



November/December 2024

Volume 29, Issue 6

MISSION: Our mission is to stimulate an interest in studying family history and genealogy, and assist persons who are researching their family history. Whether a person begins their search with documents and a name, or through a DNA test, searching for family members is what we do.

VISITORS WELCOME!



Welcome Harvest Time & Holiday Celebrations



Join us for:

- ❖ **Discussion Group** – First Tuesday of the month from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm, In-Person at the Roseville Main Library Conference Room (225 Taylor Street) and also using ZOOM – Genealogy questions welcome, plus sharing of genealogy ideas. (Jan-May & Jul-Nov)
- ❖ **General Meeting with Speaker** – Second Tuesday of the month from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. In-Person and Zoom at the Maidu Community Center (1550 Maidu Drive in Roseville) and an occasional evening Zoom meeting. A brief general meeting will be followed by a presentation on genealogy research topics. (Jan-May & Jul-Nov)

READ - - - THINK - - - VOTE



EVERY
VOTE
MATTERS

Our ancestors fought for our right to vote. Please make your choices wisely!

Vote in-person on 05th November 2024 or by absentee ballot.

Cast your ballot!



RGS Election of Officers will be held in November 2024. Remember, all RGS officers are volunteers and need to rotate off the Board sometime; even if they come back later to volunteer again. The Board works together for the good of our group.

Please consider volunteering to serve one year or share an office. If no one volunteers, one day there may not be a genealogical group to attend.

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ONGOING RGS ACTIVITIES

Upcoming RGS Speakers and Workshops

C=Conference D=Discussion IP=In Person

O=Other S=Speaker Z=Zoom

Email RGS at rgsca3@gmail.com for Zoom access information.

2024	Format		Date	Topic
RGS	D	IP & Z	Nov 5	Discussion Group followed by Board Meeting
RGS	S	IP & Z	Nov 12	Fate of the Foundlings – John Sessano
RGS	- - - - -		Dec	No Meetings this Month – Happy Holidays!
2025				
RGS	S	IP & Z	Jan 7	Discussion Group followed by Board Meeting
RGS	S	IP & Z	Jan 14	Church Records – Glenda Gardner Lloyd
RGS	S	IP & Z	Feb 4	Discussion Group followed by Board Meeting
RGS	S	IP & Z	Feb 11	Property Records Online – Jim Baker





Ask A Genealogist at the Library – Come by to talk or ask questions.
Or Schedule an appointment for a one-hour session.

Martha Riley Library Dates

Nov (Wed & Sat)

- 6-1:00pm–3:00pm
- 13-1:00pm–3:00pm
- 20-1:00pm–3:00pm
- 23-**Sat** 28-1:00pm-3:00pm
- 27-Holiday

Dec (Wed & Sat)

- 4-1:00pm–3:00pm
- 11-1:00pm–3:00pm
- 18-1:00pm–3:00pm
- 25-Holiday
- 28-**Sat** 1:00pm-3:00pm

Maidu Library Dates

Nov(Thurs)

- 7-1:00pm–3:00pm
- 14-1:00pm–3:00pm
- 21-1:00pm–3:00pm
- 28-1:00pm–3:00pm

Dec(Thurs)

- 5-1:00pm–3:00pm
- 12-1:00pm–3:00pm
- 19-1:00pm–3:00pm
- 26-Holiday

✚ **BOOK-A-GENEALOGIST** Schedule a **FREE** one-hour appointment with a genealogist. Send an email to rgsca3@gmail.com with the subject line: Book-A-Genealogist.

✚ **LENDING LIBRARY (MEMBERS ONLY)** Send an email to rgsca3@gmail.com with the subject line: Lending Library

Newsletter Submissions

RGS members are encouraged to share Family History information with our group by submitting a one-page document containing a “genealogical” find or a family history picture. Please submit by the 27th of the month preceding newsletter publication. Months of publication and submission date are below.

Months of Publication

January/February issue

March/April issue

May/June issue

July/August issue

September/October issue

November/December issue

Date submission is Due

due 27th December

due 27th February

due 27th April

due 27th June

due 27th August

due 27th October



Genealogy Resources

The Photo Detective - Need help with analyzing and interpreting an old family photograph to solve a picture mystery? Maureen Taylor offers a photograph analysis service as well as blog posts and podcasts to assist researchers in exploring the connection between photos and genealogy. Visit her website at: <https://maureentaylor.com/>.



