Bond County Genealogical Society News

Volume 32, Issue 2 ***Summer July 2017***

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

Signal Cannon Takes Trip to PBS' "Roadshow"

PBS' "Antiques Roadshow" was in St. Louis Saturday, July 8, 2017, at the America's Center. A few local residents attended the tour event, including Kevin **Kaegy** of rural Greenville. Kaegy, the president of Bond County Historical Society took a post-Civil War era signal cannon and a small tin-type photograph of Abraham **Lincoln** from an 1864 campaign pin. The pre-1900 cannon weighs 70 pounds and he wheeled it around in a small wagon, drawing attention from everyone in the organized lines and the appraisers themselves. From the firearms expert, Kaegy confirmed his belief that the cannon originated in Massachusetts and was primarily used "just as a noise-maker" at festivals, veterans reunions, funerals, watercraft regattas and other events. While it is not priceless and no segment will air on television in Spring 2018, the cannon's age and beautiful patina, and the fact that it made its way to the Midwest from the east coast make it a rare and desired collectible artifact. It is currently on loan to the Hoiles-Davis Museum. Learn more about new artifacts and exhibits at the museum on page 18. (*Photo courtesy the Greenville Advocate*)

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- DeMoulin Family Reunion

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

- Harold J. Seymour

Bond County Genealogical Society

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Vice President - Kevin Kaegy
Treasurer - Elaine Anthony
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Corresponding Secretary - Cindy Tischhauser
Historian - Kevin Kaegy
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Directors - Tom Paine (emeritus), Gerald Jenner (emeritus), Mike Evans

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Program - Kevin Kaegy
Membership - Elaine Anthony
Publicity - open
Hospitality - Dorothy Hawley (emeritus)
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

Bond County Historical Society

2016-2017 Officers
President - Kevin Kaegy
Vice President - Jim Schutte
Treasurer - John S. Coleman
Secretary - Jane Hopkins

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

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:

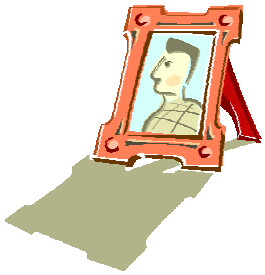
Bond County Historical Society,
P.O. Box 376, Greenville, IL 62246

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!

2017 Events Calendar

Sep 5, 2017 Rural Church History Program w/ Potluck at Keyesport Methodist.

Sep 26, 2017 Genealogical Society Program: Joy Upton (Genealogist and Librarian) will speak on the topic of DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy at Place TBD.

Oct 24, 2017 Historical & Genealogical Societies Annual Dinner Mtg plus Elections.

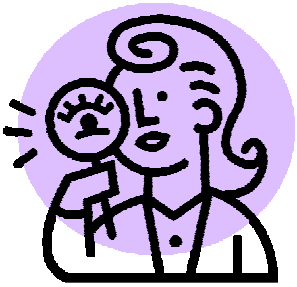
Mar 16, 2019 16th Annual Quilt Show w/ Bed Turning Program at Greenville FMC.

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 21.



Hoiles-Davis Museum

Find Us On Facebook!

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

May-Oct: Open Saturday 10 a.m. to noon and Sunday 2 to 4 p.m.

Nov-Apr: Open first Saturday of each month 10 a.m. to noon.

Tours also by appointment.

Thank you for supporting and visiting the Hoiles-Davis Museum in 2016! It was one of the most talked about and praised seasons of displays and artifacts since the museum opened in 1999! A fresh season of exhibits has welcomed you in 2017 beginning with an April 25th open house preview.

On the right is a close up view of the rusted teeth of the Vertical Whipsaw Blade from the old Heckman Mill. The sawmill was converted to a rotary blade and ran up through the 1930s. It was dismantled by 1951 and a nephew of the **Heckman**s donated this blade to a Historical Society member in 2006. See more of our newest exhibits on page 18 of this issue!

The museum display committee always appreciates 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 October. New winter hours are November through April, first Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to noon. 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. 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).

BCHS Quilt Show to Move to Odd Years Format

After much consideration and with a majority agreement by the Bond County Historical Society board, the Quilt Show Planning Committee has decided to change the annual occurrence of the BCHS Quilt Show in Greenville to a biennial occurrence: held in odd years, the third Saturday in March.

Reasons for the change include avoiding the conflict with the popular Springfield, Illinois quilt show held even years the same March weekend, and facilitating the effort of amassing the desired and expected one hundred plus display quilt entries from area quilters and quilt owners for each show held.

The next Quilt Show, the 16th since launching in 2003, is being planned for Saturday, March 16, 2019.

You can always follow the events, news, contests, and results of past and future quilt shows on BCHS's official website, www.bondcountyhistorical.org and Facebook page, www.facebook.com/HoilesDavisMuseum.

Don't Forget the BCGS Publication List

Just a reminder that the Bond County Genealogical Society has put together many publications to assist you in your research. This is a short list, but the longer list and an order form can be obtained at the society website www.bondcogen.org/for_sale.html. For more information or to make a purchase, contact info@bondcogen.org or write us a snail mail letter.

Cemetery Books (Indexed, some include obituaries):

- ◊ Hazel, Dell, Zion, Smith Grove, St. Lawrence and Wisetown Cemeteries
- ◊ Camp Ground, Mulberry Grove and McKendree Cemeteries
- ◊ Liberty Cemetery
- ◊ Robinson Cemetery
- ◊ The Story of Early Pocahontas and Sugg Cemeteries
- ◊ Many Journeys: A history of the people buried in Maxey, Seagraves, Durham, and Halls Grove Cemeteries

Veterans Buried in Bond County, Illinois Cemeteries 1814-1994

Marriage Records in 4 volumes:

- ◊ 1817-1850
- ◊ 1851-1877
- ◊ 1878-1893
- ◊ 1894-1915

Contemporary and Vintage Quilts Featured in Appraisal Program

Quilts, their value and appraisals, was the topic of the joint meeting of the Bond County Historical and Genealogical Societies May 23, 2017 held in the Bradford Community Room in Greenville. Nationally known quilter Hallye **Bone**, based in St. Louis, gave insights into the importance of quilt history, value, and care, and why quilts should be appraised. She is an appraiser of quilted textiles, certified by the American Quilter's Society in Paducah, Kentucky and one of only 104 Certified Quilt Appraisers in North America.

