

# The Crawford Countian



**Q1 - 2017**

Welcome to the first issue of "The Crawford Countian" for 2017! Last year was pretty crazy and exciting for the CCHGS, and this year is looking to be even better! Our grant application for the Proctor House is moving towards a Spring deadline. If we can get that grant, it will be such a blessing. Fingers crossed on that one! The headquarters building is still being fixed up and organized. With only a few of us able to help, it's taking a bit longer than expected. I hope for an open house soon (March maybe...?). As always, any help, be it donations or man power, is welcomed. We received several generous donations recently that will help out tremendously. Generosity like that helps keep us going. We are also looking for guest speakers. If you have a subject on history (be it Crawford or elsewhere) and would like to present a program, please contact me. We are open to any subject that is informative and entertaining. A guest for March is already lined up and the speaker will be William Stroud (March 14th, 6:30pm at the head quarters building) with the subject of the railroad in Crawford County.



- William Piper, President of CCHGS

contact: [billpiper@hotmail.com](mailto:billpiper@hotmail.com)  
 snail mail: PO Box 472, English IN 47118

*Cover picture of Big Springs Old Town Church in Marengo*

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### Warner Bruce Watts album quilt

Back in September 2016, I received an email from Ken and Nancy Watts of Maineville, Ohio. The couple had this quilt for quite awhile and recently re-discovered it. They had decided to donate it the CCHGS in that we will be able to preserve this piece of history and display it for all to see. Ken and Nancy eventually brought the quilt to our headquarters and met with myself (William Piper) and Roberta Toby. The quilt designed by Warner Bruce Watts includes names stitched in by that particular person onto each section of the quilt. The people were mainly from the eastern part of Crawford County but also some New Albany folks. Along with the quilt was a copy of a letter written by Bruce's brother, John Watts, as well as a list of names and a photo of Bruce himself. Below is a transcript of the letter (I left the grammar as is, though corrected some of the spelling):

*To whom it may concern.*

*Warner Bruce and Sarah Stellene Watts were born August 12th, 1895 in Powell County Kentucky. Their parents moved to Clark County shortly afterwards. The twins received grade school education at one room school house known as Sugar Ridge, some four miles east of Winchester Kentucky. Sara Stellene went on to college at Richmond, Kentucky, but Bruce stayed on farm, and was a farm hand until called to arms in first world war.*

*Bruce was a natural handle of horses, so he was assigned to train horses and mules for the cavalry at Oglethorpe Georgia, all during the war. After discharge, he came back to Kentucky and worked in the tobacco fields until the early twenties, when he got a position as assistant manager and cashier at Sycamore Hammand parking garage in Cincinnati, Ohio. He held that position until the depression came and the garage changed hands (to the victor went the spoils). Bruce was replaced, at a time when there were no available work, so he went to Father and Mother's home near Milltown Indiana. It was there, with time on his hands that he amused himself by making quilts. His sister had sewed for eleven children, so there was plenty of scrap material, and some help in needlework, he had plenty of names to put on the quilts, lady friends, nieces and old acquaintances from Kentucky, some of which were friends of mother and father. When the economy got better, he went back to Cincinnati and was employed as cashier, and assistant manager*



*at the Olympic parking garage. One of the regular customers at the garage offered him a position of transportation manager of vehicles that hauled salesmen and visitors, to and from airports and bus stations. He held that position until forced retirement, which he felt was too soon.*

*I have no idea what the dates on the quilt represent, but I know they must have had a special meaning to him and as you can see, I knew quite a few of them names.*

*I hope this has give you some background on a long past action, as he was eleven years older than I.*

*We would enjoy a visit from you all, just give us a few days notice and we will have something to tide you over till you get back home.*

*Excuse all mistakes please.*

*Your uncle,*

*John R. Watts*

(Pictured above is Warner Bruce Watts)

Here is a list of the names on the quilt and the date when they were added:

**Top Row:**

<i>Warner Bruce Watts - Vacationing, Marengo Ind</i>	<i>3-8-33</i>
<i>Clyde and Viola Fox - Dayton, KY</i>	<i>1-20-33</i>
<i>Rella Mason - Mother of Howard Esco Mason, Milltown Ind</i>	<i>10-11-32</i>

*E.K. Wright - Storeowner, Marengo, Ind* 1-5-33  
*Charles and Bertha Kirsch - Neighbor, Milltown Ind* 10-8-32

**Second Row:**

*Faye Ritchie - Lady friend, route #1 English Ind* 12-30-32  
*Geneva Stephenson - Lady friend, Marengo Ind* 5-3-33  
*Edith Miller - Neighbor, New Albany Ind* 10-11-32  
*Lucy Miller - Mother of Edith, Milltown Ind* 10-10-32  
*Lloyd and Madge Adams - Friends of Sarah C., New Albany Ind* 10-7-32

**Third Row:**

*Alma Stephenson - Lady friend, Marengo Ind* 12-30-32  
*Nellie L. Jones - Acquaintance, Milltown Ind* 2-24-33  
*Dr. Daisy Lindgreu - Lady friend, Marengo Ind (dentist)* 5-9-33  
*Ruth Ritchie - Lady friend, Route #1 English Ind* 11-16-32  
*Edna Conrad - Neighbor, Milltown Ind* 1-20-33

**Fourth Row:**

*Florence Howell - Rekindle old flame, Akron Ohio* 3-21-33  
*The Willis Family - Friend of the Foxes, Dayton KY* 1-21-33  
*Vera Krausgrill - Friends of Sarah Cates, New Albany Ind* 3-6-33  
*Rebecca Gest - Friend of W.W. Stevenson, Tavares Florida* 10-5-32  
*Mr and Mrs N. S. Conrad - Neighbor, Milltown Ind* 1-20-33

**Fifth Row:**

*Mr and Mrs Matt J. Benz - English Ind* - 33  
*Avis Miller - Daughter of Lucy Miller, Milltown Ind* 1-26-33  
*Sylvia Neely - Friend of Sarah Cates, New Albany Ind* 3-6-33  
*Mrs. W.W. Stevenson - Church friend, Tavares Florida* 10-5-32  
*Nora Hoten - Neighbor of the Watts, Milltown Ind* 10-32

**Sixth Row:**

*Sarah Stellene and Perley Cates - New Albany Ind* -45  
*Mrs. A. R. Scott - Formerly neighbors now, at Pilot Knob Ind* --  
*Mr and Mrs Lloyd Goldman - Perley Cates' inlaw, English Ind* 4-1-33  
*Ella M. Sloan - Acquaintance, Marengo Ind* 12-20-32  
*Mary M. Miller - Acquaintance, Marengo Ind* 12-20-32

I apologize if I messed up on any of the transcripts. Sometimes I have problems with others use of cursive handwriting. The quilt itself will be on display at the CCHGS headquarters once we are open full time to the public. If you have any family associated to the quilt, it will definitely be worth checking out to see their name stitched on it. Once again, a HUGE thanks to Ken & Nancy for their generous donation!!

-bP

## *From the County Historian's Desk*

### Crawford County Pioneer's Book

The Crawford County Historical & Genealogical Society is planning to publish a book on the Pioneer settlers of our county. There is a form on the website that can be used, but you do not have to follow that form to have your families entered in the book.

The stipulations are that they had to be residing here by December 31, 1840. If they are in the census by that time, or if you have a marriage for them by that date. Any one record that will show they were living here by then.

We are asking for a history of the family in story form. Name, place of birth, who they married, children, occupation, where they settled in the county. All interesting information that you would like to add, photo's if possible. Just send us what info you have. It can be a paragraph or two, or several pages. We just want to enter as many pioneers in the book as possible.

We will need your information by Sept. 1, 2017 as the book is to be ready for sale for the 200th anniversary of Crawford County, which is just one year away.

I have listed below the surnames of the people living here in the first census of Crawford County in 1820. Some names will have different variations of spelling from what is used today.

