

# White County, Illinois **ROOTS & BRANCHES**

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## A TWIG or TWO

by Charlene Cleveland Shields

### GREETINGS FROM THE HEARTLAND!

Since our last newsletter, we have survived another election. Regardless of whether or not you all are happy with the outcome, we can all agree on one thing: We're heartily glad to be rid of those awful mud-slinging commercials on TV! I trust some of you are still feeling stuffed from a bountiful Thanksgiving meal. Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday. Now the frenzy of preparing for the coming holidays has most of us in its grip.

Since publication of the last newsletter, I have had the pleasure of having two out-of-area members of GSWC visit me.

First came Vivien Rizzo who was en route from her summer home in Michigan to her winter home in Florida. She spent three nights with me while she visited relatives and friends in the area.

Vivien, who is a retired anesthesiologist, is a brilliant conversationalist and has had many interesting experiences. At one time she was with a Mash Unit in Vietnam. (I believe she married a "Green Beret.") I envied her wealth of knowledge and experiences and look forward to her stopping again some time as she makes her bi-annual trek between homes. She wanted "to put a face with the name of Pat Davis" so she took Pat and I out to dinner one evening. Another visitor was Susan Cook and husband, Tom, visiting White County to attend a reunion of her high school class. Susan is the former Susan Lee of Carmi. The Cooks live in San Diego, CA. Susan and I are first cousins once removed. Both Susan and Tom are "into" genealogy with Susan acknowledging that Tom is the superior researcher. Both have sent their material to Salt Lake City, and that library is marketing a CD of Tom's work. Tom has an ancestor who came over on the Mayflower. Their visit was all too short to suit me.

In last month's column, I remarked how I'd like to get to know more of our members, that I often wonder about them as I address the envelopes for the newsletters. So a great thing happened. Don Ballard, while reading his newsletter at his home in Sacramento, CA, picked up the phone and called me. So while we haven't met in person, I feel as if I now know Don. Such an interesting person, and such a wealth of experiences! He, too, is quite a successful researcher. His wife had never been interested in his hobby until he found more material on her families than on his own. She has two strains of Native American blood that Don found easier to research than his own. He next plans to go to Pennsylvania where his Swiss Ebersole family settled and which is now Amish territory. His ancestors cleared that land, and he

hopes to go over it with a metal detector (searching with metal detectors is another of Don's hobbies), seeking some artifacts from long ago. A trip to Ireland is also planned. Don is related to GSWC members Virgil and Nancy Hays and gets back to this area occasionally.

You may remember the picture of the Wallace family which appeared in the June 2010 newsletter. They are enthusiastic about attending re-enactments. Jim spent many weeks with the re-enactment of the Lewis & Clark Expedition a few years ago. Recently he participated in a celebration at Fort Massac in Southern Illinois where hundreds of school children were bused in to see the goings on Friday, with hundreds of others attending over the weekend. While Jim was gone, I talked to his wife, Sue, via phone. She told me she was taking care of Jim's new puppy. It seems he has spent months searching all over the US for a Mountain Cur pup. This breed would be authentic for the type of dog men had in those olden excursions. Luckily, he found one in Missouri. Sue said he called the pup "Sapphire." So I sent Jim a silly letter saying such a name sounded like some person in a strip joint and was not appropriate for a dog for which he had such lofty plans. I suggested "Liberty" might be a good name for a dog that is going to attend these patriotic events. At our genealogy luncheon, when Jim and Sue arrived, he showed me a picture of his pup which had now been re-christened "Liberty Shields." I was delighted with the name change! For those of you, like me, who had never heard of a Mountain Cur, it appeared to be a bit like a hound, brindle in color, and naturally bob-tailed.

Joy and Peace to You and Yours,

—Charlene

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# VICTORIAN CUSTOMS

A proper Victorian lady must follow certain etiquette in crossing the street. She could use just one hand in lifting her dress up slightly to draw it to her right. If she used both hands, she ran the risk of raising her dress too high, thus exposing too much ankle. This was considered highly indecent.

