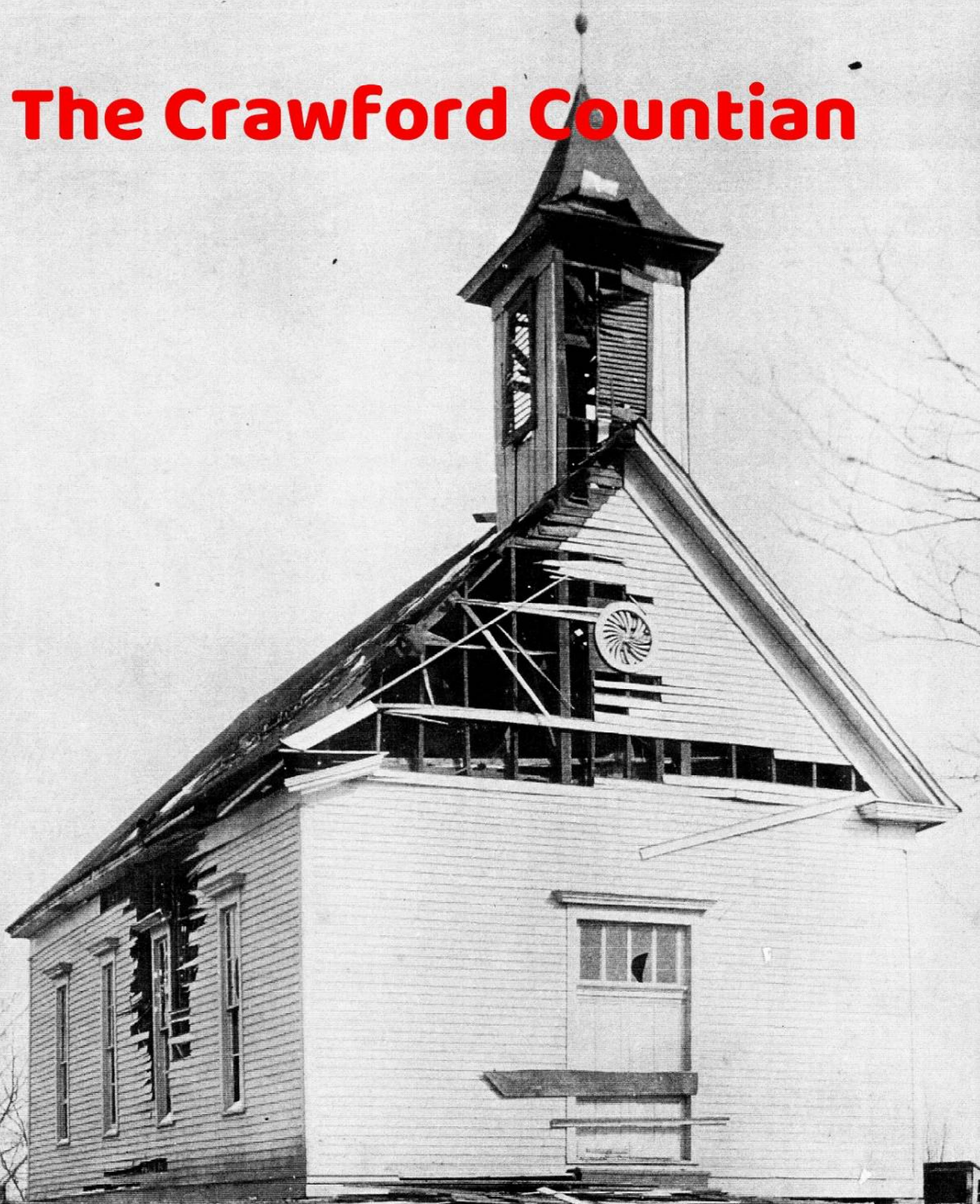


The Crawford Countian



Summer 2023

Welcome to The Crawford Countian summer edition! We are only doing one Proctor House yard sale this year, and it will run on Friday, July 21 and Saturday, July 22. The house will be open during those days, so stop by and tell your friends! Also, if you have not renewed your membership, this will be the last newsletter you receive. I have attached membership forms to this newsletter for those of you who wish to continue support for our organization. Ever since the pandemic, our donations have went down drastically, thus any support helps out (the bills certainly have not went down). I am still continuing with my church history project. I have around 10 histories of active churches. If you would like to help out, email me! If you attend a local church, I would also like to come out and pay a visit. A hobby of mine is photographing churches (typically Roman Catholic churches) in the region. I always like to visit new places.



