# Bond County Genealogical Society News

***Volume 29, Issue 2*** ***Summer July 2014***

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

## Colonel Reid's Sword Comes Home

**By Rebecca Clausen**

Col. Reid's sword, TV star, on loan in the museum's Civil War room. Photo courtesy Greenville Chamber of Commerce.

Local viewers of the PBS television program Antiques Roadshow were treated to a surprise the night of Monday, January 13, 2014. One of the segments featured the sword of Colonel John B. **Reid**, commander and hero of the Civil War's 130th Illinois Infantry, a regiment that included hundreds of Bond County boys. Victoria **Betz**, current owner of the sword, lives in Utah, but her father, Ward Reid Betz, great-grandson of the colonel himself, was born right here in Greenville.

In her segment Victoria shared her story of Col. Reid with the show's Arms & Militaria appraiser, Rafael **Eledge**. She said,

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### Special points of interest:

- Story of the Bass-Mollett House, Part 2.
- Tribute to Fred Baumberger (1920-2014).
- Greenville Connection on PBS "Antiques Roadshow" Produces Family Reunion.
- Two Upcoming Bicentennials.
- Obscura Antiques and Oddities of New York visits Greenville and the DeMoulin Museum.
- New Edition of Forts & Blockhouses of Early Illinois Released.
- Cemetery Maps and Indices Available Online.
- New Acquisitions at BCGS Library.

*"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 Genealogical Society

Officers
President - Kevin Kaegy
Vice President - Lester Harnetiaux
Treasurer - Elaine Anthony
Recording Secretary - Meta Fry
Corresponding Secretary - Cindy Tischhauser
Historian - Kevin Kaegy
Editor - open
Directors - Tom Paine, Gerald Jenner, Mike Evans

Appointees
Library - Jane Hopkins
Program - Kevin Kaegy
Membership - Elaine Anthony
Publicity - Lester Harnetiaux
Hospitality - Dorothy Hawley
Cemetery - open
Research - Beutonne McKean & Cindy Tischhauser
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

# Bond County Historical Society

2013-2014 Officers
President - Lester Harnetiaux
Vice President - John Goldsmith
Treasurer - John S. Coleman
Secretary - Jane Hopkins

Directors
Burgess Twp - George Gobberdiel
Central Twp. - Sharon Grimes
Tamalco Twp - Gayle Wise
Mills Twp - Kathy Brewer
Pleasant Mound Twp - William Johnson
Old Ripley Twp - Gerald Jenner
Shoal Creek Twp - Tom Varner
LaGrange Twp - Kevin Kaegy
Mulberry Grove Twp - Jeannine Gobberdiel

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:

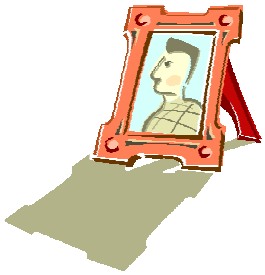
Bond County Historical Society, P.O. Box 376, Greenville, IL 62246

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.



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

# 2014 Events Calendar

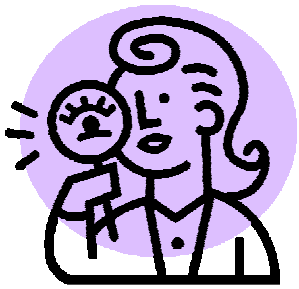
May 3, 2014 Hoiles-Davis Museum opens for the 2014 season.
May 3, 2014 Historical Society Quilt Show (12th Annual)
May 26, 2014 Reception for Col. John Reid descendents and Reid's Civil War era sword at Hoiles-Davis Museum.
June 19, 2014 Pie & Ice Cream Social featuring the Greenville Municipal Band on Hoiles-Davis Museum lawn.
August 26, 2014 Rural Church History Program @ Wisetown Baptist Church.
September 12-14, 2014 Living History Events at Hill's Fort replica site at American Farm Heritage Museum; Commemorates 1814 Attack on Hill's Fort.
October 2014 Historical Society Annual Dinner Meeting plus Elections.
December 31, 2014 Greenville's Bicentennial Blast-Off sponsored in part by Bond County Historical Society.

*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 17.



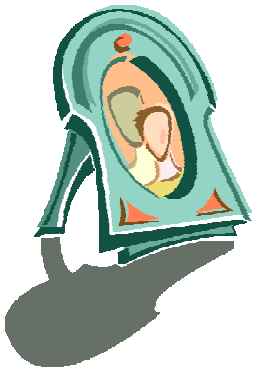
# Hoiles-Davis Museum 2014 Displays

*The Hoiles-Davis Museum is located at 318 W. Winter St. in Greenville, Illinois.*

*Open Saturday 10 a.m. to noon and Sunday 2 to 4 p.m.*

*May—October*

*Tours also by appointment.*



The Hoiles-Davis Museum opened for the 2014 season on Saturday, May 3 in conjunction with the annual Historical Society Quilt Show.

New museum exhibits include a sword which belonged to Col. John B. Reid; a display featuring the veteran for this year, Robert Wilson; memorabilia celebrating Greenville's Sesquicentennial celebration in 1965; and recent acquisitions including an unusual automobile license plate from 1924 and auto sales artifacts found prior to the demolition of an iconic commercial building.