After saying, "I do," a woman ceased to legally exist as an individual, and her body and material possessions were owned by her husband. It was 1891 before a judge ruled that it was no longer acceptable behavior for a man to imprison his wife. Up to that point, a husband could do what he wished with his wife and could even beat her with a stick, provided the stick was no wider than his thumb.

Victorians cleaned their teeth with salt, then used charcoal as a whitener.

An aching tooth was treated by being pulled. (No novocaine) Suppose that's where our fear of dentists came from?

Dentures were made from carved ivory, wood, animal's teeth or (if you were rich) poor people's teeth. Some poverty-stricken people sold their teeth as a way of obtaining some ready cash.

Victorian women had a strict wardrobe and wore about 12 items of clothing at a time. Their underwear weighed almost 14 pounds. This could never be seen by anyone excepting the personal maid or doctor. Before stepping out the door, a woman would be wearing stockings, drawers, chemise, corset, petticoat (often more than one) crinoline, underskirt, overskirt, dress, shoes, accessories (jewelry, gloves and/or a fan) and a hat or bonnet. (This was for the more well-to-do. Pioneer women escaped part of this.)

Victorians used bread and milk, and sometimes cow manure, to create a sticky paste that was plastered over cuts, scrapes and bruises.

The cure for rheumatism was a concoction of goose grease, horseradish juice, mustard and turpentine rubbed liberally upon the aching joint.

Apple juice was used to destroy warts.

Holding the feet of a dead chicken against your body apparently cured the fever and chills.

Parents hung the foot of a dead mole around their baby's neck to ease the pain of teething.

Rubbing an onion on one's head was considered a cure for baldness.

One of the strangest procedures used by Victorian doctors was a phlebotomy or bleeding. The idea was to cleanse the body of the "bad blood." Of course, this further weakened the patient, making him less able to fight off infection.

Planting yellow flowers in the garden would protect your family from the looming threat of witches.

These ideas were included in Beatrice Hemsworth's book, *What The Victorians Didn't Do For Us*.

## A BIT OF MINING HISTORY

The riveting accounts of the Chilean mining disaster held my attention throughout the confinement of the miners and their thrilling rescue with all saved. I wondered if such an event could take place in America. Certainly we have had our share of mining disasters, and Southern Illinois, with all its coal mines, is a testament to that.

I hunted out a book which I had recently read, *A Walk in the Woods*, by Bill Bryson, in which he discusses early mining in our country. He mentions that many people became rich in the half century from 1850 to 1900 by playing a dominant role in the production of oil, coal, and steel making. Quoting author Bryson:

But not the miners. Mining has of course always been a wretched line of work everywhere, but nowhere more so than in the United States in the second half of the nineteenth century. Thanks to immigration, miners were infinitely expendable. When the Welsh got belligerent, you brought in Irish. When they failed to satisfy, you brought in Italians or Poles or Hungarians. Workers were paid by the ton, which both encouraged them to hack our coal with reckless haste and meant that any labor they expended making their environment safer or more comfortable went uncompensated. Mine shafts were bored through the earth like holes through Swiss cheese, often destabilizing whole valleys. In 1846 at Carbondale (PA) almost fifty acres of mine shafts collapsed simultaneously without warning, claiming hundreds of lives. Explosions and flash fires were common. Between 1870 and the outbreak of the First World War, 50,000 people died in American mines.

The great irony of anthracite is that, tough as it is to light, once you get it lit, it's nearly impossible to put out. Stories of uncontrolled mine fires are legion in eastern Pennsylvania. One fire at Lehigh started in 1850 and didn't burn itself out until the Great Depression—eighty years after it started. End of quote.

The more I read of the living conditions in early times, the more respect I have for our ancestors.

—Charlene Shields

# CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS OF OUR ANCESTORS

By Charlene Shields

The Gallup poll shows that more than 90 percent of adults say they celebrate Christmas, including 84 percent of non-Christians.

That's a huge change from an earlier era when many Protestants ignored or actively opposed the holiday. From the beginning of settlement in America up through much of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, schools and businesses remained open on Christmas Day. Congress met in session and many denominations—Presbyterians, Baptists, Quakers, Methodists and Congregationalists, for example—either ignored the holiday or actively discouraged it until the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

This rejection was rooted in the belief that celebrating at that time had begun as a pagan celebration of the beginning of the return of the sun after the shortest day of the year, December 21. Also, many felt there was a lack of biblical sanction for December 25 as the actual date of Jesus' birth.

