every single event in every single family tree everywhere in the world?" Answer every event took place somewhere. This can be cemetery data, battle records, birth, marriage, work, census, parish, county, journey, disembarkation, hospitalization, incarceration (mental hospital and prison), disaster, and criminal records.

Topo Quest's U.S. Geological Survey maps contain a great amount of detail for both natural and man-made features. The 1:24k topo maps, also known as the 7.5 minute series maps, have the most detail. Here's the link to the Greenville Quad for those who may have trouble navigating the U.S. Map. Neighboring quads are linked on the page and you can download the free public domain maps from these pages.

https://topoquest.com/map-detail.php?usgs_cell_id=18448

An Evening With A. Lincoln



Carlinville resident Randy Duncan's presentation of Lincoln the rail splitter lawyer impressed 98% of those gathered in Greenville to hear his 1858 campaign speech. One guest took it upon himself to harshly challenge the candidate with Lincoln's troubling public statements of many months before concerning African enslaved persons. But Duncan did just as Lincoln had with hecklers; by challenging the man's sources and motives, by sticking to his evolved and morally based views of the issues, and refusing to deviate from them.

Photo by editor.

Thursday evening, October 19, 2023 Bond County Historical Society held their annual dinner at the Greenville University SMART Center. Officers were elected for the 2023-24 term and attendees enjoyed a delicious Italian dinner catered by Joe's Pizza & Pasta plus autumn desserts prepared by our members. BCHS President Cary **Holman** emceed the event and also presented BCHS Historian Kevin **Kaegy** with a gift of books by local authors in honor of his 16 years serving as past society president in two separate stretches.

For the program the historical society welcomed Springfield Illinois lawyer and former congressman Abraham **Lincoln** as he campaigned on the relatively new Republican party ticket for a U.S. Senate seat in September 1858, running against incumbent and Democrat Judge Stephen A. **Douglas**. The very special guest was presented by Carlinville resident and Lincoln look-a-like Randy **Duncan**.

While it was the seven Lincoln-Douglas debates that gained the most national attention, the candidates spoke independently more than two hundred times, including in Greenville, dates less than one month apart. The speeches spot is within sight of the historical society's Bond County Museum and is marked with a plaque.

Lincoln and Douglas were not simply campaigning for themselves but also for their respective political parties. The main focus of these debates was slavery and its influence on American politics and society—specifically the slave power, popular sovereignty, race equality, emancipation, etc.

Duncan's Lincoln began his September 13, 1858 speech by reading a letter he had recently penned to the founder of the Greenville Advocate newspaper, Jediah F. **Alexander**, thanking him for inviting him to speak in Greenville and wishing him a long future in publishing.

As the Greenville Advocate would publish in its September 16 issue, "In a most able manner did Mr. Lincoln clear up and refute the charges [flung against him by his opponent Judge Douglas] that he was an Abolitionist, and an Amalgamationist, and in favor of placing negroes upon a social and political equality with the whites." With humor, logic, and grace, Lincoln explained his platform and his stance on the hot issues dividing the nation: the expansion of slavery (don't!), the abolition of slavery (a slow natural end it deserves), equality for black men (sure, doesn't mean we must mingle in every sense), and upholding the laws and aims of the Constitution (absolutely! Including protecting the rights of slaveholders).

He noted that the state of Illinois in 1858 was very much a microcosm of the whole United States,

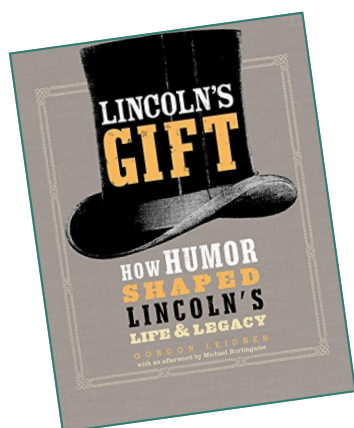
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with the northerners differing in their views from the southerners.

The crowd seemed to like Mr Lincoln's policies and character and they agreed with him on nearly every moderate progressive point. We're sure a majority of the white male citizens would be voting for him if they were able to directly elect U.S. Senators. In fact, Lincoln's performance in his vigorous campaigning of debates and speeches that year did win the popular vote in Illinois by nearly four thousand votes. However it wasn't enough to elect more Republicans to the state house/senate – the Illinois General Assembly selected Judge Douglas to return to Washington D.C. But ultimately the 1858 campaign gained for Lincoln the name recognition necessary to receive the Republican presidential nomination in 1860.

Thank you again to the amazing Randy Duncan, Cary Holman, Cindy **Tischhauser**, and everyone who helped plan and promote the event and attended. If you missed "An Evening with Lincoln" or simply want to relive the stories and visuals presented, watch it now on the historical society's YouTube Channel!



For a resource which ingeniously blends a study of Lincoln's humor with an account of his life, showing how our 16th president was not always a 'man of sorrows' but often a man of laughter, capable alike of enjoying as well as telling a good story... we highly recommend Gordon **Leidner's** *Lincoln's Gift: How Humor Shaped Lincoln's Life & Legacy*, published in 2015.



ABOVE: This 36" wall hanging was pieced by Barb **Johnson** of Hillsboro, IL. It was given to the Bond County Historical Society Quilt Show Committee in 2009. BELOW: A selfie with Abe? A once in a lifetime opportunity for the **Lewis**es of Greenville! Photos by editor.



Social Content, Hashtags Encourage Conversation

As part of an initiative started by Bond County Historical Society's reconvened Brochure & Outreach Committee, our Facebook Page Admins have been publishing themed posts with hashtags on social media. On #MuseumMonday, we feature an #ArtifactOfTheWeek. We might choose a book, an invention, a souvenir, a tool, a work of art, a piece of furniture, a toy, or any other artifact in our society's current collection. Then on #WayBackWednesday look for a photograph or image to trigger your nostalgia or present a mystery to solve. So what are you waiting for? "Follow" Bond County Museum on Facebook! Leave a kind comment or share!

A Return To Hurricane Creek Church of the Brethren

Bond County Genealogical Society and Bond County Historical Society enjoyed a good time of fellowship, food, music and learning Tuesday August 22nd at the Annual Rural Church Potluck & Program. Hurricane Creek Church of the Brethren hosted in Pleasant Mound. It is the 180th anniversary of their congregation! Their wooden pews are handmade and a few of them flip up to become communion tables – what? We were impressed, as well.

