

Bond County Genealogical Society News

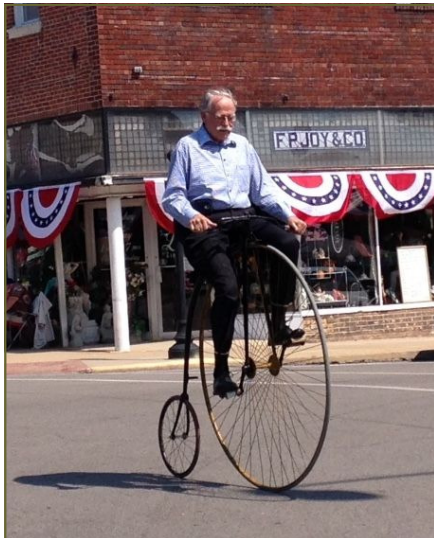
Volume 31, Issue 1

Winter January 2016

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

A Wheely Good Greenville Weekend!

Photo on left courtesy Nancy Marti.
Photo on right by Rebecca Clausen.



Bill Donnell, local funeral director, thoroughly enjoyed his time during the city of Greenville's Bicentennial Labor Day weekend events, September 5-6, 2015. He could be spotted riding his vintage penny farthing bicycle and portraying Reverend J.G. Wright at the Montrose Cemetery Living History tour.

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Special points of interest:

- Living History Cemetery Tours Performed as part of Bicentennial Celebration.
- Benjamin Mills Chapter NSDAR.
- Introducing BCGS's New President.
- A Look Back at BCHS's 60th Birthday and a Look Forward to Online Society Resources.
- U.S. Wills & Probate Records Collection.
- Apple Day Award Recipients Retrospective.
- Woburn Community Cemeteries.
- BCGS Correspondence and Assistance Report.
- United Methodist Church of Mulberry Grove Rededicates Cross and Sanctuary.

Bond County Genealogical Society

Officers

President - Cindy Tischhauser
Vice President - Kevin Kaegy
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 - open
Hospitality - Dorothy Hawley
Cemetery - open
Research - Beutonne McKean, Cindy Tischhauser, & Rebecca Clausen
Newsletter Editor - Rebecca Clausen
Webmaster - Rebecca Clausen

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

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

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

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

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

- Harold J. Seymour

Bond County Historical Society

2015-2016 Officers

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

Directors

Burgess Twp - George Gobberdiel
Central Twp. - Sharon Grimes
Tamalco Twp - Judy Schroeter
Mills Twp - Cindy Tischhauser
Pleasant Mound Twp - William Johnson
Old Ripley Twp - Kathy Brewer
Shoal Creek Twp - Tom Varner
LaGrange Twp - Gary Tischhauser
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.

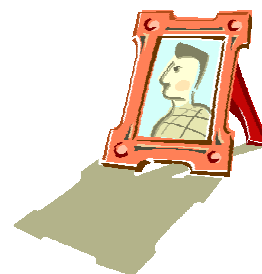
www.bondcountyhistorical.org



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. 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 interest-
ing and educa-
tional program
meeting or
special event!***

2016 Events Calendar

December 31, 2015 Bicentennial Gala: Greenville's 200th Birthday Farewell sponsored in part by Bond County Historical Society.

March 19, 2016 14th Annual Quilt Show at Greenville Free Methodist Church.

June 2016 Pie & Ice Cream Social featuring the Greenville Municipal Band on Hoiles-Davis Museum lawn.

August 2016 Rural Church History Potluck & Program.

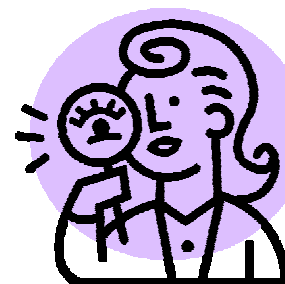
October 2016 Historical & Genealogical Societies Annual Dinner Meeting plus Elections.

*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.





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

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

May—October

Tours also by appointment.



Hoiles-Davis Museum 2016 Displays

New Hoiles-Davis Museum exhibits planned for the 2016 season include Daughters of the American Revolution memorabilia, Greenville businesses celebrating long histories including Nevco Scoreboard company, artifacts from physician Dr Katherine **Luzader**'s practice, and a display curated by the Military Moms organization focusing on the 50+ Bond County citizens currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. The museum display committee always needs more volunteers to help plan and create seasonal and permanent exhibits. If you are interested, please contact the Bond County Historical Society.

The Hoiles-Davis 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, Illinois. Tours are also available by special arrangement. Admission by donation. Groups welcome. Advance notice required for guided tours. Visit www.bondcountyhistorical.org.

With the installation of a new answering system, the Hoiles-Davis Museum invites you to leave a phone message at any hour of the day. Schedule a tour, donate an artifact or discover more of Greenville's history! (618) 664-1590

Genealogical Society Library Shelf

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



14th Annual Quilt Show March 19, 2016

The 14th Annual Bond County Historical Society Quilt Show is Saturday, March 19, 2016, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m at the Greenville Free Methodist Church, 1367 Ill. Rt. 140. Admission is \$3.00. This year's special display is by Bond County quilters of The Black Diamond Quilt Guild. The 2016 Quilt Block Contest theme is "Winter." Entry forms for display quilts and the block contest are available on the Bond County Historical Society's website www.bondcountyhistorical.org.

BCGS President's Message

Dear Members and Friends,

I and the officers of the Bond County Genealogical Society send our best wishes, hoping 2016 finds you happy and healthy. As always, we express our appreciation for your support. Without your membership fees and donations, our nonprofit organization would not be able to offer a selection of diverse library resources and family history research assistance. However, the time has come to ask for another type of support. We need your advice in regards to the type of speaker programs, workshops, and events you would enjoy attending. We need your interest in developing plans for future endeavors such as publications, tasks, and preservation projects. Please join us at an upcoming meeting, contact me, or email info@bondcogen.org with your ideas, advice, or suggestions.

In case you do not yet know me, let me introduce myself! I am Cindy Tischhauser, a proud wife, mother, graduate of Greenville College, and co-owner/manager of a small business in Greenville, Illinois that repairs and services RVs and campers. I am a member and active participant in Benjamin Mills Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. I've been researching genealogy for twenty years; documenting my own **Woodward** family of Marion County, and my husband's **Tischhauser** family of Bond County. I am still in awe of many of our previous society leaders, editors, and research specialists; and unfortunately, as it always does with the passage of the years, most have passed on or reached their physical limit of volunteering ability. Our society has inherited several collections from these folks and we are gradually working to organize, inventory, and catalog the items. By doing so we expect to be even greater prepared to assist with incoming family research questions. If you'd like to help us inventory, be available to answer email queries, or assist visiting genealogists in our library, please let us know!

As I end this letter, I wish to thank Kevin **Kaegy**, our immediate past President, for the countless hours he dedicated to the Society these past seven years, relieving Carlos **Hawley** in 2008 despite his reservations of not being an experienced genealogist himself. As I've taken over as President of Bond County Genealogical Society since this past October, Kevin moved into the Vice President's slot, allowing him more energy to dedicate to his presidency of the Bond County Historical Society. Both societies continue to meet jointly for Program meetings, and it is my hope that each society may soon have its own separate Business meeting sessions. Please watch our e-mailing list for those meeting notifications.

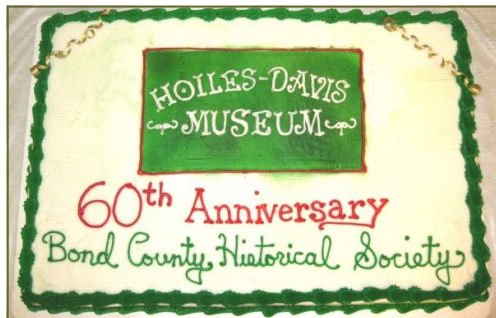
Sincerely,
Cindy Tischhauser
President, Bond County Genealogical Society



Vector art image designed by Freepik at www.freepik.com



Historical Society Marks 60th Anniversary



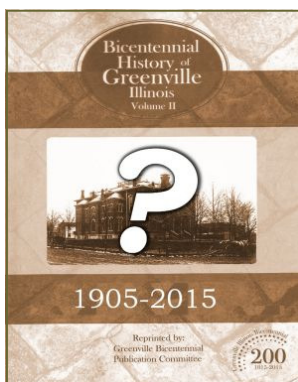
Bond County Historical Society turned 60 years old in 2015. At the annual dinner meeting of the Historical and Genealogical Societies on Tuesday, October 27th, BCHS President Kevin **Kaegy** shared that the society was formed due to the efforts of historian John **Nowlan**. Nowlan and his society met with an official from the Illinois State Historical Society in the Bond County Courthouse in October 1955 and drew up a charter. The group was formed to house Nowlan's scrapbook collection.

