

# The Crawford Countian



Summer 2021

Welcome to the summer edition of the CRAWFORD COUNTIAN! Sorry about the late delivery of this newsletter but free time has been scarce in the last two months. I want to thank Chris Isaacs for his article in this issue. He is willing to contribute more in the future. If anyone else would like to contribute to the newsletter, contact me. It could be either articles, pictures, family stories, etc...

Thanks to all who renewed their memberships and welcome to any new members. If you have not renewed for the 2021-2022 year, this will be the last newsletter.

- William Piper, President of CCHGS  
 Email: [billgpiper@hotmail.com](mailto:billgpiper@hotmail.com)



*Thanks to Jason Froman for providing the cover pic. He found it while browsing our archives at the CCHGS building in English. The boat was traveling on the Little Blue River.*

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## **Marengo's Public School.** *(reprint Marengo Observer Apr 8, 1904)*

**Something of What is Being Done for Education Advancement**

**A Pen and Photographic Presentation of Teachers and Scholars, With a Short Biography of Teachers and Graduating Classes.**

We present herewith a little write up of our public schools. Nothing indicates in this age of the world's progress, and more especially of this great and wonderful American Republic, the degree of enlightenment and active advancement of the people of that community more than their schools. In any community where you find live schools and bright, able teachers you will find a higher type of citizenship. Marengo takes pride in her schools. They are well attended. There is not seen many boys or girls of school age on the streets during the school hours.

Our school building, which was recently rebuilt and refitted furnishes ample accommodation for all scholars. There are four teachers employed and an enrollment of one hundred and sixty-eight. There is a regular high school course maintained, carrying the full course of studies required by the State Board of Education.

The OBSERVER takes pride in presenting the enrollment and engravings of the school and teachers, which we believe will be of interest to many of our readers.

Below will be found a short biography of the teachers, and graduating class, also, a few short articles from some in the primary and intermediate grades.

### **Prof. W. L. Goad**

Winfred Llewellyn Goad, son of Lieut. Geo. H. Goad, was born on a farm in Union township Crawford County, Ind Nov. 13, 1877. Mr. Gold entered the common school at the age of six years. While attending common school, John W. Goldman, Ex-Co. Supt., was his teacher, six years. At the age of twenty he taught his first school and has been engaged in school work ever since. He graduated from the Central Normal College in 1900, and received the degree of Bachelor of Sciences. The following year he entered the Sophomore class of the Indiana University at Bloomington, with mathematics as his major subject. May 2, 1903, he was married to Miss Berth. Mildred Sharpe and they moved here in September of the same year. He has held the position as Principle of the Marengo Public school during the present term with good success. He is liked by his scholars and associate teachers, and the work done by the classes under his instruction, shows a wonderful advancement during the closing term. The spirit of harmony among the scholars, and teachers and energetic education work of thorough nature pervades the whole school.



PROF. W. L. GOAD. Principal.

**John S. Taylor**

John S. Taylor, teacher of the grammar department, was born in Whiskey Run township, three miles north of Milltown, April 16, 1878, and moved to Liberty township, with his parents in 1880.

He attended school eleven terms at No. 4 school in Southeast township, Orange County, four terms to Prof. J. M. Johnson, at the Marengo Academy, three to the Ma. public school, and one at the Central Normal College at Danville, Ind. He had taught one term in the Liberty township public schools and two in the Marengo public schools. Has had splendid success this term, in his department.



J. S. TAYLOR.  
Teacher of Grammar Department.



MISS KATE WEATHERS.  
Teacher of Intermediate Department.

**Miss Kate Weathers**

Miss Kate Weathers, who presides over the young Americans in the Intermediate Department, is one of Liberty township's most successful lady teachers. She graduated with honors, from the common schools at this place in 1899, and continued her studies with a view of becoming a teacher and has since taught three terms of schools, two in the district schools of Liberty township and one in the public school of Marengo. Her work during the past term has been most satisfactory to herself and the patrons, and devotion of her scholars to a remarkable degree by her kind disposition and untiring efforts for their advancement.

### **H. W. Key**

H. W. Key who has for six terms, had charge of the primary department, is especially fitted for that important part of the school work. He has had wonderful success in getting the youthful minds \_\_\_\_\_ (newspaper damaged for a line) in the elements of education and starting them on the road to higher and better things. Mr. Key is universally loved by his scholars as a very necessary thing in the primary room. His work, while one of the hardest in the school, has been very satisfactory.



H. W. KEY.  
Teacher of Primary Department.



CLYDE TAYLOR.  
High School Graduate, Class of 1904.

### **Clyde Taylor**

On a farm about two miles south of Marengo, Ind, was born Clyde Taylor, on September 1, 1886. He attended the Goodman school Liberty township, until 1901 when he entered the eighth grade of the Marengo school, and has been a faithful worker in his class. He is the only one of a graduating class of seven who had the "grit" to complete the course of study in the High School. He will graduate from the three year's work in the High School, with a good class record and excellent deportment. He is contemplating a course in some good Business College. Whatever he may cast his lot, the teachers with the school join in wishing him unbounded success as a reward of his tireless efforts.



PRIMARY AND INTERMEDIATE DEPARTMENTS.

