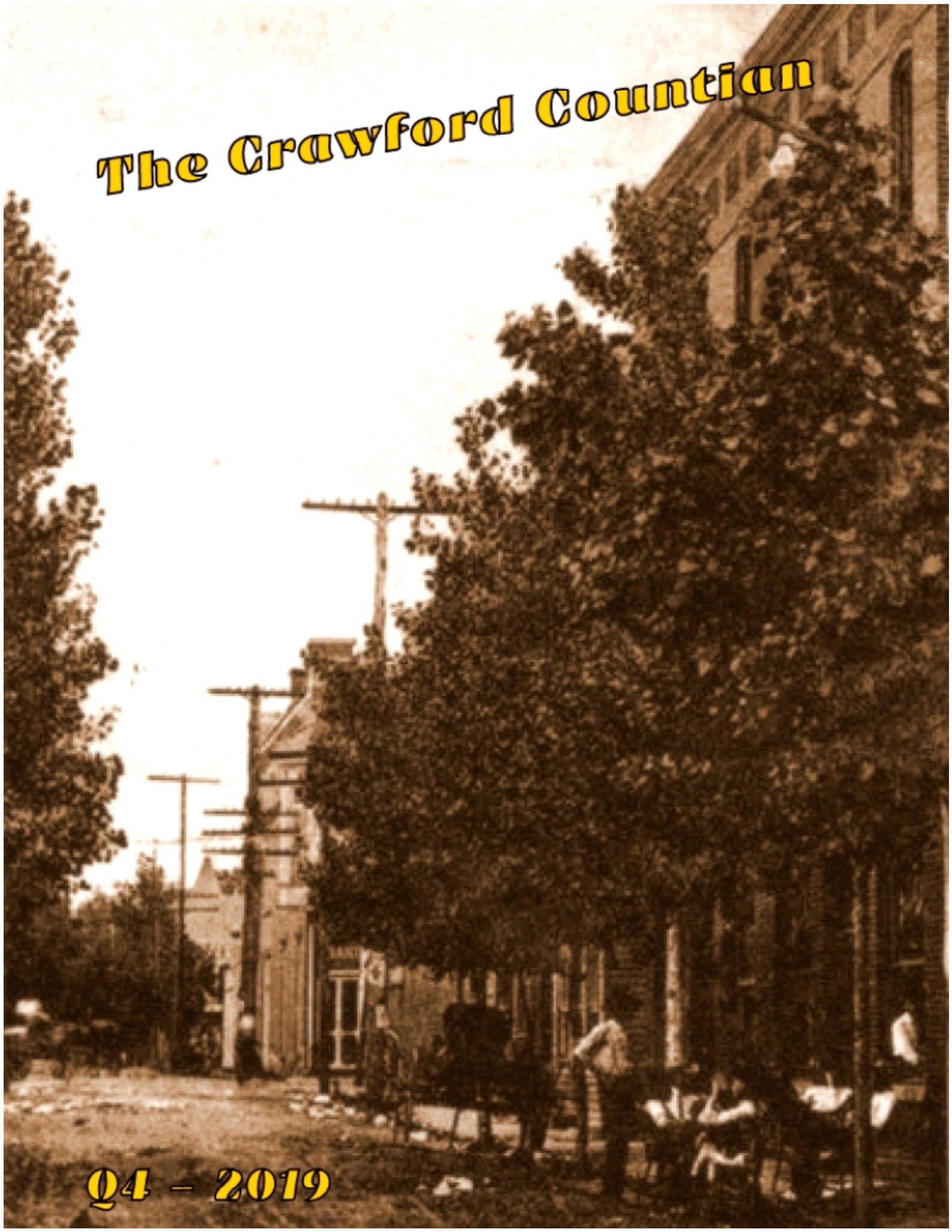


The Crawford Countian



Q4 - 2019

Welcome to the Fall edition of "The Crawford Countian", the official newsletter of the CCHGS. Within a week, the Proctor House will finally have its open house on October 14 (1pm). This has been 15 years in the making and we're happy to finally have it open. Going forward, we're open to any suggestions for improvements or ideas on future events to hold at the house. We will still continue to seek out items to have on display at the house, so if you have something you'd like to see there, let us know!

