



March 2024

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

Inside this Issue

Page 3 Connecting to Women

Page 4 Trains in Indianola

Page 6 WCHS Bylaws

FARMER'S MARKET

Sat. March 9

9:00-Noon

WCHS BOARD

Thursday, March 21

9:30am

LCF MEETING

Sat. March 23

9:30am

SOUP SUPPER

Annual Meeting

Tuesday, March 26

6:00pm

WCHS BOARD

Thursday, April 18

9:30am

LCF MEETING

Sat. April 27

9:30am

PIONEER SCHOOL

May 20, 21, 23, & 24

GARAGE SALE

June 22

LOG CABIN FESTIVAL

Sept. 28-29

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!**



Warren County Historical
Society Tuesday, March 26th
Annual Meeting and freewill
Soup Supper at 6:00 pm.

WCHS ANNUAL MEETING/SOUP SUPPER

March 26th 6:00pm

ELECTION of 2024 OFFICERS

Proposed Officer Slate:

President: Debbie Larrison

1st Vice President: Toni Rath

2nd Vice President: Jerry Beatty

Secretary: Juanita Ott

Treasurer: Kevin Beener

Trustee: Don Sandy

Tuesday, March 26th
Soup Supper Dinner Program

WCHS Treasurer,
Kevin Beener
will introduce you to
Warren County's
namesake,
GEN. JOSEPH WARREN



Alexander del.

10th of President

GEN. WARREN



In 1846 Warren County, Iowa was formed. It is one of 14 states that were named after General Joseph Warren. 2024 is the 175th anniversary for the forming of Indianola as our Warren County center of administration in 1849.

PIONEER SCHOOL
MAY 20, 21, 23, 24



Greetings, from the President:

It looks like spring is in a hurry to unveil itself this year. The trees are budding and the flowers are already peeping out their heads in sunny spots. We are all hopeful that wonderful spring showers will come our way.

Don't forget to renew your 2024 Warren County Historical Society Dues. See form below.

We are looking for volunteers for Pioneer School May 20,21, 23 and 24. Contact us if you can help.

At our Tuesday, March 26th Annual Meeting we will elect officers, update our Bylaws, enjoy a free will offering soup supper, share the happenings at the museum and let you know about some of the projects we have slated for the coming year. Kevin Beener will present a program on how Warren County was named for General Joseph Warren. Looking forward to seeing everyone at our evening meal.



Deb Larrison



WARREN COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Membership Form

New or Renewal

TIME To JOIN OR RENEW WCHS MEMBERSHIP

Your Information

First Name

Last Name

Address

Cell Phone

Work Phone

Email

Membership Fee

Join or Renew Your Membership





Most of you know but this is a reminder. We have an actual collection of Indianola newspapers from the 1890s to present, some Carlisle, Norwalk, New Virginia and bound Reminders and early Hladky TV videos. Online we have digital newspapers you can search. The digital and real newspapers may not be the same. We purchased the digital collection and have collected the real papers for many years. For the historian, our actual collection is wonderful to actually see, hold, photo and peruse an entire newspaper. Come and visit us to enjoy a journey to the past through small town newspaper's advertising, town chatter, Warren County news and who visited who.

March makes gardeners anxious to prepare their gardens for planting, If you are getting the gardening bug and looking for a place to plant a garden, you may want to call 1-515-961-8085 or email contact@warrencountyhistory.org to rent a garden space from WCHS. To rent you need to be a member of WCHS, keep your garden space free of weeds, grow produce for personal use, and pay garden space rent at a rate of \$2 per linear foot.



HAVING TROUBLE CONNECTING TO WOMEN IN YOUR FAMILY TREE?

One of the most difficult tasks confronting Linda and Jerry Beatty when they wrote the Warren County Her Story Book was keeping track of a woman's surnames and maternal lines. In newspapers you find women listed as Mrs. John Doe as late as the 1970s. Even obituaries did not use the woman's first name or maiden name. Here are some hints to help you face the challenge of searching for information on those missing women.