One final note, this December marks 100 years that a historical society started in the county! That first run, which was started by high schoolers (!), we do not have much information on. I plan on doing some research and hope to have an article ready by next issue.

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

Cover photo: UM church in Eckerty that was hit by lightning, see article on page 6.

Elijah P. Brown	3
New Proctor House sign	5
“In One Accord in One Place”	6
From the files of Doris Leistner	8
Previous Meeting Minutes	10
St. Joe Group Photo	11
Elijah Poe Home	13

Elijah P. (E.P.) Brown - Bio in local newspaper Sept 16, 1897

Crawford County Democrat (English, IN) ~ September 16, 1897

-E.P. Brown- Treasurer of Crawford County

Elijah P. Brown, elected in November of 1896 to the position of Treasurer of Crawford County, is the son of John F. Brown, one of the County's earlier settlers and who died July 28, 1895. The subject of this sketch was born on his father's farm in Jennings Township, Crawford County, December 1853. When a boy of seven years of age, his parents removed to Harrison County, Indiana, where he grew to young manhood, being engaged in farm pursuits. Young Brown found time to attend the public school and being of a studious nature, succeeded in acquiring a good English Education, which was rounded off at the Normal School at West Fork, Crawford County.

In 1873 Mr. Brown's parents moved to Meade County, KY, where our subject engaged at teaching school. He taught for seven consecutive terms, two of which were in schools of this county. In 1883 he again became a citizen of Crawford County and in 1890 was elected to the office of Township Trustee of Johnson Township, serving faithfully for a period of five years. Mr. Brown's administration of the Treasurer's office has been characterized by ability and efficiency. He has at all times attended strictly to his official duties. Mr. Brown is a popular citizen of English outside his official business. He owns a nice farm nine miles west of English.

Mr. Brown has been twice married. His first wife, to whom he was married, April 1880, [1] was Miss Anna Denbo of Crawford County, (*pictured to the right*) whose death occurred in 1884 [2]. By her, he had three children, only one now living [3]. His second wife was Miss Sarah Walls, of this county, who has born him four children [4]. It is pleasing to add in conclusion that in Mr. Brown the people of Crawford County have an honest, conscientious and painstaking public officer and that the Democratic Party find in him a zealous, active and effective worker in behalf of the principles the party advocates. As is customary, Mr. Brown is in line for re-nomination and no doubt exists as to being re-elected. He is a member of the Masonic Fraternity, having been admitted to the order when but twenty-one years of age. [i]



[1] Elijah and Cynthia Anne Denbo were married, May 17, 1880

[2] Cynthia Anne – “Annie” died, June 3, 1886 - our Gr. Gr. Grandmother

[3] Our Great Grandmother, Daisy

[4] A total of 5 children, Lawrence, Phronia, Mamie and Orville – Arthur was born in 1906

[i] Transcribed, February 1, 2015 – by C. Beringer; Thanks to Carole for the pics and article!