Where is your genealogy journey leading you?

?????

Have you found that missing piece of your family history?

Make an appointment with Book-A-Genealogist to discuss new places to search and methods to use.



Proverb from the 19th Century

While researching an ancestor in the mid-to-late 1800s in Center Township, Porter County, Indiana, I came across this old proverb:

When the whisky is in the man
The brains are in the can.

Is your ancestor's town on the map?



How many **Branch Surnames** have you found in your genealogy search?

How many **SURNAMES** do you have?

Maternal	Paternal
2	2
4	4
8	8
16	16

The number starts with 2, then 4, then 8, and 16, getting larger with each generation. Count the name and make a list to share at the next meeting in January 2025.



Genealogy Hint

Sometimes genealogists get so focused on using “genealogical” resources that they forget to check out other available resources. The example below, taken from an **1876 “Atlas”** provides information about town history, size, and activities. Records of weather, droughts, and epidemics, plus office holders, and active newspapers, plus societies and churches, may be included, also.

Porter Station was laid out September 11th, 1855, by Richards and Travel.

Prattville was laid out November 11th, 1856, by Pratt, Malone & Beach.

Tassinong, September 27th, 1852, by Bartholemew & Spencer.

Emmettburg, December 8th, 1868.

Koutts Station, November 3d, 1864, by Barnhart Koutts.

Burdick, October 22d, 1875, by Peterson & Anderson.

Suman, June 1875, by I. C. B. Suman.

Flintville, March, 1875, by Wheeler, Goodman, et al.

Valparaiso.

As stated in a previous chapter, Valparaiso was laid out by Benjamin McCarty, as Portersville (see plat of Valparaiso). He called it Portersville, because Porter was the name of the county and *ville* is the French for town or city. But it was changed to Valparaiso, which name means “Vale of Paradise,” in 1837. It was located as the county seat by W. L. Earl, Matthias Dawson and Judah L. Leaming, commissioners appointed for that purpose. It was incorporated as a city on the 2d day of December, 1866. Hon. T. J. Merrifield was the first mayor, succeeded by Thomas G. Lyttle, who was succeeded by the present incumbent, John Skinner.

It now has a city council, with six aldermen and three wards. Its population was, in 1850, 520, in 1860, 1690, and in 1870 it had a population of 2765; and, according to

In 1870, Porter County contained

No. acres improved lands.	Value.	Total value of farm productions.	Value of all live stock.	No. of horses.	No. of mules.	No. of milch cows.	No. of other cattle.	No. of sheep.	No. of swine.
110,891	\$4,813,302	\$820,630	\$813,150	5,087	154	4,405		15,200	10,039

Bu. spring wheat.	Bu. winter wheat.	Bu. of rye.	Bu. of corn.	Bu. of oats.	Bu. of barley.	Pounds of wool.	Bu. Irish potatoes.	Lbs. butter.	Tons hay.
23,930	119,645	4,433	212,231	178,886	65	52,721	66,352	220,998	21,841

GENERAL TABLE.

No. of male population in county in 1870.....	7,199
No. of female “ “ “ “ “	6,743
No. of males over 21 years of age.....	3,406
Am't of moneys in county treasury May, 1875.....	\$28,034.22
Am't of school fund in county treasury, May, 1875..	10,364.20
No. of paupers in county.....	24
No. of children over 6 and under 21 years of age..	2,292
1874.	
No. of school houses—15 brick, 71 frame and 1 log—	87
Value of houses, grounds, seats, etc.....	95,534.00
Value of school apparatus—globes, maps, etc....	3,689.00
No. of volumes in township libraries.....	875
No. of Male teachers licensed in 1874.....	51
No. of female “ “ “ “ “	68

“Illustrated historical atlas of Porter County, Indiana, 1876”, A.G. Hardestry, database images online, Library of Congress (<https://www.loc.gov/resource/g4093pm.gla00036/?sp=22&st=image&r=0.281,0.857,0.736,0.308,0>: accessed 11 October 2024) ; p. 31 image 22.of 63; citing LCC# 2007626934.