Bone gave a very engaging presentation about evaluating quilts, with many personal and professional anecdotes of interesting stories. Quilts have been an important part of many families' histories. She shared with those attending why quilt owners should have their quilts appraised, including the fact that new quilts are typically valued at $1600 just considering the cost to replace the materials and pay for their construction and quilting. The main reasons people have quilts appraised are for insurance, donation, fair market, and curiosity purposes.

Bond County Historical Society members Jan Eyman and Kevin Kaegy assist presenter Hallye Bone showing a St Louis Cardinals baseball contemporary quilt which was constructed in 2011 using limited edition fabrics and photographs.

Points on Bone's handout included:

◊ Why need an appraisal? In case of damage in your home, loss in shipping, theft from a show, or as a record for future generations. With documentation and photos, you'll have proof that the quilt existed.

◊ Discretionary factors toward valuing a quilt may be: fame of maker, condition (VERY important), rarity of fabric or design, cost of materials, cost of labor, quality of workmanship, trends in quilts (right now crib quilts and crazy quilts), record of sales, and earning power (useful and raffle or auction quilts).

◊ Appraisers don't use words like "beautiful", instead a quilt is identified by its objective, unbiased description.

◊ Appraisers have to describe the quilt AS IT IS, not as it might be in the future. If it's been laundered, soiled, or shows wear, it has to be stated, even if the owner promises that he/she WILL wash, repair, or bind the quilt.

◊ Certified appraisers' education is not free or simple. And since appraisal practices are ever changing, they attend seminars and classes each year to keep up. Appraisers certified by the AQS all subscribe to the same method so your appraisal is universally accepted by insurance companies and the IRS.

More "Fun Facts" from Bone's program:

◊ Cotton fabric prices are going up because of a problem with the cotton crop in China.

◊ Blue & White is the most valuable color combination, as it represents sky and water, and true indigo ink

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comes from Asia, Africa, or later in the Caribbean, where it is a difficult process to get the dye out of the plant. Red & Green on White is another valuable color combination.

- ◊ Bone keeps a database of all the quilts she has appraised and is willing to back up her appraisals with insurance adjustors, museum curators, or attorneys in the case of estates.
- ◊ Store quilts in a white cotton sheet or pillowcase on a sealed shelf or a cedar chest lined with fabric. Re-fold your quilts once a year on different creases. If you find bugs in your quilt, wrap it and place it in a freezer for two months. No, really!
- ◊ Crazy quilts were made to impress friends and catch husbands and a good one would take three years to piece and embellish.
- ◊ A Sotheby's auction sold a very nice and original 19th c quilt for $187,000!
- ◊ Wash your quilt or textile in Biz (an enzyme-based, oxygenated, and color-safe bleach detergent). Soak at least 8 hours in water/Biz solution, stirring occasionally.

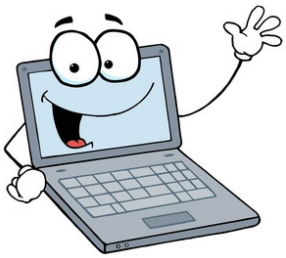
Bone was also available to appraise individual quilts by appointment on May 23 and 24 for $40 each. Bone provided an analysis and written appraisal of each quilt suitable for insurance, inheritance, and valuation.

"It's a good record for future generations. It's a *fantastic* record for future generations. That's one of the reasons why I always put the county that the quilt was made. It could have been anywhere – Texas, New York, wherever. Because down the road somebody else is gonna get this piece and go, 'Now where was this made? I have no idea.' I have people that *know* their grandmother made it, but don't know where their grandmother lived or their great-grandmother or great-great grandmother."

Hallye Bone is a St. Louis native, though she has lived in Minnesota, Kansas City, and Houston, Texas. She graduated from the University of Kansas with degrees in English and Journalism. Bone has been quilting for fifty years. She has been certified and appraising for 38 years. She is the author of "Caring for Your Quilts" and "Flower Dance," a pattern and appliqué book, published by the Kansas City Star. Bone took classes at the American Folk Art Museum in New York and worked for the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., hanging their traveling quilt shows. She has a large quilt repair business and has been repairing quilts for 35 years. She still finds time to make quilts for gifts and for samples for her classes. She teaches quilt making at Jackman's Fabrics in St. Louis and Fairview Heights, Illinois. "There are very few days that I don't sew, lecture about quilts, or repair quilts. The best part of my life is meeting quilters and seeing their quilted treasures. Researching the quilts' history and fabrics keeps me interested in quilts."

According to publisher Kansas City Star Quilts, Bone began quilting in 1967 and has been teaching students how to appliqué for more than 30 years. She lectures and teaches workshops across the country about vintage quilts, quilts' history, and methods of quilt making. She has written for quilting magazines for 15 years, and her designs have appeared in national magazines. She began repairing quilts in 1978. Since then, she has laundered more than 1,000 quilts by hand and repaired hundreds more. During trips to American and European museums and in classes from textile experts, she learned museum-accepted standards for quilt care.

Online Genealogical Resources



WWI Gold Star Mothers Pilgrimages

The year 2017 marks the centennial of the official United States involvement in the First World War. World War I remains America's forgotten war, even though more Americans gave their lives during that war than during Korea and Vietnam combined, and even though it profoundly shaped the rest of "the American century." World War I changed everything: advertising, medicine, global community, and women's place in society are just a few examples.

More than four million American families sent their sons and daughters to serve in uniform during the Great War. 116,516 U.S. soldiers gave their lives in combat. Another 200,000 were wounded, a casualty rate far greater than in World War II. More than 350,000 African Americans served in the U.S. military, as did Native Americans and members of other minority groups. And, for the first time, women joined the ranks of the U.S. armed forces. (from worldwar1centennial.org/)

One of **Ancestry.com**'s most unique and newest collections contains a list of mothers and widows of deceased soldiers killed in World War I who received an offer from the War Department of the United States of a trip to visit their loved one's final resting place in Europe. Each record provides the name of widow or mother, city and state of residence, and relationship to the deceased. The little known U.S. government program, Gold Star Mothers Pilgrimages, began in 1930. Search this treasured collection here: http://ancstry.me/1e6gD88

Digital Library@Villanova University has provided for free a full digitization (364 images) of the 1929 Pilgrimage for the Mothers and Widows of Soldiers, Sailors, and Marines of the American Forces, an index of Gold Star Mothers and Wives entitled to travel to the war cemeteries in Europe to visit the graves of their loved ones. The book includes names and home cities of the family members, as well as the names, ranks, service information and cemetery location of the fallen soldiers. Find it here: http://digital.library.villanova.edu/Item/vudl:458977

Use PERSI to find articles – actual digital copies of many key periodicals to help your research – written about people and places in your ancestry and save yourself hours of research!

