

# Edgar County Genealogical Society

Volume XXXVI,  
Number IV  
May 2021

## Membership Renewal Time

It's that time of year again; time to renew your membership in the **Edgar County Genealogical Society**.

Dues for July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022

Individual, \$25.00

Lifetime for individual \$150.00

If you know of someone interested in their Edgar County ancestors, consider a membership for them as a gift.

Please check the label on the back of this issue to see if your membership expires on June 30th of this year. An "L" indicates a Lifetime membership.

If you have questions on your status you may email us at

[ecgl@edgarcountygenealogy.org](mailto:ecgl@edgarcountygenealogy.org) or call 217-463-4209 and leave a message.

### *Inside this issue:*

Edgar Co Vets	2
Black Hawk Soldiers	3
Destructive Fire	4
Stewart_Wm OBIT	4
Lycan_Mattie OBIT	5
Helfrich 50th Anniv	6
Fordson Tractor	6
Goodman Ford Dealer	7
Englum Cousins	7
Howard_James 90th BD	8
Alfalfa	9
Index	9

### SPRING IS HERE IN 2021

Every thing is turning green and the days are getting longer. Gradually the lockdowns are lifting. The Covid-19 pandemic has not ended, but the end seems to be in sight. In this time of avoiding crowds and being outdoors as much as possible, it is a good time to visit cemeteries. There is much to be learned: In which cemetery is your ancestor buried. Who is buried nearby? A military notation may be found on the stone or on a military plaque at the foot of the grave.

One can also evaluate the condition of the grave and stone. Vines may be growing on the grave. The stone may be leaning or covered with dirt, lichen, or fungus. The engraving may be difficult to read. In general, only water should be applied to the stone for cleaning. Sponges and soft bristled brushes may be used to gently clean the stones. Nothing should be applied to the stones to enhance the lettering. Some recommend rubbings, which entails laying a paper on the stone and rubbing crayon or pencil marks over to bring out the lettering.

## Coming Events

### Meetings

The quarterly meeting will be held on Monday, June 7, 2021 at 7 P. M. at the Meeting Room of the Edgar County Historical Complex, 408 N. Main Street, Paris, Illinois. Topic of meeting: Roundtable of sharing of remarkable findings of attendees in the last year.

**NOTE: Facemasks and social distancing will be maintained at the Meeting.**

**Check our Facebook page or webpage anytime for the latest updates!**

# Society Information

## Society Officers 2019-2020

President  
Judy **Cash**  
Vice President  
Jenny **Barkley**  
Program Chair

Secretary  
Teresa **Pennington**  
Treasurer  
Monica **Brunelle**  
Newsletter Editor  
Monica **Brunelle**  
Director  
Phyllis **Sutton**  
Webmaster  
Teresa **Pennington**

**Membership:**  
**Individual \$25 annually**  
**Single Life \$150**  
Annual Year: July 1 - June 30

Newsletter published:  
August, November,  
February, May  
Each membership receives  
one volume (four issues) of  
the Newsletter annually.

Fees received after March 1st  
will be applied to the coming  
year, unless you state other-  
wise on membership applica-  
tion.

## Meetings

The Society presents four  
programs yearly, including

the Annual Business Meeting  
in June. Those are announced  
in the Newsletter, the Prairie  
Press, on our website and  
Facebook pages.

## Queries:

Each member is entitled to at  
least one query published  
annually in the Newsletter,  
more as space permits.  
Non-Members are charged  
\$2 per query.  
Please limit each query to 10  
typed lines, including your  
name and address. A query  
should provide at least 3  
items: name(s), date(s) and  
location(s).

## Address Changes:

If your address is changing for  
any reason (moving or 911 ad-  
dress change) ECGS must be  
notified. We ARE NOT respon-  
sible for lost copies of the  
Newsletter. Replacement cost is  
\$3 per issue.

ILLINOIS STATE  
Genealogical Society  
#361R27  
Founded in 1984

*The Society  
welcomes **Ancestor  
Charts** from ECGS  
members for  
publication. Charts  
must be typed or  
clearly printed on  
8 1/2" X 11"  
paper. A letter,  
signed and dated  
by the submitter  
must be included  
with the charts,  
giving permission  
to ECGS to publish  
the charts in the  
next available  
Newsletter issue.*

*After publication  
all charts will be  
placed in the files  
of the Genealogy  
Library for  
reference by other  
family researchers.  
Please be sure to  
include your name,  
address (snail and  
email) and current  
date on each chart.*

## ECGS Meeting

No meeting was held in December, or March, because of the Covid-19 pandemic. See page 1 for the next meeting announcement.