Kevin **Kaegy** (BCHS historian) emceed the evening and Brother Tom **Dooly** (moderator and worship leader for the church) presented the history of church activities, membership, leaders, and the building. The singing of the hymns “Great is Thy Faithfulness” and “Blessed Assurance” resonated marvelously throughout the cozy bright sanctuary with a choir-like beauty. At the close of the program we were treated to a short video with accompanying audio tape which was prepared for the 150th anniversary celebration of the church in 1993.

The Church of the Brethren originally formed in Germany in the 1700s as a reaction to the Reformation and break with the Pope. They thought the state-governed Lutherans cold and ritualistic and decided to “start over” to find their own religious truth through prayerful study of the New Testament Bible. Persecuted, some Brethren families sailed for America and settled in Pennsylvania, later spreading west throughout the United States. The denomination has about 1000,000 members in the United States and Puerto Rico with larger numbers on other continents.

In the earliest days of the Hurricane Creek Church of the Brethren (1843), members worshipped south of Mulberry Grove, Illinois, gathering in homes, schoolhouses, groves, and in the open under the leadership of



A bright, acoustic, and comfortable sanctuary welcomed members of B.C.G.S., B.C.H.S. to Hurricane Creek. *Photo by editor.*

Elders D.B. **Sturgis** and Jacob **Moomaw**. Large sturdy barns served for larger, four-day “communion meetings” for the area’s faithful and even more who arrived by rail. Two churches were built in 1874 to support the community, one mile south of Fairview (now Pleasant Mound). The location of the new church was just north of the Rollie **Britt** farm. Another church was completed nine miles away from the first, northwest of Mulberry Grove.

In 1881, the membership of the Hurricane Creek Church numbered about 100. In 1882, a number of members, including three ministers, went with the Old Order Brethren, a very conservative branch of the church believing in very plain dress, beliefs, and life style. An 1883 report said the church was prospering and ten had been baptized. In 1886, this church 1 mile south of Fairview (now Pleasant Mound) had 70 members, 130 attendees for a Sunday school during the summer.

In the first part of 1908, the church house was taken apart and moved on wagons into the town to its present location. The sides and ends of the building were moved, one at a time on wagons, to the erection site and propped into position until the foundation material was hauled and ready for use. At times the roads were so muddy that 100 bricks made a four-horse load. In May 1908, the church was rededicated with Elder J.W. **Lear** preaching.

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The church experienced periods of growth and decline once more as generations died and moved away, reaching a low of just 20 active members and 6 in Sunday school. Through the faithful efforts of Brethren William **Ketring**, David **Rench**, Alfred **Redenbo**, and Charles **Caylor** (Dooly's grandfather), church and Sunday school kept going.

From 1924 to 1942, new leadership held revivals and passionate sermons, plus families transferred their membership from the Mulberry Grove church. Tom Dooly's father's family had attended the Mulberry church and then transferred. That is how his father and his mother met. The twice monthly services led by elders gave way to multiple meetings and services per week, socials, ladies' aid group, and projects led by called ministers.

Dooly related, "My mother often told me she and Grandpa walked to church on snowy Sunday mornings even though it was unlikely that anyone else would come. Grandpa built a fire in a wood-burning stove, read the Sunday School lesson, and if no one else came, put out the fire and they walked back home. Grandpa always said they should go so the church would be open should someone come. I can remember when we heated the church with that large rectangular wood-burning stove. It sat in the middle of the sanctuary on a raised platform with a metal covering and the stovepipe ran straight up and over the preacher's head into the chimney flue just behind him."

A basement was dug beneath the church in 1943 just in time to hold the Brethren District Conference. Per Dooly, "Additional space was needed to handle the extra people arriving so the building was raised and new sills, cut by Grandpa Charles Caylor in his sawmill, were put under the church building and a basement was dug. Initially the basement had to be dug by hand but as work progressed, eventually horses could enter the north side of the basement and slip scoops were used increasing the speed of the work. My father told of District Conference officials visiting the church to check on progress about a month before conference time and the basement was not yet finished. They decided there was no way it could be done in time and began looking for another location. But Daddy always ended the story proudly saying the basement was completed on time and the conference hosted here, celebrating our church's 100th anniversary."

More improvements and renovations have been completed since to allow better accessibility, functionality, comfort, and safety. In 1950, the church purchased the parsonage; and later when the curve of the road was adjusted, moved it to its present location east of the church. In 1960, lots to the west were purchased for parking. During the 1990s, two staircases were reworked between the sanctuary and the basement; the stairs in the front were turned around and walled in; an addition to the back enclosed a stairway and added a classroom and ramp to the basement. An addition to the front included restrooms, classroom, and additional basement. A kitchen was added in 2000 and in 2009, a basement and kitchen renovation was finished. In 2013, the entryway classroom was converted into a hospitality nook with small kitchen appliances. In 2014 the sanctuary saw renovation, changing the somber dark wood walls and tile ceiling to cheerful white painted drywall; light fixtures were placed. Jim and Clareen **Dunn** machined, installed, and finished the oak window and door trim. Between 2017-2020, more ADA improvements were completed making both levels, ramps, and parking handicapped friendly.

The congregation currently enjoys a team of rotating ministers to lead the flock into its next 200 years, baptizing the newly saved and holding outdoor Easter sunrise services.

Thank you, Hurricane Creek Church of the Brethren (the oldest active church in the Illinois Wisconsin District, Church of the Brethren!), for inviting us back for a second time in B.C.G.S.'s ongoing Rural Church history series. It was an enlightening and joyful evening. We plan to visit Mt. Gilead Cumberland Presbyterian in 2024.

Activities

Field Trip Sept 6, 2023 to
Macoupin County Historical Museum



BCM Pop-Up Museum @ Pocahontas - Old Ripley
Volunteer Firemen & EMS Picnic July 7-8, 2023

Scrapbook

BCM welcomed Dr. and Mrs. Cabrera
from Decatur, IL July 18, 2023



Joe's Pizza & Pasta Fundraiser
September 19, 2023



BCM Christmas Open House
November 25, 2023.

Christmas at Bond County Museum

Bond County Museum invited the public and members of Bond County Historical Society to a Christmas Open House Saturday, November 25, 2023 in conjunction with the Greenville Chamber of Commerce Come Home for Christmas celebration. There were free Frosty the Snowman take home crafts for the kids, tasty cookies and candies, high school student carolers, as well as the museum's first floor of semi-permanent and seasonal historical exhibits. Once again Benjamin **Mills** Chapter NSDAR decked the halls of the U.S. **DeMoulin** mansion with DAR and vintage-themed trees, garlands, nativity scenes, ornaments, and sparkle!