Bond County Illustrated History Volume from 1915 Includes Biographical Sketches and Personal Outlines

Many familiar to the area surnames are included in a 1915 publication of Bond County and Greenville information. Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of Bond County (Illustrated) by Newton **Bateman**. Editors Paul **Selby**, & Warren E. **McCaslin**. Published Chicago: Munsell, 1915. Series: County and

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Online Genealogical Resources, continued

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Regional Histories of the "Old Northwest." Series IV, Illinois.

A peek at the index reveals: Introductory (Location, Population, Water, Original Timber, Saline Springs); Indian History; Early Settlements; County Organization; Military History; Courts, Bench & Bar; Railroads; The Press; Agriculture; Township History; Bond County Song; Biographical (Personal Outlines & Sketches).

The book is in the collection of and electronically scanned by The Library of Congress and available to read online or download as eBook from https://archive.org/details/illinoishistoric00bate

PERiodical Source Index (PERSI)

PERSI is an amazing resource for genealogy research and many people aren't using it yet. The Periodical Source Index (PERSI) is the largest subject index for genealogy and local history periodical articles in the world. Created in 1999, maintained and expanded by the Allen County Public Library (ACPL), PERSI is a valuable resource for genealogists and family historians. So, if you aren't looking in periodicals, you could be missing up to 30% of the information available! Use PERSI to find articles – actual digital copies of many key periodicals to help your research – written about people and places in your ancestry and save yourself hours of research! A recent update to PERSI includes tens of thousands of new records. This data increases PERSI's size to approximately 1.48 million entries.

Access PERSI at FindMyPast.com http://search.findmypast.com/search/periodical-source-index

Tips & tricks for searching PERSI like a pro at http://bit.ly/2g3gYvo

Digital Public Library of America (DPLA)

What's better than a website that gives access to more than 11 million digitized items? A website that does it for free. That's just what the Digital Public Library of America does. DPLA is constantly growing and fast becoming a "must visit" website for free genealogy resources. DPLA is a project involving more than 1,600 libraries, archives, and museums across the U.S. They range from the big ones, like the Smithsonian and the New York Public Library, all the way to the little ones, like the Starke County (Indiana) Historical society. Together, these libraries have contributed more than 11 million digitized items, such as photographs, newspapers, posters, and diaries.

DPLA doesn't have just an index of the items. It has links to where you can find the items online. If you find it on DPLA, there will be a link to the image. Just look for the "View Object" link and it will take you right to it. (Credit: the awesome Amy **Crow** genealogy blog at http://www.amyjohnsoncrow.com)

And heads up, Illinois researchers! Illinois libraries and archives are now active on DPLA! That means lots of new resources to explore! https://dp.la/info/2017/01/05/illinois-digital-heritage-hub-now-live-in-dpla/

Grave Matters: Smith Grove Cemetery

Visit via bicycle from downtown Greenville (5.8 miles - 35 minutes): Ride south from Greenville (I took Fourth Street, becoming Dudleyville Rd). Turn Right/West at Airport Rd (700N). Keep straight at Millersburg Rd s-curve intersection, minding the traffic. In 1/6 mile, Smith Grove Cemetery is on the left, old section at the back. Smith Grove Baptist Church is on the right.

With close to 500 interments according to Bond County Ill Gen Web, the sign at the road by Smith Grove Cemetery & Smithgrove Old Cemetery reads: "Established 1824."

There are approximately 35 veterans buried at Smith Grove, including 3 WWI, 2 Spanish-American, 12 Civil, 1 1812, and 3 Revolutionary soldiers. The Revolution patriots are James **Long**, Jacob **Neer**, and Hezekiah **Row**. On June 11, 2011 many members of the Bond County Historical and Genealogical Societies joined Row family descendents, NSDAR chapter Benjamin Mills, plus War of 1812 Illinois Rangers in dedicating the new gravestone in memory of Hezekiah Row. (Neer-Anthony book and Illinois Honor Roll, Cemetery Readings, and Obits)

The cemetery is associated with the small village of Stubblefield, about four miles west of Greenville along what was termed the Vandalia Railroad in 1882 when the Wm. Herrin history book was published. Also at that time, Stubblefield consisted "of but half a dozen or so of houses, a water tank of the railroad, and a shipping place for farm products." At some point, the neighborhood also had a mill of some kind.

The Smith's Grove Baptist Church was organized after 1862. Prior to this organization however there was a society formed, perhaps as far back as 1828, and was under the ministrations of Elders John **Crouch** and James Long. They put up a large log building, which was used both as church and schoolhouse, and was located but a short distance from the present church. The society prospered for that early day, but dissensions finally sprang up, which injured its usefulness, and it after awhile became extinct. Through the instrumentality of the ladies of the old society and members of Old Mt Nebo Church, a new church was organized on July 23, 1869. Elder F. M. **Long** was chosen Pastor, and John J. **Smith**, Clerk. They decided the church should be called "Smith's Grove Church," to belong to the Apple Creek association. The church [in 1882] was a frame building and cost about $2,000 with preaching every two weeks. (Herrin book)

The congregation built a new large church building in 1977 and is the most active rural church in Bond County. (Acadia Book, courtesy the Greenville Advocate)

The John Leaverton Home stood on the west side of

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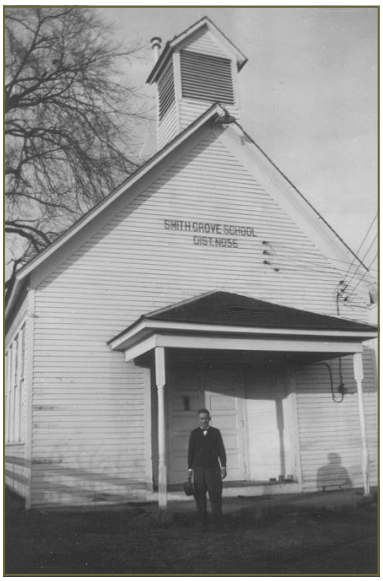
Above: Smith Grove Cemetery on Airport Ave southwest of Greenville on Sept 23, 2015. *Photo by editor.*

Smith Grove & Stubblefield Stories, cont.