## Edgar County WWII Vets

During and after World War II, the Paris newspapers have many articles about our servicemen as they served and as they returned. Below is a small article that indicates that these two young men left high school to join the service. Later in the newsletter are two articles about two young **Englum** men.

From *Paris Daily Beacon News*, Paris, IL, Saturday, October 13, 1943, page 3  
Two War Veterans Return to Paris High School

Two veterans of World War II are now enrolled in Paris High school where they will finish their education which were temporarily interrupted by the war.

Most recent enrollee is former Coast Guardsman Robert J. **Vaughn**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Riley **Vaughn**, 401 W. Arthur street, who entered as a freshmen shortly after his discharge two weeks ago. Mr. **Vaughn** served as motor mack whose job it was to service valves on a ship for nearly three years.

The second veteran is Donald **Clark**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence **Clark**, 1207 E. Marshall street, who will graduate with the class of 1946. He was a junior when he entered the Navy in September 1944, and went to the Great Lakes Naval Training Station for his initial armed forces instruction.

*Note: Donald **Clark** is in the PHS Arena (Yearbook) with the Seniors in the Class of 1946.*

# Edgar County Genealogy Library

## LIBRARY CLOSED - Appointments Only

The Edgar County Genealogy Library is currently closed except by appointment, because of the coronavirus quarantine. Appointments can be made by phone—leave a message— or email at [ecgl@edgarcountygenealogy.org](mailto:ecgl@edgarcountygenealogy.org) or by regular mail. Remember the phone, email, and mail are only checked once a week at the end of each week. The Library Board will meet in the next few weeks to determine when the library will return to regular hours on Thursdays and Fridays. Check the website at [www.edgarcountygenealogy.org](http://www.edgarcountygenealogy.org) to find the exact date when the library will reopen.



408 N Main  
Paris, IL 61944-1549

217-463-4209

Hours:  
Temporarily closed

Closed all holidays

Call for appointments during off hours or during inclement weather

## BLACK HAWK WAR SOLDIERS CAPTAIN JONATHAN MAYO'S COMPANY

1<sup>st</sup> Regiment, 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade of Illinois Mounted Volunteers, called into the service of the United States, on the requisition of Gen. **Atkinson**, by the Governor's proclamation, dated May 15, 1832. This company was organized in Edgar County, May 10, 1832. Mustered out August 15, 1832, by order of Brig. Gen. **Atkinson**.

