

Bond County Genealogical Society News

Volume 35, Issue 2

Summer July 2020

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

At The Spinning Wheel: Prairie Artists of the 1970s



Mary Gayle Nevinger at the spinning wheel. The Bond County Prairie Artists, very active in the 1970s-1980s, promoted local art by bringing together local arts and crafts people. The Prairie Artists' works were showcased during festivals held on the courthouse grounds in downtown Greenville and at Bond County Fairgrounds. Members made, displayed, and sold items such as paintings, pottery, soaps, textiles, and apparel. *Photo believed to be by Doug Hoiles, Bond County Historical Society collection.*

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Special points of interest:

- High School Teacher "Vlogs" Local History.
- Massive New Online Database Connects, Identifies Enslaved Individuals and Their Descendants.
- Shop. Earn. Give Back with Giving Assistant.
- Volunteers Clean, Repair, and Preserve Dolls.
- Still Seeking More Centennial Farm Families!
- Remembering Our Friend, George Gobberdiel.
- One-Room School Museum Changes Hands.
- COVID-19 Pandemic: How to Journal Your Story.
- Bond County Girl's Letters of 110+ Years Ago Offer Glimpse Into Past.

Bond County Genealogical Society

Officers

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

Appointees

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

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

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

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

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

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

- Harold J. Seymour

Bond County Historical Society

2019-2020 Officers

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

Directors

Burgess Twp - open
Central Twp. - Sharon Grimes
Tamalco Twp - Judy Schroeter
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Pleasant Mound Twp - Cary Holman
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Shoal Creek Twp - Tom Varner
LaGrange Twp - Gary Tischhauser
Mulberry Grove Twp - Jeanette Dothager

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

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

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

Membership forms are also available on our website.

www.bondcountyhistorical.org

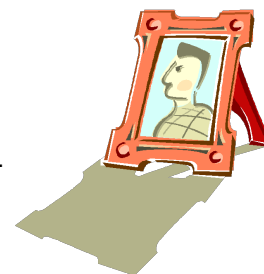


Monthly Society Meetings

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

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

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



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

2020 Events Calendar

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

July 28, 2020 Historical & Genealogical Societies Business Meeting.

August 25, 2020 Historical & Genealogical Societies Business Meeting?

October 2020 Historical & Genealogical Societies Annual Dinner Meeting plus
BCHS 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 future “Bond County Museum” located at 409 S. Fourth Street in Greenville, Illinois is currently closed to the public.

Thanks for your patience while the Bond County Historical Society completes the move and arrangement of our collection inside the new location—the U.S. DeMoulin Mansion. The new Museum is tentatively scheduled to open in late 2020.

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

“Bond County Museum” News

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



Financial Gifts Sought to Open New “Bond County Museum”

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

Genealogical Society Library Shelf

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

If you experience technical difficulties with our microfilm reader, please contact Jane Hopkins (jhopkins4616@sbcglobal.net 618-664-4616) or Kevin Kaegy (kevink@markuscabinet.com 618-210-2256).



Meet Me At The Fair: Historian Speaks to Societies

The Bond County Historical Society hosted noted 1904 St. Louis World's Fair historian Professor Karl M **Kindt** III as the speaker at their annual Soup Supper Program on Thursday, February 27, 2020 at the Bradford Community Building in Greenville. Prof. Kindt's program titled "Never Ending – The 1904 World's Fair," focused not only on the fair held in St. Louis' Forest Park to commemorate the centennial of the 1803 Louisiana Purchase; but also on the technological and photographic legacy the fair left behind. As part of his program, Prof. Kindt showed dozens of photographs from the Missouri Historical Society's collection.

"I've been a part of planning this annual February program for several years, and I've really been looking forward to this one," said John S. **Coleman**, one of the Historical Society's event organizers. "We got to see some really rare images of the fair that haven't been seen in decades. Prof. Kindt has worked for the past decade to digitize many glass plate negative photos of the fair, thought lost forever, that have only recently come into the Missouri Historical Society's collection. These pictures have never been published," explained Coleman.

Professor Kindt emphasized in his presentation that the 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis was not a quaint local affair with a carnival. It included very significant events, shows, and introduced many new foods and inventions to the world. The fair took over five years to plan and construct across Forest Park and Washington University. It encompassed 1,200 acres, the most space for a World's Fair up to that point and never again since. 10,000 laborers built 1,500 buildings, many "palaces" and "statues" intended only for temporary use and constructed of wood and staff (a plaster of Paris strengthened with hemp or horse hair). There were extravagant exhibits from 50 foreign countries and 43 states. Forest Park's Art Museum and the Zoo's Flight Cage are the lone remaining structures from the fair on the site itself. Several other buildings and objects were moved to new locations to be saved from destruction.

The fair officially opened on April 30 and ran seven months – through December 1. 20 million visitors walked the fair's paths in their Sunday best, every lady in a hat. It was 50 cents to enter, cheap-

(Continued on page 7)



A night view of the illuminated Festival Hall and Cascades from the Plaza of St. Louis across the Grand Basin, with the Terrace of States behind Festival Hall. 1904 Fair's Festival Hall was three times as large as the Art Museum and held 2,000 people for concerts and events. Photo: Missouri Historical Society collection.

Noteworthy Landmarks with Mr D



Greenville High School history teacher, Ryan **D'Arcy**, has been producing a series of videos for his students and the Bond County community. His goals included providing fresh content during the state school system's Covid-19 pandemic shutdown, sharing brief local history lessons that show Bond County's role in a national context, and warning

against interpreting history with too few sources and too few perspectives. D'Arcy says with great apprehension towards these myth creators and obvious satire, "If you don't know what happened for sure, just make it up as long as it makes a good story! This is why we should almost always take local legends anywhere with a grain of salt."

He began sharing the 2-5 minute videos on his Facebook Page March 30, 2020. The topics so far are: Hill's Fort reproduction at American Farm Heritage Museum, Hill's Fort original location monuments southwest of Greenville, Monument to the Cox Massacre north of Pocahontas, Sorento's tie to a major moment in labor history: the Battle of Virden 1898, and Panama, Illinois' coal mining community in north-west Bond County.

WATCH NOW at <https://www.facebook.com/ryan.darcy.779/videos>

New Hillsboro Library Podcast Highlights History

Story adapted from a May 4, 2020 article in Hillsboro's **The Journal-News** by **Tori O'Dell**

"The Voices of Hillsboro"—produced by Hillsboro Area Public Library—is a pilot podcast program designed to capture the history of the Hillsboro area and surrounding townships or villages. The podcast features long-time residents or those who grew up in the area. The library released the first episode on January 3, 2020. In "The Early Settlers of Hillsboro, Part I" Library Director Shelley **Kolb** and former resident and retired Hillsboro High School teacher Pat **Brink** take what could be a dry history lecture and cleverly weave together a detailed picture of the environmental, cultural and socioeconomic underpinnings surrounding Hillsboro's founding. Brink is featured again in the second podcast of the series, which examines Abraham **Lincoln's** time in the area, including his Hillsboro friends, political views and slavery. Bob **Mullins** will be the third episode's featured guest, discussing agriculture and his personal history living on a local farm.

Listen to the podcast online at <https://www.hillsboropubliclibrary.net/voices-of-hillsboro>. To suggest a podcast guest contact Hillsboro Area Public Library: 217-532-3055, hillsborocitylibrary@gmail.com



Meet Me At The Fair, continued...

(Continued from page 5)

er with a week or month pass. St Louis hosted the 1904 Olympic Games that summer, the first modern Games held in America. Three of the five sports venues used August 29 until September 3 were on the World's Fair site, the main stadium being Francis Field on the campus of Washington University.

Professional photographers flocked to the fair to visually document the experiences. They produced 8x10 inch glass plate negatives which preserved incredible detail of their subjects. Jessie **Tarbox Beals**, the first published female photojournalist in the United States and the first female night photographer, persuaded officials with help from a letter by Teddy **Roosevelt** to give her a press permit. She climbed ladders, jumped into a hot air balloon, and earned herself the position of official Fair photographer for the New York Herald, Leslie's Weekly and the Tribune.