Col. **Reid**'s presentation sword is currently on loan from his great-great-granddaughter, Victoria **Betz**, following its television appearance on PBS' *Antiques Roadshow* January 13, 2014. The sword joins other artifacts related to Reid in the Civil War room. In 1864, the citizens of Bond County raised the money to purchase the sword for Col. Reid who served during the Civil War in the Illinois 130th Regiment and the sword has remained in the Reid family all this time. A feature article on the Reid sword begins on page 1 of this issue.

Continuing the tradition of showcasing a prominent Bond County citizen veteran, 2014's subject is Robert "Bob" Ward **Wilson**, coincidentally also a descendent of Col. Reid. Wilson served in World War II in the 168th Signal Photography Company traveling with General George **Patton** in Europe. He was employed for many years by the **DeMoulin** Bros factory. Wilson's interest in photography did not end with his military service and after leaving DeMoulin, he opened his own photography business in Greenville. The display includes Wilson's uniform, some of his photos, and one of his early professional cameras which he ordered through a Greenville drug store.

Recent acquisitions on display include photos, print ads and artifacts from the brick Art Deco building in the 300 block of S 3rd Street in Greenville that was built in 1923 for Dixon Motor Company and later housed Reliance Auto Sales, Dust & Son Auto Supply and the Bond County Senior Center. Anna **Oestreich**, Senior Center director, donated items found in the building when the Center relocated and moved out in 2013. Among the artifacts are old Buick and Chevrolet stock, product pamphlets and promotional items. The historically significant but crumbling building was torn down in May 2014.

The museum is open Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon and Sundays 2 to 4 p.m. May through the end of October. It is located on the corner of Winter and Fourth Streets in Greenville, Illlinois. Tours are also available by special arrangement. Visit www.bondcountyhistorical.org.

# Genealogical Society Library News

By Jane Hopkins

**New items added in 2014:**

- Notebooks of announcements in The Greenville Advocate, Greenville, Illinois, Compiled by Isa **Ra** of Olney, IL, friend of BCGS! Thank you, Isa!

*Weddings, Anniversaries, and Divorce Announcements, Greenville Advocate, 2013; Birth Announcements, 1998-2004; Birth Announcements, 2005-2008; Birth Announcements, 2013; Obituaries, 1995; Obituaries, 1997; Obituaries, 2012.*

- Books presented by Rebecca **Riedemann Keaster**:

*"The Family Tree of Maureen Beck & Kathleen Beck," compiled by their mother, Mrs. Clarence **Beck**, Pocahontas, IL. 1954.*

*"The Beck-Reinemer Family Tree," revised edition, compiled by Mrs. Clarence Beck, Pocahontas, Ill. 1976.*

- Gift of the Publisher: *"Korea, the Forgotten War, a Brief History of the Korean War," Illinois Korean Memorial Association, 2009? Includes appendix giving names of Illinois veterans killed in action and listed on the walls of the Illinois Korean War Memorial in Springfield, Illinois.*

The Genealogical Society Library collection is housed on the lower floor of the Greenville Public Library. The Public Library's hours are posted on their website: www.greenvillepubliclibrary.org

Greenville Public Library 414 W. Main Ave. Greenville, IL Phone 618-664-3115 Fax 618-664-9442

# Upcoming Genealogy Conferences in Southern Illinois

**Saturday, August 2, 2014 - St Clair County Genealogical Society's Summer Seminar in Belleville, Illinois.** Featured speaker will be Judy G. **Russell**, with a second track of speakers: Dennis **Northcutt** and Diane **Renner Walsh**. www.stclair-ilgs.org/conf2014.htm

**Saturday, August 9, 2014 - Genealogical Society of Southern Illinois's Family Conference and Book Fair in Carterville, Illinois.** Featured speaker will be Thomas **MacEntee**. Conference Registration is not necessary to attend the free Book Fair. For more information: Diane **Anderson** at dla62@yahoo.com or (618) 426-3606 evenings. Phil **Stucker** at tameroa@yahoo.com. www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilgssi/conf2014.html

# 2014 Quilt Show Report

The Bond County Historical Society held its 12th annual Quilt Show Saturday, May 3, 2014 at the Free Methodist Church. There were over 120 quilts displayed and Wanda **McCracken**, show chairperson, told the Chamber Sun that over 220 people attended from throughout the region. Congratulations to the Viewer's Choice winners: Gloria **Hertz** (Wall/Baby Quilts); Genevia **Adcock** (Machine Quilted); Juanita **Flamm** (Hand Quilted); and April **Probst** (Antique Quilts). This year's winner of the raffle quilt (an Amish Stripe design pieced and quilted by Bev **Burris**) was Ardis **Reavis** of Greenville. This year's featured quilter was Oleta **Schaufelberger**, who enjoyed her celebrity status for the day! (Story courtesy Greenville Chamber of Commerce)

# Hill's Fort Remembrance Celebration Sept 12, 13, 14

The Hill's Fort Society is planning a series of living history events to commemorate the 1814 attack and the ensuing battle as part of the Hill's Fort 200th Anniversary of the War of 1812. The special events, including a reenactment of the battle and period vendors and crafters, will take place Friday, Saturday and Sunday, September 12, 13 & 14, 2014, at the Fort replica site at the American Farm Heritage Museum southeast of Greenville where they are reconstructing the fort.