1. Do not assume a record will not have information. Always check, you may be surprised.
2. Check Family Bibles, estate records, community cookbooks, women's clubs and religious women's missionary groups and men's early war pension applications
3. Marriage and Divorce records have a lot of information. I am always surprised how many divorces occurred in the 1800s.
4. Look for an elderly relative living with the family in census records. That person could be her mother, father or sister.
5. In Census Records look at names of close neighbors. Often families lived very near each other.
6. Shift your focus from the men in her family to her children and their information and records.
7. If the woman has an unusual first name do a search leaving out the surname but including precise information like: Cordelia born 1875, Indianola, Iowa
8. Sometimes maiden name clues can be found on tombstones. That is why it is good to visit actual family cemeteries where you can notice the names on neighboring grave stones.
9. If a woman had been married previously and her husband died, in the new marriage information her surname could be her previous husbands and not her maiden name. It is tricky to track a woman who has been married as many as four times. Remember that surprisingly, many woman were married multiple times either becoming widows or through divorce.
10. Death certificates can provide a woman's maiden name. However, if the person filling out the information does not know this information it may not be included.

WARREN COUNTY RAILROADS THAT WERE!



GREAT
WESTERN

CHARITON,
INDIANOLA

DES MOINES,
INDIANOLA,
WINTERSET
ROCK ISLAND

KNOXVILLE
DES MOINES
C. B. & Q.

CHICAGO,
ROCK ISLAND
& PACIFIC

CHICAGO
BURLINGTON
& QUINCY

2024 WARREN COUNTY LOG CABIN FESTIVAL September 28 & 29

As many as 20 trains a day went in and out of Indianola at the height of the railroad era in the early 20th century, according to Don Berry. The Rock Island was the first railroad into Indianola in 1871. The first trip was a passenger excursion to Des Moines on November 1, 1871. The Burlington arrived in 1878-79, coming north from Chariton. There were 14 trains a day in and out of the Rock Island depot and 6 more in and out of the Burlington depot.

"Indianola sold more single tickets than any other station in Iowa outside Des Moines at one time," Berry said. This great amount of train service lasted for a time after WW I. It was revived for a time after the war and then gradually declined as cars and buses gradually took over the passenger business.



The Burlington widened the narrow gauge rail line from Des Moines to Osceola and was talked about all over the railroad industry because of the speed with which it was accomplished. To not interrupt service, work was done only on Sunday.

Indianola Depot
Iowa Postcard Collection, Special Collections and
Archives, Grinnell College Libraries

Old Timers, From Indianola Herald 50th Birthday,

April 11, 1904

Samuel Shaw has lived on the same farm for 40 years coming here in 1867.

Henry S. Graham came to Warren County in 1856. He was a soldier in the 10th Iowa.

J. Q. Spain was born in Iowa in 1850 and has lived in this county since 1852.

J.B. Moon came to Indianola in the early 50's and served with the 34th Iowa.

Ace Park has been a resident of the county since 1857. He is a 34th Iowa man.

J.P Mosher came to this county in 1853 and settled on his present homestead in 1858.

Harrison Ogle came to this county in 1864 and is now among the heaviest land owners in it.

G. W. Davis, now of Des Moines, settled in Indianola in 1854 and remained about 30 years.

Valentine Cline came here in 1854. Returned in two years to Indiana and came back in 1869.

H. T. Metcalf came to Indianola in 1858 and for over 30 years was engaged in the grocery business.

J. C. Morton has resided on the same farm in Lincoln Township since coming here 38 years ago.

John N. Perry came to this county with his parents in 1853 and Warren County has since been his home.

W. C. Strock settled in Virginia Township in 1856. In the early days he served as member of the board.

Elijah Bilbo came to this county in 1853 and entered land in White Oak Township. He is now 81 years of age.

J. C. Baker came to this county in 1856. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1822. He now resides in Indianola..

Ellis Van Pelt came to Iowa in 1851 and to this county in 1864. He has been for some years a resident of this city.

J.B. Gifford came to Iowa in 1855 and for over 40 years was engaged in the grocery business. He is now retired.