### **Common School Graduating Class**

#### **Kate Heistand**

Kate E. Heistand, the youngest child of Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Heistand, was born June 9, 1887, on a farm one mile east of Marengo near what is commonly known as the "Red Bridge." She began to attend school at Marengo when she was eight years old. Her first teacher was Mr. Roscoe Stewart and her present teacher is Prof. W. L. Goad. On Sept 6, 1883, her brother and sister discovered the Marengo Cave, which is one of the most beautiful caves in Southern Indiana. Her aim in life is to be a music teacher.

#### **Roy E. Breeden**

Roy E. Breenden, son of Roy J. A. Breenden, was born at Moberly, Ind., August 22, 1889, and soon after birth moved to Marengo, Ind.

He entered the Marengo public school at the age of seven in the year 1896. He has been a student of Marengo, Milltown, Leavenworth and Newtonsville public schools for eight years. Once while riding his horse it fell with him and as he jumped, his foot hung in the stirrup but the horse was stopped and he was \_\_\_\_\_ (newspaper damaged).

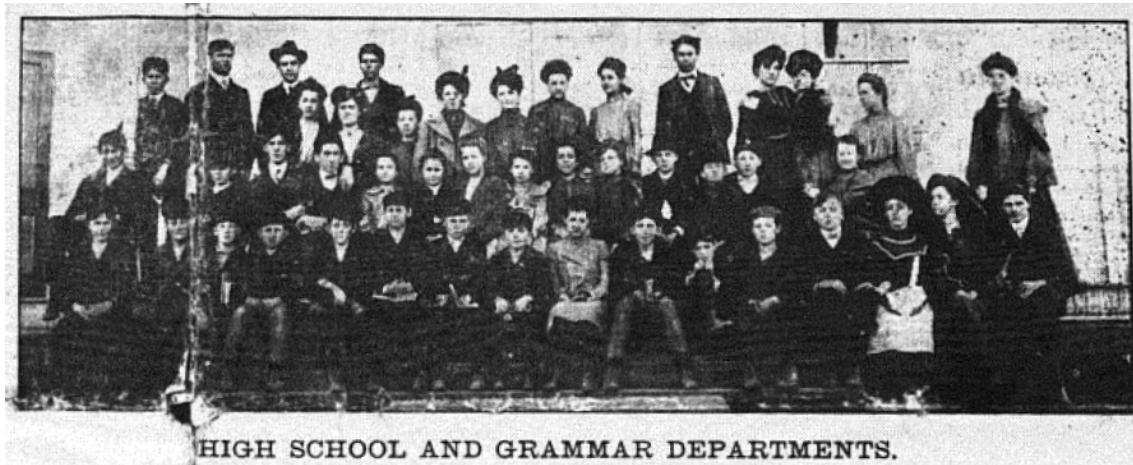
#### **Hilma M. Stevenson**

Hilma M. Stevenson, the oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Stevenson, was born in Marengo, Ind., Nov. 1, 1892. She commenced attending the public school at Marengo when she was five years old, her first teacher being Prof. Elmer Stewart, and she has attended eight years, her present teacher being Prof. W. Goad.

Her aim in life is to be a school teacher.

#### **Basil Austin**

Basil Austin was born at Pilot Knob, Indiana, March 22, 1887, and lived with his grandfather and grandmother until he was seven years old. He then moved to Marengo where he entered school and has been a diligent student ever since.



### **Essays from Primary and Intermediate Scholars Spring Party.**

Spring thought she would give a party. "We will help you" said the birds and the flowers and sun beams and the breezes. You may tell the bees, the frogs and the squirrels, said spring. All that were invited was glad to come for everything was bright and green on the day of the party. The rain and the sun had made the ground \_\_\_\_\_ (newspaper damaged) and fresh on the ground. The flowers were all fresh and pretty. The little sunbeams made everything bright and pretty, and all the guests had on the prettiest dresses. Snow drop was in a green and white dress. Dandelion had on a large yellow hat, Blue bird had on a blue coat and yellow vest, Maple bird come in a red jacket, all the frogs had on a green coat and a white vest. The birds sang their prettiest songs. The frogs sang, but their voices were not so sweet as the birds. Some of the guests did not like to hear them sing very well, but they were too polite to say so. The squirrels ran up the trees and played about and were full of fun. Spring said she would give a party ever year.

Carmen Bird Age 7

### **The Horse.**

Horses are very useful animals. Farmers could not get along very well without horses. Some horses are very strong. A farmer would have to dig his ground to do his planting if he had no horses. Horses do a great deal of work that a man cannot do. Horses will draw loads that a dozen men could not move. Horses will carry us on their backs and draw us in buggies. If a farmer had no horses he could not break a very big patch of ground. Horses will work from morning till night in all kinds of weather. Horses never refuse to get up and be off when they are needed. In winter when the snow is on the ground they will draw us in sleighs on the snow. The Arabs are very fond of their horses. They think as much of their horses as they do of their children. They keep their horses in the tent where they live. They are very kind to their horses. We should be kind to our horses.  
Charlie Green, Primary Department.

