

CRAWFORD

Official Newsletter of The Crawford County Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc.



O U N T I A N

Indiana



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The “Jewel” of Crawford County

By Evelyn Harper Jackson

As presented to the
Ouiska Run Chapter NSDAR,
October 18, 2011.

As residents of Crawford County, do you realize you can share ownership of a beautiful Federal Style building, seven acres and a Pioneer Cemetery for only \$15 annually. You may ask, “How can that be?” That is where my story begins and the realization will come to you as the story unfolds and with the end, you will have your answer.

Malachi Monk received a land grant from the U.S. Government in 1818. In March of 1826, William Proctor and Absalom Wood purchased 30 acres of this land grant. Proctor and Wood married sisters with the family name of Watson, their marriages taking place in Clark County, Indiana. In the 1830 census these



two men, their wives and families were already living here with additional acreage near Brandywine Creek. We are unsure the exact dates that these men built their matching elaborate homes, but of those two homes, built in the 1830's, only our “jewel” remains.

Wood died in 1843 and his home's ownership reverts to his son, Luke, who would lose a leg in the Civil War while serving from Crawford County. Luke along with his parents are buried in the Proctor - Wood Cemetery located on this property. The first burial in this cemetery took place with the death and burial of the young daughter of the Proctors in 1835.

William Proctor became a

most influential citizen; purchasing additional acreage, serving as trustee of the first library and also became a trustee of the Seminary, both located in Leavenworth. But perhaps the most important part of his life centers around the history of the Proctor House, as we call it today. Proctor was appointed postmaster on January 12, 1835. This began the hamlet of Proctorville where one could pick up their mail, shop in the store as well as catch the stage coach as it came from Leavenworth. I must include in this store an account concerning Richard Eastridge and his “find” of receipts of trans-

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MORE: The Jewel

actions between Proctor and his customers. At the public auction of Thelma Sloan, Richard (with his sleuthing abilities) decided to purchase some garbage bags with unknown contents. Within one of those bags were receipts from the Proctor store! Can you imagine this find? Thelma was a direct descendant of Mary Proctor, daughter of William, who had married David Stewart. Evidently the family saved everything throughout all succeeding generations, for which we have been blessed.

The ownership of the House continued through family ties until the 160 acres were sold to George and Anna Dean. Eventually, in the early 1980's, Hershel and Helen Dean sold it to the town of Marengo for an industrial park which never materialized.

Now, I will tell you a little about how it happened that CCHGS came into ownership of seven acres of this property. My husband and I were attending a function in Marengo when Mary Wiseman mentioned, "Isn't it a shame that the town is planning on tearing down the house where the Dean's owned?" This really upset our two families and we began searching for an answer to the preservation of this house. With the approval of the Society, my husband, Hugh Jackson, asked the town board if it would be possible for the Society to lease the property in order to save this historical home? The following week at the town board



Evelyn Harper Jackson.
Photo taken last year in Spencer County.

meeting, they decided to give us the house and as many acres as we needed for future plans. All we had to do was to pay for the surveying and we received the gift of the property which included the Pioneer Cemetery, 7 plus acres including the house. Little did we realize or imagine the impact and the importance of the role that the Society would play in the preservation of more than 175 years of Crawford County history.

In the succeeding years since

our acquisition took place in 2004, I must mention three of our members who are no longer with us. Thanks to Richard Eastridge, Bob Gunn and Doris Kaiser. Richard for his historical advice and help; Bob for his carpentry abilities and Doris for her delicious cookies that was always available during our work details and special functions. We hope these three, know of our continuing progress.

When you walk the beautiful park-like setting, it is hard to believe just what it looked like when we took over with its falling down our buildings, the briars, bushes and weeds taller than Hugh and Bobby's (Bobby Wiseman) heads but with our "jewel" still standing among the filth, garbage and trash. Through lots of labor and love for the place, the Society has preserved for future generations an important part of Crawford County History. Preparation is well on its way for getting the house and cemetery on the National Register of Historical Places. This will be the first and only house and surrounding grounds in this county so honored.