The BCM/BCHS Display Committee curated limited time exhibits for the holidays into early spring:

- ◇ Wooden Painted Miniature City of Greenville Buildings that were hand created by Sherri **Rench**, on gracious loan by Heather **Mueller**. She owns 36 of them, but there are many more to collect!
- ◇ Bond county business advertising with a Christmas theme (on loan from BCHS members)
- ◇ Christmas Dinner Table (berry bowls, serving tray, candlesticks, and cut glass decanter from BCM collection; white china on loan from Kim **Myers**; silverware on loan from Michelle **Haller**; glassware on loan from Kevin **Kaegy**; wine glasses from his maternal grandmother Ellen **Jarvis** & 1910s cut glass vase from his paternal great uncle Orville **Sparlin**)
- ◇ Home Media Formats Through The Years (Life magazines, stereoscopes, 1910s cylinder and disc record phonographs, 1930s *Bond Co Farmer* newspapers, 1940s radio sets, and 1940s television sets)
- ◇ Fashionable Ladies' Accessories (hats, jewelry, boots, fans, beauty and hair tools)

Don't Forget the BCGS Publication List & Book Shop

Just a reminder that Bond County Genealogical Society has put together many publications to assist you in your research. This is a short list, but the longer list and an order form can be obtained at the society website's Book Shop www.bondcogen.org/for_sale.html. We've also updated shipping prices to reflect the current postal rates. \$5.00 for the first book, \$1.00 each additional. Contact us first for large orders! For more information or to make a purchase, email info@bondcogen.org or write us a snail mail letter.

- ◇ Naturalization and Intent Records
- ◇ Writings on the Walls of Bond County, Illinois by David M. Wall (not on form)
- ◇ Old Settlers Association of Bond County: Enrollment October 18, 1890 with membership narratives
- ◇ Obituaries from the Greenville Advocate, 1858-1899 (Indexed, Transcriptions)

Cemetery Books (Indexed, some include obituaries; most volumes were compiled pre-1990 so more recent burials will not be included):

- ◇ Paine Cemetery
- ◇ Cemeteries in Burgess Township: Burgess AKA Ethridge/Wilds, and Britt
- ◇ Cemeteries in Mills Township: Hill's Fort, O'Byrne, Hunter, and Dewey



Genealogical Conferences

Take your genealogical research skills to the next level: attend a conference, seminar, or institute! We've put together a partial list of Genealogical Conferences in Illinois, the Midwest, and the United States. Wherever your niche family history interest lies, by subject or location, make your own search for upcoming conferences in that area!

RootsTech by FamilySearch

February 29-March 2, 2024 — Salt Lake City, Utah, and Online at Home

familysearch.org/rootstech/home

Ohio Genealogical Society Conference: Rockin' Around Your Family Tree

April 10-13, 2024 — Kalahari Resort and Convention Center, Sandusky, Ohio

ogs.org/2024-conference

Indiana Genealogical Society Annual Meeting & Conference

April 19-20, 2024 — Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, Indiana, plus ZOOM

indgensoc.org/2024conference.php

St. Louis Genealogical Society 52nd Annual Family History Conference

TBA 2024 — Maryland Heights Community Center, Maryland Heights, Missouri, plus ZOOM

stlgs.org/events/family-history-conference

National Genealogical Society 2024 Family History Conference, Expanding Possibilities

May 16-18, 2024 — Online at Home

conference.ngsgenealogy.org

McHenry County Illinois Genealogical Society Virtual Summer Conference

TBA 2024

mcigs.org/conference-2024.html



The Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research Virtual Institute

July 21-26, 2024 — Online at Home

ighr.gagensociety.org/2024-ighr/

Fox Valley Genealogical Society 30th Fall Virtual Conference

September 28, 2024

ilfvgs.org/education/conference

26th Annual Conference on Illinois History

October 3-4, 2024 — Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, Springfield, Illinois

presidentlincoln.illinois.gov/learn/library-research/research-divisions/conference-on-illinois-history/

Illinois State Genealogical Society (ISGS) Fall Conference

TBA 2024

ilgensoc.com

Genealogy Society of Southern Illinois Family Conference and Book Fair

unknown

ilgssi.org

St Clair County Genealogical Society's Summer Seminar

unknown

stclair-ilgs.org/events

Annual Quad Cities Genealogical Conference

unknown

ricigs.org/education-events/meetings-calendar
scottcountyroots.org

BCGS Correspondence Queries Report

Since implementing our email address, info@bondcogen.org, ten years ago, our correspondence volunteers have been busy answering all sorts of Bond County genealogical and historical questions. More than 540 of them! This report deals with the approximately 164 emails received between January 2022 and December 2023.

The percentage of email inquiries concerning the details and services of our society continues to increase and is creeping closer to one half. These emails ask about memberships; newsletter subscriptions; publications for sale; donating items to the society; passing along an announcement from another society; contacting a cemetery or editor; and arranging for research assistance in our family history resource library located on the lower level of Greenville Public Library.

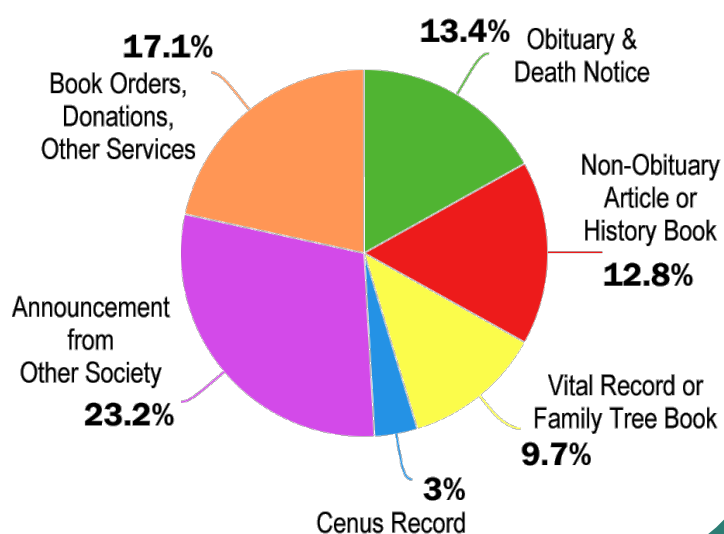
Thirteen percent of the research requests have been for copies of obituaries and death notices originally published in Greenville's two longest running newspapers, *The Advocate* and *The Sun*. The papers are available in microfilm archives but have not been indexed, digitized, or put online. This rebounding number of obituary requests is still a marked reduction from 2015-2016's amount which was close to one half.

