



October 2012

WARREN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Box 256 Indianola, IA 50125

Phone-515-961-8085

(Highway 92 West, 1400 West 2nd, turn north into fair grounds)

E-mail- contact@warrencountyhistory.org

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Henderson



WCHS MEETING 7:00 pm

Tuesday, October 23

Denise Gripp

**“Surprising Finds Along the
Genealogical Path”**

WCHS EXECUTIVE BOARD

November 10, 9:00 am

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

DINNER 5:30 pm

Saturday, November 10

LOG CABIN FESTIVAL 2013

Planning Committee Meeting

Saturday, January 12

10:00 am



BENJAMIN FOWLER TRAVELED OVER 20,000 MILES DURING CIVIL WAR



Benjamin Fowler was born October 7, 1834 in New Lexington, Perry County, Ohio. He entered the service of his country August 26, 1861 at Columbus, Ohio in Company D 20th Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Was 2nd Sergeant at the organization of the Company. Was promoted to 2nd lieutenant September 17, 1862. To 1st lieutenant February 29, 1864. To Captain November 2, 1865 and ranked as Captain at the close of the war. By reason of promotion was discharged February 24, 1863. Was never transferred outside the Regiment. Was next discharged March 7, 1864 by reason of promotion. At termination of the war discharged August 13, 1865 at Little Rock, Arkansas.

Captain Fowler's first battle was at South Mountain, Maryland, September 14, 1860. Was in the engagements at Antietam September 17, 1862. Siege of Vicksburg, Mississippi May 18 to July 4, 1863. Siege of Jackson, Mississippi July 1863. Mission Ridge, Tennessee November 25, 1862, Kennesaw Mountain, Georgia June 27, 1864, Chickajack Creek, Georgia July 3, 1864, Atlanta, Georgia July 22, 1864, Ezra Chapel July 28, 1864, Jonesborough, Georgia August 20 1864, Fort McAllister, Georgia December 13, 1864, and Bentonsville, North Carolina March 20, 1865.

Was wounded in the right shoulder at the battle of Bentonsville March 20, 1865. Was confined to hospital from March 20, 1865 at Goldsborough, North Carolina on Davids Island, New York until April 20, 1865. Was never a prisoner.

The most intimate friends of this soldier in the service were Samuel Haworth, T. J. Shepard, Wm. R. Brown. Peter Fryman, Jareu Post, E. J. Alton, Wm N. Dusenberry, H.D. Baillock.

The 30 O.V.V. I. was in every rebel state except Texas and Florida. As a regular he traveled over 20,000 miles while in the service. Killed more rebels than we had men in the regiment, had 132 names on their muster out rolls and 23 men present at the final discharge. There were four officers in the regiment mustered out that held commissions in the organization.

In 1866 Captain Fowler came to Warren County, Iowa, and purchased a farm in Lincoln Township located near Indianola. He added to his property from time to time but has since sold a part of his land, now owning one hundred and thirty acres, which is well improved and highly cultivated. He has erected a large neat residence and convenient outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock, and for a number of years he was actively engaged in general farming and stock-raising but he now rents the place though he continues to supervise its management.

In Ohio on the 22nd of September 1856 Captain Fowler married Miss Emily Brown, who was also a native of Ohio and died here July 6, 1901, being laid to rest in the Indianola cemetery. Of the seven children born to them three died in infancy. Grant, the eldest living, is married and is a railroad carpenter residing in Minnesota; Thad is married and resides at Staples, Minnesota; Sally, the wife of E. H. Webster, who is engaged in the real-estate business in Lexington, Okla-homa, and Samuel F., of Salida, Colorado.

Captain Fowler has been a life-long Republican, supporting each presidential nominee of the party since voting for John C. Fremont in 1856. He has been a delegate to state and county conventions, has served as road supervisor and has been officially connected with the schools for many years, serving as a director and also secretary and treasurer of the board. He was township trustee for seven years and has served the petit jury a number of times. His public service has been exemplary and he has always been found true to any trust reposed in him. In religious faith he is a Methodist and he is an honored member of the Grand Army Post at Indianola. He died August 16, 1920.

MERCANTILE WIZARD

MICHAEL GILMAN'S SON-IN-LAW

J.F. Ligenfelter, a prominent businessman in Collins, Iowa is a member of the firm Ligenfelter Brothers, one of the leading and best known mercantile concerns of Story County, conducting stores at Collins and Maxwell, Iowa and one at Thayer Kansas. His birth occurred in Warren County, Iowa on the 4th of April, 1857 his parents being George W. and Sarah E. (Gilman) Ligenfelter, natives of Kentucky and Pennsylvania respectively.

