# The Volume 23 — Issue 3 September - December 2010

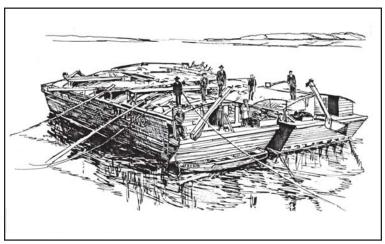


official Newsletter of The Crawford County Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc

# John Carnes: River Trader on the Ohio River, Owner-Operator of Carnes Mill on The Little Blue River.

Back in 1989, The Crawford County Historical & Genealogical Society, along with some funding from an Indiana Heritage Research Grant produced a book which copied three small booklets of information recorded by John Carnes which were loaned by Wilma Smith Knight, a John Carnes descendant, for the project. The document ran some 200 plus pages with only one small page copied onto one large page. Roberta Toby was given a copy of this book by Elaine Stephenson and she loaned it to me to copy and reproduce, which I put in 53 pages.

It appears that John was what I would call a "shipping expeditor," who would take care of anyone wanting to ship items on the Ohio River. The information in his booklets show that different persons would build or own the boat and had items they wished to ship. Probably they had room for more goods, which they would then sell or contract to ship them along with their own. John Carnes would keep track of the items and the costs of shipping and the staffing of the keel boat down the river. He also had boats of his



Flatboat Drawing from the book, "John Carnes, River Trader."

own that he used in his business.

A listing of some of the boat owners:

Clendenning, boat #3 Morrison, boat #7 Jas. B. Carnes, boat #5 Popham, boat #6 Peckinpaugh, boat #7 Carnes, Clendening & Lyon, #2

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Larry M. Burmeister, Publisher 411 S. Redbud Court English, IN 47118 Leavenworth & Carnes, #2

Items listed as being shipped from Leavenworth were: Sugar, Molases, Candles, Flour, Lumber, Lime, Potatoes, Oats, Hay, Pork, Beef, Corn Meal, Cotton, Lime Kiln or Oven, Apples, Onions, Cider, Beans, Skiff, Corn, Hoop Poles, Misc.

Dates found in Book One run from 1855 to 1857; Book Two dates run from 1856 to 1861, and Book Three dates are 1871 and 1872.

Also found in the book are costs incurred while building his Mill on the Little Blue River between Riddle and Grantsburg being in either Sterling Township or Ohio

**MORE On Next Page** 

Indiana

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# **MORE: John Carnes**

Township. Richard Eastridge says the mill was on the West side of the river. Book Two, Page 35 has a date of December, 1866 and is the only date prior to Page 40 which is titled "Expences on Mill." This page lists money paid to the following persons: Parker, Pleasant, Whiteman, Tules, Brooks, Jenkins and Landers. Page 46 lists more "Expences on Mill,": Pump, Benham, Pleasant, Brooks, Whiteman, Wheel & Millstones, B. Patrick, Seaton, Odle, Samuels, and G. Kemp. Page 60 is the last Page with "Mill Expences,": Pleasant, Wm. Seaton, Landers, B. Patrick, E. Patrick, and Breeden.

#### From the Book "John Carnes, River Trader." A Brief History of John Carnes by Sharon Morris

John Carnes was born on February 10, 1826 at Fredonia, IN and died on Sept. 13, 1911 at the home of a daughter at Owensville, Gibson County, IN. He is the son of Alexander and Nancy SAMUELS Carnes. He is buried at Cedar Hill Cemetery, Leavenworth, IN. John's father, Alexander Carnes, an early settler at Fredonia, was born in Delaware. He was married to Nancy Samuels in Crawford County, IN on 6 JAN 1825, by Henry Warfield, Justice of the Peace.