(Continued from page 10)

Millersburg Road just south of Smith Grove School. In December 1864, **Leaverton**, an ardent unionist, was attacked by armed pro-Southern sympathizers who broke into his house to rob him. On December 8, 1864, Capt. Samuel **McAdams** was killed while trying to arrest Jacob **Sanner** in connection with the Leaverton robbery. (Acadia Book, courtesy Eddie **Ulmer**)

Mr Leaverton's home also reportedly had a trap door that opened into his cellar, built expressly to help escaped slaves moving north. (John Nowlan's Bond County's Records And Traditions newspaper column. See B.C.G.S. News Volume 32 Issue 1 for more on the Underground Railroad in Bond County.)



Smith Grove School, photo in Hoiles-Davis Museum collection.

From *"A Haunting We Will Go: Ghost Stories of Illinois"*
Story by Joe Richardson for ILLINOIS COUNTRY LIVING, October 1997

A legend involving a haunted house near Greenville appeared in the Oct. 11, 1940, edition of The Greenville Advocate. John Nowlan, a journalist and local historian, recounted a bizarre story spun by Charles **Smith**, a native of the little town of Smith Grove. The incident involved a pain-ridden woman and a custom-made coffin.

Smith said in 1821 his grandparents bought a farm in the Smith Grove area of Bond County from the Leaverton family. Before the Leavertons owned the land, another family (whose name is lost to history) lived there. The family included a woman suffering from an unspecified ailment, possibly rheumatoid arthritis. Smith said the woman's body was so drawn she was incapable of lying down.

According to legend, pain twisted the woman's mind to the extent that she often threatened to return after death to haunt those left behind. After her death, morticians were unable to straighten her body. A custom-made coffin was built to fit the body, and the woman was buried sitting up.

Shortly after the burial, a land company bought the farm. The home was abandoned and left to wither in a thicket of trees. For years, passersby reported hearing mysterious noises coming from the abandoned home, until John Leaverton finally purchased the land, razed the old house and built his own home on the site. The source of the noises was never discovered.

Another story set in the same area revolves around a grave which may still exist in Smith Grove Cemetery. James **Stubblefield** (a once prominent name in the area) was buried near what was then the center of the cemetery. Shortly after the funeral, stories of odd occurrences at the grave site began to circulate. Some reports had ghosts walking over Stubblefield's grave. Others identified lights hovering around the site. Be it a clear and moonlit night or under a dark and starless sky, the reports always were

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the same, with the only exception coming on foggy nights, when the lights (or spirits) became more active.

Some searched for a rational explanation. Area residents suggested the roving lights were reflections from a nearby residence. But the original account notes that lights were often seen hovering over the grave when neighboring homes were dark. Other accounts state that the lights moved even when the observers were standing very still, suggesting that their motion couldn't be attributed to a shifting point of view.

"I was courting my wife at that time," Smith told Nowlan during the original account. "One night, as we were driving near (the cemetery), she said she wished she could see it. I drove around where she could see the grave and, sure enough, there was the light." Smith said his wife never wanted to see the grave again.

Reports of the mysterious lights continued for nearly two years after Stubblefield's funeral. Then, just as suddenly as they appeared, the lights vanished.

Bilyeu Cemetery and the Families Buried There

Submitted by Randy Weiss, April 30, 2017

Joseph and Nancy **Birge Bilyeu** purchased land in Bond County from John Samples on 06 Sept 1817 according to the abstract of Kenny **Haller**. On the edge of the property, the family has a cemetery with unmarked graves. As a child, I recalled several tombstones across the road where my grandparents Howard and Helen **Hagler** had lived on their farm. My aunt, Wilma **Mueller**, was curious to what happened to the tombstones that were no longer visible from the road. I approached Kenny about them and was told there were three at one point. Maybe they were under brush and the summer lilies.

On a warm fall afternoon, I began clearing the area by hand. Kenny and his son Kelly decided it was too big a job and used their excavating equipment to clean brush and weeds from the area. Kelly used a rod to locate tombstones, but none were found. Several days later, I contacted Roland **Harris**, a local historian, who gave me the name of a lady who uses divining rods to locate graves. While family members watched, she was able to locate over nineteen graves of males and females at the corner of Haller Road and Hug Cemetery Road. A few years ago, at another site, she was able to find a mother and male baby, which she was holding. The rods would either cross or part to determine male or female.

Using information at the Bond County Il Gen Web [http://bond.illinoisgenweb.org/families/fgsbilyeujoseph.htm - posted 24 May 1999 by Lorene **Fort**], I was able to determine Joseph Bilyeu, his wife, Nancy Birge Bilyeu were buried at this site with other family members. The sixth child, Jesse Walker Bilyeu at the age of 49 died in 1860. His wife Rebecca **Burrows** died in 1887 and buried in the family residence. Their son Irving died at his mother's residence; and Rebecca, 05 Sept 1862 at the age of 25, was buried here as well.

Kenny Haller remembered the name on one of the tombstones. It was Finis Bilyeu, the 10th child

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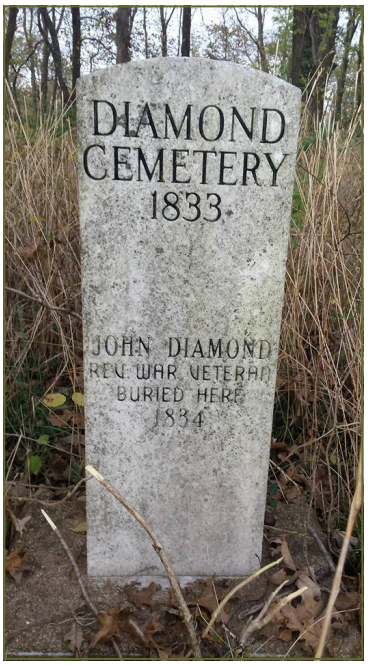
of Joseph and Nancy. He was born 23 May 1825 in Bond co. and died 26 June 1862 in Bond co. He was the husband of Lydia Ann **Jackson** who had two children: Joseph E. Bilyeu and Frank Bilyeu. Frank Bilyeu is the grandfather of Perry Bilyeu, who with the Birger Gang robbed the Pocahontas Bank in the 1926, according to Bessie **Tarasuik**, who witnessed it as a young child according to her obituary.

