

The Crawford Countian



Q3 - 2017

Greetings!

For those who have not heard, we were able to get a grant for \$324,000 to restore the Proctor House! An article about this is presented in this issue. It has been an exciting year for the organization and next year looks to be no different. The headquarters building in English is all set up except some painting that needs to be done. I am horrible at painting, so if someone wants to volunteer and finish this, please contact me. The building currently does not have set hours but can be opened via appointment. Finally, due to costs relating to ink, the newsletter going forward will have a ink color cover but the rest of the newsletter will be printed via laser printer and in black and white. Our digital copies will remain full color. Ideally we would like to distribute the newsletter in digital only as that helps tremendously with costs. Remember that the end of each year we do offer a professionally printed "yearbook" that combines all issues of that particular year into one fully colored book.

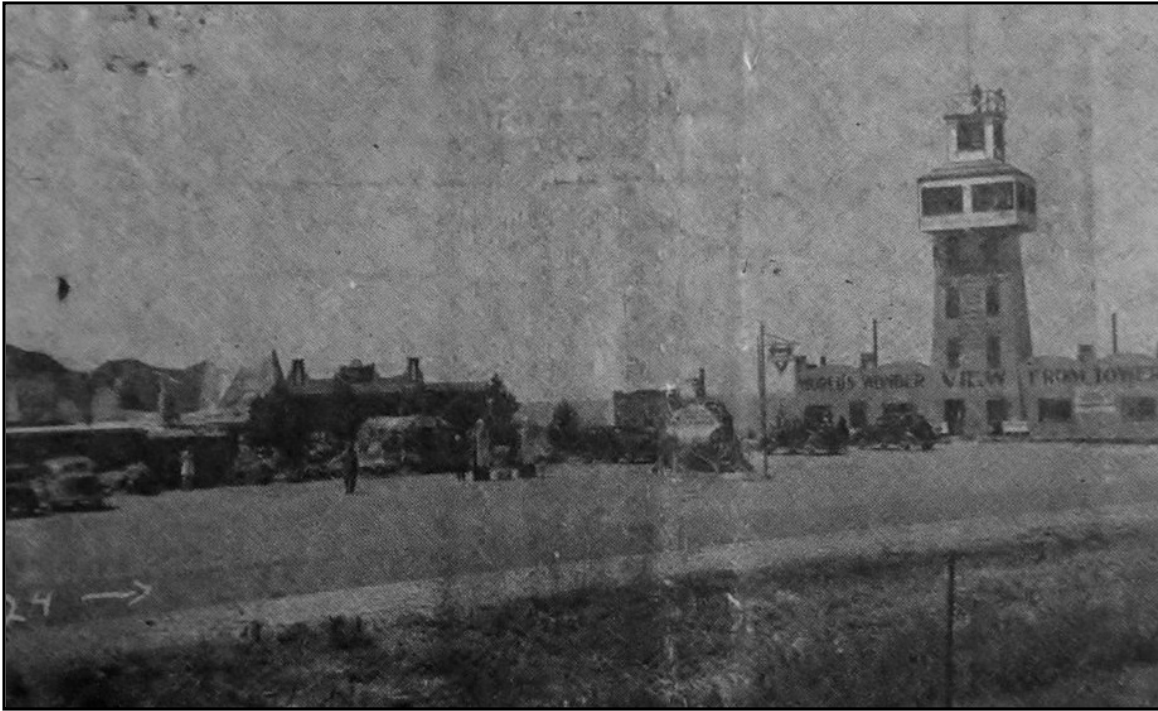


Also, if you have not paid your dues for the 2017 - 2018 fiscal year, this will be your last issue!

- William Piper, President of CCHGS
email: billgpiper@hotmail.com
snail mail: PO Box 472, English IN 47118

cover photo taken outside Rustic Treasures in Wickliffe, IN

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The Wonder Tower of Genoa Colorado

The United States road side attraction has been a part of Americana for quite some time. We have our own here in Crawford County but this article is about the Genoa Tower in



Genoa Colorado. What is so special about this tower you ask? Well it was built by Myrtle Le Bow and Crawford County native, Charles Gregory. The tower which sits off I-70 in Genoa was built in 1926. Mr. Gregory was known as the Colorado P.T. Barnum. The advertising for the tower claimed you could see six states from it's 65 foot point, which itself is on an area that is 5,741 feet above sea level. Being in the plains, this advertising was not a stretch. At one point "Ripley's Believe It or Not" claimed it to be the highest point in the country between the Mississippi River and Denver. This tower was part of a motel/restaurant/gas station, basically a one all stop for those traveling through the area. I am transcribing a newspaper article about Charles Gregory upon his death. I am not sure about the

source of the newspaper article, so I apologize on that aspect.