Now back to my original question . . . how can the citizens of Crawford County share in the ownership of this historical place? By becoming members of the Society, of course!!!

THE JUNE MEETING
IS OUR
ANNUAL MEETING!!
COME AND BE COUNTED!!

The Crawford Countian is the official publication of the Crawford County Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. It is printed quarterly in March, June, September and December. Permission is required to re-print any articles or pictures. Its publisher is selected each year at the Annual Meeting of the society. All information sent for publication becomes the property of the society and implies consent of use by the society. Please send any articles, comments or concerns to:

Larry M. Burmeister, publisher
411 S. Redbud Court
English, IN 47118



David L. Rice Library www.usi.edu

Peckinpaugh, Nicholas Rice and his wife, Mollie, in their Louisville, KY home in 1905. Photo from Roberta Toby.

Proposed Bylaws Changes For Consideration at Annual Meeting.

I would like to propose a change in the by-laws with the idea that we could capture more revenue for the Society by establishing a new category of membership to promote membership and publication sales. This is an idea which is submitted for consideration to achieve the above goals; therefore, more exact or different language promulgated by the Society which improves upon my suggestion would be great.

Respectfully submitted,
Ron Yates
Charlotte, NC

**ARTICLE III.
MEMBERS.**

Section 2. Membership shall be divided into the following classes: regular, associate [upon



The Greathouse family becomes the second in Crawford County to receive special recognition with a Hoosier Homestead Award. The Kaiser Family of Wickliffe area received the award earlier. Congratulations!

request] and honorary memberships.

Section 3. Dues for regular membership shall be set by the Crawford County Historical and Genealogical Society at the Annual Meeting of the membership.

Section 5. Dues for [associate membership] shall be [shall be set at 50% of the regular membership rate.] Dues shall be paid before the first day of June. Members whose dues are not paid in sixty days thereafter shall be automatically dropped from membership in this Society. [Alternatively, associate membership for the current year will be granted to anyone making a single publications order greater than \$25.00.]

[An associate member shall have none of the obligations of membership in the Society, shall be entitled to all of the benefits of membership other than hold Committee Chairmanships and Society Elective office, and will receive all required notices,

minutes, newsletters via their supplied e-mail address only. Associate members are responsible for maintaining a correct e-mail address]

[Associate membership is available to anyone who resides greater than 100 linear miles distance from the location set for the Society's annual meeting.]

Ron Yates

April 3, 2012.

Above to be voted on at our June Annual Meeting. You must be present and dues current to vote.

New Books Available

Order Book C is now available through the Society. An abstract of 109 pages covering the years Nov. 1847 thru Feb. Term 1862. Sells for \$22. Includes 1876 county map and a name index.

Also available is a new listing of all known graduates of the Crawford County high schools of English, Leavenworth, Milltown and Marengo. This booklet of 54 pages which lists all the names as an index by given name. The married names of females are given if known. This booklet sells for \$12. Listed as **Graduates from Crawford County High Schools, 1901 - 1976**. See our entire list of books for sale on our website at CCHGS.org.

February Minutes.

The Crawford County Historical & Genealogical Society met on February 13, 2012 at the Crawford County Public Library.

After a moment of silence, and the Pledge to the flag, the **minutes were read** and accepted. A visitor, Carl Draper, was introduced. There was no speaker for the meeting.

Lee Cable donated a picture of the Crawford County C. C. Camp to the Society. Roberta continues to work on her research on Old Dam 44. It was noted a marker for a black man at the Rowland - Potter Cemetery is still not in place.

Treasurer's Report: The beginning balance was reported at \$7,493.03. Deposits were \$55 and disbursements totaled \$172.98. The ending balance was \$7,375.03.

President's Report: little activity was reported. Larry was called to the archives a few times and is serving as the Chairman of the newly established Veterans Memorial Association. In addition, he has been transcribing Crawford County Order Book C and has completed 500 of the 700 pages.