### **Recollections.**

I remember when I was six years old I attended the Tunnel school. My first teacher was Clarence Merriweathers, my second Enoch Stewart and my third was Claud Bird. I lived on a farm ten years about a mile from town. On the 10th of August my father was killed by the train and I was left without a father or mother. I had three brothers and two sisters left and we lived on the farm a year and a half and then we broke up the home. I came to town and my first home was at James Riley's. There I remained one year and two weeks, and my first teacher in town was J. R. Stewart, I went one term to him. My second home was at James H. Weathers and I have been there one year and three weeks. I went there the 12th day of March 1903. I have had a nice home there and like it fine. My second school at town I went to, was taught by Miss Kate Weathers. I like her for a teacher.  
Floyd Stewart, Intermediate Department.

### **School Days.**

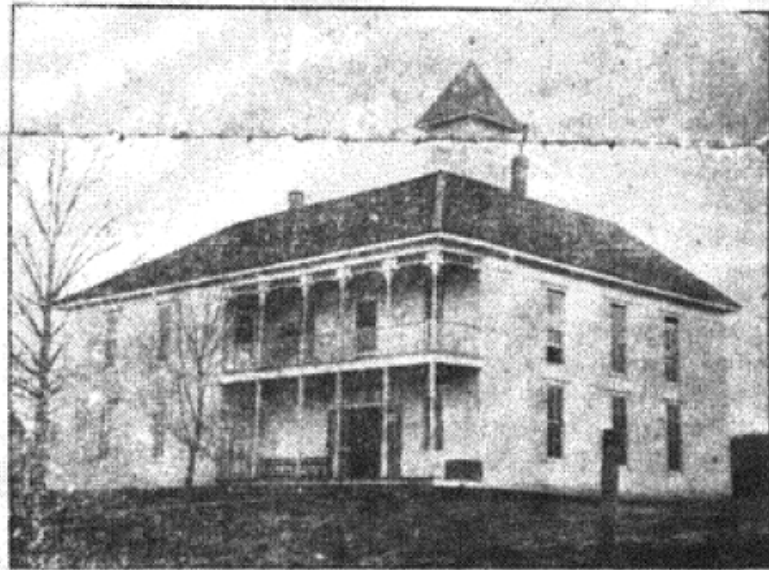
School days are important to all boys and girls. It is a time to improve one's mind and should be taken advantage of by all the boys and girls, and they should obey their teacher's rules. They should never laugh at any ones mistakes when reciting or otherwise. They should never make fun of a poor child's clothes. They should treat a poor child as nice as they would treat a rich one, and treat their enemy kindly. The child in school should study his lessons and not pay any attention to other children's foolishness, copy nor take other children's advice about the lessons, but learn to depend

on themselves, and be ready when their class is called. They should not whisper and should not speak up when someone is talking and not speak at any time, but hold up the hand and wait until the teacher notices them.

They should be prompt in attending school and be prompt when spoken to. When playing, never run over a little child and if you see a big boy running over a little one be

prompt to tell him that it isn't right to pick at a boy smaller than himself. School days are the days to make friends by treating your school makes kind, and if you do a kindness for one of your school makes they never forget it. When you are grown and happen to meet one of your friends that you went to school with, you can talk to them about your old school days and it will bring happy recollections.

Cecil Weathers, Intermediate Department.





Profs. Goad and Taylor will teach a Spring term of school beginning April 25th, in the public school building, sustaining classes in all grades, a teachers and a high school course and have promises of a good attendance.  
-bP

<b>ENROLLMENT.</b>	
REVIEW WORK.	
Milton Meloy.	
THIRD YEAR HIGH SCHOOL.	
Clyde Taylor.	
SECOND YEAR HIGH SCHOOL.	
Knobel Summers	Nolan Hammond
Nellie Litay	Claud Eddleman
Daisy Wilson.	
FIRST YEAR HIGH SCHOOL.	
Edwin Weathers	Beatrice Bushaw
Ethel Veatch.	
EIGHT YEAR.	
Zona Weathers	Clyde Bird
Lawrence Stevenson	Eldo Davis
Kate Stewart	Delancy Sloan
Hilma Stevenson	Lula Meloy
Harley Walts	Bertha Goad
Kate Heistand	Blanch Godfrey
Roy Breden	Sherman Scott
Cort Stevenson	Basil Austin
Roma Crecellus	Versie Snider
Charlie Anderson	Johnie Hughes
SEVENTH YEAR:	
Leslie Bird	Emma Ross
Josie Meloy	Cecil Taylor*
Ernest Taylor*	Maud Colvin
Arthur Miller	Emery Stroud
Gladya Bell.	
Wile Taylor.	Artie Land.
Bessie Weathers	Olive Poe.
Carl Stewart	Edwin Wilson.
Cecil Sloan.	Willie Lockhart.
Cleo Spencer.	Luella Taylor*
Charlie House.	Harry Taylor
Clyde Miller.	Emma Bullington.
Clodia Hollowell.	Leonard Stewart.
FIFTH YEAR.	
Murry Hall.	Earnest Stephenson
Anna Hawkins.*	Ralph Wood.
Charlie Veatch.	Clara Crecellus.
Myrtle Meloy.	Golda Weathers.
Lula Stevenson.	Guy Stewart.
Oran Patrick.	Grace Wood.

