

BESANÇON, INDIANA CHRONICLES

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Cemetery Research Begins

Members of the Besançon Historical Society and members of St. Louis Catholic Church began mapping the **new** cemetery of St. Louis. Co-Chairmen **Jeff Hoffman** and **Duane Sutter**, along with **Dianna Gallagher**, **Joann Johnson**, **Tamyra Jauregui**, and **Gene Yoquelet** were involved in this project, and the first phase has been completed. This was very similar to what was done with the old cemetery where each plot was noted, head stones copied, verification of dates and eventually a book was published for sale. At the present time **Jeff Hoffman** feels confident he can give people an exact location of a burial in the four outer sections of the cemetery. These four sections were easy to read. They were in rows, and plots appear to have been sold as single or double burial plots. The parish has a book that lists some of the unmarked burials in these four sections. The center section appears to have been sold in sixteen by sixteen foot plots. Each corner was marked with a clay pin. Duane and Jeff found 76 of them in three weeks. Two pins; pin #1 and #28 were unable to be found. Each of these plots could accommodate eight adults. Two infants could be buried in one adult plot. Several interesting facts were noted: some families placed their monument in the center of plot, others put it on the outside boundary. Some placed their headstones to be read from east and the ones next to them were read from the west. Many times the group was unable to tell on which side of the stone the person was buried. Several people have mentioned to Jeff they are aware of some unmarked burials in their family plots.

If you have knowledge of unmarked grave sites please contact Jeff Hoffman in care of Besançon Historical Society. We will continue to update this fascinating, but time-consuming project!! (Yes, we **do** hope to publish book of St. Louis new cemetery!)

GENEALOGY DEPT.

**MEMBERSHIP DUES
IN JANUARY, 2002**

DEC 21 2001

Allen County Public Library

Membership dues **payable** first of January, 2002. Dues for 2002 are 10.00 for a single membership and 15.00 for a family, along with a 2.00 postage/handling fee. Your checks payable to the society and attention: President must show the amounts of 12.00 or 17.00. The two dollars will just cover the cost of postage and handling and expense of publishing the newsletter.

The above notice will apply to those who have not paid their dues for the coming year. In order to be aware expenses of the coming year, we must have all membership paid by January, 2002, regardless of when you joined this past year. Thank You. *Gene Yoquelet.*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I wish to take this opportunity to personally thank all of our members in the society. Your support and interest is greatly appreciated. Your membership dues generates 90% of our income. The society takes great pride in the newsletter which Joyce Crowl, editor/publisher does an outstanding job. She must be commended for her talent/expertise, and the time for this volunteer job. Also, those of you who made contributions - your articles are appreciated.

November, 2001 is the election year for officers in the society. It is important to keep in mind the future of the society, and the direction in which you want the society to take. This responsibility lies with each voting member. I encourage you to give this matter careful consideration and thought. Building upon the past and present accomplishments is a big plus for any organization and its elected officers.

Also, I want to commend our present officers who have faithfully served with me these past few years, for their support and volunteer service. You have become more like "family" than friends. Like Joan Monnier said: "we are all cousins, more or less", and how true. I believe this aspect is what makes our society so unique.

Au revoir! Gene



'New cemetery' - Besançon

CEMETERY RESTORATION WORKSHOP

This workshop was held Saturday, October 6 at the library in Madison, Indiana. Shirley and I spent part of the day attending the lecture/program which was sponsored by the Indiana Historical Society and the Jefferson County Genealogical Society.

A great deal of information was obtained particularly the laws of the state protecting cemeteries. Two state laws were passed by our State Representatives, and it is encouraging to know these people are supporting such a cause. If you want to know more about the two laws, contact me at 219-622-4067, and I will share the information, or you may contact the Indiana Historical Society.

Also, the Indiana Historical Society must be congratulated on its special department of Cemetery Restoration and Registration. It is a great benefit and asset to cemetery preservation throughout the entire state. Any group or organization that wishes to restore/preserve a cemetery must submit the required paper work to IHS and grants are made available.

We have a number of pioneer cemeteries in Allen County that are badly in need of preservation. These are of great historical value concerning our heritage and history. We cannot afford to let these landmarks fade into the past and never be recovered!! *Gene Yoquelet*

MISSION of The Besançon Historical Society

ARTICLE II - SECTION 2:

The mission of the Besançon Historical Society of East Allen County is to preserve, interpret, and foster a deeper understanding of the history, heritage, and culture of the rural community known as Besançon, Indiana, generally located in Jefferson Township, Allen County, Indiana, and which has as its central focus, Saint Louis Catholic Church.

Established: 1994

Besançon Indiana Chronicles
Number 18, December 2001

Society member Sue Kratzman has compiled the following index of names appearing in Issues 15, 16, and 17. The first number is the issue number of the newsletter. The second number is the page number.

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from Journal Gazette, November 30, 1912: Mr and Mrs Joseph Begue drove to Fort Wayne Tuesday with a load of produce.....Miss Gertrude Girardot saw the "Rosary" at the Majestic theatre Wednesday evening. November 30, 1912 Mrs H S Coulardot went to Detroit, Michigan for Thanksgiving. Mr and Mrs Joseph Dager and children were dinner guests at the Eli Cramer home, of near Baldwin Thanksgiving day. Mrs Frances Girardot is visiting her grandchildren at Coldwater.