Vice-President's Report: Two tables were reserved for the Community Fest at Marengo. Mr. Lance Stroud will be the speaker for Crawford County's 194th Birthday on March 2012. Dan Creclius recommended accepting the one bid on the new vault to keep the project moving. Steve Massengale was also recommended as a dependable person to assist with the building. The bell from the

Mt. Sterling Courthouse has been offered as a donation to the Archives. The donation was accepted; however, the location of the bell is still unknown and its arrival not yet determined.

Proctor House: A \$500 grant for the Cemetery was received.

Archive Report: The April 1 opening for the new building may not happen due to the lack of bids to install the vault.

Website Report: More veterans have been added.

Scrapbook: Three books have been completed.

Unfinished Business: The celebration for the 194th Birthday of Crawford County will be on March 1, 2012 at the Senior Citizens Building at 6:30 P.M. Lance Stroud is the scheduled speaker. The next Historical Society meeting will be March 12, 2012. No new business was discussed. The meeting was adjourned at an unknown time.

Attendance: Larry & Helena Burmeister, Glen & Roberta Toby, Becky Hammond Stetter, Donald Standiford, Randy Gilmore, Anita & Jimmy Mitchell, Carl Draper, Karen Dorrough, Sharon Morris, William & Robin Piper, Casey Blair and Michael Witt.

March Minutes.

The Crawford County Historical & Genealogical Society met on March 12, 2012 at the Crawford County Public Library. After a moment of silence and the Pledge to the flag, our guest speaker, David Wilkins, was introduced by Roberta Toby. Mr. Wilkins spoke of the D. Lyon Skiff Company of Leavenworth which was in business from 1830 to 1937. He also spoke of other businesses in



David Wilkins, our speaker at the March meeting.

Leavenworth that built skiffs, barges, and tow boats.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read by Janice Eastridge and the following corrections were made: The photo donated by Lee Cable was of the CCC Camp in the forestry that was for colored people, the Community Fest will be held at the 4-H grounds. After the corrections, the minutes were approved and accepted.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Sharon Morris. The beginning balance on Feb. 14, 2012 was \$7,375.05 with disbursements of \$85. for an ending balance of \$7,386.05. The report was accepted as read.

The President's Report was given: The Establishment Day Program held on March 1st had an attendance of about 32, and guest speaker was Lance Stroud. Several members went to the Commissioner's meeting

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concerning the proposed Veteran's Memorial. There is no contract at this time for the building of the safe in the new county annex/archives building.

The Vice-President's Report: Roberta Toby said the Proctor House Committee is planning on finishing the kitchen at the shelter house, and then it can be rented out to earn some extra income. Hopefully, the archives will be moving this summer, and we need to come up with some new items to sell at the upcoming festivals.

County Historial Report, by Historian Roberta Toby: An e-mail was received from the State of Washington requesting information on Frederick Kolter (original name was VanKalter) who married Christina Haas. They had a daughter, Christina, who was born in Marengo in 1861. There were also several internet searches made, three marriage records and one naturalization record mailed for a total of \$20.

Membership: 104 paid members.

Evelyn Jackson gave the **Proctor House Financial Report:** The current balance is \$1,189.84. With May being Historic Preservation Month, it

was suggested having a program in honor of William Proctor who served in the War of 1812. Becky Hammond Stetter also suggested adding Luke Wood who served in the Civil War. It was decided to discuss this further at the April meeting.

Roberta Toby gave the **Archives Report:** A deposit of \$20 was made for copies; the County is waiting for a third bid for the safe in the county annex/archives building. The archives are scheduled to open in about three weeks. Karen Dorrough had offered to show how to make minor repairs to some of the books in the archives. At next month's meeting names of those who can help at the archives will be taken.

Commissioner Randy Gilmore was at the meeting and gave an update on the annex/archives building. Two bids have been turned in for building the safe, but will not be opened until the next county meeting on the 20th. Gary House with homeland security has stated that no more paperwork needs to be done concerning the opening of the building.

Newsletter Report: Larry Burmeister reported that 66 newsletters were mailed, 38 e-mailed for a total cost of \$72.83.

Publications: Six books were sold for \$155 with \$15 received for postage for a total amount of \$170.

Web Site Report: Bill Piper reported a veteran related web-site has been added along with new Veterans.