Nancy Samuels was born about 1803-4 in Kentucky and was still living in Jennings Township in 1880. Her parents were John Samuels and Delila HAWKINS who married 30 AUG 1791 in Nelson County, KY. According to Mrs. Nancy (Samuels) obituary, she died in Kansas on the 16th of

# **John Carnes Obituary**

John Carnes, formerly a citizen of Crawford County, departed this life at Owensville, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Franklin Scott, September 13, 1911. At the time of his death he was aged 85 years, 7 months, and 3 days.

He was born in Crawford County at Fredonia, February 10, 1826. He married Arminda Daily, of Leavenworth. Two children were born to them, both dying in infancy. His second wife was Eliza A. Clendening. They were married July 18, 1852. His second wife survives him. There were born to them ten children: three sons and seven daughters, of which five daughters survive him, being Mrs. Frank Scott, of Owensville; Mrs. M. C. Henenway, of Emporia, Kansas; Mrs. T. H. Roberson and Mrs. M. M. Smith, of Riddle, and Mrs. M. Merrilees, of La-Kemp, Oklahoma.

John Carnes was a strong man, both mind and body, he was large and commanding in appearance, he was strictly honest, he was absolutely void of hypocrisy, being plain spoken in any and all his views. He was a great reader and a well-balanced reasoner, always fully informed on all public questions. A great portion of his young life was spent upon the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, boating. He was known by river men from Louisville to New Orleans, always honored and respected. His word at home and abroad was as good as a bond.

Crawford County has produced but few men equal of John Carnes and his memory will ever remain green in the hearts and minds of all our people.

J.

Copied from the book, "John Carnes, River Trader."

March, 1891 in her 88th year. She was one of the early pioneers of Crawford County, living here all her life until about four years before her death, when she removed to Kansas where some of her children and grandchildren lived. One of Nancy's brothers, William Samuels, was the first Clerk of the Crawford County Circuit Court and Recorder when the county seat was at Mount Sterling.

William Carnes and a John Carnes were born in Delaware.

Henry Carnes was born in Kentucky. They could have been brothers of Alexander.

John Carnes married his first wife, Armindia Daily, on Feb. 5, 1846 in Crawford County, IN, by Michael Dillman, JP. Alexander, born about 1849, and another child both died young. John, listed as a boatsman, age 24, and son Alexander, were living in his mother's household in 1850. In the same house were John's

## **Carnes Mill Dam**



Barbara Dillman Jones Photo.

Pictured on this undated photo taken at the Carnes Mill Dam are left to right, seated: Unknown, Lizzie Schultz, Elmer Dillman, Lula Dillman, Claude Goldman. Standing: Albert Schultz. Elmer Dillman was born in 1884, so guess his age and you have an approximate date for this picture!

# **MORE: John Carnes**

brother, James Bracken Carnes, age 20, born in Crawford County and two sisters, Elizabeth, age 23, born in Crawford County and Sarah J., age 18, born in Missouri. This indicates that the family might have moved to Missouri for a time about 1832.

John Carnes' second marriage was on 18 JULY 1852 in Crawford County, IN, to Elizabeth A. Clendening, born 1835, Jefferson County, IN. She was buried at Cedar Hill Cemetery, Leavenworth, IN; she was the daughter of Levi and Agnes A. Clendening.

John and Elizabeth (Clendening) Carnes had three sons and seven daughters: Mary A. Carnes, born March 1859, IN, married 24 DEC 1876 Crawford County, IN. Albert Frank Scott, was living at Owensville, IN in 1911.

Those listed in the original book as contributors to that effort are: Crawford Co. Jr-Sr. HS, Wm. D. Brockman, Thomas Krasean, Bert R. Fenn, Jeffrey L. Davis, Sharon Morris, Wilma & Everett

Davis, Captain Charles Young, Sue Chapman, Polly Stephenson, Elaine Stephenson, and Jack Stephenson.

# **Christmas Dinner**

Bring a Covered Dish and a Gag Gift to: Sr. Citizens Building in English. Monday, Dec. 13th 6:30 P.M.

