



May 2022

## WARREN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Box 256 Indianola, IA 50125

Phone-515-961-8085

(Highway 92 West, 1300 West 2nd, turn north into fair grounds, then turn east)

E-mail- [contact@warrencountyhistory.org](mailto:contact@warrencountyhistory.org)

### Inside This Issue

Page 3 Cadence on the Plow

Page 4&5 Naturalization

Page 6 1st Methodist

#### WCHS May Meeting

Tuesday, May 24th

7:00 pm

Program-Pat Hicks

#### LCF Planning Meeting

Thurs. June 16th, 9:30

Board Meeting to Follow

#### LCF Planning

9:30, July 21

Board to Follow

#### WCHS Annual

#### Garage Sale

Sat. August 20th

9:00 am

#### Log Cabin Festival

Sat. Sept. 24th

**amazon smile**

1stAmazon will donate .5% of your total purchase to Warren County Historical Society if you sign in at Amazon Smile. All you need to do is sign in at amazon smile rather than amazon. Choose Warren County Historical Society, then select Iowa as your charity to support.



Please continue to collect Indianola HYVEE receipts and bring them in to the museum. We

have a large glass container near the kitchen where you can place them. We can use gas, pharmacy, grocery or any other HYVEE receipt. It is an easy way to raise funds for WCHS. When Hy Vee asks if you want to have your receipt, say YES!

### HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS

#### 1st Methodist Church

1849-2022

#### WCHS GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY, MAY 24th

On Tuesday, May 24th at 700 pm, Pat Hicks, historical librarian at Indianola's 1st Methodist Church will share a cavalcade of anecdotes and happenings that influenced the history of this church and our college community. Plan to attend, Pat may have a few surprises up her sleeve!

Artwork from Mrs. Thomas E. Sargent in 1974.



### NEWS FROM THE MUSEUM

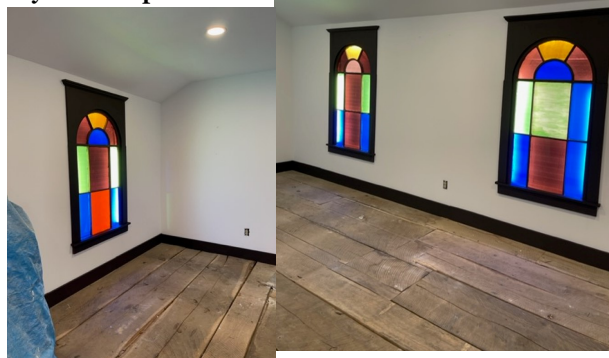
Each June Sunday ( June 5, June 12, June 19, June 26th) from Noon to 4 pm WCHS Museum and Hope School will be open. Stop by for a visit.

Annual WCHS Garage Sale will be held Saturday August 20th instead of during Log Cabin Festival. This will allow us to use the entire museum for LCF activities. Start boxing items to donate as you do your spring/summer cleaning.

We need clothing items, such as hats/caps, shirts, overalls, and gloves for the making of scare crows at Log Cabin Festival. Hats and caps are especially needed. Please bring your scare crow donation items to the museum.

We are inviting all churches or communities of faith to join us in our 2022 Log Cabin Festival, "Celebrating Warren County Faith, Past & Present" on Saturday, September 24. The ways you can participate are having a float or walking in our 10:00 am Indianola parade or prepare/staff a card table size informational display for our heritage village or provide music such as a trio, quartet, choir or an instrumental group. Have questions, give us a call at 515-961-8085.

Our pioneer church looks brand new inside. It has new and additional lighting. New ceiling, drywall and paint.



Our dark and dreary Pioneer Church has come to life with new lighting, new ceiling, drywall, paint, and caulking for the windows. Kathi Stanfield is going to recover the pulpit furniture and Susan Graeser will see that all wooden pews, pulpit, etc. will be cleaned and renewed. Take a look and you may want to have a small wedding or anniversary vow renewal here in the spring, summer or fall. This building is for rent and you could move to the museum for a reception.

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER May 2022

### Hello, Everyone!

Spring and summer season are upon us. We have a lot of wonderful things going on out at the museum. We are in the midst of many renovations. We are changing the lighting to LED with the help of Dave Grissom.