A New Website Coming Soon!

Bond County Historical Society will be unveiling its brand new website design in early 2016. The new site follows current web design trends such as HTML5+CSS3 and a responsive framework that fluidly changes and responds to fit any screen or device size from desktop computer monitors to mobile smart phones. The society's initial website launched in 2006 during John S. **Coleman**'s presidency as a way to inform the public on the history of Bond County, the society's museum, and events. It has counted over 14,000 visitor "hits." The new site will continue the original's purpose with updated essays, recent photos, social media connections, and enhanced user experience. It is being developed by Rebecca **Clausen** at Rainofhearts Web Design of Greenville.



Bicentennial Book Two Coming This Spring



What will the cover of Bicentennial History of Greenville, Illinois Volume 2 truly look like? We're eager to find out!

The Greenville Bicentennial Publication Committee has announced that the long-awaited follow-up to the reprinting of Will C. **Carson**'s 1905 Greenville History volume should at last be ready for distribution in early Spring 2016. Bicentennial History of Greenville, Illinois Volume 2 focuses on Greenville from 1905 to the present and will include a wide variety of photos and stories solicited since early 2013 from businesses, organizations, and individuals. A Volume 3, spotlighting the Bicentennial celebration year's events, is tentatively scheduled to come out before the end of 2016.

When released, copies of Bicentennial History of Greenville, Illinois Volume 2 may be purchased at Third Street Market, Watson's Drug Store, Bradford National Bank, the Green Door, and on Amazon.com.

BCGS Correspondence Queries Report

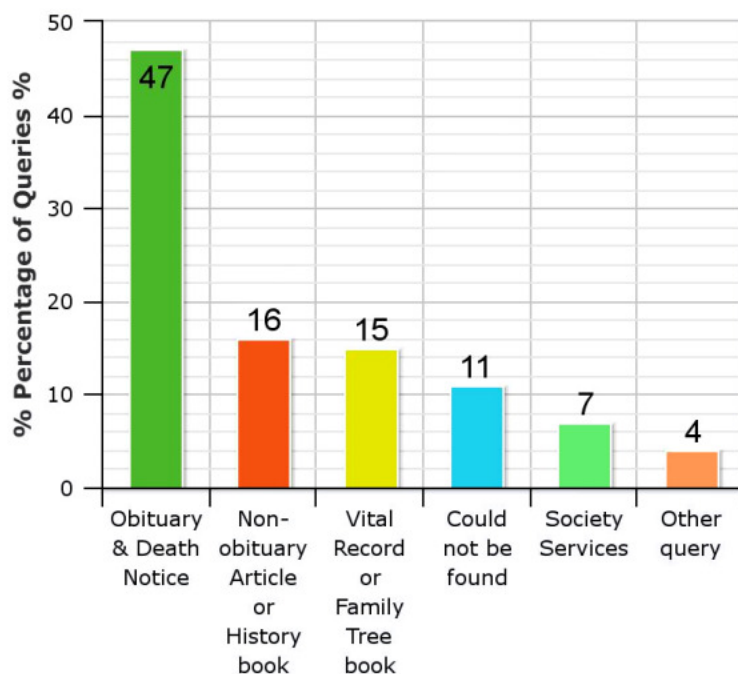
Since implementing (and subsequently working the major bugs out of) our new contact email address, info@bondcogen.org, two years ago, our correspondence volunteers have been busy answering all sorts of Bond County genealogical and historical questions. More than 81 of them!

The bulk 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 newspapers are available in microfilm archives but have not been digitized or put online. Lots of folks also ask for newspaper look-ups of marriages, birth announcements, accidents, and crime reports. We've tracked down marriage and death records at the county courthouse and paged through local history books written on Greenville and its surrounding communities and churches. We've checked probate, naturalization, veteran, and burial indices. One of our most time consuming yet also most fascinating research questions was for information concerning the murder of a wife by her husband. The 1880s journalists wrote in sensational style of the horrible death, hunt for the suspected man, his trial and guilty plea, and finally his escape from an asylum several years later. Censuses, surrounding counties' newspapers, and cemetery books helped determine even more news plus relevant relationships and heirs for both the wife's and husband's families.

Eleven percent of the time we've been unable to locate the information requested. The name, year, place, or other clue combination simply is not present in any of the books, newspapers, records, indices, or the BCGS member knowledge base. One memorable investigation failure involved scanning through a decade of non-indexed, twice-weekly newspaper issues for either a marriage or birth announcement which would reveal the name of a wife or child connected to a particular man. (We believe it was for insurance or inheritance reasons, looking for heirs, as the man had not long before passed away.)

A small amount of email inquiries concern the details and services of our society: memberships; newsletter subscriptions; publications for sale; contacting a cemetery, author, or editor; and arranging for research assistance in our family history resource library located on the lower level of the Greenville Public Library.

Here's a breakdown of the online correspondence and remote research assistance between June 2014 and December 2015. Bar Graph courtesy meta-chart.com.



Online Genealogical Resources

U.S. Wills and Probate Records

Ancestry.com has launched the largest online collection of wills and probate records in the United States, with more than 170 million pages and searchable records included from all 50 states spread over 337 years (1668-2005). This unprecedented collection launches a new category of records for family history research never before available online at this scale the United States.

Whether your ancestor left a will or died without one, whether rich or poor, landowner or tenant, male or female, there may well be records of death that provide valuable clues. Understanding probate records, and the laws under which they were created, is essential to any complete family history.

To help guide your search, Ancestry's Juliana **Szucs** suggests "5 Things You Should Know to Get the Most from the Probate Collection on Ancestry." Download it here: <http://ancestry.me/1KvMbDz>

Ancestry.com Announces Retirement of Family Tree Maker Software

From the company's December 8, 2015 blog post: "We've taken a hard look at the declining desktop software market and the impact this has on being able to continue to provide product enhancements and support that our users need. With that, we've made the decision to stop selling Family Tree Maker as of December 31, 2015. Our subscription business and website, on the other hand, continue to grow and we are doubling down our efforts to make that experience even better for our Ancestry community. Ancestry will continue to support current owners of Family Tree Maker at least through January 1, 2017. During this time, all features of the software, including TreeSync™, will continue to work, and Member Services will be available to assist with user questions. We will also address major software bugs that may occur, as well as compatibility updates. These changes are never easy, but by focusing our efforts, we can concentrate on continuing to build great products for our loyal Ancestry community."

Geni Offers Powerful Genealogy Tools to Help You Grow Your Tree

"Geni is solving the problem of genealogy by inviting the world to build the definitive online family tree. Using the basic free service at Geni.com, users add and invite their close relatives to join their family tree. All Geni users can share photos, videos, and documents with their families. Geni's Pro subscription service allows users to find matching trees and merge those into the single world family tree, which currently contains over 80 million living users and their ancestors. Additional pay services include enhanced research tools and premium support. Geni welcomes casual genealogists and experts who wish to discover new relatives and stay in touch with family. In November 2012, Geni was acquired by MyHeritage Ltd. and is now a MyHeritage company." (Text taken from Geni's About page) Explore Geni at their home on the web:

<http://www.geni.com/>

Geni.com is solving the problem of genealogy by inviting the world to build the definitive online family tree.



Grave Matters: Diamond, Zion Church, & Hastings

By Rebecca Clausen

Today Woburn in Bond County is only a remnant of the thriving town of years ago. Early settlers came to what was referred to as Cross Roads in the first two decades of the 19th century. The township elections precinct was first known as “Dry Fork”, then changed about 1857 to “Zion Precinct,” then after 1900 it became “Mulberry Grove Township.” The town was first platted as Newport in 1854 with two blocks; additions were quickly laid out in 1857 and 1858. Over its lifetime, it could boast of three well stocked stores, several doctors, three churches (seven in the wider Woburn/Newport area), stockyard, creamery, two-story gristmill, blacksmith shop, sawmill, schools, post office, even two baseball teams. There were 150 inhabitants reported in 1882. “Though the hustle and bustle of those early days are no more, fond memories linger of that country town of Woburn on the Cross Roads” (Mulberry Grove Sesquicentennial). And a great number of families with familiar Bond County surnames have members buried in the cemeteries surrounding the old town. We’ll talk of three cemeteries in this article. The most mysterious - Old Diamond; the best maintained - Zion Church; and the most hidden treasure - Hastings.