### *Captain*

Jonathan **Mayo**

### *First Lieutenant*

Edward Y. **Russell**

Absent with leave. Aug. 4, 1832

### *Second Lieutenant*

John S. **McConkey**

### *Sergeants*

James **Buchannon**

Appointed 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant June 19, 1832

David **Crozier**

Daniel **Spencer**

Horse lost

Joseph P. **Barkley**

Appointed 4<sup>th</sup> Sergeant June 19, 1832

### *Corporals*

Simon **Cameron**

Tracy **Wheeler**

James **Bailey**

Ordered to Dixon's; supposed to be discharged

William N. **Shaw**

Appointed 4<sup>th</sup> corporal June 19, 1832

### *Privates*

**Alexander**, Washington

**Bradley**, John C.

Horse lost

**Burch**, Newell

Supposed to be discharged; horse lost

**Bond**, William

Supposed to be discharged; two horses lost

**Buseford**, Jonathan S.

Supposed to be discharged

**Certer**, Willard

**Dill**, John

**Dill**, Milton M.

Supposed to be discharged

**Doughertee**, Thomas H.

**Elder**, Hugh M.

**Evans**, Thomas

**Huff**, Calvin H.

Absent with leave July 8, 1832

### Librarians:

*Linda Barrett*

*Judy Cash*

*Catherin Entrican*

*Monica Brunelle*

*Joy Van Meter*

<b>Hobbs, Thomas</b>	Absent with leave Aug. 4, 1832
<b>Hobbs, Enos</b>	Absent with leave Aug. 4, 1832
<b>Jones, Samuel</b>	
<b>Lowry, Reuben</b>	Horse lost
<b>Lycan, Jacob</b>	
<b>Morgan, Wells</b>	
<b>Martin, Enos</b>	
<b>Morgan, Thomas</b>	
<b>Montgonera, Alexander</b>	Supposed to be discharged
<b>Matthews, John</b>	
<b>Pence, Emanuel</b>	
<b>Phillips, William</b>	
<b>Penson, Thomas</b>	Absent with leave. Aug. 4, 1832
<b>Rhea, Robert M.</b>	
<b>Rice, Hawkins</b>	
<b>Rice, Lewis</b>	
<b>Scott, Daniel</b>	
<b>Summerville, John</b>	
<b>Sprague, Harrison</b>	Supposed to be discharged
<b>Scott, Matthew R.</b>	
<b>Scott, Joseph</b>	
<b>Sumpter, Alexander</b>	Horse lost
<b>Sumpter, Abraham</b>	Supposed to be discharged, horse lost
<b>Trimble, Green C.</b>	
<b>Vance, William B.</b>	
<b>Vance, Joseph</b>	
<b>Wilson, John</b>	Horse lost
<b>Wyatt, Augustus B.</b>	
<b>Welch, Isaiah</b>	Rifle busted
<b>Welch, Abraham</b>	
<b>Whalen, Patrick</b>	Absent with leave. Aug. 4, 1832
<b>Whitley, William</b>	Transferred; appointed Hosp. Steward June 19, 1832

*Note: There were three units from Edgar County. Captain Sandford's unit was listed in the November, 2020 newsletter; Captain Griffin's unit was listed in the February, 2021 newsletter; Captain Mayo's unit is listed above. Some of the names may be misspelled.*

From *The Paris Daily Beacon*, Paris, IL, August 31, 1898, page 1

#### A Destructive Fire

A disastrous fire occurred on the farm of Wm. **Stewart** three miles north of Redmon Tuesday. Mr. **Stewart** was engaged in baling a quantity of straw when a spark from the engine set fire to the stack and in a very few minutes the blaze was wholly beyond control. It spread rapidly to an adjacent house and barn, both of which were consumed together with one hundred bushels of oats, a great deal of fencing, implements, and other property. The house was a small tenant structure and was fortunately unoccupied. The total amount of straw consumed was sixty tons of which fifty tons was baled. The loss will aggregate about \$1,000 without insurance.

From *The Chrisman Weekly Courier*, Chrisman, North Edgar Co, IL, Thursday, January 13, 1921, page 1

#### COUNTY IS SHOCKED

#### OVER ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF HON. WILLIAM STEWART

Edgar County Official Found no Evidence of Suicide at Inquest,

Which Was Held Same Afternoon

Following a complete investigation of the circumstances surrounding the tragic death of Hon. William **Stewart** at his home near Redman, about 12 miles northwest of Paris, Thursday at noon. Coroner John W. **Martin** returned a verdict of accidental death. The following jurors sat in the case and made the findings on which the verdict was based. B. F. **Alexander**, foreman; F. L. **Headley**, Henry **Gilbert**, T. W. **Poak**, S. R. **Bates**, and H. L. **Watson**.

The evidence indicated that **Stewart** had returned to his home after dragging a road and had told one of the boys to take the horse out of the rig while he shot some pigeons which had been nesting around the barn. Two guns being used for this purpose and both were on an enclosed porch adjoining the kitchen. Without shooting any of the pigeons **Stewart** returned to the house and told Wilbur **Henn**, a tenant on the farm, that he was going to clean the guns. He took up a single barrel gun and was cleaning it when **Henn** went into the kitchen where Mrs. **Stewart** was busily engaged getting dinner ready. Then came an explosion which both thought possibly was a shot at a pigeon, but when **Henn** walked out on the porch he found **Stewart** in the throes of death with a gaping wound in his left groin. Both guns were lying near. The single barrel gun had been wiped out with a cleaning cloth on the end of a ramrod. The assumption is, and the position of the wound proves it, that **Stewart**, having finished cleaning the single barrel gun, had reached over for the Winchester pump gun. This particular gun was known as a tricky one in the neighborhood. When a shell was slipped into place in the magazine and the breech returned to position it would cock the piece, which was possessed of a hair trigger. **Stewart** evidently believing the gun unloaded, had reached over, caught it by the muzzle with his left hand and started to pull it into position to place the ramrod into the muzzle with his right. The jar caused the explosion, just as the muzzle was in an inch or two of his body and the entire load entered his left groin, ranging upward through the liver. Death was almost instantaneous. He was prominent in politics and was a member of the constitutional convention serving on the committee on agriculture of that body.