Elijah and Sarah Walls



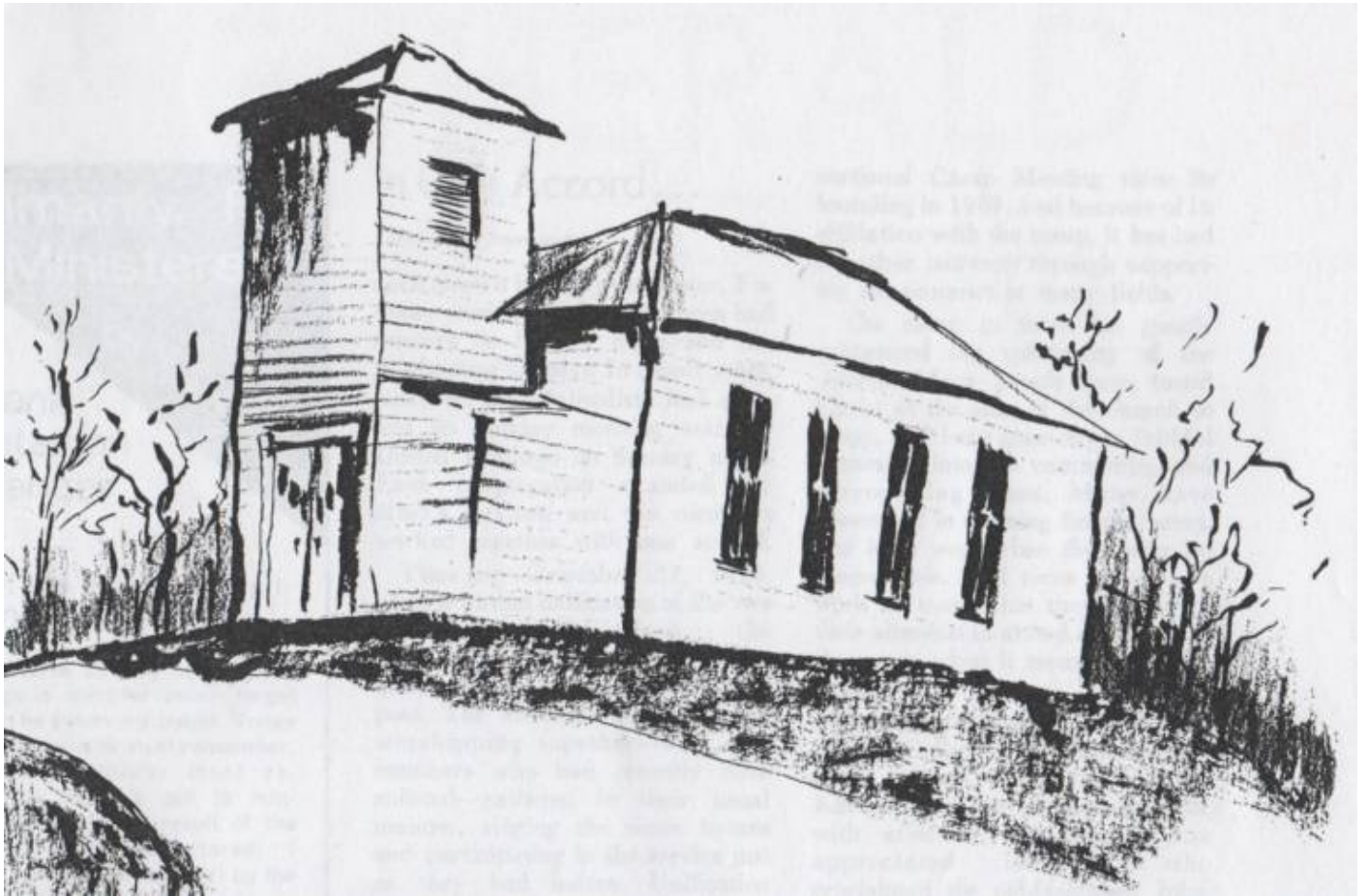
Children: from left to right: Daisy Lee (Brown) Miller, Orville Brown, Arthur Brown (baby), Phronia Annie (Brown) Ingle, Lawrence Brown and Mamie (Brown) Gilmore



New Proctor House sign installed!