Appeals for articles, vital records, and family history book excerpts continued a downward trend. But forty-two still requested newspaper, census, map, or other publication look-ups of marriages; burial locations; family charts; links between parents, children, and siblings; clues as to why a few members of a family changed their surname while others didn't; and even locations of farms, hotels, and churches. Twice we proved another set of eyes searching sets of Census pages are better than one. We were able to locate a family and informally adopted child living in a community straddling two counties and follow them from Keyesport to northern Colorado.

One query concerned a search for information on the early life of a Kentucky-born Mexican War veteran who was taken in by a Cottonwood Grove (near Sorento) family. We found him in BCHS's 1979 "Red Book," cemetery readings, marriage records, public land tract purchases, pension applications index, and Census records. The fostering family turned up in Alton Telegraph articles: accused of being "strong rebel sympathizers" in 1864 and "passing counterfeit money" in 1875. Another series of queries focused on a Sorento family who lost a dizzying number of members to epidemics over ten years: typhoid, measles, tuberculosis, and influenza. We were able to confirm a few family stories and refute others, pulling articles and obituaries from Greenville newspapers.

In fifteen instances we've been unable to locate the information requested – the same amount as last period. The name, year, place, or other clue as provided simply is not present in any of the books, newspapers, records, indices, or member knowledge base.

Here's a breakdown of the online correspondence and remote research assistance in the two year period between Jan 2022 and Dec 2023. Pie Graph courtesy meta-chart.com.



VFW Auxiliary Donates Original 1936 Charter

Bond County Historical Society was delighted to accept donations the morning of July 8, 2023 at Bond County Museum from the local Ladies Auxiliary Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). Items included the June 19, 1936 original charter for the Bond County Memorial Auxiliary of Post No. 1377 stationed at Greenville, Illinois and a hanging tapestry commemorating 100 years of the VFW Auxiliary National Organization 1914-2014.

The charter contains the names of many founding members: mothers, wives, widows, sisters, daughters, grandmothers, and granddaughters of men who served in the armed forces. Female service members were also authorized to constitute the auxiliary.

The VFW Auxiliary is a patriotic service organization, hosting fundraisers and other activities to benefit their VFW post veterans and their community in the form of Christmas presents for seniors and children, student scholarships, and the annual Veterans Day BBQ. In 2015, Ladies Auxiliary VFW resolved to welcome male spouses and family members to join so it changed the name of the organization.

Presenting the donations to Bond County Historical Society President Cary **Holman** were VFW Auxiliary representatives Bev **Darbyshire** (in stars and stripes) and Sherral **Langel** (in red polo). Thank you and BCHS looks forward to telling your story in a future museum display!!



Allen County Public Library Website First To Publish With Vega Promote Web

Press Release: Innovative Interfaces, Inc. [December 1, 2023] — Allen County Public Library (ACPL) in Fort Wayne, Indiana is the first library to launch a website made with Innovative's new website builder, Vega Promote Web powered by Wix, a leading global SaaS platform redefining the landscape of website development. The library was seeking a solution that would support their vision for a seamless user experience and greater discovery for their community, whether online or in a library branch. ACPL used the opportunity to redesign two sites for their community: the main library website and the ACPL Genealogy Center website.

Allen County is home to the largest public library genealogy collection in the country, which serves visitors from across the country and around the world. It was important to ACPL to create a separate website for the genealogy collection that blended seamlessly with the library website and offered an intuitive interface for researchers going directly to that collection. Check it out! <https://www.genealogy.acpl.lib.in.us/>

"Our goal is to give libraries the platforms and tools they need to attract and engage their community and offer an exceptional library experience to all users," said Yariv Kursh, Senior Vice President & General Manager of Innovative. "Our collaboration with Allen County demonstrates the benefit of choosing tools that are designed to work together and with the ILS." Libraries will also benefit from Wix's AI assistance, advanced customization capabilities, and enterprise-grade performance, security and reliability. Vega Promote Web is available today for libraries of all types.

A Brief History of Surnames by Country of Origin

What type of name is yours?

Continued from Part 2 in the B.C.G.S. News Vol 38, Issue 2, Summer 2023.

Surnames were originally added to people's first names to distinguish them from other people who had the same first name locally e.g. Robert the baker or Robert at the wood. Initially they were changed or dropped at will, but were eventually passed on from generation to generation. Your last name gives you a sense of identity and helps you discover who you are and where you come from.

The olden German name was a single name, composed of two syllables with each syllable representing a root and each root having a specific meaning. This name was very important to the Germans, for it represented that whatever they were today, whatever they would be tomorrow, and whatever virtues they would pass along to their namesakes, all lay in that "name" and so the Germans chose their name very carefully. Root classifications are mainly military, terrain, professional and personal characteristics. There are numerous roots designating "farmer" and the same word can often double as "manager." **Turner** has a meaning of "tower dweller or keeper." **Schrolucke** designated "tailor at swamp." It wasn't until 1871 that Germany became a unified country. Until then, it was made up of smaller nation-states whose borders frequently changed. Even after 1871, Germany's land area and political influence shifted several times. Because of this, German last names can be found throughout bordering countries, including Poland, Austria, France and Spain. Another tricky thing about German last names: a last name could be what you would call a farm name. If a German moved onto someone else's farm, it was not uncommon to change his last name to that of the farm. If his wife inherited a farm, he might change his name to her maiden name.

In Switzerland, you'll find last names with French, Italian, German, and Romansh roots, all of which are official languages in Switzerland. The most common Swiss last name is **Müller**, which means "miller" in English. You'll find Müllers mainly in the German-speaking cantons, which make up most of the land area of Switzerland.

If you have a Norwegian last name, you find it a little difficult to trace your family history back further than a few generations. That's because before 1923, the most common last names in Norway ended in -son, -sen, -dotter, or -datter, which mean "son of" or "daughter of," and changed with each generation: aka the patronymic tradition. So Carl **Johanssen** is Carl, son of Johan. But Carl's daughter Anna might be Anna **Carlsdotter**. In 1923, the Norwegian gov-



Philipson Name Meaning

English and Jewish (western Ashkenazic): patronymic from the personal name Philip. Americanized form (and a Swedish variant) of Swedish Philipsson: patronymic from the personal name Philip. Americanized form of Dutch, North German, and Danish Philipsen, a cognate of the above. Similar surnames: PHILLIPSON & PHILIP.

Information from *Dictionary of American Family Names* © Patrick Hanks 2003, 2006. Image from familysearch.org/surname

(Continued on page 20)

Surnames by Country of Origin, continued...