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



Cover photo of English, looking down 5th street, year unknown.

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Prominent Figures of English Indiana in the late 1800s

With one of the rooms at the Proctor House highlighting the history of English Indiana, I thought this would be a great way to showcase some prominent figures of the town. This information provided is from the September 16, 1897 issue of *The Crawford County Democrat* newspaper. Please note I did not reprint the entire paper, just various sections.



JERRY L. SUDDARTH

A Prominent Member of the Crawford County Bar

Jerry L. Suddarth, was born March 28, 1857, in a log cabin on a farm in Whisky Run township. He was educated in the common schools of his native county, and at the Marengo Academy, from which institution he was graduated. *(next sentence illegible)* At an early age, aspiring to a professional life he shaped his course so that he might obtain a good collegiate education, as an essential preliminary to a legal career, his bent being in the direction of the law. *(next sentence illegible)* Returning to his native county, Mr. Suddarth reengaged in teaching school. He taught for one term, after which he located in Leavenworth, Crawford county, and entered into the practice of law, becoming associated with the Hon. S. W. Stockslager. This co-partnership continued until 1881 when the latter was elected to

Congress. Upon being admitted to the bar, Mr. Suddarth entered upon a professional career, which in a short time bore the marks of absolute success. *(rest of paragraph illegible)*

His services as a prosecutor were highly satisfactory, resulting in more convictions of wrong-doers than probably had ever been adjudged guilty during the administration of any other prosecutor in the county. Mr. Suddarth has always been an adherent to the Republican Party and devotes himself closely to his professional practice, which is now a large and lucrative one, covering most of the counties in this portion of Indiana. His reputation as a criminal lawyer is equally in the State and his practice extends beyond the same. *(next paragraph has quite a bit missing)*

April 14, 1887, the subject of this sketch was married to Miss Lula B. Barnett of Leavenworth, who bore him two children, a daughter, Cecil L. Suddarth, and a son, Curan B. Suddarth, aged respectively eight and six years. September 1, of the present year, Mr. Suddarth became a resident of English, his residence being the handsomest and most conveniently arranged home in the county. It was built after Mr. Suddarth's own plans, embellished by a practical architect, and is truly a model place of abode. It contains thirteen living rooms, besides numerous closets and bedrooms, the latter being supplied with both hot and cold water. A spring of pure sparkling water located on a hill nearby, furnishes by means of pipes, the water used on the *(word illegible)* the force being sufficient to throw a stream entirely over the residency which is a three storied

edifice. The writer has accorded the privilege of looking through this partial home and was indeed truly surprised at the elegance of its fixtures and finish. Every convenience that *(words illegible)* could suggest has been employed in the construction of this *(words illegible)* dwelling. All the rooms are finished in



highly polished oak, the *(word illegible)* stairway made in a large factory in Illinois, rivaling those of *(word illegible)* homes, French plate glass windows *(word illegible)* the parlor and other rooms with light; a sewing room provided, a library, even to a room with the children may amuse themselves are contained in Mr. Suddarth's residence. *(next two sentences illegible)* Mr. Suddarth well merits the success he has attained having risen from a poor boy possessed of no capital but his brains, to an enviable position in a professional financial and social circles. He is owner of several desirable properties in this and adjoining counties. A few rods removed from his residence stands an attractive cottage built by Mr. Suddarth and occupied by his father and mother, both of whom are of advanced years and whose every want he studiously attends.