W. F. Brown of Richland Township has been a resident of this county since 1853 and is widely known as a stock man.

Lugeniu Park came here in 1851 and followed farming in his early life. He is today a resident of this city and is 86 years old.

A. J. Rogers came to Warren County at the age of six years in 1848. He served with the 34th Iowa and still resides at Lacona.

Richard Moore came to this county in 1856. In 1873 he served on the board of supervisors and has always been a good citizen.

Franklin Kellar settled in Squaw Township in 1854. He was one of the first settlers there and helped organize the township.

H. Mc Neil has practiced law in Indianola for 45 years and was the most successful practitioner in the county during his active years.

John I. McElroy came to Iowa in 1851 and to Warren County in 1869. M. B. came here in 1857 and S. A. and Robert in about the same year.

Issac, Dan G., Wm. and John Peck came to Warren County in 1853 and have all remained with us. Dan G. is one of the old timers in business.

W. P. Harbison came to Indianola in 1856. He served with the 34th Iowa. Mr Harbison was for years identified with the business interests of Indianola.

Luthern Tharp came to Warren County in 1857 and has remained a resident since that time. His early life was spent in White Oak Township. He is now living with his daughter at Carlisle.

J.T. Meek came to Iowa in 1851 and to Warren County in 1853. He served in the 34th Iowa. In 1873 (during the crime) he was elected sheriff and held the office four years. He is still active.

C. L. Anderson came to Warren County and settled in Allen Township in 1850. He is now a resident of Indianola, rounding out a long and honorable career. He just celebrated his 80th birthday.

John Hunt came to Indianola in 1856.

A,W. and A. T. Richards came to Indianola in 1854.

J. F. Lough came the year following the Civil War.

Hughes Bros. have been in business here for 50 years or more.

W. N.. Bartholomew has been a resident of the county for about 50 years.

John Silcott came here over 50 years ago and is now a resident of the city.

Henry Spray came to Indianola long before the war and has been in business ever since.

John L. Taylor came to Indianola in 1857 and is yet as active as he was in the early days.

Silas Coryell has been a resident of Indianola since 1860. He was a soldier in the 3rd Iowa.

W. H. Douglas came here in an early day had has lived on the same farm for about 40 years.

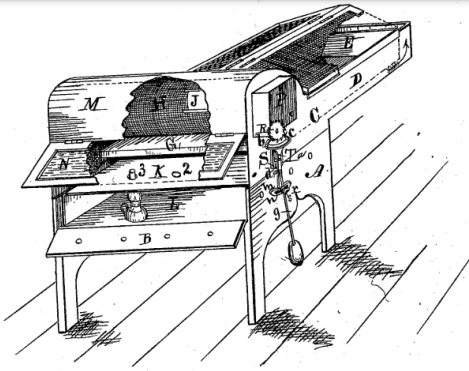
Lewis Igo came here over 50 years ago and the greater part of his life was spent in Virginia Township.

A. L. Ogg and C. S. Litzenburg came after the war from Henry County. They served with the 4th Calvary.

H. A. Stierwalt came here in 1846. He has always been a farmer with the exception of four years as sheriff and three years in the army.

IMPROVEMENT IN ROASTER AND WARMER.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **188,463**, dated March 20, 1877; application filed October 28, 1876.



Witnesses.
O. H. Johnson
M. E. Orwig

Inventor,
Henry S. Graham
By Thomas G. Orwig
Attorney

INVENTOR HENRY S. GRAHAM

Henry S. Graham was born in Athens, Ohio September 2, 1836 and died November 12, 1925. He came to Indianola in 1856. In 1861 he joined the 10th Iowa infantry, as an alto horn in the band. After two years of service he had a severe case of measles, which left him deaf.

In 1863 he married Belvidere Ford. They had five children.

For awhile Henry had the only blacksmith shop in Indianola. It was located across from the Presbyterian Church on the east side of town. Later he built a house on the same lot. At one time he had a grocery known as Moxley and Graham.

