



September 2010

## WARREN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

www.warrencountyhistory.org Box 256, Indianola, IA 50125 (515)961-8085

### \$2,500 IOWA GRANT

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#### SHARE USED PRINTER INK CARTRIDGES

We collect empty computer printer ink cartridges at the museum. We can turn these in and get credit to purchase ink, paper, etc. We would appreciate it you would bring your empty cartridges to the museum to help us.

#### NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR LOG CABIN FESTIVAL SEPTEMBER 24 & 25!

Can you help?

Call Kerry or Rex at 961- 2100.

#### CLASS IN INTERNET GENEALOGY

WCHS hosts a basic internet genealogy class from noon to 3:00 pm Saturday, October 23. Call (515)961-8085

#### TRY TO QUILT

This year you can learn to quilt at the Log Cabin Festival Warren County Quilt Show. Stop by to try your hand at quilting.

#### 2010 LOG CABIN FESTIVAL PARADE MARSHALL IS DEL JOHNSON

Ruth Hall and Dwight McCormick applied and were awarded a \$2,500 Small Operating Support Cultural Affairs Grant (SOS) from the State of Iowa. This grant is for a new computer server that will store all our data and network it to all our computers. It is imperative that we protect our computer information as we add information and photos. This grant also has allowed us to purchase a laser printer to print our newsletters.

### BEAUTIFUL SIMPSON LOG CABIN QUILT

Nancy DeLay designed this year's lovely modified maple leaf, Simpson 150th Anniversary quilt. The blocks were pieced by Nancy, Elaine Lowe, Judy Schmitt, Elsie Weaver, Stephanie Krauth, Rhonda Sayler, Nancy Vlieger, and Twila Wilkinson.

The logo and lettering was done by Dave Keller of Keller Designs in Indianola and the machine quilting was done by Gwen Roen of Gwen's Quilt Studio here. Tickets are one chance for \$1 or 6 chances for \$5. You can get your raffle tickets at the WCHS Museum or from Historical Society members. The quilt drawing will be held September 25, Saturday afternoon at 4:00 pm. You will not want to miss a chance to win this lovely queen-size quilt.



**Nancy DeLay and Elsie Weaver constructed the Simpson Sesquicentennial quilt. It is signed and dated on the back.**

## 2010 LOG CABIN FESTIVAL KING & QUEEN

Dwight and Mary Leach McCormick have been chosen as the 2010 Warren County Historical Society Log Cabin Festival King and Queen. Dwight is our web master, technical guru, electrician and all around handy man. Mary acts as curator, photographer, handy woman, and plant caretaker. Without these two volunteers, very little innovation and change would take place at our museum.

Dwight's parents Evelyn and Thomas McCormick moved the family from Marion County to rural Indianola in 1955. Dwight graduated from Indianola High School and attended Iowa State University. He was employed for many years at Armstrong/Pirelli in Des Moines. Mary and Dwight have three children; Doug, Darren and Melissa and two grandchildren; Clint and Abby. Dwight's early fascination with computers and technology has continued. He likes to try new technology, repair computers and other equipment, design and build structures, farm and be an all around problem solver.

Mary's parents Phil and Jeanette Leach raised their family on farms in the Martensdale/St. Marys area of Warren County.

Mary graduated from Martensdale-St. Marys School District and attended Iowa State University. She is retired from a long career of delivering rural mail for the U.S. Postal Service. In June, Mary did disaster relief work in Haiti. Her hobbies are travel, reading, and gardening. Mary enjoys garage sales and resale shops. The WCHS has been a beneficiary of many of these "bargain finds".



## 2010 WARREN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY VOLUNTEERS of the YEAR

Dennis Allen and Cris Nagla have been chosen to be the second Warren County Historical Society Volunteers of the Year. Thelma Pehrson, former WCHS Librarian was the 1<sup>st</sup> to be chosen in 2008.

Cris began working with the Warren County Historical Society when she was looking for information on her family history. Cris lives in Des Moines and does our research for library patrons. She has indexed our probate records, obituaries, and library resources. She enjoys meeting new people and helping them discover answers to genealogical and historical questions. She is on the Citizen Cemetery Advisory Committee for the City of Des Moines. She continues to preserve cemetery and funeral home records for research use. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her grandson, restoring antiques, sewing and cooking. Cris collects cookbooks (700 plus at last count), old egg beaters and old books.