FOURTH YEAR.	
Mollie Rawlings	Carrie Jenkins
Clarence Rawlings	Frankie Spears
Floy Stewart	Grace Paterson
Joanna Swan	Ella Huges
Earnie Spencer	Royce Davis
Mamie Bullington	Josie Land
Lula Sloan	Ruby Weathers
Ernel Austin	Cecil Weathers
Edgar Husslar	Erna Sloan
Lillie Breden	Mary House
Harry Goldman	Fern Stewart
Cora Taylor	Ola Bird
Sylvia Goets	Cussie Shafer
Cordelia McNamara	Fern Paterson
Nola Jones	Flo Corneliaon
Lillie Weathers	Russell Terry.
THIRD YEAR.	
Ray Stewart	Craig Weathers
Martin McNamara	Harley Okeo
Carl Crecellus	Olive Stevens on
Kate Wood	Mamie Green
Voll Deal	Herschel Jones
Claud Poe	Opal Turner
Lynn Weathers	Golda Goldman
Sharon Miller	Virgil Judd
Ollie Key	James Jones
Charlie Clifton.	
SECOND YEAR.	
Ruby Rawlings	Made Rawlings
Lena Crecellus	Carmen Bird
Grace Goldman	Pearl Nayer
Nellie House	Belle Hall
Hilma Austin	Nellie Jenkins
Claud Hughes	Roy Hughes
Willie Dooley	Charlie Dooley
Ernel Judd	Mettie Judd
Charlie Green	Grace Okeo
Irene Stuart	Joan Ray
Ella Miller	Rosale Bullington
Charlie Jones	Hersel Terry
FIRST YEAR	
Eiva Sloan	Russell Bullington
Flossie Bullington	Ertry Stuart
Robbie McNamara	Johnie McNamara
Raymond Pierson	Lester Poe
Lula Spears	Louie Dooley
Garret Weathers	M. W. ...
...	...
...	...
Olene Green	Kate ...
Wallace Alderson	Ernest ...
Perry House	Mary ...
Johnie Judd	Patsy Weathers
Guss Miller	Nell ...
Lester Terry	

## *From the County Historian:*

These are the veterans I have found so far who served in WW I. If you know of any others please let me know so I can add them to the list. Thank You. Roberta

Abel, George	Army	Buchanan, John	Army
Adams, Carter	Army	Bullington, Arthur	Army
Adkins, Arthur	Army	Bullington, Oliver	Army
Agan, Lewis	Navy	Burton, Burgess	Army
Archibald, Will	Army	Byrd, John E.	Army
Armstrong, William	Army	Campbell, Zenor	Army
Arter, Clarence	Army	Carberry, Levi	Army
Atkins, Claud	Army	Carroll, Frank	Army
Atkins, Fred	Army	Carroll, William	Army
Atkins, Ivan	Army	Carter, Raymond	Army
Austin, Benny	Army	Carter, Rush	Army
Austin, Guy	Army	Carver, Earl	Army
Baker, Omer	Army	Cline, Charles	Army
Baker, Roy	Army	Collins, Herman	Army
Baker, Rufus	Navy	Cooper, Cressy	Army
Barry, Russell	Army	Corbett, Earl	Army
Bell, Forest	Army	Cornelison, Oral	Army
Bennett, Coy	Army	Courtney, James	Army
Bennett, Herman	Army	Crabtree, Clarence	Army
Bennett, Sam	Army	Crawford, William	Army
Benz, David	Army	Crews, Ray	Navy
Bitner, Aaron	Army	Cummins, Emmitt	Army
Black, Charles	Army	Cummins, Ezra	Army
Bobbitt, A. N.	Navy	Cummins, Scottie	Army
Bolden, Raymond	Army	Cummins, Victor	Army
Boman, Arnel	Army	Cunningham, Bryan	Army
Boss, Ray	Army	Cunningham, Charles	Army
Bowman, Will	Army	Curts, Isaac	Navy
Brandenburg, Jesse	Army	Cuzzort, Clyde	Army
Brandenburg, Louis	Army	Davis, Arthur	Army
Brown, Claud	Army	Davis, Clarence	Army
Brown, Ernest	Navy	Davis, Fred	Navy
Brown, Roscoe	Army	Davis, Howard	Army
		Davis, Reuben	Army
		Davis, Roy	Army
		Dean, Lloyd	Navy
		Deen, H. H.	Army
		Deich, Omer	Army

