

Rush County Genealogical Society

VOLUME IX, ISSUE I

MARCH 2016

Future Plans for RCGS

Our Officers:

- *President:*
Carol Jones
- *Vice-President:*
Bill Baetz
- *Secretary:*
Katrina Cole-Cooper
- *Treasurer:*
Shirley Biehl
- *Historian:*
Kevin Harr

At the March 12, 2016 Meeting the following plans were made for 2016 meetings.

Saturday, April 9, 2016: Working meeting at the Rushville Library, 130 W. 3rd Street - meet at 11:00 a.m. downstairs to your right. Bring your own brick wall(s) and we will work together to solve them. Feel free to bring laptops, tablets or old fashioned paper and we will brainstorm and share how best to find the information you are looking for.

Tuesday May 14, 2016 : We will be hosting a Meet and Greet/Genealogy Class at the Rushville Library at 6:00 p.m. Katrina Cooper will make a presentation on how to begin finding your ancestors. Please come and share your experience with beginner genealogists and you may bring any of your Family Documentation you would like to share.

Saturday, June 10, 2016: Presentation or Program—to be determined.

No Meeting in July; however, the Midwestern Roots Conference will be held in Indianapolis at the Marriott East July 15 and 16. 2016. (Preconference Activities Thursday, July 14th.) Early Registration ends June 30, 2016—\$169. This does not include the Friday Evening Banquet and Presentation (\$50). Hotel reservations would be extra as well—must be made by June 13, 2016. Midwestern Roots 2016 features more than 30 sessions by nationally known speakers including Cece Moore, The Genetic Genealogist, from *Finding Your Roots with Henry Louis Gates, Jr.* and *Genealogy Roadshow*. Many members will be attending this conference. Come join us!! For further information: indianahistory.org/midwesternroots

Friday and Saturday, August 12-13, 2016: Field Trip - Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center in Fort Wayne or Kentucky Gateway Museum Center (concentrates on Mason. Bracken, Fleming, Lewis and Robertson counties of KY and Adams and Brown counties of KY) in Maysville, KY to do Genealogy Research.

September 10, 2016: Walking Tour of Rushville looking at old homes and discussion of the family who lived there. Kevin Harr to organize.

October 8, 2016: Workday on our Family Trees at Rushville Library—bring any Brick Wall and we will see if we can break down your brick wall!

November 12, 2016: Presentation on Cemeteries by DNR's Jeannie Regan-Dinius.

December, 2016: No Meeting

Inside this issue:

<i>Future Activities</i>	1
<i>Cemetery Workshop</i>	1
<i>Brick Walls</i>	2-5
<i>Changes</i>	5
<i>Surnames</i>	6

Another event sponsored by Indiana Historical Society you might be interested in.

Friday, May 20, 2016 or Saturday, May 21st Indiana Historical Society is hosting a Basic Cemetery Workshop at the Mount Jackson Cemetery, Indianapolis with John "Walt" Walters and Vincent T. Hernly will be instructors. Cost \$3; \$25 HIS Members, \$22.50 Local History Partners. (includes lunch) - Register by May 13. Learn how to identify the different type of stone used to make gravestones, and the proper techniques for cleaning, straightening, and resetting stones.

Brick Walls

During our last meeting, it was decided that we will bring “Brick Walls” that we need assistance with in our genealogy research. Donna Tauber has kindly submitted the following for her family. If you have any suggestions or input, please send an email to rcgsociety@gmail.com, Attn: Donna Tauber. Let’s see if we can tear down some of these Brick Walls!

My Brick Wall - by Donna Tauber

The first record of Nimrod Adams in Rowan County, North Carolina was in 1809 when he appeared on a tax list and lived in the area of Samuel Bryan's Mill Creek near other Adams's by the names of Abraham, Isaac, Daniel, Jacob and Elijah. Nimrod was born about 1774 and died May 21, 1824. In 1793 he was married to Nancy Etchison, daughter of William and Judy Etchison. The 1810 Federal Census of Rowan County showed 6 children while the 1820 Federal Census listed 8 children in Nimrod's family. One Adams descendant indicated that Nimrod Adams was a trader who travelled to many points west of North Carolina. Nimrod's absence in the 1800 Federal Census, and the lack of land ownership, may verify this family story. The only other actual document of Nimrod that I have to date, announced his death in the Western Carolinian, Salisbury, North Carolina on June 8th, 1824 by General William H. Winder, a distinguished member of the bar and of the Senate of Maryland. Question - what was their connection?

