



Cross County Historical Society

P. O. Box 943, Wynne, AR 72396

www.cchs1862.org

Cross County *ERA*

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FALL 2007

Cross County Historical Society Website Expanding

Built by Wynne native Jerry Bratton, the website for the Cross County Historical Society - www.cchs1862.org - is newer and fuller each time it is visited. Four major topics with many sub-sites are currently included and worthy of viewing. Among those are: Home; Forum; Gallery; and Museum.

Under Home, one will find the large, round logo depicting a locomotive indicative of how Wynne became prosperous, a seedling which hints of the agricultural industry of Cross County and a set of books which suggests the educational and historical opportunities available in the county.

In a column on the left side of the page, one will find a list of interesting sub-sites. The first thing listed is *About CCHS*. This section contains a list of the current officers, board members and monetary levels of membership. But most interesting is a copy of the Historical Society's by-laws. With one click, the entire by-laws can be read.

The second listing, *Visitor Information*, shows a beautiful color picture of the front of the museum building.

Under *CCHS Links*, one can find links offering many sources of information. If the reader is looking for genealogy, he can search the Cross County - Ark Gen Web Project; Cross County - U. S. Gen Web Project; Cross County Genealogy Forum; Cross County - Ancestry.com Forum; and William F. Laman Public Library - Genealogy Resources.

Under the heading, *History*, there are two places listed to continue one's research: the Arkansas History Commission link which takes one directly to that extensive website; and the National Register of Historic Places link which contains 12 pictures of Cross County locations listed on the National Register. Also listed under *Local* on this page are the links to three Cross County organizations: The Cross County Veterans; the Cross County Arts Council; and the Cross County Library. Each of these web pages is extensive and very interesting. The Veterans' page contains biographies of hundreds of veterans from Cross County.

The *Newsletters* link provides access to Cross County *ERA* issues from 2006 to the present date.

A major link, *Records*, lists Military Records, including Arkansas Military Grants for the War of 1812; the units formed in Cross County for service in the Civil War; and the Muster Roll of Company A - 29th Arkansas Confederate Cavalry. Genealogical Records lists the Census for Col. David C. Cross; Descendants of William Thomas 1814 - 1870; and Descendants of Jacob Lawson 1825 forward. Cemetery records listed are from the Dearing Cemetery, an unknown cemetery, and Harris Chapel. Church Records listing contains a transcription of the Sessions Book of the Mt. Hope Presbyterian Church from 1859 through the early Wynne Presbyterian Church.

Just below *Records* is a link, *Events*, which shows a calendar. The webmaster can give a login option to anyone wishing to add an event.

Another link, *The New Hope School*, contains much information about the restoration of the small 104-year-old school located on Highway 284 east of Wynne. A sub-committee of the Historical Society is working on the restoration.

A Forum is available for anyone wanting to join and post articles pertaining to history.

Very entertaining is the Gallery which contains copies of numerous old pictures of the Civilian Conservation Corps; students and teachers of the New Hope School; students of the Wynne School in 1913; old railroad pictures; downtown Wynne in the early 1900s; Civil War pictures, and many other interesting pictorial memories.

The Museum topic presents articles pertaining to museum exhibits and other interesting happenings.

The Cross County Historical Society web page will keep one entertained for hours.



Cross County Museum and Archives

CROSS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Offers Free National Register Nomination Training

Little Rock – The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program will offer a free training session Wednesday, October 10, for anyone interested in nominating a property to the National Register of Historic Places, the country's official list of historically significant sites, Director Ken Grunewald, announced recently.

The training session will be held from 9 a.m. to noon in Room 170 of the Tower Building at 323 Center Street in Little Rock. The session will include background information on the National Register, the criteria for listing properties on the National Register, and instruction on completing a successful National Register application.

For more information on the free session, call the AHPP at 501-324-9880 or send an email message to info@arkansaspreservation.org. Registration is limited to the first 20 applicants. The AHPP is the Department of Arkansas Heritage agency responsible for identifying, evaluating, registering and preserving the state's cultural resources. Other agencies are the Arkansas Arts Council, the Delta Cultural Center in Helena, the Old State House Museum, the Mosaic Templars Cultural Center, the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission and the Historic Arkansas Museum.

New Hope School Restoration Project Moving

Restoration of the New Hope School is moving, however slowly, but very serious consideration of each repair job must be taken, as the building is very old and fragile. The restoration committee is consulting with experts who have experience in this type of work.