Denbo, Raleigh	Army	Green, Gordon	Army
DeWeese, Harvey	Navy	Green, Harry	Army
DeWitt, Torrence	Army	Gresham, Eli	Army
DeWitt, Vollie	Army	Grimes, William J.	Army
Dodd, Earl	Navy	Hall, Alphonso	Army
Dooley, George	Army	Hall, Everett	Army
Dooley, Lewis	Army	Hall, Orvil	Army
Dooley, Thomas	Army	Hall, Roy	Army
Dooley, William	Navy	Hamer, Clarence	Army
East, Chester	Army	Hammond, Esarey	Army
East, Edward	Army	Hammond, John	Army
Ellilott, Ernest	Army	Hammond, Lincoln	Army
Elliott, Fonnie	Army	Hancock, Major	Army
Everdon, Roscoe	Navy	Handspire, Jonas	Army
Ewing, Elbert	Army	Hanger, Elmer	Navy
Fears, Bayless	Army	Hanger, Ernest	Army
Finch, Thomas	Army	Hanger, Ollie	Army
Fishers, Tom	Army	Harris, Reuben	Navy
Fitch, George	Army	Head, Burness	Army
Fleming, Floyd	Army	Hedden, Floyd	Army
Foutch, Harry	Army	Henderson, Frank	Army
Foutch, William H.	Army	Hendren, Frank	Army
Frans, Fred	Army	Heninger, Roy	Army
Froman, Garland	Army	Higgenbotham, Rupert	Army
Froman, Ray	Army	Highfill, George	Army
Funk, Ernest	Army	Highfill, John	Army
Gaither, Edward	Army	Highfill, Loran	Army
Gaither, James	Army	Hilgert, George	Army
Galey, Joseph	Army	Hilgert, Jesse	Army
Garrett, Levi	Army	Hobson, Roy	Army
Gilmore, Earl	Army	Hollcroft, Temple	Army
Gilmore, Newton	Army	Hollcroft, Kay	Navy
Glazier, John	Navy	Hollen, Harry	Army
Goldman, Andy	Army	Hollen, Nathan	Army
Goldman, Arthur	Army	Hollen, Thurman	Army
Goldman, Cecil	Army	Hollowell, Leslie	Army
Goldman, Floyd	Army	Hooten, Orcel	Army
Goldman, Oscar	Army	Hoten, George	Army
Goodwin, Benny	Army	House, Claud	Army
Grant, Peter	Army	Howell, Lionel	Navy
Green, Charles	Army	Hubbard, Charles	Navy

Hubbard, William	Navy	McDonald, William	Army
Jenkins, Arvil	Army	McDonale, William	Army
Jenkins, Ernest	Army	McFarland, Norman	Army
Jenkins, Wilford	Navy	McGovern, Charles	Army
Jenkinsm Elmer	Navy	McGovern, James	Army
Jones, Charles	Army	Melton, Charles	Army
Jones, Max	Army	Melton, Howard	Navy
Jones, Raymond	Navy	Melton, William K.	Army
Judd, Fred	Army	Meriwether, Dudley	Army
Judd, Wilbur	Army	Miley, Joe	Army
Judd, Wilford	Army	Miller, Ray	Army
Kaiser, Clarence	Army	Mills, Charles E.	Army
Kellams, George	Army	Mills, Charles H.	Army
Kellams, William E.	Army	Mills, George	Army
Kelly, Wayne	Army	Mills, James	Navy
Kemp, John W.	Army	Mills, Jesse	Navy
Kennison Henry	Army	Mills, Robert	Army
Key, John	Army	Mitchell, Lon D.	Army
King, Luther	Army	Mock, Adrian	Navy
Land, John	Army	Mock, Earl	Army
Land, Lane	Army	Mock, Floyd	Army
Land, William O.	Army	Mock, Iris	Navy
Landers, Walter	Navy	Monk, Robert	Navy
Lane, Luther	Navy	Moore, Ellis	Army
Lanham, Charles	Army	Moore, Felix	Army
Lanham, Orville	Army	Morgan, Dewey	Army
Laswell, Walter	Army	Morgan, Thomas T.	Army
Lavin, Tom	Army	Myers, Allen	Army
Lawrence, Isaac	Army	Myers, John	Army
Leasor, Ernest	Army	Newkirk, George	Army
Levell, Nolan	Army	Newton, Leonard	Navy
Lewis, Louis W.	Army	Newton, William O,	Navy
Llynch, Emery	Army	Norman, Dell	Army
Lockhart, Bert	Army	Okes, Owen	Army
Lofton, Harry	Army	Osborn, Jacob	Army
Lowe, Manford	Army	Ott, Elwood	Navy
Lynch, Chester	Army	Parke, William J.	Army
May, Charles	Army	Patton, Sanford	Army
McAdams, Sam	Army	Paul, Leonard	Army
McDonald William	Army	Pavey, Zelbert	Army
McDonald, Oscar	Army	Pearson, Charles	Army

Pearson, Forest	Army	Sloan, George	Army
Pedoga, Nolan	Navy	Smith, Carl	Army
Pittman, Charles	Army	Smith, James H.	Army
Pro, Russell	Army	Smith, James R.	Army
Proctor, John	Army	Smith, William	Army
Rails, Thomas	Army	Snider, Lester	Army
Rainboldt, Mike	Army	Speedy, Claude	Navy
Rainforth, Lyman	Navy	Spencer, Knoeful	Army
Rawlings, Herbert	Army	Starkey, Emery	Army
Real, Roy	Army	Stephenson, Claude	Navy
Rhodes, Earl	Army	Stephenson, Ernie	Army
Roach, Harry	Army	Stephenson, Ralph	Army
Roberson, Novie	Navy	Stewart, Arthur	Army
Roberson, Oscar	Army	Stewart, Earl E.	Army
Robertson, Harrison	Army	Stewart, Leonard	Army
Robertson, Omer	Army	Stewart, Olliver G.	Army
Robertson, Omer	Army	Stonecipher, Arlus	Army
Rogers, Everett	Army	Stonecipher, Norman	Army
Rogers, Kirby	Navy	Stroud, Charles	Army
Rogert, Cort	Navy	Stroud, Ernest	Army
Root, Gordon	Army	Stroud, Ivan	Army
Ross, Joseph R.	Army	Stroud, Reuben	Army
Rothrock, Hubert	Army	Sturgeon Charles	Army
Sacksteder, Ed	Army	Sturgeon, Jacob	Army
Saltgaver, James B.	Army	Sturms, Ernest	Army
Saltgaver, Perry	Army	Sturms, Raymond	Army
Satterfield, Ernest	Navy	Summers, Addie	Army
Satterfield, Floyd	Army	Sutton, Ermal	Army
Sauerheber, Arthur	Army	Sutton, Orval	Army
Schotter, Charles L.	Army	Sutton, Raymond	Army
Scott, Albert	Army	Tadlock, James	Navy
Shafer, George	Army	Taggert, Vivian	Army
Sharp, Carl	Navy	Taylor, Lon	Army
Sharp, David	Navy	Taylor, Merle	Army
Sharp, James	Army	Taylor, William	Army
Shaver, Zell	Army	Thompson, Floyd	Navy
Simcox, Charles	Army	Thornbury, William D.	Army
Simpson, Lewis	Army	Timberlake, Roy	Army
Sloan, Alpheus	Army	Toney, Ervin	Army
Sloan, Charles	Army	Tower, Harold	Army
Sloan, Felix	Navy	Trinkle, Clarence	Army

