

Rush County Genealogical Society

VOLUME XII, ISSUE III

SEPTEMBER, 2019

2019 RCGS Programs

Our Officers:

• *President:*

Carol Jones

• *Vice-President:*

Bill Baetz

• *Secretary:*

Katrina Cole-Cooper

• *Treasurer:*

Marilyn Yager

Remember we meet on the Second Saturday of the Month at the

Rushville Public Library Basement Meeting Room

November 9, 2019, 10:00 a.m.—Presentation about Restoration Work on the Ball & David Cemeteries by Joel David

* Election of Officers

* Membership Fees are Due

December—No Meeting

On September 21, 2019 from 2-4:00 p.m., the Rush County Genealogical Society sponsored a Cemetery Scavenger Hut at the East Hill Cemetery as part of the Willkie Days activities. We had several who participated though we had an unusually hot day for the event. We gave entrants a list of 21 questions and they had to find answers found on tombstones. Thank you to all who helped with this event. We gave three cash prizes and had a good turnout for our first time.

I would like to share some of the research for Rush County citizens buried in this cemetery along with Wendell Willkie!

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ATTENTION!!

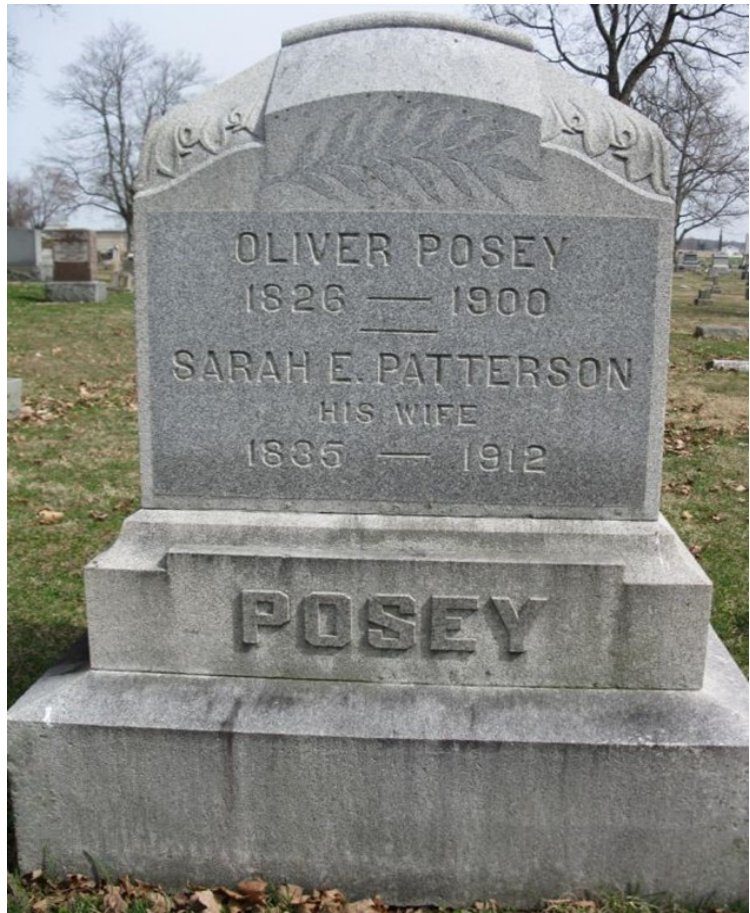
We thank you all for your interest in Rush County ancestors and for being faithful in paying your dues each year. It is time to re-new our memberships. Attached please find a membership form for your use.

Do you have any suggestions for programs topics for our 2020 meetings? Feel free to contact one of our officers or send your suggestion to us at rcgsociety@gmail.com.

East Hill Cemetery

Oliver Posey
1826—1900

Sarah E. Patterson
1835—1912



Oliver Posey was born on September 19, 1826 in Richland Township, the son of Colonel Alfred Posey and wife. His father moved to a farm a mile and a half south of Rushville in 1828 and then later to Rushville where he spent the rest of his life. Oliver began his business career as a clerk in the dry goods store of Posey & Finn. He later took a similar position in Cincinnati with Carney, Swift & Co. and became a partner. In 1858 he engaged in the wholesale grocery business in Leavenworth, Kansas. In 1862 he was associated with a wholesale boot shoe business of Robbins & Posey at Cincinnati which was very successful. He sold out in 1870 to accept the presidency of the Rush County National Bank which he filled until 1884 when he retired. After that time, he gave his attention to farming and stock raising. For many years he bred race horses, selling one named Russia for \$15,000, the highest price ever paid for a Rush County horse.