Photographs by Beals and others show grand aerial panoramas, day and electrified night vistas of the spectacularly detailed venues, and the minutiae of individual exhibits and displays.

The Agriculture Building offered free samples of food from all over the nation and the world. One could dine in dozens of restaurants. America's first "food court" popularized many regional food items including puffed rice, iced tea, Jell-O.

In the Varied Industries Building, visitors could buy crafts, merchandise, and souvenirs from

different nations and companies – toys, art, fashion, inventions.

The Pike showcased a mile long center of entertainment – some educational, some absurd and base. "Beautiful Jim Key", the spelling horse, wowed audiences and scientists with his arithmetic and words formed from letter and number blocks.

Battles and naval engagements were reenacted upon the lake. The Old City of Jerusalem was recreated in 1:1 scale where there is today a golf course. A brochure about the exhibit says: "Once inside the model, the fair's visitors could take a tour of the holy sites with a turbaned guide, follow 'in the footsteps of Jesus' along the Via Dolorosa, take a bumpy camel or



Walls of Jerusalem and the Ferris wheel looking from west restaurant pavilion. Photo Credit: H.C. White Co.

donkey ride and shop for Holy Land souvenirs in an oriental bazaar. They could also mingle with the hundreds of Jerusalem natives – Moslems, Christians, and Jews – who were imported to St. Louis for the duration of the fair, and who could be seen walking around in oriental garb conducting religious

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Online Genealogical Resources

Don't Overlook The FamilySearch Research Wiki

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



The FamilySearch Research Wiki is literally my first stop whenever my research takes me to a new location or covers a topic that I'm not familiar with.

If I'm doing research in a new-to-me county, I'll go to its page on the Wiki and discover when various records started there, what counties it was formed from, when it was formed, and find links to relevant websites and collections. Not doing research in the US? No problem! The Wiki has pages for locations around the world.

The Wiki is also great for learning about different research topics and records. Need to brush up on using the Dawes Rolls? Check out the Wiki. Need a Latin genealogical word list? Check out the Wiki. <https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/>

Be sure to check out the **Genealogical Word Lists** on the **FamilySearch Research Wiki**.

Let's say that you are doing research in Swedish records. Chances are if those records were created in Sweden, they were probably written in Swedish, and if you're like most of my friends, you probably don't read Swedish. You can look up a Swedish genealogical word list right there on the Research Wiki.

—Amy Johnson Crow

5 Hidden Questions in the U.S. Federal Census

from Linda Barnickel writing for <https://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/>

It doesn't take long for even a beginning genealogist to recognize the value of federal population census schedules. Tracing a family or individual back through censuses, taken every ten years, makes building a family tree or pedigree relatively easy. But within these schedules, even experienced researchers may forget or overlook these "hidden" questions from certain census years.

- ◆ The **1840 census** asks two key questions: the name of any **Revolutionary War pensioners** in the household, and their age. Often, the name of the pensioner is different than the head of household, AND it is easy to miss because it is on the second page of the census, far to the right of all of the white, free persons of color and slaves in the household.
- ◆ On both the **1850 and 1860 slave schedules**, in a column just following the "color" designation, is a column headed "Fugitives from the State". This is a reference to **runaway slaves**. This column is usually empty, and can therefore be easy to miss, but if there is a tick mark there, be sure to follow the lead.
- ◆ Many genealogists know that the only significant part of the 1890 census to survive is the special Union veterans schedule, for some of the states. But what if your part of the country was among the records lost to fire, or if your **ancestor served in the Confederate Army**? The **1910 census** provides an alternate resource for Civil War veteran information.
- ◆ The **1880 census** asks questions about a resident's **medical condition**. In some cases, the ailment or symptoms may be written out; other conditions are

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Online Genealogical Resources, continued...

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designated by a tick mark.

- ◆ Some genealogists may be aware of the citizenship and naturalization questions contained in later censuses, but the **1820 census** has a column to indicate “foreigners not naturalized” as well.



Massive New Database Finally Allows Us to Identify Enslaved Peoples and Their Descendants in the Americas

by Josh Jones, writing for <http://www.openculture.com>

Throughout the history of the so-called “New World,” people of African descent have faced a yawning chasm where their ancestry should be. People bought and sold to labor on plantations lost not only their names but their connections to their language, tradition, and culture. Very few who descend from this painful legacy know exactly where their ancestors came from. To compound the loss, most descendants of slaves have been unable to trace their ancestry further back than 1870, the first year in which the Census listed African Americans by name.

But the recent work of several enterprising scholars is helping to disclose the histories of enslaved people in the Americas. For example, **The Freedman’s Bureau Project** has made 1.5 million documents available to the public, in a searchable database that combines traditional scholarship with digital crowdsourcing.

And now, a just-announced Michigan State University project—supported by a \$1.5 million grant from the Mellon Foundation—will seek to “change the way scholars and the public understand African slavery.” Called “**Enslaved: The People of the Historic Slave Trade**,” the multi-phase endeavor is expected to complete an “online hub” linking together dozens of databases from all over the world.

“By linking data collections from multiple universities,” writes MSU Today, the resulting website “will allow people to search millions of pieces of slave data to identify enslaved individuals and their descendants from a central source. Users can also run analyses of enslaved populations and create maps, charts and graphics.”

Visit <http://enslaved.org/> and <http://www.discoverfreedmen.org/>

No. 5065 RECORD for *Lydia Hays*

Date, *March 3, 1875*

Where born, *No. Car*

Where brought up, *There*

Residence, *Union Ave. 2 miles out*

Age, *About 45* Complexion, *Brown*

Occupation, *Wash &c*

Works for

~~Wife~~ Husband, *Carry*

Children, *Nunne, Leah - Isaac.*

Father, *Fortune Blackwell*

Mother, *Leah*

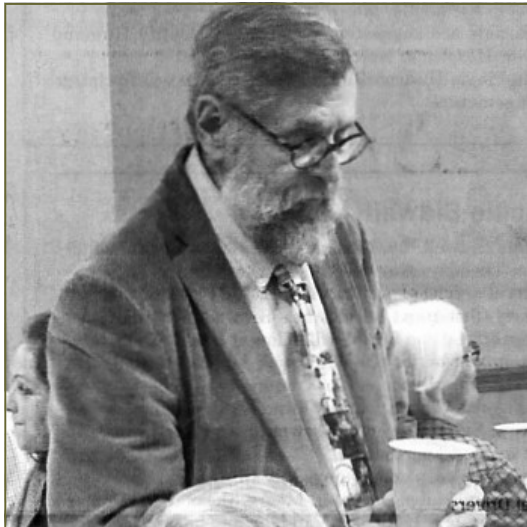
Brothers and Sisters, *Fortune Broiles, Wm Broiles, Mark.*

REMARKS: *Pay to Mother or Leah.*

Signature,

Record for Lydia Hays, sister of Fortune and William Broiles, in United States, Freedman's Bank Records. The Freedman's Savings and Trust Company was created to assist newly freed slaves and African American soldiers at the end of the Civil War. The bank failed in 1874 and many depositors lost their savings, but the records of the bank remain. Among the records are the registers of signatures of depositors. The registers from 29 branches from 1864 to 1871 show the names, residence, and description of each depositor. They may also include the genealogy and relatives of the depositor. Source: FamilySearch.org

Meet Me At The Fair, continued...



Professor Karl Kindt. Photo Credit: Roger Sanders for The Greenville Advocate.

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ceremonies or working in their artisan workshops and booths.”

The Observation Wheel, first designed by George **Feris** for the Chicago World’s Fair held eleven years before, took 45 minutes to revolve, held 60 people in each car (Kindt noted that everyone at the talk February 27th could fit into just one of the cars!), and hosted multiple memorable weddings just as it had in Chicago. Despite persistent rumors about the fate of the 70 ton, 45 foot axle following the demolition of the giant wheel, it does not continue to lay undisturbed and buried under Skinker Blvd on the former grounds of the fair; the axle was salvaged during World War I for its iron.