Trobaugh, Loren	Army	Wellman, Leroy	Navy
Trobaugh, William	Army	Wells, C. W.	Army
Turner, A. R.	Army	White, Edgar	Army
Unsel, Carl	Army	White, Willis	Army
Unsel, John	Army	Whitlow, Archie	Army
Vance, Douglas	Army	Whitlow, Lindell	Army
VanWinkle, Silas	Army	Williams, Floyd	Army
VanWinkle, William	Army	Williams, William T.	Army
Walls, Ben	Army	Wiseman, Emmett	
Walton, Ben	Army	Wiseman, Marion	Army
Walton, John	Army	Wiseman, Marshall	Army
Walton, Ollie	Army	Wiseman, Oscar	Army
Walton, William L.	Army	Wright, Chaney	Army
Weathers, Albert	Army	Yates, Dan	Army
Weathers, Cecil	Navy	Zahnd, Martin	Navy
Weathers, Lynn	Navy	Zimmerman, Charles	Army
Weathers. W. H.	Army		

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### **2021 - 2022 CCHGS OFFICERS:**

At the June meeting, the following were nominated and elected for the 2021 - 2022 fiscal year to server as officers of the CCHGS:

William Piper Jr - President  
 Jason Froman - Vice President  
 Carol Tomlinson - Secretary  
 Sharon Morris - Treasurer  
 Louie Mitchell - Director (Sterling-Patoka-Johnson)  
 Robin Piper - Director (Union-Boone-Ohio)  
 Debbie Oxley - Director (Jennings-Whiskey Run-Liberty)  
 Angela Thompson - Director (Crawford County at Large)

# Two Versions of the Crawford County White Caps

By Charles "Chris" Isaacs  
[charlescisaacs@gmail.com](mailto:charlescisaacs@gmail.com)

The more research that I conduct into the group known as the White Caps, the more perplexed and curious I become about them. The more information that I accumulate on their exploits the more questions that are generated about them. Were they a loosely defined group? Or were they a well-defined organization? How did they see themselves? What was their ultimate goals? I doubt we will ever know the true answer to some of these questions, but the one question that troubles me the most here of late is how did the people of late nineteenth century Crawford County, in general, view the White Caps? Did they applaud the group's efforts within the community or were they appalled by their exploits?

As historians we can only turn to the primary sources to try and discover what really occurred in history. Concerning the history of the White Caps, this is largely done by examining newspaper accounts. There are some personal letters and a handful of other writings from the period, but newspaper accounts make up much of the history of the group that we have today to go on. Yet in doing so we must remember the "context" in which these documents were created. As with anything created by a human-being, there is a potential for bias, whether intentional or unintentional to be interjected into the article. When studying the White Caps this becomes an especially important thing to keep in mind.

Having that in mind lets examine the following article from the *Abilene Weekly Reflector* from August 2, 1888 (Abilene Weekly Reflector, 9). On page nine of the newspaper, it recounts the previous weeks exploits by the White Caps in Crawford County. The White Caps were national news in the late 1880s and 1890s in the United States. News of the White Caps of Crawford and Harrison counties were widely published, as it was well known throughout the country that the group originated here in Southern Indiana. The *Abilene Weekly Reflector* reports an attack on a mother and daughter near Carnes Mill, the mother identified only as Wiseman. What is interesting to me is how the White Caps are portrayed in the story (Abilene Weekly Reflector, 9). Reported out of New Albany, In, the article is title "Ruffian White Caps" which immediately suggest to the reader that the White Caps are the agitators in the story, and it quickly follows up with "They get what they deserve after whipping two women" (Abilene Weekly Reflector, 9). What is interesting to me is how the White Caps are portrayed because other newspapers of the same year saw the White Caps of Crawford County differently.

