

## Sample Family Biographies

Use the following biographies as examples when writing your family's biography

### WHOOLEY

Erin, Emily and Conor Whooley were all born at Harrison County Hospital in the years 1987, 1989, and 1993. These three children have attended schools, played sports, and lived all of their lives in Harrison County. Erin, Emily, and Conor feel that they are Harrison "Countians". Their parents, Michael and Molly, have a different story.

Molly too was born in Harrison County, at the hospital in March of 1961. She is the seventh child of John D. Laswell and Mayme Ruth Hopper Laswell. Molly grew up on what had, many years previously, been the Crawford County Poor Farm. Molly's heritage is mostly German, with names like Kellams, and Froman, with some English and maybe other things mixed in with names like Lee, Level, Curl and Hopper. As everyone knows, growing up on a farm in one of the best lives a kid can have, and Molly did indeed have a very nice childhood. After graduating high school she was unsure of what she wanted



to do, but knew she should probably go to college. She also knew that if she was going to college it would be Purdue and she would major in agriculture. Purdue is where Molly changed Mike's life.

Mike Whooley decided on Purdue University after serving four years in the Marine Corps. A large factor in that choice was the cost of living in Indiana, compared to that of New Jersey, where Mike had grown up. Michael Whooley was born in Queens, New York in November of 1958. He is the son and oldest child of Morgan Whooley and Jeannette Mohan Whooley. Morgan and Jeannette are first generation Americans. Both parents of both Morgan and Jeanette came to America from Ireland. Jeannette's parents came through Ellis Island, and their names are recorded there. Both Francis Mohan and Sarah Lennon Mohan were from County Cork, Ireland. However they did not know each other when they came to this country and in fact came here at different times. Comeilius Whooley entered a monastery when he was only 14 years old and living in County Mayo, Ireland. Comeilius was bright and became a teacher at the monastery. However, before taking his final vows to become a priest, Comeilius

had an appendix attack and was taken to the hospital. There he discovered that he liked the nurses very much, and thus made the choice to go to America. Brigid Killebrew Whooley also came from County Mayo, Ireland. She married John Carey who died and left here with a son John. Brigid then married Comeilius Whooley and had Morgan and his sister Evelyn. Brigid died from tuberculosis when Morgan was only four years old. Since the Irish tend to be tight lipped anyway, very little other information is known about Brigid.

Michael and Molly Laswell Whooley were married in July of 1984 at Dillman Church near Curby, Indiana. In July of 1987 they moved to Heidelberg Road, just south of Corydon, where they still reside. Michael has now lived in Harrison County longer than he has ever lived anywhere else. Molly is approaching that mark. In May of 2003 Morgan and Jeannette Whooley also moved to Corydon.

### WILLIAM ROTHROCK

The line of William Rothrock (1 September 1826) can be traced from Hans Rothrock (1602) through Michael 1639) Johannes (1684) and George (1721.) The family emigrated from Lieselheim, Germany to Bucks County Pennsylvania in 1736.

Peter (1755) served as a private in Captain Christopher's Sixth Company, Second Battalion, Bucks County Militia during the American Revolution. After the war he married Margaret Heidner (16 October 1755) 13 January 1785 and moved to Oneida, New York in 1793. In 1819, Peter, Margaret, their three children, a daughter-in-law, a grandson and a nephew floated down the Ohio River about 60 miles below Louisville, then up Blue River a few miles and settled near present day Wyandotte Cave. The Rothrocks timbered the 4,000 acres they purchased and built a series of mills along the banks of the Blue River. There were actually thirteen mills between Totten Ford Bridge and the Ohio River, six of which were operated by members of the Rothrock family.

Peter and Margaret had three children: Solomon (23 November 1786 - 22 April 1867), Henry Peter (8 Feb. 1792 - 11 Feb. 1871) and Mary (1 Aug. 1802 - 20 July 1872). Most Rothrocks in our area are descended from one of these three lines.

Solomon married Sally Clark and had 9 children. They were George, Philo, Amos, Margaret, Alexander, Louis, Rebecca, Mary, and Joseph. Solomon moved up Blue River and he and his descendants operated mills there, including the last standing Rothrock Mill, which was torn down in 1986.

Henry Peter married Lydia Marshall

Bounds and had 12 children. They were Abram, Lydia Shrigley, William, Julius, Minerva Wiseman, Polly Sharp, Almira Hughes, Rachel Cole, Henry Andrew, Harrison Washington, Margaret Bennett, and Sarah.

Mary married Joseph Wilson and had one son, Isaac.

Peter died on 4 Feb. 1826. Margaret died 8 Aug. 1842. Both are buried in the Rothrock cemetery at Wyandotte.