In the early 1800s, there was an actual fort with a timber blockhouse, palisade and cabins that stood about six miles south of Greenville, and in September of 1814, a party of Indians ambushed a group of rangers and civilians about a quarter of a mile from the fort as they left on patrol. Four were killed that morning and others wounded. Hill's Fort was the first seat of Bond County government and dates back to when Illinois was a territory, but the site was abandoned after 1821 and lost over time. In 1918 the Benjamin Mills DAR chapter purchased land and placed a memorial stone near the site. Ranger gravestones were set in 1988 by the Bond County Genealogical Society. In October 2001, a local archaeology student, Jenny **Simpson**, with U.S. Corps of Engineers assistance and volunteers, discovered the original Hill's Fort site (fortsofillinois.org). The Hill's Fort monument can be found on Hill's Fort Avenue off Millersburg Road.

The Hill's Fort Society is looking for re-enactors, vendors, and living history exhibitors to participate in the 200th anniversary of the attack on Hill's Fort. For more information about the 200th year Hill's Fort commemoration visit https://www.facebook.com/pages/Illinois-War-of-1812-Bicentennial/ or contact Hill's Fort re-enactor Bill **Johnson** at 618/664-0958 or 780-5672, tedras@newwavecomm.net.

# Forts and Blockhouses of Early Illinois, Book II

Blockhouse at reconstructed Hill's Fort site photo courtesy Rebecca Clausen.

Forts and Blockhouses of Early Illinois, Book II by William "Bill" **Wilson** and Kevin **Kaegy** came hot off the presses in April 2014! The initial Forts and Blockhouses book was published in 2006. This new book brings to light NEW information gathered while doing many presentations of this book since its publication. One chapter focuses on sites that can be found today using a GPS and driving directions. Kaegy has served as a leader of the Bond County Historical and Genealogical Societies for over twenty years. He has also worked as an editor with Wilson to co-author five books since 2002. Wilson has, since his retirement from Belleville Area College, pursued his interest in early Illinois history. He is president of the Hill's Fort Society and events chairman of the Illinois Society of the War of 1812.

Copies of Forts and Blockhouses of Early Illinois, Book II are available for purchase for $28.00 each at fortsofillinois.org, the Hoiles-Davis Museum, the Annex Offices (203 W College, Greenville) across from the Bond County Courthouse or by contacting Bill Wilson at 618/248-5885 and P.O. Box 195, Albers, IL 62215.

# Star of Science Channel Show "Oddities" in Greenville

Mike **Zohn**, one of the stars of the Science Channel's "Oddities" and co-owner of Obscura Antiques and Oddities, was the guest speaker at a special program at the Globe Theatre on Saturday, March 29, 2014. Zohn's visit to Greenville included a tour of the DeMoulin Bros. & Co. factory and an autograph signing at the DeMoulin Museum. Zohn's appearance in Greenville came about as a result of his love of **DeMoulin** initiation devices.

DeMoulin Bros. & Co. got its start in 1892 as a manufacturer of fraternal regalia and initiation devices for organizations like the Modern Woodmen of America, Odd Fellows, and Improved Order of Redmen. The DeMoulin Museum has 17 of these rare initiation gags on display including the Ferris Wheel Goat, Trick Chair, and Invisible Spanking Machine.

Zohn attended a program in May 2013 presented by John **Goldsmith**, DeMoulin Museum curator, at the Observatory in Brooklyn, New York. "Mike brought a couple of DeMoulin initiation devices from his collection and we had a great time taking turns demonstrating pieces for the audience," Goldsmith explained. "Since then I've been on the lookout for DeMoulin artifacts for Mike. He's a big fan and we were excited to have him visit us."

Zohn talked about how his television show originated and what the shooting process is like. He also shared some yet to be aired footage of two DeMoulin devices. Mayor Alan **Gaffner** presented Zohn with the Key to the City.

The DeMoulin Museum's summer hours are Fridays 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.; Saturdays 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; and Sundays 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
110 West Main Street, Greenville, Illinois
demoulinmuseum.org

# Bicentennial Fund Raising Underway

**By John Goldsmith**

Although Greenville's 200th birthday bash doesn't begin until New Year's Eve, there are many opportunities now to show your support.

The Greenville Bicentennial is now selling the second in its series of Historic Greenville baskets. The new basket has the late Robert **Horsfall**'s drawing of Hogue Hall on its lid. The original artwork had been commissioned several years ago by Bradford National Bank. Hogue Hall, also known as "Old Main",

*(Continued on page 18)*

# Online Genealogical Resources

*Find grave sites and snap photos of headstones to share instantly with the new FindAGrave Mobile App.*

**War of the Rebellion Guide for Internet Archive**

Linda **Zellmer** from Western Illinois University has completed a web site on the War of the Rebellion, an official government record of the Civil War. It contains a collection of primary source materials, compiled by the Federal government from Union and Confederate correspondence, orders and reports; and printed by the Government Printing Office between 1881 and 1901 – with a separate section on the navies of the North and South published between 1894 and 1922. All of the volumes in this guide were digitized from collections at other libraries, including Cornell University, the University of California, Stanford University, the University of Michigan, Harvard University and others. Entries are followed by links to volume(s) available in the Internet Archive (https://archive.org/), which has a user-friendly interface allowing volumes to be browsed and searched. Volumes in the Internet Archive can also be downloaded in a variety of formats. To access Linda's guide, go to http://www.wiu.edu/libraries/govpubs/war_ofthe_rebellion/.