(Continued from page 19)

ernment mandated all Norwegian families to choose a last name they could pass down from generation to generation. Families often stuck with their current patronymic last name, but some chose the farm or other place they lived. **Bakke**, **Berg**, **Dahl**, and **Haagen**, remain in use today.

Surnames were not originally common in Sweden either. Before the 1900s, the patronymic tradition determined last names. One third of all Swedish surnames end with -son (e.g. **Svensson**, **Johansson**, **Gustavsson**). Once surnames gained popularity, it was often names of trees and animals that were used. The ending -qvist/-kvist means twig; -ström is stream (river), and -ek is oak.

Much like the rest of Scandinavian Europe, surnames in Denmark were created using the patronymic tradition, which is why most end in -sen. In the 1820s, this tradition was outlawed, but it took another 50 years for Denmark to change it. As of January 2022, **Nielsen** was the most common surname in Denmark. In that year, 232,807 people bore the name in the country. That was around three thousand individuals more compared to the second most popular surname, **Jensen**. In Iceland it's perfectly acceptable to follow the matrilineal line and for children to take their mother's name (e.g. **Annasdottir**, **Annasson**), or both parents' names. such as the current mayor of Reykjavik, Dagur **Bergþóruson Eggertsson**.

When the French invaded the Netherlands in 1795, civil authorities began – for taxation and census purposes – the mandatory creation of a fixed family surname. Though many Dutch names have a significant origin like a patronymic, an occupation, or a position within the community, others translate to rather hilarious terms. Believing Napoleon's measure to be temporary, many Dutch people gave surnames that translated to hilarious or obscene phrases and words. Unfortunately for the Dutch, this practical joke has lasted for generations. Fortunately for Dutch-descended genealogists, the recordkeeping also nearly always included women's maiden names.

Hungarian names are unique in the sense that given names follow the family name. This is common in East Asia, but not in Europe. Some Hungarian surnames relate to professions like **Szabó** - "tailor", **Kovács** - "smith," **Halász** - "fisher". Others refer to ethnic origin.

Like many cultures, last names of Spanish origin are derived from family names, place names, descriptive names, or names of occupations. Spanish names, however, don't always follow a linear path. A person, for example may have two last names, one from their mother and one from their father. Their children may take two last names from their father and one from their mother. A woman may take only her mother's surname. It may also be helpful to check out the "Ultimate Guide to Mexican Names." <https://www.familyeducation.com/the-ultimate-guide-to-mexican-names>

Portuguese surnames are often patronymic or locative, especially names of trees. Surnames with religious meanings or connotations are also common. You probably knew that there are many people in Brazil with Portuguese last names, but did you know that there are a number in India who can trace their last names back to Portugal, as well? Before it was a British colony, large parts of India were claimed by Portugal. From 1498 until 1975, Portugal had a presence there. Portuguese men married Indian women, Portuguese orphan girls were sent to India to marry high-ranking Indian officials, and some Indians changed their

(Continued on page 21)

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names when they converted to Catholicism.

It wasn't until after the Norman Conquest in 1066 that the English began to use last names. But by the 15th century, nearly every family had one. English last names come from a variety of sources, including places, nicknames, estate names, occupations and physical attributes. Today, there are about 45,000 English last names. Surnames in Cornwall became mandatory by the later half of the Middle Ages. Surnames were often used to describe the occupation of the family.

Like the English, the people of Scotland didn't really use last names until they were introduced by the Normans in 1066. Many Scottish last names were taken from Gaelic personal names. Families added Mc or Mac, which means "son of" to a first name to create a family name. This was especially used in the Highlands.

For centuries, even through the Norman invasion, Irish last names defined Gaelic clans and septs (smaller groups within clans). It wasn't until British colonization that last names were changed to sound more Anglican and to disrupt the Gaelic way of life. To this day, research into Irish genealogy is difficult because of the changing (and disappearance) of some names. Even when your Irish name includes the prefix "Mac," "Nic," "O," or the Norman "Fitz," the rest may not originate from a father's name. Many surnames also came from occupational or descriptive words: **O'Clery** was someone descended from a clerk and **MacCloran** was son of a spokesman. **Duff** meant "dark", **Bane** meant "white", **Bray, Kelly**, and **Sutton** derived from places.

Your last name – surname or family name – holds clues to your family history. Whether you have a common or unique last name, learning the meaning behind your name can unlock new details of your genealogy. It's more than just about what your name means. It's about your family history and your ancestor's journey which helped shape who you are today. Start with two simple questions, "What's my last name origin?" and "What does my last name mean?" to watch your family history come to life.

Works Cited and Consulted for further reading:

"Last Names by Country of Origin" <https://www.familyeducation.com/baby-names/browse-origin/surname>

"7 Different Types of English Surnames Revealed" <https://www.goodto.com/family/types-of-english-surnames>

Geneanet's "Origin, Etymology and Popularity of Your Last Name" <https://en.geneanet.org/surnames/>

Forebears' "Search for Meanings & Distribution of 31 Million Surnames" <https://forebears.io/surnames/>

Ancestral Findings <https://ancestralfindings.com/>

"63 Italian Last Names That Are *Chef's Kiss*" <https://www.scarymommy.com/italian-last-names/>

"Follow-Up: Jewish Surnames Explained" <https://slate.com/human-interest/2014/01/jewish-names-the-etymology-and-meaning-of-ashkenazi-jewish-surnames.html>

"German Surnames – Their Meaning & Origin" <https://newbremenhistory.org/en/content/11-german-surnames-their-meaning-origin>

FamilySearch's Last Name Meaning & Origin Search <https://www.familysearch.org/en/surname>

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"Windmills, Tulips, and Wooden Shoes: A Guide to Dutch Surnames" <https://www.legacytree.com/blog/dutch-surnames>

Ancestry Blog's "A History of Irish Surnames" <https://blogs.ancestry.com/cm/history-of-irish-surnames>

"Why Do We Have Surnames?" <https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/>

"What Are the Most Common Last Names in the World?" <https://people.howstuffworks.com/culture-traditions/>

"Fascinating Map Reveals the Most Common Surnames in Every Country" <https://mymodernmet.com/most-common-surnames-map/>

Eight Surnames Are So Much Better Than Just One

By Rebecca Clausen, a Danish, Dutch, Jewish, English, Scottish, German American

I have eight great-grandparents. All of us do. I share an average of 12.5% of my DNA with each of them. I can name them all, even if I only ever got to meet one of them. Often curious about the surnames in my family tree, I've periodically looked into their origins and meanings. It's easier these days with so many websites and books dedicated to the topic. Still, some names are steeped in more mystery than others.