In researching the White Caps, I have come across several articles that would infer to the reader that the White Caps were well received by the community here in Crawford County. For example, the April 23, 1888, edition of the *Boston Daily Globe* ran a story concerning the groups actions here in Crawford County, yet it takes an entirely different view towards the group. The article titled "White Caps, Vigorous Moral Reform in Indiana" with the follow-up headline stating, "Whipping Wife- Beaters and Thieves" (Boston Daily Globe, 1). This title already suggests to the reader that the group is on the side of right and just. In fact, the article goes on to highlight some of the groups exploits in the community. The article in all fairness paints 1888 Crawford County in a not so good of light. Stating "Some of the people are shiftless and are not particular as to what means they employ to gain a livelihood" (Boston Daily Globe, 1). The article goes on to say, "there are others in Crawford County who have a different idea of making a living and they, it seems propose to act as conservators of the morals of their unscrupulous neighbors" (Boston Daily Globe, 1). The author would have you believe that the White Caps were doing good within the community as it later states "You can put it down for a solid fact that the White Caps never yet whipped a man who didn't deserve it" (Boston Daily Globe, 1). In other words, the White Caps were on the side of justice. So why the difference in the articles underlying attitudes towards presumably towards the same group of White Caps a little more than three months apart? This is where historical context becomes important, as it allows us to better understand the "spin" that the writer is placing on the story.

Concerning the first article out of Abilene, Kansas it is important to realize the history of the region. Kansas has a bloody history when it comes to the territories and the civil war era. Indeed, there was a resurgence of violence in the West at this time with some of the violence attributed to groups claimed to be White Caps. It is plausible that the paper casted the White Caps in a negative light with hopes of discouraging further violence in the state, thus avoiding the turmoil of previous decades. In the case of the article appearing in the *Boston Daily Globe*, I think that it is important to remember that the East coast of the United States was a central location to two major social movements that were occurring during the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Those being the temperance movement and the women's suffrage movement in the. Two causes seen as morally just at the time and in the interest of women. The act of moral policing in communities by the White Caps, along with the fact they often interceded on the behalf of abused women, would have played greatly to the newspaper's readers. In either case for or against the group's exploits would have played well to newspaper readers in both regions of the country. Quite simply the White Caps sold newspapers. Therefore, newspaper editors continued to include reports of White Cap raids as it was in their best interest to do so.

So, with two newspapers offering differing viewpoints of the White Caps of Crawford County, how did the good people of Crawford County view the exploits of the White Caps? That is a difficult question to answer and one that I am still in search of the answer for. Currently, I would have to say it depends on which end of the hickory switch you were on. While these newspapers may not give us a clear understanding on how the people of Crawford County truly viewed the White Caps in 1888, they both appear to give an accurate account of the group's activities. Whatever the case maybe concerning the attitudes towards the group, the White Caps continued to enforce their violent form of moral justice on the people of Crawford County, and in doing so inspired others across the country to do the same. It would seem for a time, Crawford County, Indiana was on the minds of Americans throughout this great nation.

#### RUFFIAN WHITE CAPS.

They Get What They Deserve After Whipping Two Women.

NEW ALBANY, Ind., July 26.—A middle-aged woman named Wiseman and her nineteen-year-old daughter live in the neighborhood of Carnes Mills, Crawford County, and incurred the displeasure of the "White Caps," who charged that the women were unchaste. On the night of July 23 about twenty-five well mounted and armed "White Caps" rode up to the Wiseman house, took the mother and daughter out of bed, tied them to trees near by, and whipped them unmercifully upon the bare back with hickory switches. The blood followed each blow. Their shrieks and cries for mercy were disregarded, and the blows continued until both fell fainting on the ropes that held them. They were then cut loose. The "White Caps" remounted their horses, and after a brief consultation, overheard by three men in a house near by, rode away.

The "White Caps" had agreed in their consultation to ride to the house of Leslie Moreland, a reputable citizen of the neighborhood, tell him what they had done and why, and order him to spread the news, this being their custom. The three men who overheard this arrangement were relatives of Moreland and, taking their guns, they took a short cut to Moreland's. They told Moreland of what they had heard and secreted themselves in a thicket almost in front of Moreland's house.

The "White Caps" soon appeared and called Moreland out. He came to the door with his rifle. They told their errand and ordered him to start out at daylight and spread the news. Moreland refused, whereupon the "White Caps" threatened to call again and hang him, and then began firing revolvers at the house. Moreland replied with his rifle, and at the same moment the three men in ambush fired upon the gang. At this the "White Caps" galloped away, one of them, John Saunders, leaving a bloody hat on the highway and two others, being supported in their flight by their companions.

Three of them had been shot, two of them, John Saunders and Fryor Gregory, supposed fatally. The name of the other victim was not learned. Gregory is a well-known country merchant at West Fork post-office, Crawford County, has a family of grown children and is about fifty years of age. It is said he will die. He is in good circumstances and has been highly respected. Saunders is a saloonkeeper and a worthless fellow.

The elder Wiseman woman, it is reported, will die from the whipping she received.

#### References

"Ruffian White Caps." *Abilene Weekly Reflector*, August 2, 1888,9. (LOC. Gov)

"White Caps: Vigorous Moral Reform in Indiana. Whipping Wife- Beaters." *Boston Daily Globe*, April 23, 1888, 1. (ProQuest Database)



## Previous meeting minutes:

4/13/21

Started 6:30pm

Program: A school photo from Riceville, early 1900s, was shown. This was donated to the society by someone who found it in an antique store near Indianapolis. The photo will be published in the upcoming newsletter.