**FindAGrave.com Mobile App**

The newest member of the Find A Grave family is the iOS mobile app (and the app for Android is coming soon!). You'll find the website features you rely on, with the convenience of a mobile device. And, you'll find new tools and technology to help you take your hunt for headstones on the road. Quickly search for cemeteries near you, see photo requests, find relatives, submit your own photo requests, or build your own memorials for loved ones, snap photos and instantly upload them, add GPS info (and more), all from your mobile device. With your help, people around the world can visit the resting places of their family members and honor their memories.

**The Digital Public Library of America**

Launched in April 2013, the Digital Public Library is "a project to make the holdings of America's research libraries, archives, and museums available to all Americans, and eventually to everyone in the world, online and free of charge." The Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) is an all-digital library that aggregates metadata — or information describing an item — and thumbnails for millions of photographs, manuscripts, books, sounds, moving images, and more from libraries, archives, and museums around the United States. DPLA brings together the riches of America's libraries, archives, and museums, and makes them freely available to the world. Visit the website: http://dp.la/.

# Grave Matters

**New Online Databases For Lansing, Montrose & Robinson Cemeteries**

The City of Greenville's cemetery database is now available online for viewing by the public. Individuals can search for interred and purchased cemetery lots and access specific date and location information. Visit the City's website - http://www.greenvilleillinois.com - and click on the *Montrose & Lansing Cemeteries* option to the left of the screen. From the Search Cemetery tab, you can select Cemetery Database to search for loved ones by cemetery, name or grave number, and find grave sites on the cemetery maps. It may be helpful to print the instructions page before you begin your search.

Information about Robinson Cemetery, northwest of Pocahontas, is also available on the internet. The Robinson Cemetery Association has completed electronic documents of the cemetery's records. It includes photographs and a searchable database, which offers family, friends and genealogists access to information never before available. Going beyond the written records, the association contracted the documentation of each grave into a sortable and searchable online database, complete with pictures of each grave marker. Users will now be able to log on and search by name, or simply use the map feature to find information for each grave. The new website, supporting the electronic documentation, can be located online at http://www.RobinsonCemetery.com. More information is available by contacting Lori **Kalous** at 618-201-2725.

**Road Signs For Montrose Cemetery**

Road signs were installed the week of February 24, 2014 at Montrose Cemetery. The 17 double-sided, metal signs were set in place by employees of the city of Greenville's public works department. Some of the roads are paved, while several are just grass passageways between tombstones. The signs were set at a level where they could be easily read while someone was in a vehicle and are designed to help persons find areas of the cemetery. The names selected for the roads were taken from families interred at Montrose. Road names include Blanchard, Cornish, Davidson, DeMoulin, Diehl, File, Genre, Griff, Gullick, Hawley, Hoiles, Kelsey, Lindly, Mayfield, Vaughn, Von Weise and Wheeler. Money from the cemetery fund was used to obtain the signs.

# Colonel Reid's Sword Comes Home

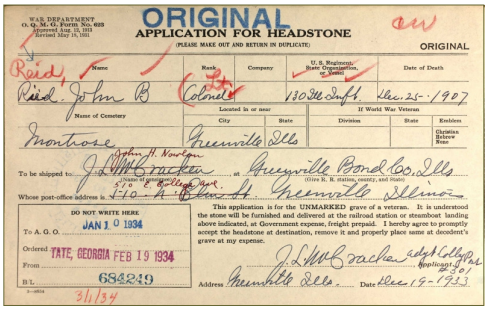
(Continued from page 1)

"He fought in the Civil War and was stationed down in Louisiana and was wounded down there and held prisoner. The rebels kept his original sword. So he was shipped home to heal after he was released. The town collected money to buy him a new sword, and before they had time to buy [it], he was sent back to [war], so they gave him the money. He purchased the sword himself and had it engraved. The story has come down through generations, but I do have a few books that have information about all of this in them."

Descendants of Col. John B. Reid gather at Montrose Cemetery on Memorial Day, May 26, 2014, to honor their ancestors. Photo by Rebecca Clausen.

Eledge explained of the historic artifact itself: the weapon was made in Solingen, Germany and it was "a real high quality sword." At one time the blade was gold washed, the handle is silver and the scabbard has brass mounts with embellishing twists. The pommel cap originally had a jewel on it, the appraiser stated. Victoria told him, "It was a ruby, and he had several granddaughters, and one of them pried the ruby out and made a necklace." And Eledge replied, "You might have something on her, because most of the time, it was a fake ruby anyway."