On October 26, 1857 he married Sarah Patterson who was born on April 11, 1835 at Tiffin, Ohio. She was the daughter of Colonel and Mrs. J. W. Patterson of Brooklyn, NY. Oliver and Sarah had three children: William A. of Montana at the time of his father's death, Anna (Mrs. Albert) Albert Denning of Rushville and Alexander W. Posey, of Indianapolis. Oliver died at his home at 612 North Main Street of kidney disease which he had suffered for some time. Sarah died in her sleep after a being ill for several month at their home on November 28, 1912.

George Hibben

Born: 12-16-1818, Hillsboro, Highland County, OH

Died: 3-11-1891, Chicago, IL

Section 2 - Ancestor of Member George Hibben

East Hill Cemetery



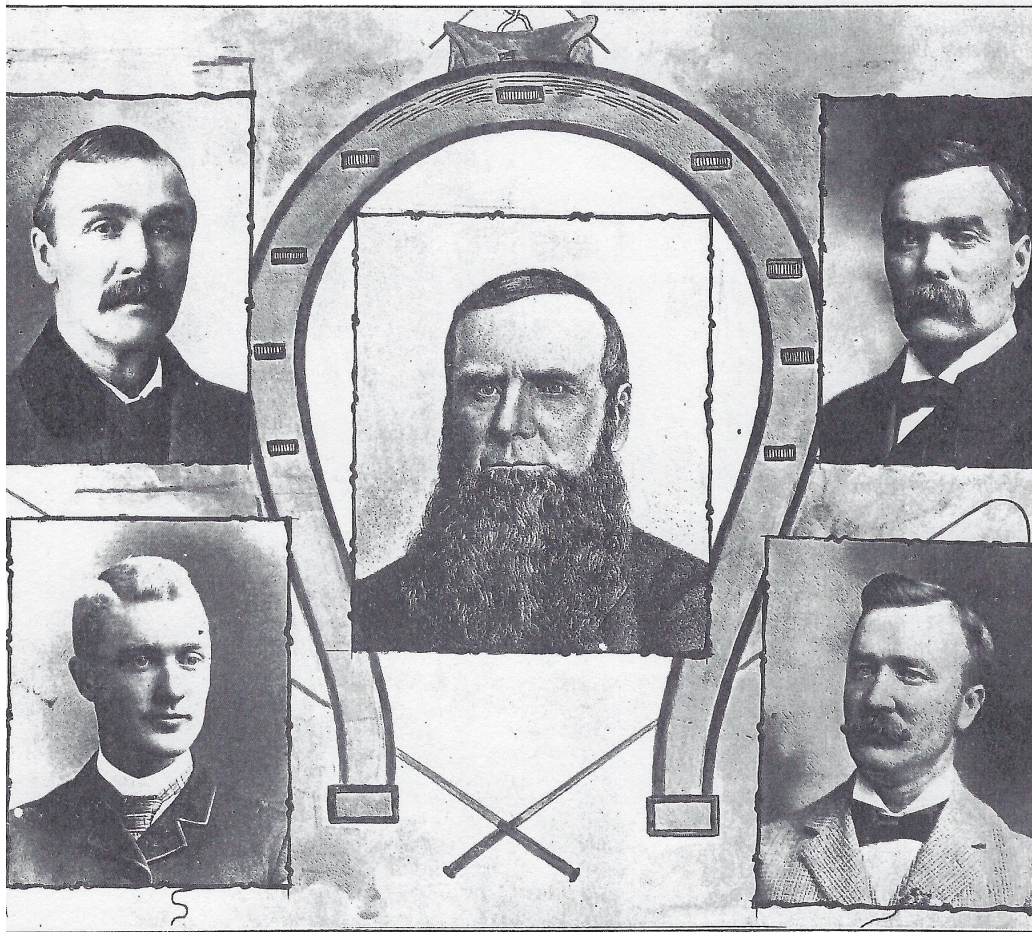
George Hibben 1818 - 1891
photo ca. 1860



George Hibben was born at Hillsboro, Ohio. He was of the old Pennsylvania Presbyterian stock and inherited a strong will along with energy and persistent effort – essential qualities in the pioneer merchant. He came to Rushville when he was just 19 years old and started the business of T. & G. Hibben, a mercantile store. This was in hard financial times of 1837. With much determination and good aptitude for business, he accumulated a comfortable fortune. He ran for County Clerk in 1855 and won. About January, 1857, he was elected President of the Rushville Branch of the State Bank of Indiana. Later in life, he moved to Chicago, but made it a point to attend the county fair each year.