Groups & Individuals Sought to Help at Forgotten County Cemeteries

Submitted by Cindy Tischhauser and associates to The Greenville Advocate, May 31, 2017

Bond County has a wealth of pioneer and small family cemeteries. Some are well-known and well-kept, some are known and neglected, and some have totally been forgotten and are in danger of being lost forever. All cemeteries deserve to be respected and kept in good condition. The State of Illinois recognizes the importance of such cemeteries and has a law protecting pioneer cemeteries from destruction. Bond County Historical and Genealogical Societies are seeking volunteers from the community to help in the cleanup and restoration of these forgotten cemeteries.



Above: Diamond Cemetery Stone Marker, Photo by C. Tischhauser, November 2016.

Many of these cemeteries are inaccessible or very difficult to find. Roads to them have been destroyed by man or nature. One is almost impossible to access. To get there one must walk a mile over rough ground and through a wide ditch to access it. Signs which once identified or guided the way to these country cemeteries have disappeared, making it very difficult to find them.

In the past, retired members of the Historical and Genealogical Societies or interested members of the community did the majority of the organization and labor. However, these members are no longer able to do this work, or are no longer with us. It is now up to us to take care of these historical cemeteries.

Individuals or groups are welcome to help with this project. You do not have to be a member of either the Historical or Genealogical Societies to participate. Contact me, Cindy **Tischhauser**, at finding-family66@yahoo.com or Kevin **Kaegy**, at kevink@markuscabinet.com.

Someone once said that everyone dies twice. The first time is when he takes his last breath, and the last time is when someone says his name for the last time. Don't let this happen to our Bond County ancestors.

Cindy Tischhauser, President Bond County Genealogical Society
Greenville, Illinois

First Ever DeMoulin Family Reunion

By John Goldsmith, curator DeMoulin Museum

It was a big weekend for the DeMoulin Museum as we hosted a family reunion of the descendants of Elisha and Marie **DeMoulin** on July 1 and 2, 2017. On Saturday, we opened the weekend with a program and tour of the museum. It was an honor for the museum to be visited by these family members from the Ed and Erastus DeMoulin family lines. Following lunch, there were tours of Montrose and Mt Auburn Cemeteries in Greenville to visit the burials of Ed DeMoulin, U.S. DeMoulin, Erastus DeMoulin, Leslie DeMoulin and Bill DeMoulin. Then, what a treat it was for the family to visit the home on Fourth Street that U.S. DeMoulin lived in from 1900 until his death in 1955 and the two homes where Erastus DeMoulin lived.

The second day of the DeMoulin Family Reunion was highlighted by visits to the Jamestown Cemetery (where the DeMoulin brothers' grandfather is buried) and Sebastapol (the tiny Illinois town where much of the DeMoulin story began) including Bethany Baptist Church near Sebastapol. This church was built in 1956 on the site of the original church the DeMoulin family attended. Ed DeMoulin's father-in-law would have been the minister here in the 1880s. Finally the tour made it to Gullick Cemetery (where the DeMoulin brothers' parents are buried). Special thanks to Don **Rogier** for his insight on Sebastapol history!

The day formally concluded with an exclusive tour of the future home of the DeMoulin Museum! Find out more about the museum and its big plans by visiting https://www.facebook.com/pg/goatmuseum

Mt Auburn Cemetery Care and Maintenance in the Forefront

Evident burn pile of decorations at back edge of Mt Auburn cemetery, April 25, 2017, photo by editor.

"Care goes far beyond just cuttin' grass!" -Shane Weathers

"[This is] where my grandparents, great grandparents and an aunt are laid to rest…" -Jay Harlan

Mt Auburn Cemetery on the east side of Greenville city proved the focus of heated and emotional discussions and finally action this spring. Much concern was raised on social media when it was discovered by loved ones that fresh flowers and other decorations were removed and destroyed abruptly.

At the May 9, 2017 meeting of the Greenville City Council, approximately twenty persons were in attendance, concerned about the condition of Mt. Auburn Cemetery on the east side of Greenville. Five members of the audience addressed the council regarding concerns with the Mt Auburn Cemetery. Included were concerns with the maintenance of the cemetery, lack of notification before removal of grave memorials, burning of monument flowers, flags and memorials, and concerns regarding treatment of cemetery visitors.

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The cemetery is owned by a private family from Vandalia and is not in the Greenville city limits. Shane **Weathers** was the first of five people to speak to the council about the cemetery issue. He said the condition of the cemetery has declined over the years. A woman in attendance alleged that one of the owners recently approached her, while she was visiting the cemetery, and was allegedly belligerent toward her and threatened to call police if she didn't leave. Weathers said many of those laid to rest in the cemetery were born here and died here and deserve better treatment than they've received recently. Weathers suggested the City of Greenville and Bond County work together to create a committee or board to oversee the cemetery.

Councilman John **Gillard**, who was chairing the meeting since Mayor Alan **Gaffner** was out of town on a work-related matter, responded to Weathers. He said there is a moral obligation to work with the county and families to figure out a solution to the problem.

Also during the meeting, complaints were presented about grave decorations being removed, piled up at the edge of the cemetery and burned. Weathers commented he understood the decorations can be removed, but apparently it happened all of a sudden. Pictures were shown of U.S. flags in the burn pile and councilmen were asked how they felt about the flag being disposed in that manner. Gillard, a veteran, said it bothered him, but he didn't know how to stop it.

Those citizens present at the city council meeting (who represented many more in the community) were requesting some type of action be taken by the city council or county board. With no further comments, citizen input was closed.

The Bond County Board and Greenville City Council then held a special joint meeting June 8 about the upkeep of Mt Auburn Cemetery to explore its current ownership, financial model and situation, and the laws governing and preventing a city annexing a private burial ground which is NOT proven abandoned or neglected. The cemetery is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Caroll **Berry** of Vandalia. Pat **Schaufelberger**, attorney for the city, said the Berrys are ready to sell the cemetery. Chris **Bauer**, Bond County State's Attorney, said there were two corporations, Mt Auburn Corporation which holds ownership of the cemetery, and another entity which is responsible for the holding of trust funds and maintenance of the cemetery.