On the scabbard is engraved: "Presented to Lt. Col. John B. Reid from the citizens of Bond County, Illinois, January 7, 1865." Col. Reid survived the war, was promoted to full colonel, returned to Greenville and lived to be seventy seven years old. Eledge, the appraiser, ended the segment with his assessment of insurance value and by remarking, "And I bet this was a piece that he was proud of till the day he died, because at the Battle of Mansfield, he was shot through the lung, and the fact that he survived at all is amazing. So an amazing man, beautiful sword, and I'm glad it's still in the family."



ORIGINAL
APPLICATION FOR HEADSTONE
(PLEASE MAKE OUT AND RETURN IN DUPLICATE)
ORIGINAL

| Name | Rank | Company | U. S. Regiment, State Organization, or Navy | Date of Death |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Reid, John B | Colonel | 130th Infy | | Dec. 25-1907 |

| Name of Cemetery | Located in or near | | If World War Veteran | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | City | State | Division | State | Emblem |
| Montrose | Greenville | Ills | | | |

To be shipped to: J. L. Wolfe Tucker, Greenville Bond Co, Ills
Whose post-office address is: Greenville Illinois

DO NOT WRITE HERE
To A. G. O. JAN 10 1934
Ordered TATE, GEORGIA FEB 19 1934
From
B/L 682249

This application is for the UNMARKED grave of a veteran. It is understood the stone will be furnished and delivered at the railroad station or steamboat landing above indicated, at Government expense, freight prepaid. I hereby agree to promptly accept the headstone at destination, remove it and properly place same at decedent's grave at my expense.

Address Greenville Ills. Date Dec 19-1933

Application for Headstone for U.S. Military Veteran image courtesy National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D.C.

Kevin **Kaegy**, renowned local expert on the regimental history of the 130th Illinois, provided this additional information to WGEL: "Colonel Reid was the highest ranking officer in the Civil War to hail from Bond County. He was well known and well connected in the local community and had strong ties to the Presbyterian Church. Reid held various offices in Bond County and served as the Circuit Clerk. Reid's letters home from the Civil War have been transcribed and make up much of what is known about Bond County's involvement in the Civil War. Colonel Reid was wounded and captured by Confederates in 1864 and lost his sword. Rather than placing Reid in

(Continued on page 11)

*(Continued from page 10)*

a prison camp, the Confederates sent him back home to Bond County [after signing a document promising not to take up arms against the Confederacy]. Reid eventually re-joined the Civil War effort, but while he was home recuperating, the citizens of Bond County raised the money to buy him a new sword."

After the television program aired, Victoria contacted the Bond County Historical Society and made arrangements to loan the fantastic, and now famous, artifact to the Hoiles-Davis Museum. The society welcomed the sword, Victoria, her sister and 17 more Reid descendents from as far away as Alaska, Michigan and Utah to Greenville on May 26 with a reception at the museum which followed the City's annual Memorial Day ceremonies at Montrose Cemetery. Col. Reid and several more family members are buried at Montrose, the plot marked by a tall white obelisk erected following the death in 1883, due to rheumatic fever, of the Colonel's eighteen year old son, Lincoln.

John Barclay Reid was born August 1830 in Donegal, Ireland. He came to America in 1847 when he was 17 years old. His wife, Emma **Holden** was born June 1832 in Massachusetts. They married in Woburn, Massachusetts in May 1853 before moving to Bond County. In all they raised ten children. Before the Civil War, Reid worked in the shoe and boot business. While Reid served as postmaster of Greenville, a post office was established in Newport, and he renamed that area Woburn in honor of his former home out east. The Reids' 2-story tan brick home, completed in 1862, still stands at the corner of South Prairie Street and Washington Avenue (then called the Carlyle Road), though the building has been heavily renovated and enlarged to house Rinco Instruments, Bond County Health Department and currently a department of Greenville College. Col. Reid died Christmas Day 1907.

Victoria's father was Ward Reid Betz (1908-1997), himself a colonel in World War II and named after James Ward Reid (1859-1924), third son of the original colonel. James' daughter, Helen Seymour Reid Betz (1886-1969), granddaughter of Col. John B. Reid, acquired the sword and her son, Ward Reid (who always went by "Reid"), passed it down to his children 25 years ago. Victoria excitedly accepted the sword from her brother in an heirloom trade. Until recently, she'd never guessed so many people anywhere would share her excitement about the piece. The Historical Society expects the sword to be on display at the Hoiles-Davis Museum for at least two or three years before it's returned to the family.