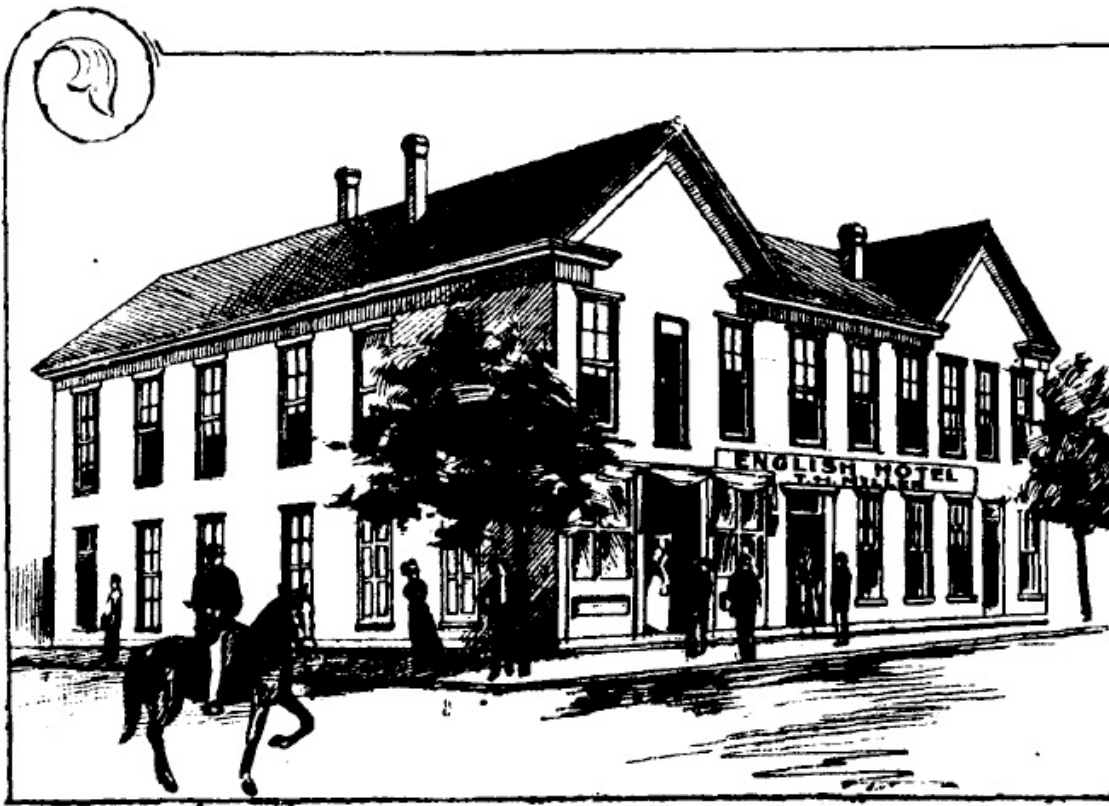
SAMUEL CUMMINGS

Our Popular Air Line Railroad Agent

Samuel Cummings, the popular and efficient freight and ticket agent of the L.E. & St. L. or Air Line railroad, at English, and who is the Western Union Telegraph operator, and has charge of the express company's business here, was born, February 1, 1869, in Dubois county, Indiana, near the little town of Birdseye. His father was a farmer and the subject of this sketch remained on the farm until he was fourteen years of age, when he secured a position as clerk with the firm of Wilson & Cooper general storekeepers of Hawesville, KY. Here he stayed for some four years. Subsequently he accepted a position with the firm of Koerner & Zimmer of