Our Pioneer Church has been revitalized and ready to rent for your special occasion. Come take a look.

The Fifth graders are enjoying their final field trip of the year. Pioneer school is back to a full day and going well. There are so many wonderful things to see in our museum that students may want to come back with their parents and explore a little bit more.

We have had a wonderful donation from Katie and Ron Routh, parents of actor Brandon Routh. Brandon a local movie personality from Norwalk has been in the films: Superman, Arrow, Hallmark Christmas and several TV shows.

We continue to look for Volunteers to help work with us, maintain and preserve the items that we receive. Our hours are from 9-4 on Thursdays and 9-12 on Saturdays.

We are planning our annual summer yard sale on August 20<sup>th</sup> and are accepting donations. We prefer not to have clothing. Your generous donations help to sustain our museum and library.

Deb Larrison

WCHS President



THANKS TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS WHO  
HELPED MAKE PIONEER SCHOOL 2022  
A SUCCESS!

## WARREN COUNTY PHILANTHROPIC PARTNERERSHIP AWARDS LOG CABIN GRANT

From the Warren County Philanthropic Partnership we have received a check in the amount of \$14,715.00 for the foundation pillars project needed to level our log cabin. We are so thankful to WCPP for this enabling grant and to WCHS members who have donated the matching funds. We can now begin Phase I of the log cabin renovation. Our thanks also go to Deb Taylor for quickly using her grant writing skills for us.



Deb and Howard Taylor receiving the grant check from Pat Brehse of the Warren County Philanthropic Partnership.



While moving our Don Berry photo called Cadence on the Plow, Kathi Stanfield discovered that Don had written this story about taking the photo and it had been attached to our framed photo print.

### CADENCE ON THE PLOW, By Don Berry

The picture commonly known as “Cadence on the Plow” was taken in the spring of 1938. I had heard that Ivan Calloway was working in the field a hitch of four mares, the sum of whose ages was 80 years. I thought that was worth a picture for the **Record and Tribune**.

The middle of the forenoon I drove to the Calloway farmhouse located about a quarter mile north of the Medora bridge over Squaw Creek and on the west side of the creek. I was much disappointed to be told by Mrs. Calloway that Ivan had turned out the mares to pasture and gone to town with the cream.

But she said that, about a half mile west of the house, their farm hand was working three mares whose combined ages summed up 45 years and that one of the 80 year hitch was working with them. Somewhat disgusted that I had driven 14 miles to miss the picture I wanted, I nevertheless went to where the four mares were working.

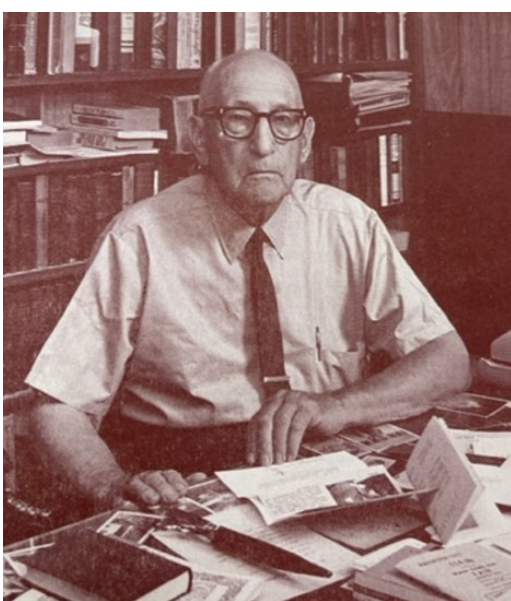
I talked a few minutes with the hand (I cannot remember his name, but he later clerked for Collings & McCoy in their Indianola clothing store) and then said to him, about half mad: “Well, start ‘em up, I’ll shoot ‘em anyway.”

He did; I shot.

Not until I had developed the film did I know that I had taken a picture such as I would never take again, and such as few photographers have ever taken, four horses in perfect cadence, all with their left feet lifted in unison like a squad of soldiers. A man might try for a lifetime and shoot hundreds of horses without ever again getting such a composition.