As a blacksmith he liked to create various inventions. His made the first steam pea-nut roaster. Shortly before his death he was working on an automobile, which he never was able to finish.

He was buried in the Indianola Odd Fellows Cemetery.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY S. GRAHAM, of Indianola, in the county of Warren and State of Iowa, have invented a Combined Pea-Nut Roaster and Warmer, of which the following is a specification:

The object of my invention is to construct a portable apparatus in such a manner that pea-nuts can be conveniently and uniformly roasted and kept warm therein by means of common movable lamps. It consists in forming and combining a lamp-chamber, a rotating roasting-cylinder, a movable warming-pan, clock-work gearing, and a pendulum-adjuster, as hereinafter fully set forth.

My drawing is a perspective view, illustrating the construction and operation of my invention.

A is a portable wooden stand and base, that may vary in form and dimensions as desired. It has a tray-formed top, which is part of the lamp-chamber in the complete apparatus.

B is a hinged section and perforated door, opening to the lower part of the lamp-chamber, to gain access to the movable lamps, and to regulate the draft. The perforations in the door B and the contiguous sides of the tray-formed top of the stand constantly admit cold air into the lamp-chamber, to aid combustion in the lamps.

C is a sheet-metal case, the base of which corresponds in size and shape with the top of the stand A, upon which it is secured in any suitable way.

D is a rear extension of the case C, designed to receive a warming-pan, and to form a hot-air flue underneath the warming-pan.

E is a movable warming-pan, that can be readily lifted in and out of the extension D. It may have hinged wire-screen covers, as represented, through which the roasted nuts may be seen and protected.

G is a sliding plate, secured in suitable bearings attached to the under side of the pan E, and serves to conduct the heat of the lamps from the roasting-cylinder and its chamber to the warming-pan, when properly adjusted.

r is a pendulum-stem bearer, that extends through the slot n in the crescent-formed end m of the lever.

s is a set-screw on the end of the pendulum-stem bearer r, and serves to clamp it to the crescent formed end m.

By adjusting the bearer r in the slot n the position of the pendulum-stem g is changed relative to the vertical lever T, and the escapement can thereby be adjusted to operate correctly when the complete apparatus does not stand level.

In the practical operation of my apparatus the nuts to be roasted are placed in the cylinder H, the motor-spring wound up in its case P, the lamps lighted in the chamber L, and the pendulum started to allow the power of the spring-motor to escape and impart a rotary motion to the cylinder. When the nuts have been thus subjected to the heat of the lamps to roast them, the vibration of the pendulum is stopped, and the roasted nuts removed from the cylinder to the warming-pan E, and the slide G is moved forward to connect with the top of the lamp-chamber K, to thereby prevent the heat from passing around the cylinder, and to carry it directly rearward, to pass under the warming-pan, and to keep the nuts therein warm.

To convey the heat more directly from the

sliding door J. The cylinder is mounted in suitable bearings formed in or attached to the sides of the case C.

K is the movable top of the lamp-chamber L, and has a series of openings, 1 2 3, through which the tops of the lamp-flues extend, to convey the products of combustion against the surface of the rotating cylinder H. This movable top or partition may be fitted in bearings attached inside the case C, or may have legs to rest on the bottom of the lamp-chamber L, which is formed complete by means of the tray-formed top of the stand A, the case C, and the movable top K. It is preferably made of zinc plate, or other non-conducting material, that will not detract the heat of the lamps from the roasting-cylinder.

M is a movable cover, fitted over the top of the case C, to inclose the roasting-cylinder H, and to retain the heat generated by the lamps in and around the cylinder.

N is a door, hinged to the cover M, to allow access to the lamp-chamber. This door is preferably partly glass, through which the light of the lamps may be seen.

P is a case or skeleton frame, containing a spring and clock-work gearing. It is attached to the outside of the case C in such a manner as to connect the spring-motor with the shaft of the rotating cylinder H, and operate the cylinder whenever desired.

R is an escape-wheel, connected with the gearing in the case P.

S is a pallet and pendulum bearer, extending downward from the case P.