William **Stewart** was 56 years old. He was a native of Edgar county and had spent all of his life in this section living part of the time in Paris. Thirty-two years ago Mr. **Stewart** led to marriage altar Miss Loretta **Sunkel**, a sister of County Treasurer, Elmer **Sunkel**. Mrs. **Stewart** and eight children survive. They are: Carl, Walter, Byron, Gwen, Gladys, Minnetta and LaFern **Stewart** and Mrs. Marie **Price**.

**Stewart** was a successful breeder of Short Horn cattle, and probably did more than any other man to put Edgar county on the map in the purebred cattle world. Two or three years ago, when his own herd of Short Horns had become known beyond county borders he asked an expert where he could secure a Short Horn sire which would make breeders throughout the world think of Paris, Ill. when the word Short Horn was said. The expert told him of two such sires. One already was on the way to South America to head a great herd in that country. The other was Fairacres Sultan Jr., which was purchased by **Stewart** at a cost of \$17,250 and became the head of the herd on **Stewart's** magnificent farm near Redmon.

**Stewart** was interested in all matters of civic progress and took an active and prominent part in politics being a loyal republican. He was a candidate for the nomination for the Illinois house of representatives in 1918, but did not sulk when his ambitions were denied by the voters. When delegates to the constitutional convention were chosen in 1919, his loyalty was rewarded and he was one of the two chosen to represent this district in that great body.

**Stewart** was a member of the Elks, the Modern Woodmen and had taken the entered apprentice degree in the Masonic order

The funeral was conducted from the Presbyterian church in Paris at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon. Rev. Edwin Lynde **Lord** officiating and interment was made in Edgar cemetery. The pall bearers were Dr. E. B. **Coolley** of Danville, I. N. **Coolley** of Brocton, Fred **Baber**, Walter **Hoenig**, Frank **Van Sellar**, and Phillip **Henn**.

From *The Paris Daily Beacon*, Paris, IL, Monday, March 14, 1921, page 1

#### MRS. HERBERT LYCAN GOES TO HER REWARD

Mrs. Herbert **Lycan** died at the Paris hospital Monday morning at 5:45 after a two months illness. She was born at Cedarville, Kan., August 17, 1876, and was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Perry **Stewart**. She came to Edgar County with her parents at the age of two years and had lived here ever since.

Mattie **Stewart** was united in marriage with Herbert **Lycan** January 6, 1897. He survives her with two daughters, Misses Amy and Louisa **Lycan**. They reside on a farm northwest of Paris. Mrs. **Lycan** was a member of the M. E. church.

Besides the husband and daughters, the following brothers and sisters survive: Mrs. Frank **Sunkel**, near Paris; Miss Anna **Stewart** of Santo Barbara, Cal.; Mrs. Pearl **Smith** of Paris; Mrs. Otis **Cross**, Mrs. Christine **Mattingly** and Miss Hazel **Stewart** of Newkirk, Okla.; and Ralph **Stewart** of Mountainair, New Mexico; and Glen **Stewart** of Paris. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Perry **Stewart**, reside at Newkirk, Okla.

No arrangement will be made for a funeral until distant relatives arrive.

Note: Mrs. Martha "Mattie" **Stewart Lycan** (17 August 1876 – 14 March 1921) age 44.

William Herbert **Lycan** (1872 – 1951)

From *Paris Daily Beacon-News*, Paris, IL, July 12, 1946, page 3

Couple Observes Golden Wedding Anniversary

Hundreds of friends called during open house hours last night at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John A. **Helfrich**, West Washington street, to extend congratulations on the day of their golden wedding anniversary.

– Their daughter-in-law, Mrs. Charles **Helfrich**, and Mrs. Gladys **Zimmerman** presided at the dining table, attractive with yellow roses and yellow tapers. Bell-shaped ice cream molds, cake with yellow icing, nuts, mints, and coffee were served. Also assisting in the dining room were Mrs. Carl **Helfrich**, Champaign, Mrs. James **Voege**, Mrs. Ruth **Sherer** and Mrs. Scott **Sunkel**.