The Old Diamond Cemetery southeast of Woburn, as described in Glen **Diamond’s** 1992 A Brief History of Woburn, Illinois, is “a half acre plot laid out near the northwest corner of the 80 acres on the hill above Zion Creek [later Kingsbury Creek, today’s Governor Bond Lake]. [It] was “largely restored by the Bond Co. Genealogical Society by Robert **Adcock** and by some of the area Diamond descendants. It would be visible east from the Zion Camp-ground [today’s FMC Durley Camp and Retreat Center] bridge over Bond Lake if the trees were cut, as it lies at the very east end of the lake on top of a hill.” Nelda **Neer Anthony** described how to find Diamond in her 1974 Bond County Burial Grounds volume: “East of 1350N – 1430E [today’s Laurel Lane] to end of road, follow fence line north to lake. Originally there were 60 gravestones, but only the ones below were found.” She listed 30 names. Anthony’s 1988 cemetery walking index listed 50 names. Family names include **Diamond, Harper, Tabor, and Watson**.

Along Zion Creek .8 miles southwest of Woburn was the Zion Springs Church, built of logs about 1828, and a campground for meetings was cleared off in 1833. A neat frame Methodist Church replaced the log building about 1840 and stood until 1861 (or 1871, according to a deed of transaction Glen Diamond discovered) when the congregation moved into Newport. The Mt. Zion Free Methodist Church was built in 1881. It was 42 feet long and 28 feet wide. It served the Woburn neighborhood for over 80 years, closing around 1960. It has since been taken down, but on the site of the campground, the adjacent Zion Church Cemetery, est 1856, “where repose the last remains of many of those who, in an early day, attended meeting on that same spot,” continues to be well maintained (Images of Amer-



Zion Church Cemetery, southwest of Woburn, visited by bicycle November 15, 2015.


Of note on your bicycle trip up to Woburn from Greenville:

"The Durley Schoolhouse along Woburn Road (Randy's Christmas Trees grow on the site today) was the only remainder of a community that once existed on the Jacksonville Southeastern (C.B.&Q.) Railroad. A store with post office was here from 1880 to 1903. A spur railroad track was built from Durley four miles southwest to Greenville, terminating near today's Benton Street. The Chicago, Greenville & Southern Railroad was supposed to go farther, but ended in Greenville, prompting wags to call it the "Chicago, Greenville and Stop." During 1903, not being able to make a satisfactory lease for its operation, the RR's bondholders took up the rails and sold them. The old Durley school was moved and is now a home. ([Images of America](#) and "Annual Report of the Railroad and Warehouse Commission of the State of Illinois, Vol 33")


Grave Matters

(Continued from page 9)

ica and Perrin's 1882 History of Bond & Montgomery). Nelda Neer Anthony's 1988 cemetery index lists 214 names of known burials. The database at crowd-sourced FindAGrave.com lists 288 interments. Family names include **Baker, Cline, Grigg, Jett, Mills, and Vincent**.

 Visit via bicycle from downtown Greenville (6.4 miles - 31 minutes): Ride northeast towards the community of Woburn (I took Idler Lane north to Iron Gate Trail, but you can alternately take Illinois Route 140 east to Woburn Rd) and follow Woburn Rd north. After crossing Gov Bond Lake causeway, at the top of the rise turn left (north) onto Mt Zion Ave and Zion Church cemetery is on the left.

The farm of Sutton **Hastings** 1.5 mi northeast of Woburn was once the site of Ebenezer Church, both church and school for area settlers at least as early as 1836. Historian John **Nowlan** wrote that the Ebenezer Church grounds were used in 1864 as a camp for Union troops sent to this area to look for southern sympathizers who ultimately torched the building, which chased the soldiers from the camp. South of Hastings' home, the farmer had "set aside about an acre for a cemetery which bears his name. This is one of the burial areas which Dean **Anthony**, [then] President, and the Bond Co. Genealogical Society capably renovated" (Glen Diamond book). A Mr **Ward** was the owner of this land in 1992, said Diamond, and had provided a roadway through his field to provide access to this cemetery. Today Hastings cemetery has a new entrance from the Woburn road straight into it from the east, explains Kevin **Kaegy**, immediate past president of BCGS. "The old lane from the north has been closed off. Cheryl and Earl **Stewart** have ancestors buried there and they have been mowing it for the last few years." Nelda Neer Anthony's 1988 cemetery index lists 140 names of known burials. The database at crowd-sourced FindAGrave.com lists 151 interments. Family names include **Daniels, Elam, Grigg, Hastings, Jay, Washburn, and Yeck**.

 Visit via bicycle from downtown Greenville (8.3 miles - 43 minutes): Ride northeast to the community of Woburn (I took Idler Lane north to Iron Gate Trail, but you can alternately take Illinois Route 140 east to Woburn Rd) and follow Woburn Rd north out of Woburn nearly to Hastings Cemetery Ave but turn left (west) onto a field road (trees and swampy pond on the left. Field road makes a 90 degree right turn following trees and opens out on the Hastings cemetery entrance on the left. I recommend visiting in the fall or early spring during dry weather between crop plantings.



Hasting Cemetery, northeast of Woburn, visited by bicycle November 15, 2015.

Robert M. Strain 7 Mar 1895—29 Dec 1961

By John P. Koonce, Somerset, Wisconsin

kooncejp@somtel.net

*Author's Note: Information for this story was obtained from Beutonne **McKean** and Hazel (Koonce) **Berlin**, Elsie's sister.*

About 1976, I started doing Koonce genealogy research in Bond & Fayette counties. My grandfather, James Monroe **Koonce**, came from Mulberry Grove, Illinois (More on him in a future story.). I didn't realize how little I knew about my ancestors, even after almost 40 years of research until one of your BCGS volunteers asked me to write something about Robert and Elsie (Koonce) Strain to accompany the photos I first emailed. Both Robert and Elsie had died before I started my research, so I didn't know them.

Robert Mulford **Strain** was born on 7 Mar 1895, in Reno, Bond Co., to John and Julia (**Mulford**) Strain. He taught school and was principal of Mulberry Grove, Illinois schools, then went on to become Superintendent of Greenville schools from 1939 to 1946.

On 27 August 1919 he married Elsie F. Koonce (10 Dec 1893 – 27 Nov 1974), daughter of Wilbur Clayton and Mary Isabelle (**Davis**) Koonce. The wedding was held at the home of Elsie's parents and was performed by Rev. Ira **Stout**, of Jackson, Ohio, a friend of the groom. They lived in Mulberry Grove. Elsie was affiliated with the United Methodist Church of Vandalia; Eastern Star, Daughters of the American Revolution, and American Legion Auxiliary, all of Greenville.

Only one child, a boy named Robert Dean Strain (21 Jun 1920 – 7 Oct 2008), was born to this union. Robert D. sold insurance in Greenville; he was an Army veteran, serving during World War II. He passed away in 2008 at the Illinois Veterans Home in Quincy, Illinois.

After Robert M.'s resignation as Greenville schools' superintendent he was an agent for the Equitable Life Insurance Co., before re-entering the teaching field, teaching at Carlyle and at Brownstown while maintaining his home in Greenville. In August 1959 the Strains moved to Arizona, where he taught for a year and a half in the government school known as an accommodation school, located on the Navajo Indian reservation near the Glen Canyon dam on the Colorado River. Only a small percentage of the students were Native Americans, most of them being the children of workers on the dam. Robert taught in 1961 at a private boys' school in Tucson, Arizona. He died at home in Coolidge, Arizona on 29 December 1961 at the age of 66.

Robert M. Strain was a veteran of World War I, having been stationed at Camp Taylor, Kentucky. He also held membership in Gilham Lodge No. 809 A.F. &



Original Photo Caption Reads: "THE BRIDAL PARTY. Supt. Robert Strain, (Jody) Frank H. Creswick, Frances (McCaslin) Creswick, Elsie (Koonce) Strain. 27 May 1943"



Original Photo Caption Reads: "Robert Strain & Elsie Koonce Strain on their wedding day, 27 Aug 1919, waiting for the train for their honeymoon."

(Continued on page 12)

Robert Strain, Supt. of Greenville Schools 1939-1946 continued

(Continued from page 11)

A.M. of Mulberry Grove and was a member of American Legion Post 282 of Greenville.

Robert M., Elsie, and Robert D. are all buried in McInturff cemetery in Hagarstown, Fayette Co., Illinois along the old National Road.

Editor's Note: Below is additional information about the Creswicks, the bride and groom pictured centrally in the photo of four individuals. Sources include Censuses, Obituaries, WWI & WWII Draft Registration Cards, and State Death Indices.

Frank Hemstreet **Creswick** (19 Aug 1876 – 16 Oct 1958) was the owner and operator of a Mulberry Grove barbershop. He also worked as a grocery clerk and postmaster at Mulberry Grove. He and first wife (m Jun 1901) Anna Elizabeth **Riley** (9 Sep 1877 – 14 Aug 1939) had one daughter, Almira Elizabeth (6 Apr 1905 – 10 Jun 1942) who taught school. In the 1940 Federal Census, Frank's young wife-to-be, Frances May **McCaslin** (7 May 1910 – 11 Sep 1992), was listed as a live-in housekeeper for Frank and his daughter Elizabeth. Sometime the Creswicks moved to California as both Frank and Frances died there. Frank, Anna, and Elizabeth are buried in Mulberry Grove Cemetery. Frances rests in Montrose Cemetery in Greenville beside her parents, baby sister, and two brothers – one who died in childhood and the other "Killed in action North African Area," WWII.