However, don’t overlook that equally as interesting as the cadence of the horses is the evidence of their life and vitality at their advanced age. Although the combined age of these four mares is 65 years, their heads are up, their necks arched, their ears at the alert, leaning into their collars as if they found real joy in helping to feed the American people. The dark near mare is the 20-year-old.

Some greenhorns, or pseudo-horsemen, imagine that being a good hand with a horse consists of riding a bucking bronco, making a saddle horse stand on his hind legs or riding a Palomino loaded with a cartful of sparkling but useless, tackle.



The man who can feed and handles a group of mares so that they are alert and active at advanced years is the genuine, bred-in-the-bone horseman. Ivan Calloway was one of the best horsemen Warren County ever produced. Unfortunately, Ivan was taken from us a few years ago.

More prints from this negative have been made than from any other ten negatives I have ever made. This picture is hanging in the offices, homes and schools from New York to Los Angeles. And yet, it was only an accident, no credit to me.

Made with 4x5 speed graphic camera.



## Warren County Clerk of Court Books on Naturalizations

Naturalizations were originally handled by the Clerk of the District Court. Warren County recorded these Naturalizations from 1865 to 1925 in two volumes. Volume 1 covers from 1865 to 1907. These Naturalization records state the name, native country, the name of the ruler of the native country, and the date of Naturalization. Most are signed by the applicant and Clerk of District Court. Volume 2 covers 1908 to 1925. The records in this book are more detailed covering the same as the older ones, but include occupation, physical description, address, and port and date of arrival. Both books are currently held in the Warren County Historical Society Library for resource in searching genealogy. An alphabetical list has been created to aid in research.

On December 29, 1925 the District Court relinquished Naturalization in Warren County due to the small amount received. It was ordered that all future Naturalization business be transferred to the Federal Court of Des Moines, Iowa.