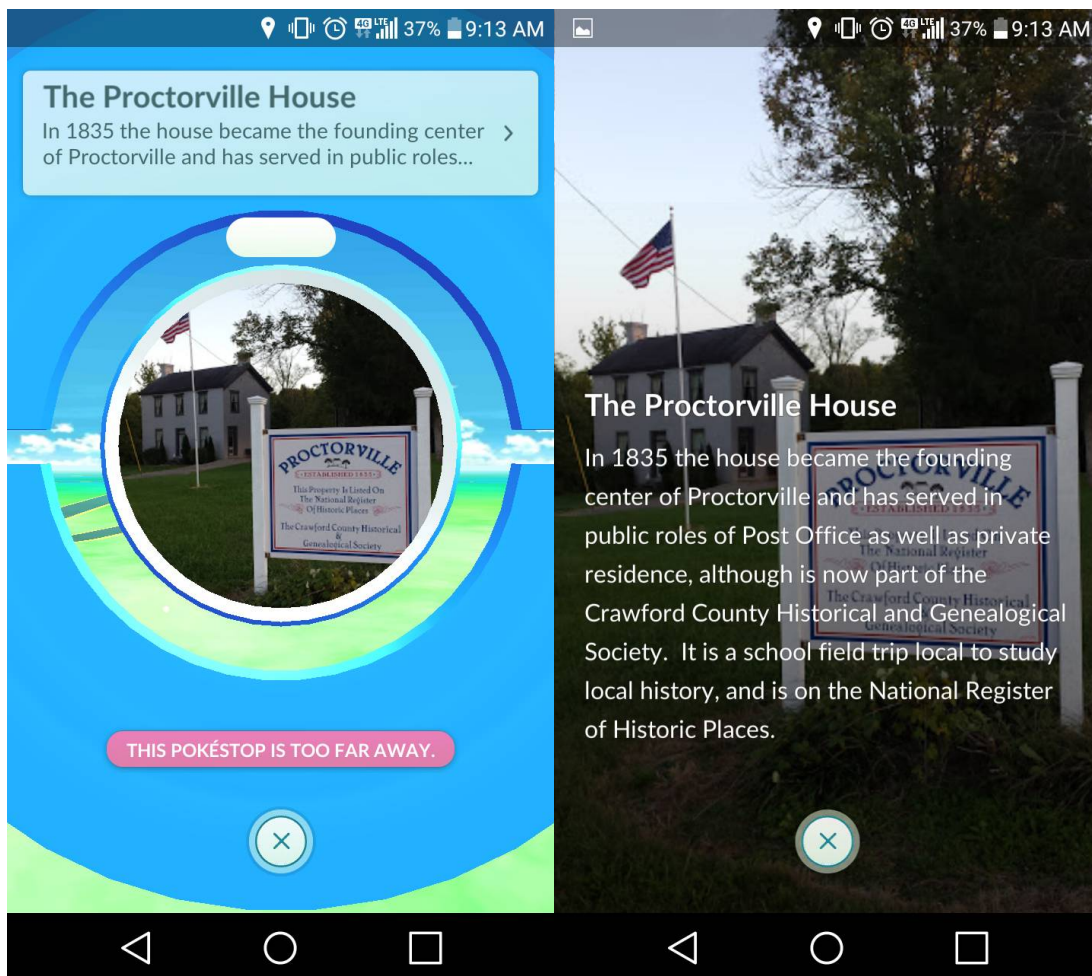
Able (Abel), Allen, Amos, Anderson, Babb (Babbs), Bailey, Baker, Bandlett, Barker, Barley (Byerly), Barnes, Barr, Barry, Bartlet, Baur, Baldwin, Bowling, Beals, Beard, Beatty, Belcher, Bell, Biddle, Bird, Blackburn, Bogard, Bradford, Briggs, Briley, Briner, Brown, Brownfield, Brukner, Bullock, Burris, Cabbage, Camp, Campbell, Cannon, Clark, Cochran, Colter, Condra, Conrad (Coonrod), Cooper, Coplin, Cornelius, Cosby, Course, Covret, Curry, Curts (Kerts), Danford, Davis, Davison (Davidson), Ditison, Downs, Dunnon, Fears, Fitz, Flanary, Felming, Flinn (Flynn), Foller, Follon, Followell, Ford, Frakes, Freed, Froman, Fullenwider, Funk, Gilliland, Glenn, Golden, Goldman, Goodman, Gott, Graves, Green, Grimes, Hackman, Hale, Hall, Hanks, Harris, Hart, Harvey, Hoskins, Helms, Hoback, Hobbs, Hobough, Hollin (Hollen), Hollow, Hughs (Huse), Inlow (Enlow), Irvin, Jacobs, Jeffers, Jenkins, Jewel, Jones, Jordan, Justis (Justice), Kellams (Kellems, Kellums), Keller, King, Kincade, Kitchcart, Lake, Land, Landry, Lantby, Lawrence, Lee, Levenworth (Leavenworth), Levy, Lewis, Likins, Lily, Limler, Linch (Lynch), Lions, Long, Longest, Lovel, Lovet, Luther, Lyons, Mahan, Mansfield, Martin, Mason, Mathers, Maxwell, May, Mayfield, McBride, McCarty, McCoy, McCurry, McGee, McIntosh, McKee, McMahan, McMahel, McMurtrey, McNight (McKnight), McRae, McWill, McWilliams, Meloy, Miller, Monk, Moore, Morgan, Morrow, Mulkey, Murry, Musgrave, Newkirk, Newman, Nicholson, O'Banion, Oncal, Osburn, Pass, Patrick, Patton, Paugh, Payton, Peckinpaw (Peckinpaugh), Pennington, Person, Pettis, Phillips, Pohl, Pope, Porter, Potter, Pyle, Ramand (Raymond), Razor, Reel, Rice, Rich, Ridge, Riddle, Riley, Roberson, Roberts, Roderick, Roebuck, Russel, Samuels, Sance (Sands)?, Sanders, Sarva, Sauer, Sauerhauer (Sauerheber)?, Savage, Scoonover (Schoonover), Scott, Screech, Seaton, Sheckles, Shaw, Shepard, Sidden ?, Sloan, Smith, Spencer, Springer, Starr, Stergon (Sturgeon), Stevens, Stewart, Stiller, Stokes, Stone, Stringfield, Strong, Stroud, Stuart, Suddreth (Suddarth), Swaring,