Their marriage was celebrated in Indiana, where Michael Gilman (laid out Gimman Addition in Summerset) the maternal grandfather of our subject, conducted a woolen mill. George Ligenfelter entering his service as a salesman. In 1855 Mr. Gilman established a woolen mills at Palmyra, Warren County, Iowa where Mr. Ligenfelter was associated with him until about 1868. At that time Mr. Gilman sold his business at Palmyra and removed to Summerset, Iowa where he erected flouring and woolen mills. Upon severing his business relationship with his father-in-law, Mr. Ligenfelter took up farming in Warren County also spending some time as clerk in the Palmyra stores. In 1880 he embarked in merchandising at Palmyra in association with his son J.F. the partnership being maintained for about 3 years, when George Ligenfelter retired. J.F. continued in business for some three years longer.

On the expiration of that period our subject disposed of his mercantile interest and began buying and selling horses in association with his brother W.E. being thus engaged until 1890. In 1891 the brothers moved to Collins and started a mercantile business.

From **History of Story County, Iowa; a Record of Organization, Progress and Achievement Vol.2** by William Orson Payne

WHO BUILT OUR LOG CABIN?

The Warren County Historical Society log cabin is often referred to as the McKee cabin because Wallace McKee donated it in the 1970s. But who was the original builder?

Traveling from Indiana, John Henry Wayman and wife Margaret Francis, son John Riley Wayman, and son Joseph Francis and wife Margaret homesteaded here in 1854.

John Riley was born May 12, 1822 in Virginia. He died July 19, 1879 in Warren County.

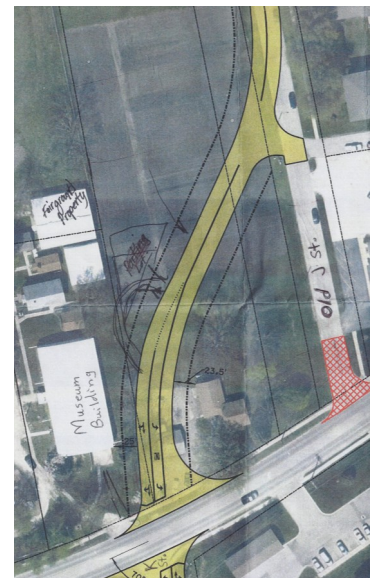
Joseph Francis was born in 1824 in Botetouet, Virginia. He married Margaret E. Bishop in Indiana June 8, 1843. Margaret Bishop was born in Indiana in 1824 and died January 15, 1898. Joseph died September 1, 1894. All are buried in the Middle River Cemetery.

The log cabin was built by J. Wayman (not sure which of the J. Waymans) and was located in Section 23, Greenfield Township, southwest of Mt. Olive School (north of 120th and Dakota streets).

The property continued to belong to the Waymans after 1897. In 1902 E.B. Dowell owned the property. Before 1915 and continuing after 1924, Nannie M. Browne was the owner. The cabin had additions, was improved and occupied as a residence until about the mid-1930s. Before 1930 and after 1956 Harry Browne and Ilo Browne Wallace (Henry A. Wallace's wife) owned this property. Wallace McKee purchased it from Harry and Ilo after the 1950s.

ATTENTION WARREN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERS

On Saturday, October 13 the Warren County Historical Society Executive Committee met with Chuck Burgin, Director of Community Development, about the proposed diagonal joining J and K Streets at Highway 92. Indianola is anticipating construction in 2013. The new intersection will require a triangular piece of our property, tree removal, moving our windmill, closing the current access from Highway 92 to our basement door, and erection of a long retaining wall along the east side of the museum building. The Committee is currently studying property options that could become available. Members will be advised of any plans and asked to approve any final decision.





Vlieger Family, Winner of Historic Best



Summerset Pioneers Dale McClintic and Lois Hardin

Community Bank & Summerset Winery
Winner of Parade Merchants' Choice



Westview Care Center Best Festival Summerset Theme



President Dan Porter presents Raffle Winner Vadis Fry Garden & Galley Bed and Breakfast Certificate



Parade Marshall, Gary Downey

**2012 LOG CABIN
FESTIVAL
WINNERS**

The Warren County Historical Society thanks these generous contributors to Log Cabin Festival:

Casey's General Stores, Inc.
Chad Kuehl Agency
City State Bank
Community Bank
Downing Construction, Inc.
Drees Family & Sports Chiropractic
Flying Frog Farms, L.C.
Garden and Galley Bed & Breakfast
Indianola Lioness
Indianola Veterinary Clinic, LLC
Kevin Parker
Kurt Wells
Legacy Asset Management
Mary Donaghy Insurance
McCoy True Value
Elks

Medicap Pharmacy
Overton Funeral Home
Peoples Bank
Pierce Brothers Repair
Putney Auctions
Record Herald and Indianola Tribune
Sternquist Construction
Summerset Winery
THA-CAM, Incorporated
The Leader
TRM Disposal
Vanderpool Construction
Warren County Oil
Weinman Insurance Services
Herold Campers

The WCHS also thanks these businesses who made our LCF Record Herald Insert possible:

Vaughan's R.V. Custom Interiors
Indy 66 North
Indy 66 West
Yo-Yogurt
Jiffy Xpress
Fareway Stores
Sharon Seuferer and One Woman Band
CC Equipment Sales
Warren County Oil
Indianola Memorial Works