Last year, the CCHGS obtained a grant from the Community Foundation of Crawford County to go towards signage for the Proctor House. Our initial plan was to get a historical state marker, but unfortunately we were not chosen by them for a sign (yes, there is a process that is somewhat similar to applying for grants). Our grant had a time line, so I went with a second option and that was to get a sign made by a private company. I contacted Grandview Aluminum Products from Grandview, IN to see if they could help. They had made signs for other historical places in the region that did not get official state markers (a covered bridge in Perry County has such a marker). Being a non profit, they were also able to give me a discount in the costs. So working with them on a design, and using a description that Roberta Toby wrote, we got a sign put together. They were able to make the sign within a month and now I have it installed on the property. The sign will not require maintenance for at least 100 years, so it will out live us all! Next time you are in the area, stop by and check it out. It is quite visible from the highway. I have it running parallel with the road next to the Proctor House for easy viewing. -bP

“In One Accord in One Place”



This is a reprint of an article from the May 19, 1971 “The Herald” newspaper.

By Elverta Harmon

THE BELL that called worshippers to the new Anderson Presbyterian Church in Boston, Indiana in 1884 still peals its welcome over the Hoosier countryside. Little else remains constant. The town has changed its name to Eckerty. The white frame church building has had its face lifted numerous times. The church has changed its denominational status on several occasions. And all with a minimum of tension.

The first change came in 1902 when the building was sold to the Methodist Episcopal Church. A few years later a bolt of lightning damaged the building extensively, and the congregation worshipped in a nearby schoolhouse while repairs were made. For a number of years the United Brethren Class worshipped in the same building with the Methodists, and in 1938 a joint deed was made.

For years the Sunday School was a unified service of both denominations. During this time each church had its own pastor. For many years the United Brethren had services on Sunday night and the Methodists the next. In recent years, however, the Methodists had services on Sunday morning and the United Brethren on Sunday night. Each congregation attended the other's services, and the members worked together with one accord.

Thus on December 27, 1970, when a formal unification of the two churches took place, the congregations had already been united for years in spirit and purpose. The members who had been worshipping together - and new members who had recently been enlisted - gathered in their usual manner, singing the same hymns and participating in the service just as they had before. Unification proceeded with perfect harmony.

The Eckerty United Methodist Church is a "second mile" church. In addition to its record of community cooperation, the church has provided much of the leadership and support for the Eckerty Interdenominational Camp Meeting since its founding in 1909. And because of its affiliation with the camp, it has had a further outreach through supporting missionaries in many fields.

The camp in turn has greatly influenced the spirituality of the Church. Many people have found Christ at the altar of the church or camp, and have gone out as faithful witnesses into the community and surrounding areas. Many have grown old in working for the camp, and have wept when they were no longer able. And some love God's work so much that they surmount their ailments to attend and work at the camp when it seems physically impossible.

A number of young ministers from Asbury College and Seminary have been pastors here. Dr. Dennis Kinlaw is one the people remember with affection. Our church has appreciated ministers who proclaimed the old-fashioned John Wesley doctrine of repentance, turning from sin, and tarrying for the Holy Spirit in His fullness.

Eternity alone will reveal the far-reaching influence of a church whose people are dedicated to the heartfelt religion that transforms lives.



Uniting hands in fellowship at the official unification service of the United Methodist Church, Eckerty, Indiana, were Mrs. Jack Harmon, lay leader of the United Brethren congregation, and Mr. Albert Kaiser, lay leader for the Methodist

congregation. The Rev. Lloyd Wright (rear center) of Bloomington, Indiana, officiated at the ceremony, while pastor Rev. C. W. Askren (right) and Rev. Robert Crecelius, administrative representative (left), looked on.

From the Files of Doris Leistner....

The family of Doris Leistner donated thousands of her records to the historical society after she had passed. I figured it would be a good newsletter feature to include some of these pieces. With this issue, I am reprinting a correspondence between Doris and Maxine Abell from Nov 16, 1984. I have corrected some grammar (spelling mistakes, etc..) and will omit any personal information, otherwise the letter is left intact.

Dear Doris,

I must apologize for the long delay in answering your letter. Writing is not one of my favorite pastimes and as a result, I tend to let all else take priority. I am happy that you will be able to use the information on the NEWTON family, and yes of course, you may use any or all of the information at any time you wish. I will from time to time send more information on KELLEMS and ABELL families and feel free to use and publish any part of anything I send unless otherwise stipulated at the time of mailing.