Nancy and Nimrod had purchased a land grant about one mile north of Arlington, Rush County on April 24, 1820. After his death, Nancy and some of her children came to Indiana in 1826, where they became early land owners in Rush County. They traveled by ox team through the Cumberland Gap. One of Nancy's children supposedly dropped from the caravan somewhere in Kentucky, and perhaps one in Harrison County, Indiana, our first State Capital until 1825. Sons John Adams bought Rush County land in 1831; Jesse Adams in 1833; and Nancy bought more Rush County land in 1834. Nancy Adams was in the 1840 Federal Census of Rush County, Indiana and was between the ages of 60 and 70. The name of Nancy J. Etchison and her husband Nimrod Adams were located on the death certificate of their son Jesse Adams, who died July 31, 1890 in Rush County, Indiana. I have been unable to locate anything on Nancy's death, but it is believed she died about 1845, and is probably buried on their land which is now known as Stanley Cemetery. Nancy sold the land patent in 1839 to Preston Stanley, and at one time there was a small village located there. From the 1888 Brant & Fuller History Of Rush County Indiana this is the description of the Arlington area – “A primitive school building stood on the Samuel Gordon land, immediately south of the residence of Trustee John M. Conaway. John Sohn now owns the land. One of the early teachers was Elder Gabriel McDuffy, well known throughout the County, as a pioneer preacher of the Christian Church. He taught here about 1833. Another teacher was John Wesley Whiteside (1835), who had taught also in Ripley. Whiteside was very strict in discipline. A similar house stood on the Brookville road, west of Arlington, on the Gordon land, now belonging to Harlan Lee. William Mears was the first teacher, about 1835; George Ewing, in 1838; Reuben Jones, 1840-41, Miss Eliza Gallaher and several others. These were the first, however. Aquila Collins taught a school just west of William Collins, on the farm of Jacob Beckner, father of Jacob, of Arlington; this was in the thirties. Another teacher of this school was Newton, son of Gabriel McDuffy (the pioneer preacher). William Brunt taught in 1835, near where Eli Collins now resides. The house stood on the farm of William Collins. John Brunt taught here as early as 1827. This is one of the first schools in Posey Township. Jesse Kellum taught at this place, and there are some mature men in and about Arlington who have a very distinct recollection of this man. An old teacher familiarly called Jimmy Morgan was a teacher of this neighborhood. In the northwestern part of the township, near Riverside



Argolda Adams Kiplinger

1883-1969

Brick Walls (Continued)