Sybart (Siebert, Seibert), Tadlock, Taylor, Temple, Thomas, Tibbs, Tibles, Tiles, Tindle, Torrey, Trabus (Trobaugh)?, Tucker, Underhill, VanMeter, Vanwinkle, Vaughn, Vernon, Wabers, Walker, Walsons (Walton or Wilson)?, Warfield, Watson, Weathers, Weedman, Westfall, Whichel, White, Whitehead, Wilbert, Wilks, Williams, Wilson, Wiseman, Woodford, Wright, Wyman, Yates, Yeats

If you have any ancestors that are listed in the 1820, 1830 or 1840 census please help us to include them in this historical book. You can contact me at kentucky41girl@frontier.com or 4308 E. Temple Rd. Marengo, IN 47140.

Thank You  
Roberta Toby

## Proctor House in Pokemon Go!



I received a tip awhile back that the Proctor House was a "Pokestop" in the game Pokemon Go. I do not have a smart phone so I was not able to confirm it at the time. Recently my wife stopped by the Proctor house and grab these stills that are a part of the game. Historical places are used in the game as pokestops. -bP

## Previous Meeting Minutes

### Meeting, October 11, 2015

The meeting opened with a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The quilt donated by Ken and Nancy Watts was displayed. It was quilted by Bruce Watts whose picture was passed around. The quilt has white squares with names of his family and friends written on them. These people lived in Marengo, Milltown, English and New Albany. Each person had written his/her name on a white square dated mostly from 1932 through 1933. These squares are interspersed with other colored pattern squares. It is quite lovely and will be hung on a wall in our new building. Ken and Nancy will be invited to our open house.

The minutes were read. Roberta Toby made a motion to accept them. Louie Mitchell seconded and the motion passed.