1875-6. This season was rather backward in the spring. Summer cool. Indeed, the month of December was a pleasanter one than May. The New Year's day was as mild and pleasant as the most ardent admirer of warm weather would have it to be. You could almost see the grass grow, and the frogs you *could* see in any of the marshes, who doubtless imagined that balmy spring with its vernal showers had set in. Considerable sickness throughout the County. In the western portion, a malignant form of typhoid fever raged, from the effects of which William Hollister

lost a son, about sixteen years of age, and a little daughter was only saved through the skillful hands of Dr. A. W. Vincent, of Deep River. Besides the Hollister boy, two of the Caldwell boys—brothers—died, out of six of that name thus afflicted. Mr. Orson Strong, who came into this County in 1836, died with the same disease, while five of his family were very low with it. Widow Curtis lost her son, Oscar, who was her staff in her declining years. They were all relatives, and lived in Union Township.

“Illustrated historical atlas of Porter County, Indiana, 1876”, A.G. Hardestry, database images online, Library of Congress (<https://www.loc.gov/resource/g4093pm.gla00036/?sp=23&st=image&r=0.047,0.876,0.71,0.297,0>: accessed 11 October 2024); p. 32, image 23 of 63; citing LCC# 2007626934.



And there are more interesting facts about Porter County, Indiana to discover. If you are interested in finding out more about your ancestor's life and the area in which they lived, check out some or more of the resources listed below.

- ✓ Atlases of the state and/or county (Library of Congress or State Archives)
 - ✓ Plat maps
 - ✓ City Directories – town and county information in front or back of city directory.
-

Genealogy Terminology

Who were the **Palatine Immigrants** and from where did they come?

Palatine immigrants were German-speaking people who fled their homeland in the 18th Century to the United States, to escape war, famine, and religious persecution. Palatinate was a historical region in Germany, located in the Rhine Valley River region. Its name comes from the title of the ruling family of the area, part of the Holy Roman Empire.

Many of these people settled in the Mohawk Valley in New York, Germantown, Philadelphia, and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, among other areas. Books and articles have been written on *The Palatine Immigrant*. For more information check out *The Palatine Germans* at the National Park Service website: <https://www.nps.gov/articles/000/the-palatine-germans.htm> or search your computer browser using the words "Palatine Immigrants".

Educational Opportunities

Check the area in which your ancestor lived. The Genealogical and/or Historical Society of the area may hold virtual conferences or seminars, which will help you learn more about the area in which your ancestor lived.

Nov/Dec 2024

- ✚ Allen County Public Library - Genealogy Center offerings:
<https://www.acpl.lib.in.us/genealogy>
- ✚ Sacramento FamilySearch Center's class offerings at:
https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Sacramento_California_FamilySearch_Center/Classes.
- ✚ Sacramento Regional Genealogical Council website for presentations offered by other area Genealogical Organizations:
<https://srgcouncil.org/index.php>.



- ✚ Check out the historical and/or genealogical society in the area where your ancestors resided. They may have location specific virtual classes.

Find A Grave Information – Many researchers utilize Find A Grave to search for information about ancestors. This is a free website that allows members to add information about people and cemeteries. Please see newsletter attachment (Attachment A) for information on how to connect with Find A Grave staff if you have information to add. Thank you to Alan Vanatta for providing this information.

A Taste of a Holiday Treat

Our Family was originally from Beaver County, Pennsylvania and later settled in Muscatine, Iowa. This recipe may have come from Pennsylvania ancestors (Dutch or Amish or ?). Grandma (Hazel Bitzer Vanatta Hoover) lovingly made this for every Thanksgiving meal.

Grandma's Shoofly Pie	
Ingredients:	
1 (9 inch) pie shell	
1 cup molasses	
¾ cup hot water	
¾ teaspoon baking soda	
1 egg, beaten	
1 ½ cups all-purpose flour	
1 cup packed brown sugar	
¼ cup shortening	
1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees F.	3. To Make Crumb Topping: In a medium bowl combine flour and brown sugar. Mix well, then cut in shortening until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Sprinkle on top of molasses layer.
2. To Make Bottom Layer: In a medium bowl combine molasses, hot water, and baking soda. Stir well. Whisk in beaten egg. Pour mixture into pie shell.	4. Bake in preheated oven for 15 minutes. Lower temperature to 350° F. Bake an additional 30 minutes.
	
	Thank you to Alan Vanatta for sharing this family tradition.

What holiday traditions does your family do today?

What holiday traditions did your ancestors do?

Share a Genealogy Story or “new-found” fact(s) during the Holidays!

Create a New Holiday Tradition!



Happy New Year!

See you in 2025.

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