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from Journal Gazette, December 7, 1912: Emile Ternet is having a well drilled on his farm. He contemplates building a house in the spring.....Eugene Bonjour shredded corn Saturday. Mrs Louis Bonjour, Mrs Frank Oberly, and Mrs Edward Monnot assisted with the cooking.....Frank Oberly erecting a vestibule for George Townsend.



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from Journal Gazette, December 19, 1912: The stork made a trip to the Geo. Yoquelet home last week and presented Mr and Mrs Youquelet with a nice little daughter as a Christmas present.....Raymond Mourey had wood buzzers Monday.....Justin Banet butchered some fine porkers last Monday for his own use.....Edward Dodane hauled corn to the Tillmens elevator and on the return trip corn cobs.....Frank Renille was hauling tile from the Zulu Tile mill this week.

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Journal Gazette - November 7, 1914. Tuesday, election day, was a busy day for everybody. The result in Jefferson township, being very satisfactory. The trustee office going to Mr. Julian Gremaux. His many friends congratulate him on his good fortune. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ternet and daughter, Velma, were riding around in a fine new Paige automobile last Wednesday, Mr Ternet is on the market for an auto and the agents had better get busy as he has not decided what kind he will purchase yet. Mr. Ira Hill, of Payne, O. was out here this week buying up a large load of poultry of all kinds for Thanksgiving



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Journal Gazette - November 30, 1914. Mr and Mrs August Pepe entertained a number of relatives from Fort Wayne Thanksgiving. Mrs Mary Pio and Master Arnold Pio were Fort Wayne visitors Friday afternoon. December 7, 1914. The following from here witnessed the basketball game at New Haven Friday evening: Misses Charlotte Lomont, and Pearl Behrman, Jesse Gladioux, Art Lomont, Bernard Henry, Clem Gladioux, John Lomont, Leo Boitel, Willie Ternet and Arthur Gladioux. Little Mabelle Pio of Fort Wayne is visiting her grandmother, Mrs Mary Pio.

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Journal Gazette: December 2, 1914 Mr Victor and Clyde Malquit, Allen and Manford Lomont called on Joseph Dondane Sunday afternoon. *December 17, 1913* Mr Jacob Giant, an old and highly respected resident of near Tillman station died at a late hour Sunday afternoon. For many years he has made his home with his son, Mr Joseph Giant and family. Mr Edward Oberley is spending the week at home with his parents, Mr and Mrs Frank Oberley. Mr and Mrs Joseph Ryan and children, of Gar Creek, spent Sunday, the guests of Mr and Mrs William Townsend.

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VETERANS DAY - 2001

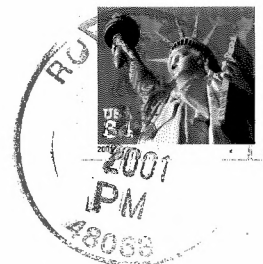
These are known Veterans
 buried at Besançon
 There were several without
 flags.

CLAUDE SEVERIN FEVRY
 JOSEPH A. GIRARD
 MORES N. ROSIS
 NOBERT J. RYAN
 MANFORD R. CAYOT
 ARNOLD PAUL OBERLEY
 LEONARD MARTIN
 ROBERT A. ROY
 NOEL KLINE
 JOHN CLETUS MULLIGAN
 CHARLES B. MALDENY
 JEROME E. BOWERS
 BERNARD V. KNEUVE
 CLETUS J. VOIROL
 NORBERT MARTIN
 MANFRED GERARDOT
 PAUL VOIROL
 ROBERT D. KENNERK
 ROSS W. COONROD
 MERLIN N. BOWERS
 GERALD P. OBERLEY
 HERMAN J. BOWERS
 RICHARD L. GLADIEUX
 CLETUS E. LOMONT
 COLYLE W. FRY
 RICHARD L. VOIROL
 JEROME A. LOTHAMER
 JACOB E. SEACREST
 (please let us know who we have
 missed - we wish to honor all!)



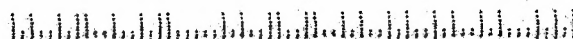
(on your left)
 a view of St. Louis Catholic
 Church with the
 'new cemetery'

Besançon Historical Society
15533 Lincoln Highway East
New Haven, IN 46774



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AMERICA

SAMUEL FRANCIS SMITH
Attributed to HENRY CLAY

My country, 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the Pilgrims' pride,
From every mountain side
Let freedom ring.

**

Our fathers' God, to thee,
Author of liberty,
To thee we sing; Long may
our land be bright
With freedom's holy light;
Protect us by Thy might,
Great God our King.

*You are cordially invited to attend
an*

BESANÇON JOYEUX NÔEL

ST. LOUIS CATHOLIC CHURCH

09 DECEMBER 2001

2:00 P.M.

*Presented by the adult choir under the
direction of Rita Brueggeman,
Jane Lomont, organist*

*Refreshments will be served
free will offering for the choir and
Besançon Historical Society*