In colonial New England, this disapproval extended to actually making the holiday illegal, with celebration punishable by a fine. Woe to the woman who baked a mince pie for consumption that date; she might be pilloried!

It is thought our custom of Christmas lights originated with old Germanic tribes with their gods of nature. Winter was at its darkest from December 21 to 23. After the winter solstice, or about December 24, the sun's light begins to grow again. These tribes stuffed wheels with straw, ignited them and, while whole tribes gathered at the top of a mountain, the wheels were rolled down the mountain, making a display of light. The Germanic peoples had a total of twelve nights in which their gods wandered on the earth before entering the Walhalla, home of their gods. Surprisingly the traditional twelve days of Christmas are still observed and celebrated in some places in America.

Germany is generally known as the origin of the Christmas tree. The first known use of the fir tree as a Christmas tree is found in the writings of a German traveler visiting Strassbourg in 1605. He tells of trees in rooms and those trees being decorated with colored paper, tinsel, apples, and cookies.

Some believe it could have been Martin Luther who started the Christmas tree idea.

Whatever the true source of the Christmas tree, it was believed to have been brought to America during the Revolutionary War via the Hessian soldiers who were serving here as mercenaries for the British.

Mistletoe was common in Germany, too, but it was hung to ward off evil spirits. It is not known how this came to be used as a trigger for kisses. Gift giving grew from the religious idea of the Magi bringing gifts to the baby Jesus. Many other Christmas customs just seem to have evolved.

In early times, the Pilgrims and Puritans of New England were those most adamantly opposed to celebration in December. The people of the Southern states were more prone to celebration and sometimes did so by banging on tin pans and shooting off guns! (In my early childhood here in Southern Illinois, we shot off almost as many fireworks on Christmas as on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Yet I remember a few deeply religious people who thought decorations and Christmas celebrations were irreverent.)

Somehow during the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, most of the American Christian religions began to loosen up and most now acknowledge Christmas as a holiday. Now it has become the most dominant holiday in America for the religious and non-religious alike.

References: *Of German Ways*, LaVern Rippley  
*Christmas, A Candid History*, Forbes  
Article, Associated Press writer Tom Breen

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## UPDATE

In the last newsletter we reported the death of 98-year-old Lucille Brown of Carmi and mentioned that her death meant there was now only one living among the 56 grandchildren of John and Martha Hart Aud. The survivor was Aaron Newcomb, aged 101, living in Arkansas.

Now comes news that Mr. Newcomb has died September 20, 2010, in Heber Springs, Arkansas. He was born September 4, 1909, in Herald, the eighth child of Lewis and Rose Etta Aud Newcomb.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Wanda Browning Newcomb on January 1, 1998, a daughter, Katherine White on March 14, 2004, his parents; seven brothers: Corbert, Dexter, Laurence, Theodore, Roy, Willard and Noel; and two sisters: Bessie Newcomb and Laura Mae Masser. His second wife, Gerry Huntley Rhodes, also preceded him in death September 13, 2004.

A wife, Marjorie Stewart Newcomb survives, and a son Eugene, of Sitka, Alaska, four grandchildren and also some great-grandchildren.

Aaron Newcomb was buried at Cleburne County Memorial Gardens in Arkansas.

(This information comes from The Carmi Times October 12, 2010.)

Here follows an editorial by J. Robert Smith which appeared in the September 14, 1948, issue of the *Carmi Democrat Tribune*:

## JACOB SEITZ'S BRAVE NEW WORLD

Jacob Seitz dies in Carmi at the age of 92 and the old black typewriter is stirred to sing a song of tribute to this solid citizen who turned his back on his native Germany over 70 years ago and came to America and freedom.

The forces of discontent and militarism were stirring in Prussia and other German states when Jacob Seitz was born November 23, 1855. Prussia had just emerged victorious over Austria in a struggle for supremacy and when Jacob Seitz was only six years old, Prince William of Prussia ascended the throne as William I. Bismarck, the Iron Chancellor, then took a hand in the destinies of the German people and under him the Prussians crushed France in 1870 and seized Alsace Lorraine.