Bill Piper gave the President's Report. He had been interviewed last week by Chris Adams as Chris was interested in our new building and in the big grant we're seeking. This article will be out soon in the Clarion.

Sharon Morris gave the Financial Report. The general fund had a beginning balance as of Sept. 14 of \$10,440.53. Deposits from memberships T-shirts, books, and the yard sale totaled \$1,076.00 bringing the balance to \$11,516.53. Disbursements for utilities, Jeff Roll, and Bill Piper equaled \$753.80 leaving an ending balance of \$10,762.73. The Proctor House had a beginning balance of \$6,045.27. One deposit of \$72.20 earned at the yard sale (donations, food, and raffle sales) brings the balance to \$6,117.47. Disbursements for utilities, mowing, O'Bannon Publishing, and Indiana Planning totaled \$439.41 leaving an ending balance of \$5,678.06.

Membership is 70.

Roberta gave the Archives and the Veterans Memorial Association Reports. She has received \$45 in donations for the new roof and \$6 in copies for a total deposit of \$51 on Oct. 03. Then she received a check for \$40 for a membership and a roof donation. She gave the check to Sharon to deposit. The Veterans Memorial Assoc. is planning to hire Bob Koetter Construction Co. to do the concrete work necessary for laying the bricks.

Marie Greathouse gave the Proctorville Report. The recent yard sale was successful due to the efforts of all who helped. A few things were kept for the Holiday Gift Show in Dec. Goodwill is coming to pick up the rest that we don't want to keep. The golf scramble had two teams and 13 sponsors. It netted about \$512 with \$412 already deposited and a check for \$100 which she gave to Sharon to deposit. The guys on the teams had a great time and said that they would definitely be back next year. They drew the names for the raffle winners. All winners have been notified, and most have picked up their prizes. Appreciation was expressed to Marie for her hard work in preparing and organizing these two events.

Fund Raising - We plan to participate in the Holiday Gift Show. Members are encouraged to make some craft items to sell there. Perhaps we can organize an auction soon with really nice things to sell.

We all need to be working on our genealogy for our First Families of Crawford County book. We can write it in a story format, but we have to document that they were here before 1840. We should submit our information about this time next year so that the book can be printed by our county's bi-centennial year of 2018.

Bill suggested a brain-storming session to create a calendar of events for next year. He would like to have some activities for children. We will have a brown bag meeting at noon on Oct. 26 to do this.

Old Business - The need for a new roof was discussed again. Funding possibilities of small grants, letter requests for donations, borrowing, etc. were suggested. Marie made a motion to proceed with the roof as soon as funding is obtained. Judy Faith seconded it, and the motion passed. Judy also expressed a concern about the lack of hand railings at the steps to the entrance of the building. This makes it difficult for many people to enter so it should have first priority. Judy and Stan have offered to pay for the railings. Carol will contact Schwartz Construction to see if they can put them in, repair the bad flooring, and also if they can do some electrical work.

The meeting adjourned about 7:45.

Those present were Bill Piper, Roberta Toby, Jim Kaiser, Don Standiford, Marie Greathouse, Carol Tomlinson, Louie Mitchell, Diana Mitchell, Sharon Morris, Judy Faith, and Roscoe Hooten



**November 08, 2016**

The meeting began at 6:30 p.m. with a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Program - Stan Faith continued with his narrative of the Dred Scott decision in 1858, which said the Northern States had to return slaves to their owners in the South, even though they had escaped to freedom in the North. The North was then afraid that slavery would expand into the new states entering the Union, and that the South would take over the Union. Two years later Lincoln won the election by a hair and the South began seceding from the Union. So there was a huge Civil War with more young men killed than in WW11. The North debated what to do with the South after the war. In the Presidential race of Hayes vs Tilden, Tilden won the popular vote, but in a backroom deal Hayes was given 1 more electoral vote for him to withdraw the Union troops from the South. When the Union army left, the Southern elite decided to not let the Black people vote. They passed segregationist laws – separate schools, churches, restaurants, etc. Black men were arrested for minor offenses and sentenced for years to chain gangs. These chain gangs provided labor for the plantations. The Supreme Court ruled in Brown vs The Board of Education that discrimination had to end. The Blacks have been treated as inferior before and after the Civil War and even unto this day.