Birdseye, for whom he acted as buyer of ties and cooperage stock for a period of one year. Having acquired a good English education, he was licensed to teach and for one year taught a school in Ohio County, KY. June 6, 1891, he accepted the position as agent for

the L. E. & St L. railroad company, being located at Mentor, Indiana. In the meanwhile he wrote life insurance and studied telegraphy. With no instructor he soon mastered telegraphy and became a proficient operator. While at Mentor, Mr. Cummings was married, taking for his wife, Miss Harriett Ingle, of that place. By this union, two children have been borne, a boy and a girl. Mr. Cummings continued at Mentor for four years when he was promoted to the position of railroad agent at Taswell, Crawford County, nine months later taking charge of the L. E. & St. L. company's business in English. Mr. Cummings by close application to his business and judicious investments in properties, has accumulated a fair share of this world's goods being owner of desirable realties in this and Dubois counties. The English Hotel is his property, which he rents to an advantage. The people of this community not only regard him as a highly capable man in his business but as well as a valuable citizen. He is especially enterprising and progressive and takes an active part in the encouragement of enterprises having for their object the up-building of his adopted home town. Mr. Cummings is a member of the F. & A., M. and K. of P. fraternal orders.



THE ENGLISH HOTEL

Popular Alike with Commercial Men and the General Public

Within a short distance of the depot and directly in the business center of English is situated the English Hotel, a two storied, substantially built and attractive structure. The hotel was established a number of years ago, the present proprietor Thomas H. Miller,

succeeding to the business August 1, of the present year. The hotel contains sixteen rooms, all of which are light and comfortably furnished. If there is any one thing that renders the English Hotel conspicuous, it is cleanliness. Dust, dirt, litter or untidiness are unknown within its portals, the most scrupulous care being exercised in every department to make the house as clean as it is possible for scrubbing, scouring and polishing to make it. This is due to the vigilance of Mrs. Miller and her daughters who officiate as house keepers. In the matter of the cuisine, the English Hotel sets a worthy example to other country hostelrys. The tables are provided with an abundance of wholesome, appetizing viands, the butter, milk and eggs, coming direct from the farms in the vicinity, the meats from a reliable butcher of English and the provisions and fancy groceries from the town's principal dealers. In all things this hotel is up to the necessities of the times, and in point of management excels most houses of the same character. Mr. Miller, the genial proprietor, was born in Crawford County and previous to engaging in his present venture, followed farming he being owner of a fine farm seven miles south of English. Mr. Miller is the right man in the right place a typical "mine host." In the short time he has been in the hotel, he has fully demonstrated his adaptability to the business and is highly popular with all classes.

WILLIAM T. THORNBURY
Attorney-at-Law

Wm. T. Thornbury, junior member of the law firm of Weathers & Thornbury of English, was born on a farm in Hardin County, Kentucky, November 24, 1838. At the age of six years he was brought by his parents to Harrison County, Indiana, his father settling in Mauckport, and engaging in the shoe business. Here he grew to manhood, helping his father and attending the common schools. When but a young man our subject engaged in the general merchandise business in Mauckport, and in 1870, he removed to Grantsburg, Crawford County, where he conducted a drug and merchandise establishment. In 1872 he took up his residence in English, the town then bearing the name of Hartford, and for a period of three years operated a store here. Mr. Thornbury's next venture was farming, in which he became engaged in 1875. In the year 1876 he was nominated by the Republican party as a candidate for the State legislature, his opponent in the race being John Benz of Leavenworth. Mr. Thornbury was not elected, but his friends felt gratified to find that he had reduced the normal Democratic majority of about 600 to 166, a fact which attested his popularity. The subject of this sketch subsequently assumed the management of Wyandotte Cave of this county, a place frequented by *(rest of paragraph illegible)*. During Mr. Thornbury's earlier manhood days, having acquired a good education, he was licensed to teach, which calling he followed for several years. Having applied himself to the study of law, he began practice as an attorney in 1886, subsequently becoming associated with John H. Weathers, and prior to the removal of the county's seat of justice, managed the firm's business in the northern part of the county, attending at the same time to the banking interests of Weathers & Willett for this section. In 1862 Mr. Thornbury married Miss Sarah E. Brandenburg of Mauckport. Six children have been borne of this union. Mr. Thornbury owns a nice home of seven acres situated

within the town's limits upon which is located his residence, a modern dwelling ranking as one of this community's better houses. Mr. Thornbury takes an active interest in political matters and has ever been an energetic worker for his party. He has always been an active promoter of the best interests of his town and county, and believes that Crawford County will in the near future be the home of a prosperous and happy people. He is much interested in agriculture, and, although a busy man in his profession, finds time for experiments and research in the important field of knowledge and profit, and in many ways has added to the prosperity and well being of the community in which he lives.