***Greenville's Colonel: Soldier of the Cross***

*From Tales, Trails & Breadcrumbs, 1838-1938, One-Hundred Years, Bond County, Illinois by Eleanor Wilson, published 1993.*

*During these exciting days preceding the Civil War, John took an active part in the training of soldiers for enlistment into the army… John was especially qualified for this service by the fact that he had been associated with the Mechanic Phalanx Military Company of Massachusetts and was the only citizen considered qualified for drilling and training others in war tactics. John enlisted himself and went to serve with his trainees…*

*The Reverend Thomas Hynes, a close friend of John B. Reid, described Reid as 'a soldier of the Cross,' as well as of the army.*

*The sword, presented to him from the city, has been kept in the Reid family. It is hoped that someday the sword can be returned to Greenville for display in the historical collection of the city.*

*Thank you to our sources: Antiques Roadshow, WGEL Daily News, Greenville Chamber of Commerce Sun, The Greenville Advocate, History & Reminiscences of Col. John B. Reid and Family, U.S. Census Records, Illinois Deaths and Stillbirths Index, U.S. Civil War Pension Index and Kevin Kaegy.*

# The House That C.D. Hoiles Built, Part 2 of 3

**By Kathy Brewer**

*The mansion located at 115 Beaumont in Greenville was built in 1892 by Charles Douglas Hoiles, president of the Hoiles and Sons State Bank, at a cost of about $20,000. The large house had 16 rooms, a basement, six fireplaces, solid oak woodwork, carved fireboards, and leaded glass bookcases and cabinets. It sat high upon a hill along The National Road (then called First Street).*

Hoiles Mansion photo courtesy Bill Davidson.

Newspapers in St Louis, Edwardsville, and many other cities dubbed the Hoiles mansion "the grandest home ever built." It was of an east coast Queen Anne Shingle style, was painted in two contrasting colors, and while quite angular, the recurring theme of curved surfaces and arches was repeated on both the exterior and interior of the home. In addition to the verandah, the home featured several balconies. Congressman **Hoiles** demanded the highest quality of craftsmanship, and only the best materials for his palace.

The Grand Hall featured double entry doors from the wrap around verandah. In this hall a caller's bench was built into the turret, and the grand staircase (one of two) wrapped around and over a "floating" fireplace and leaded glass curio cabinet. The functional fireplace appears to have no flue as the stairs tread directly above it, and behind the stairs was a wall of windows.

Every fireplace in the manse was carved in a unique style from any other in the house, and each mantelpiece was created from a different type of exotic wood and surrounded by artisan-made tiles—again,

Second Floor Sitting Room Turret photo courtesy Foundation for Saving Historic Greenville.

East Parlor Music Room photo courtesy Foundation for Saving Historic Greenville.

*(Continued on page 13)*

(Continued from page 12)

each room featuring different tiles and patterns. The same goes for the cast iron decorative fire plates in each fireplace. In the formal dining room, there was a recessed built-in hutch of matching wood and in the same style as the mantel in this room. The hutch was topped by leaded glass cabinets similar to the curio cabinet in the Grand Hall. The recessed area mimicked the large keystoned arch which was a prominent exterior feature on the west side of the home's row of 4 windows illuminating the 3rd floor ballroom.

The floors in the home were also very intricate. Only the rarest exotic woods were used, and each room used many different types of inlay patterns and woods. Each and every room featured a different floor pattern. All sixteen of the home's "public" rooms featured ornate 24 karat gold chandeliers (the one that adorned the front parlor was recently appraised at over $250,000).

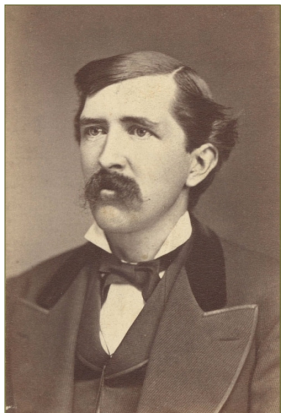
*C. D.'s father was a close personal friend of famous Illinois politician Stephen Douglas.*

*"The House That C.D. Hoiles Built" will be continued in the next issue of the Bond County Genealogical Society News.*

Second Floor Southwest Bedroom photo courtesy Foundation for Saving Historic Greenville.

## Who is C.D. Hoiles?

*"[This biographical sketch should] help identify C. D. Hoiles [as a person and community member] and clear up some mistakes in previous written accounts. It will also appeal to genealogy buffs." - Kathy Brewer*



C.D. Hoiles II photo courtesy Greenville College Archives.

**C. D. (Charles Douglas) Hoiles II** was born in Greenville, Illinois on December 1, 1844. He was the son of Charles and Elizabeth Morse Hoiles. As recorded in U.S. Census records, Charles the elder was born in New Jersey and Elizabeth was born in Massachusetts. C. D.'s mother was the sister of Stephen **Morse** and sister-in-law of Almira Blanchard Morse. He had one

(Continued on page 14)

# The House That C.D. Hoiles Built, Part 2 of 3

*(Continued from page 13)*

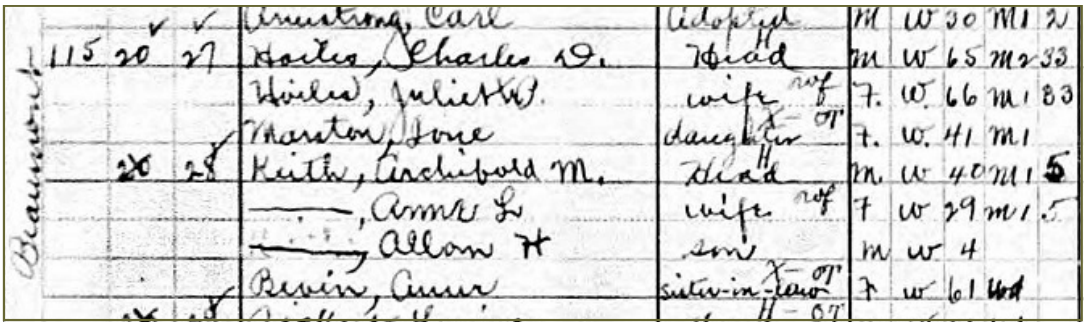
brother, Stephen M. His father was a close personal friend of famous Illinois politician Stephen **Douglas**.