One Email Query At A Time

By Rebecca Clausen

As a BCGS research volunteer, I am frequently called upon to look up an obituary and/or burial location. Once in a while this task is complicated by the fact that the asker does not have an exact death date; sometimes not even the year of death!

This past autumn, I had a research query via email from a woman who wanted to find out information about her great-grandmother, most importantly her death and birth dates. To keep the emailer and her family's privacy, I'll call the emailer "Maggie" and call her great-grandmother "Ducky." Maggie had found a 1907 marriage license and been able to follow Ducky in Federal Census records up to 1930; but then Ducky disappeared. In 1930, she was listed as divorced and her birth date was circa May 1887. Maggie was very sure Ducky had not moved out of Greenville, so we wondered if Ducky must have passed away

before the 1940 Census. Maggie had Ducky's mother's birth and death dates; and the mother's additional surnames she'd acquired through remarriage after divorcing Ducky's father. Ducky had two children, a daughter and a son, and Maggie knew their dates as well.

I went to work in our BCGS library collection. Using both her married and maiden names, Ducky wasn't in the span of clipped and indexed Greenville Advocate newspaper obituaries.

(Continued on page 13)



(Continued from page 12)

She wasn't in our Bond County burial and cemetery index books. I looked up the mother's obituary in microfilm archives of the Advocate. She'd died in 1945 at (I could hardly believe it!) the home of her daughter Ducky, who was also referred to as a Mrs Husband's Name. The mother's obituary also gave some names of other children, including a brother for Ducky who shared her maiden name, suggesting he was a full blood brother while the other siblings shared a name with the stepfather. Obituaries for Ducky's two children mentioned they'd outlived their mother but gave no details as to when she'd passed. Obituaries for Ducky's ex-husband and father proved no help. FindAGrave.com entries for these individuals did not give any additional clues either.

I decided I needed to find out more about the brother or the new husband. In cases such as these, I like to turn to the databases indexed at Ancestry.com. And sure enough, Ducky's brother turned up in the Social Security Death Index, his identity confirmed by a WWII Draft Registration card linking his name and birth dates to the correct mother. With his death month and year in hand, I returned to the newspaper microfilm and located his obituary. Lo and behold, the notice included his sister's exact death date in 1959!

Ducky's own obituary was now simple to find. It told me her birthday and that she'd married her new husband in Missouri in 1939. I located the couple in the 1940 Census, living in Greenville, and Ducky was employed in the same industry and even same company as in 1930.

I went the extra mile and found Ducky in one of Greenville's cemeteries, and I sent the photograph of the tombstone to Maggie along with PDFs of the relevant obituaries. Case closed and ready to move on the next query submitted.

In the words of Lola **DeGroff**, Bond County area genealogist and workshop presenter, and countless others: "If you cannot find the information by going straight through, you must try going around."

Tree Gifted to City



Greenville Garden Club poses with their gift of an October Glory red maple tree in Montrose Cemetery. From left to right: Janice Blunt, Jill Franks, Nancy Gillard, Pat Kious, Sharon Ahern, William Ahern, Eleanor Pennington, and Penny Attaway.

The Greenville Garden Club made a gift to City of Greenville owned Montrose Cemetery in celebration of the 2015 Bicentennial. The ornamental tree, an October Glory red maple, has been planted along the left hand side of the main road near the entrance to the cemetery. According to ArborDay.org, red maple is one of the best named of all trees, featuring something red in each of the seasons—buds in winter, flowers in spring, leafstalks in summer, and brilliant foliage in autumn. As it is fast growing, this new red maple will be providing a touch of shade to cemetery visitors in almost no time at all. Typically a red maple will live 80-100 years, just like a hearty person!

Sharon Ahern, Garden Club president, explained the group's involvement in the project. "All trees represent life and shelter. As this tree grows we hope it is a living symbol of the welcoming spirit of our City. We also hope this tree brings beauty and joy to those who visit our area."

(Sources: arborday.org, nwf.org and Greenville200.com)

United Methodist Church of Mulberry Grove

The Annual Joint Rural Church History meeting and potluck of the Bond County Historical and Genealogical Societies was held August 18, 2015, at the United Methodist Church of Mulberry Grove. Rev. Bob **Chase**, lay pastor, led in singing two hymns, and then gave a short history of the church which had been written by Beutonne **McKean**. The church held a rededication service in April 2015 to dedicate its new cross and re-consecrate its 148 year old sanctuary.

The church was founded in 1831 in a house where four families began to worship. In 1832 a log house was built in the northernmost part of present day Mulberry Grove Cemetery and was used for both school and church. The first church building (a white frame structure) was built in 1841 between the present church and a house to the south. The current building (a brick building 50 feet by 30 feet) was dedicated on the present site in 1868, and re-modeled in 1905 to raise the roof and ceiling, add the belfry and enclose the entrance with the present stained glass window. In 1933 a fire partially destroyed sections of the building, and it was repaired and redecorated. In 1950, the fellowship hall and kitchen were added, and the east addition (class rooms, office, restrooms and basement) was built in 1990. The steeple was added in 1997, and the whole building was refurbished in 2014. Cedar paneling was used to cover the front wall of the sanctuary and to rebuild the communion rail. A new eight foot, backlit, cedar cross was donated and installed by Rev. Chase (he made sure to say very humbly). They have 57 members and an average attendance of 25.

The Village of Mulberry Grove was first settled in 1826. The population was 634 at the 2010 Federal Census, and the village had a total area of 1.00 square mile (2.6 km²). "The post office of Mulberry Grove was established in 1834 and the village lots were laid out in 1841. Early names for the community were Houston, Bucktown, and Shake Rag. The latter was a nickname that came from the habit of the hotel keeper flagging down the stage-coach with a rag when they wanted it to stop for passengers. Being on the Old National Trail and the St. Louis, Vandalia & Terre Haute (Pennsylvania) Railroad, Mulberry Grove was a hub of freight shipping. A newer community of Royal Lakes was laid out in the 1950s southwest of Mulberry Grove" (Images of America: Greenville and Bond County).

Rev. Bob Chase continued with his brief historical overview of the village by describing infrastructure improvements like the paving of roads, and the major installation of a 1974 water line connecting Mulberry to Greenville. There were descriptions of businesses, doctors, trains, schools, characters, major structure fires in the business district, memorable crimes like robberies, even three murders, Chase said. In 1959 fire destroyed the three-story Masonic building. "Hudson Park, north of Mulberry, was a popular amusement park from the late 1800s through the 1930s, offering swimming, roller skating, dancing, boating, and fishing" ("National Road Assoc. of Illinois Travel Guide"). During the Civil War there was a strong southern sentiment in Mulberry Grove but most of the inhabitants were faithful to the Union cause. After the war, the G.A.R. veterans were a very important group in the town, maintaining the cemetery, installing monu-



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ments, and placing flowers on graves for Decoration Day.

Following the history readings, Beutonne McKean and Kevin **Kaegy** took questions from the audience and discussions of memories arose.

For more information about Mulberry Grove, including family histories, please refer to the 1984 Community Sesquicentennial book published by the Mulberry Grove Lions Club, available at the Bond County Genealogical Society research library in the lower level of Greenville Public Library.

Genealogy Pox

Author Unknown

Incidence

Though it can strike at any age, this dread disease rarely affects children or young adults, and rarely becomes serious until after middle age.

Contagion

The cause and manner of transmission of the Pox are poorly understood. It is generally only mildly contagious, requiring relatively prolonged exposure to one afflicted with it. However, some victims contract the disease after one brief exposure, while others seem to have a natural immunity, and can withstand years of close contact without ever succumbing to it.

Symptoms

Insatiable craving for names, dates and places; patient often has a blank expression and seems deaf to spouse and children; has no taste for productive work of any kind, but will spend long hours feverishly looking through books at libraries and courthouses; may become addicted to the use of microfilm and microfiche readers; may become a compulsive letter-writer or phone-caller; may tend to lie in wait for the mailman, cursing him soundly if he only leaves bills or circulars; frequents strange places such as cemeteries, attics and any place where dusty old books and photographs can be found.

These have always been the classic symptoms. But recently the virus causing this Pox seems to have mutated. The newest symptom is spending hours in front of a computer screen, sending e-mail messages and looking for more and more genealogy websites on the Internet. This can lead to dire consequences, as the victim often forgets to eat or sleep and can become emaciated, disoriented and clinically speaking, totally nuts!