Fund Raising: Marie Greathouse asked how many cookbooks we want to order. She also suggested for fundraising, a

tour of homes, towns, cemeteries, a cookbook from the schools, and a historical-genealogical camp for kids.

Becky Hammond Stetter gave the **Ornament Report:** None have been sold since the last meeting. The next new ornament will be the livery stable at Alton. It was decided to not set up a booth at the English Alumni Banquet.

Unfinished Business: Discussed the purchase of a grave marker for a black man who is buried at Potter's cemetery.

Bills: Hugh and Evelyn Jackson made the motion with Becky Hammond Stetter seconding to pay \$54.52 to Larry Burmeister for printing and postage costs. The motion carried.

Updating cemetery records was discussed and Jim Kaiser suggested contacting the cemetery boards before making the new survey.

David Wilkins was asked to be the speaker at next year's Establishment Day program.

Those attending: Janice Eastridge, Ruth Terry, Evelyn Jackson, Edith Key, Randy Gilmore, Hugh Jackson, Jim Kaiser, Rita Eddleman, Jessica Hunt, Marie Pond Greathouse, Becky Hammond Stetter, Sharon Morris, Larry Burmeister, Roberta Toby, David Wilkins, William and Robin Piper and Michael Witt.

Submitted by,
Janice Eastridge.

April Minutes.

The Crawford County His-

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MORE: April Minutes:

Historical & Genealogical Society met on April 9, 2012 at the Crawford County Public Library. President Larry Burmeister opened the meeting with a moment of silence and the Pledge to the flag.

There was no guest speaker.

Secretary Tracy Underhill was absent. **The March Minutes** submitted by Janice Eastridge were read by Becky Hammond Stetter and approved. President Burmeister requested that the secretary or acting secretary sign each month's minutes with "submitted by".

Treasurer Sharon Morris gave the **Financial Report:** Beginning balance on March 13, 2012 was \$7,386.05. Deposits of \$388.18 and Disbursements of \$245.48 were made, leaving an ending balance of \$7,528.70. The report was approved and accepted.

President Report: Larry met some members of the Archibald family at the Archives. They purchased 6 ornaments, made copies and a donation for a total of \$80. He stated \$11 was received in donations at the Establishment Day dinner held in March. He has completed two books: Crawford County High School Graduates and Order Book C. All graduates of high schools in the boundary of Crawford County between 1901 and 1972 are included that could be obtained from available records. He thanked Janice Eastridge for her help.

Vice-President's Report: Roberta Toby had searched on the Crawford County Tourism

site and got dates for 2012 festivals. The Flintnapping and Primitive Art Fest will be held June 15 and 16 at Old Town Leavenworth. The Marengo 4th of July festival is June 30 through July 4th. The 4-H festival is July 7-15. The Leavenworth River Fest is September 1st on Labor Day Weekend, and Roberta and Glen will not be able to attend it this year. Milltown's festival is Sept. 21, 22, 23. Old Eckerty Days are Friday and Saturday, September 28th and 29th. The Sorghum Festival is October 20. The Holiday Gift Show at the 4-H fairgrounds is December 8. She asked if anyone had tried for a grant from the Community Foundation for the Proctor House. Evelyn Jackson responded she had made 2 attempts to get dates needed for an application from the foundation and they did not get back with her. The upcoming alumni banquet dates were noted: English April 21, Milltown May 12 and Marengo May 26.

County Historian Report: Roberta Toby reported she attended a Genealogy Librarian's Roundtable meeting with Becky Hammond Stetter at the Petersburg, IN library. Shirley VanMeter, the Pike County Clerk who is President of the State Clerk's Association, spoke. Shirley noted that each county clerk has a perpetual fund, setting money aside by the state for all counties to have imaging done of records. Estate records are private except for attorneys. Roberta wants to find out more about what can be shown and what can't. Roberta, Ruth Terry and Marie Greathouse attended the Harrison County Historical

Society meeting. Their guest speaker was a former Corps of Engineers worker who had filed the photos and information on Dam 44 that Roberta had obtained earlier. He spoke on the riverboats on the Ohio River. Harrison County's society invited everyone to attend their meetings held the 4th Tuesday of every 3rd month at the Harrison Co. Community Foundation conference room at 7 pm. Their next meeting will be a Veteran's program on April 24, on July 24th Quilts on the Underground Railroad, and on October 23 Cold Friday. Their meetings are free and open to the public. Roberta noted she very much enjoyed the riverboat program, and she feels it is nice for societies to support each other.