The song, “Meet Me in St. Louis, Louis” was composed in New York City in celebration of the fair, and Kindt asked program attendees to sing along for two limerick-style verses with

a very early (digitized) wax cylinder recording.

It almost goes without saying that everyone wished the presentation of photos and stories could go on for at least a second full hour, but Kindt’s slideshow ended and his question & answer portion eventually waned. You can enjoy more of the sights, scenes, and wonders of the “Never-Ending” St Louis World’s Fair at the Missouri History Museum’s continuing exhibit on the subject, attend a meeting of the 1904 World’s Fair Society, or check out the many books, articles, and slide shows available online or at a library or bookstore near you.

Professor Kindt lives in St. Louis and is a retired instructor for Southwestern Illinois College, and is currently a Media Specialist for BJC Hospitals. He lectures and writes about St. Louis and the 1904 Fair, and about historic photographs and medieval knighthood. For more in-depth information on the expo, contact Professor Kindt at 314-308-7075 or kkindt@earthlink.net

The Louisiana Purchase Exposition has been called the most significant food event in U.S. history because of the items that supposedly originated there, including hamburgers, puffed rice, ice tea, ice cream cones and hot dogs. But it was so much more, as witnessed by the following list of items:

- ◆ Five hundred cars left New York City headed for the fair, but only 70 actually completed the trip.
- ◆ The expo site covered 1,200 acres in Forest Park and on the Washington University campus.
- ◆ Approximately 1,500 structures were built for the expo, but only two remain today: the Art Museum and the Bird Cage at the St Louis Zoo. The site had 75 miles of unpaved, muddy roads. There were 20 acres in the agricultural area, which also had the largest building. To walk the whole fair, it would have taken a week to see all the exhibits.
- ◆ All the trees in Forest Park that had been removed and transplanted during the event were returned to their original locations after the fair.

Don't Store Books or Documents in Sealed Plastic!

from Dick Eastman's popular blog: Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter

January 10, 2019 <https://blog.eogn.com/>

A newsletter reader sent me a link to an online article that made me shudder when I read it. The article claims:

"Do you have an old book or important document that has been passed down from generation to generation? These books and documents break down over time due to oxygen, moisture, and other hazards. By sealing it, you're also giving it added protection in the event of a flood, fire (smoke), or accidental damage."

I am no expert in preservation, but I believe the last thing you want to do to a valuable old book or photo or other document is to seal it in an airtight plastic bag, especially a bag that is not labeled "archival quality." Sealing in a cheap plastic bag can cause more damage than it prevents!

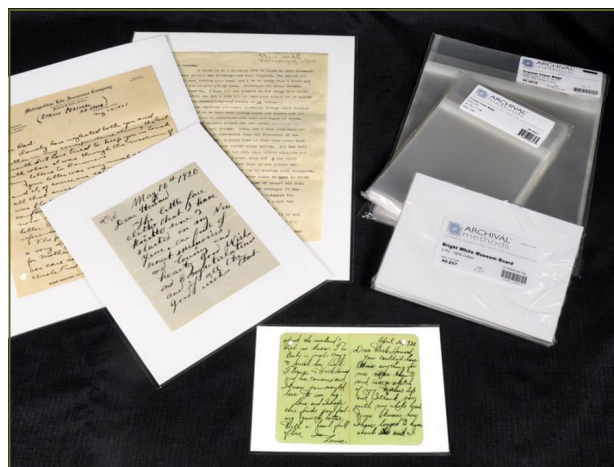
Paper, photographs, film, and tape are all made from materials that change over time. When these materials change, they will leach chemicals or give off gases that will loop back and inflict self damage if they are "sealed in their own juices." Your books, photographs, and documents will last much longer if they are exposed to the air, where the chemicals and gases can dissipate. Storage temperatures between 60 and 75 degrees and humidity levels between 50 and 60 percent are ideal.

Archival plastic enclosures can be made from polyester, polypropylene, or polyethylene. Don't use any plastic that is not one of these three, and don't use anything that is not labeled "archival quality." Also, never seal it.

Whatever you do, never use a normal, store-bought "baggie."

You can read the bad advice in an article by Matt Ryan on Lockergnome, a very popular web site, at <http://www.lockergnome.com/news/2011/11/01/five-alternative-uses-for-a-vacuum-sealer>.

You can read much better advice about the long-term preservation of all sorts of materials in the NorthEast Document Conservation Center's web site at: <https://www.nedcc.org>.



Archival Methods offers crystal clear archival bags for artwork, photographs, and documents, and more. These bags keep your items in optimal condition with a protective layer for use on display, during handling, or in storage. They have a low electrostatic charge, are acid-free, and are safe for long-term storage. All of Archival Methods' crystal clear archival polypropylene bags have a protective adhesive closure strip located on the body of the bag, not the flap. This adhesive placement is important, as when the contents are removed or re-inserted there is less of a chance of the artwork sticking to the adhesive strip. Purchase at <https://www.archivalmethods.com/product/crystal-clear-bags>

Grave Matters: Liberty Cemetery at United Baptist Church

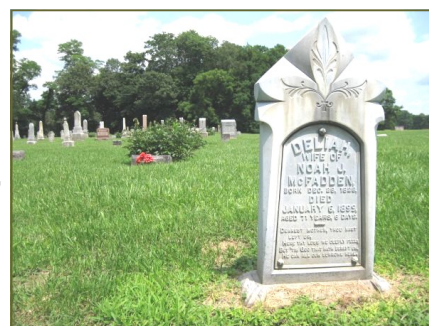
Liberty Cemetery in Mulberry Grove Township, Bond County, Illinois sits on Liberty Church Avenue near the quiet intersection of county roads 1800N and 1725E. Nestled between the farmland locations of old Griggs School and Persimmon Grove School, this pioneer graveyard of early settlers adjacent to its church is bordered on the northeast by Gilham Creek (older maps sometimes say Galum Creek). With an old section and a new section, it is "active" with new burials and well-kept memorial decorations; an estimated 800 rest in peace. Surnames in abundance include: **Bingham, Blankenship, Bone, Elam, Grigg, McFarland, Neathery, Snow, and Walker**. Mexican War soldier Richard S. D. **Roberts** is buried here.



As told in the book, Images of America: Greenville and Bond County, published 2003 by Bond County Historical Society: "The Liberty Baptist Church was organized in 1853 after a five-day revival... The present church was built in 1894 and is part of the [Vandalia, Illinois based] Rehoboth Association of Baptist Churches." Feeling the social and financial challenges of a shrinking rural church, the Liberty congregation disbanded c2017, Dale **Rowley** having served as the last interim pastor.

"The United Baptist Church, commonly called 'Liberty Church,' was established [in Zion Precinct]," according to History of Bond and Montgomery Counties Illinois, published 1882 by William **Perrin**. "The first minister was Richard **Keel**. Among the first eight members were Richardson, Samuel and Bolin Grigg; James Elam; Gabriel **Jett** and wife; and Charles **Messenger** and wife. Samuel Grigg and James Elam were the first Deacons. Their first meeting was held at the house of Gabriel Jett, and afterward at the residences of the several members, until in 1859, when they erected their church [on land deeded by Francis Marion Elam,] a frame building 36 feet long and 26 feet in width, and costing about \$600. The Deacons [in 1882 were] R. S. D. Roberts, Joseph M. Bingham and Anderson Elam, and the Clerk [was] R. B. Grigg. The membership [in 1882 was] 215. Regular services held every third and fourth Sabbath, and prayer meetings on the first and second Sabbaths in each month. The first Sunday school was established in 1860, with John **Fisher** as Superintendent, and [in 1882] a large and flourishing Sunday school [was] conducted here."