The wedding of John A. and Marie **Harms Helfrich** took place in Chicago on July 11, 1896. Their attendants were A. J. **Schmidt**, a florist, now residing in Riverside, Ill. and Mrs. **Helfrich's** sister, Mrs. Dora **Piehl**, resident of Blue Island, Ill, who came for the golden wedding observance.

Immediately after their wedding, Mr. and Mrs. **Helfrich** went to Terre Haute, their home being on Hulman street in the eastern part of the city. While living there Mr. **Helfrich** was foreman at the M. A. Hunt Floral Company. In April, 1900, he purchased the H. D. **Caldwell** greenhouse, West Washington street, and he and his family moved to Paris, where he has since been in business without one days interruption, rebuilding and enlarging the original to its present size.

Mr. **Helfrich** was born on December 2, 1870, near Heidelberg, Baden, Germany. He learned the florist business there and in 1893 came to Chicago during the World's Columbian Exposition. He was employed in Chicago until his removal to Terre Haute in 1896. Mrs. **Helfrich**, native of the Province Hannover, came to Chicago in 1892 with her mother and sisters. She was born on February 17, 1872. Both are members of St. Mary's Catholic church.

They have three sons, Charles, who is associated with his father in the florist business, Albert of Detroit, Mich., and John of Alhambra, Calif. A granddaughter, Mrs. Betty **Helfrich Voege**, and a great granddaughter, Kathryn **Voege**, are residents of Alton, Ill.

The **Helfrich** home was a profusion of beautiful yellow blossoms. There were several arrangements that attracted special attention, including two gold cornucopias holding yellow calla lilies, sent by the Art Floral company, Champaign, and gold pottery with Talisman roses from Henley Florists, Terre Haute. Miss Agnes **Britz**, Danville florist, brought a corsage for Mrs. **Helfrich** and a boutonniere for Mr. **Helfrich**.

The beautiful register book, which will recall pleasant memories for years to come to Mr. and Mrs. **Helfrich**, was an anniversary gift from the Edgar Count Building and Loan association of which Mr. **Helfrich** is a director.

Rev. Father J. J. **Cronin** conducted a special high mass at 7:30 o'clock Thursday morning at St. Mary's church for Mr. and Mrs. **Helfrich**. Many gifts and congratulatory cards were received. Among the out of town relatives in attendance were Mr. and Mrs. James **Voege** of Alton and Mr. and Mrs. Carl **Helfrich** of Champaign.

Note: John A. **Helfrich** 2 Dec 1870 – 31 Mar 1954

Marie D **Harms Helfrich** 17 Feb 1872 – 29 Dec 1951

From *The Paris Daily Beacon*, Paris, IL, March 11, 1921, page 6, An Ad

WHAT EDGAR HENN SAYS ABOUT HIS FORDSON TRACTOR

Redmon, Ill., 1-3-21

Goodman Motor Co.,

Paris, Ill.

Gentlemen:

I have owned my Fordson 16 months and it has done the work of 6 horses and at least 1 man. In the fall of 1919 I plowed 50 acres for wheat and harrowed it 4 times. I also plowed 60 acres for corn. In the spring I disked in 100 acres of oats, plowed 40 acres for corn and double disked 360 acres for corn. During harvest I cut 100 acres of oats and 30 acres of wheat and at that work I averaged 25 acres per day.

In plowing I averaged 8 acres in 10 hours on about 20 gallons of kerosene and ½ gallon oil. I can easily double disc 30 acres in 10 hours.

I wouldn't think of farming without my Fordson as it does my work cheaper, better and quicker than horses.

Very truly yours,  
EDGAR HENN

From *The Chrisman Weekly Courier*, Chrisman, North Edgar County, IL, Thursday, July 1, 1920, page 1

#### Opening of Ford Branch in Chrisman

The Chrisman branch of the Goodman Motor Company, Ford and Fordson dealers, will be opened in full swing Saturday evening, July 3<sup>rd</sup>. Invitations have been sent out to 800 residents of Chrisman and vicinity, but everybody is invited to inspect Chrisman's latest business institution.

Dan V. **Goodman**, owner of the Goodman Motor Company, has been in Chrisman for the last two weeks getting things in shape for the opening of the branch office. A complete line of cars, tractors, parts, tires, tubes and accessories will be handled.