#### September 2010 Meeting.

The Crawford County Historical & Genealogical Society met on September 13, 2010 at the Crawford County Library in English, with President Larry Burmeister calling the meeting to Order at 6:30 P.M. President Burmeister welcomed everyone and asked for a moment of silence before the Pledge to the Flag was repeated by all.

County Historian Richard Eastridge introduced the guest speaker, Vic Megenity. He told the story of Lucy Higgs Nichols, born April 10, 1838, who was the first woman to become a member of the 23rd Indiana Regiment of the Civil War. Lucy was a slave who escaped with her young daughter from her master and ended up in the camp of the 23rd. When her master found her, the Captain would not let him take her and she became the soldiers cook, laundry woman as well as nurse. She stayed with the 23rd until the end of the war and later came back to New Albany where she lived until her death. She also became an honorary member of the GAR.

President Burmeister dismissed the reading of the minutes because of the absence of the secretary. Richard Eastridge made the motion and Jim Kaiser seconded it to accept the secretary's report as published.

The Treasurer's report was





Richard Eastridge & Vic Megenity.

given by Sharon Morris. The beginning balance as of August 10, 2010 was \$21,200.57. Deposits from dues & books was \$436.50, disbursements of \$10,101.77, leaving a balance of \$11,535.30 as of September 13, 2010.

The **President's report** was given by the President and was accepted as read.

The Vice-President's report by Roberta Toby was about the upcoming festivals and events. She had talked to County Commissioner Larry Bye who is interested in the old Dollar General Store as a prospect for the Historical Society's Archives. The report was accepted as reported.

Membership Chair Becky Stetter had no report of the number of paid members. President Larry Burmeister reported that his count was 97.

The **Proctor House** Financial Report was given by Evelyn Jackson who reported a beginning balance of \$3,990.16. Deposits were \$10,072.00 (\$72.00 was ornamet sales) and disbursements of \$667.58, leaving a balance of \$13,394.58. She stated that Bob Wiseman had mailed the blueprints for the shelter house to the Homeland Security, but the package was damaged in transit and the blueprints were lost. He plans to mail another copy. Member Maxine Redding suggested that a copy be brought to the next meeting for everyone to view. There is still no update from Peggy Brooks on getting the Proctor House on the Historic Register. Richard Eastridge was asked to call Greg Sekula to check things out. It was decided to give Ms. Brooks until the end of the year to finish the report. Then something else should be done. No one seems to be able to get in contact with her.

The **Audit Committee** had no report.



Bust of Lucy Higgs Nichols.

The **Donations & Acquisitions Committee** had no report.

The Archives Report by Roberta Toby: Visitors since August 9, 2010 was 28. Receipts from copies and research \$138.75, donations \$58, making a total of \$196.00. Due to luck and Dale Roll, a fire was avoided in the North vault at the archives. He smelled smoke and found the outlets smoking in that room. The missing Probate Book One was found in the Archives by Richard & Priscilla Eastridge on their recent visit. It was suggested that it be placed with the other Probate Books. Either Bob Lawson or

#### Sept. 2010 Minutes: Cont.

Richard Eastridge will be the October speaker.

Website report: Pictures of the Riceville School and Pedora School dated in the 1940s, a corrected membership form and a Reunion Page for upcoming Crawford County Reunions have been added to the site.

Unfinished Business: Members will have a booth at the Milltown Festival on Sept. 18th. Set-up time is Friday at 2:00 and be there Saturday at 9:00 A.M. Roberta is to call Carson Brown about setting up at the Old Eckerty Days on Sept. 26th.

New Business: Priscilla Eastridge presented an opportunity for the Society to set up at the Taswell Chistian Church's Holiday Crafts and Gifts Show on Nov. 20. It was tabled until next month.