Because of their strict beliefs, the church was referred to as a "hardshell Baptist Church," states Kevin **Kaegy** in his 1980 compilation, "History of Rural Bond County Churches." [Editor's note: "Hardshell" typically exemplifies a



Above: Metal tombstone in the "old section" graves at Liberty Cemetery northeast of Greenville. Below: Liberty Baptist Church and Cemetery, established 1856, per its own sign. Photos by editor, visited by bicycle June 29, 2015.



Visit via bicycle from downtown Greenville (10.6 miles - 58 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). Follow Woburn Rd north, through Woburn and continue 3.8 miles. Turn right/east onto Liberty Church Ave. Liberty Cemetery is 1600 feet ahead on the left. The entire route is mostly flat, only gentle hills, primarily near the Governor Bond Lake causeway.

belief in pre-destination, no use of musical instruments, and no foreign missions effort.

Abraham **Lincoln's** father, stepmother and sister were active members of a hardshell Baptist Church in Indiana]. In 1980 Liberty was the largest rural church in the Rehoboth Association, with "about 50 attending the Sunday and midweek services regularly."

Mount Auburn Cemetery Care a Group Project

Story blended from articles posted April 1, 2020 & May 27, 2020 by WGEL 101.7FM Daily News and a series of updates posted by MACA's Facebook Group

Mount Auburn Cemetery is located at 1403 E College Ave, Greenville, Illinois.

Follow MACA on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/562678581137624/>

Contact the Assn via email: mtauburncemeterygrnvl@gmail.com or by Facebook Messenger.

The first Memorial Day weekend has come since a new era began – the public Mount Auburn Cemetery Association in control and in operation. Larry **Snow**, one of the association organizers, said many people visited the cemetery May 23, 24, and 25 and made positive comments about how the cemetery looked.

Association members were at the entrance to the cemetery throughout the weekend, accepting donations. All money collected and future donations go back into the cemetery, according to Snow.

Friday morning, May 22, a large contingent of volunteers gathered to mow and trim the grass. Also on Friday, a new cemetery sign was erected. Overseeing that project was Lincoln **Siebert**, secretary of the association. It is with heavy hearts that the Cemetery Board has lost a board member way too young in an automobile accident, also Memorial Day weekend. Siebert may not have served on the board long but his many contributions will last a lifetime, says Pennie **Slatton**, association treasurer and admin in the association's Facebook group.

The cemetery officially came under the operation of the new public association on April 1, having taken it over from private owners. The deed to the cemetery, located at the intersection of College Avenue and Idler Lane, has been transferred and the by-laws have been updated. Snow reported the association has received the state license and permit to operate the cemetery. The new board is waiting to hear on a tax-exempt status request.

Snow said everyone is looking at it as a community-owned cemetery.

54 people have volunteered to mow the cemetery this season. They have been divided into six groups and the first one began Wednesday morning, April 1. Snow emphasized the association is making sure everyone recognizes social distancing. Anyone wanting to assist at the cemetery, to help in other chores besides mowing, is invited. Mowing begins at 9:30 a.m.

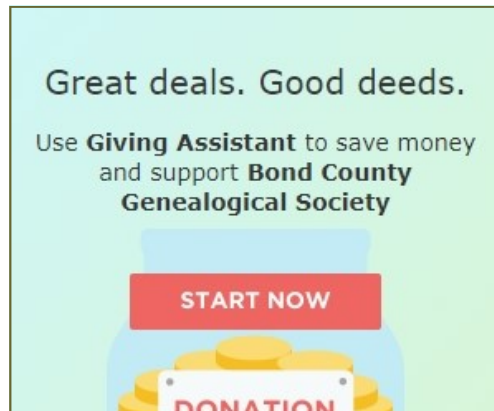
Snow said the plan is to mow the cemetery once a week and one-third of the cemetery will be



Mount Auburn Cemetery's new sign officially in place. It features the new logo and has the cemetery rules listed on the back. The Assn extended special thanks to RP Lumber, True Value, and Greenville Ready Mix for donating materials to help have the sign erected. *Photo by editor.*

(Continued on page 14)

Give Back to BCGS Passively Through Your Purchases!



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Mt. Auburn Cemetery Care, continued...

(Continued from page 13)

trimmed every week. Workdays will be scheduled according to weather conditions.

Snow reported volunteers have picked up flowers blown away from graves. Two dumpsters are at the cemetery, one for decorations that are in good condition, and the other for wilted or damaged flowers or decorations. Items in the good dumpster can be used to repurpose decorations on graves.

Recent projects include removing and trimming trees, grinding stumps, repairing ruts, removing brush, and demolishing two old buildings on the property. Volunteers continue the huge job of mapping grave sites.

As mentioned earlier, the cemetery's new sign is officially in place. It features the newly designed logo and has the cemetery rules and regulations listed on the back. Those regulations can also be seen on the Mt. Auburn Cemetery Association's Facebook page. Many hours were spent developing and critiquing the logo's design. The Association hopes to honor all that come to rest, and their families, at Mount Auburn Cemetery.

Donations to the association can be sent in care of Pennie Slatton, treasurer, at Bradford National Bank, 100 East College Avenue, Greenville.

Snow said many people have expressed interest in the cemetery, pleased local people and a public association are now controlling it. He said they all have the goal of returning it to a beautiful cemetery once again.

He added the association is now ready to begin selling grave sites.

The next projects are repairs to the cemetery roads, more signage, and a decision has to be made what to do with a building on the west end of the property.

Auntie Mae's Dolls

By Karen Bauer-Reelitz, Donna Hart, and Kim Myers

Each doll held its own story just waiting to be told.

"Beware strangers bearing gifts," some people say. But if the gift is a box of antique dolls, and the giver is known, then who would say no?

That's what happened in the fall of 2017. A box containing the remnants of a doll collection arrived for Kevin **Kaegy**, President of the Bond County Historical Society. The BCHS was only one of several recipients, as Marianne Nelson **Maley**, step-granddaughter of the doll enthusiast, Mae **Allio**, had distributed Mae's collection to several venues and wanted some to come home to Bond County.

Mae **Sharp Allio**, second wife of Judge Harley Allio, was a retired Greenville school teacher and had acquired dolls from myriad sources. She purchased some and inherited some, but she obtained many as gifts – those "last stop reprievals before the trash."

Mae descended from notable early Bond County and Clinton County families. Her maternal line traced to Neilly **McNeill** and the

Mills-Trotter family, early settlers from Ireland, Virginia, and Kentucky. Her father's family settled in Clinton County after the Revolutionary War and War of 1812. Both Mae and her husband had a long connection with Greenville and Bond County.

When the dolls arrived, Kevin and the rest of the Historical Society knew that much "TLC" would be required before the vintage figurines could be displayed to the public at the Bond County Museum. Some dolls lay in pieces. Some needed paint touchups and hair re-dos. For some, their costumes were torn and faded. All needed to be identified, in terms of their origin and history. Local members of Benjamin Mills Chapter, National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution – Mae's own chapter – took on the challenge and decided to work miracles. When members of BCHS were invited to assist the women of the DAR, Kim **Myers**, experienced in doll refurbishing and costume design, gladly came on board.



Example of a cleaned, repaired, and preserved china head doll from the donated collection. Photo by Donna Hart.



DAR Chapter members use comparisons in reference books to identify and value vintage dolls.

Photo by Donna Hart.

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Auntie Mae's Dolls, continued...

(Continued from page 15)

The restoration crew set to work in the summer of 2019 around Karen **Bauer-Reelitz's** dining room table. While some repaired bodices, bustles, and petticoats, others performed a bit of doll surgery where the sawdust stuffing was leaking, and still more searched the provenance of the dolls. Using computer internet searches and wonderful books given to the project by the Robert and Veda **Merry** family, the women identified whether the dolls were American, German, French, or Japanese, among many options. They noted whether the heads, hands, and feet were composition, papier-mâché, porcelain, or bisque and whether limbs were "hard" or were made of stuffed cloth. They noted whether the doll's hair was molded into the shape of her head itself, whether it was blonde or black, whether it was painted on, or whether it was a wig. They even compared facial expressions of the dolls.