Here's what I found! The order of the names is basically the fourth column moving down your standard Ahnentafel pedigree chart.

Clausen ♦ The son of Claus with Claus being a pet form of the Greek Nikolaus, translated as "victory of the people." Danish and Norwegian. My Claus has been traced to Claus **Wefstsen**, born about 1777 on the island of Bornholm, Denmark.

Nielsen ♦ The son of Niels with Niels being a pet form of Nikolaus. Danish, Norwegian, and Dutch. It is presently the most common surname in Denmark! BOTH of my great-great-grandparents were Nielsens!

Zwart ♦ Black, in Dutch. A nickname for someone with black hair or a dark complexion. My Zwart was Jewish (western Ashkenazic) and immigrated from Amsterdam.

Duker ♦ To dive or duck, in Dutch. May be occupational name for someone whose trade involved the handling of ducks.

Hopkins ♦ The son of Hob with Hob being a colloquial form of the English Robert, itself deriving from the Germanic warrior name Hrod-berht, translated as "renowned-fame."

Tryon ♦ Of English or Dutch origin and uncertain derivation. Name of several prominent English and American persons.

Waite ♦ The watchman or lookout, especially a watchman in a castle or fortified place. English and Norman French.

Smull ♦ Americanized form of Dutch "de Smul," a nickname for a glutton, toper, or lecher, from the definite article de + Middle Dutch smul "person of large appetites." Just as possibly, the name could be traced from the German **Schmoll**, being a nickname from Middle High German smollen: "to smile," also "to pout." (How can it mean both??!!)

Eight names make a list just the right length for memory and recitation. It's fair to each name, to each ancestor. It gives you eight historical paths to walk down. I would love it if everyone had this knowledge of themselves.



Left to Right: Albert (Bert) Hopkins, son Earl Hopkins, Bert's wife and Earl's mother Wanda Tryon Hopkins. In front is Earl's daughter Jane. Jane is Rebecca's mother. Photo circa 1949.

Access Digital Highland Newspapers For Free!

The Louis Latzer Memorial Public Library in Highland (Madison County), Illinois offers more than just their on site History Room to assist in your family genealogy quest. Online resources you can access from the comfort of home include Digital Local Newspapers, Yearbooks, Historical Highland City and Business Profiles, Church Books, and City Documents! Visit the library's website: <https://highlandilllibrary.org/genealogy/> and follow the links for "Digital Local Newspapers" or "Historical Highland" or "Digital Yearbooks."



Genealogy Tips Of The Day from Michael John Neill's blog: genealogytipoftheday.com

Estate Bills & Payments

If you are fortunate enough to find an estate settlement for an ancestor that lists bills paid out by the estate, read through all those payments—they can tell you more than who the heirs or beneficiaries were. Those payments can tell you to whom your ancestor owed money, with whom he did business, where the funeral was held, what church he went to, what general store he purchased items from (perhaps even some items purchased), and more. It may be tedious, but I have found clues to religious affiliations, newspaper subscriptions, and other references that could lead to additional records and materials to search.

New Area... New Sources? More Than a Change in Location Name

Imagine you are researching your ancestor in a new location—one where you have never researched before. Don't assume that the address was the only thing that changed when your ancestor moved. Different areas can easily have different sources, especially if the "new area" is in a different state, an area with a different population density, an area with a different ethnic background.

Unless your ancestor moved from the upstairs bedroom to the downstairs bedroom, there's the chance she crossed a political boundary. Crossing that boundary means: laws may change, types of records available may change, records access may change, information contained in records may change, your ancestor's citizenship status may change, or something else. Never assume what's available in one area will be available in another. Thinking you know is different from actually knowing.

Multiple Occupations? Retirement and Job Transitions?

Genealogists often use occupation as a way to distinguish one person from another. Keep in mind that some individuals may have had more than one occupation during their lifetime. Some people may easily have had multiple occupations at the same time. Your farmer ancestor may have also been the preacher at a local church. Your relative who was a teacher during the school year may have worked construction during their summer vacation. Your ancestor who worked for the railroad for twenty years may have later done factory work or had some other type of non-railroad job.

If your ancestor transitioned from one job to another, have you tracked in your genealogical records when that happened (along with your source)? If your ancestor actually retired, have you recorded that information as well? Job changes can be key events in a person's life and a time when they make other changes as well. Some people work the same job until they pass away—others do a variety of things... including retirement. Don't forget to track those things when you can.

Moses Lyttaker Family of Bond and Schyuler Counties, IL

By Janet Pease, Northfield, Minnesota, jkpease2509@gmail.com

Continued from Part 1 in the B.C.G.S. News Vol 38, Issue 2, Summer 2023.

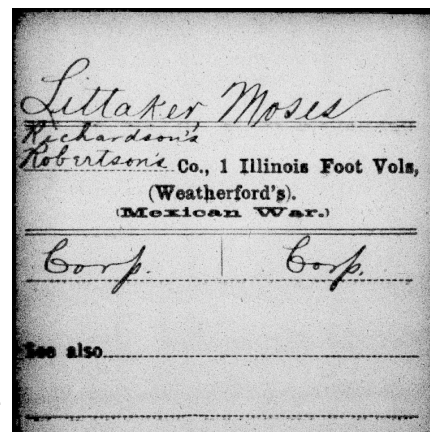
Besides the 1850 census for Schuyler Co., IL, the best source of information for **Moses Lyttaker** [son of Peter Lytakker and Mary Elizabeth Hignight] is his and his widow's pension records from his service in the Mexican War. He served as a corporal with Company E with the 1st Regiment of Illinois Volunteers in "Richardson's Company," enlisting on June 26, 1846 in Alton, Illinois. For one pension, his application is #2641. Other pension papers dated December 7, 1847 with a case #11707 notes he was a corporal with the 3rd Regiment Illinois "Cav." Volunteers in "Robertson's Company," and that he had been granted "160 acres." Capt. **G.W. Robertson** of Rushville is also mentioned. There appear to be two sets of pension papers here with different information in each. [Editor's Note: A Pvt. Rowland G. Lyttaker and a Pvt. Joseph H. Lyttaker also served in this same Richardson's/Robertson's Co. per Ancestry.com. Moses did have brothers by these names.] Another pension paper said Moses served as a 2nd lieutenant. These papers said Moses died in Bond Co., IL on February 26, 1866 "of chronic diarrhea which he contracted in the war with Mexico." His discharge papers, however, say there "is no sign of disability."