T is a vertical lever, suspended upon an adjustable pivot, a, that is supported by and moves vertically in the bearer S, depending from the box P.

b c are pallets, extending at right angles from the top of the lever T.

d is a perforation and pivotal point in the central portion of the lever T, in which the pendulum-stem g is secured by being bent at right angles at its top to enter the perforation in the lever.

m is a crescent-formed end on the bottom of roasting-cylinder to the warming-pan, the lamp or lamps may be moved to the rear of the cylinder H.

A simple and complete apparatus is thus provided for roasting nuts uniformly, and also keeping them warm when roasted without much labor, attention, or expense.

I claim as my invention—

1. The portable stand A, having the tray-formed top and hinged door B, the case C, having the rear extension D, the movable warming-pan E, having the sliding plate G, the rotating cylinder H, the movable lamp-chamber L, the movable cover M, having the hinged door N, and the case P, having a spring-motor and clock-work gearing, arranged and combined substantially as and for the purposes shown and described.

2. The pivoted lever T, having pallets b c at its top, and a bridle, m a, at its bottom, and carrying the adjustable bearer r s, in combination with the pendulum-stem g, the escapement-wheel R, the clock-work in the case P, and the rotary cylinder H, carried by the portable stand A, substantially as and for the purposes shown and described.

HENRY S. GRAHAM.

Witnesses:
W. H. BERRY,
E. J. MOXLEY.

Proposed Bylaw Changes.

Blue are new words. Red should be deleted.

WARREN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY BY-LAWS
APPROVED MARCH 24, 2015

ARTICLE I Name & Location

Sec 1.1 The name of this organization, incorporated under the laws of Iowa, shall be the WARREN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Sec 1.2 The principal office of this organization shall be located in the county seat city of Indianola, Warren County, Iowa. The mailing address shall be Warren County Historical Society, 1400 W 2nd Box 256 Indianola, Iowa 50125 or physical address 1300 West 2nd Indianola, Iowa 50125.

ARTICLE II Purposes

Sec 2.1 To collect, preserve, and create interest in the cultural, political, and economic heritage of Warren County and its place in the history of the State of Iowa, and United States of America

Sec 2.2 To establish and maintain county heritage museums and such other properties as are acquired.

ARTICLE III Meetings

Sec 3.1 This organization will hold general meetings as deemed necessary. a minimum of seven (7) general meetings annually.

Sec 3.2 The annual meeting shall be on the fourth Tuesday in March of each year to conduct necessary business including the election of officers.

Sec 3.3 Robert's Rules of Order, according to the latest revision thereof, shall prevail at all meetings including committee meetings unless changed or modified, or in conflict with the by-laws.

Sec 3.4 Special meetings may be called by the Executive Board to conduct business with written notice or electronic notice to each member at least 20 days prior to the meeting. Providing a 20 day notice, any member, at their own expense, may call a meeting with written notice to each member.

Sec 3.5 A quorum at Society meetings shall be twenty (20) ten (10) members and a quorum at Executive Board Meetings shall be (4) members.

ARTICLE IV Membership and Dues

Sec 4.1 Membership is open to any person who supports the purpose in Article II.

Sec 4.2 Dues will be recommended by the Executive Board and ratified by the membership.

Sec 4.3 Dues are payable annually. on or before Dec. 31st

ARTICLE V Elected Officers and Duties

Sec 5.1 - The elected officers shall be President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-president, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer. In case of a vacancy of an officer, a temporary replacement shall be appointed by the Executive Board to serve until the following election.

Sec 5.2 The nominating committee shall consist of the immediate Past President, a member from the Executive Board, and another member of the Society. The proposed slate of officers are chosen from the members of the Warren County Historical Society. The members will be notified of the proposed slate of officers prior to the annual meeting at which the election will take place.

Sec 5.3 A term of office for all offices shall be April 1 to March 31 of the following year.

Sec 5.4 The duties of the President shall be to preside over all monthly meetings and Executive Board meetings. The President shall be a member of all committees except the nominating committee.