As for my ancestor #13, Nancy Margaret Harmon, I know very little about her. She was born Jan. 10, 1829 in either Crawford or Lawrence Co. Was married March 21, 1847 in Crawford Co. to Peter Rudolph Newton. Had 5 children. Died June 4, 1909 and was buried at Birdseye Cemetery. She had a sister, Lydia Ann who married Volney Choate. Lydia Ann and Volney are both buried at Kellems Cemetery. I do not know who their parents were, nor any other relation of theirs, I wish I did. The Mary Harman you spoke of COULD be related, but I don't know.

Nancy Margaret's husband, Peter Rudolph Newton was founder of the Reformed Methodist Church. Peter and his brother William were both ministers and attended a small Methodist Church below Birdseye somewhere near the Perry County line. Several of the members became disenchanted with the doctrines of the church and on the 30th day of January, 1877, a meeting was called at the Hobbs schoolhouse two miles southwest of Birdseye. Eleven people attended this meeting. They decided to branch off and form a church of their own with revised doctrines. And so the Reformed Methodist Church came into being with its meetings held there in the little Hobbs school-house in Dubois County.

Nov. 16, 1984

Dear Doris,

I must apologize for the long delay in answering your letter. Writing is not one of my favorite pastimes and as a result I tend to let all else take priority. I am happy that you will be able to use the information on the NEWTON family, and yes of course, you may use any or all of the information at any time you wish. I will from time to time send more information on KELLEMS and ABELL families and feel free to use and publish any part of anything I send unless otherwise stipulated at the time of mailing.

As for my ancestor #13, Nancy Margaret Harmon, I know very little about her. She was born Jan. 10, 1829 in either Crawford or Lawrence Co. Was married March 21, 1847 in Crawford Co. to Peter Rudolph Newton. Had 5 children. Died June 4, 1909 and was buried at Birdseye Cemetery. She had a sister, Lydia Ann who married Volney Choate. Lydia Ann and Volney are both buried at Kellems Cemetery. I do not know who their parents were, nor any other relation of theirs, I wish I did. The Mary Harman you spoke of COULD be related, but I don't know.

Nancy Margaret's husband, Peter Rudolph Newton was founder of the Reformed Methodist Church. Peter and his brother William were both ministers and attended a small Methodist Church below Birdseye somewhere near the Perry County line. Several of the members became disenchanted with the doctrines of the church and on the 30th day of January, 1877, a meeting was called at the Hobbs schoolhouse two miles southwest of Birdseye. Eleven people attended this meeting. They decided to branch off and form a church of their own with revised doctrines. And so the Reformed Methodist Church came into being with its meetings held there in the little Hobbs school-house in Dubois County.

Some of the charter members were: William Newton, Jeremiah W. Jacobs, John S. Pollard, Joseph B. Newton, Peter R. Newton, Lucinda J. Newton, Margaret J. Finney, Nancy W. Newton, Gabriel E. Garland, Louisa J. Garland, Thomas G. Finney, W.W. Sautman, James P. Walton, George W. Aders, James Kendall, Randolph Carter, Nancy E. Lashbrook, Milton Waddle, J.W. Jacobs, James K. Mynett, Lewis Pugh, Isaac Smith, and Harrison Nicholson.

This is all on record. In the back of my grandfathers medical ledger it reads : Peter Newtons son Wilber began pastoring Sunday July 10, 1904.

Some of the charter members were: William Newton, Jeremiah W. Jacobs, John G. Pollard, Joseph B. Newton, Peter R. Newton, Lucinda J. Newton, Margaret J. Finney, Nancy M. Newton, Gabriel E. Garland, Louisa J. Garland, Thomas G. Finney, W.W. Eastman, James P. Walton, George W. Aders, James Kendall, Randolph Carter, Nancy E. Lashbrook, Milton Waddle, J.W. Jacobs, James K. Mynett, Lewis Pugh, Isom Smith, and Harrison Nicholson.

This is all on record. In the back of my grandfathers medical ledger it reads; Peter Newton's son, Wilber, began pastoring Sunday, July 10, 1904.