Meeting house, on the land of Josiah Small, was a log schoolhouse; the land now belongs to John B. Bentley. Among the teachers here, we find Madison Elah, of Palestine, Ambrose Cain, and Caleb Scott. John Brunt taught at what was known as the Center Church (Methodist Episcopal). Here was a camp meeting ground, and the house was used as a schoolhouse. It stood on what is now the Stanley Land. North of Arlington the old burying ground is all that is left to mark the spot, this school was more than fifty years ago, and was the scene of some mighty contests in spelling. Near Beaver Meadow south of the road and just east John Campbell taught in 1837-38. Drury Holt, another pioneer preacher in the Christian Church, taught in a small schoolhouse on his farm in Ripley Township, now Posey, in 1838. He taught several other schools in this neighborhood. Miss Elsie Swain taught in a cabin on the Jonathan Ball farm, now belonging to Mrs. Carrie Ball. She began in 1835, and taught several schools here. She afterward married Henry Leisure. Augustus Porter taught just west of Hannegan Church, in a round log house in 1840. Samuel Buchanan and Mrs. Elsie Leisure, nee Swain, also taught here, and Isaac Osborn. William Fitzpatrick came to this schoolhouse one day with blood in his eye, and because his (Fitzpatrick's) brother had been punished at school, proceeded to chastise the teacher most unmercifully. He used a rod of the regulation order. It is said that the pupils were so badly frightened that they disappeared through the paper windows. Cyrus Ball was one of the pupils. Richard M. Clark, brother of John W. and George C. Clark, began a school in 1836, in a cabin on the land of John Guard, and died before the term expired. Jesse Shelton now owns the land. John Wood taught in a cabin which stood close to where John W. Clark resides, in 1837. Afterward the log house was built south about forty rods, and among the early teachers were: Jethro Folger, Eliza W. Clark, Lot Wright, Reuben Macy and John W. Clark, two terms. The three frame school houses in Posey, known as No's one, two and three, originally belonged to Ripley Township, the south line of Ripley being formerly two miles further south than now; these three houses were built by Henry Henley, Trustee of Ripley. Drury Holt taught in a very early time in a cabin in the center of Section 8, Range 9, near the southeast corner of Cyrus Ball's farm, this was in the twenties. Henry Glendenning was one of his pupils, also the Moore brothers. Levi Burt taught school in Arlington in 1835, in a house which stood on the north side of the street, west of the branch. Willis Storms now owns the lot, and part of his residence is this old schoolhouse. This was the first school in Arlington. William Westlich, a Methodist preacher, taught a school in 1836, in the log meeting house, which stood on the corner of the grave yard, opposite Mazur's store. This old building has long since been demolished. James Kennedy taught in a cabin, which stood on the northwest corner of what is now the public school yards, as early as 1837-38. The Noble Junkin schoolhouse stood at the graveyard near where Gus Williams now resides. James Morgan, John Walker and Alfred Plew taught here in the forties. Eliza W. Clark taught in this house and boarded at Jesse Morgan's. She was a sister of George C. Clark, of Rushville. A fine four-room brick school building is now one of Arlington's attractive buildings. It was built in 1884, by Trustee John F. Price. Eli Collins is now serving the second year as principal; he is assisted by Miss's Minnie Lowden and Della Johnston. Other teachers in the township in the last few years are: W. A. Hall, Frank English, Samuel L. Innis, James and Thomas Alender, Anderson Gardner, Frank Young, Sisson, H. C. Pitts, D. O. Lowden, Frank Downey, Kate Glass, Hattie Downey, John Glass, Mattie Eaton, Rhoda Gary, Gussie Iles, Morton Clark, Laura Clark, now Mrs. Morris, M. D. Michael, Lot Hufford and wife, J. P. Kuntz, Lulu Robinson and others. Trustee J. M. Conaway has this year erected a fine brick schoolhouse, and consolidated two districts, two and five. This house stands about two miles north of Arlington." (ironically, Cyrus and Jonathan Ball are other family member but they are a different story!)

A number of the Adam's that were originally buried in Stanley Cemetery were later moved to Arlington East Hill, but my great great grandfather Stephen Adams (1807-1874) remains there. Nancy's sons John and Sylvester relocated from the Moscow, Indiana area about 1840 to settle the area which is known as Moscow, Union County, Illinois. A cousin, Evangeline Augustus Adams, (1904-2009) was the granddaughter of John and Lavina Kenyon Adams, and the daughter of Lemual Kenion Adams. She passed away at the age of 106 (and eight days!) in Illinois, and for most of her life was sharp as a tack and a wealth of information. I am blessed to have many of her stories, as she loved to speak of her life, and this is one story that involved Rush County about 1875-

Brick Walls (Continued)

"I don't know too much about the early years of my father, except that he was reared in a Christian home. No doubt as other boys, he roamed over the hills and hollows and drank from the spring, which was located at the foot of the hill, a short distance from the large two story log house, which was their home. He attended school for a few short years - for in those days attending school wasn't compulsory. However, he learned the three R's along with an intense study of the bible. I remember as a child how he would quote passages of the bible, which undoubtedly he had learned in school. My Grandmother, a devout Christian, kept her children in church. My father's father died when he was four years old, so he didn't remember too much about him other than he was a hard worker and provided well for his family. He would farm the 640 acres he owned through the summer months and run his sawmill, which was located near the spring, through the winter months.

