

The Crawford Countian

A photograph of a forest with tall, thin trees and a path leading through them. The sun is shining from the left, creating a bright lens flare effect.

Q2-2019

Welcome to the Spring edition of The Crawford Countian. It is with much sadness that I must report that CCHGS Vice President, Stan Faith, passed away recently. I had met Stan through the organization and always enjoyed his speeches at our meetings, which were very informative and entertaining. I have included his obituary in this issue. With the warmer weather approaching, we are starting to move items into the Proctor House. There is no set date for the opening just yet. Please note, membership renewals are coming up. Membership fees help fund our operation as well as generous donations and our various fund raisers. With the Proctor House now restored, we have several new bills associated with the property. Any help is appreciated!



-William Piper, President of the CCHGS
billgpiper@hotmail.com

Cover picture taken at Sycamore Springs

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Reminder! Annual dues are coming up! Our fiscal year starts July.

Stanley Faith obituary

Stanley O. Faith, 74, passed away Monday, March 18, 2019 at Baptist Health, Floyd in New Albany, Indiana. He was born November 28, 1944 in Harrison County, Indiana the son of Albert and Mary Alice Beanblossom Faith. Stan graduated from Indiana University, Bloomington with a Juris Doctorate in Law. He has practiced law from 1982 until the present, serving during that time as a Prosecutor in Floyd County, Indiana and in general practice. He was a member of the American Bar Association, Indiana Bar Association, Inns of Court, Floyd County Bar Association, Harrison-Crawford Bar Association, American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Association of Forensic Science, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Indiana Association of Mediators, American Justice Institute, Southern Poverty Law Center, Knights of Columbus and the Tunnel Hill Free Methodist Church in English, IN. He was preceded in death by his parents and his daughter, Kimberly Ann Faith. He is survived by his wife of 30 years, Judith Lone Faith of English. Stan also leaves behind nephews, John Lone, Troy Lone (Stephanie), cousins, numerous friends and colleagues.



The family suggests memorial gifts be made to either the American Diabetes Association at diabetes.org or to Dare to Care at daretocare.org.

Queries

Any info on the sunshine school number 1? 1900-1947

-Sheila Folz Wiseman email: shadowwizard82@yahoo.com

Send queries to: billpiper@hotmail.com

WANTED: 8mm footage!

If you have 8mm film footage of Crawford County's past, be it an event, random footage, etc... contact Bill Piper (billpiper@hotmail.com) regarding digitizing the footage. In exchange for the footage for our archive/website, a DVD copy will be provided to you. Email me (billpiper@hotmail.com) for more details.



John Rogers Gaither

If you have an ancestor named John Gaither, you know how difficult it is to identify which branch of the Gaither family he belongs to. Often, the only way to identify his immediate family members is to determine the location of his birth and young adult years. By the time of the American Revolution, dozens of the descendants of John Gaither I bore the name John and lived in the southern Maryland area. This has resulted in many cases of mistaken identity and made obtaining proof for lineage societies almost impossible. Such was the case of John Rogers Gaither (14 Sep 1745 – circa 1825).

John Rogers Gaither's Line of Descent begins as follows:

1. John Gaither I and wife Mary (Waters?)
2. John Gaither II and wife Ruth (Beard?)
3. Benjamin Gaither and wife Sarah Burgess
4. John Gaither and wife Agnes Rogers Williams
5. John Rogers Gaither and wife Mary Perry

John Rogers Gaither's father, John Gaither, was born 24 April 1713 and died 6 September 1784 in Anne Arundel County, Maryland. He married Agnes Rogers Williams, the daughter of John Rogers and widow of John Williams. She was born 2 October 1733 and died 3 Aug 1802 according to her family bible. They owned "Bite the Biter" and "Gaither's Fancy", both of which were located in that part of Anne Arundel County which later became Howard County. They were both on the banks of the Patuxet River. John Rogers Gaither was born at "Bite the Biter", which is now in the Highland Community of Howard County.