I find this all so very interesting. Anytime I begin digging into family history I become so engrossed I cannot stop until my mind becomes so boggled that it doesn't make sense anymore.

I don't know if you will want to publish any of this, but if you do feel free to do so.

You will be hearing from me again some of these days with more details on other families.

If you wish to use this as a query in your column you may; How do I go about finding exactly where my gr-uncle is buried? Martin Kellems, son of James Kellems and Catharine Blunk was a union soldier in the Civil War, taken prisoner by the Confederate Army and died while in the Army prison. One history book says Martin C. Kellems died in Columbia prison, South Carolina. Another says Andersonville, Georgia. We would like to know for sure and possibly one day visit his grave, but we don't know how to go about finding out. Any information you can give us we would appreciate.

Sincerely, Maxine Abell



Annual Fundraiser!

July 21 & July 22

Be sure to stop!!

Previous Meeting Minutes

April 11, 2023

Start: 6:30pm

Program: Open discussion. Bill Piper spoke of the Proctor House sign that was purchased. Tami Redding spoke of having the Proctor House open more during the summer time. Nidrah Dial spoke about the upcoming dedication of the bridge in Sycamore Springs. Roberta Toby mentioned the upcoming CCFC building dedication ceremony. Angela Thompson donated a quilt made by the Temple church (1942).

Previous meeting minutes: Louie Mitchell made a motion to accept, Bob Roberts seconded. Motion passed.

President's Report: Bill mentioned Jim Kaiser's daughter has donated some of Jim's items for the upcoming yard sale. More to come, as well as county items for the historical society.

VP report: not present

Membership / Financial report: Beginning balance as of Mar 1, 2023: \$12,527.60. After expenses, including the Proctor House aluminum sign (paid by grant that was deposited in account), ending balance: \$9,210.26. Membership: 52, Corporations 3, Library 1.

County Historian report: Roberta mentioned the Vietnam veteran's program from the other day had around 70 people who attended.

Proctor House: mowing season has begun.

Donations: Bill is looking for church histories. A few have been donated but most requests to churches have come up empty (so far).

Meeting adjourned: 7:30pm

Attending: William Piper, Robin Piper, Nidrah Dial, Tami Redding, Roberta Toby, Cheryl Allen, John Crawford, Sherry Crawford, Judy Faith, Louie Mitchell, Angela Thompson, Bob Roberts

May 9, 2023

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Program: Open discussion. Bill Piper displayed the new sign for the Proctor House which he will install soon. Several new donations were discussed; photo album of Alberta Newark, old newspapers, info on the old Marengo State Bank which he found in an antique store in Tell City, Jim Kaiser's old records which include family and church histories donated by his daughters, photo

copies very fragile. Bob Roberts passed around a 1945 photo of his high school graduating class at English. His class was in the high school all 4 years during WWII. Bill Piper mentioned that he had been interviewed by Sara Combs for an article in Southern Indiana Living Magazine.

Minutes for the April meeting were reviewed. Roberta Toby made a motion to accept them, seconded by Diane Mitchell, and the motion carried.

Vice-President's report: Jason Froman recommends Tyler Gallien for his position as he no longer wishes to serve. Election of officers will be at June's meeting.

Financial / Membership report: Sharon Morris reported a beginning balance of \$9,102.26 as of April 1, 2023. Deposits totaled \$555. After expenses of \$426.55, ending balance is \$9,230.71. Total membership is 56. It's time to renew your membership.

Veteran's Memorial / Archives report: Donna Smith informed Roberta Toby there will be a Memorial Day's service at the site, not sure of the time. Roberta has been helping a man in Georgia with his research, sending him copies as needed. A nice thank you was received from the family that had donated a quilt. They wanted to borrow it back to use it at a funeral which Bill allowed.

Proctor House report: Jason has put out a summer schedule for open houses.