FOUNDER OF GENOA TOWER DIED IN DENVER HOSPITAL

Known around world for unusual tourist mecca, developed from lifelong hobby - retired R. I. Engineer.

Death came to Charles W. Gregory, widely known throughout the United States as the builder of the Genoa Tower, at Genoa, 100 miles east of Denver on Highway 24. Mr. Gregory while on construction work outside during a very cold spell for a year ago last winter froze his toes. For a time this caused him more or less trouble. Gangrene finally set in and he suffered for months with the affliction. He was taken to the St. Luke's Hospital in Denver June 21 and one of his legs was amputated that day in an effort to save his life. He survived the trying ordeal for two weeks and two days and died last Thursday morning at 4 o'clock after suffering excruciating pain.

From coast to coast, from the north land to the gulf, Mr. Gregory was widely known. Only a few days before his death Your NEWSpaper (sic) received a letter from Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Williams, who conduct a big tourist camp at Daytona Beach, Fla., in which they said "Have you been up to see Charley Gregory lately? He surely is a very interesting person, and we would love to see him again, too."

It was in the early days when Mr. Gregory piloted a Rock Island engine from Goodland, Kan., to Limon that visions and dreams came to him that some day when he retired from the rail road service he was coming out there to the Genoa hill and erect a tower. He started work on the tower 13 years ago on a spot as dry as the Sahara desert and up until recent months when his health forbade he was improving and building.

*** part of the article appears to be missing ***

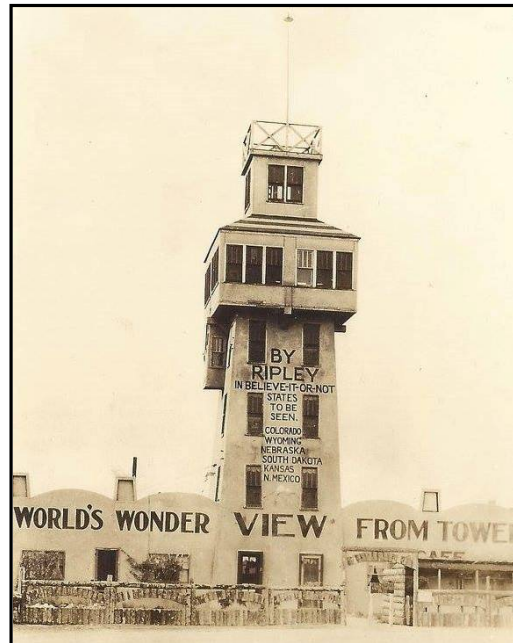
The Tower and the vaulted room of the Indian dining room and lobbies are constructed of petrified wood and fossilized formations gathered from all parts of the world. The walls and ceilings are studded with geodes and crystals from many of the famed caves. On pillars and stones appear thousands of Indian pictographs and symbols. The assembly room, or auditorium, is equipped with a music box which many of the young folks find convenient for dancing.

The Tower Museum, with a large collection of historical relics, geological specimens and oddities from all over the world, is a fascinating place to visit.

A replica of Pikes Peak and the foothills with a miniature mountain lake, caves, and trees is on the roof above the Indian dining room and lobbies.