JOHN H. LUCKETT

One of English's Rising Young Professional Men

John H. Lockett, who is associated with Jerry Suddarth in the practice of law, is a native of Henry County, KY, where he was born August 24, 1870. When a small boy, his parents - David L. and Marth J. Lockett - removed to Orange County, Indiana, locating near French Lick Springs. Here the subject of this sketch passed his boyhood days. His first experience of life was on his father's farm, being put to work at such occupations as was suited to his years when but a lad. He acquired a common school education in Orange County, and by diligent study succeeded in obtaining a license to teach when but sixteen years of age, and by this means acquired money tot take a course in the State University, which

he entered as a student in 1888. 1891, he accepted a position as teacher of the school of Plainfield, Indiana, which he resigned, however, the same year to take charge of the schools of English. For a period of three years he held the position of principal and superintendent of English's schools and rendered highly satisfactory services. Being desirous of entering the legal profession, his ambition seeking a broader scope than that permitted to the teacher, he commenced the study of law. In 1894 he again entered the State University, completing his literary course and taking a course in the law department. In 1896, Mr. Lockett was graduated with the first honors of his class. While at the University he was a member of the advisory board, and president of the senior class. Being admitted to the bar of Crawford County, our subject became associated with Jerry Suddarth, treated of elsewhere in these columns. Mr. Lockett is a member of the supreme court of the State and the United States court. As an attorney he has shown marked capabilities and his friends predict for him a bright and successful future. Mr. Lockett represents several time tried fire insurance companies, his writings amounting in the aggregate to a large figure. He is a member of the Masonic order; a popular member of society; and a citizen of excellent reputation. He owns real estate in English and is closely identified with the town's growth and development.