Using all these clues, the women were able to identify most of the dolls as to country of origin, maker, style, appropriate attire, and current valuation. The group went a long way, then, to recondition the dolls into their early presentable form before these antique ladies were to be debuted in display at the new Bond County Museum when it re-opens, scheduled tentatively for late 2020.

Members of the Benjamin Mills Chapter actively involved in the project included: Linda **DeAngelo**, Jeanette **Dothager**, Donna **Hart**, Jessie **Maas**, Martha **Metzger**, Pam **Safriet**, and Karen Bauer-Reelitz. Members of Bond County Historical Society included Kim Myers and Eric Reelitz.

For more about the Doll Collection donation, see the article published in BCGSN Vol 33, Issue 1 Winter, January 2018.



Refurbishing/costuming expert and Bond County Historical Society volunteer, Kim Myers, sews embellishments onto the dress of a vintage doll.

Photo by Donna Hart.

In Kim Myers' Own Words:

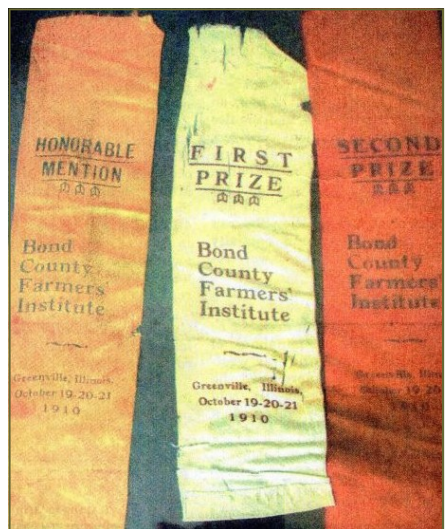
"[In restoring these dolls,] I used information from the internet and books from the library to clean, repair, mend, dress, and identify the dolls. I think the key words are: soft, gentle, careful. I did a lot of mini hair dressing when the wigs could be saved. I made human hair wigs when they were missing, infested, or beyond saving. Many of the bodies needed patching, repairing, or replacing missing bodies. Almost all of the clothes were not original. So I tried to make them appear closer to what the original would have been; but mostly clean, repair and preserve. Mostly I had fun and learned a lot. I still have several I am working on now from the museum's collection." (May 29, 2020)

Agriculture History is Alive and Well in Bond County

Story adapted from articles originally published August 21, 2018 and July 30, 2019 in the Greenville Advocate by Emily Lucia-Rose



Above: FFA, livestock feed, and centennial farms on exhibit as part of 2019's Bond County Fair Agricultural History display. Photo by Cindy Tischhauser.



2018's mini-museum featured ribbons from the Bond County Farmer's Institute, which later became the Bond County Fair. These Prizes are dated October 19-20-21, 1910.

Photo by Tischhauser/Heichelbeck.

For the past three years, Cindy **Tischhauser** and Tamie **Heichelbeck** have curated an Agricultural History of Bond County display, lately located in the former 4-H metal building. The display was a staple at the 2017 fair in concurrence with the county's 200th birthday, and its organizers were asked to bring back the display for the 2018 Bond County Fair. And again the pair was on hand for the 2019 fair with more historical items, farms and barns, and even fun activities for the kids for their third display.

The 2018 Bond County Fair observed the 70th anniversary of the longstanding rural celebrations. The special agricultural display's items and documents were all on loan to Tischhauser and Heichelbeck by residents all around the county. But one of the main features included a display and history of some of Bond County's oldest farms.

"The display went very well in 2018," said Tischhauser. "A lot of people came through." Heichelbeck added, "Through word of mouth some people came and left, and then came back through a second time because they hadn't seen everything the first time."

The pair noted that many of the fairgoers were surprised at the number of items that were included in the display. Many patrons enjoyed the centennial and sesquicentennial farm displays that were included in the miniature museum.

"We learned more family history from some of [the guests] and they were interested in loaning us some items for next year's display," said Heichelbeck. "The neat thing with the centennial and sesquicentennial farms that we had, we found out that they did a similar display at the state fair." Both women agreed that it was a neat tie-in between the two fairs.

"We had an anvil from the Dudleyville Blacksmith Shop in 2018's display," said Heichelbeck. "And that was from the 1800s. We had a Pocahontas High School FFA jacket from the 1950s, and fea-

(Continued on page 18)

Agriculture History, continued...

(Continued from page 17)

tured almost every local chapter of the FFA except for Sorento. We even had someone walk through who had an antique pedal tractor that they brought up for us.”

Tischhauser added, “We just had a lot of stuff. Most people were drawn towards the farms, but people took pictures, and spent a lot of time looking at every display.”

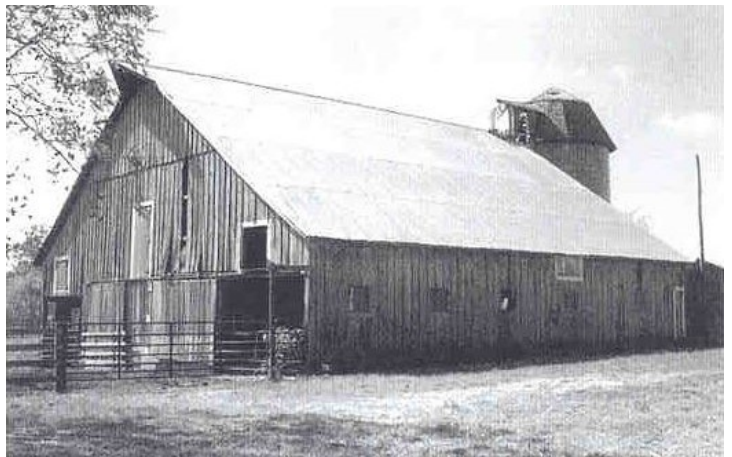
Tischhauser and Heichelbeck expanded in 2019 on the centennial and sesquicentennial farms that are featured in their display. “We have quite a few more [centennial] farms that we got information on this year, so we are going to add that on to the ones we had last year in 2018,” said Heichelbeck. “We’re excited to have more sesquicentennial farms. To consider that you have 150 years of farming in one family is just incredible. They still have the acreage and are still a part of the farm.”

She added, “We continue to reach out to people to say if you have such a farm, apply to the state of Illinois Department of Agriculture to have your farm recognized, and secondly, let us know as well, so that we can hear about this history of the farm and we can share that with others. Because, it’s pretty unique to have a farm with that kind of heritage behind it and we want to share that with future generations.”

For those who might want to register their farm, Tischhauser and Heichelbeck have forms available. You can contact Cindy Tischhauser at TNT RV & Generator Services south of Greenville.

The duo has also expanded on their historic barn collection. “We have captured a lot of different pictures of older barns that are still standing in Bond County,” Heichelbeck said. “Some are a little more weathered than others, but they have some distinct character to them. Just some of the people who have come into the shop as we’ve been working on the display and have made comments, like, ‘Oh we didn’t know that barn still existed!’ So once again, if someone has a barn they would like to share, or if they see the picture and know some history unique to that barn and would like to share, we would be interested in that.”

Also in 2019’s display, another Future Farmers of America (FFA) family was honored. “Last year we featured jackets from Mulberry



Cattle barn built in 1914 with 32,000 feet of native timber. Some of the main beams are nearly 20 feet long and are held together by wooden pins. There is a large track under the rafters that runs the entire length of the structure. It carried a large container to distribute the feed. This barn was featured in the Prairie Farmer Magazine when it was new! It is located on the farm in Shoal Creek Township settled by Kurt **Baumberger**'s great, great, great grandfather, Rufus **Dressor**, who moved to Bond County from Maine in 1836. Three of Kurt Baumberger's barns, the oldest built in 1849, were featured on the First Historic Barn Tour 2002 sponsored by Bond County Historical Society and the Greenville Women's Club. *Photo from Historic Barn Tour Guide Book.*

(Continued on page 19)

Agriculture History, continued...

(Continued from page 18)

Grove, Pocahontas, and Greenville,” said Heichelbeck.