Members of City Council and County Board applauded the community efforts exhibited thus far, and encouraged those with family members interred at the cemetery to form an association and work towards gaining control of the cemetery.

Although the cemetery remains owned by the Vandalia couple, several local citizens have been visiting the cemetery on weekends to make sure it is in good shape. This volunteer maintenance has included sowing grass seed, raking, weed eating, and collecting trash and cut plant material. A group of Greenville High School students took part in "Comets Give Back Day" Friday, April 28th by cleaning up trash and pulling weeds around tombstones at Mt Auburn Cemetery. At a recent public meeting, Shane Weathers, leader of the citizens' group, said any money donated would not go to the current cemetery owners. He said manpower isn't a concern, but finances are needed for dependable equipment. **For donations, an account has been established at Bradford National Bank in Greenville and there is a Go Fund Me account online at https://www.gofundme.com/st-saulegoode.**

Sources include: WGEL 101.7 FM Daily News articles; http://www.greenvilleillinois.com/ > City Government > City Council Meetings > Minutes; Public Facebook Posts.

Bond County Bicentennial 1817-2017

Ides of March rocks the main stage Sunday evening, July 2nd. *Photo courtesy Bond County Bicentennial.*

A big celebration commemorated Bond County's Bicentennial Saturday July 1 and Sunday July 2 in downtown Greenville. John S. **Coleman**, Bicentennial committee chairman, was thoroughly pleased that so many residents from throughout the area came to the event. There was something for everyone at the Bicentennial including concerts, fireworks, courthouse tours, mini-museum, the family fun area, and the parade - all free thanks to dozens of generous sponsors.

The Bond County mini-museum was in the former Masonic Building and featured interesting artifacts, photos, and history stories from each of the communities in Bond County. Displays included the One Room Schoolhouses, Pocahontas Mine, Tamalco township, Heichelbeck Farms, vintage portrait albums, original paintings from the Keyesport area, and Shoal Creek Fire Department. Bicentennial memorabilia could also be purchased in the Museum Store. Remaining logo merchandise will be available to purchase at the Hoiles-Davis Museum Saturdays and Sundays, Third Street Market in Greenville, at the Bond County Fair, and at the Hill's Fort Living History Rendezvous event in September.

The opening ceremony for the Bond County Bicentennial celebration was Sunday afternoon. Chairman Coleman led the event, which included a welcome from Bond County Board Chairman Howard **Elmore**. Deb **Ditmer**, from Congressman John **Shimkus**' office, read a resolution which was submitted by the Congressman in the U.S. House of Representatives. Tabitha **Meddor**, representing State Representative John **Cavaletto**'s office, read from a resolution he submitted in the Illinois House. Also involved in the ceremony was an AMVETS Post 140 color guard; Brenna **Weiss** sang the national anthem; and Ward Sussenbach presented the invocation.

Guided tours of the Bond County Courthouse were given Sunday afternoon. Beginning at the Veterans' Memorial on the west side of the courthouse, the next stop was the Civil War monument on the southeast part of the courthouse lawn. Tourists then entered the historic courthouse, visiting the first floor, and then up to the second floor courtroom. In the courtroom, Taylor **Pensoneau**, an author and historian, talked briefly about the Shelton gang trial held in Bond County.

First National Bank sponsored a Family Fun Area with inflatables, face painting, Plink Plank Plunk giveaways, and other games.

Second and Main streets and the courthouse lawn were packed both days with people for the free music - between 3500 and 4000 people each evening!

Swamp **Weiss** and the Swamp Daddies took the Bradford National Bank Main Stage at 5 p.m.

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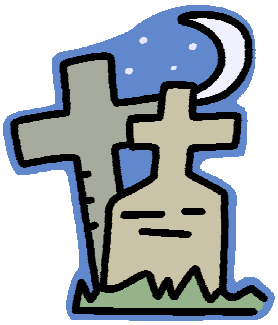
In Tribute To Those BCGS Has Lost



It is with sadness that we inform you of the death Thursday, June 22, 2017, of **Jeannine Gobberdiel**, 82 of Greenville, member of the Bond County Historical Society Board of Directors, following a stroke and airlift to St. Luke's Hospital in Chesterfield, Missouri. Funeral services were held 11:00 a.m. Saturday, July 1, 2017 at the Greenville First Presbyterian Church. Interment followed. Memorials may be made to the Church, American Farm Heritage Museum or Hill's Fort Society.

Jeannine and her husband George have been very instrumental in the Hill's Fort Society and the subsequent reconstruction, as well as the founding and expansion of the American Farm Heritage Museum and the National Road Association, and their faithful participation in Bond County Historical Society and Hoiles-Davis Museum. She will be missed very much.

Jeannine's lineage includes French and German ancestors: **Beckemeyer**s from Germany, and **Wafflard**s and **LeBegue**s from France. A great grandfather, John Fletcher **Walker**, served in the Civil War (Company I, Illinois 111th Infantry Regiment). Jeannine's younger brother who died in infancy was named after John Fletcher. The complete obituary follows.

Sources include Mrs Gobberdiel's obituary and tribute wall at www.DonnellWiegand.com; U.S. Federal Census; Illinois, Deaths and Stillbirths Index, 1916-1947; U.S., Civil War Pension Index: General Index to Pension Files, 1861-1934.

"She was a hard worker and a great lover of history." - Kathy Brewer

"Jeannine's gentle spirit and welcoming smile will certainly be missed around Hill's Fort at the American Farm Heritage Museum." - Cary Holman

Jeannine Hope, the daughter of Hope Hull (Jr) and Elsie Myrtle (**LeBegue**) **Walker**, was born July 13, 1934 at her home and according to her mother it was the hottest summer on record. She was a native of Bond County, the third child born. Jeannine was raised on a dairy farm, everyone learned the meaning of hard work. During her school years Jeannine loved sports and was a south paw pitcher for a boy's baseball team. She also was named "Dairy Queen" for Bond County.

After graduating from Greenville High School she trained to be a dental hygienist in Greenville. At that time she met George **Gobberdiel** who had recently returned from serving in the Marines during the Korean Conflict and needed a little dental work. Nine months later, on July 14, 1953, they eloped to Corinth, Mississippi and moved to Chicago, Illinois where George entered technical school. 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. A side note: Jeannine and her mother were pregnant at the same time, she with David and her mother Elsie with Troy. Jeannine and George were also High School Youth Advisors when their children were still in diapers, and are still adored by those now 60-year old children. 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

(Continued on page 21)

Bicentennial continued...