Bills: A bill for items purchased for the Society by Larry Burmeister at the Boss Auction was submitted. The bill was for 2 lanterns @ \$50 each, a small ruler with "English Lumber" printed on it for \$10 and miscellaneous pens, etc. with names for \$27, totaling \$137. Evelyn Jackson made the motion to pay this bill and Ruth Terry seconded and the motion carried.

**Publications** Secretary Report by Helena Burmeister. Two shipments of books sold for \$378. Cost of printing and shipping was \$87. Hugh Jackson made the motion, seconded by Jim Kaiser to pay this bill.

Meeting adjourned at

approx. 8:30 P.M.

Those present: Larry Burmeister, Roberta Toby, Victor Megenity (guest), Richard & Priscilla Eastridge, Ruth Terry, Jim Kaiser, Anita Mitchell, Helena Burmeister, Betty Gunn, Donald Standiford, Maxine Redding, Sharon Morris, Hugh & Evelyn Jackson, Glen Toby, Becky Hammond Stetter, William & Robin Piper, Michael & Mary Bockting (guests) and Mark Megenity (guest).

Acting Secretary, Priscilla Eastridge.

#### October 2010 Meeting.

The Crawford County Historical & Genealogical Society met on October 11, 2010 at the Crawford County Library in English, with President Larry Burmeister calling the meeting to Order at 6:30 P.M. President Burmeister welcomed everyone and asked for a moment of silence before the Pledge to the Flag was repeated by all.

Bob Lawson was unable to present the program for the night, but he sent the information and Becky Hammond Stetter and Roberta Toby presented the program on Railroads and Tunnels.

The September **minutes** were read and the following corrections were made: More than 2 books were sold for a total of \$378.00, Lucy Higgs Nichols was a member of the GAR not DAR, Becky Hammond Stetter was present at the Sept. meeting, and need to check previous minutes concerning \$10,000.00 transfer. After the corrections Larry Burmeister made the motion to accept the minutes with Don

Standiford seconding, and the motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report was give by Sharon Morris. The beginning balance on September 14, 2010 was \$11,535.00 with deposits of \$1,477.25 minus disbursements of \$291.00 for an ending balance of \$12,721.55 on October 11, 2010. Priscilla Eastridge made the motion to accept the report with Hugh Jackson seconding, and the motion carried.

The President's report was read by Janice Eastridge: The application for the \$5,000 grant from the County has been signed and is awaiting final approval, booths were set up at Milltown and Eckerty for festivals, transcribing Probate Book 1820-1839 is almost complete, the Jr. Historical Society Committee has been dissolved due to lack of interest, and Becky Hammond Stetter has resigned as Membership Chairman.

The Vice President's Report was given by Roberta Toby. Rita Eddleman with the Marengo Alumni asked about sharing our booth at the upcoming Sorghum Festival. The Society agreed with this as long as the Marengo Alumni paid their own fees, and it was approved by the Sorghum Festival Committee. A report on the Milltown Festival and Old Eckerty Days was also given.

**Membership Report** was given by Becky Hammond Stetter with 88 paid members at this time.

The Proctor House Report was given by the Wiseman's and Jackson's. The broken windows

#### Oct. 2010 Minutes: Cont.

have been fixed with new glass. Due to the first application and blueprints being lost or damaged, a new set has been sent to the State. A Thank You card has been sent to Mr. Deal who donated the railroad ties to be used for the Riceville Depot. Evelyn Jackson read the Proctor House financial report. The beginning balance on September 14, 2010 was \$13,394.58 with a deposit totaling \$532.00 for an ending balance of \$13,926.58. Plus \$164.00 that has not yet been deposited.

A discussion was held on the generous \$500 donation to the Proctor House that was made by Donnie and Lynn Kimble. Roberta Toby made the motion to give them a free membership. Maxine Redding suggested a lifetime membership since the Kimble's make this donation every year. Lifetime Memberships were discussed with Don Standiford saying we should consider this option. After the discussion, Priscilla Eastridge seconded the motion to grant a membership to the Kimble's and the motion carried.