Militarism and imperialism were running rampant; fear and hatred and greed were riding roughshod over Europe and Jacob Seitz decided to cross the sea and settle where he might marry, till the soil, live in peace with his neighbors, and rear his sons and daughters in a land where the goose step was only something you saw in a barnyard.

He settled on a farm in Carmi Township and in 1884 took as his bride Miss Katherine Reinfurt. In those days when Jacob Seitz was living the good life of a White County farmer, young men he left behind in Germany were worrying about Bismarck's relentless drive to make Germany a colonizing power.

When Germany under Kaiser Wilhelm set out to conquer the world in 1914, Jacob Seitz was busy raising food for a hungry world, and sons who were to carry on his traditional love of peace.

Mr. and Mrs. Seitz moved to Carmi in 1915—after 31 years on the farm. It was a good life for them here, too—and all through those years of the 1920's and early 1930's, Germany was writhing in defeat and humiliation and hunger and rebellion, all the time thirsting for revenge.

And the instrument of that revenge arose in the form of an embittered warp-brained corporal of World War I—a corporal named Adolf Hitler, who rallied his bullies and sadists and climbed to power over the backs and bones of massacred men and women.

And then in 1934, when Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Seitz celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary in this land of liberty, Hitler's Nazis seized the Cabinet building in Vienna, Austria, shot Chancellor Engelbert Dollfus to death, and Hitler became both Chancellor and President of Germany with the death of President von Hindenburg.

Gentle and kindly Mrs. Seitz passed on in January, 1940, soon after Hitler's hordes swarmed into Poland and started World War II. Jacob Seitz lived on, seeing the forces of democracy and humanity wage a relentless war once more against his former homeland. It was his privilege to live on and see the Americans march home again, victorious once more against militarism and greed, on which he had turned his back 70 years ago.

Yes, it was a good life Jacob Seitz experienced in America, and our own land was blessed and enriched by such courageous, hard working and frugal people who dared to strike out for a new world.

Jacob Seitz found his brave new world, right here among us.

And say, do we appreciate it as much as he did?

Sing, typewriter, sing! Tell all our people of the blessed land which is theirs by inheritance. They didn't have to leave families and friends and home countries to gain it. It was right here when they first saw the light of day.

Talk not to us of bad government! Grumble not to us of high taxes and inequalities! Gripe if you must, for that is America's privilege. Get loud and mad at election time and throw the rascals out any time you don't like the way they're running things. But forever in your heart be grateful for this free and blessed land.

## SOME END-OF-YEAR NEWSPAPER GLEANINGS

*The Independent* (Grayville) summary of the news for November and December 1886:

<u>November</u> : Miss Sarah G. Dixon and Charles M. Crawford married. Mrs. Mary Coulter died. August Kreis presented a handsome gold watch by admiring friends. Dwelling of Z. I. Moutray burned. A child of Mrs. Knotts died from injuries received from a fall. Charles Barlow and Mrs. Indiana Coursey married. Twenty or thirty sports fined for gambling. Miss Lotta	Williams burned to death. Lycurgus Lamm died. Geo. J. Thomson died. T. B. Reese and Harry Gray had a narrow escape from drowning. Twenty sports taken to Mt. Carmel and fined \$25-45 each for gaming. Wm. Hallam and Miss Margaret Hodgson married. Mrs. Charles Barlow died. "Bud" Fortner taken to the Albion Jail, charged with selling liquors without license.	Infant daughter of D. & S. Langsdon died. <u>December</u> : T. J. Mathews took charge of the Postoffice. Z. I. Moutray injured by a falling wall in the old city hall building. Tom Butler came near losing his life by breaking through the ice on Bonpas creek. Miss Lydia Sanders died.
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*Carmi Times*, January 9, 1902, Stokes Chapel:

Uncle Jim Graves is on the sick list. Luke Brown is in very poor health. Lee Armstrong returns to his school tomorrow. Mr. and Mrs. Otto Heckler visited	in these parts lately. Miss Lucy Stokes' beau was down to see her Sunday evening. Riley Stokes and wife are visiting their mother and friends. Dr. Green, of Crossville, was	called to see Revy Gordon Sunday. Ed Spencer and family visited at Frank Hewitt's Dec. 5 <sup>th</sup> . Mr. and Mrs. John Marlett and family visited at aunt Cinda Stokes' Sunday.
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*Carmi Times*, January 9, 1902, Crossville:

Mrs. Jane York was sick a few days the first of the week. It was reported she had small pox, but such was not the case. Mrs. W. C. Arnold and Mrs. Leroy Hon spent New Years day visiting Elder and Mrs. Lewis Hon who are in very poor health. Mrs. George Jordan, who is in a sanitarium at Evansville, is reported to	be improving in health with fair prospects for complete recovery. Mrs. Charley Long, who has suffered for several months past with a complication of diseases, went to Evansville Monday where she entered Walker's sanitarium for treatment. D. C. Davenport, one of our oldest and most highly respected citizens, has	been quite sick for several days, and for a time it was feared he could not recover. He is reported better at present. Our item in last week's issue concerning a Christmas dinner given by Riley Yates was made to read "Billy" Yates. As "uncle" Riley had to foot the bill for the dinner we are anxious that he get the credit for it.
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*Carmi Times*, January 9, 1902, Maunie:

Our marshal was in Carmi on business Tuesday. Several from this place were seen in Carmi Monday. Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Seitzinger were in Carmi Tuesday. Dave Meyers visited his brother at Wickers last week. Geo. Barnes is back at his old boarding place, the Beckley House. Thomas Brown was a business transactor in Mt. Vernon, IN, Tuesday. The machinery for the ferry boat at	New Haven was unloaded here Monday. T. W. Hay of Carmi was a business factor at the town meeting Monday night. J. W. Foster now occupies the house on Main street lately vacated by C. D. Rowe. M. E. Rosselot is again with us after two weeks visit with his parents at Wickers. Several traveling men have called on merchants trying to sell spring and	summer goods. Early Tuesday morning the alarm of fire was turned on and it was discovered the house belonging to Sol Handy and occupied by Ike Torand (col) was on fire. It was too late to try to save it so the attention was turned to the dwelling of Marshall Franks which was not occupied, but being unable to save it, the loss was two houses and the household goods of Mr. Torands, with no insurance.
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## Raleigh Sutton has done it again!

He's finished another book on his ancestry, and we're the beneficiary of his work. He sent us *The Thomas Cotton Family: His Ancestors and Descendants, From the 1600s to Present*.

This is a fully-indexed, 395-paged book, full of names, wills and other legal papers, and comments. There are over 1,000 surnames. Besides Cotton, other oft-appearing names are: Edwards, Griffin, Henson, Jones, Miller, Moore, Orr, Renshaw, Strother, and Sutton.

Raleigh says Hardy Cryer Cotton had a farm in White County in 1870, and he gives his line as follows:

**The Suttons**

Me, Raleigh LaVerne  
Dad, Raleigh Leslie  
Grandfather, Raleigh Liggett  
G-grandfather, Henry Mortimore  
GG-grandfather, Charles Edward married Eliza Malone

**The Cottons**

GGG-grandmother, Nancy Cotton (Eliza's mother)  
GGGG-grandfather, Allan Cotton (the father of Hardy Cryer Cotton)

Allan Cotton fought for Andrew Jackson in the War of 1812 against the Creek Indians in Georgia and the ill-fated Natchez expedition.

# Annual Meeting of the Genealogy Society of White County, Illinois

by Vickie Oliver

A total of 30 people were in attendance at the eighth Annual Luncheon Meeting of the Genealogy Society of White County, Illinois, held at noon on October 24, 2010, at the Fairbridge Windsor Oaks Inn in Grayville, Illinois.

Tom Kiehl, President, welcomed all of those in attendance and conducted a short business meeting which he began by encouraging those who wished to join the Society or donate family histories to do so by attending the next regular meeting on November 17 in Carmi, Illinois. Three Directors who currently serve on the Board of the GSWC were then unanimously reelected to serve additional 3-year terms. They are Tom Kiehl, Patricia Davis, and Vickie Oliver.