Treatment

There is no known cure, and fighting the disease only makes the victim withdraw from contact with those trying to help him. Humoring him, or joining in his obsessive activities seem to be the best ways for loved ones to deal with it. It is progressive, but has never been known to be fatal. The patient should attend genealogy workshops, subscribe to genealogy magazines, and be given a quiet place where he can be alone. If the patient is inattentive to those closest to him, his attention can be gotten, at least for short periods of time, by promising him a new website address, or a new and more powerful computer. But perhaps the surest, and certainly the least expensive way of getting his attention, is to ask a question - ANY question - about his great grandmother!

Remarks/Observations

The most unusual aspect of this disease has always been that, the sicker the patient gets, the more he enjoys it!



Kathy Brewer and John S. Coleman of BCHS display the quilt while Virginia Schewe explains her blocks and techniques.

“200 Years of Progress” Quilt

Virginia **Schewe** presented a quilt to the Bond County Historical Society during their meeting July 28, 2015, which she had made to commemorate the Bicentennial, called “200 Years of Progress.” She gathered historical photos and printed them on quilt blocks, and then took colored photos of the same view this year. She used 30 different fabrics which are reproductions of 1810-1830 patterns; this technique is called a “scrap quilt.” The border is a modern batik fabric from the Pacific Islands. The quilt’s design is called “Attic Windows,” and is signed with her name. The quilt was Schewe’s creation and it was quilted by her daughter, Lora **Kennedy**. It was displayed in several locations during the Bicentennial celebration and shall hang in the Hoiles-Davis Museum for the 2016 season.

Greenville’s Bicentennial Celebration: A Birthday Party 200 Years In The Making

September 5 and 6, 2015, the city of Greenville, Illinois taught a master class in how to throw a near-perfect Midwest Bicentennial Celebration. Labor Day weekend festivities included a 5k Run; free Concerts by Chapman Bros., Bellamy Bros, and Little River Band; a Carnival; incredible, huge Parade featuring the University of Illinois marching band and Anheuser-Busch Budweiser Clydesdales; Brothers of the Brush beard contest; mini-museum, silent auction of artwork, awards and recognitions for Greenville citizens and businesses; demonstrations by outdoor cast iron chefs, BMX bike daredevils, Fusion Dance Studio, and the Greenville High School robotics team; plus a GPS geo-caching scavenger hunt tour of historic landmarks.

The Benjamin Mills Chapter of the NSDAR produced a clever pioneer era skit. The Saturday morning performance was a fictional melodrama based on historical events. The Chapter also raffled a quilt and participated in

Sunday’s BIG parade. (Also see an article submitted by Benjamin Mills Chapter NSDAR on page 25 of this issue.)



Cowboy Randy photo courtesy WGEL 101.7 FM Daily News



Benjamin Mills Chapter NSDAR photo courtesy Cindy Tischhauser

Along with his fast-paced music, yodeling, and trick-roping, Cowboy Randy **Erwin** spun some tall cowboy tales and shared a little cowboy history.

Brian “Fox” **Ellis** charmed his attentive audience in his por-

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trayal of Gen. John A. “Black Jack” **Logan**, a Civil War hero and U.S. Senator from Illinois who was a key figure in Memorial Day becoming a national holiday. A “volunteer” officer and sometimes on the opposite political side of Lincoln before the Civil War, he was snubbed on promotions twice by the President but General Grant fought for his shoulder stars. Ellis as Logan illustrated the complexity and evolution of human attitudes of educated people like himself growing up in a free state so near ingrained economic and cultural ideas of the American south.

Kathryn **Harris**, recently retired Library Services Director at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, captivated listeners in her portrayal of Harriet **Tubman**, legendary Underground Railroad conductor. Her appearance was a nod to the efforts of abolitionists in Greenville and Bond County prior to the Civil War. Witty and compassionate, Harris as Tubman may have lost a dress button, but she never lost a passenger, and she would not stand for any obtuse, nosy audience questions!

The Montrose Cemetery & Abbey living history tours delivered a greatly anticipated program despite the oppressive afternoon heat. Local residents in period costumes were stationed at various spots around the cemetery and mausoleum to portray early Greenville residents: Will C. **Carson** (by Cary **Holman**), U.S. **DeMoulin** (by John **Goldsmith**), Rev. J.G. **Wright** (by Bill **Donnell**), Rev. J.B. **White** (By Bill **Ahern**), Mrs Almira Blanchard **Morse** (by Kacie **Tischhauser**), Mrs Juliette White **Hoiles** (by Dr Cecelia **Ulmer**), Colonel John B. **Reid** (by Kevin **Kaegy**), Pvt Ed **Merrifield** (by Anthony **Macon**), and Dr. Katherine **Luzader** (by Cindy **Catron**). A feature article on the Montrose Cemetery tour begins on page 20 of this issue.

The Bicentennial wrapped up its celebration with the New Year’s Eve afternoon sealing of a new 50 years time capsule in Montrose Abbey Mausoleum plus a semi-formal evening gala banquet with entertainment by The Dueling Hobbits, a piano band combo from St. Louis, and comedy magician Steve **Barcellona**, also out of St Louis. Plus committee members oversaw the raffle drawing for a special Greenville Landmarks quilt. See related story on page 18 of this issue.

With the remaining monies from all the Bicentennial fundraising efforts, Greenville will erect a permanent monument within the city limits to

commemorate this historic occasion.



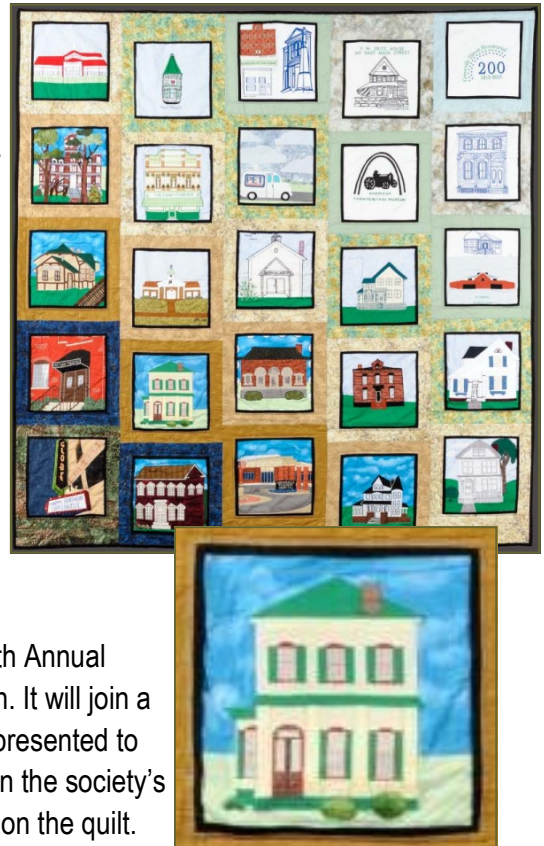
Above: Portraits and photographs of actual Greenville citizens portrayed on Cemetery Tour: Almira Blanchard Morse (from *Still Abides The Memory* by Mary Tenney; Pvt Edward Merrifield (from Bond County Historical Society artifacts collection); Juliette White Hoiles (from Greenville College Archives). On right: Local residents costumed for living history Cemetery Tour: Kacie Tischhauser, Anthony Macon, Cecelia Ulmer. Photo courtesy Cindy Tischhauser.

Historical Society Will Graciously Accept Surprise Gift

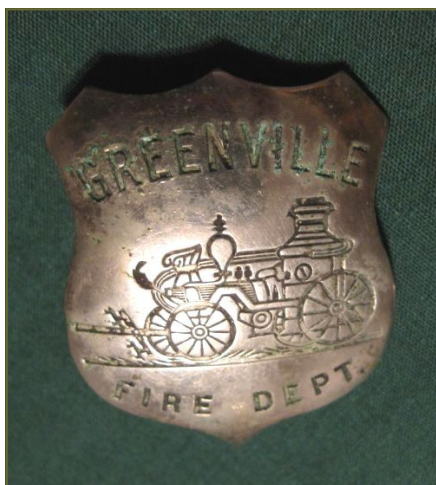
The Greenville Bicentennial raffle quilt that was given away as part of the Bicentennial's New Year's Eve Gala has been presented to the Bond County Historical Society by an anonymous donor. The quilt features 24 separate blocks depicting buildings from Greenville's past and present, and one block featuring the official Bicentennial logo. A committee headed by Nancy **Gillard**, with the help of the Creative Stitchers Guild, organized the quilt and began selling raffle tickets early last year. Over 900 were sold before the drawing on December 31, 2015.