The pair explained that their displays not only stand to present history, but bring people to the fair. “We’ve had families,” Heichelbeck began, “that we have featured with the centennial farms, which have said, ‘It’s been a while since we have been to the fair, and we are bringing family members to come and see the display. Because we are honored and excited that you are featuring our farm and are showcasing it.’ They want to show their family members, so we hope that it will draw more people to the fair so they can see what it has to offer.”

Tischhauser added, “Basically, what we display is what started county fairs to begin with. It is farming and agriculture. It’s the core of the fair.” Heichelbeck added, “And it’s the core of the county.”

Featured in 2018’s display were three mystery farms for guests to guess the name of the farm and family. Twelve patrons were awarded rain gauges that had been donated for guessing each of the three farms correctly. The Mystery Farms were revealed to be the **VonderHaar** Farm, the Steve and Emily **Laesch** Farm, and Robert **Obermark**’s Farm.

In 2019, there was a mystery tool on display for guests to guess its name and purpose.

The pair also teamed up to work with the Antique Tractor Club to feature a 1930s era Oliver Tractor. “In 2019, our tractor brand memorabilia matched the Antique Machinery Featured Tractor which is the Oliver Tractor,” said Heichelbeck.

“One of the things we did on Saturday in 2019 was to have a ‘Kids Day,’” said Tischhauser. “We had some games and some toys; some giveaways and farming coloring pages for them to do.” They also provided a coffee shop for the farmers on Saturday morning in 2019.

Tischhauser and Heichelbeck showed their excitement in preparing the display for the 2019 fair. “It’s been fun to visit with the families of the farms,” said Heichelbeck. “They are enthused about it; they are humble in some cases. They wonder, ‘Will people even care?’ We tell them that’s where we find a majority of the people spending their time: reading the history of the centennial and sesquicentennial farms.”

Heichelbeck and Tischhauser explained that they both enjoyed putting together all three years of displays and are looking forward to the items that people will loan them for the future. They were also glad for the support from the Bond County Fair Board as well as the community.

Tischhauser continued, “We want to keep the display fresh, so we’re looking for different items to display next time. We’re really looking forward to it.”



Household tools and utensils commonly found in rural farmhouses could be studied and even handled as part of 2019’s Bond County Fair Agricultural History display. Photo by Cindy Tischhauser.

Relive Those “Good Ol’ Golden Rule Days”

Historical Society takes over administration of One-Room School Museum



Bond County's One-Room School Museum is located in the 500 block of East Beaumont Avenue in Greenville, Illinois. The building was donated by Don **McKee** in memory of Dwight and Eva **Follett**, his great aunt and uncle, and moved to this location in August 1981. The Bond County Retired Teachers Association, under the leadership of Oradelle **Young**, restored this living monument to the one-story schools throughout the nation that served to educate children and host community gatherings. It was dedicated and opened to the public as a museum on October 17, 1982. Unit 2 School District owns and mows the grounds.

In early 2020, the BCRTA disbanded and gifted the building and a maintenance account to Bond County Historical Society. “It is an honor to be entrusted with this treasure,” said BCHS President Kevin **Kaegy**. “A complete museum ready to continue to teach.” Retired English teacher Mary **Young**, longtime curator and key-holder of the one room school, will continue to provide museum tours and presentations.

An actual one-room school house—originally the Palmer School from Tamalco Township in southeastern Bond County—the furnishings and artifacts came from the 70 one room schools that once operated across Bond County before district consolidation in the 1950s. Additional materials, including the belfry and bell, were donated from Cherry Grove School house, Round Prairie School house, Hampton School house, Hopewell School house, and Chapel Hill School house. “It is essentially a 40 year old building constructed out of 120 year old parts,” said Kaegy.

It was these grounds on which a Greenville High School was built in 1915. After a new high school was completed farther to the northeast in 1956, it became the junior high. Around 1968, a small earthquake caused cracks to form, necessitating the demolition of the 1915 portion of the school. The old 1935 gym along with a new addition served as a junior high until 2002 when that school moved a few blocks east to a new facility adjoining the elementary school. The last school structures, excepting the One-Room School, were removed when an apartment complex was built on the site, opening as Greenville Commons in 2017.

With free admission and open only by appointment, the One-Room School Museum is an interesting visit! Please call 618-664-9272 (Greenville Chamber of Commerce) or 618-664-1644 (Greenville Tourism) to arrange a tour.



Top: The One-Room School Museum is located at the corner of Wyatt St and Beaumont Ave, Greenville. Bottom: Inside the Museum, sit in a vintage school desk, practice your 3 R's on a slate, or view photos of nearly all of Bond County's former one room schools. *Photos by editor.*

Letters to a Young Greenville Lady 1903-1907

Are you interested in donating art, books, newspapers, letters, diaries, photographs, maps, business and organizational records, or family papers to Bond County Historical Society? Their mission is to collect, preserve, and make available materials documenting the history of our county and its communities. Much of the collection has been created through the generosity of members and friends. And it's gotten a tiny bit bigger!

In January 2020, Bond County Historical Society received a package of letters donated by Ann Buermann **Wass** of Maryland. The letters span 1903-1907 and are all addressed to Miss Mayme **Rupert** and/or her parents who were living on Route 2 Greenville, Illinois. Mary Alice "Mayme" Rupert (1884-1928) was the daughter of Eli W Rupert and Martha Ann "Mattie" **Curlee**. She married Lawrence Edward **Smith** (1881-1956) who owned a farm west of Greenville. Ann Wass is the daughter of Mayme's youngest child, Alice Hazel Smith **Buermann** (1913-1990). The twenty-nine letters to Mayme were accompanied by several family photographs and Alice's 1930 GHS yearbook.

The letters represent correspondence from Missouri, Iowa, Arkansas, Kansas, Pennsylvania, Indian Territory (Oklahoma), Beaver Creek, and just a few streets away in Greenville. The timeframe of the letters follows Mayme from nineteen years old to twenty-three.

While the letters don't include what Mayme herself wrote to her friends and family about her life in Greenville and St Louis, the responses often reference topics, news, and details from Mayme's own letters. We celebrate Mayme's high school graduation and her family's excursions to the St Louis Worlds Fair. We worry over the physical and mental health of relations and see summer travel plans coming together. We roll our eyes at the silly gossip of young ladies and the overly attentive sweetness of male pen pals. We're in awe of the fancy presents exchanged during Christmas 1904. We marvel proudly at sisters and cousins taking on responsibility within their families and communities. And we cheer at the soon expected formal announcement of Mayme's 1907 wedding to Lawrence Smith.

Cousin Irvin **Allison** in Pennsylvania writes August 1904 teasing Mayme and Bess and continuing their discourse on the Worlds Fair visit: "Didn't you think it tiresome at the Fair, for the grounds are so large, so much to look at and the sun so hot that I got very tired and I know you would. Has Uncle and Aunt been at the Fair yet? Maybe you have a taste for art that you liked the Fine Art Building the better. I thought it very interesting, but I believe I enjoyed the Electrical Building the better. What did you take in on the Pike? And did you study the ways and modes of the living, of the different tribes and nationality of people? I found that very interesting." Irvin's parents, he reports, are visiting Toronto and Niagara Falls. He signs off courteously as usual: "Give my love to Uncle and Aunt, Bess, Clarence and Nellie, also John and Charlie, and their families, and keep a portion for yourself."



Above: Just a few of the Mayme Rupert letters dated 1904, tied in aged silky twine. Below: Mary Alice "Mayme" Rupert Smith with daughter Alice Hazel Smith circa 1915.



(Continued on page 25)

Journaling About the Coronavirus Pandemic of 2020

Originally published March 13, 2020 on thegenealogyreporter.com by Amie Bowser Tennant

Don't you wish you had a journal from your ancestor who witnessed first-hand the Spanish Flu epidemic of 1918? Of course you do! And your great-grandchildren are going to think the same thing about what is going on in the world today with the Coronavirus. So here are a few things to remember when journaling about the Coronavirus pandemic of 2020 for future posterity.