Overton Funeral Home
Optometric Associates of Warren County , P.C.
The Village Retirement Community
Tim McConnell Photography
Summerset Winery
Quality Plumbing and Heating
McCoy Hardware
Iowa Realty Company





Thanks to Toni (Anette) Rath and Susan Graeser the Linn Grove United Methodist Church sign was refurbished and placed near our museum door. What a wonderful addition this makes to our property. Special thanks to Susan for her many hours of planting, beautifying and maintaining our grounds

Meredith Dobson sent us a Texas Star quilt that her great grandmother Jennie (Hamilton) Brown had pieced and quilted at 605 West Ashland in Indianola. Jennie had given the quilt to her daughter and Meredith's grandmother, Gertrude Brown Smith Henderson. Gertrude was a curator at the Sioux City Public Museum, and a historian and writer of early Sioux City history.



Gertrude Brown Smith Henderson

Gertrude was born on August 25, 1883 in Indianola, to lawyer Oswell Chase and Jennie Hamilton Brown. Because her father was an early pioneer of Indianola, he likely inspired her to pursue history. Gertrude's love of knowledge took her to Simpson College where she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Science degree in 1904.

Gertrude moved to Sioux City in 1914 and eventually became the community's unofficial local historian. Gertrude was a curator at the Sioux City Public Museum, and a historian and writer of early Sioux City history. In 1921 she married Ralph A. Henderson, a First World War veteran, in Des Moines. Over the next thirty years, both she and Ralph became important figures in Sioux City.



WCHS VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Judy McClymond and Gerald Schimmelpfenning our 2012 Volunteers of the year. They have spent many hours at the museum arranging their donated items and creating our photography and toy, miniature and doll house exhibits.

Judy Hatcher McClymond, daughter of Stanley and Lois Mary (Simmerman) Hatcher, grew up and continues to live in White Oak Township. Judy's brother Gary lives in Osceola. She has two children, Tracy and Trevor.

Judy graduated from Indianola High School and attended business college in Minneapolis. She

managed Quality Cleaners and Southern Iowa Photo. When the business was sold she was employed at the Bloomin' Greenery. Currently, she is the accountant at Kiya Koda Humane Society.

Gerald Schimmelpfenning came from Fairfield, graduated from Estherville High School and the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary. He came to Indianola in 1973 and served as Associate Pastor at First United Methodist Church. Later, he worked for Indianola School System. Gerald is retired and has a daughter who lives and teaches English at Buddhist University in Seoul, South Korea.

Judy spent two years writing the history of Hoosier Row School and completing the requirements to get it listed on the National Registry of Historical Places. Both Gerald and Judy love history, photography and have many pets. Judy enjoys gardening, reading, knitting, and has collected doll houses for fifteen year

THANKS TO EVERYONE FOR MAKING 2012



Log Cabin Festival A SUCCESS

LCF RECEIPTS 2012

Sponsors	\$1675.00
Craft	1410.00
Raffle	460.00
Breakfast	844.00
Dinner	1884.00
Food Vendors	312.00
Car Show	1682.00
Scare Crow	480.00
Farmer's Market	230.00
Pie Auction	1777.00
Summerset Book	435.00
Market Place Vendors	192.50
Rope Making	24.00
Garage Sale	832.22
Total Receipts	12, 737.28

LCF EXPENSES 2012

Iowa State Treasurer Sales Tax	\$50.00
Vendor Refund	75.00
Iowa Raffle License	40.00
Raffle Tickets	62.30
Car Show Flyers	72.08
Warren County Fair Rent	750.00
Bobs Trophies for Plaques	978.50
Bank Change	500.00
Fareway for Breakfast	32.05
Fareway for Dinner	30.34
Hy Vee for Dinner	39.01
Roger Cooper Breakfast	43.08
Roger Cooper Dinner	9.22
Alice Brito Breakfast	78.44
Alice Brito Dinner	93.41
Jerry Beatty Paper Products	91.96
Jerry Beatty Summerset Book Printing	206.49
Ground Zero PA System	90.00
Reynolds Feed Scarecrow Hay	108.00
Weinman 2 Day Liability Ins.	355.00
Bernie Epple Restroom Cleaning	?
Lynn Henry Signs	486.01
Total Expenses At This Time	4,190.89

LOG CABIN FESTIVAL 2013

September 28 & 29

(Yes, we are continuing even though Summerset was the last community)

New Honorees—Warren County Schools—Stay tuned for updates

FREE WCHS



APPRECIATION DINNER

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10th, 5:30 pm

Menu: Steve Heaberlin cooking smoked turkey or pork and Delores VanRyswyk cheesy potatoes, salad and dessert bar

Bring a food, paper product or cash donation to share with the Helping Hand



Dear WCHS Volunteer,

We want to invite you to join us Saturday night, November 10th for dinner at 5:30.

Thank you for making the 2012 Pioneer School, May Fashion Show, Log Cabin Festival, and weekly volunteer activities the best. We are thankful for each and everyone of you.

Kristi and Dan Porter