Last month's meeting minutes were read. Louie M. made a motion to accept and Jim K. seconded it. Motion passed.

President's report: Bill mentioned cleaning up the proctor house for the upcoming open house. Newsletter will be coming out soon. A new advertising banner was purchased to hang on the back fence line, facing Indiana Street in English. A new website will be coming soon.

Financial / Membership report: Start of the period: \$5,605.47. After deductions and additions, total balance for the end of the period: \$5,263.35. Membership: 76 total.

Veteran / Archive report: Roberta was not present but wanted to pass along that a memorial service for Evelyn Jackson was coming up on April 25, at Hancock Cemetery. The gentlemen who was doing the brick laying at the veteran's memorial had passed away.

Proctor House: The final report for the CFCC grant has been turned in and that grant's requirements are now complete.

Fundraising: Yard sale next month, to coincide with an open house for Proctor House.

Other news: Jason F. and Anne (Library Genealogist) plan on putting together a genealogical group/class in June or July this year.

Meeting ended 6:50pm

Attending: William Piper, Jason Froman, Louie & Diane Mitchell, Jim Kaiser, Sharon Morris, Judy Faith and Angie Thompson.

May 11, 2021 Meeting

6:30pm start, opened with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Program: CCHGS member, Chris Isaacs, spoke about the Poor Farm. He has done research on the poor farm for his History Major. He will soon be doing another project, this time on the White Caps for his master's degree.

Last month's meeting minutes were read. Louie M. made a motion to accept, Debbie O. seconded. Motion passed.

President's report: Bill spoke of the new website design and showed it off during the meeting.

Financial Membership report: Sharon was not present but Bill read the report. Starting balance: \$5,263.35. After deductions and deposits, ending balance as of May 11: \$4,531.52.

Veteran / Archive / County Historian: Roberta was unable to make it to the meeting.

Proctor House & Fundraising: Spoke about the yard sale, which will be Friday May 21st and Saturday May 22nd. Set up will be on Thursday, May 20th at 10 A.M.

Other news: Angie Thompson donated an old curling iron, an old barber sheers and newspapers from the 1990s. Andy Laswell showed off an Eckerty post office WWII savings bond stamp book.

Meeting ended: 7:20 P.M.

Attending: William Piper, Andy and Glenda Laswell, Louie and Diane Mitchell, Judy Faith, Angela Thompson, Debbie Oxley, Jim Kaiser, Jason Froman and Chris Isaacs.

June 8, 2021 Meeting

Meeting opened with a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Program - Loren Brown, 96 years old, shared his memories of growing up near English and also his experiences while serving in the Army during WW2. He recalled delivering eggs for 3 cents a dozen, rabbits were 10 cents, and the old cream station on Main Street (where people brought their cream for sale or trade). Farmers would trade their commodities for items/goods they needed. Many referred to Saturdays as "trading day."

He served 30 months in the South Pacific, frequently came under fire, and endured 78 air raids. Soldiers had to keep quiet at night so the enemy couldn't find them. After the military, he went to Farm School and received \$96 a month. He later worked in forestry. His talk was much appreciated.

Election of Officers - Jason Froman was nominated for Vice-President, Debbie Oxley for Director representing Jennings, Whiskey Run, and Liberty townships, and all other current officers to remain the same. Louie Mitchell made the motion to accept the recommendations, Debbie Oxley seconded, and the motion passed.

Minutes were read, no corrections, so Debbie made the motion to approve, Louie seconded, and the motion passed.

President's report: Bill is redoing the website.

No financial report.

No county historian, archives or veteran's memorial reports.

Two bricks have been purchased for William Proctor - one for the Veteran's Memorial and the other for a location at the Proctor House. He served in the War of 1812.

The Proctor House yard sale in May did well netting \$1,170 + \$1,060 (latter being donation & pre-sale).

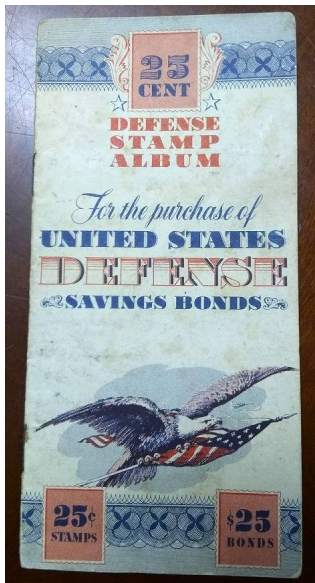
Recent donations from Maxine Redding were the old Grantsburg school bell, her mother's (Pearl Standiford) peddle sewing machine, and wool rug from the 1940s.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

Attending: Carol Tomlinson, Angela Thompson, Louie Mitchell, Diane Mitchell, Loren Brown, Debbie Oxley, Jeremy Flanigan, Jason Froman, and Bill Piper.

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Andy Laswell brought this in one meeting to show everyone. It is a defense stamp album (WW2 era) .



### **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

### **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](http://www.cchgs.org)

### **Social Media:**

Search for "Crawford County Historical and Genealogical Society" 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.



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<https://indianahumanities.org/INCares>



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<https://www.cf-cc.org/covid-19.html>