The confusion over the identity of John Rogers Gaither occurred when John Gaither, son of John Gaither and wife Ann Ruley, was credited with his Revolutionary War service by the Daughters of the American Revolution. The Line of Descent for this John Gaither is as follows:

1. John Gaither I and wife Mary (Waters?)
2. John Gaither II and wife Ruth (Beard?)
3. John Gaither and first wife, Jane Buck
4. John Gaither and wife Anne Ruley
5. John Gaither and wife, Anne Jacob

This John Gaither was born at "Abington" in South River Hundred, Anne Arundel County. In his father's will, he inherits "Left Out" in the Upper District of Frederick County, near the present town of Dayton, Maryland. He and his brother Seth sell this property to Elisha Warfield on October 26, 1771. That is the last time John and Anne Jacob Gaither are recorded in Frederick County. It is crucial to note that this John Gaither does not descend from Sarah Burgess and her family. John and Anne Jacob Gaither move to Rowan County, North Carolina about 1780/1 with her father, Jeremiah Jacob. They have ten children, five of whom were born in Maryland prior to the start of the Revolutionary War. The other five were born during and after the war. John Gaither left a will in Iredell County, North Carolina dated 18 Sept 1809 and probated on 20 May 1811.

It can be proven that John Rogers Gaither lived in the Lower District of Frederick County, Maryland which became Montgomery County, Maryland in 1776. He was born at “Bite the Biter” which is less than a mile from the Patuxet River in Anne Arundel County (now Howard County). His family owned land on both sides of the river, which included the Lower District of Frederick County (Montgomery County in 1776). Edward Burgess, John Rogers Gaither’s first cousin once removed, also lived in the Lower District of Frederick County and was called to form a Company of Militia for the Maryland Flying Camp in 1776. It was only natural that he would recruit friends and family from his immediate area to serve in his Company. Thus he made his friend and first cousin once removed, John Rogers Gaither, his First Lieutenant. It is important to note that as a further strengthening of the relationship between John Rogers Gaither and Captain Edward Burgess, Burgess was married to Gaither’s first Cousin, Mary Davis. In 1777 when the Flying Camp was disbanded, John Rogers Gaither continued to serve as a Captain in the Maryland Militia for Montgomery County. In addition, Magistrate Edward Burgess administered Oaths of Fidelity to Montgomery County citizens in 1778. The 116th signature is that of John Gaither. The 115th signature is that of his father-in-law, Joseph Perry. On August 12, 1790 John Rogers Gaither conveys any interest he may have in “Bite the Biter” to John Ray, Sr. He signs this deed as a resident of Nelson County, Kentucky.

For his Revolutionary War Service, John Rogers Gaither was granted nearly 400 acres of Bounty Land in western Virginia, which became the state of Kentucky in 1792. In addition, his brother Evan and his father-in-law Joseph Perry have also been granted land in Kentucky, which is taken up on their behalf by John Rogers Gaither. He and Mary Perry Gaither and at least one child, James Wilson Gaither, move to the State of Kentucky about 1788/1789. This can be confirmed by the previously mentioned deed and the will of Joseph Perry, dated December 1795 and probated in Montgomery County on 7 October, 1797. In that will, James Wilson Gaither is given 200 acres of land previously taken up by his father on behalf of Joseph Perry. Mary Perry Gaither is given a life estate in that 200 acres.

John Rogers Gaither became a prominent land owner in both Nelson County and Bullitt County, Kentucky. At least 16 conveyances are recorded in those counties between 1780 and 1815 on his behalf. Mary Perry Gaither signs each of them. The land is located in the heart of the Kentucky bluegrass region, an area of exceptional beauty. Anyone wishing to see pictures of the property may look them up on the Bullitt County History Museum Site under the heading “Plenge-Kopfhage Farm”. It is currently the site of Heritage Hills Golf Course. John Rogers Gaither and his wife Mary are last found in Bullitt County in the 1820 Census. After that time, it is believed they moved to Harrison County, Indiana to join their sons. John and Mary had at least seven children:

1. James Wilson Gaither, married Mary T. Hunter on 21 March 1814, Harrison County, Indiana
2. Westley Gaither, married Elenor Bell on July 22, 1822, Harrison County, Indiana
3. Eli Gaither, married Harriet Boone on 27 December, 1824, Harrison County, Indiana

4. Mary Gaither, married Robert Briscoe on 30 December 1797, Bullitt County, Kentucky
5. Elizabeth Gaither, married Robert Eades on 4 February 1799, Bullitt County, Kentucky
6. Rebecca Gaither, married Joseph Simmons on 25 January 1799, Bullitt County, Kentucky
7. Margaret "Peggy" Gaither married Joseph Hilleary on 17 September 1815, Bullitt County, Kentucky