Our **membership** stands at 105 paid members as of this date.

Proctor House Committee: Evelyn Jackson reported a picnic table with benches had been stolen. The drywall is nearly ready to be painted. The water pump has been repaired. Bobby and Mary Wiseman's daughter had donated a water heater. Evelyn has ordered 1812 records for William Proctor to determine if he is our William. The society will reimburse her the cost. May is preservation month and the society will honor William Proctor if the records prove he was in the War of 1812. Evelyn gave the financial report: Beginning balance of \$1,189.84. Rick Key donated \$30 for receiving

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an old refrigerator. Expenditures of \$145.69 for drywall, \$37.13 to Duke Energy, \$200 to Stephen Behr for hanging drywall, \$53.55 to Circle M/gas for mowing, \$14.49 to English Hardware for plumbing supplies, total expenditures were \$476.99. Ending balance is \$743.85.

Archives Report: Roberta Toby reported the vault has been built, the steel doors put in and the vault room has been painted. She checked this morning and nothing else had been done that she could see. Dale Roll is to rent a scrubber to clean the floor, and painting will have to be done yet. She will be at the old Archives on Tuesdays as usual and some other days as well, trying to get things cleaned and ready for the move. She deposited \$25 for copies.

Marie Greathouse received the Hoosier Homestead Farm award. She is the second family from CCHGS to receive the award, Jim Kaiser's farm has also received the award.

Newsletter: No report.

Program Committee: No report.

Publications Report was included in the President's report.

Donations & Acquisitions Committee: The bank had called Larry and donated a 1906 baseball team photo with players' names, a framed list of a Civil War Regiment and an old Bible that may have come from the Eastern Star.

Bill Piper reported he had added a couple of veterans on

the website.

Fund Raising: No Report.

Scrapbook: Roberta will print article about Marie's award for the scrapbook.

New Business: Larry appointed Jim Kaiser to chair the Nominating Committee. He gave members a copy of proposed by-law changes submitted by Ron Yates. Ron suggested creating an associate member category for persons purchasing over \$25 of books, the associate member rate to be half price of the regular \$15 member fee. Larry read the proposal to the members and discussion followed. By-law changes must be submitted 30 days before voting at the Annual Meeting. A vote will be taken at the June meeting.

Bill Piper showed wooden nickels he had made for promotions. The shape of Crawford county is on one side encircled by the words Crawford County Historical and Genealogical Society, and the other side says "To collect, secure, document and preserve the local history of Crawford

County," and our website <http://www.cchgs.org>. Motion was made by Evelyn Jackson and seconded by Becky Hammond Stetter to purchase 100 of the nickels to be sold at the upcoming alumni banquets and festivals for 50 cents each.

The \$500 cemetery preservation award from the Indiana Genealogist Society will be received later in April. This is for the Proctor-Wood cemetery.

The May meeting will be May 14 at the Crawford County Public Library. The June meeting will be at the Proctor House on June 11.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Attending were: Larry & Helena Burmeister, Glen & Roberta Toby, Sharon Morris, Hugh & Evelyn Jackson, Bobby Wiseman, Ruth Terry, Becky Hammond Stetter, Anita & Jimmy Mitchell, Bill Piper and Don Standiford.

Submitted by:

Becky Hammond Stetter.



Photo from Connie Poe-Fischer.

Andy Fischer, 4th from right, at his job with the Louisville Cement Co. in Milltown, Indiana.