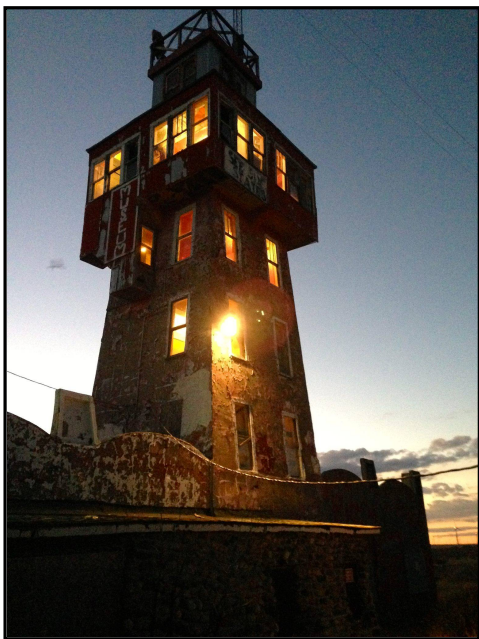
The Tower is unique and drew comment from Ripley in his "Believe It or Not" - World's Wonder View From Tower - States to be seen: Colorado, Wyoming, Nebraska, South Dakota, Kansas and New Mexico.

Myrtle Le Bow, secretary to the Tower Association, will continue in the work at the Tower, which as been visited by tourists from every state in (the) United States and before the war by many from foreign countries. She has been a great help to Mr. Gregory.





Mr. Gregory was born in Crawford County, Indiana, Sept. 24, 1861, and employed as a Rock Island engineer from 1895 to 1930 and was a retired employee. He was a student of historical research work and archaeology the greater part of his life. During his residence at Goodland he occupied the pulpit of the Methodist Church as minister, and was a biblical student. In his 13 years at the Tower he came in contact with people in all walks of life and he was right at home when he was taking tourists through the Tower.



Funeral services were conducted on Sunday afternoon from the M. (?) Church at Goodland, Kan., in the same church where he once was the presiding minister. Rev. Basil Johnson, pastor of the church, paid a fitting tribute to the many virtues of Mr. Gregory and used as his text the Twenty-third Psalm. The body laid to rest in the Goodland cemetery.

Mr. Gregory is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Day Rush and Miss Lola Gregory of California, and two sons, Bert Gregory of Goodland, Kan. and Lt. Robert Gregory, a prisoner of war in the Philippine Islands. A son, Verle, died of the effects of injuries received in World War I.

After the death of Mr. Gregory in 1942, the ownership of the Tower eventually went to Jerry

Chubbuck in 1967 and a whole new era of the tower began. Jerry turned the tower into a road side attraction filling it with all kinds of oddities and bizarre pieces. He would die in 2013 and the tower was left vacant until a group of preservationists bought the tower with hopes of restoring it.



I would like to thank the "World's Wonder View Tower" facebook page for some of the pictures provided in this article. Be sure to check out their page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/Worlds-Wonder-View-Tower-1659528291008163/>

-bP

CCHGS Receives OCRA Grant

We recently got some great news. The OCRA grant we had worked for the past year was granted to our organization. The amount of the grant is \$324,000 and will be used with our matching funds that are around \$36,000. The plan is to have the building fully restored within a year's time. The first round of work will go towards the foundation. Those who have visited the building know what I am referring to! The official press report can be found at: http://www.in.gov/ocra/files/OCRA_PR_CDBG_Rd1_6.1.17.pdf

Queries

Hello Roberta

I am wondering if you are familiar with the Dean and Carberry families that resided in Crawford County, Indiana 1840-1850ish

My friend and I are trying to discover the parents of his great grandfather, John William Dean, who was orphaned before the age of 4.

His death certificate gives the names of his parents as John W Dean and Mary Carberry. We have been unable to find any evidence in marriage records or census records of this couple.

What we know about John W Dean, Jr

Born- 9 May 1846 (death cert. gives 1847; grave marker gives 1846) in Marion County, Indiana
The birth location was extracted from his Civil War paperwork and obituary.

1850 - census record: orphan living with Peter and Elizabeth (Walden) Carberry in Scotland County, Missouri

1860- enumerated in Johnson, Scotland Co, Missouri

27 Feb 1864 - Hannibel, Marion Co, Missouri - Union soldier in Co. C & H, 21st Missouri Infantry.

19 Nov 1879 - married Christena Amelia Brookhart in Scotland Co MO. Missouri Marriage Records. Jefferson City, MO, USA: Missouri State Archives. Microfilm on Ancestry.

1880- 1920 census - enumerated in Thomson, Scotland Co, MO

25 Apr 1926 - Death in Arbela, Thomson Twp, Scotland Co, MO

State of Missouri Death Certificate #15128

Now let me get this all back into Crawford Co, Indiana

Peter Carberry, who could possibly be a grandfather of John W Dean, Jr. lived in Crawford County about the time that John W Dean, Jr was born.