Next, Patricia Davis thanked Tom and Cindy Kiehl for the room decorations for the meeting. She also announced that the Internet web site for the Society would soon be updated and that the third volume of the publication of obituaries, *Gone, But Not Forgotten*, will probably be published in the coming year.

After guests dined at a buffet of salad, entrees and dessert, they were entertained with a presentation by this year's guest speaker, living historian Seth Graves, a graduate of Southern Illinois University in Carbondale and a junior high social studies teacher at Pope County Elementary School in Golconda.

The presentation, titled "Daniel Boone: The Man-The Myth," was developed by Mr. Graves to help people separate the fiction and common misconceptions about Daniel Boone, the legend, from the facts about Daniel Boone, the man. In his program, he wanted to focus on who Daniel Boone really was and not who he really wasn't.

For instance, who he really wasn't was the character portrayed by Fess Parker in the popular 1960's Disney TV show. The TV program showed America a very tall man wearing a coonskin cap. In reality, Daniel Boone was probably no taller than 5 feet 10 inches tall and probably even shorter than that. And while Daniel Boone was once painted in a portrait with a coonskin cap at his side, he actually hated wearing them.

Daniel Boone truly was a great frontiersman who blazed the Wilderness Trail, and for that he became famous throughout the nation, even in his own lifetime. Much has been written about Daniel Boone and his adventures beginning in 1784, but many of the stories about him were blown out of proportion and embellished by the writers and even by Daniel Boone, himself.

One published story tells of Daniel Boone being captured by the Shawnee Indians, but managing to escape and return to his home in five days by running the entire distance of 160 miles. In reality, he would have covered that great a distance by riding a horse. And other stories in which it was told he covered great distances in the woods by swinging on grapevines are totally false. Another story describes how, at the age of 12, he managed to kill a giant animal with only one shot. While he was an experienced hunter, stories of such amazing feats are highly doubtful. Daniel Boone did earn his living as a hunter, however, going on what were called "long hunts" during which he would be gone from home for a year at a time.

A true story about Daniel Boone is about one such long hunt in which Daniel Boone's wife believed that he had been gone so long that he had surely died and would not be returning. Daniel and his wife had a total of nine, possibly 10, children, so needing a man around to help raise their many children, Daniel's wife married his brother and had another child in Daniel's absence. When Daniel Boone did return home, he and his wife reunited and Daniel raised his brother's and wife's child as his own.

Another true story concerns Daniel Boone's opposing roles as a great Indian fighter, but also an adopted friend of the Shawnee Indians. In one instance, he was tried for treason when he learned that the Shawnee had planned to attack Boonsboro, Kentucky and that he had learned of the attack from the Indians themselves. But in the end he was not convicted as a traitor, but was promoted instead. Daniel Boone fought in several wars including the French and Indian War and in the Lord Dunmore's War in 1771-1772. While serving in these wars, he earned ownership in a lot of land, but still ended up in debt after selling his land and eventually moved his family to Kentucky.

While in Kentucky, Daniel Boone fought in the Revolutionary War, eventually serving as a Lt. Colonel in the Kentucky Militia. In the Battle at Blue Licks, Daniel Boone fought along side his son, Israel, who was killed in the fighting trying to rescue his father. After the Revolutionary War, Daniel Boone went deeply in debt as a land speculator. He also sees the developing frontier in Kentucky as becoming "too crowded" so moves his family further west to French Hill, Missouri. There he lived another twenty years before dying in 1820 on one of his remaining son's farm.

Due to Daniel Boone's fame, hundreds of mourners came from miles around to attend his funeral in his son's barn. He is buried in Sedalia, Missouri. However, there are still some who believe that the body of one of Kentucky's most famous citizens, who founded the city of Boonesboro, one of the first English settlements west of the Appalachian Mountains, was sent back to Kentucky for burial. Daniel Boone was famous throughout the entire nation for his accomplishments as a pioneer, explorer and military man, but in an interview conducted before his death, he summed up his life as saying "I've been painted as a great figure, but I'm just a common man."