My father's mother died when he was fourteen years of age. I don't really know who he lived with until his marriage. Right after his mother's death he, like a lot of youths, got in with the wrong people and went astray for a short time. However, until the trouble could subside he and his brother, Sylvester, decided to make a trip back to Indiana to visit relatives whom they had never seen but had heard their parents speak of often.

They made the trip to Indiana by horseback, crossing the river at Cairo, Illinois. It being in the winter, and a very severe one, the Ohio River was frozen over. They put their horses on the ferryboat. He said you could see the tracks of the ferryboat as the bottom of the ferry had begun to wear down into the ice. Resuming their journey they finally came to their parents' home settlement. As they approached the first homestead they heard an elderly woman singing a song which was familiar to them, as they had heard their mother sing it many times as she went about her household chores. The song was "Tis the Old Ship of Zion". I have heard my father sing the song many times. The lady had seen them coming and knew it was "Lavina's boys". They continued to stay in the community through the spring and summer. Uncle Sylvester stayed with one of his uncles and his family and father hired out to a neighbor named Hayes. They helped with the planting of the crops.

In that community, as in all communities in that day, the ground was broken with two horses, hitched to a turning plough, as it was called, then harrowed until all the clods were broken and the seed bed was ready for planting. Corn was the main crop - Indiana being in the corn belt of the United States. One horse was hitched to a plow to lay off the rows and the seed was dropped by hand and then covered with the laying off plow. The people had been used to stretching a string in order to keep the rows straight. When my father told his employer he could lay off a straight row without the string it was hard for him to believe. But reluctantly he told him to try one row. Which he did. When the row was completed Mr. Hayes was so pleased he told him just to throw the string away.

Uncle Sylvester and my father continued to work on the farm until the crops were harvested. They then decided to return to their home in Moscow. They had sold their horses so they took the train home. This led through a northerly route. They came through one town in northern Illinois and when the conductor called out the name Galena, my father was so attracted to the name that when he married and their first child, a daughter, was born they named her Oma Galena." (Eva's oldest sister)

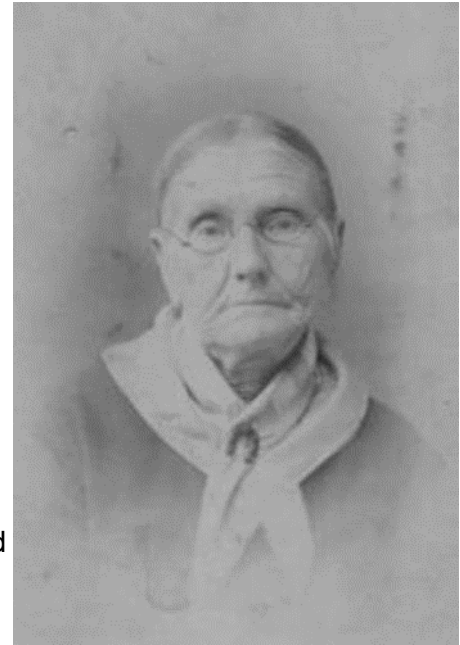
I believe the family she is referring to this visit is that of my great great grandfather Stephen Adams and his wife Lydia (Allender) Adams, my great great grandmother north of Arlington. Also my great great Aunt Emma Amanda Adams (their granddaughter) married her neighbor Oscar E. Hayes in 1891. My Rush County roots go deep, as my Adams line married into the families of Allender, Six, Beckner and Kiplinger. So who was Nimrod's father? One descendant believed that Daniel Adams was the father of Nimrod. One Daniel Adams died in 1803 in Rowan County, and the only children mentioned in his estate papers were George Adams and Francis Adams Welch. Nimrod could be descended from Benjamin, John, or other North Carolina Adams's. Almost certainly he is of the group that settled on Byan's Mill Creek. Benjamin Adams reportedly moved to Floyd, now Letcher County, Kentucky in 1803. It was said that Benjamin had several sons. Rowan County deeds showed that Daniel, Isaac, and Benjamin Adams, each owned land in Bryan's

Brick Walls (Continued)

sons. Rowan County deeds showed that Daniel, Isaac, and Benjamin Adams, each owned land in Bryan's Mill Creek area in 1801. Descendants of Nimrod and Nancy in Indiana saved family letters written in the 1830s which identified some of the children and established locations and movements of the family for a few years.