|                                   |                                    |                                 |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1865 HARVEY, CHARLES              | 1876 FORCHHEINERER, HENRY          | 1879 SMITH, PATRICK             |
| 1865 HUF, GEORGE                  | 1876 JOHNSTON, DONALD              | 1880 CHILDS, SAMUEL S.          |
| 1865 HUF, JOHN                    | 1876 JOHNSTON, JAMES               | 1880 COX, SAMUEL B.             |
| 1865 WOOD, THOMAS                 | 1876 LEDLIE, THOMAS                | 1880 KENRATH, CHARLES           |
| 1866 CADDY, JOHN                  | 1876 LERMAN, WILLIAM M.            | 1880 PITMAN, W.C.               |
| 1868 DICKSON, ROBERT              | 1876 LEUMAN, WILLIAM (SPELLING ?)  | 1880 SANDHAM, JOHN              |
| 1868 SCHOOLER, PETER              | 1876 NEMEYER, WILLIAM F.           | 1880 SCHREIBER, CHRISTIAN       |
| 1868 SHERMANN, CHRISTIAN          | 1876 PUGH, EDWARD D.               | 1880 SCHREIBER, FREDRICK        |
| 1868 WALKER, W. P.                | 1876 STEPHENS, EDWARD              | 1880 SCHREIBER, WILLIAM         |
| 1869 BUMS, ALEXANDER              | 1876 STRAUSS, SIGMUND              | 1881 AEDES, JOSEPH (SPELLING ?) |
| 1869 HOF, JOHN                    | 1877 AUGELSBURY, CORNELIUS AUGUST  | 1881 HAMM, HINERICH             |
| 1869 MUHRN, DANIEL                | 1877 BUSCHEL, CLEMENS (SPELLING ?) | 1881 HEINEN, JOHN               |
| 1869 STEEL, BARTHOLAMEW           | 1877 MC CRACKEN, ROBERT            | 1881 KOHN, PETER                |
| 1869 WADLE, AUTON                 | 1877 NICHOLL, JAMES                | 1881 PICKEN, SAMUIEL            |
| 1870 CRAWFORD, WILLIAM            | 1877 PICKEN, JAMES                 | 1881 WEIR, JOHN                 |
| 1870 EDWARDS, JOHN                | 1877 POWER, FRANCIS                | 1882 ESSLER, RUDOLPH            |
| 1870 MC COY, DENNIS               | 1877 STEELE, JOHN                  | 1882 HEROLL, CHRISTIAN          |
| 1871 COOPER, BENJAMIN             | 1878 CUMMINGS, SAMUEL D.           | 1882 ROLLE, MICHAEL J.          |
| 1871 STEHAVEN, PETER (SPELLING ?) | 1878 GREUBEL, HENRY VOLENTINE      | 1882 STEIN, PETER               |
| 1871 WATSON, JOHN                 | 1878 HAYES, WILLIAM                | 1882 WICKETT, RICHARD           |
| 1872 GIELEHUS, HENRY (SPELLING ?) | 1878 KONRAD, CHRISTIAN             | 1883 BUSCHE, CLEMENS            |
| 1872 GREGG, WILLIAM (SPELLING ?)  | 1878 KONRAD, HENRY                 | 1883 MULLEN, PAUL               |
| 1872 RAPP, JACOB CHRISTIAN        | 1878 KONRAD, NICHOLAS              | 1883 PASCOE, FRANCIS            |
| 1873 DALL, OLE O.                 | 1878 KONRATH, (CONRAD), FRIEDRICK  | 1883 SCHREIER, JACOB W.         |
| 1873 MC DONALD, PATRICK           | 1878 MARTINS, HANS FREDERICH       | 1883 SMITH, MICHAEL             |
| 1874 BROMMEL, BERNARD             | 1878 SHEICK, GOTTLIEB              | 1883 WALSH, EDWARD              |
| 1874 GROATH, JACOB                | 1878 WACHTER, (SPELLING ?)         | 1884 ANDERSON, NELS             |
| 1874 KADING, FREDRICK             | 1878 WACHTER, THOMAS               | 1884 PARRY, HENRY S.            |
| 1874 RIHRER, JOHANN (SPELLING?)   | 1879 BALSTER, CLEMMENS             | 1884 SCHIMMELFENIG, FREDRICH    |
| 1875 GILLASPIE, MARK              | 1879 ELLISON, THOMAS               | 1884 SHIELDS, THOMAS H.         |
| 1875 HAMANN, GEORGE (SPELLING ?)  | 1879 HANSEN, CARL J.               | 1885 FRICKEY, LEWIS K.          |
| 1875 HUSS, ERIC (SPELLING ?)      | 1879 HANSEN, HANS L.               | 1885 HIRBER, GEORGE (SPELLING?) |
| 1875 KADING, CHARLES              | 1879 HEINEN, LAMBERT               | 1885 HUGHES, JOHN               |
| 1875 LELLAN, JOHN M.              | 1879 LACY, GEORGE                  | 1885 LOMMAR, GEORGE (SPELLING?) |
| 1875 LOURY (Lowrey), THOMAS       | 1879 LIEBMANN, ALBERT              | 1885 RIES, FRED                 |
| 1875 MARTIN, WILLIAM              | 1879 MC KAY, RODERICK              | 1885 RIES, JOHN M.              |
| 1875 MURPHY, JAMES W.             | 1879 MC KAY, WILLIAM               | 1885 SCHIMELFINIG, FREDRICK     |
| 1875 PREGLEA, ADAM                | 1879 MC PHERSON, JAMES M.          | 1885 SCHLIPF, CHRISTIAN         |
| 1875 SCHEHEY, JAMES               | 1879 NOLTE, GEORGE                 | 1885 SCHMIT, GEORGE JACOB       |
| 1876 BOEDER, JACOB (SPELLING ?)   | 1879 NOLTE, WILLIAM                |                                 |
| 1876 BROWN, HENRY                 | 1879 SCHROLL, FERDINAND            |                                 |
| 1876 CARTER, ANDREW M.            |                                    |                                 |