George was married three times. His first wife was a Miss Linton also from Hillsboro. They had one child who died and she passed away shortly after. His second wife was Miss Jane Fielding, oldest daughter of Dr. William Fielding of Sydney, Ohio. They had four sons and a daughter all who survived him except his eldest son, Thomas. Jane had a very social disposition and everybody's friend. She was an asset in the merchant business. His last wife was Helen Heron from Fayette County. She was a beautiful woman and there were 3 sons born of this union.

East Hill Cemetery



John M. "Samp" Wilson
J. Hooker Wilson

James Wilson

Richmond J. Wilson
Dick Wilson

Richmond J. (Rich) Wilson was a pioneer horseman and second son of James Wilson who made Rush County famous for horse racing. As early as 1850, his father James was recognized as the leading Hoosier horseman. The Wilson family stood among the most successful breeders of horses. All four of James Wilson's sons sat on a sulky at one time in their life. When Jim Wilson saw Blue Bull, he said "he is the greatest horse of all" even though the horse did not have lineage and was unknown until discovered by the fast horse wizard.

Rich Wilson was born on the Wilson homestead southwest of Rushville on June 2, 1852 and married Miss Kate Pugh, the daughter of Dr. W. A. Pugh on March 25, 1879. They had two daughters, Ruella (Mrs. A. G. Haydon) and Lucia (Mrs. Carl F. Beher).

Rich had many fast horses to his credit. He was known as a great developer of speed and many times took unknown horses while young and sold them at a good price. He drove many winning horses and later bred, developed and sold a great many highly priced horses.

East Hill Cemetery

Mr. Wilson farmed at the same time, but his real love was horses. He had a nice half-mile track on his farm. Arrowhead was a yearling he bought at the highest price ever and this horse proved his judgement was good when it was developed into a great horse.

Rich passed away April 1, 1916 and his wife Kate had died just 12 weeks prior.



Joseph S. and Mary G. Winship

Joseph S. Winship was born in Boone County, Indiana on June 22, 1845, the son of Jabez and Jane Winship. On December 28, 1870 he married Mary Gertrude Hunt and shortly after their marriage, they came to Rush County and settled on a farm that was a mile and three quarters north of Richland. He was hard working, frugal and self-reliant and was a successful farmer. Though he was not a member of any certain church, he shared with those in need.

Joseph died January 11, 1918 of Lobar Pneumonia which caused him to be ill for several weeks prior. His wife died June 18, 1924 at the family home. She had suffered a stroke of paralysis a year before.

**RUSH COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

P. O. Box 54
Rushville, IN 46173
rcgsociety@gmail.com

www.rushcogs.com

Our Mission:

*To bring together those interested in the
history and genealogy
of Rush County*



East Hill Cemetery has its beginning in 1859 when a group of citizens feeling the need for a new burial spot met at the court house and named a committee of five to select a suitable location for the purpose. This committee consisted of Jefferson Helm, Sr., Daniel Wilson, George Hibben, C. E. Donaldson and Joseph Winship. This group later added Joel Wolfe. J. A. Hackleman, Leonidas Sexton and John Carmichael were appointed as a committee on organization.

Articles of association were adopted and were signed by forty-nine men and on July 12, 1859 an election was held naming five trustees to administer the affairs of the cemetery: George Hibben, Jefferson Helm, Sr., Joel Wolfe, C.S. Donaldson and Daniel Wilson.

On the 15th of July 1859, the board of trustees delegated to Dr. Helm, George Hibben and Daniel Wilson, authority to buy a certain tract of land for a cemetery: and on the 18th of the same month they reported the purchase from Mary G. Anderson and Joseph Anderson, 18 acres of land for \$1,300. This land, located on the Glenwood Road, now Highway 3, just east of the city, formed the first part of East Hill cemetery. Several additional sections of land were purchased as the needs arose through the years.

*****Source: Rushville Republican, Rushville, Indiana, Tuesday, October 22, 1940, page 2, columns 1-2.