Sec 5.5 The First Vice-President shall preside in the absence of the President and shall perform any other duties as the President shall assign. The First Vice-President shall serve as President elect.

Sec 5.6 The Second Vice-president shall serve in the absence of the President and First Vice-President and shall assume any other such duties as the President shall assign.

Sec 5.7 The Recording Secretary shall keep minutes of all executive board meetings, and all general meetings.

Sec 5.8 a) The Treasurer shall collect and record all society expenses and incomes from all sources. The Treasurer shall maintain all accounts under separate headings and shall maintain an inventory at all times of all salable items of the Society. The Treasurer and one other board member shall be provided with a key to the Post Office Box of the Warren County Historical Society.

b) The treasurer shall be bonded. All receipts and bills shall be turned over to the Treasurer. The Treasurer shall maintain complete records of all deposits and payments made by the Society. The Treasurer shall provide a report of the income and expenditures of the Society at each general and executive board meeting. The executive board shall appoint an auditor to audit committee to audit the Treasurer's books prior to March 1st of each year.

c) All Memorial donations shall be immediately placed in a separate account designated for memorial funds and grant moneys. All undesignated memorial donations of \$3,000 or more will go to the Endowment Fund and a permanent record of all memorials shall have a place of honor in the museum.

d) The Treasurer with the Executive Board will draw up a budget and present it to the membership for their approval at the annual meeting. The budget will be published in the Warren County Historical Society newsletter before the annual meeting.

ARTICLE VI Executive Board

Sec 6.1 The Executive Board shall consist of all elected officers, the immediate past President, and a member of the Building Trustees.

Sec 6.2 It is the duty of the Executive Board to manage all affairs of the Society including, but not limited to, establishing policy, acting as business agents in all business transactions whether financial or operational, appointing all committees and appointed officers not covered by elections

Sec 6.3 The Executive Board may appoint officers and create additional committees as it deems necessary.

Sec 6.4 All appointed officers and committee chairs ~~shall~~ may make a written annual report to be presented to the Executive Board prior to the annual meeting.

ARTICLE VII Building Trustees and Duties

Sec 7.1 The Building Trustees shall consist of five society members selected by the Executive Board. Each term of office will be two years.

Sec 7.2 On their first meeting after being selected the trustees shall elect a chair person. The chairperson shall be responsible for seeing that one trustee attends each board meeting. The chairperson shall also be responsible for making an annual report to the Executive Board prior to the annual meeting.

Sec 7.3 The Building Trustees shall see to the security, repair, maintenance and improvements of all Society buildings and ground thereon, but not the artifacts. The Trustees shall consult the Executive Board before making any changes or expenditures over \$500. ~~Any and all~~ transactions above \$5,000 must be approved by the Executive Board and brought before the membership at the next general meeting.

ARTICLE VIII Endowment Fund Committee

Sec 8.1 The Endowment Fund Committee will be responsible for administering the endowment fund guided by the by-laws established by the Endowment Fund Committee and approved by the Executive Board. The Endowment Fund Committee will report to the Executive Board annually by March 1. The report shall include the amount of money available to transfer from the Endowment Fund to the General Fund.

ARTICLE IX Preservation of Property

Sec 9.1 The preservation of the property of the Society shall be the responsibility of all members of the Society.

Sec 9.2 All items purchased or donated shall become the sole property of the Society. Nothing shall be removed from the premises except when used for public exhibits or parades. This removal must be recorded, signed by the person or persons responsible for it while off the premises and by the Accessions Committee and/or Curator, giving date of removal and return, as well as the use and/or event. The Officers and Accessions Committee/Curator reserves the right to reject any or all requests.

Sec 9.3 All property purchased or donated shall become the sole property of the Society and shall be stored, used, or disposed of in any manner designated by the Accessions Committee and/or Curator and approved by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE X Amendments

Sec 10.1 These by-laws will remain in effect in perpetuity as written or amended by majority vote of the WCHS Executive Board followed by approval by a 2/3 vote of the members present at a duly called and convened WCHS meeting.