The opening Saturday night is expected to be a real enjoyable affair. It will be an old-fashioned get-together meeting. Ice cream and sandwiches will be served and the Cross orchestra of Paris will furnish the music from 7 until 10 o'clock.

In speaking of the new branch Mr. **Goodman** said, "We felt that it was not good business to expect Ford and Fordson owners to go 15 to 20 miles to find the authorized Ford dealer, so we decided to place a branch which it is in easy reach of our customers. We will render the same high grade of service that has made our Paris business a success. We want the confidence of the residents of Chrisman, and we will never betray that confidence."

Mr. **Goodman** took over the Ford agency in Paris on Oct. 13, 1919. In addition to the Chrisman branch, he is opening a branch at Kansas, Ill. along the same lines as the one here. Since taking over the Ford business he has delivered 278 Ford cars and 21 Fordson tractors. The people of Paris speak very highly of Mr. **Goodman**, and his organization will be a good addition to Chrisman.

Ralph P. **Kimble** will be the manager of the Chrisman branch. He served in the United States army with Mr. **Goodman** during the late war. Mr. **Kimble** comes from Indianapolis where he was office manager for nine years of the Tiona Refining Co. Mr. and Mrs. **Kimble** have taken up their residence in Chrisman and are living in the Howe property on South Iowa street.

From *Paris Daily Beacon-News*, Paris, IL, October 30, 1943, page 1.

#### Illinois Looks Good to Soldier Coming Home For First Time In Nearly Two Years

Palestine, Jerusalem and other points of historic interest visited by Sgt. John W. **Englum** were grand, but nothing was so grand as good old Illinois to Sgt. **Englum** as he returned to his Edgar County home this week after serving two years in the armed forces in the bomb group of the United State Army Air Corps. "I'm perfectly content to stay right here", he said and from the look of satisfaction in his eyes he meant every word of it.

Sgt. **Englum**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank **Englum**, Paris R. R. 7, was discharged from the armed forces under the terms of the National Health and Safety provision. He was returned home to take charge of his father's farm, Mr. **Englum** being in ill health.

It was hard for Sgt. **Englum** to leave his cousin Sgt. James W. **Englum**, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. **Englum**, with whom he has served in the army since leaving Paris for induction in January 1942. They were not only inducted together but they have remained together constantly ever since, having received their promotions simultaneously and have been through the hazards of war together. The Edgar county airman "hitch-hiked" back to Paris from the North African theater of war. Even though he came the round about way, he saw country that he might not otherwise have seen.

He was inducted in January 1942 and after his induction never returned home. He did, however, come through Paris on the train enroute to Jackson, Miss., where he had his recruit training. Later he was on shore patrol duty at Fort Meyer, Fla., helped build the air base at Lakeland, Fla., and finally was sent to Ft. Dix, N. J. and from there to overseas duty. He went overseas in July 1942. While on overseas duty, going and coming, he visited West Africa, the Ascension Islands, Brazil, Trinidad, Puerto Rico, and the Dutch West Indies.

As a result of his activities in the foreign Theater of war he is wearing the good conduct ribbon for middle eastern service, the American Theater ribbon and one for overseas service. He visited Jerusalem on two different occasions and there saw sights of biblical interest. Many of the sights, which he saw, and activities in which he engaged could not be repeated by the returning Sergeant, because of military regulations.

*Note: John William Englum (20 November 1911 – 20 June 1996); father, Frank Englum (1881 – 1946)*

*James W. Englum (28 December 1915 – 17 June 1988)*

From *Paris Daily Beacon News*, Paris, IL, September 18, 1945, page 2

#### Discharges from U. S. Service

James W. **Englum** of Rural Route 7 was released from Camp Atterbury on Sept. 14 on the basis of the point system of demobilization with a total of 15 battle stars on his EAME ribbon. This is the greatest number of battle stars acquired by any Edgar county man, according to certificates of honorable discharge on file in the office of the circuit clerk. Overseas two and one half years, **Englum** was first sent to Africa, where he acquired his first star for the campaign of Egypt-Libya. Subsequent campaigns included Tunisia, Sicily, Po Valley, Naples-Foggia, Central Europe Air Offensive of Europe, Northern Apennines, Rome-Arno, Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland, Southern France, Ardennes, Air Combat of the Balkans and Phoesti. Additional decorations include the American Defense ribbon, Good Conduct ribbon and the Distinguished Unit Citation with Oak Leaf Cluster.