This narrative will continue by tracking



*Belle Rothrock Hall, Mary Margaret Rothrock Rosenbarger, Rose Rothrock Smoots, Julius Rothrock, Josephine Rothrock Conrad, Ida Rothrock Loudon, Cora Rothrock Conrad. In chair, William (Grandpa) Rothrock.*

the William Rothrock line. William (1826-1914) operated the family mill at Wyandotte. During this time he lived in Fox Hollow which is now part of the Harrison Crawford State Forest. After the death of his father. Henry P. Rothrock, in 1871, he moved about two miles upriver and founded the town of White Cloud. They built a home, which later became the Blue River Inn. He built a new grist and sawmill which the family operated until 1950.

William married Mary Ann McCullum (14 September 1828 - d. 18 June. 1898) daughter of James and Abigail (Sharp) McCullum. They had seven children and 24 grandchildren: Lydia Isabella Hall (1853); Alice Josephine Conrad (1855) - Ethel, Blanche and Edgar; Rosalie Jane Smoots - (1857) - Mary, Raymond, Edna and Richard, Julius (1859) - Victor, Albert, Russel and Ola; Ida Adelaide Loudon (1861),- Abby, Julius, Bob, Hobart and Anna; Mary Margaret Rosenbarger (1865) - Philip, William, Mary, Belle and Elsie; and Cora Louise Conrad (1867) - Mary Ann, Phyllis and Ruth.

William Rothrock died on December 26, 1914 and is buried in Blue River Chapel Cemetery along with his wife and numerous descendants.

*Now is the time for your family to make history!*

## Harrison County, Indiana Family History Book

Now is your chance to make history! The Harrison County Historical Society, in conjunction with M.T. Publishing Company, Inc., is sponsoring, compiling and publishing a Harrison County family history book.

As a non-profit organization, our purpose in publishing this family history is to preserve our county's family records for the education and enjoyment of future generations. There is no better time than the present to ensure that our history is not lost or forgotten over the years. However, we need your help in making this book a complete and accurate historical record.

If you or your family are currently living in Harrison County, or if you or your family has ever lived in Harrison County, we want to include your family biography!

There is no cost to publish your family's biography with one photo if it is within the 500 word limit. Biographies over 500 words will be charged 15 cents per word for each word over the limit. Additional photographs are \$5.00 each.

Write the biography in third person (he, she, they) and submit it in typed, double-spaced format on plain paper. If word-processed, please include a labeled disk or CD. Include such information as the date your family came to the county and from what county, state or country your family originated along with immigrant information such as port of entry or name of ship; interesting stories; vocations before and after settling in Harrison County; dates of marriage, births and deaths; military service; education; organizations or churches in which your family is involved; or types of businesses owned. Please try and include dates and places if possible. For examples read the family histories that are included in this brochure.

This limited edition 8.5" x 11" coffee-table size hard-bound history will contain between 200-400 pages, depending on response, printed on glossy, acid-free paper for superior photo reproduction and durability. The *Harrison County Family History* will include not only family biographies,

but also the history of the county and its churches, schools, organizations, and business complemented by hundreds of photographs – truly an heirloom to pass down for generations to come.

Because there will only be a limited number of books printed, it is necessary to collect book orders in advance. All revenue will be held in escrow at a local bank for payment to the publisher at a later date.

These collector books are numbered as they are published, so order now to be assured of valuable early numbers. Order the *Harrison County Family History* for a cost of just \$49.95 plus shipping, handling, and sales tax for Indiana residents.



Sincerely,

Roger W. Gleitz

Harrison County Historical Society

**Pre-Order Deadline: August 31, 2005**

## Your Photos are Needed!

The Harrison County Historical Society is in need of your help. Historical and recent photos of the people and places of Harrison County are needed for this special history book. All photographs will be reviewed for content and clarity and carefully selected for inclusion in the publication. Please submit original photographs or a professional reproduction (no photocopies or ink jet printer copies) no larger than 8" x 10". Be sure to include a caption with the date and place the photo was taken and who or what is depicted. Include your name, return address and a self-addressed stamped envelope and the photos will be returned upon completion of the book. Send your photographs to:

**Harrison County Family History**  
**Harrison County Historical Society**  
**5850 Devil's Elbow Rd., NW**  
**Corydon, IN 47112**

## Send in Historical Photographs Relating to:

- Agriculture:** Early tractors, farming and harvesting equipment, farms, etc.
- Buildings:** Log cabins, homes, courthouses, post offices, hospitals, etc.
- Businesses:** Drug stores, general stores, blacksmith shops, livery stables, banks, print shops, doctor offices, feed mills, saw mills, etc.
- Churches:** Buildings, church picnics, baptisms, revivals, etc.
- Clubs/Organizations:** Garden clubs, 4-H, military, etc.
- Events/activities:** Parades, political rallies, barn raising, disasters, floods, fires, etc.
- Families:** Ancestors, pioneers, father and mother, children, weddings, family picnics, etc.
- Schools:** Buildings, school activities, graduating classes, school buses, etc.
- Transportation:** Horse or mule teams, buggies, stagecoaches, early automobiles, road construction, trains, etc.
- Military:** Names of any local ancestors who fought in any war from the Revolutionary War to the present

## An Invitation To Be a Part of Our History Book

The Harrison County Historical Society is publishing a family and local history of Harrison County, Indiana. Along with the history section, this volume will also contain a PATRON section of Harrison County businesses, churches, schools, organizations and families as recorded in 2005 for future generations to read.