1840 - Crawford Co census

1847- his name was entered into voter's poll book at Nebraska (Alton), Boone Twp, Crawford Co.

1850 - he was in Scotland Co Missouri with the young John Dean, Jr living with him.

We are speculating that John Dean Jr's parents may have also lived in Crawford County during this time. It would cover the time from his birth in 1846/7 until we find him as an orphan in Scotland County, Missouri in 1850. Did they both die while in Crawford County or what could have happened? We just can't find anything solid.

Any insights that you can share with us would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

Janet Carlson

Chuck Dean

Email: janniree123@gmail.com

Crawford County Veteran Spotlight



Karl E. Line

Karl E. Line, 79, of Freedom, passed away Sunday, February 21, 2010 at the Bloomington Hospital. He was born in Marengo, Indiana to Edd and Emma (Wright) Line on February 28, 1930. He was a graduate of Marengo High School and then served in the Marine Corps during the Korean War. Mr. Line was a technical writer for Hercules Powder Company in Pinto, Maryland, retiring in 1978.

Queries continued....

In 1830 there was a Margaret McPeak who was living between some men named Land in Crawford County, IN

She was the wife of Ezekiel McPeak who was born in Patrick Co., VA. In 1820, they had been in Harrison Co, IN but could only have been there for a short time as they left no other records. I am wondering what types of records you all might have which might show any McPeaks in your county. There is some speculation that one of the Land's is her son in law. I have no data to support that. I know that by 1832 she was in Sullivan Co., IN and in 1838 married Reuben Mise and lived next to either her son or a nephew, Allen Crawford McBride in 1840 census.

anything you can have that might help me I would appreciate.

Email: glennmorton@entouch.net

Queries can be emailed to billgpiper@hotmail.com or dign4kin@gmail.com

From the County Historian's Desk

I am asking all members of the Society, and anyone else who would like to help us do a Bicentennial Book for Crawford County, to send us items of interest . We need old photos of towns, buildings, people, events or stories about our county or your families that you would like to submit for **possible** entry into the book. We would greatly appreciate your help. I hope we can produce a very nice book about Crawford County for the enjoyment of generations to come.

- Roberta Toby

These three photos were submitted by Helen Kay "Katie" Nickelson DeShane

Main street of "old" English



Eulalia Hubbard Nickelson standing in front of the McMahel home that used to be on the hill in English, IN. South of tracks.

Maggie Whalen and Eulalia Hubbard Nickelson /Depot, English



Previous meeting minutes

April 11, 2017 Meeting

Bill called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

There was no program.

Copies of the minutes were handed out for everyone to read. There were no corrections. Roberta made a motion to accept them. It was seconded by Roscoe and Louie and the motion passed.

President's Report - Lance Murphy will mow the Proctorville property again this year. Glen has a small mower that can be used for us to mow the yard around our house in English. He will sell it to us for \$102.00. Roscoe made a motion to buy it. Dennis seconded it and the motion passed. Bill thinks Black Diamond exterminators may give better service and be cheaper than Terminex so he will look into that.

Treasurer's Report - The beginning balance was \$12,919.07. There was one deposit of \$61.00. Disbursements for the utilities and the house payment totaled \$322.70 which leaves an ending balance of \$12,657.37.

Membership is 83.

County Historian's Report - Roberta has received a letter about Bridge No. 43 located on S. Beechwood Road over Little Blue River. It was requesting us to be a consulting party to the Section 106 process as it is an historic bridge. Roberta will be attending a round-table meeting in Indianapolis on April 28 for all county historians.

Archives Report - One new member, Carol Tumey, from Greenwood, Ind. has donated a Purple Heart and two others plus photos and other paper memorabilia to be displayed with our veteran's artifacts. Roberta deposited \$83.00 from her work at the Archives for copies, etc.

Veteran's Memorial Assoc. Report -- Bricks are still being sold for the Memorial. They're waiting for the ground to dry to finish installing the other tablets.