He left a widow, Mary, as of January 29, 1887 in Illinois. She filed for a pension on August 12, 1887 based on her husband's service. Another statement was made in Bond Co., IL on April 6, 1870 as **Mary J. Lyttaker**, aged 44. She stated at that time (1870) that she was the widow of Moses Lyttaker who had enlisted June 1, 1846 as a corporal in the Co E. 1st Reg, war with Mexico. She has not been identified in the 1880 U.S. Federal Census.

Afterwards Moses served (likely in service in the Civil War) as a 2nd lieutenant in Company D (and Co. F) in the 3rd Regiment of Illinois Cavalry Volunteers. He had enlisted on September 21, 1861 but resigned on December 5, 1861 for "family reasons." Papers in the pension applications (Mexican War and Civil War) seem to have been combined, with the Civil War pension papers being more useful for genealogy. Mary J. states she was married to said soldier as **Mary Jane Points** on October 13, 1847 in Brown Co., IL; "neither she nor her husband had been married before." This is wrong: Moses had married first to **Betsey Henry** in Bond Co., IL on May 28, 1840. But, best of all, Mary J. listed their children "who are under 16 years of age and who are his legitimate children."

- ◇ John R. born August 4, 1850
- ◇ Thomas born February 21, 1853
- ◇ Mary E. born February 17, 1855
- ◇ Amanda E. born February 16, 1858
- ◇ Moses F. born February 6, 1861

It should be noted here that the first time I ordered copies of Moses' pension papers (probably in the 1970s) the papers with this list of children was not included. In preparing this article, I ordered the pension pa-



Top section of Military Service reference card available on Ancestry.com for Moses Lyttaker. "Richardson's/Robertson's Co., 1 Illinois Foot Vols, (Weatherford's), Mexican War, rank Corp."

(Continued on page 25)

(Continued from page 24)

pers again, and got this important information on his children!

Mary also stated in the pension application that she had not abandoned the children or in any manner been engaged in or abetted the rebellion in the United States. **Thomas M. Brown** and **Moses File** stated they were both present when Mary J. Lyttaker of Bond county signed her name to these documents. Both Thomas M. Brown and Moses File are buried in the same cemetery as Moses Lyttaker in Bond county. Brown's second wife was a File and Moses File's wife was **Elizabeth Lyttaker** (likely Moses Lyttaker's sister).

In these Mexican War pension papers was a second affidavit signed by Mary Jane Lyttaker of Camden, Schuyler Co., IL dated July 30, 1887 in Schuyler county on which states that Moses Lyttaker enlisted in Alton, Illinois in June (no day is given) 1846. Then the discharge (previous information given above) is repeated but includes the information that Moses served and rendezvoused at San Antonio, Texas under General **[Thomas John] Wood**, then to Mexico and joined General **Zachary Taylor** in the Mexican War.

Mary Lyttaker then states on another form that she "suffers from general disability, not being able to labor for her support." This statement was made on July 30, 1887. Witnesses to this statement were **Luke P. Alphin** (who had married Mary Jane's sister, **Amanda Points**, in 1847 in Schuyler county) and Mary Jane's brother, **John A. Points**. Mary Jane then states that her husband had served for 60 days and was honorably discharged and received a bound Land Warrant, his discharge "being on file with the application for the land warrant."

There is also a statement in this application from **Lavina Thompson** who states she was present at the birth of Mary E. Lyttaker on November 17, 1855 [*Editor's Note: earlier in this essay the author states Mary E. was born in February.*], child of Moses and Mary J, his wife, and that she (Mary E.) is her legitimate child. Lavina signed with her mark. She (born 1812 in Ohio) and her husband John B. Thompson are living in Bond county on the 1860 U.S. Federal Census but I could find no information linking her to the family of Moses or Mary Jane Lyttaker. There were 2 other witnesses along with Lavina Thompson to Mary Jane's statement: **S.A. Rach(?)** and **Sarah J. File**. **William File** married Sarah Lyttaker in 1846 in Bond county.

Moses Lyttaker served in Co. D & F., 3rd Regiment Illinois Cavalry in the Civil War, having enlisted on May 11, 1864 and was mustered out on September 28, 1864. Moses has yet another Civil War enlistment on May 11, 1864 in Co. F 135th Infantry; he was mustered out at Mattoon, IL on September 1864. He died February 26, 1866 and is buried in the File Cemetery between Pocahontas and Old Ripley, Bond Co., IL. His tombstone photo is online on Findagrave.com and bond.illinoisgenweb.org. The tombstone seems to have been recently installed through the efforts of a local group. [*Editor's Note: Tombstone photographed by Frank Elam on Sep 8, 2012 is transcribed: "SERG CO F 135 ILL INF" and includes a birthdate of April 1, 1820.*]



Links between Moses Lyttaker and Henry Oliver File of Bond Co.

Moses' siblings are documented in Gerald Jenner's volumes on the File family, published by BCGS 1976, 1982, 1993 and Willodean Nease Schofield's volumes on the Harned Families, c1972. Mary A. "Polly" Lyttaker married George F. File, first son of H.O. File and his first wife, Margaret "Petty" Reep, in 1822. They had fourteen children. Their son John Franklin File "began business as a blacksmith with his grandfather, Peter Lyttaker. John was also a constable and a deputy sheriff of Bond county." Elizabeth Lyttaker married Moses File, third son of Henry and Peggy. Eleanor "Nellie" File Mullican, a daughter of H.O. File and his second wife Mary Hagler Anthony, married John H. Lyttaker Jul. 2, 1839. William File married Sarah Jane Lyttaker Sep. 28, 1846.

Watch for Part 3 in the B.C.G.S. News Vol 39, Issue 2, Summer 2024.

Illinois History Podcasts Launched in 2023

More Than Just The Lincolns

Illinois State Historical Society's new podcast, "More than Just The Lincolns," finally made its debut June 3, 2023! The half-hour episodes are currently available on Amazon, Audible, iHeart Radio, Spotify and Podbean, with more locations being added soon!

First up... special guest Dr. Dan **Monroe** talks about Chicago's long and storied history with presidential nominating conventions from Lincoln to Clinton. Next, special guest Anne E. **Moseley** discusses how rural counties in Central Illinois led the way to getting financial help for women and children in need, from the local and county level all the way to the state legislature, passing the first law of its kind in the country. Up third, Dr. James **Cornelius** looks at the media in Illinois, Civil War General Ambrose **Burnside** and other Union commanders who issued orders to shut down the presses in Chicago and other Illinois cities, often to the anger of citizens and violations of the Constitution.