New Business: a yard sale was discussed. It will be July 21 & July 22. A food truck will be there.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm

Attending: William Piper, Louie Mitchell, Diane Mitchell, Tyler Gallien, Bob Roberts, Roberta Toby, Jason Froman, Glenda Laswell, Andy Laswell, Cheryl Allen, Sharon Morris, Angela Thompson and Carol Tomlinson.

Minutes for the June meeting were not available at the time of publishing of this newsletter.

St. Joseph Church group photo:

On the next page is a group photo taken at the St. Joe church in 1926. This was found in the items that Jim Kaiser's family had donated to the CCHGS (lots of treasures in his records!). Fortunately the names appear on the back of the photo.



Picture taken July 11, 1926 Taken at St. Joe Church

L-R

Row 1 Mildred Hughes, Stella Byers, Amos Byers, Ludine Davis

Row 2 Dovie King, Mrs John Hollowell, Pearl Byers, ?, ?,
Lillie Byers, John Byers, Ida Byers (holding Cora Mae), Lizzie
Atkins, Alta Atkins, Edith Tussey, Helen Tussey.

Row 3, Minnie Atkins, Warner Atkins, Tom Oxley, Sam Tussey,
Rev. Austin, Jesse L. Atkins, John Sinclair, Monroe Russell,
Sherman Tussey, Alva Atkins, Woodrow Byers, Dovie Atkins
and Alma King

The two ?? are believed to be the ministers daughter and
girl friend

The Elijah Poe Home, Now Haverstock Funeral Home

Thanks to Bob Roberts for this information. This is a reprint of a typed paper of an unknown year. The photo is of Elijah and the house, thanks to Lance Stroud's facebook post regarding it some years back.

Mr. Elijah Poe came to Marengo from Jasper in 1892 and started the Poe Lumber Company. He and his family lived in a home on this land which burned in 1909.

He started this present structure in the late summer of 1909 and was completed approximately 10 months later in the spring of 1910.

The downstairs consisted of an entrance room with an elaborate paneled stairway, made by the chief carpenter Seward Smith (father of A.N. and Henry Smith of English), a parlor, living room, dining room, kitchen and pantry. Upstairs were five bedrooms and a bathroom. The attic or third floor was completed as a play room. The basement had a laundry room, fruit room and furnace room.

The material was all of the very best quality from Mr. Poe's lumber yard. He used Oak for the framework, with weather boarding of Poplar. Inside the woodwork downstairs is all quarter sawed oak, upstairs is all chestnut.

The Poe's had five children, Claude and Olive by his first wife and Gwen, Garland and Lester by the second. Elijah Poe died in 1927. Lester died in infancy, Garland and Claude later in life. Olive and Gwen are still surviving. Gwen lives in Noblesville, Indiana and Olive lives in Marengo. Also Claude's widow, Kathleen is still living in Marengo and one of his three son's, Robert, operates the original Poe Lumber Co. The other two children, Ralph lives in Louisville, KY, and William in Alton, IL.

The Poe family owned the home until it was sold to Swarens and Adams for a Funeral Home on October 1, 1928. This was the first Funeral Home in Crawford County. It was owned by Mr. Swarens until 1963 when it was bought by Mr. And Mrs. Roger Haverstock.



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!



Books for sale

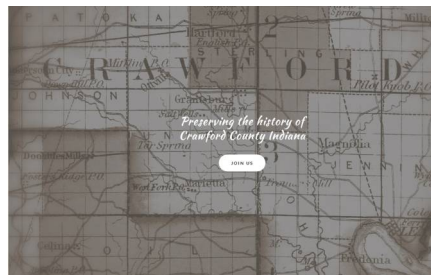
Our book list has been REVISED!! Some out of print titles have now returned and we are also offering DIGITAL versions of most of our books. The digital versions will be sold on CD-R in PDF format. Check our website, <http://www.cchgs.org> for more information!

The Crawford Countian is the official newsletter of the CCHGS.

Permission is needed for any re-productions.



Home
Membership
Publications
Books for Sale
About Us
Contact Us



Be sure to visit our website to keep up to date on various events, our hours of operations, books for sale and other misc items. If you have a suggestion, you can send it to me via the site or send queries as well for the newsletter.