C. D. was educated at a "select school" in Greenville under Prof. Sylvester W. **Marston**, but he also attended Shurtleff College in Upper Alton. He started out in the mercantile business with his father for five years, until they entered the banking business under the name of Hoiles and Son (after Stephen M. joined the firm in 1872, the name was changed to Hoiles and Sons). Their father retired from the business in 1881 and died in 1884 in St Louis.

Juliette White Hoiles photo courtesy Greenville College Archives.

He was a member of the 28th Illinois General Assembly in 1872 and was a delegate to the National Democratic Convention in Baltimore which nominated Horace **Greeley**. He was twice a member of the Democratic Central Committee and served as mayor of Greenville from 1874 - 1887.

C. D. was married first to Sarah F. **Weir** of Edwardsville, daughter of Dr. John F. Weir. She gave birth to a daughter, Iona (a.k.a. Ione), and a son, Charles W., before she died in 1874. In June 1876 he married Juliette P. **White** (born 1843 Wake Forest, North Carolina), daughter of John Brown White, president of Almira College. They had two children, Guy Brown and Anne Louise. C. D. Hoiles died March 8, 1915 and Juliette lived until December 21, 1924. They and many of their relations are buried in a prominent family plot in Greenville's Montrose Cemetery.

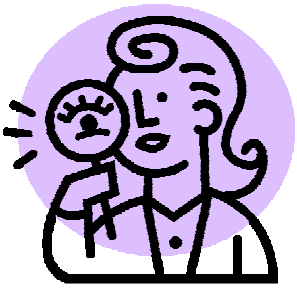


Charles and Juliette Hoiles plus daughters Ione Marston and Anne Keith in the 13th Census of the U.S.: 1910-Population. Central Twp, Bond, Illinois. Image courtesy Ancestry.com and U.S. Bureau of the Census.

*Sources for C. D. Hoiles Biography include U.S. Census Records, Illinois Deaths and Stillbirths Index 1916-1947, Illinois Marriages 1851-1900 and the Greenville College Archives.*

# Family History: Where Do I Start?

**By Cindy Tischhauser**



When you make the decision to do your family history, where should you start?

First decide how you want to keep your information and records. Do you want to use paper forms or put your information on a computer program? There are a lot of free genealogy forms you can print from websites, such as www.genealogyinc.com/forms and www.genealogysearch.org/free/forms.html. Your local library and genealogy society/club may also offer forms. Forms such as family tree templates, ancestor/pedigree charts and family group sheets are standard systems of organizing family history, but don't forget other forms like download/print research calendars, correspondence logs and research extracts (to simplify facts discovered in difficult-to-read, complicated documents or documents you are unable to photocopy).

There are many fine computer programs you can purchase to keep your information – some even offer a free trial edition to let you try out the look and features before spending real cash. Examples are *Family Tree Maker* by Ancestry.com, *Legacy Family Tree* and *Family Tree Builder* by MyHeritage. You should choose a program that best suits your wants and needs.

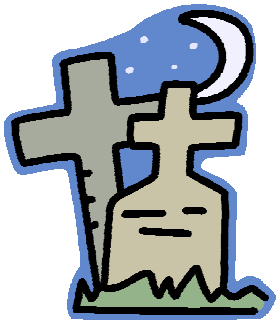
I suggest that you keep your paper information and documents; don't just scan them to your computer and then get rid of them! You might want to consider keeping all original documents in a safe, fire-proof location. Make copies to keep in your working family history project paper files.

Start your research with yourself and then work back. Write down your basics: your birth date, birth place, parent's names and the same information about your spouse and children. If you do not already have them, order birth, marriage and death certificates for everyone in your family. Move on to your grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins – recording their vital information. You may need to interview family members and suggest going through photo albums and scrapbooks to help jog their memories. Remember to include any source data as you go along as a reminder and proof of what you have already done and where and when you found it. Example: "Interview with Aunt Jane Doe 12-25-2013 at her home 122 Bluebird Lane, Maple, CA." Try to confirm that your information is factual.

Use all the resources you have and return to older forms and charts again and again, just in case you can fill in blanks and unknowns at a later date. New family history research sources are being released, digitized and indexed every day all over the world.

Good luck!