"We are thrilled to add this important and unique piece to our collection," said Kevin **Kaegy**, president of the Historical Society. "The donor did not want recognition for the gift. Instead, they wanted to make sure the quilt went to a place where it can be displayed and the work of the crafters can be enjoyed by the whole community."

The Historical Society plans to include the quilt in their 14th Annual Quilt Show on March 19th at the Greenville Free Methodist Church. It will join a Bicentennial commemorative quilt made by Virginia **Schewe** and presented to the Historical Society in July. After that, the quilt will be displayed in the society's Hoiles-Davis Museum, one of the landmark buildings represented on the quilt.



Recently Rediscovered Artifacts to be Displayed



While straightening up one of the storage rooms inside the Hoiles-Davis museum, Bond County Historical Society President Kevin **Kaegy** unearthed several loose, uncataloged objects donated to the society and museum over the course of its 60 year history. Records of the acquisitions most likely do exist in meeting minutes or other papers yet to be located. Kaegy believes that these treasures with close associations to Greenville will be put on display at the museum for the 2016 season.

Greenville Fire Department badge or pin. Year and original owner unknown. Most likely from the early 1900s

Pictured on the metal pin, rich with patina, is a horse-drawn steam pumper engine. "The steam pumper and the horse changed the

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face of firefighting[, especially in cities]. Not only did the steam pumper make it possible to supply continuous water to the scene of the fire, but horses starting pulling equipment and apparatus. Both lessened the need for manpower" ("Early Fire Apparatus: The Horse-Drawn Era," by Fire-Dex, firefighter clothing manufacturer. Blog at firedex.com, 2011).

Pure Coin Silver Tea Spoons once owned by Mrs Almira Ann Blanchard Morse



The tea spoons feature Almira's fancy script monogram: A.A.M. She married Stephen **Morse** in 1845 and began keeping house and entertaining guests, which required many pieces of such flatware. Read more about the Morses on page 24 of this issue. "Silver then, as now, was a symbol of affluence. Until the opening of the Comstock Lode in 1859 there were no silver mines in the United States of any significance. Before that nearly all silver in the United States first came as either a finished product - bowl, candlestick, spoon, or whatever -- or as a silver coin or bar. For the

American silversmith to obtain raw materials he either had to purchase silver bars or melt silver coins. A silversmith with a rush order could, literally, reach into his pocket. And from that comes the generic term -- Coin Silver" ("Early American Coin Silver, A Brief History," by Bull in a China Shoppe, antique dealer. eBay.com Buying Guides, 2008).

Greenville High School "Flyers" sticker or cling, pre-1956

Before the smaller county schools consolidated in the mid-1950s and Bond County's Greenville high school sports team nickname became the Comets, Greenville High athletes were the Flyers. "The [men's basketball] Flyers were a force to be reckoned with during the 1920s. The highlight of the program even today was a FOURTH PLACE finish in the IHSA State Tournament in 1923 [under Coach L.G. **Baker**]. This was accomplished during the state's one-class system which was quite a feat in the day. All totaled, the basketball Flyers won a total of SIX Regional Championships, FOUR District Titles, and one Sectional Championship!" (Illinois High School Glory Days www.illinoishsglorydays.com).



Montrose Cemetery & Mausoleum Voices



"The last resting place of the dead is a hallowed spot in every community. For many years beautiful Montrose cemetery has been such a spot in this community. Spread out on top of its high hill among its green shadows, its beauty is unsurpassed by any cemetery anywhere," spoke city attorney Glen B. **Wilson** on Memorial Day, May 30, 1942 ([Greenville Advocate](#)).

Montrose was originally established as Mount Rose. The site at the north end of 4th street was selected and surveyed April 29, 1877 and was turned over to the city later. Greenville Advocate editor, W.W. **Lewis**, lived on nearby Piety Hill (at the NW corner of 3rd

and Oak) and he hated the proposed location; he wrote a critical editorial July 19, 1877. There were originally 500 shares sold in the cemetery at \$10 each; one man bought 497 of them, said volunteer Bicentennial tour guide Jes **Adam** in an interview with Don and Jan **Stover** ("Creeside Ep 136." Audio blog post. Owl Creek Radio, 6 Sep 2015. Web.). 400 veterans are buried in Montrose, including five Confederate soldiers.

The Mausoleum, Montrose Abbey, was built in 1914-1915 using T.C. **Selby's** design. It features vitrified brick, limestone, marble, stained glass, and copper-coated bronze doors and windows. Sister mausoleums in Vandalia and Roodhouse looked nearly identical. Beginning in 2001, extensive repairs and restoration work saved the mausoleum as the final resting place for many of Greenville's prominent citizens and as an architectural jewel ("Story of Montrose Abbey from Construction to Restoration").

Hon. & Mrs. Cicero Jefferson **Lindly**, married in December 1888, lost all three of their children, two boys and a girl, by the time of the 1900 Federal Census. Judge Lindly, an affluent attorney and farmer, purchased approximately twenty lots near the entrance of Montrose just west of the mausoleum and at least five family members are buried there. A large, carved granite angel watches over the Lindlys (City of Greenville Cemetery Database).

A new, beautiful and imposing limestone entrance to the cemetery was dedicated Memorial Day 1942, purchased through volunteer subscriptions. In time for Memorial Day 2011, local Boy Scouts, Jacob **Rommerskirchen** and Austin **Ulmer**, worked to attain Eagle Scout rank by beautifying and repairing both the stone entrance gate and the front landscaping of the abbey (WGEL 101.7FM Daily News).



Dr Katherine Belle Luzader, MD (Mar 16, 1872 – Sep 26, 1967); portrayed by Cindy **Catron**, member and Historian of Illinois Retired Teachers Assn. Bond County chapter.

At the turn of the last century, a small city such as Greenville was progressive enough to have and support a woman physician. Dr. Katherine **Luzader** was born in Nokomis, Illinois, one of eight children of Ed-

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Photo courtesy John S. Coleman & Bicentennial Committee

mund S. Luzader and Angelica **Rasmus**. A 1902 graduate of Greenville College, Katherine attended Hanneman Medical School in Chicago and began making Greenville house calls by horse and buggy in 1907, one of seven city doctors. She was a pioneer in developing a program in Bond County to combat Tuberculosis; many years of her medical work, research, and professional board memberships were spent untiringly battling the disease. She became the second person in Greenville to own a car, a Model T Ford. Her office was downtown on West College Avenue and the small frame building still bears her

name. Before the 1910 census, Katherine purchased a home on the corner of Elm and Durley Streets, and she extensively remodeled it in anticipation of entertaining, seeing patients, and welcoming family members to live with her. She consciously chose not to marry as she believed doing so would force her to give up both her medical practice and the work she was doing against tuberculosis. Dr. Luzader died following a series of strokes at 95 years old, after nearly 60 years of medical practice. She was able to see and treat the children, grandchildren and even great grandchildren of some of her earliest patients.

Pvt Edward L. Merrifield (Dec 28, 1888 – Jan 21, 1952); portrayed by Anthony **Macon**, Media Resources & Head Bass Fishing Coach at Greenville College.

“Eddie,” as he was familiarly known, Co E 366th Infantry, 92nd Division American Expeditionary Forces, was the only veteran in Bond county to have been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, “for extraordinary heroism in action near Lesseau, France” on Sep 4, 1918. Though badly wounded, having sustained machine gun wounds in his legs and also injured in the left thigh, twenty-nine year old Pvt **Merrifield** remained at his post and prevented the success of an enemy raid. The 92nd Division was made up of colored soldiers from all states. After WWI, he learned the shoe repair trade in John **Posch** & Son’s shop and later opened a shop of his own. With Posch, sometimes the employees would work from 7am to 10pm, repairing bushel baskets full of shoes – 150 pairs a day (Plaque affixed to Posch building downtown Greenville). The son of John Merrifield from Old Ripley and Laurinda (**Curtis**) Merrifield from Carlyle, Eddie had four sisters and six brothers. He married Christina **Robinson** (from Iowa) about 1921, and they had a daughter, Constance Loraine. Plagued by war-related physical and psychological complaints and recurrent stays in veterans’ hospitals around the country, it is not surprising his personal life suffered, and Ed and Christina divorced prior to 1932; the ladies relocated to Iowa. He died at a Wisconsin hospital after having been home to Greenville for the Christmas holiday the month before.

William Clark Carson (Aug 7, 1874 – May 30, 1942); portrayed by Dr. Cary **Holman**, Dept Chair of Communication at Greenville College and General Manager at WGRN 89.5 FM Radio.