At the end of Seth Graves' presentation, a door prize of a choice of one of two GSWC publications was awarded. The meeting ended at 2:00 p.m.

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# New Buds on Our Family Tree

Mrs. Al (Susan) Huetteman  
 82 E. Quail Run  
 Charlestown RI 02813

Sue & Ron Weisgerber  
 133 Cherry Hill Dr.  
 Mount Carmel IL 62863  
 STOKES, HILLYARD, HON

Vincent Miller  
 3132 Running Quail Trl.  
 Amissville VA 20106-2258

## Facts . . . and Figures . . . Directors Meeting, November, 2010

Thomas Kiehl called the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Genealogy Society of White County (GSWC) to order at 4:00 p.m. Also present were Patricia Davis, Nancy Hays, Vickie Oliver and Charlene Shields. Minutes of the meeting on September 15, 2010, were approved with no objections. The Treasurer's report, submitted by Nancy Hays, showed a balance of \$3,618.63 as of November 17. The report was approved with no objections. The possibility of the Treasurer accessing the Society bank account online was discussed, but it was decided to continue to receive hard copy account statements through the regular mail. Charlene Shields, Memberships Director, reported that two new individuals have become members of the Society, including Vince Miller who has volunteered to develop a new Web site for the GSWC.

Patricia Davis, Publications/Newsletter Director, reported that 50 copies of the third volume of the obituary book, *Gone But Not Forgotten*, will be published next year. Work is now progressing on developing the index to the book.

The success of the annual GSWC conference held last month on October 23 at the Fairbridge-Windsor Oaks Inn in Grayville was discussed. Tom Kiehl thanked everyone for their work on planning for the luncheon conference. Vickie Oliver reported that she would reserve the meeting room at the American Legion in Carmi for next year's annual conference as soon as possible. The possibility of having Seth Graves do a presentation on the War of 1812 to mark the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the conflict was also discussed.

Two new publications have also been donated to the Society's library. They are *The Thomas Cotton Family: His Ancestors and Descendants From 1600's to Present* by Raleigh Sutton and *The Raber Rodrian Family History*. Anyone who would like access to the library at Outer East Main Street in Carmi can contact any Society Director to arrange an appointment.

It was decided unanimously that Vickie Oliver will be President in 2011, Joyce Winter will be Secretary, and Tom Kiehl will be the Publicity Director. Other Directors will maintain their current positions.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for January 19, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. at the GSWC office in Carmi. The public is welcome to attend and the Board is actively seeking persons for membership in the Society.

Submitted by Vickie Oliver, Secretary

# Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to ALL!

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I want to (apply for) (renew my) membership in the Genealogy Society of White County, Illinois.  
(Membership is for the 12-month period following receipt of application)

Enclosed is my check for \$20 for my/our membership.     NEW     RENEWAL

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Name : \_\_\_\_\_

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Make checks payable to:  
Genealogy Society of White Co. IL

MAIL TO:  
Genealogy Society of White Co. IL  
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The MAIN White Co Surnames I'm researching are: (Submit Queries on a separate paper, please)

\_\_\_\_\_

Books Available from the  
**GENEALOGY SOCIETY**  
**OF WHITE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