Business Meeting - The minutes were read silently. Roberta made a motion to approve them and Ruth seconded it. The motion passed.

President Bill Piper reported the 2016 yearbook is finished. The price will be \$15. The picture on the cover is the tunnel under Goodman Ridge.

Vice-President Stan Faith wants to invite John, an Apache Indian to our next meeting. Everyone thought that was a great idea.

Financial Report - The beginning balance as of Oct. 12 was \$10,762. Deposits totaling \$51 brought the balance to \$10,813.73. After disbursements of \$269.60 the ending balance was \$10,544.13. Membership is 78.

Archives Report - Roberta gave \$38 to Sharon to deposit from her work there.

Veterans Memorial Report - The bricks are going down and the Memorial will soon be finished.

Historian's Report - Roberta received a letter concerning Bridge 42 at Alton asking if we wanted to continue with our interest in the project which is to restore/replace it. The members present voted yes so we will be a consulting party and will be notified of the progress.

Proctorville Report - Bill and Carol will be meeting Nov. 14 with Cheri Taylor, Lisa Gehlhausen, and Larry Timperman, our architect, to discuss the grant and the restoration of the Proctor House. Marie gave the financial report for the Proctor House account. There was a beginning balance of \$5,678.06. Deposits totaling \$443.00 brought the balance to \$6,121.06. Disbursements of \$241.70 leaves an ending balance of \$5,879.36.

Fundraising Report - Bill has sent letters to Lucas Oil and to Howard Packaging telling about our need for a new roof and asking for their help. He has a letter ready that can be mailed to others. An idea for a silent auction was suggested to be held with another event such as a chili supper.

New Business - The floors in the bathroom and the furnace room need replacing before any event can be scheduled as they are in bad shape. Stan made a generous offer to donate \$1,000 to the repair. He made a motion to allocate \$1,500 which was seconded by Louie Mitchell. Stan then made a motion to give Bill the authority to hire someone to do the work up to \$1,500. Louie seconded it. Then Stan amended the motion to authorize Bill to have other work done if he had any money left over. Louie seconded and the motion passed.

Bills presented - Terry King came to collect the \$300 for the new sign. Sharon Morris wrote the check and gave it to him. He said he would install the sign when we're ready.

The next meeting was discussed as it will be the Christmas party. As our floors may not be ready, other places were suggested as the Senior Citizens or the VFW bldg. across the street. Marie will find out what they charge. The members decided to have the gift exchange so each person should bring a \$5 gift to exchange. This meeting will begin at 6 p.m. on Dec. 13.

The meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.

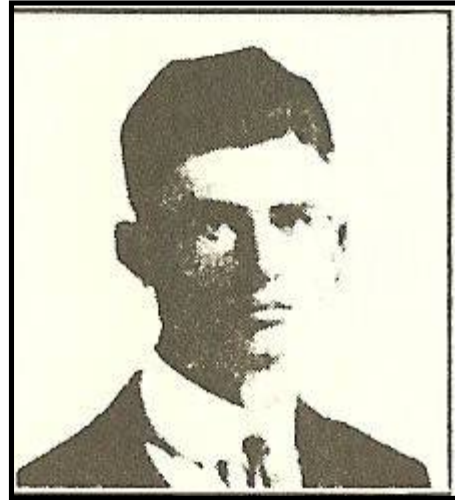
Those present were Ruth Terry, Roberta Toby, Sharon Morris, Stan and Judy Faith, Elaine Stephenson and aide, Don Standiford, Carol Tomlinson, Marie Greathouse, Bill Piper, Louie and Diane Mitchell.