Will C. **Carson**, as he referred to himself, was a prominent newspaperman, editor, and publisher of the semi-weekly Greenville Advocate. His father, William Thomas Carson, was from Franklin, Tennessee

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Montrose Voices continued

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and moved with his family to Woodburn, Illinois in Macoupin county where Will was born and raised. His mother, Abigail **Colcord** from Greenville by way of Maine, descended from an original Mayflower colonist. At 14, Will started the Woodburn News, a weekly one-boy publication.

He started with the Greenville Advocate paper as a reporter in 1895 at age 21, became the city editor, then managing editor, and in 1916 bought out the entire owning interest in the paper and its building. As publisher of the Advocate, which has been published continuously since 1858, Carson was a keen observer, a vigorous editor, and a writer of pungent prose; the paper won numerous awards under his editorship. For a time he wrote a column, "Carson's Caustic Comment," in which he gave his strong views on the passing scene. He compiled and edited the 1905 Historical Souvenir of Greenville. He issued several collectible "anniversary editions" of the paper. He donated all the files of The Advocate from 1858 to 1900 to the Illinois State Historical Society.

Carson had long been active in Greenville and was a director of First National Bank, an organizer of Greenville Chamber of Commerce, an original member of the Greenville Municipal Concert Band, a Shriner, a 32d degree Mason, as well as active in other fraternal organizations. In 1932, he ran (unsuccessfully) for the Republican nomination for congressman-at-large in Illinois. He worked as an enumerator for the 1900 Federal Census, city of Greenville districts/wards. Carson married twice - Louise **Seawell** (d 1924), then Lucy **Keller Fritz**. Carson and Louise had one daughter, Mildred McKee, and one grandson.

Carson died of acute heart failure at 67 years old. Common lore is that he'd made two early morning trips to Montrose cemetery, walking and placing flags on dozens of graves for Memorial Day, and collapsed a few hours later at his editor's desk. He did visit a doctor, and went home where he died a while later in his bed.

Ulysses Sordet DeMoulin (Oct 3, 1871 – Jul 11, 1955); portrayed by John E. **Goldsmith**, Marketing Director at First National Bank and curator of the DeMoulin Museum.

U.S. **DeMoulin** was president of DeMoulin Brothers Company, a uniform and regalia manufacturing firm – Greenville's oldest industry. He came to the city in 1896 from Jamestown, Illinois, and with his brother, Ed, established the factory which initially designed and produced fraternal order initiation paraphernalia and lodge furniture, most notably goats. Married twice, his first wife, Emma **Diehl**, caused a scandal with her alleged affair with a St Louis streetcar conductor. U.S. and Cora **Caskey**, wife #2, went on to enjoy many, happily childless years together in the large home he built on S 4th Street across from what would become the Hoiles-Davis Museum (Three Frenchmen and a Goat and demoulinmuseum.org).

Rev Joseph Godsell (J.G.) Wright (Mar 26, 1846 – Feb 7, 1929); portrayed by Bill **Donnell**, funeral direc-

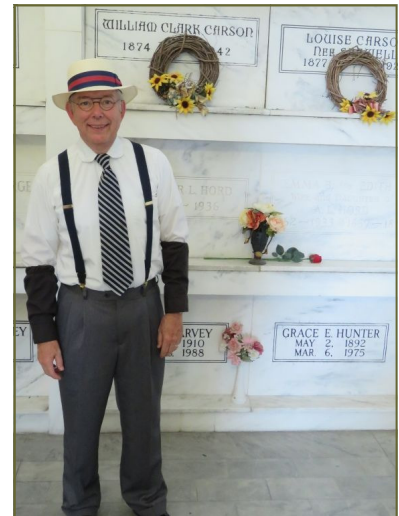


Photo courtesy John S. Coleman
& Bicentennial Committee

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tor at Donnell-Wiegand Funeral Home and collector of Greenville memorabilia.

English-born, J.G. came to America at 24 and taught in several country schools. Rector **Wright** took charge of Greenville's Grace Church, a Protestant Episcopal church, in April 1, 1882 and served the church faithfully and well for 47 years (Journal of the 27th Synod of the Holy Catholic Church, Diocese of Springfield). He suffered a heart attack in the pulpit and succumbed to static pneumonia four days later at a St Louis hospital. At the time of his passing, he'd recently been presented the 33d degree from his Masonic lodge. He married his wife, Nan, in 1873. His daughter's husband was George von Weise, mayor of Greenville; his son, an editor of The Sun newspaper. A huge outpouring of people assembled for his funeral. The gothic church building, which was constructed in the first year of Wright's administration, was purchased in 1963 by Central Christian and moved to Prairie St. The Hoiles-Davis Museum has a stone in the yard that is engraved "Grace Church."

Rev John Brown White (Mar 10, 1810 – Feb 12, 1887); portrayed by Dr. William **Ahern**, Biology Professor Emeritus at Greenville College and frequent player on the GC Factory Theatre stage.

A pioneer in the field of women's education, J.B. **White** was the founding president of Almira College. Born in New Hampshire into a farming family, he went into law before interests turned toward education and Christian ministry. White's two wives, both teachers themselves, and his full household of children, proved influential to his life's endeavors, chiefly the importance of educating progressive, nurturing young ladies. Mary's death in 1855 had left J.B. with four daughters and two sons to raise alone until he married Elizabeth in 1857. With his longtime friend Stephen **Morse**, who would serve as business manager, he established the new women's college in Greenville in 1855; initial classes were held in his home and the Morses's home. For several years, he served as pastor of the Greenville Baptist Church. He served as a chaplain for 117th Illinois Inf during Civil War. After the war, White opened schools for women in Champaign and Alton, but returned in 1867 to the presidency of Almira College, retiring again in 1878. His daughter, Juliette, married prominent banker C.D. Hoiles.



Juliette Powers White Hoiles (Nov 14, 1843 – Dec 21, 1924); portrayed by Dr. Cecelia **Ulmer**, retired Professor of Communication and director of theater productions at Greenville College.

Born in North Carolina, the daughter of Rev. J. B. **White** & Mary **Powers Merriam**, Juliette was instrumental, along with her Greenville Ladies Library Association, in convincing well-known philanthropist Andrew **Carnegie** to donate \$10,000 for the building of a free public library in the city. The LLA donated 4000 books and \$1000, and the library opened in 1905 (greenvillepubliclibrary.org). Widely active in Greenville's civic, educational, and religious life, she graduated from her father's Almira College, attended university abroad at Dresden, then taught at Almira before marrying. Juliette raised two children with banker, Charles Douglas **Hoiles**, and looked after two step-children. An invalid for the last decade of her life, her

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Montrose Voices continued

(Continued from page 23)

scores of old society friends still felt a great personal loss when she was finally gone due to the profound influence of her good works and outstanding character. Read more about Juliette, her husband C.D., and their grand mansion in the BCGS News Volume 29 Issue 2.

Almira Ann Blanchard Morse (Dec 25, 1820 – Aug 21, 1881); portrayed by Kacie **Tischhauser**, team member at Country Financial, recent inductee into the NSDAR, and daughter of Cindy Tischhauser, new President of Bond County Genealogical Society.

Almira, her husband Stephen **Morse**, and J.B. White were behind the formation of Almira College, a Baptist college for women which was the precursor to the Greenville College of today. She contributed a \$6,000 family inheritance from her merchant uncle Samuel, the use of her own home, her personal name, and much time and effort to founding this college for girls. The daughter of prominent Greenville farmer Seth **Blanchard** and his wife Elizabeth **Howell**, Almira was a lady of thorough and accomplished education. She taught in a frame school house two miles south of the city. She owned a rosewood square piano, handmade inside and out by the William **Geib** company of New York City. Her father shipped it by boat from Boston to St Louis for her 18th birthday, and it is thought to be the first piano in Bond County. Greenville College donated this piano to Bond County Historical Society whose members refinished it, and it is on permanent display in the parlor room of the Hoiles-Davis Museum. She married Stephen June 4, 1845. Having no children of their own, the Morses adopted the son of Stephen's brother Kendall – Albert Edward Morse (Walter Blanchard family book). Nearly to the age of 61, Almira died at her home near Paola, Kansas of "typhoid malarial fever," and her embalmed remains were returned to Greenville and interred in Montrose Cemetery in the Hoiles family plot (Obituary in [The Greenville Sun](#)).



Col John Barclay Reid (Aug 8, 1830 – Dec 25, 1907); portrayed by Kevin J. **Kaegy**, Designer at Markus Cabinetry, President of Bond County Historical Society, author and renowned area Lincoln and Civil War historian.