As a significant member of the community, you will want to put the history of your business, church, school, organization or family in print for future generations and historians to enjoy. All Harrison Countians are invited to submit their written history for prominent display in the professionally designed history book. Imagine the prestige that will be rendered to your business, church, school, organization or family by including it in this PERMANENT RECORD of Harrison County. The book will be between 200-400 pages (depending on response), 8-1/2 x 11 inches and hardbound. Only high quality paper is used for excellent photo reproduction.

In writing your business, church school or organization history, include any information you feel pertinent: the date your business, church, school or organization was started, location(s), who founded the business, church or organization, growth, etc., and a historic and current photo of your business, church school or organization (if possible). For a full page, you will want to submit approximately 800 words with two photos. For a half page history, you will want to submit approximately 300 words with one photo.

Business, Club/Organization and Memorial Patron pages are being sold for \$240.00 for a full page, \$185.00 for a half page and \$125.00 for a quarter page. A complimentary copy of the book is included with a full page purchase. School and Church Patron pages are available for \$125.00 for a full page, \$100.00 for a half page and \$75.00 for a quarter page.

Other county history books published by our publisher are on display at the Genealogical Library – our book will be of the same fine quality.

Please mail your typed material, photos and checks to the above address. If you have questions regarding this section of the book, please call the Harrison County Historical Society at (812) 738-2828.

This book is also supported by:  
**Quicksilver Resources, Corydon, IN**  
**Harrison County Community Foundation**  
 &  
**Harrison County**  
**Convention & Visitor's Bureau**

## Things to Remember

- Submit your biography in third person (he, she, they) in typed, double-spaced form on plain paper and include your family biography title on all pages.
- It is **FREE** to submit your 500 word or less family biography and one photo.
- Send either original photos or professional reproductions (xerox or ink jet printer copies cannot be reproduced for inclusion in the Harrison County history book).
- Please submit photos no larger than 8" x 10" with your name, address and a caption with the date printed clearly on the back of the photo.
- All photographs will be returned upon completion of the book. Please include a self addressed, stamped envelope of the appropriate size for returning your photograph.
- One biography with one photo per household, you may submit additional historical photos of people and places in Harrison County. Additional family biographies and family pictures may be included for an additional cost.

For the assistance of future genealogists and historians, it is helpful to include such information as dates and places of birth, marriages, and death. If your biography includes your initial immigrant to the United States include, if known, country and place of origin, when they came to the U.S., and the ship or port of entry. If they farmed, include the location. If in business, the name, location and type of business. Include schools attended and public, civic and business positions. Feel free to include other information or special family stories that help tell others about the person you are writing about.

## Contacts

- Roger & Karen Gleitz** 738-2828
- Missi Bush-Sawtelle** 267-3031
- Cheryl Proctor** 734-1209
- Dan Bays** 738-3570
- Donna Foster** 923-3492
- Chris Fisher** 347-2048

*Feel free to contact any of the individuals listed below regarding questions about the book project as well as suggestions and assistance in writing.  
 (All numbers are in the 812 area code.)*

Description	Qty	Price	Total
Harrison County Family History Book		\$49.95	
Shipping/Handling \$6.50 for the first book, \$4.00 for each additional book. <i>(Do not include if picking up order in person)</i>		\$6.50	
Embossing name on cover - \$6.00 per book		\$6.00	
Protective plastic book cover		\$2.75	
Additional word cost for family biography at 15¢ per extra word (over 500 words)		\$0.15	
Additional picture cost at \$5.00 per picture		\$5.00	
		<b>TOTAL</b>	

Name to be embossed on cover (up to 24 spaces):  
  
 Name for Book #1

Name for Book #2

Prices for Ordering Paid Pages	Size	Total
Business, Club/Organization & Memorial pages: 1/4 page - \$125.00 1/2 page - \$185.00 full page - \$240.00		
School and Church pages: 1/4 page - \$75.00 1/2 page - \$100.00 full page - \$125.00		
		<b>TOTAL</b>

Send all material, checks & orders to:  
**HARRISON COUNTY FAMILY HISTORY**  
 Harrison County Historical Society  
 5850 Devil's Elbow Rd., NW  
 Corydon, IN 47112

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

**For Office Use Only**

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_ Photo # \_\_\_\_\_

Title for Biography \_\_\_\_\_

Extra Photo # \_\_\_\_\_