---

From *The Paris Daily Beacon-News*, February 28, 1931, page 3

Two Mile Hike Before Breakfast Daily Habit  
For Civil War Veteran

Advanced age does not hinder James D. **Howard**, 89 year old Civil war veteran and resident of Edgar county for the past sixty-six years from taking a two mile hike every morning after breakfast. In fact, he attributes his wonderful health and his ability to do the chores about his home on Sheriff street to this daily form of exercise.

Mr. **Howard** fought in twenty-seven decisive battles in the war including the skirmishes at Champion Hill, Corinth, Haines Bluff, the Wilson Raid, the battle at Brier Field Iron works and a number of others while serving time with the 10<sup>th</sup> Missouri Voluntary Cavalry, which unit of the service he joined at St. Louis on November 20, 1863. He remembers well the last battle in which his company played an important role at Columbus, Mo. on April 16, 1865, shortly before the close of the hostilities. Here the cavalry made a mounted charge in the night to capture the river bridge at Columbus. Following the siege Mr. **Howard** witnessed the killing of the defending commander because he would not surrender his hold of the bridge.

Comes to Edgar County

Following the close of the hostilities Mr. **Howard** came to Edgar county, having learned previous to this date that his home in northern Missouri had been destroyed by the Rebels. Mr. **Howard** settled here with his uncle, Jonathan **Howard**, who, at that time, lived near Conlogue. While living with his uncle, Mr. **Howard** went to common school at what is now the Conlogue school, having been deprived of his education during the early part of his life when he lived in Owens county, Indiana, with his parents. He did not continue going to school, however, for any length of time because of the necessity of earning a living.

After leaving the home of his uncle, Mr. **Howard** went to the home of Mr. J. G. **Lycan**, who at that time lived south of Paris on what is now the Dixie Highway, to work. He married Mr. **Lycan's** daughter Susan **Lycan** in September 1867. The newly married couple lived with the **Lycan** family until their death, and in 1869 the **Howards** moved to a farm east of Paris. Mrs. **Howard** died in 1886, while they were living east of Paris on the farm. Following her death, Mr. **Howard** sold the farm and bought the Captain David **Curtis** land near the present county farm.

In 1891 Mr. **Howard** was married a second time to Alice **Curtis**, the daughter of Captain **Curtis**, and they moved to Paris and located at 501 Sheriff street. He had retired from the farm at that time because of the poor health of Mrs. **Howard**, who died in 1928, following a long illness. He later married Hattie **Elledge**, who is living with Mr. Howard at the residence on Sheriff street, which he bought when first moving to Paris approximately forty years ago.

Likes Farm Life

The aged pioneer does not particularly care for the city life and yet he does not object to the conveniences at his present home, but when questioned about farm life he is of the opinion that he would like to have about forty acres of good country ground for farming purposes. The two-mile walk every morning is a substitute, Mr. **Howard** says, for the exercise he would be getting daily were he on the farm.

Born In Indiana

Mr. **Howard** was the son of Benjamin and Jane **Madaris Howard** and was born in Owen county, Ind., on February 7, 1842. His birth place was near Spencer where his father was engaged in farming previous to moving to northern Missouri in 1851. Mr. **Howard** had four brothers, William, Pleasant Emory, Benjamin Franklin, and John Wesley and one sister, Mary Elizabeth. He has neither seen nor heard from any of his family since he joined the army at St Louis in 1863.

One child was born to the union of Mr. **Howard** and his first wife. She was Mrs. James **Burchit** of Casey. Mrs. **Burchit** died several years ago.

*Note: James Davis **Howard** (7 February 1842 - 30 March 1933)*

*Susan **Lycan Howard** (15 April 1850 - 7 December 1886)*

*Hannah Alice **Curtis Howard** (24 September 1851 - 1 May 1928)*

*Hattie Jane **Bates Thornton Elledge Howard** (9 November 1875 - 21 October 1967)*



From *Paris Daily Beacon News*, Paris, IL, Saturday, October 13, 1945, page 3

“Alfalpa” Enrolls at Mattoon High

Carl Dean **Switzer**, 18, better know as “Alfalpa” of the “Our Gang” comedies registered as a junior at Mattoon high school Thursday afternoon and will begin attending classes Monday.