No official record exists for the death of John Rogers Gaither or Mary Perry Gaither. A tombstone is located in Old Goshen Cemetery, in Laconia, Boone Township, Harrison County, Indiana for John Rogers Gaither. It shows his date of birth as 1752 and his date of death as 1825. It records his military service. But it is a replacement stone and there is no church record of the original burial. It is presumed Mary Perry survived him and lived with her son Eli until sometime after the 1830 Census, since a 70+ year old woman is listed in his Harrison County household. No tombstone exists for her, although there are unmarked graves in the area of the cemetery where other Gaither family members are buried. Eli died about 14 December 1871 in Paducah, McCracken County, Kentucky. His will states that he is the last survivor of his brothers and sisters, and that his parents are buried in the Old Baptist Cemetery ("Old Goshen Cemetery") in Harrison County, Indiana.

In the next edition of "The Gaither Connection", I will continue the John Rogers Gaither story with the descendants of James Wilson Gaither.

Story submitted by Mary Jane Simpson mjpsimpson@bellsouth.net

The Story of a Home Missionary



LILLIE HARPER

The Story of a Home Missionary: Lillie Harper

This transcript is from a little booklet donated to the CCHGS by Angela Thompson.

This is an account of the life and activities of one of the most dedicated, faithful, unsalaried home missionaries I have ever known.

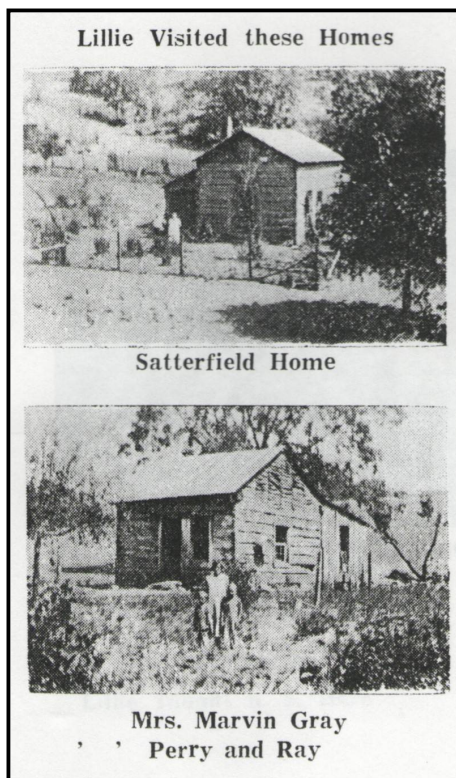
Lillie Harper was born near Mammoth Springs, Arkansas to Mary Amelia Wozencraft and George Delbert Harper, November 27, 1906. A year later they moved near Marengo, Indiana. After some struggle, Lillie was graduated from Common school at Goodman Ridge country school May 9, 1922. Her average grade was 90 plus. A friend encouraged her to go to Marengo and attend High School. This she did and to

earn her way, she worked in a home the first two years. The last two years her brother Willie roomed with her and shared expenses. After her graduation from High School, a friend recommended her to Prof. Arlin Mathers, who was a teacher at Oakland City College.

Soon thereafter, she was notified that she had been accepted as a student at the college. She worked in the Mathers home until she found that the work in the home and the school work was too much for her nerves.

After Christmas vacation period, she was assigned work in the diet kitchen. This gave her more time for study and prayer. She passed the examinations and was shown the little red school house in the suburbs of Louisville where she was promised she would teach the following winter. She did practical nursing for awhile.

One night she was at her work in a home when the door bell rang. She opened the door and there stood a policeman. He said, "Don't be afraid lady but I want to tell you that somebody broke into the house next door; however, I will be keeping close watch so don't be afraid." It was quite a scare. She had lost all desire to work in a city.



In the meantime she developed what was termed inward brain fever and had to have treatment. She was taken to the hospital in Madison, Indiana for this treatment. After she had been there awhile, she became discouraged and had given up hope of ever having freedom again. Then one night the Holy Spirit spoke to her and said: "Have faith whether you feel like it or not." She believed what the Spirit said and went to the attendant and asked: "Will you ask Dr. Estill if I can go home?" The request was granted and she went home. How good it felt to her to be at home again. She said that while she was there those few months she learned to do tating with one thread.

