

The Nail-Ray Association was founded in 1981 to celebrate the lives and preserve the legacy of Henry & Mary (Keller) Nail and Thomas & Elizabeth (Pearce) Ray, pioneers of Shelby County, Indiana. The association meets each year on the weekend of the second Sunday in June. Membership dues are \$10.00 per mailing address.

2001 NAIL-RAY ANNUAL MEETING
Business Meeting, Saturday, June 9, 2001
Family Reunion, Sunday, June 10, 2001

It's that time of year again, come as early as you can and stay as long as you can. Especially welcome are those newcomers who have recently heard about us; however we are always eager to see again those who come often: we enjoy each other so much.

Shelbyville is on Interstate 74 about 25 miles southeast of Indianapolis. The following three motels are located at exit 113 Indiana State Road 9.

Comfort Inn, 36 W. Rampart, Phone 317~398-8044, \$50.00 for 1 to 4. Queen-beds, large continental breakfast and indoor pool. Identify yourself as Nail-Ray reunion people and ask for Pam Green. Saturday morning business meeting will be held at this Motel.

Holiday Inn Express, 68 E. Rampart, 317-398-0472, \$62.10 for 1 to 2, \$7.00 for each additional person. Continental breakfast, indoor pool, king-sized beds.

Super 8 Motel, 20 W. Rampart, 317-392-6239, \$40.00 for 1 to 2, \$4.00 for each additional person. Continental breakfast.

The following motel is located at exit 116 Indiana State Road 44.

Lee's Inn, 317-392-2299, \$74.00 for 1 to 4. Large continental breakfast, recently redecorated and new mattresses. Ask for Marlene and identify as Nail-Ray.

All of these motels have some special rates, some for Senior citizens, some for certain credit cards, some for groups. Everyone call in your own reservations by May 1, motels fill up early. Always tell them you are with the Nail-Ray Reunion.

*****SCHEDULE OF EVENTS*****

Friday, June 8th: Some of you will be arriving today. We would like to know that you are here, so call if you can (Tom & Lynda, 398-7921). Come on out if you know the way. You might rather rest a bit, or talk to others arriving at your motel.

Our popular "option" for Friday evening is the Boggstown Inn and Cabaret. Some of us each year enjoy their ragtime music, food, and fun. There are some new entertainers but some of our favorite oldies are still there. Cost is \$15.00 for the show and from \$10.95 to \$16.95 for dinner (bar drinks and dessert extra). **RESERVATIONS IN ADVANCE** if you are going to the Cabaret call Rebecca at 317-835-2417 by May 8th. Nail-Ray Association will prepay the \$15.00 for each of you and you repay Nail-Ray Association after you get here. They fill up early so if you are pretty sure you are going, better call; cancel later if you have to.

Those going to the Cabaret gather at the Plymate farm at 5:30 p.m. The home is three miles west from Shelbyville on the Boggstown Road on the right side of the road, white picket fence across the front yard, name PLYMATE and the number 2442 on the mail box. At your motel you can probably find someone who knows the way, or call Tom and Lynda at 317-398-7921.

Saturday, June 9th, 9:30-11 :30 a.m. at Comfort Inn 36 W Rampart Road. This is a new location. President Tom Plymate will preside at the business meeting. Major items on the agenda include a discussion of locations for the future Nail-Ray meetings and a demonstration of the InGenWeb Project, a comprehensive web site for Indiana Genealogy.

Noon: Lunch on your own at any of our many fast food places (same as in your town) or at Chicken Inn, Jackson Street Fish Fry, Golden Corral, or the elegant Hamilton House, one of Shelbyville's finest old homes.

After lunch Saturday from 1:00 to 12:45 p.m. free time you may want to visit the Genealogical Library, Historical Museum or browse in the Brandywine-Center Cemetery.

At 3:00 p.m. we will gather at the Forrest Hill Cemetery, Morris Avenue, Shelbyville at Dorothy's gravesite for a MEMORIAL SERVICE conducted by the Nail-Ray Association Chaplain James Russell. James has asked that we all be thinking of special memories of Dorothy that we would like to share at this service.

Back to Dorothy's home after the memorial service where our cousins Julia and Cora Marie Goodrich will cater a delicious home cooked meal, including hot biscuits and apple butter! Cost is \$7.50 per person -- call Rebecca for reservations 317-835-2417 -- pay when you arrive. After the meal we will sit on the Plymate porch and visit.

Sunday, June 10th, 9:15 a.m. Worship at Old Union U.M. Church, founded in 1854 with Samuel Nail, Jacob Kinney, and Zephaniah Stubbs as first trustees. (All three members of the Nail-Ray Families).

Between church and dinner you will have time to return to your motel and pick up something at a deli for the pitch-in dinner, a salad, a vegetable, a dessert. Local people please bring food. Meat will be furnished as will coffee and iced tea, and table service.

Be back at the church **at 12:00 Noon**. Take your food to the basement, and while waiting for every body to arrive, you may go upstairs and visit in the sanctuary, or you may remain in the basement. After dinner, program in the sanctuary. Our traditional Shaking the Family Tree will be first, hope many ancestors are represented. A special dedication of the new sign for the Wray and Brandywine Center cemeteries will follow. Chaplain James Russell will give the benediction.

Stop by Tom & Lynda's for a light supper before your journey home.

Sometime during the week-end please remember to pay your dues, or mail them to the association address. Membership dues are \$10.00 per mailing address.

Looking forward to being together again!

CEMETERY SIGN PROJECT

The event that first brought many of us together, and that led directly to the formation of the Nail-Ray Association, was the dedication of the Revolutionary War marker for the grave of Thomas Ray in the little country cemetery across the road from the Old Union Methodist Church. Over the years, many of us have wondered why that cemetery was never marked with an appropriate sign. In fact, the correct name for that cemetery has been a source of some confusion.

When Dorothy Plymate passed away earlier this year, Tom and Lynda decided to purchase a new gravestone for Dorothy and her husband George. Tom and Lynda thought it might be a nice memorial to Dorothy to have their old marker re-cut and reused as a name plate for the country cemetery. However, the stone was not large enough to make an appropriate cemetery sign by itself, because the lettering would be too small to be visible from the road. After talking the idea over with several of the other officers of the Nail-Ray organization, they came up with the design shown below. The horizontal planks will be 2" thick red oak, the most weather-resistant of the native hardwoods that the early pioneers would have had at their disposal as they carved their new homes out of the Indiana wilderness. The large letters will be five inches tall, and the top of the sign will be seven feet above the ground.

As their contribution to the project, Tom and Lynda are providing the granite marker and paying to have it re-lettered as shown in the detail below. The officers and other members of the board of directors of the Nail-Ray Association have authorized the rest of the project to be paid for from existing funds in the association treasury. We hope to have the sign completed by Nail-Ray weekend this June, and we plan to have a dedication ceremony as part of our Sunday afternoon program on June 10.