Dennis's roots are in Missouri, Arkansas and Illinois. He is a Des Moines Fire Fighter and is on the Citizen Cemetery Advisory Committee for the City of Des Moines. On many of his days off he comes to our museum to work with computers, provide tours, assist museum visitors, teach classes, and perform a variety of handyman tasks. He and Dwight McCormick are creating software programs that will simplify record keeping for businesses and genealogists. He loves to collect antiques such as old Sunbeam Mix Master Mixers, old books and vintage cars.

### CARLISLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH 150th BIRTHDAY

In 1860 the Carlisle Christian Church was organized. They first held services in the schoolhouse. By 1868 the original church building was erected at a cost of \$2,100 and the church roll numbered 110.

The earliest records have been lost, but Brother Bly was the pastor when the church was built, and the building committee was composed of James Deaton, Finnius Rice, Phelps Reed, Peter Kail, William Major and Fred Scovil.

Charter members were Mr. and Mrs. James Deaton, Mr. and Mrs. Phelps Reed, Mr. And Mrs. Wm. Majors, Mr. and Mrs. James Long, Mr. and Mrs. John Long, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Kail, Jane Deaton and Mrs. Emaline Person.

Mrs. Emaline Person served as clerk for many years and would come to the meeting wearing her Sunday dress, a small black bonnet, and a paisley shawl around her shoulders, riding sidesaddle on the back of a roan Indian pony named Tonk, carrying the church papers in a basket on her arm.

Pioneer preachers were Brothers Bly, Peter Russell, Swallow, J. P. Roach, and Dennis Ellis. The first pews and pulpit were hand-made from native walnut donated by James Deaton.



Church member Minnie Johnston Graybill served seven years as a missionary nurse in India. One minister, Alex Grossnickle, came from this congregation. Church member Jeff Janes with wife, Lorine, daughter Dannielle and son Jadon, have worked with Habitat for Humanity (1991 -1994) and with Wycliffe Bible Translators from February 2000 to present as support workers in the Philippines.

## WARREN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*Both Days: Flea Market, Farmer's Market, Craft Show, Quilt Show, Games, Food Court, Dutch Oven Cooking Demonstration, Bingo*  
*Saturday, Sept. 25*  
**Biscuits & Gravy Breakfast 7:00 to 10:00**      **Parade 10:00**  
**Pie & Cake Auction 3:00**      **Quilt Raffle 4:00**

### NEW CONSTRUCTION

A paved handicapped parking space will be built. The old wooden electric light pole has been eliminated and two modern lights have been added. Museum drainage is being placed underground.

**Dennis & Dwight working on drainage**



# WCHS LOG CABIN FESTIVAL

*Honoring Simpson College*  
**150th Anniversary**  
**"Building on our Traditions"**

Friday, Sept. 24 Noon to 7:00      Saturday Sept. 25 9:00 to 5:00  
 WARREN COUNTY FAIR GROUNDS, INDIANOLA

**AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A PLAYHOUSE****By JANE GODWIN**

Hello!! Here I am, probably the oldest playhouse in Indianola, fit as a fiddle and ready to tell you about the ups and downs of my 94 years.

I was built by Charles Maxwell, a well known builder in Indianola and an employee of the Harlan Lumber Company. I was a special entry in a prize competition in 1916 and after Mr. Maxwell finished me I sat for many weeks in front of the lumber company. Many children came by to admire me and I hear that they collected tickets for a drawing that was to be held at the Warren County Fair. Some lucky child would claim me!

What did I look like? Well, I was 8 feet by 10 feet with two doors and five windows. My prettiest feature was my front porch, with a railing and gingerbread trim. I was painted a dark color, can't remember just what it was, and the doors and window trim were white. I was a real beauty.

Finally, the Big Day arrived! The fair was a bustle of activity, with merchants demonstrating their wares in the exhibit hall, agriculture products on display in booths and fine horses in the barn waiting to show off their speed on the oval in front of the amphitheater. But the most excited participants were the children, sitting in the grandstand with tickets in hand, waiting for the drawing. Of course each dreamed of owning me. Finally the lucky name was drawn—Lorraine Darnall. Her father moved me on a large hay rack to the family farm northeast of town.

Lorraine and her friends liked to play in me and I had some happy years on the farm. In 1933, the farm was sold to Ernest and Hallie Keeney. It was wired for electricity and sometimes was home to a flock of baby chickens, huddling under a brooder. The rabbits raised by the Keeney boys liked to hide under me. What a busy time that was!