Proctorville Report - The grant is on target and has been submitted. We will know in June if we got it. The last public hearing was well attended and many people spoke favorably in support of our project of restoring Proctor House. The Proctor House account had a beginning balance of \$5,903.77. Disbursements of \$63.07 for the utilities leaves an ending balance of \$5,840.70.

Fund-Raising Report - The scenic Highway 62 yard sale will be May 5th and 6th on Derby weekend. Roberta made a motion that we participate as we did last year. Ruth seconded it and the motion passed. Carol will try to reserve the spot in front of Stephenson's store at Leavenworth.

Old photos have been donated but without any names on them so they were passed around to see if anyone could be recognized.

Bills from O'Bannon's were presented to be paid.

Stan, our vice-president, spoke briefly about Abraham Lincoln and the choices he had to make without anything to go by – no guide lines, laws, etc. He had to decide what to do when the Southern states began to secede from the Union. Did he have the right to make them stay when they had voluntarily joined the Union. He decided to preserve the United States, but how to do it. He needed the North to support him. The Union had a small army and navy, and the South had 5 months to prepare before Lincoln took office. Lincoln didn't want the North to fire the first shot. He had kept the Union fort, Fort Sumter, across the bay from Charleston, S. C. The South fired upon the fort, which began the Civil War.

The meeting adjourned.

Those present were Stan and Judy Faith, William Piper, Roscoe Hooten, Roberta Toby, Ruth Terry, Louie Mitchell, Sharon Morris, Dennis Adkins, and Carol Tomlinson.

May 9, 2017

Bill called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

There was no program.

Copies of the minutes were handed out for everyone to read. There were no corrections so Stan made a motion to accept them. Marie seconded and the motion passed.

President's Report - Black Diamond Exterminators made an inspection of the Proctor House and gave an estimate for their services. Their cost is as follows - \$375 for the first year and \$275 for the second year for treatment of termites and powder post beetles. The initial cost to treat the lady-bug like insects is \$185 with a quarterly cost of \$98 per visit. Our contract with Terminex ends this summer so we need to decide at next month's meeting.

Bill wants to have a "Movie Fest" on Tuesdays from June through July. He will show movies at 1 p.m. with popcorn at no cost to the public. The newspaper will help promote this event which is a good-will gesture to get people aware of the Society and its goals. He also has developed a poster to help promote it.

Vice-President's Report - Stan has been giving us an historical perspective on President Lincoln and the Civil War. But before going on to the Reconstruction period following the Civil War, we should understand what "race" really is or means. He asked us to define race which proved difficult because it's not the color of skin or the continent one comes from. He made the point that we're all one species and should be treated as equals. We (humans) all belong to the homo sapiens species with similar abilities in spite of what our culture has imposed upon us. We have made progress since the 1960's, but destructive racism still exists.

Treasurer's Report - The beginning balance as of April 11th was \$12,657.37. A deposit of \$62.00 brought the total to \$12,719.37. Disbursements for the lawn mower, house payment, and utilities totaled \$373.75, which leaves an ending balance of \$12,345.62.

Membership is 87.

County Historian, Archives, and Veterans Memorial Assoc. Reports - Roberta attended the County Historians Roundtable in Indianapolis on April 25th. Dr. James Madison was the speaker. He gave everyone a copy of his new book, "Hoosiers, A History of Indiana". She deposited \$69.55 on May 9 from her work at the Archives – book sale, membership, and copies. The area west of the

Memorial is being cleaned up. The trucks are no longer there. Dan is working on getting the huge advertisement sign moved to another location. More fill dirt will be added, and a POW flag is being ordered to fly below the American flag. Bricks can still be ordered.

Proctorville Report - Marie discussed the 4th of July yard sale which will be held on June 29th, 30th, and July 1st – the weekend before the 4th which is on a Tuesday this year. She would like to begin setting up on the 19th. The Golf Scramble will be sometime in October. The fee will be \$40 per person on Sat. and \$35 on Sun. The Proctor House had a beginning balance of \$5,840.00. Disbursements for utilities totaled \$69.28 which leaves an ending balance of \$5,770.72.

Fund-raising Report - Due to inclement weather, we did not participate in the Scenic 62 yard sale on the first weekend in May. An alternate plan was discussed. Stan made a motion to have the yard sale (which is to benefit the Society's house) on May 27 at the English site. The motion was seconded by Bill, and it passed. We'll put tables out front.