|      |                                      |      |                                    |      |                              |
|------|--------------------------------------|------|------------------------------------|------|------------------------------|
| 1885 | SKMALKOFER, FRANK                    | 1893 | MORRISON, NEIL                     | 1918 | NYLANDER, OLAF               |
| 1885 | WEINMAN, C.K.                        | 1894 | BOHNEN, JOHN                       | 1918 | PAPADITROPOULOS, DIMITRIOS   |
| 1886 | BANNERT, JOSEPH                      | 1894 | EARLE, HARRY G.                    | 1918 | PECK, JOSEPH CLOWES BRANWELL |
| 1886 | EBNER, JOHN                          | 1894 | ENDRES, JOHN                       | 1918 | STAFFANOU, THEODORE          |
| 1886 | FRAUB, CHRISTIAN (SPELLING ?)        | 1894 | ENDRES, JOHN (NOTE : STATES ERROR) | 1919 | CARZOLI, ALFREDO             |
| 1886 | FRAUB, CRISTOPHER                    | 1894 | EWART, JOHN                        | 1919 | PAPAVISSELEU, JOHN           |
| 1886 | GRASS, ADAM (SPELLING ? KANZZ)       | 1894 | GEHRING, GUSTAN                    | 1919 | VLASSIS, GEORGE              |
| 1886 | LINDSAY, HUGH                        | 1894 | HEINEN, JOHN                       | 1920 | BERTOLETTI, GIOVANNI         |
| 1886 | MUDGE, GEORGE                        | 1894 | KIESEL, PHILIP JACOB               | 1920 | BRELK, VALENTINE             |
| 1887 | CLULOW, WILLIAM (SPELLING ? CLULOUR) | 1894 | MC KENZIE, JOHN                    | 1920 | GARREFFA, ROCCO GUISEPPE     |
| 1887 | GLAD, OLAF                           | 1894 | REINHOLDT, NICHOLAS                | 1921 | WILGENBUSCH, BARNARD HERMAN  |
| 1887 | GRVILLIN, THOMAS H/ (SPELLING ?)     | 1894 | ROOK, WILLIAM                      | 1922 | BIERMA, THEROR RALPH         |
| 1887 | HAMMER, A.P.                         | 1894 | ROSS, ANDREW P.                    | 1922 | COLOMBI, SILVIO              |
| 1887 | KRANTZ, CARL                         | 1916 | ROSS, PETER                        | 1922 | GUIZZETTI, VICTOR            |
| 1887 | MENDERS, BEREND BRUNS                | 1916 | TERPINA, CHARLES P.                | 1922 | PAGLIA, HILARY DI            |
| 1887 | MURPHY, J. W.                        | 1916 | THOMAS, ANASTASEAS GEORGE          | 1922 | RIDING, EDWARD               |
| 1887 | PETERSON, FRED                       | 1916 | VANCE, ED                          | 1922 | SUARDINI, ANGELO             |
| 1887 | PICKEN, WILLIAM                      | 1917 | CLARK, DAN                         | 1923 | CLARKE, GEORGE               |
| 1887 | RAID, SWEN AUGUST                    | 1917 | HASTINGS, JAMES HENRY              | 1923 | SIMPSON, ALEXANDER NELSON    |
| 1887 | REDBERG, JAMES                       | 1917 | KIESEL, CHRISTIAN GOTTLÖB          | 1924 | BIERMA, LURA M.              |
| 1887 | REED, PETER A.                       | 1917 | LETTINGTON, WILLIAM THOMAS         | 1924 | MICKELSON, CHRIS             |
| 1887 | REINHOLD, HENRY                      | 1917 | REINHOLDT, FREDRICK ATTO           | 1924 | PASKVAN, JOE                 |
| 1887 | SEABORN, WILLIAM                     | 1917 | REINHOLDT, JOHAUN ADOLF FREDRICK   | 1925 | BRENT, MARTIN                |
| 1887 | STEPHENS, ARTHUR F.                  | 1917 | RICKERT, HERMAN WELHELM WALDMA     |      |                              |
| 1888 | BAKER, JOHN                          | 1917 | ROBINSON, WILLIAM                  |      |                              |
| 1888 | DIETRICH, WILHELM A.                 | 1918 | BRENT, MARTIN                      |      |                              |
| 1888 | EARLE, JOHN H.                       | 1918 | GARREFFA, FRANCISCO                |      |                              |
| 1888 | ELSON, JOHOENN                       | 1918 | GOLDBERG, MAX                      |      |                              |
| 1888 | KIESEL, FREDRICK                     | 1918 | HINES, WILLIAM                     |      |                              |
| 1888 | LEONARD, PATRICK R.                  | 1918 | HOFFMAN, FRANK                     |      |                              |
| 1888 | ROONEY, PATRICK                      |      |                                    |      |                              |
| 1888 | SCHRIER, CHRISTIAN                   |      |                                    |      |                              |
| 1888 | WICKETT, JOHN                        |      |                                    |      |                              |
| 1889 | CALLICOTT, RICHARD H.                |      |                                    |      |                              |
| 1889 | KING, BENJAMIN                       |      |                                    |      |                              |
| 1890 | BEIRINGER, JOSEPH                    |      |                                    |      |                              |
| 1890 | SCHIMMELFENIG, JOHN ADAM             |      |                                    |      |                              |
| 1891 | CLARK, CHARLES                       |      |                                    |      |                              |
| 1891 | FEHRER, JOSEPH                       |      |                                    |      |                              |
| 1891 | FISCHE, ALOIS                        |      |                                    |      |                              |
| 1891 | GLODT, JOSEPH                        |      |                                    |      |                              |
| 1891 | GORDON, ALEXANDER                    |      |                                    |      |                              |
| 1891 | HALL, HENRY                          |      |                                    |      |                              |
| 1891 | SITENHIMER, CARL                     |      |                                    |      |                              |
| 1892 | DIETRICH, AUGUST CHARLES             |      |                                    |      |                              |
| 1892 | FEHRER, FRANK                        |      |                                    |      |                              |
| 1892 | HOHRMANN, PETER                      |      |                                    |      |                              |
| 1892 | HUGHES, WILLIAM R.                   |      |                                    |      |                              |
| 1892 | MATLAGE, BARNEY                      |      |                                    |      |                              |
| 1892 | REDBERG, ANDERS                      |      |                                    |      |                              |
| 1892 | STOCKBAUER, SIMON                    |      |                                    |      |                              |
| 1893 | BOWDLER, THOMAS                      |      |                                    |      |                              |
| 1893 | HEYDORN, AUGUST                      |      |                                    |      |                              |
| 1893 | LINSLEY, ROBERT                      |      |                                    |      |                              |