In the late 1940s, I moved to town—to the yard of Maxine Weeks in the south part of Indianola. Her children liked to play in me, and I enjoyed the busy neighborhood. About ten years later, Metha Godwin purchased me for her grandchildren to use, and most of the time since then I have lived at 808 West Detroit.

The five Godwin daughters, their cousins and friends spent many hours sweeping, scrubbing, dusting and rearranging furniture in me. I was feeling great and looked like a million dollars! But as the years went by, the children grew older and other activities claimed their time. One year, a group of neighborhood boys used me as a fort. That was the year that all my windows were broken. A cedar tree near me grew tall and hid me from sight, my roof leaked and my paint peeled. What a sad appearance I presented!

To tear me down or repair my frame—that was the question faced by my owner in 1993. The five daughters, remembering the good times spent playing house years ago, urged repair. How happy I was to hear that! I was moved away from the tree, and was given a new roof, a fresh coat of paint, a new porch, wall paneling, plastic in my window and flowers on my porch railing. I have been restored, just like the big homes in Sherman Hills.

My neighbors admire my beauty and my owners are proud of my appearance. Sometime children come to play in me and I hope that soon some of those who knew me years ago will come to visit and reminisce. I look forward to many more years of usefulness.

(The playhouse can still be seen  
at 808 West Detroit)

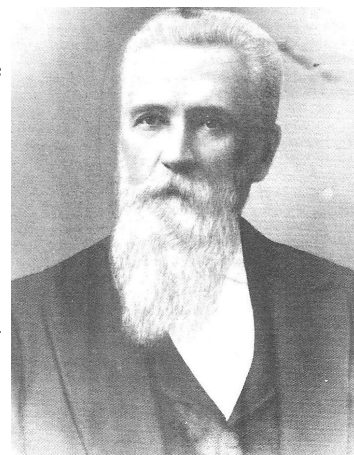


## LIBRARY NEWS

We have received abstracts of the journal of Loren Henry of the Norwalk area along with copies of family pictures. We have also received a collection of WW II era newspaper clippings and a collection of letters and business records of Harmon Clary. On the 11th of September we received a copy of "Hoosier Row History" that has just been completed.

## PIONEER PARIS PERRIN HENDERSON

Paris P. Henderson was born at Liberty, Union County, Indiana on January 3, 1825. He was educated in the common schools and in early life he was a tanner and shoemaker. On October 20, 1847 he came to Warren County, Iowa and settled in Ackworth where he entered a tract of land. He married Martha Hayworth on December 16, 1847. This was one of the first marriages in Warren County. They had six children but only two survived; John H. and Alfred M. Martha died on May 1, 1866. Paris married Mary C. Proudfoot in 1867 and they had a daughter Mary A. born May 22, 1870. Henderson was appointed organizing sheriff for Warren County, a position he held until 1859 when he was elected on the Republican ticket to the State Senate. He served in the regular session of 1860 and at the extra war session of 1861. He then resigned and entered the military service as captain of Company G, Tenth Iowa Infantry. On the 27th of January he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant-colonel; in February, 1863, he was promoted to colonel of the regiment and served with distinction until the close of the war. Returning to Indianola he was elected treasurer of Warren County and later mayor of Indianola. He died in 1908.



### JOINING

#### PRARIE ROSE DUTCH OVEN COOKING CLUB

*at Log Cabin Festival on Saturday*

*will be a*

#### WOOD BURNING CHUCKWAGON

*Be sure to visit for samples*

*Call 961-3088 or 961-7205 to join the*

*WCHS Strategic Planning Committee*

*1st Meeting will take place on Wednesday,*

*October 13 at 2:00 pm*

**Please help us plan for our future.**

#### WARREN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP Become a member today!

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Annual Membership is \$15**

**Send to: WCHS**

**Box 256**

**Indianola, IA 50125**

**Thank you for your support.**

"I don't like gourmet cooking or "this" cooking or "that" cooking. I like good cooking."  
*James Beard*

## WCHS COOKBOOK AVAILABLE

The Warren County Historical Society 2010 cookbook, *FAVORITES FROM WARREN COUNTY KITCHENS*, can be purchased for \$20 during Log Cabin Festival or at the WCHS Museum after September 21st.