Use Dates When Journaling About the Coronavirus Pandemic of 2020

Always top the page with a date and the day of the week. As the future reader turns the pages, they will be able to see the way in which things unfolded day-by-day. If you really wanted to get detailed, you could even put the time of day!

Use Extra Details When Journaling About the Coronavirus Pandemic of 2020

This is probably the most important aspect of journaling. Use extra details in your writing. Let me share with you an example.

Example #1:

"My sister, Chris, has been really sick for weeks! I am sure it's because she is teaching Kindergarten. Her doctor said to stay home until Monday and quarantine herself."

Example #2:

"My sister, Chris (Christine Smith), has been sick with flu-like symptoms for weeks. It all started when she began substitute teaching a kindergarten class at ____ Schools in ____ County, Ohio. She just couldn't seem to get well. Finally on Tuesday (10 March), she was forced to go to the doctor who told her to stay home until Monday (16 March) and quarantine herself. He put her on an antibiotic and steroids to hopefully avoid whatever she has turning into pneumonia. There were no Coronavirus test kits available, so that wasn't even an option."

Can you see the difference in these 2 examples? Details are important. Notice, I refer to my sister with a nickname, but the reader may not know that, so I make mention of it in example #2.

In the first example, I mention my sister is teaching Kindergarten, but in the second example I clarify to say she is only substitute teaching. The second example also includes the doctor's instructions and treatment.

Journal Your Feelings About the Coronavirus Pandemic of 2020

Are you worried? What exactly is worrying you? Personally, I am worried that I will get the Coronavirus and it will get severe because of my asthma. I am also worried about the fact that if one of my chil-

(Continued on page 23)

(Continued from page 22)

dren got the virus first, they would feel responsible for giving it to me. That may be a big burden to carry for them.

What miracles are happening around you? How do you feel about your preparation and the way others are preparing? What changes are you making to your daily routine and WHY? Were you forced to make these changes or were these things you felt inspired to do?



Journal Details About Others

Don't forget to journal about other people. Not everyone is going to keep a journal or diary of this unique time in our history. Therefore, consider writing names of other persons in your writings.

Example #1:

"A lady at church put together boxed lunches to hand out tomorrow. I was so impressed with her service."

Example #2:

"Josephine Newcomer, a lady from my church, put together boxed lunches to hand out tomorrow at the church building on ____ Rd. in ____, Ohio. I was so impressed with her service. Other people who joined her to prepare the lunches included Janice Doe, Susan Que, and Holly Homemaker."

Collect News Articles

Even if you aren't buying traditional newspapers, you can use the snipping tool or a screen capture app to get a few key articles from online newspapers and print them at home. Be sure to use reputable sources and record where the article came from and the date.

Your History is Up to You

Your story will be different than mine and different than your neighbor's. The only one that can write your story is you. Do not delay or put it off. Get started writing right now! Pull up Google Docs, open a note taking or audio recording app, or just pull out a piece of paper and start writing. I think you will be glad you did and so will your posterity and the posterity of others.

How do you document your life during a pandemic?

Start with a Timeline, Keep a Journal, Compile a Scrapbook, Look for Images, Document your Thoughts and Feelings, Take Care of Yourself and your Family.

COVID-19: Save Your Story

Originally published May 27, 2020 on <https://www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan/>

A call for volunteers: The COVID-19 Pandemic has affected all of us in many different ways and we are all eyewitnesses to the events that have been unfolding the last few weeks. This is a time for us to record our daily experiences, thoughts, and feelings in diary form, either in writing or video. Libraries, historical societies, and genealogical societies envision collecting and preserving these stories. The goal is to preserve the stories of our daily lives during the crisis and to provide future historians, researchers, and students with information and data on life in communities during the Pandemic.

What Should People Collect And How They Should Collect It?

Please take the time each day to record your activities, thoughts, and/or feelings in diary form. The entries can be handwritten, typed, or in video format, and be as long or short as you want. Don't worry about handwriting, spelling, or punctuation. The goal is to capture your personal experiences.

Sometimes it can be difficult to get started on that diary, or to think of what you might include in that diary. So, below are some things to think about, with regards to current events, to help you get started:

- ◆ What did you do today (or this week)? How was that different than what you would do on a "normal" day/week?
- ◆ What changes have you personally experienced (physically, mentally, and/or emotionally) since this crisis began?
- ◆ What changes have you observed in your family, your friends, or your local community?
- ◆ Are you a student or a teacher? Where and how do you normally attend school? Has this changed? How's that going? Or is there a student or teacher in your family? How is the crisis affecting their schooling situation?
- ◆ Do you typically work outside the home? What is your job normally like? What is it like right now? Are you still working, whether on-site or remotely? Why or why not? How's that going?
- ◆ Are you practicing social distancing? Why or why not? What are you doing? How is this affecting your relationships? How do you stay in touch with family and friends?
- ◆ Has this crisis changed (whether voluntarily or involuntarily) any of your plans for day-to-day errands, travel, visiting, leisure activities, celebrations, religious activities, etc.?
- ◆ What do you think about the actions of government leaders in response to this crisis?
- ◆ What has been the most difficult thing for you personally about this crisis? Do you think there's anything positive that may come from what's happening?

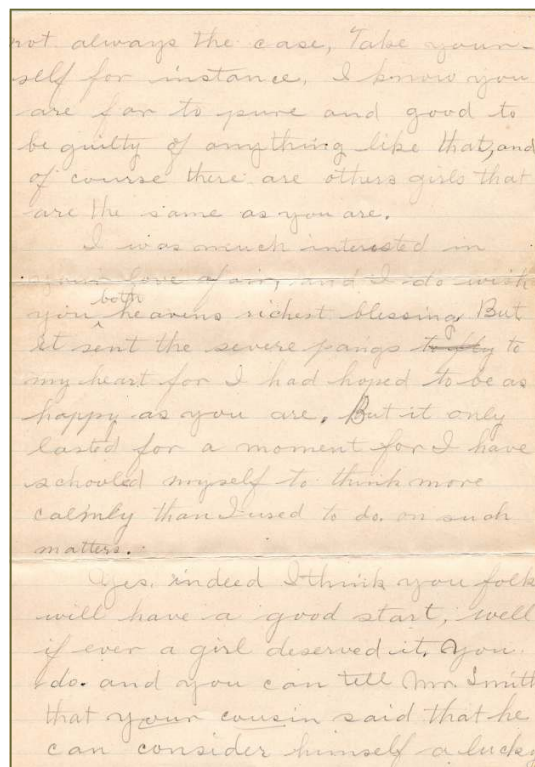
Letters to a Young Greenville Lady, continued...

(Continued from page 21)

Mayme's mother, Mattie, writes November 6, 1904 while visiting her sons' families in St Louis. "I guess Etta and I will go to the [Worlds] Fair tomorrow and I won't feel like writing tomorrow night.... She and John went to Hagenbecks show [The Carl Hagenbeck Zoological Paradise and Trained Animal Show] at the fair yesterday afternoon and I never saw them in better spirits than when they came home."

Eldo Rupert, a St Louis sister-in-law, relates January 6, 1905 three full pages of Christmas gifts exchanged! Included are: "a book, a carpet sweeper, an elephant, toy cart, doll, some candy, rocking horse, three dolls the big one dressed swell in a red silk dress and big red silk hat,... a big set of building blocks, a big picture of horses in a storm, house slippers, shaving brush, mug,... Beautiful cuffs, pair of undressed kid gloves. Ella ["Nellie"] Carl and Clarence gave me an opera bag for my opera glasses made of blue crushed velvet and lined with blue silk. Her and I went to the Odeon to see *Camille* last night and used it. We had free tickets and got seats in the Orchestra."