After she had been at home a few weeks, while she and her brother Carl were attending Sunday School at Temple, Mr. Elden Parks asked her to teach Sunday School in his place as he had to be away teaching public school. She hesitated because she

was embarrassed to face people after having been to Madison, but the Lord very graciously helped her and caused her to be a good and faithful teacher and worker.

Later she was able to attend a 4-week Personal Workers course at God's Bible School in Cincinnati from June 12 to July 7, 1960. This was a great help and encouragement to her. Her subjects and teachers at this conference were as follows E.G. Marsh -The Old Man. Bro. Sherrock-Personal Work. Mrs White-"Prayer." Brother Wilcox "Bible." Mrs. Connie (King) Palm - Child Evangelism. Brother E.E. Shelhamer prayed a prayer she can't forget-it was: "Let me die." This was while Lillie was seeking sanctification. After a time of wrestling with God this is what she did. She died to Lillie and determined to give herself wholly and always to the Lord and his service. If ever there was a person in all the world who did this, Lillie is one of that number.

She has traveled literally thousands of miles, and mostly on foot visiting the shut-ins and others as well as showing the way of salvation and holiness to all with whom she came in contact, by her life and word of mouth. She liked to be in revivals and spent much time in intercessory prayer that souls might seek the Lord and be saved.

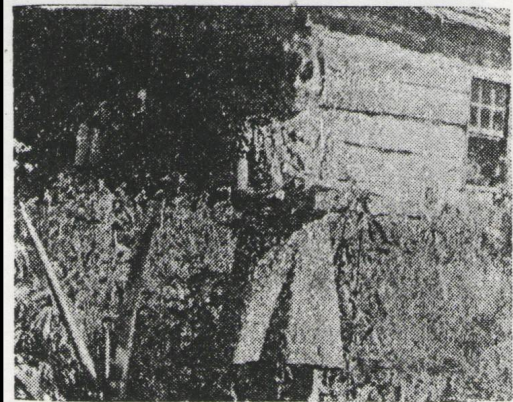
Through the years she has attended dozens of camp meetings, Bible Conferences, revivals and has visited Indian Missions as well. In one period she spent six weeks at Bethany Orphanage.

Lillie has been doing this type of "Home Missionary Work" for more than fifty years and though she has advanced in years the inner urge to keep pressing on is still there. Although the flesh is weak, so to speak, the spirit is willing and Lillie keeps "Pressing toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." "Looking for that blessed hope and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ."

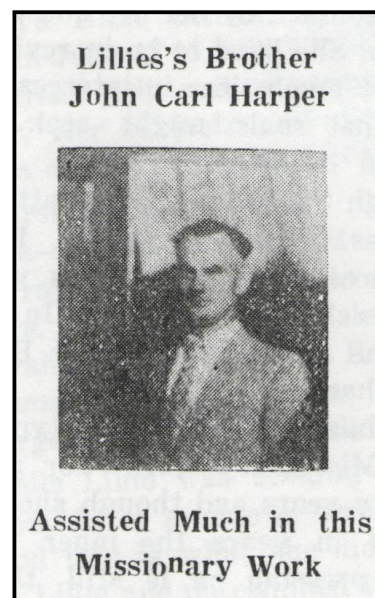
Written by one who has known her for almost 50 years.



**Lillie in Center at Temple S. S., Ind.
Painting Benches**



**Little Miss Jenkins
Secretary**



**Lillie's Brother
John Carl Harper**

**Assisted Much in this
Missionary Work**



William & Mary Sturgeon Bogard



Bogard Church
Lillie Taught S. S. Here

Previous meeting minutes:

No January meeting

February 12, 2019 Meeting

The CCHGS met at 6:30 p.m. in English at our building. It was the first meeting this year, and it was a freezing cold rainy night.