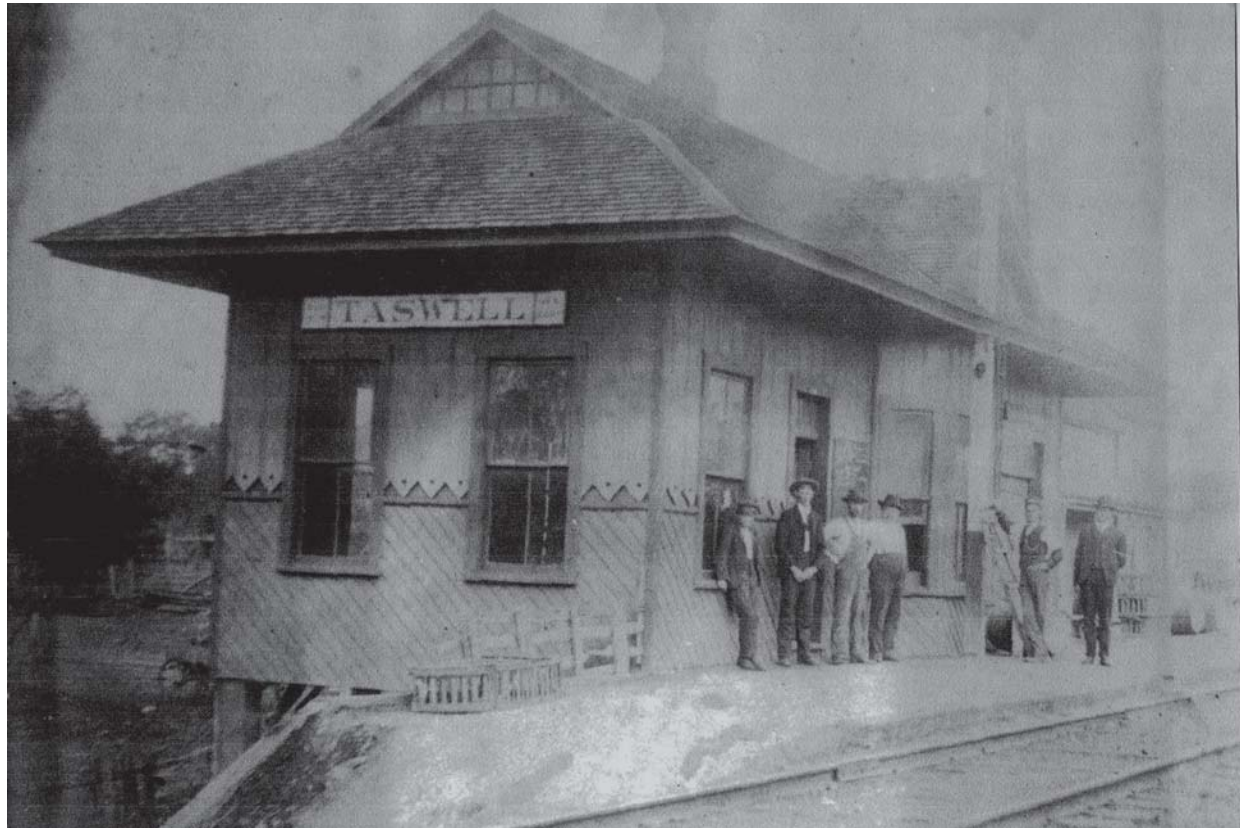


Photo from Janice Eastridge.

Taswell Railroad Station, Undated.

The June Meeting is our Annual Meeting, which means we elect new officers and submit any changes to our By-Laws. Be sure you Attend & Pay Your Dues for the New Year!

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Dues for the Crawford County Historical & Genealogical Society are \$15.00 per year. These dues are due in June. The new year starts on July 1st. A renewal form is available on this page.

MEETINGS

The Crawford County Historical & Genealogical Society meets on the second Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Meetings are held at the Crawford County Library on Indiana Avenue in "new" English.

WEBSITE

www.cchgs.org

Crawford County Historical & Genealogical Society
 Membership Form

New Member **\$15.00 Per Year** Renewal
Per Family

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Phone: _____

E-Mail Address _____ Prefer E-mail delivery:

Mail to: Sharon Morris, Treasurer
 218 N. First St.
 Leavenworth, IN 47137