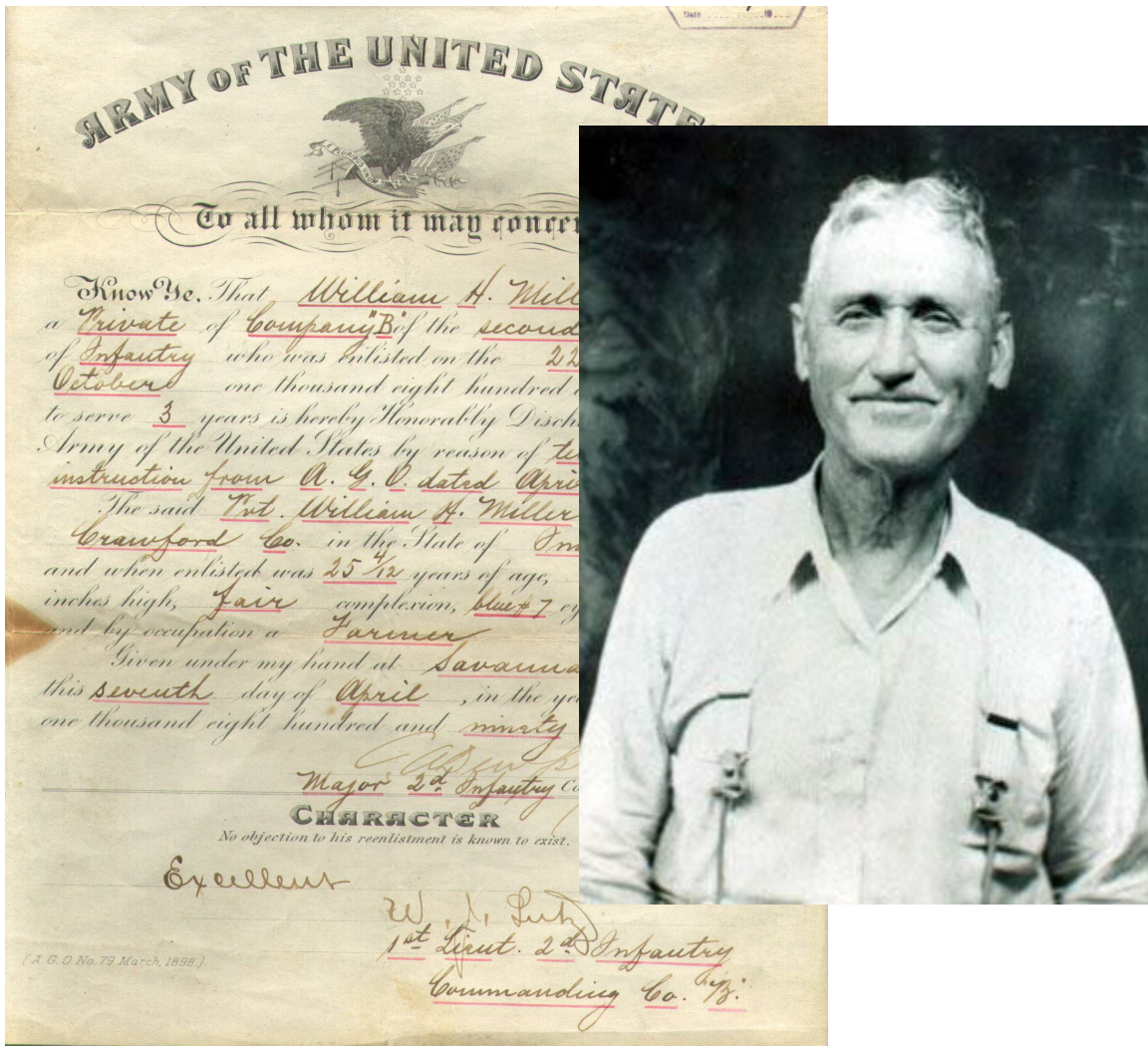
Queries

Nothing this month. If you have one for the next issue, send to billgpiiper@hotmail.com

Crawford County Veteran Spotlight

William H. Miller

Enlisted in the army in Louisville KY October 22, 1897 and was discharged in Savannah, GA April 7, 1899. Spanish American War. Pvt. 2nd. U S Infantry Co. B





From The County Historian.....

In the Fall of 2010 at a Crawford County Historical & Genealogical Society meeting I mentioned to the Society that Crawford was one of only two counties in Indiana that did not have a memorial to honor its veterans. I asked if they would be willing to meet with the VFW and other Legions in the county and form an association to build a memorial. Everyone liked the idea and so we formed a committee and met with members of the VFW and Legions. This is how the Crawford County Indiana Veterans Memorial Association came into being.

After forming the Association we met with the Commissioners and asked if they would be willing to help us by donating a spot for the memorial. We were allocated the spot beside the now Crawford County Annex building, (formerly the old Dollar Store). The memorial was built with donations, yard sales, bake sales, auctions, brick sales, bike runs, chicken dinners etc.

This memorial was built as a tribute to all veterans of Crawford County and those who at one time lived here or are buried here.

Mark Hollen of Marengo Monument's did a wonderful job on the engraving and artwork on the tablets, etc.

The memorial has eight flags and tablets honoring all branches of the military.

We owe thanks to many, many people for all the hard work and dedication to this project. We get many compliments on how nice it is.

I am proud to say that the Crawford County Historical & Genealogical Society was instrumental in helping this Veterans Memorial become reality.

Bricks are still being offered for sale. There is a form on our website: www.cchgs.org if you would like to order a brick for yourself or a military member of your family. Added bricks are usually laid down at the memorial once a year after we get sufficient orders for placement.