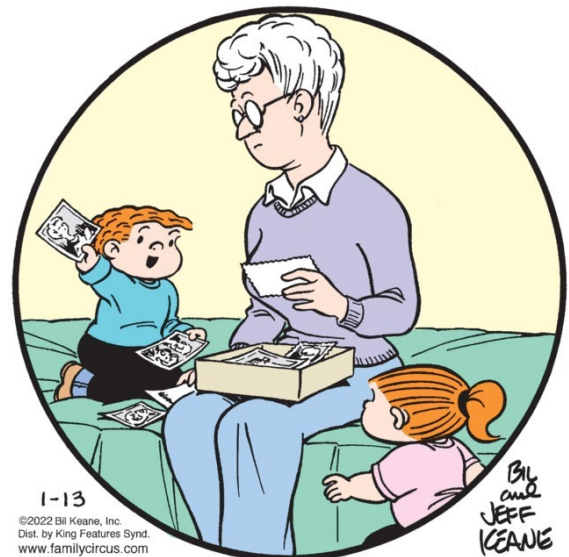
What stories or topics from Illinois history would you like the ISHS podcast to cover outside of Chicago and the **Lincoln** Family? Let them know on their Facebook page! facebook.com/112877422100328

Secrets and Surprises in Illinois: Heritage Corridor Destinations

Heritage Corridor Destinations launched an audio series on December 4, 2023 called “Secrets and Surprises in Illinois.” The series will feature 40 episodes, with each one telling “a different story of interesting people, places and things in Illinois,” according to a news release from the Joliet-based tourism bureau. Episodes will be two minutes in length, and a new episode will be released most Mondays. The episodes will be aired on radio stations throughout Illinois and be available on major podcast platforms, according to the release. So far, we can enjoy stories about JF **McCullough**, Gerhart **Suppiger**, and James **Dewar**.

Ancestry Pro Tools

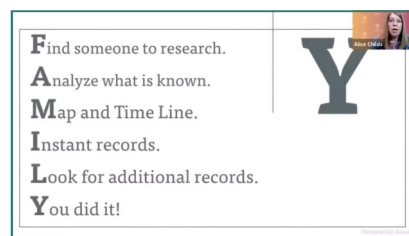
Ancestry recently released Ancestry Pro Tools, a bundle of new features to work with your Ancestry family tree. These are some of the biggest non-DNA features that they've released in ages. But, there is a big downside to them. "Pro Tools" is a misnomer since amateur and casual genealogists need these tools as much as professionals. It is a U.S.-only feature and \$10/mo on top of your subscription. **Error Checker** alerts for possible mistakes in profiles: duplicates, births after maternal deaths or residences after deaths. More of a "sanity check" than an evaluation. This feature deserves to be free, as errors in trees affect your DNA thru-lines and common ancestor suggestions. **Filters in the 'List of All People'** narrows by family line or events and places! Yay! Under Tools, **Charts and Reports** will create, print, download, and share multi-generational histories. With **Map Views**, see where



**“Grandma’s showin’ me pictures
from way back when
she was NEW.”**

The #1 Class from FamilySearch at RootsTech 2023

RootsTech 2024 is on its way—In Person event February 29-March 2, 2024 and watch ONLINE live or later—but we're still utilizing great concepts learned in 2023. You can remember the genealogy research process by thinking about the word F-A-M-I-L-Y. Genealogy research is founded on basic principles that hold true whether you are a novice or an expert. Following six simple steps will help you ask and answer questions about your ancestors and their extended families. If you missed Alice **Childs**'s live webinar and want to learn more about each step of the genealogy research process, you can watch it here, plus download her syllabus—familysearch.org/rootstech/session/research-101-tools-and-techniques-for-beginning-genealogists



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.

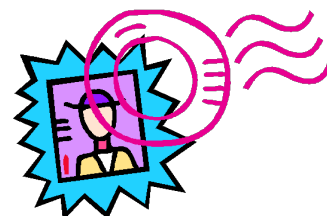
Genealogical queries with connections to Bond County and its communities in Southern Illinois are published free of charge to members (and non-members!) in our Newsletter (though members have priority on query space). Anyone is invited to submit the names and brief identifying information of ancestors 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 Rev James Ball Woolard, b 16 Dec 1804 Buford Co NC, mov to Mulberry Grove Bond Co IL abt 1831, m Mary McCurley. dpl Greenville Bond Co IL 4 May 1887. --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,
published jointly since 2014 with the Bond County Historical Society

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www.bondcogen.org
www.bondcountyhistorical.org



Renew Your Dues for 2024!

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).

In Tribute To Those Friends BCGS Has Lost

Mary Jeanette McClure Coleman

Jan 25, 1938—Sep 29, 2023

Jeanette was born in Symsonia, KY to Reginald Jackson and Mary Maureen (**Gough**) **McClure**. Jeanette graduated from Symsonia High School in 1956, received a BS from Murray State University in 1960, and a MS from University of Illinois in 1964. She married John Dennis **Coleman** March 28, 1964, together for 58 years until his death in 2022. In 1960 Jeanette moved to Greenville, IL, teaching home economics in schools for ten years before starting her family. She also taught 4 years at Vandalia. In 1979 she and her husband bought and operated Greenville Greenhouses. From 1984 Jeanette managed the school district's food service for 15 years before her retirement. She spent her retirement caring for her family, cooking, volunteering, and doing genealogy research. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church, Pierian Club, the Bond County Historical and Genealogical Societies. She is survived by son John Spencer (Treasurer of BCHS & BCGS), daughter Jennifer Louise, 2 grandsons, a sister, and a brother. Interment at Mt. Auburn Cemetery, Greenville.

William Edwin Davidson

Dec 20, 1937—Jun 2, 2023

Bill was born in Springfield, OH to Robert Edwin and Janice Virginia (**Barber**) **Davidson**. He married Sara Ann **Yoder** October 10, 1959 in Mount Morris, IL. They were blessed with 63 years of marriage, 2 daughters (Susan Lynn & Jane Alice), 6 granddaughters, and 4 great-grandchildren. Bill played professionally in a band, enjoyed YMCA sports, and had a 36 year career with Bell Telephone. He also established his own telephone service co that terminated in 2007. April 1968, Bill and family moved to Greenville where he joined the Lake Board, Commercial Club, Kiwanis Club, Kingsbury Park District, City Council, Muny Band Board, and the Library Board. The study of history—world, national and local—was of great interest to Bill. He especially liked gathering stories and pictures about Greenville and Bond County. Bill was a collector and clock repairman; his antique clocks and marbles were unique. In addition to his wife and daughters, he is survived by two brothers. One sister preceded Bill in death. Interment at Montrose Cemetery, Greenville.