From St Louis, February 13, 1905, Bess scribbles home plenty about clerking at "our store. I like the work real well, but I don't believe you could have stood it, Mayme, for its enough to make anybody nervous... I don't believe I would stay at all if I wasn't Charlie's sister but everybody looks different when they found out I am and will do about what I say... It was certainly cold in the store today; it was 20 degrees below zero this morning... Eldo said they weren't going to let me have enough money at one time to go home. They give me \$3.00 a wk... The whole 'push' of us are going Thurs night to see 'David Harum' at the Grand. I want to see it so bad because I've read it. Nell, Myrtle and I went to the Chinese entertainment and I enjoyed it so much. I went to Church and Endeavor last night. Henry said he would go with me next S. morning... I want him to go awful bad though for he has never been to church but once in his life he said and that was one Christmas Eve. I thought I had pretty nearly struck a heathen in that line at least."



September 30, 1907's letter from cousin Irvin [see image on this page]: "I was as much interested in your love affair and I do wish you both heaven's richest blessing. But it sent the severe pangs to my heart for I had hoped to be as happy as you are. But it only lasted for a moment... Yes, indeed I think you folks will have a good start, well if ever a girl deserved it, you do. And you can tell Mr Smith that your cousin said that he can consider himself a lucky man in being able to win my dear cousin's love. It is eleven months since the only girl I have ever really and truly loved proved very fickle and false in every way. Believe me, Mayme, I could have watched her lowered into the grave and not have felt half so bad for I thought she was a pure Christian girl, I think I must have been blind... But it is all gone by and I have forgotten, or at least I have tried to."

This collection serves as an enthralling window into a time gone by, not unique in historical archives, but wonderfully personal to our county. Thank you, Ann, for sharing your grandmother's and mother's paper treasures!

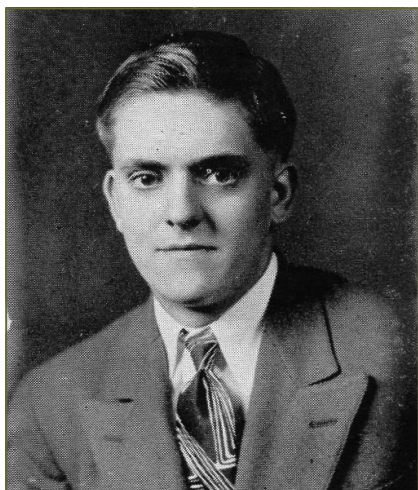
Remembering Lost Friends



A key member in re-activating the Bond County Historical Society

George R. Gobberdiel

June 2, 1931 – April 11, 2020



George Gobberdiel's high school senior yearbook photo in The Graduate, 1949.

"George was still an active member of our current board of directors. When the vote was taken for the acceptance of the DeMoulin Mansion, it was done by silent ballot of yes or no; George wrote 'GO FOR IT!' As I think back over the past thirty years of various history meetings I have been involved with, usually George or Jeannine were there. He was a good friend and will be missed." – Kevin **Kaegy**, BCHS President

George Robert **Gobberdiel**, Jr., age 88 of Greenville, passed away peacefully at his home near Dudleyville south of Greenville, Illinois on Saturday, April 11, 2020. Arrangements were through Donnell-Weigand Funeral Home. His interment was held at the Greenville First Presbyterian Church columbarium Saturday, June 6, 2020, followed by a funeral and luncheon at his farm.

George was born June 2, 1931 to parents Edna **Long** and George Gobberdiel Sr. He played baseball all four years at Greenville High School as a member of the Flyers team and was a cast member in the Senior Play,

"One Foot In Heaven". He graduated in 1949.

Recently returned to Bond County from serving in the Marines during the Korean Conflict, George needed a little dental work; this is how he met Jeannine **Hull**, dental hygienist in Greenville. Nine months later, on July 14, 1953, George and Jeannine eloped to Corinth, Mississippi. Following technical school in Chicago, George accepted a position with Ozark Airlines and they moved to St. Charles, Missouri. They attended the St. Charles Presbyterian Church where all three of their children David, Vicky and Gregory were baptized.

Jeannine and George shared a love of history and antiques. This turned into "Fox Hill Antiques" in their barn for many years.

After George's 34 year career with Ozark Airlines, they picked up roots and moved to Olathe, Kansas for another airline industry job opportunity which allowed Jeannine and George to travel to many different countries. Upon retiring a second time they decided to move back to Greenville in 1995 and build a house to be near family. They were at the beginning of the American Farm Heritage Museum, charter members of the Hill's Fort Society, helping as docents and reenactors. They were also involved with the Bond County Historical Society's Museum. Jeannine passed away June 22, 2017.

Edna Mary Long was born in 1896, in Burgess Twp, Illinois, the daughter of Anna and Joseph. George Ulysses Gobberdiel was born in 1893 in Bond County, Illinois to Elizabeth and John. Married in 1916, they had three children: Carl Joseph, Rosalind Joyce, and George Robert. In the 1940 U.S. Census, Edna was listed as an office book keeper while George Sr owned a garage and implements machine shop.

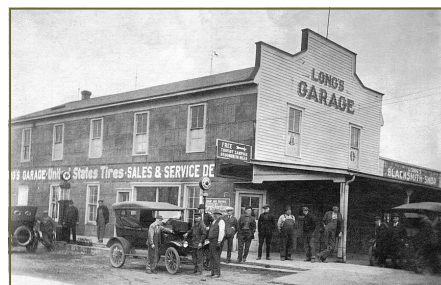
(Continued on page 27)

(Continued from page 26)

Edna died in 1971 at the age of 75. George Sr died in 1948 at age 55.

Both of George Jr's grandfathers were blacksmiths from Swiss-German families. John Gobberdiel married Elizabeth **Grob** and lived in Millersburg in 1900. In 1910, Joseph William Long and his wife Ann(ie) Mary **Schwartz** lived in Pocahontas. As related in the book, Images of America: Greenville and Bond County, published in 2003 by BCHS:

"Long's Garage and Blacksmith Shop was located on the Old National Road in Pocahontas. It later became a Ford Auto Agency under Mr Long's son-in-law, George U. Gobberdiel... Today this building is Village Square Antiques." This photo was taken c1920s and was provided to the book by George R. Gobberdiel.



Fun Fact: On some older records, the family surname Gobberdiel is spelled **Keberdeihl**.

Submissions and Genealogical Queries

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

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

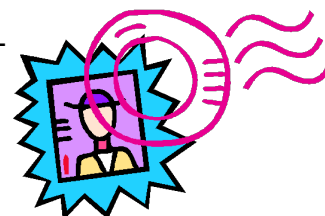
Genealogical queries with connections to Bond County and its communities in Southern Illinois are published free of charge to members (and non-members!) in our Newsletter (though members have priority on query space). Anyone is invited to submit the names and brief identifying information of ancestors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

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

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

Good queries
are:

Clear—
Specific—
Simple—
Concise



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

Official Newsletter of the Bond County Genealogical Society of Greenville, Illinois,
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www.bondcogen.org
www.bondcountyhistorical.org



Renew Your Dues for 2020!

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

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

Query: Wm Broiles/Broils/Briles/Boils

Researching William **Broiles**, b 1816 in South Carolina, married to Amy **Calvin**, listed on 1880 U.S. Federal Census in Ripley, IL, and the 1880 U.S., Selected Federal Census Non-Population Schedule: Agriculture. He was Black.

I'm a novice and I'm open to any help I can get on William or his connections. Thank you so much for your help, I greatly appreciate it. Anyone can feel free to contact me! Best regards,

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*Editor's Note: The 1880 Agriculture Schedule shows William Broiles of Ripley, Bond County to be a share cropper. He raises swine, chickens, eggs; plants corn, wheat, sorghum for molasses; logs a bit of forest wood. The 1870 Census shows a family—likely William and Amy Broiles—living and farming in Jackson, Lee County, Iowa. From Illinois Archives, Wm's son Con (1878-1954) married two women in Bond County and is buried in Montrose Cemetery. From Nelda **Anthony's** BCGS cemetery books, these wives are linked to burials in Lansing Cemetery and the "colored section" of Wait/Wade Cemetery.*