### CHOCOLATE GRAVY

As a boy my trips to Arkansas were never complete without having a family breakfast made by my grandmother, Addie Elizabeth (McGee) Allen. There are certain things that you can never shake in your life, and one of mine is the taste of her chocolate gravy and fried oats.

Later in life, I learned that this is a very simple recipe to remember. Chocolate gravy is made with parts equaling 1, 2, 3. And the ingredients are in alpha order, Cocoa, Flour and Sugar. This can range from teaspoons to cups, depending upon how many you are serving. For the first few times in making it, start with heaping teaspoons until you learn what the quantity is for you. Quantity is determined by the amount that is eaten.

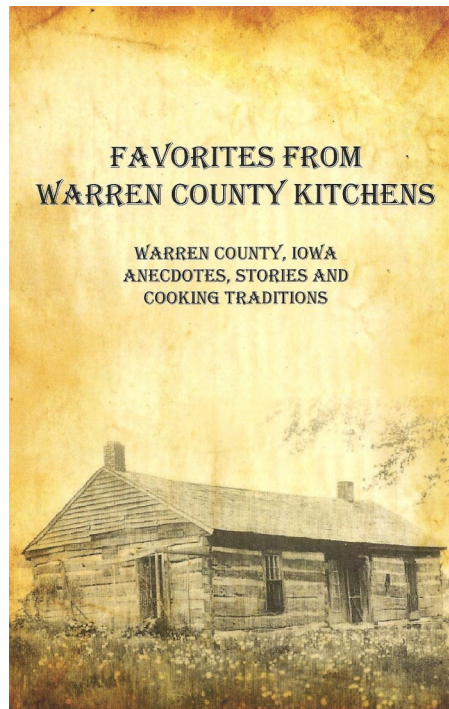
Mix all the dry ingredients in a heavy saucepan with a whisk. Using a whisk blends ingredients better than a spoon. Stir in the water. If preferred, you can use milk to give more of a milk chocolate taste.

Cook over medium heat stirring constantly. Remove the pot when the mixture is thick like pudding. If the gravy fails to thicken for you, cornstarch may be added.

Chocolate gravy can be served over biscuits with butter, or served over fried oats. To make fried oats; add the quantity of oats to a skillet, lightly cover with sugar and stir over a medium heat. This is a slow process, however, once it starts to cook, it will cook fast.

From Dennis Allen

### RECIPE PREVIEWS



### HOMEMADE LIBRARY PASTE

1 Cup flour	1 Cup water
3 Cups boiling water	1/2 tsp. oil of cloves
1 tsp. alum	

Mix flour and cold water together. Then add boiling water. Cook until thick and smooth. Add oil of cloves and alum and seal in jars. I used this for scrapbooks and the items are still in place.

From Marjorie Kline

### PAULINE'S ROLL RECIPE

Pauline Baxendale worked in Food Service at the Simpson College Dining Hall, Alpha Chi Omega Sorority, in the kitchen for meals at 1st United Methodist Church and was head of the Indianola School Lunch Program for 12 years.

This is a family favorite and is quick and easy. Makes 30-40 rolls.

Ingredients: 1 Cup scalded milk 1/4 Cup butter or oleo  
1 tsp. salt 2 beaten eggs  
1/4 Cup sugar

Stir until butter is melted. Allow to cool

Stir to dissolve: 1/2 Cup warm water and a cake softened to 1 pkg. yeast

Add 5 Cups flour (more or less as needed) and all ingredients. Stir together and mix until dough makes a smooth ball. Place in greased bowl and cover. Let raise until doubled in size. Punch down and form into rolls. Put in greased pan. Let rise again until almost doubled—possibly 45 minutes.

Bake at 375 degrees for 10—15 minutes. Rolls will be golden brown on top.

This dough can also be used for cinnamon rolls, butter horn, etc. If you don't have a warm place for the dough to raise, I have set the bowl over a pan of warm water. It must be warm or the yeast will not work as it should. Too hot a place will be just as harmful.

From Pauline Baxendale  
Submitted by Virginia Baxendale Gee

## NORWALK'S 1st RAILROAD

The first railroad into the town of Norwalk was constructed in 1882, It was a narrow gauge line from Des Moines to Cainsville, Missouri. In the 1890's the railroad was acquired by a subsidiary of the Burlington Railroad and was widened to standard gauge. Its primary use was for shipping the farmers' livestock to various markets. The line was abandoned in 1947, after severe flooding damaged the North River bridge.