Susan Graeser shares October 1945 photo from Johnson Family of log cabin located in Linn Township, Section 36, Southeast Quarter west, South of railroad track and creek. Aaron's log cabin, Lockridges.





Rebecca and Jesse Liston, early members of the first Methodist Meetings in Indianola. Jesse's photo is damaged at chin and neck area.



### THREE RIVERS MISSION 1849

The First Methodist Church of Indianola was created from "mission" and eight Iowa pioneers in the midst of a primitive wild prairie area known as Three Rivers Mission. This mission included Warren, Madison, the south part of Polk and most of Marion counties.

There was no church, parsonage, schoolhouse nor house when Indianola was named county seat in August 1849 nor when it was platted in November. There was no house until 1850.

Rev. George Teas, circuit rider in the Three Rivers Mission, found 60 people who had been organized into societies (mini Sunday schools) a year or 2 before he arrived by James Q. Hammond and G.B. Hewitt.

One class was at Widow Loudon's in Hartford, another at James Flemming's near Avon Lake, one at James Laverty's home near Summerset, one at Lynn Grove near Prole and two others at the homes of Smith and Phipps families east of Indianola near Marion County.

During the first year, Teas established classes at Clanton Creek near Wick, at Winterset, at Alcocks on Chariton Creek Lucas County, at Liston's 1/2 mile west of Indianola, at Palmyra, at Dudley (washed away in Des Moines River flood and town moved to Carlisle) and at Woodside's south of Sandyville.

By the year's end he had 145 members. During the spring, he built a parsonage at Hartford.

The First Church "sanctuary" in the Three Rivers Mission was a log house southeast of the present Indianola Square. It was moved by Sam Johnson and used as a cooper shop during weekdays. In 1850 at a two day meeting Teas delivered the first sermon ever given by a Methodist minister in Indianola. The first class members meeting at Liston's home were Jesse and Rebecca Liston, Zeb and Mary Hackett, Ancil and Lucinda Barker, John and Margaret Adamson.