# In Tribute To Those BCGS Has Lost



**Fred Baumberger (May 17, 1920 - Apr 8, 2014) – farmer, veteran, radio reporter, community leader.** Frederick Henry Baumberger, age 93 of Greenville, died Tuesday, at 7:47 a.m. on April 8 at Helia Healthcare. Funeral services were held Saturday, April 12 at Young Funeral Home. Interment followed in Reno Bethel Cemetery with military honors by VFW Post #1377. He was born on the family farm near Reno in Bond County to Nathaniel Dressor **Baumberger** and Lola Inez **Weber**. Fred believed that the **Dressor** family initially settled the land in the 1830s. Fred married Della Fern **Durr** on May 19, 1946 in Mulberry Grove, Illinois. She died of illness September 7, 1976. He married Bessie Mae **Young Zobrist** on December 30, 1978 in Reno. She died February 3, 2014. Fred graduated from Blackburn Junior College with an Associate Degree in Agriculture. He was drafted into the U.S. Army, seeing action in the Pacific theater, where he participated in several landings, including on Leyte in the Philippines. He attained the rank of Major. The Hoiles-Davis Museum featured Fred in their Bond County Veteran exhibit several seasons ago.

Following WWII, he returned to grain and livestock farming 8 miles north of Greenville and later got involved in farm and community organizations, including the Soil Conservation Board, Bond County Farm Bureau, the 4-H Club, Bond County 9-1-1 Committee, Bond County Fair Board, Utlaut Hospital Board, and Reno Bethel Cemetery Board. He was a lifelong member and elder at the Reno Bethel Presbyterian Church. Fred raised and raced harness horses, first urged by his kids and continuing for 20 years until 1990. He served on the Reno and the Bond County Unit #2 Boards of Education, where he was involved in the 1955-56 high schools consolidation. Fred was the farm reporter for Greenville's radio station from 1997 to 2010. From war times to landmarks to the "Bethel Cemetery Scandal," his publication This Is Fred Baumberger With The Farm Report From WGEL preserves long forgotten tidbits of history. He compiled an autobiographical manuscript, "My Life History" and was the keeper of both his father's and his step-mother's personal journals. One can even listen online to a 2007 audio recording with Fred, part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's Agriculture in Illinois Oral History project. He spoke with the interviewer on all facets of his life, work and interests including his ancestry. His father was of Swiss and German descent. The Baumbergers owned orchards near Greenville and made cider while the Dressors arrived at Reno via covered wagon from Maine. Fred's mother's family was made up of Webers from Germany and early English settlers named **Harned**.

*(Continued on page 17)*

Below: The Baumberger children getting a ride to school. From left to right are Keith, Helen, Ed, Fred & Jean. Note the truck door reads: "N. D. Baumberger, RENO, ILL." Photo courtesy Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library.

*(Continued from page 16)*

Fred is survived by his daughters Sue (Everett) **Freeberg** and Jane (Gary) **Netzler**, his son Gene Craig Baumberger, his step-daughter Betty (Delbert) **Quick**, his step-son William **Zobrist** and numerous grand-children and great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his step-mother Betty Dorris **Mahon** Baumberger, both wives, two brothers Keith Weber Baumberger and Edwin Nathaniel (Betty Jane) Baumberger, and two sisters Helen Winona (Thomas) **Paine** and Jean Naomi (Gerhard) **Reelitz**.

Sources include Mr Baumberger's obituary in The Greenville Advocate and U.S. Census Records.

# Submissions and Genealogical Queries

The B.C.G.S. News is published 2 - 4 times a year. Bond County Genealogical Society invites 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.

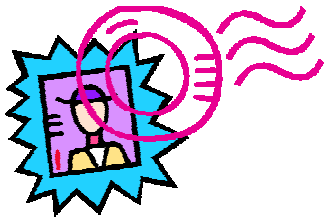
All submissions are subject to editing. Your articles and photos shall remain your property. DO NOT send copyrighted material unless you hold the copyright or you supply proof of permission to print with your submission.

*Good queries are:*

*Clear—*
*Specific—*
*Simple—*
*Concise*

Genealogical queries with connections to Bond County 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 Web-site. 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*

***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

The Bicentennial baskets may be purchased for $60 each at Watson's Drug Store, Bond County Realtors, and Bradford National Bank.

# Bicentennial Fund Raising Underway

*(Continued from page 7)*

served many purposes on the Greenville College campus from the late 1850s until its demolition in 2008.

John **Coleman**, Bicentennial fundraising committee chairman, said, "We are anticipating a lot of interest in the basket among current and former Greenville College faculty and students."

The first basket, featuring a drawing of the Bond County Courthouse numbered and signed by the artist---Martha **Iler**---sold out in a number of days. Karen **Kessinger**, a member of the fundraising committee said, "Response to the first basket was overwhelming. Everyone raved about the quality and we began receiving inquiries about doing another one. We think the new Hogue Hall basket will also be a hit."

Kessinger added that a limited run of courthouse baskets, unsigned and not numbered, are also available for those who missed the first round.

American Traditions of Canal Fulton, Ohio manufactured the "friendship" baskets, which are hand-woven of hard maple. The Hogue Hall and Bond County Courthouse baskets may be purchased for $60 each at Watson's Drug Store, Bond County Realtors, and Bradford National Bank. The Hogue Hall basket is also available at the Greenville College bookstore.

You can also wear your community pride; Greenville Bicentennial commemorative t-shirts, sporting the event's logo, are available at Watson's Drug Store for $15 each.

Greenville will mark its 200th birthday in 2015 with a series of observations; the main celebration is slated for Labor Day weekend that year. For more information, visit www.greenville200.com