The Archives Report was given by Roberta Toby. Glen Toby went to Jasper to buy supplies to make some temporary shelving at the Archives. 24 concrete blocks were donated by Dubois County Block, and lumber was donated by Krempp Lumber. A large metal rack was also donated by James Toby. The County was checking into leasing/buying the old Dollar Store building in English for the Archives, but at this time someone else is in the process

of leasing the building. There were 20 visitors this month and \$97 was deposited on October 9, 2010. Books and Memberships were also sold. The Archives are now open by appointment only. The Archives is still in need of a file cabinet. Someone is to contact Fire King in New Albany to see if they would have one to donate.

The Publications Report was given by Helena Burmeister. Total sales at the Milltown Festival was \$80, \$90 at Old Eckerty Days, \$407.50 to the library at Valparaiso, and other sales of \$245, plus \$100 more that has not yet been deposited for a total of \$822.50.

Donations & Acquisitions Committee: Don Standiford asked for the donations sheets to be filled out and turned in so that we know what has been donated and where it is located.

**The Web-Site Report** was given by Bill Piper: Craft shows and festivals have been added.

An **Ornament Report** was given by Becky Hammond Stetter: 4 ornaments were sold at the library in August, and in Sept. 2 were sold at the library, and 6 at the Milltown Festival. Total sales were \$32 in August and \$64 in September.

**Scrapbook Report**: Robin Piper has one scrapbook full, and passed it around for everyone to see.

The Taswell Christian Church is having their **craft show** on Nov. 20th from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. the set up fee is \$10. Roberta Toby made the motion to attend with Hugh Jackson seconding, and the motion carried.

An e-mail was read that was

sent by Peggy Brooks concerning the Historic Register. She apologized and took responsibility for all of the delays. She also asked to finish the project. Greg Sekula suggested giving her until the end of October to finish the project. After much discussion it was decided to go ahead and let Peggy finish the project as she proposed. Priscilla Eastridge made the motion to inform Peggy Brooks she has until the end of October to complete the project. Becky Hammond Stetter seconded the motion and the motion carried with one opposed.

Bills were presented by Larry Burmeister for the printing of the September newsletter. Total amount due was \$88.63. Priscilla Eastridge made the motion to pay the bill with Richard Eastridge seconding and the motion carried.

Richard Eastridge made the motion to renew the membership with Indiana Landmarks for \$35. Becky Hammond Stetter seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

Those attending were: Larry Burmeister, Ruth Terry, Hugh E. Jackson, Evelyn Jackson, Glen S. Toby, Maxine Redding, Don Standiford, Edith Key, Mary Wiseman, Bobby Wiseman, Becky Hammond Stetter, Sharon Morris, Richard & Priscilla Eastridge, William & Robin Piper, Janice Eastridge, Helena Burmeister, and Roberta Toby.

#### Nov. 2010 Minutes: Cont.

#### November 2010 Meeting.

The Crawford County Historical & Genealogical Society met on November 8, 2010 at the Crawford County Library in English, with President Larry Burmeister calling the meeting to Order at 6:31 P.M. President Burmeister welcomed everyone and asked for a moment of silence before the Pledge to the Flag was repeated by all. President Burmeister welcomed visitor Bruce Simmons.

Guest speaker, Crawford County Historian Richard Eastridge talked about the first well drilled for oil in Crawford County. It was in 1861 in Union Township but the drilling was not finished because of the war. Drilling was begun again in 1864 and sulphur water was struck. The well was on the William Eaton farm. He related stories about the hotel and its ownership up to about 1909. The full story can be read in a forthcoming book.