**First Methodist**

Parsonage was located on southside of Ashland right next to church.

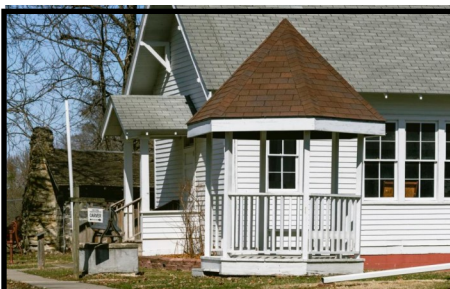


Photo by Indianola photographer, Mark Davitt for Indianola Independent Advocate

### VISIT WCHS MUSEUM & MT. HOPE SCHOOL Noon-4:00 Sunday June 5, 12, 19, and 26th

General Joseph Warren Questers invite you to visit Mt. Hope, one-room school house each Sunday in June. A miniature one-room schoolhouse created by Kim O'Brian of Clive will be on exhibit. The WCHS Museum will also be open and the lower level has many wonderful miniature houses on display. Pack a picnic lunch, put the family in the car and drive out to WCHS on a lovely June Sunday afternoon.







“Spaulding “ Bridge during May 1896 high water. This covered bridge crossed South River on the road that goes to Lake Ahquabi near the present Indianola Water Works lagoon. The lagoon was a remnant of the old river channel that flowed through a corner of Wilson Spaulding’s 80 acres (See 1887 Atlas of Warren County).

### **Question Repair Responsibility for Clanton Creek Bridge, Indianola Record, Dec. 27, 1922**

The old covered bridge on Clanton Creek near the Madison County line, which is the last covered bridge in Warren County, and has been more or less condemned by various boards and engineers, bids fair to be compelled to do service for at least a little while longer until the deadlock between the boards of supervisors of Warren and Madison counties can be broken.

Warren claims that Madison should put in a new bridge over the new channel of Clanton to take the place of the old bridge. Madison supervisors hold that they are not going to build bridges in Warren County, and of course, right off the bat, their claim would look reasonable, but the Warren County Supervisors have a side to the story that goes back a good ways.

According to the claim of Warren County there was an agreement between the two counties many, many years ago to the effect that Madison County should maintain the roads and bridges on the south half of the county line while Warren should assume the same responsibility on the north half. This gives Warren County the responsibility for the MIDDLE River bridges at Bevington and the bridges over the branches of North River. Madison County was in turn responsible for a bridge over Clanton Creek and over the upper end of South River west of New Virginia.

When the agreement was made it seems that a road exactly on the county line at the point where Clanton Creek crosses it, would have crossed the creek three times, owing to the windings of the channel. In addition the road would have been in low ground and subject to overflow at every heavy dew. In order to obviate the drawbacks of the line road Madison County agreed that if the road could be located a quarter of a mile within Warren County she would maintain it and keep up the bridge the same as if it were on the line.

The Warren County Supervisors hold that this agreement has been respected all the time until the completion of the new drainage ditch, entailing the construction of either a bridge over the new channel or a bridge at the intersection of the new and old channels, when Madison County threw up the sponge, abandoned the road and opened another road a quarter of a mile within Madison County, on which there is no bridge. The Warren County Supervisors proposed that Madison County should at least bear half the expense of a temporary bridge over the new channel so that the road could be used until such time as a permanent bridge could be erected on the new Madison County road, but help on this was even refused. It is said the county attorney at Winterset held that Madison County could not spend any money on a bridge in Warren County; and of course that does not look like an unreasonable ground. But the children on the north side of the creek had to get to St. Charles to school and Madison County had no road over which they could get there, according to the Warren County Supervisors, so Warren County had to put in the temporary bridge

And that is the way matters stand at present as the supervisors see it. The temporary bridge serves the purpose at present but what will happen when the channel banks widen and a new bridge becomes a necessity remains to be seen. Warren County might retaliate by refusing to maintain the Bevington bridge over which much of Madison County reaches Des Moines but government by retaliation is nearer anarchy than government; and the Warren County Supervisors are hoping some amicable arrangement can be made..