**Switzer** is making his home with his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Ivan **Smith**, Mattoon. His mother, Mrs. Gladys **Switzer**, is also a Mattoon resident.

*Note: Carl Dean **Switzer** (7 August 1927 – 21 January 1959) age 31 years. He was born in Paris, Illinois, the son of Fred and Gladys **Shanks Switzer**. He and his brother, Harold **Switzer**, sang and preformed around Paris. They would preform around the square or at the sales barn for donations. Alfalfa went to Redmon school for a short time. The family moved to California in 1934 when Aflalfa was six years old. He and his brother were in “Our Gang” movies. In 1959 he was in an argument with a man over a gambling debt. Alfalfa had a knife and the other man a gun. The accused man, a hunting partner, was later cleared of murder. It was ruled a justifiable homicide. Teddy Day wrote a column in the Paris Beacon about him on August 30, 2002.*

## INDEX

Alexander	3,4	Headley	4	Spencer	3
Atkinson	3	Helfrich	8	Sprague	4
Baber	5	Henn	5,6	Stewart	4,5
Bailey	3	Hobbs	4	Summerville	4
Barkley	2,3	Hoenig	5	Sumpter	4
Barrett	3	Howard	8	Sunkel	5,6
Bates	4,8	Huff	3	Sutton	2
Bond	3	Jones	4	Switzer	9
Bradley	3	Kimble	7	Thornton	8
Britz	6	Lowry	4	Trimble	4
Brunelle	2,3	Lycan	4,5,8	Vance	4
Buchannon	3	Madaris	8	VanMeter	3
Burchit	8	Martin	4	VanSellars	5
Buseford	3	Matthews	4	Vsughn	2
Caldwell	6	Mattingly	5	Voege	6
Cameron	3	Mayo	3	Watson	4
Cash	2,3	McConkey	3	Welch	4
Certer	3	Morgan	4	Whalen	4
Clark	2	Montgonera	4	Wheeler	4
Coolley	5	Pence	4	Whitley	4
Cronin	6	Pennington	2	Wilson	4
Cross	5	Penson	4	Wyatt	4
Crozier	3	Phillips	4	Zimmerman	6
Curtis	8	Piehl	6		
Dill	3	Poak	4		
Doughertee	3	Price	5		
Elder	3	Rhea	4		
Elledge	8	Rice	4		
Englum	2,7	Russell	3		
Entrican	3	Schmidt	6		
Evans	3	Scott	4		
Gilbert	4	Shaw	3		
Goodman	7	Sherer	6		
Harms	6	Smith	5,9		

**Edgar County  
Genealogical Society**

PO Box 304  
Paris, IL 61944-0304

Phone: 217-463-4209

Email:

[ecgl@edgarcountygenealogy.org](mailto:ecgl@edgarcountygenealogy.org)

website:

[www.edgarcountygenealogy.org](http://www.edgarcountygenealogy.org)

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Edgar-County-Genealogy-Library/121604417853747>.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Check us out on  
Facebook!

## Publications for Sale

### Cook Funeral Home

(three books in one volume)

Vol. I Jul 1892-Mar 1897

Vol. II Mar 1897-Dec 1902

Vol. III Oct 1918-Dec 1928

\$19 postage paid

### Edgar County, IL Marriages:

Vol. I 1823 - 1859 \$29ppd

Vol. II 1860 - 1877 \$24ppd

Vol. III 1878 - 1886 \$26ppd

Vol. IV 1887 - 1893 \$26ppd

Vol. V 1894 - 1900 \$26ppd

Vol. VI 1901 - 1906 \$28ppd

Vol. VII 1907 - 1910 \$30ppd

Vol. VIII 1911 - 1914 \$28ppd

---

### Paris, IL Illustrated & Descriptive 1908

44 pages

138 photos

\$22.50 postage paid

These publications can be ordered from the Edgar County Genealogical Society at PO Box 304, Paris, IL 61944. For a complete listing of our publications send #10 self-addressed envelope to same address or visit our website at [www.edgarcountygenealogy.org](http://www.edgarcountygenealogy.org).

Edgar County, Illinois  
Genealogical Society

Member Name:

Expires: June 30, 2021