New Business - Bill appointed a nominating committee of Robin and Marie for our upcoming election in June for new officers. The need for a new sump pump was discussed again with no conclusion reached.

A bill of \$36.61 was presented and approved to be paid.

Jim told about the Community Foundation's volunteer award. Each non-profit organization is invited to participate by nominating a volunteer for this award. Stan made a motion to nominate Carol from our organization. The motion was seconded by Marie, and it passed.

The meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.

Those present were Bill and Robin Piper, Stan and Judy Faith, Marie Greathouse, Louie Mitchell, Roberta Toby, Sharon Morris, Jim Kaiser, Lois Austin, Elaine Stephenson, and Carol Tomlinson.

June 13, 2017

The CCHGS met at 6:30 p.m. on June 13th at Stan and Judy Faith's home for a cook-out to celebrate our OCRA grant award. This grant will be used to restore and preserve the Proctor House at Marengo for a museum. It is the only structure in the county to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Faiths provided the meat and drinks while the members brought covered dishes and desserts. A very good time was had by all. After food and fellowship, a short business meeting was held.

Business Meeting

The minutes were read silently. One correction was noted – the disbursement for lawn mowing should be with the Proctor House disbursements instead of the general fund. Marie made a motion to accept the corrected minutes. Stan seconded it, and the motion passed.

President's Report – Bill discussed the issue of obtaining a different exterminator for the Proctorville property. He recommended Black Diamond as they're reliable and easier to talk to than Terminex. Judy made a motion to switch to Black Diamond. Stan seconded it, and the motion passed.

Financial Report – The beginning balance as of May 14 was \$12,345.62. Deposits from new memberships, the May yard sale, copies, and a donation totaled \$748.70 bringing the balance to \$13,094.32. Disbursements for the house payment, utilities, and miscellaneous expenses totaled \$350.92. The ending balance is now \$12,743.40.

As the new fiscal year has just begun, membership is 23.

Archives, County Historian, and Veterans Memorial Assoc. Reports – Roberta deposited \$217 from her work at the Archives. Dan is going to get a sign for the building identifying it as the County Archives. She has received information about the replacement of Bridges #42 and #43 at Alton. The new bridges will be wider and safer, but the old ones will be saved. Bridge #42 will go to Sycamore Springs. She doesn't know yet where #43 will go. Roberta has also taken several boxes of old ledgers (mostly doctor and pharmacy) and one box of weather records to the Society's building in English. These records were given to her by the Library. She has been punching spiral-bound books so they will fit into three-ring binders and will stand up better on the shelves. Her sister donated \$50 to the Society and \$50 to the Memorial fund. The tablets have all been placed at the Memorial with the exception of one more small stone just ordered for the POWs, MIAs and KIAs. A dedication is being planned for September. The Memorial has received many compliments.

CASA is filling back packs or duffel bags with essential items for children who have been removed from their home. These bags help children get through their first nights away and give them things of their own. See the attached list for needed items.

Proctorville Report – The Proctor House account had a beginning balance of \$5,770.72. No deposits. Disbursements for utilities and mowing equaled \$493.38 which leaves an ending balance of \$5,277.34. The Golf Scramble will be the 7th and 8th of October. Our next yard sale is June 29th, 30th, and July 1st which will benefit the Proctor House. Lights at the shelter house were discussed – maybe get some solar lighting.

New Business – The annual election of officers was held. The nominating committee recommended keeping the same officers as all were willing to continue to serve with the exception of Tammy Hooten. Robin Piper was nominated to fill that director's spot. Stan made the motion to vote the ballot by acclamation. Marie seconded it, and the motion passed.

The meeting adjourned.

Those attending were Marie Greathouse, Sharon Morris, Roberta and Glen Toby, Stan and Judy Faith, Louie and Diane Mitchell, Roscoe Hooten, Carol Tomlinson, Don Standiford, Bill and Robin Piper, Casey Blair, Clayton Blair, Michael Witt, and Dennis and Janice Adkins.

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.

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

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.

Website:

www.cchgs.org

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.



Permission is needed for any re-productions.

2017-2018 memberships are due by the end of June!
Renew now if you want to continue receiving the newsletter!