Does anyone have a photo of the Warren County covered bridge over Clanton Creek to share?

## A DIRGE IN DEPRESSION TIMES

By Mary Jane Pray

(This was published in the “Martensdale Tales” in April 1988)

Sad, solemn melodies fall under the general title of a “dirge.” But even though our little town was experiencing a Depression, in the worst sense, from 1930 until a few years later, one clear song could be heard in one little white house, and it was a squawky, funny tune, with funny off-color words at times. The song came from “Pretty Polly,” the parrot which belonged to our local banker during the Depression days.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley had moved to our thriving (at one time) town from Missouri, where Mr. Stanley formerly had worked in a bank. They had no children that I ever recall meeting, but time slips away from us all and dims some things, and other little insignificant shadows loom large and clear. And I loved to see and hear Mrs. Stanley’s Pretty Polly ... the only one in town, and Mrs. Stanley was so kind and friendly that all we town children loved to visit her and play in her yard. We were allowed to take crackers (and other things, I’m sure) for Polly to eat from our hands, and her brightly colored feathers looked so pretty.

One time I made an observation to my mother about these colors being a little like the hair color of one of my primary teachers. And I got a stern lecture, with some old-fashioned Kentucky “cross words,” about how teachers were to be respected and that had better be the last time I ever said that! (But I could still think about it!)

When times were really tough, as they say, we never went hungry. Our good farm neighbors, who were unable to pay their telephone bills, brought in their foods from their gardens, cold-packed meat, lard and other stick-to-your-ribs food and were given credit on their bill. My mother owned and operated the Farmer’s Telephone Exchange in our home across from the schoolhouse for many years. She and “Ma Bell” were partners for more than 30 years. And I learned many things about running a switchboard before I could read! So we knew things were not what they should be long before the Martensdale bank closed on that sad September day in our town. Mrs. Stanley seemed more quiet and sad when we children went to visit and even Polly was subdued, it seemed. I received a long-distance call (personal) for Mr. J.S. Stanley one fateful morning and there was no answer at the bank when I rang his number. This was rather strange because our banker was a prompt, reliable person whom I admired (and we thought him to be a very distinguished-looking gentleman).

So I called the local hardware store and since my mother had gone there to buy something, I asked to speak to her. I asked her to step next door and see why Mr. Stanley didn’t answer the phone. But mother, who was a wise and wonderful woman, must have instinctively sensed something and she and some others went inside the bank that miserable morning. There in the back room lay Mr. Stanley in a pool of blood. He had held on as long as he could and did everything, I’m sure, that was possible to save our bank from closing. But I was not really old enough to comprehend everything, only that I worried so about Mrs. Stanley and Polly.

After that dreadful event, I realized how fortunate I was that my aunts and grandmother could sew so beautifully I wore my city cousin’s made-over dresses, and “hand-me-downs” became a way of life for a while. The only bad part was that I had the long narrow shoe size that no one in my family could help out with, so used a lot of polish and who need shoes in the summer anyway!

But none of us ever dreamed of complaining, and “welfare,” I think, was an unknown word. We raised the almost-biggest garden in town, and on our back lot my mom could wring a chicken’s head off quicker than scat! (I never had that job, thank the good Lord). But I could operate the switchboard, which I did. So if you have your own eggs, hens and vegetables and can put in long, hot hours pulling weeds, we decided things aren’t half so bad. We were all in the same boat, so to speak, and I’m sure we were all better off for this experience in many ways. Neighbors helped neighbors, and I just cannot comprehend all that I read now, about all that must lie ahead, if things aren’t “turned around” so, they say! Why is this happening in an agricultural state?

I just hope the “smart” people in Washington, D.C. know what they are doing! But I hear something very close to sounding sad: those solemn sounds, like I heard on that day that dear Mr. Stanley became a victim of that long-ago Depression.

*(Martensdale was platted in 1913 and the first bank was built in 1915. The bank building that served as the city hall was opened in 1925)*