The Civil War Era 33rd Illinois Volunteer Regiment Band told stories and played tunes all tied to the late 19th century. Even a few hearty female soldiers signed up for this musical outfit! We wonder if they're as under cover as most of their vintage counterparts needed to be...

(Continued from page 16)

Saturday. The rock band Head East headlined Saturday night. Roger **Boyd**, a native of Carlyle, is the leader of the group. After Head East finished their set, a "Bond County Open Mic Jam" was held on the main stage. Any local musicians could come up and play or sing, with the Swamp Daddies backing them up.

Ides of March led by Jim **Peterik**, a founder of the band Survivor, and the Air Force Band of Mid America put on great shows Sunday. The Brother Jefferson Band completed the event with a concert on the main stage. Playing during the afternoon were the Civil War Era 33rd Illinois Volunteer Regiment Band and the Greenville Municipal Band.

The parade featured 50 participants including the Oscar Mayer Wienermobile, Ronald McDonald, Louie and the Blues Crew from the St. Louis Blues hockey club, vintage and modern fire trucks, classic vehicles, DAR, SAR, the John Ford Highland Pipe band, a barbershop chorus, reigning Bond County fair queens, and of course local businesses and organizations.

Sunday night concluded July's Bicentennial Celebration, and Bond County Fourth Fest organization presented a finale firework's display.

One more weekend of commemoration will take place this fall, as part of the Hill's Fort Rendezvous September 16 & 17 on the grounds of the American Farm Heritage Museum off Rt 127 just south of I-70 near Greenville. Living History Re-enactors from Colonial and 1812 eras will be telling the story of early Bond County settlement and government, firing cannon, molding bullets, blacksmithing, making rope, playing fife & drum, and demonstrating other period crafts and trade markets.

New Hoiles-Davis Museum Exhibits in 2017

Additional vintage toys have been placed in the display case in the front parlor of the Hoiles-Davis Museum. One of these, the Amos 'n' Andy Open Air Taxi by Louis Marx Toy Company was manufactured between 1930 and 1932. Amos 'n' Andy was a nationally syndicated radio show (now quite controversial in its portrayal of the characters) from about 1923 through the early 1950s.

Our featured veteran is Greenville City Councilman

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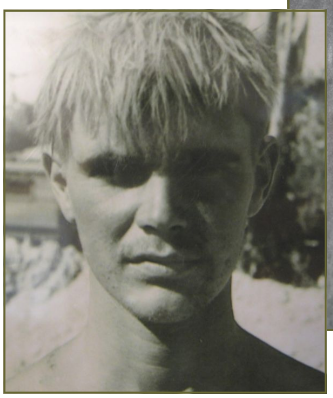
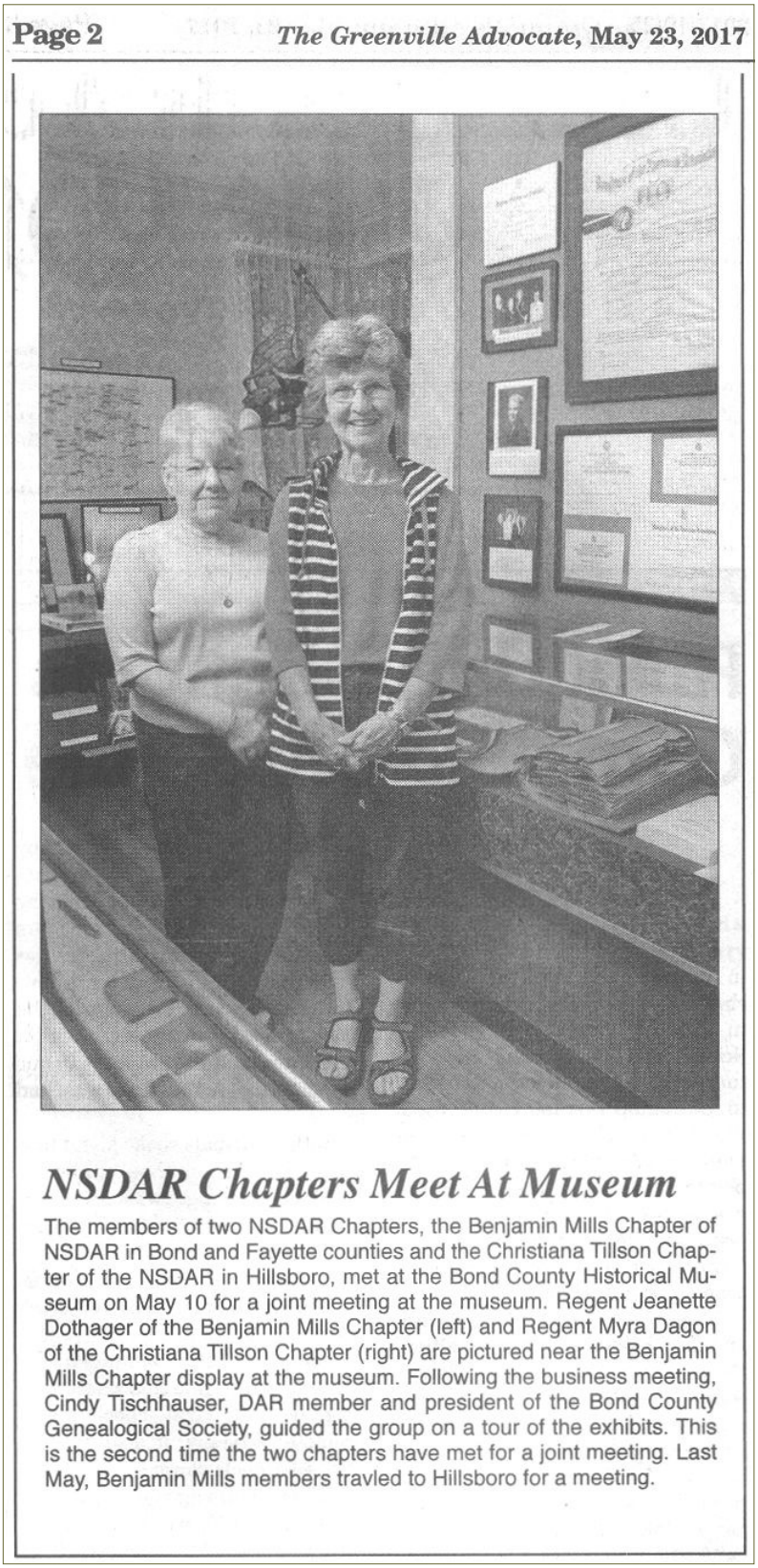
Museum continued