- 1930 CENSUS, WHITE COUNTY ILLINOIS**, by Linda Kay Kuykendall. Extracted from microfilm, this book gives invaluable information about age, race, marital status, birth state of resident and parents, occupation, etc. 480 pages, 8½ x 11, hard-cover, fully indexed, \$60 postpaid. -----
- WHITE COUNTY ILLINOIS DEATH REGISTER, Book 1: December 1877–September 1902**, by Janice Melton Knotter, with Lists of Doctors and Undertakers, and Explanation of Medical Terms. This book is invaluable for the medical definitions alone, but also includes the 3000+ deaths reported at the turn of the century, when life expectancy was 46–48! 251 pages, 8½ x 11, soft-cover, fully indexed, \$28 (a few hard-cover editions are available for \$35.) -----
- GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN, Volume 2, 1928–1940: Extracts of Obituary and Death Notices from White County Illinois Area Newspapers**, Extracted by Verla Fleck Young and the Genealogy Society of White County Illinois. The second of a three-volume set, these books are a *must* for serious Illinois researchers! As time went by, more and more information about family and relatives was added to the obituary notices, sometimes going back several generations. 772 pages, 8½ x 11, hard-cover, indexed, \$87. -----
- GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN, Volume 1, 1819–1927: Extracts of Obituary and Death Notices from White County Illinois Area Newspapers**, Extracted by Verla Fleck Young and the Genealogy Society of White County Illinois. Verla Young spent thousands of hours extracting death information from 1872–1946 Carmi newspaper microfilm, and members of the Genealogy Society of White County have added extractions from 1819–1871 newspapers in Shawneetown and Grayville. The result is a compilation of “dead relatives,” with dates, and, in later years, many of their spouses, parents, siblings, etc. Some years were not microfilmed, and some had missing articles or sections, but the entries that were readable are provided here for your genealogical enlightenment. 826 pages, 8½ x 11, hard-cover, indexed, \$87. -----
- THE BACKWARD BOOK: Extracts From White County Illinois Newspapers, 1899–1905 and 1949–1955**, by Barry C. Cleveland, editor of *The Carmi Times*. Packed full of White County History and its people, this book is both entertaining and enlightening. It’s from the “Looking Backward” columns printed in the newspapers for 50- and 100-Years Ago. Whether you’re a genealogist or a history buff, you’ll find treasure here! 400 pages, 8½ x 11, hard cover, indexed, \$48. -----
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- THAT WHICH WAS and THOSE WHO WERE: Columns from the Carmi Times, White County Illinois**, by Charlene Cleveland Shields. For many years, Charlene wrote a weekly column for the *Carmi Times*, providing information about genealogy, history, humor, tips for research, and a review of life in White County from its earliest days to the present. To quote Barry Cleveland, editor of the *Carmi Times*: “Charlene provided columns not only of quantity, but of quality. They were lively, funny, provocative, informative...” You’ll really enjoy reading this one! 322 pages, 7 x 10, soft-cover, indexed, \$23. -----
- (The following books are by Patricia Davis)*
- CARMI TIMES SESQUICENTENNIAL EDITION, DEC. 9, 1965**. An extract of text and advertisements in the 124-page special edition newspaper published to commemorate White County’s 150 Years of Progress! If you have White County Ancestors, you’ll want this book! Even if your ancestors aren’t from White County, the historical and biographical articles give a fascinating insight into the lifestyle of the 18th- and early 19th-centuries. Includes full index. (1998, 332 pp, hard-cover: \$41; soft-cover: \$35) -----
- NAMES AND PLACES IN THE ATLAS OF ILLINOIS, 1876**. Alphabetically lists the Cities, towns, PO’s, Stations, and NAMES OF LANDOWNERS shown in each county in the 1876 Atlas, as well as the county and township in which they are located. With separate short listing of Names & Towns by County. (1998, 174 pp, soft-cover, \$24) -----
- INDEX TO HARRIET VAUGHT’S WHITE CO. IL WILLS 1816-1916 & OBITUARIES, NATURALIZATION PAPERS, MARRIAGES IN 1916**. [Original book is not indexed.] (1994; 79 pp, \$15) -----
- INDEX TO HARRIET VAUGHT’S MARRIAGES FROM WHITE CO IL 1881-1900, VOL. 2**. [Original book, which also contains the 1976-1979 Probate Index, is not indexed.] (1996; 199 pp, \$24) -----
- INDEX TO HARRIET VAUGHT’S MARRIAGES FROM WHITE CO IL 1916-1930, VOL. 4**. [Original book is not indexed.] (2002; 116 pp, \$18) -----
- INDEX TO HARRIET VAUGHT’S CEMETERIES OF WHITE COUNTY ILLINOIS, VOLUMES 1 & 2**. [Original books were not indexed.] Contains separate Indexes for each Volume, combined in one book. (1995; 194 pp, \$21) -----
- INDEX TO HISTORY & FAMILIES OF GALLATIN CO. IL**. [Original (1986) book edited by Lucille Lawler & not indexed.] (1994; 166 pp, \$18) -----

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