There is also a Moses Adams, who may have been connected to Nimrod. He was born about 1760 also in North Carolina and died about 1828 in Eagle Creek, Scott County, Kentucky. Several of his children came to the Rush County area about the same time Nancy did, including children Lewis, Malinda and Isaac. Isaac is buried in East Hill Cemetery, Arlington, Rush County, next to my Adams line including Jesse and Nimrod Jr. and families. It seems unlikely that a widow would travel here during that time just with her children. I find no Etchison's early arrival in Rush County, and it is very probable she came with some of her husband's family to Rush County.

Who was Nimrod has been researched by numerous descendants and have yet to come up with a concrete answer. Maybe one day the missing clue will reveal itself!



Lydia Allender Adams
(1810-1894)

Changes Worth Noting

It is with deep regret that we have received the resignation of Susan Huston who has done a wonderful job of producing the RCGS Newsletter for many years. Our deepest gratitude goes to Susan for her long hours of work as a one person staff. We have all really enjoyed your wonderful articles. Hoping you will all be patient with us as she is going to be a hard act to follow.

Rush County Genealogical Society has a new website address: <http://www.rcgsociety.org>. Thanks goes to Bill Baetz who works long and hard as our webmaster.

Other Events sponsored by Indiana Historical Society

April 20, 2016, The History Center, Fort Wayne: Cost: \$20; \$15 HIS members; \$10 Local History Partners (lunch on your own). Register by April 13th. This workshop offers an introduction to principles of fundraising. Will discuss how the development process can be applied to local history organizations and cover commonly used fundraising terms. Particular attention will be paid to the importance of developing your organization's needs statement as a basis for your fundraising plan.

May 10, 2016: Pendleton Town Hall (Council Chambers), Pendleton: Cost: \$20; \$15 HIS members; \$10 Local History Partners.

In the morning, this workshop will provide an overview of several sources of giving with a focus on individual and foundation contributions. In the afternoon, will take a closer look at the components of an annual fund program and discuss strategies for stewarding current members and donors while also attracting new supporters.

**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*

Many have asked to know what family lines other members are researching. Below you will find a listing of family lines that our members have shared with is that they are researching. If you would like to connect with someone who is researching the same line as you are, please feel free to send an e-mail to rcgsociety@gmail.com and we will pass your contact information on to others who are also researching the same line.

Arnold	Ellison	Layton	Sharpe
Baird	Emsweller	Leisure	Shaw
Baker	Fielding	Lowery	Simmons
Barber	Flinn	Machlan	Smisor
Barber	Florea/Flora	Mathews/Matthews	Smith
Bennett	Floyd	Matney	Spurgeon
Berry	Gardner	Mauzy	Stafford
Bever	Garner	McBride	Stewart
Binford	Geise	McClure	Stinger
Booth	Goldsberry	McCroy	Tevis
Brooks	Gordon	McDaniel	Traylor
Brown	Gray	McNeal/McNeil	Trees
Burberry	Green	Miller	Updegraff
Caldwell	Hackelman	Mull	Webb
Callahan	Hall	Naylor	Webster
Campbell	Hatfield	Neff	Westerfield
Carpenter	Henderson	Newkirk	Wikoff
Churchill	Hibben	Nichols	Williams
Clifford	Hilkirt	Page	Woods
Cole	Hill	Pattison	
Collamer	Hillgoss	Perkins	
Cook	Hurst	Poe	
Craig	Ingle	Porter	
Creed	Jackson	Powell	
Cregar	Jessup	Power	
Crull	Jones	Pugh	
Cudworth	Kaler	Reddick	
Dalrymple	Kennedy	Reeves	
Deal	King	Rhodes	
Duke	Kiser	Robinson	
Dunn	Kuhn	Ruby	
Durham	Latta	Scott	
		Senour	