(Continued from page 18)

John **Gillard**, U.S. Army E4 Corporal. Gillard was with the Sixth Battalion, 77th Artillery, 25th Infantry Division. Gillard served in Vietnam from April 1967 to April 1968 as an Assistant Gunner of the 105 Howitzer. He fulfilled the heroic achievement requirements of earning the Bronze Star, yet in the process of Gillard's honorable discharge, his paperwork was lost. He only recently received his long overdue award, presented by U.S. Congressman John **Shimkus**, in early 2017 following a review of his military records initiated by a local veterans group advocate. Gillard has graciously loaned the Star, other medals, and several Vietnam era photographs for our display.



Mills were the backbone of our early county and its development - the roads forded the streams at mill sites, the lumber built the towns, the flour fed the inhabitants. Noted historian and teacher John **Nowlan** was first a surveyor and knew much about the mills and why they were where they were when he started writing about them in his Greenville Advocate newspaper column in the 1920s.



Page 2 *The Greenville Advocate*, May 23, 2017

NSDAR Chapters Meet At Museum

The members of two NSDAR Chapters, the Benjamin Mills Chapter of NSDAR in Bond and Fayette counties and the Christiana Tillson Chapter of the NSDAR in Hillsboro, met at the Bond County Historical Museum on May 10 for a joint meeting at the museum. Regent Jeanette Dothager of the Benjamin Mills Chapter (left) and Regent Myra Dagon of the Christiana Tillson Chapter (right) are pictured near the Benjamin Mills Chapter display at the museum. Following the business meeting, Cindy Tischhauser, DAR member and president of the Bond County Genealogical Society, guided the group on a tour of the exhibits. This is the second time the two chapters have met for a joint meeting. Last May, Benjamin Mills members travled to Hillsboro for a meeting.

(Continued on page 20)

Queries

James Shepard
3881 Highland Dr.
Carlsbad, CA 92008
jshepard2@me.com

Researching George Washington **Stout**, bn 25 Feb 1830 Greenville, Bond County. Moved before 1870 to Colorado (first to New Mexico Territory). Married Mary Elizabeth **Henry** of Uniontown PA in 1860.

Jason Durbin
1-618-699-9759
jason.durbin@greenville.edu

[Seeking] any information on Embrys secret Acherman ranch in Greenville? I'm looking for old pictures of the sign that was out front of the house. It was built I believe in 1974. I currently live there and was wanting to redo the sign. Thanks for any help you can give.

Mills of Bond County Featured in Displays at Museum

(Continued from page 19)

His articles were self correcting in the sense that county individuals who knew more or better about his information told him so, and Nowlan gratefully published these updated stories in his column. Our county is uniquely blessed in this way to have this mill history. In the east parlor of the museum, you can read through our mill news articles scrapbook and study a Bond County Historic Places map emphasizing 50 mill site locations .

The mill stone in the museum's front yard is one of several pair of stones from Brown's Mill (a flour mill near Old Ripley). Alice **Baumberger Hoiles**, who was related to the **Brown**s, had the stone moved to her back garden in the 1930s. When her son donated it to the museum, Historical Society volunteers dug it out and moved it across town in 1998.

The mill stone in the west side yard is from the old Kaskaskia River Mill in Keyesport. Doug **Hoiles** and his cousin Keith **Baumberger** took one last canoe ride down the river in 1966 before the dam was completed for Carlyle Lake. The men found the stone sticking out of the side of the bank. They called Charles **Chasey** who brought his old army surplus winch truck "Betsy" to pull it out .They actually found both stones from the flour mill, and each took one. Keith's stone is still on the Baumberger farm, and Doug donated his to the museum in 1998.

Norman Prater and family ran a series of saw mills across Bond County, the last just south of Greenville and I-70 along Dudleyville Road. He began in the timber business with his brothers before the age of 14. Over his lifetime Prater utilized the ax, cross cut saw, and chainsaw, as well as horses, trucks, and forklifts. In the 1980s he started entering in lumberjack events and competed until he himself was in his 80s!

(Continued from page 17)
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. Here they were at the beginning of the American Farm Heritage Museum helping as docents and re-enactors. They were also involved with the Hoiles-Davis History Museum which opened in 1999.

George survives, as do their children: David Gobberdiel and his wife Linda of Iowa, Vicky Gobberdiel and her husband Tony **Petzoldt** of Kirkwood, Missouri and Gregory Gobberdiel and his wife Cathy of St. Louis, Missouri; and grandchildren David George and Tyler Hope Gobberdiel. Also surviving is a sister Mabel **Gruel** and brothers Hope Walker, Bill Walker and Troy Walker, 26 nieces and nephews, 32 grand-nieces and nephews and 13 great grand nieces and nephews.

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.

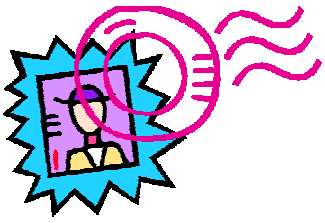
All submissions are subject to editing. Your articles and photos shall remain your property. DO NOT send copyrighted material unless you hold the copyright or you supply proof of permission to print with your submission.

Good queries are:

Clear—
Specific—
Simple—
Concise

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

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

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www.bondcogen.org
www.bondcountyhistorical.org

Renew Your Dues for 2017!

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 2017 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).

"History is that certainty produced at the point where the imperfections of memory meet the inadequacies of documentation." — Julian Barnes

"History with its flickering lamp stumbles along the trail of the past, trying to reconstruct its scenes, to revive its echoes, and kindle with pale gleams the passion of former days." — Winston Churchill

Spring Events in Pictures

Right Top: Kathryn Harris as Harriet Tubman enjoyed sharing with our societies and eating our wild rice soup on February 28th.

Left Bottom: Pie & Ice Cream Social plus Greenville Municipal Band Concert on June 22nd drew a record crowd of 100 guests!

Right Bottom: Bed Turning Program on March 18th featured 18 antique quilts and family stories.