Program - Roberta Toby presented an interesting and informative talk on the history of the Sears Roebuck Company and their much loved catalog which sold just about everything including houses. In 1886, Richard W. Sears founded the R.W. Sears Watch Company in Minneapolis to sell watches by mail order. He relocated his business to Chicago, hired Alvah C. Roebuck to repair watches and established a mail order business for watches and jewelry. The company's first catalog was offered that year. In 1887 Sears sold that business, but a few years later founded with Roebuck another mail order business which came to be known as Sears Roebuck and Company. Sears wrote the company's famous catalogs which sold a wide range of things at low prices to farms and villages without access to big retail centers. When the automobile came along, people could access the retail centers. So Sears, under the management of Robert E. Wood,

opened a retail store. The number of stores increased rapidly becoming America's largest retailer until the 1980s when first K-Mart and then Wal-Mart surpassed it. The company had acquired other holdings under the name of Sears Holdings. They began to sell these subsidiaries, but in 2018 Sears Holdings filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. We still have fond memories of eagerly awaiting the new catalog to arrive in the mail.

President's Report - The newsletter is out. We received a large donation of books and materials from Doris Leistner's estate. Bill is thinking of holding open houses on Wednesdays to sell books and for people to do research.

No treasurer's or minutes reports were given

County Archives Report - Roberta deposited \$525.00 from book sales and donations.

Evelyn Jackson gave \$300 and Louie Mitchell gave \$20. We really appreciate these donations.

Veterans memorial Association Report - No meetings this winter, but the lights on the flags have not been installed.

County Historian Report - Our good friend, Doris Leistner, passed away December 31. She devoted over 50 years of her life to Genealogy research. She had a huge amount of materials that she shared with us. We really appreciate her kindness and generosity. Her work will help many, many others for a long time. We greatly miss her.

Proctor House Report - The restoration work is complete. We will have an open house program in late spring as we need to furnish and decorate it. The first electric bills have been high so Angie Kleer is checking on the unit.

Donations - From Doris Leistner's family: Many books, master copies of her books with the option to reprint them, microfilm, 4 bookcases, 2 file cabinets, and office supplies.

No bills were presented.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Those present were Diane and Louie Mitchell, Roberta Toby, Carol Tomlinson. and Bill Piper.

MEETING MARCH 12, 2019

The CCHGS met at 6:30 p.m. in English with President Bill Piper opening with a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

No Program.

Minutes were reviewed. Roberta made a motion to approve. Louie seconded the motion and it passed.

President's Report - Bill has purchased a digitizer for 8mm film.

Treasurer's Report - The beginning balance as of February 13 was \$8,746.15. Deposits of \$130.00 brought the balance to \$8,881.35. Disbursements for utilities and house payment totaled \$341.57. The ending balance is \$8,539.78. Membership is 60.

The Proctor House had a beginning balance of \$2,018.48. Disbursements for electricity and water was \$599.14. The ending balance is \$1,419.34.

No Archives Report.

Veterans Memorial Report - An order was placed with Mark Hollen of Marengo Monuments for a gray granite eagle to replace the current one that is in bad shape. The

cost is \$4,000.00. Hopefully, it will be in place by Memorial Day for the celebration being planned. The first meeting for this year is this coming Monday night.
County Historian Report - Roberta and Carol attended the Indiana Historical Society's workshop on Thursday, March 7, at the Dubois County Museum in Jasper. The topic was fund-raising for non-profit organizations. Roberta has made several trips to New Albany for books, cabinets, shelves, etc. which Doris Leistner donated to us. Another trip will be needed. Roberta plans to hold a workshop on genealogical research on April 10.
Next meeting is April 16th, the 3rd Tuesday of April.
Jim Kaiser reported on a meeting at Schwartz's Family Restaurant. Richard Fields presented some info on the Mitchells and other local families.
Bill was selected as our nominee by acclaim for the CFCC Volunteer Donor Award.
No bills were presented.
The meeting adjourned at 7:30.
Those present were Roberta Toby, Ruth Terry, Louie and Diane Mitchell, Jim Kaiser, Sharon Morris, Roscoe Hooten, Bill Piper, Elaine Stephenson, and Lois Austin.

Genealogy Workshop!

Wednesday, April 24, 7pm to 9pm

CCHGS Headquarters in English

We are going to experiment with having genealogy workshops open to the public. We have over 50 family histories and hope this will bring in new people into the organization. More are to come from the Doris Leistner collection. County Historian Roberta Toby will be there to help those with research. This will also allow us to have the building open for evening hours. If the feedback is good, this will probably become a monthly event.

Crawford County Veteran Spotlight:

William Andrew Redden

WWII, b. June 6, 1893, d. Feb. 23, 1974
son of William and Mary C. (Belcher) Redden



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.



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