If you are in English, stop by and visit the Memorial and I also have a lot of military info in the rear of the building in the Archives room. I am in there on Monday and Tuesday from 10 until 2.

Roberta Toby
Crawford Co. Indiana Historian
Crawford Co. Historical & Genealogical Society
Crawford Co. Indiana Veterans Memorial Association



The CCHGS would like to thank new members, Paul and Cindy Carter, for the tremendous amount of work they have done for us in the past two months. They have worked extensively on the landscaping at the Proctor House as well as clean up at the Proctor House, shelter house and our headquarters building in English. Their help was much needed and without them, the landscaping at the Proctor House would not have been done in time!

Thank You!!!

Previous meeting minutes

July 09, 2019

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

Program - Old Time Memories

Roberta Toby shared her baby dress and picture. The dress was tiny and delicate. Vice-President Roscoe Hooten led us down memory lane for old time products. He began with the old flour sacks and Black Draught Molasses which was used for various ailments. Everyone shared memories such as Geritol, Castor Oil, Cloverine Salve, and the old ice house in English. Before refrigeration, large chunks of ice were bought to put in ice boxes to help keep dairy and other things cool. It was an enjoyable exchange.

Minutes - were reviewed. Additional names of those who helped with the recent yard sale were included. They are Glen Toby, Diane Mitchell, Jenny Watson, and Susan Wellman. We are very grateful for their assistance. Roscoe made a motion to approve. Roberta seconded and the motion passed.

President's Report - Bill reported that the Doris June Snyder Volunteer Awards event sponsored by the Community Foundation was very enjoyable. Volunteers from various Crawford County organizations and churches were honored. The newsletter is out.

Financial Report - the beginning balance as of June 12 was \$7,598.65. Total deposits from books and memberships were \$268.00. Disbursements for utilities, house payment, DAR fees, and booth space for the Sorghum Festival were \$332.54. The ending balance is \$7,534.11. Membership is 35.

County Archives and Historian Reports - Roberta deposited \$34.40 on July 1 for our proceeds from the Auction Barn (yard sale remnants). Then she deposited \$70.00 on July 9 for books and memberships. The Community Foundation has provided an intern, Brian Mitchell, two days a week to help Roberta. He has made a map of all of the cemeteries, and is working on a grid to help families locate bricks for their veterans at the Veterans Memorial. Judy Faith has donated more books, mostly of military interest and Native American Indian History. These additions to our collections are most welcome.

Proctor House Report - Bill has constructed a large panel to display our pictures. These pictures can be easily changed for different presentations. After much discussion, August 31 was chosen for the open house. Roscoe made the motion for that date. Roberta seconded, and the motion passed. We will serve cake and punch.

Old Business - Continued discussion about the need for security of Proctor House. Roscoe made a motion to go with Astro Security. Judy seconded, and the motion passed. Then Roscoe made a motion to take the necessary funds from the general fund to be repaid later. Carol seconded, and the motion passed. Some members offered to donate toward the initial upfront payment.

No bills were presented.

Those present were Roberta Toby, Ruth Terry, Sharon Morris, Roscoe Hooten, Bill Piper, Judy Faith, Angela Thompson, and Carol Tomlinson.

August 13, 2019

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

No program.

Minutes - were reviewed. Roberta made a motion to accept them. Louie seconded, and the motion passed.

President's Report -

Our building - bad case of mildew covering the books. All were wiped with disinfectant. Two box fans and four filters were purchased to keep the air moving. Now under control. Checked under the house, no water. Checked the attic, found a small leak around the "stink" pole. Schwartz has repaired it. Got rid of some of the wooden shelves.

Proctor House - lots of mold around the hot water heater and in the men's bathroom in the shelter house. Dry wall was cut out and the cabinetry around the heater removed. Lots of stuff hauled out. A husband/wife team (Paul & Cindy Carter) is helping with different clean-up projects. They have cleaned up the shelter house with a disinfectant, so mold is gone. Security is to be installed.