**No regular meeting for December as it was our Christmas party. We did have a guest speaker, John Mocasque, who spoke of his Native American heritage.**

## *Crawford County Veteran Spotlight*

### **Nolan Elmer Levell**

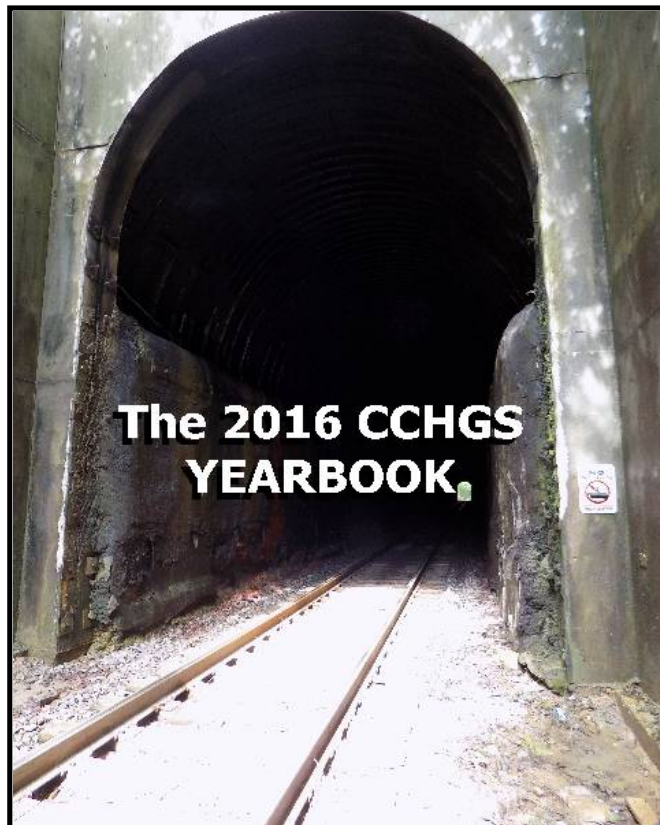
Private Son of Charles and Mary A. Levell; born August 11, 1896, near English, Indiana. Farmer. Entered service Sept. 5, 1918, Eldora, Iowa; where he was working. Trained at Camp Dodge, Iowa; assigned to 43<sup>rd</sup> Co., 11<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 163<sup>rd</sup> Depot Brigade. Died of pneumonia October 15, 1915, Camp Dodge. Buried in Mt. Sterling Cemetery, English, Indiana.



## **New Book Alert!**

Get all 4 issues of "The Crawford Countian" in one collection for \$15 (+\$5 shipping). You can contact me at [billpiper@hotmail.com](mailto:billpiper@hotmail.com) or mail payment to:  
Bill Piper / CCHGS yearbook  
PO Box 472  
English, IN 47118

Don't forget, we still have yearbook collections for 2014 and 2015, as well as the Wyandotte Cave book all in this type of format.





*Picture taken at the 2016 CCHGS Christmas dinner.  
The man standing on the right is CCHGS Vice President Stan Faith and  
next to him was our guest speaker, John Mocasque.*



*Another picture taken at the Christmas dinner.  
Glen Toby (left) is chatting with his buddy Michael Witt.*

### **Membership Dues**

Dues for the Crawford County Genealogical and Historical Society are \$15 per year for single memberships, \$20 for family or \$25 for corporation/businesses. The fee is due each June as the new year starts in July. A renewal form is available on the website, [www.cchgs.org](http://www.cchgs.org).

Send your check to:  
Sharon Morris  
CCHGS Treasurer  
P.O. Box 162  
Leavenworth, IN 47137

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### **Meetings**

The Crawford County Historical and Genealogical Society meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, 6:30pm, at the CCHGS Headquarters (310 Oak Circle, English IN). You can call 812-338-2579 to confirm.

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### **Website:**

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

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### **Social Media:**

Search for "Crawford County Historical and Genealogical Society" on FACEBOOK!



Find us on  
**facebook**

### **Books for sale**

Our book list has been REVISED!! Some out of print titles have now returned and we are also offering DIGITAL versions of most of our books. The digital versions will be sold on CD-R in PDF format. Check our website, <http://www.cchgs.org> for more information!

The Crawford Countian is the official newsletter of the CCHGS.



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