J.B. **Reid** was born in Donegal, Ireland, was raised in Woburn, Massachusetts near Boston, and came to Greenville a businessman in the shoemakers' trade. He served as Postmaster and Clerk of the Circuit Court. He and wife, Emma **Tufts Holden**, reared five sons and five daughters. In 1862, Reid enlisted in the 130th Illinois Volunteer Infantry, formed chiefly of Bond County boys, and was elected Captain but commissioned as Major. His regiment saw action in the Vicksburg campaign and as a participant in the "Red River Disaster," Reid was severely wounded, captured, and imprisoned. Even though a prisoner of war, he was allowed to go home after signing an oath that he would not fight against the south. Once home and fully recovered though, he did rejoin the Union war effort. His prolific, detailed letters home to Emma, later published in the Advocate newspaper,

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Benjamin Mills Chapter of NSDAR

By Jeanette Dothager, Regent (president), Benjamin Mills Chapter of NSDAR

The National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) celebrated its 125th anniversary in 2015. It was a year of celebration that included National, State, and Local celebrations and activities. Benjamin Mills Chapter members joined in by attending State Conference and the Continental Congress in Washington D.C., and by volunteering and taking part in Chapter and community activities.

Benjamin Mills Chapter is not as old as the National organization, but it has stood the test of time. It was organized on June 5, 1913 by Mrs Charles **Davidson** at her home in Greenville. The majority of the charter members descended from the same patriot ancestor; therefore, it was decided to use his name for the chapter designation. The 85th anniversary of the Chapter's organization was marked with a luncheon on June 13, 1998. The 100th anniversary of Benjamin Mills Chapter was celebrated on June 5, 2013 with a grave marking in Camp Ground Cemetery of Mary **Trotter Mills**, daughter-in-law of Benjamin Mills. A luncheon followed where the Chapter received a Proclamation from the Illinois State House of Representatives honoring their one hundred years of service.

Although the NSDAR motto is "God, Home, and Country," the main activity of the DAR is service and volunteering. Members take part in many activities sponsored by the NSDAR—honoring and supporting veterans, supporting DAR schools, sponsoring a Good Citizen contest, and promoting literacy. However, volunteering for community activities is of utmost importance. In the past, Benjamin Mills Chapter has placed a marker at Hill's Fort and another at the site where Abraham **Lincoln** spoke when he came to Greenville. This past year, DAR members in Bond and Fayette counties have volunteered in many events. Some of the many are the following: helping at Wounded Warrior walks and events; helping to plan Greenville's 200th birthday party and taking part in a skit written just for the celebration September 5; serving on committees in the community, at churches, and with special interest groups; handing out candy at Trunk or Treat; and helping the Military Moms pack Christmas care packages for service members who will not be home for the holidays. In just about any organization where volunteers are needed, DAR members will be there working. Last year, DAR daughters from chapters all across America volunteered over one million hours to help in the Celebrate America event for the 125th anniversary. Hours are still being recorded before the end of year deadline as members try to improve on last year's total.

DAR members are not a group of little old ladies, sipping tea and eating cookies! These active women of all ages enjoy helping others, volunteering in the community, and celebrating and supporting America. These super patriotic women get the job done, and occasionally can be found sipping tea and eating cookies!

Keep up with the activities of Benjamin Mills Chapter at their website:

<http://ildar.org/chapters/benjaminmills/index.html>



Greenville Women's Club Apple Day Awards: A Retrospective of Recent Winners with BCGS & BCHS connections

John **Goldsmith** received the Greenville Women's Club's Community Appreciation Award presented during Apple Day October 3, 2015. His service to the community began shortly after graduating from Greenville High School with coaching Little League baseball and directing fall plays at GHS. For over 20 years he was a familiar voice on WGEL 101.7 FM Radio. From 2007 to 2011 he was the executive director of the National Road Association of Illinois. Goldsmith was hired as the director for the Greenville Chamber of Commerce and Greenville Tourism in Sept. 2011, pioneering several new popular community and business events including the popular and growing Greenville Graffiti Car Show. He became the marketing director for The First National Bank on Aug. 1, 2015. He received the Appreciation Award for "his many hours of unselfish devotion for the betterment of Greenville and for enthusiastically and successfully promoting our town through tourism and the Chamber," stated Gayle **Wise** of the Women's Club, also pictured above. Goldsmith's organization memberships have included the Bond County Historical Society (serving 3 terms as president between 2001-2005 and presently serving as vice president), Greenville Cemetery Board, Greenville Fire Protection District board of trustees, and Greenville Bicentennial Board. In 2010 he founded the DeMoulin Museum in memory of his mother, Norma Goldsmith, who worked at the DeMoulin Bros. factory for 50 years. Since its opening on March 20, 2010, the DeMoulin Museum has attracted over 5,000 visitors.



Photo courtesy John Goldsmith

American Farm Heritage Museum, which hosts the Hill's Fort replica, also in 2015, received the Women's Club Historical Preservation and Beautification Award. The group's ongoing activities to preserve, promote, and share the history of Bond County's rural life and daily living, through displays, demonstrations, and more earned them the honor. John **Tichenor**, vice president, accepted the award for the group.



At Apple Day October 6, 2012, Gerald "Speed" **Jenner**, pictured with 2012 Bond County Fair Queen Nori **Stone**, received a Service Award from the Greenville Women's Club for his many years of community service. Jenner has worked with the Bond County Genealogical Society in locating and restoring several old cemeteries, and compiled many books and family histories, the two most notable and available to the public being The Story of Old Mt. Nebo and the Families Buried There and Mt. Gilead Cumberland Presbyterian Church & Cemetery History, 1819-1993. He served as a director of Bond County Historical Society for many years, resigning only in 2015 as he is disappointedly no longer able to attend meetings. Jenner served as Treasurer of the Genealogical Society in its earliest years, spent many

years on the BCGS Cemetery Committee, and remains a Director Emeritus. Read more about Jenner, a Hoiles-Davis Museum featured veteran in 2012, in the BCGS News Vol 29 Issue 1.

The Greenville Women's Club's Outstanding Club Member Award in 2012 went to Kathy **Brewer**, who has been an integral part of the club for many years. She began in the group as a liaison from the Bond County Historical Society. Brewer has been part of the Special Event Committee and has chaired the Historic Preservation Committee. In addition to her support of the women's club, Brewer (in 2012 and for several terms before) was vice president of the Bond County Historical Society. Currently she serves as a Director and as Chair of the Hoiles-Davis Museum Displays Committee. She is also a member of the Bond County Genealogical Society and Hill's Fort Society. She and her husband, Bill, are known for creating Plains Indian related items for movies, such as "Dances with Wolves" and "The Lone Ranger," and for private collectors. Look for more of the Brewers' crafts work in an upcoming season of AMC television series "TURN: Washington's Spies." (Sources for this article include the Greenville Advocate and BCGS News Quarterly archives.)



(Continued from page 24)

serve as an excellent historical and cultural reference for the times. He was an active member of G.A.R. Post #130 Colby which was named for Reid's friend, a captain in the 130th, who died in the fighting at Vicksburg. Col Reid died suddenly at home Christmas Day 1907 (History and Reminiscences of Col. John B. Reid and Family).

Sources, where not cited in text, include Historical Souvenir of Greenville, Images of America, Censuses, Ill Deaths & Stillbirths Index, Military records, The Advocate, The Sun, The Edwardsville Intelligencer, WGEL 101.7 FM Daily News, essays from Allen H. Keith, Still Abides the Memory, Tales, Trails & Breadcrumbs, Man Proposes, But God Disposes: A Biography of John Brown White.

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

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

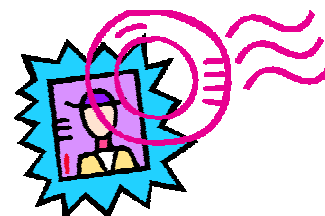
To make your query more effective, include dates, places and full names whenever possible. The query may also be published on our Website. You may E-Mail your queries to the newsletter committee at bcgs_editor@sbcglobal.net or send Snail Mail to: Bond County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 172, Greenville,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

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

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

Good queries are:

*Clear—
Specific—
Simple—
Concise*



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www.bondcountyhistorical.org



Renew Your Dues for 2016!

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 2016 OFFER! Join both societies (Genealogical and Historical) for only \$20.00 - a \$5.00 savings! Find membership information on Page 2 of this issue.

Time Capsule Dedicated on Last Day of 2015

A brief ceremony was held New Year's Eve afternoon to retire the Bicentennial time capsule at the Montrose Mausoleum. Approximately 35 people attended the event. Bond County Genealogical Society will be represented with the most recently published volumes of the B.C.G.S. News. The time capsule will be opened in 2065 during Greenville's 250th birthday. Try to be there!



Left: Greenville Mayor Alan **Gaffner** speaks while Elliott **Wiegand** and Bill **Donnell** of the funeral home that donated the small casket look on. Above: Wiegand and Bicentennial Fundraising Chairman John S. **Coleman** steady ladders while workmen place a specially engraved marble front over the crypt which is planned to hold the time capsule for 50 years.