English display upstairs is almost finished. He spoke with Michael Key about looking through old materials stored in the English School basement for items of historical interest. We may get some stuff. No power in the school now because an electrical part was taken for the Leavenworth Elementary School. The English School is for sale. Marengo School will be closed in the near future (*correction).

William Percy from IU has stuff to donate on WWI veterans.

Treasurer's Report - Beginning balance as of July 10, 2019 was \$7,534.11. Deposits from a donation, book sales, and memberships brought the balance to \$8,719.11. Disbursements for utilities, house payment, and to Bill for needed materials totaled \$619.85. Ending balance is \$8,099.26. Membership is 52.

Archives - Roberta deposited \$360 for a book, a membership, and a donation from Allen Leistner for his son Matthew. The new eagle has been placed at the Veterans Memorial.

Proctor House Report - Discussion about the date for the Open House. Roscoe made a motion to have it on October 14 at 1 p.m. Jim Kaiser seconded it, and the motion passed. Cake and punch will be served. Security to be installed as soon as possible. Window treatments are being fashioned from vintage tablecloth. English display almost ready. Artifacts are being assembled to reflect the way people lived and worked back then. We hope to get an old church pew for people to sit on while watching the video.

Donations - Judy donated two lovely quilt tops - one made by her grandmother and one by her mother. She also donated some old milk bottles and an old green canning jar. Quilting frames and a kraut cutter belonging to Bonnie Powers were donated by her daughter. Robin Hobbs and her mother donated an antique green glass oil lamp.

No bills were presented.

Meeting adjourned.

Those present were Sharon Morris, Angela Thompson, Judy Faith, Jim Kaiser, Roberta Toby, Ruth Terry, Jason Froman, Louie Mitchell, Diane Mitchell, Bill Piper and Carol Tomlinson.

September 10, 2019

The meeting was held at the Proctor House in Marengo. President Bill Piper opened the meeting at 6:30 with a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members viewed the house and gave some feedback. Discussions were about finalizing plans for the upcoming grand opening on October 14.

Invitations - to go out next week. Hard copies to state/county officials, agencies, businesses, etc. E-mails to all our members.

Program. - Jim Kaiser to give the invocation, Roberta to give the history of the house, Jim suggested perhaps Greg Sekula to speak or moderate.

Desserts - No sheet cake, but homemade cakes. Several volunteered to bake one. Punch and water for the drinks.

Chairs/tent/signs/parking

Business meeting

Minutes were reviewed. A correction was made concerning the closing of Marengo School. It should be *in the future*, not next week. Roberta made the motion to accept the corrected minutes. Judy seconded. Motion passed.

President's Report - Landscaping with gravel will be done over a couple of weekends by Paul and Cindy Carter. Steve Eastridge has donated more English items of interest.

Treasurer's Report - Beginning balance as of August 14, 2019 was \$8,099.26. Deposits for memberships totaled \$65. Disbursements for utilities, security system, and house payment totaled \$1,061.78. Ending balance is \$7,102.48. Membership is 53.

County Archives and County Historian's Reports - Roberta deposited \$154.90 on August 29. David Wilkins informed her that on Sept. 29 at 2 p.m. there will be a dedication ceremony for David Dotson and on the same day at 3 p.m. there will be a second dedication at Shafer Ridge Cemetery for Leonard Shaw. She thinks this is a War of 1812 dedication. Mr. Wilkins encourages all to attend who can. She has received notification that some changes to the duties of county historians will be coming.

Proctor House Report. - Sharon gave the financial report. Ending balance is \$1,988.48.

Meeting adjourned. No bills were presented.

Those present were Andy and Glenda Laswell, Louie and Diane Mitchell, Sharon Morris, Judy Faith, Jason Froman, Roberta Toby, Jim Kaiser, Angela Thompson, Bill Piper, and Carol Tomlinson.

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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