Minutes of last meeting: The motion was made by Richard Eastridge and seconded by Helena Burmeister to accept the minutes as written because of the absence of the Secretary. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report was given by Treasurer Sharon Morris. The beginning balance as of Oct. 12, 2010 was \$12,721.55. Deposits from dues and books was \$921. Disbursements: printing to Larry Burmeister \$290.47, Taswell Christian Church for Nov. 20 craft show, \$10, and Indiana Historical Society Dues \$40. Total dis-

bursements were \$340.47. Leaving an ending balance Nov. 8, 2010 of \$13,302.08. Report accepted as read.

President Burmeister read an e-mail from Mike Kopp of the Marengo 47140 Vision Alliance. They are asking for information on the Marengo jail, firehouse, depot and other information about Marengo.

The Vice-President's Report was given by Roberta Toby. The society did fairly well at the Sorghum Festival. Remember the Taswell Craft Show on Saturday the 20th. Evelyn Jackson received an award on March 25 from the National Society Sons of the American Revolution, NSSAR for her assistance in preparing applications for new members. At the March meeting at the John Hay Chapter of the NSSAR in Salem she was presented with the National Martha Washington Medal and Award certificate. She was just recently honored by the Indiana Historical Society with the 2010 Willard C. Heiss Family History/Genealogy Award.

Jim Kaiser made a motion requesting that Richard Eastridge continue as Crawford County Historian. The motion was seconded by Helena Burmeister. Motion carried.

President Burmeister stated that there are **96 paid members** at this time.

The Proctor House Financial report was given by Co-chair Evelyn Jackson. Beginning balance is \$13,926.58. Deposits of \$340. Expenses of \$6,009.63. Leaving an ending balance of \$8,256.95. The construction of the shelterhouse at the Proctor

House will be completed by Jeff Mitchell.

An inventory of acquisitions & donations for the Proctor House was submitted by Evelyn Jackson.

**Audit Committee**: No Report.

The Archives Report was given by Roberta Toby. Almost all of the County books in the first vault room have been inventoried. There are a few more books to add and then we can start the process of better organization of the books in their respective categories. Inventory of items belonging to the Society has been done. A copy will be in the Archives and another will be given to Don Standiford. No tables or desks were inventoried. We are still looking for filing cabinets for the Archives. Thank You Cards were sent to the donors of the materials donated to the Archives.

Helena Burmeister, **publications Sec'y**., reports that sales from the Sorghum Festival were \$315 and memberships \$45. Deposited on Nov. 2, 2010 \$360.

**Web-site Report**: October minutes have been added.

Fund Raising: No Report.

**Ornament Report**: by Becky Stetter. Two ornaments were sold at the library and 8 were sold at the Sorgum Festival.

**Glen Toby** was recognized by the Society for all the hard work he has done on the depot at the Proctor House. Well done!

The SAR are asking for donations of phone cards and other items such as books and per-

#### Nov. 2010 Minutes: Cont.

sonal items for the **veterans** at the Louisville Veterans Hospital. Hugh Jackson has volunteered to deliver them.

Motion made by Roberta Toby to **donate** \$150 to the Friends of the Library to help buy Ancestry.com for the Crawford County Library at English. The motion was seconded by Ruth Terry.

President Burmeister read a letter from **Peggy Brooks** saying that she is still working on the nomination for the Historic Register and would like to continue to work on it even though her deadline was the last of October. A motion was made by Marie Pond Greathouse and seconded by Evelyn Jackson to give her until the end of the year 2010 to finish or she will be terminated.

Those attending were: Larry Burmeister, Becky Hammond Stetter, Roberta Toby, Bruce Simmons, Sharon Morris, Richard & Priscilla Eastridge, Betty Gunn, Helena Burmeister, Marie Pond Greathouse, Evelyn Jackson, Glen Toby, Ruth Terry, Hugh Jackson, Jeff Mitchell and Jimmy Mitchell.

Our **next meeting** on Dec. 13 will be our annual Christmas Dinner at Sr. Citizens Bldg.

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The Crawford County Historical and Genealogical Society.

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