Plans are to level and reinforce foundations using the original piers, strengthen the structure using as much of the original wood as possible, repair the roof and floors, and insulate the entire building. Dr. Ruth Hawkins, Executive Director of Arkansas Delta Byways, Inc., has expressed a keen interest in the building's use as an information/crafts/souvenir shop, a much-needed tourist stop for Crowley's Ridge Parkway travelers. Dr. Hawkins has stated that if this is done, there is a great chance that the school will be able to receive significant grant money.



Recent donors to the restoration are: Sam and Jeanne Davis Snead; Bill and Mary Helen Winkler; Bonnie Lindley Stokes; Patti Rye and Suzette Elmore in memory of their mother, Betty Lou Lindley Woods Harbison; Brenda White Huntley; Billy Sanders; Bobby Hall; Rosemary Rhea; Wynne Class of 1950 in memory of Nellie Caubble Brown; Brad McDaniel; Kern McGuire; Paul Miller; Raymond Davis; and Sharon and James Midkiff in memory of Vivian Lindley Horton.

The school is shown at the left as it is seen from Highway 284, Wynne. It is the wish of Society members that this school will be one of the buildings in Cross County to be saved for the enjoyment of future county residents.

DO YOU KNOW what restoration is? Many people look at an historical building and think it is cheaper to tear it down and rebuild it. They are correct; it usually is. If the building is torn down and rebuilt, the original building has been destroyed. With restoration, the goal is to save it, not destroy it. Expensive? Yes. But that's what restoration is – an expensive project to save a building that would otherwise be lost. Many organizations issue grants to preserve buildings. Their intent is not to do it the cheapest way; their intent is to save the building. That's why they give money to do it. In order to save the few remaining landmarks left in Cross County, we must re-educate ourselves regarding restoration and preservation. Some history is worth saving.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Sat. October 6: New Hope School Sale on lawn: Antiques/Crafts/Rummage, 10:00 to 5:00. Good time to shop for GOOD collectibles at 3762 Hwy 284 east, Wynne. Vendors welcome at \$10 per 12 x 12 space. Call 870-238-3684 or 870-238-8631. Donations to the sale are tax deductible for this non-profit organization. Sales persons needed.

Fri. November 2: Marathon Italian Dinner is Friday at the Progressive Club from 5:30 to 8:30. Marathon runners from far away will be present. Appetizers, spaghetti, pizza, tetrazzini, lasagna, salads, and desserts will be served. Charge is \$10 per person. All proceeds will go to the Cross County Museum. If you wish to help, call Michelle Slabaugh at 870-238-8289. The Midsouth Marathon will follow on Saturday morning.

President's Message

We've made it through summer. Boy, was it a hot day in August for our Grand Opening and Fun Day at the Museum. We still had a successful event, and I want to thank all of you who made it so, especially Carol McCrary for coordinating the program. We were privileged to have descendants from both the Hare and the James families to present to the museum portraits of Mrs. Hare and Mrs. James. These pictures, along with one of Thomas Fitzpatrick, the county's first historian, will be placed on the museum entrance wall.

Two fundraisers, the Marathon Italian Dinner on November 2, 2007, and the Antiques/Crafts/Rummage Sale at New Hope School on October 6, 2007, are coming soon. Please contact Bridget Hart if you have items for the school sale, and Michelle Slabaugh if you will provide a pasta dish, salad or dessert for the dinner. Both ladies would like to hear from you if you can help with either event.

At the August meeting we learned about Barry Carwell's pottery collection from the collector himself. We appreciate his donating the fabulous Indian pottery collection and a nice display cabinet, as well.

Our program on September 25 was brought to us by Wynne's own Jodi Morris, a Ph.D. candidate in Heritage Studies at Arkansas State University. She spoke on oral history and use of the recorder for capturing family history and folklore.

The Board will be discussing plans for a museum workshop for the October meeting, and the November meeting is the annual election of officers.

Our website is something to be proud of. Have you logged on lately? Check out the article in this issue of *The Era*.

Thanks go to all those volunteers who continue to support the society, the museum and archives, and the various projects. If you would like to become more involved, please contact us.

Richard Hartness
President

HGTV Looking for Walls that Talk

Pay attention! Your wall may be talking and rattling its change! Jason Mercado of the 30-minute HGTV television show, *If Walls Could Talk*, is looking for people who have moved into older homes and, through repairing, remodeling or cleaning, have discovered some item that may be extremely valuable. Homeowners who would like to be considered for the television program should contact Jason Mercado at (303) 712-3109 or email him at jmercado@highnoonentertainment.com. He will be in this area during October to look at the items.

Quilt Show Opens

The Great Arkansas Quilt Show II will open at Historic Arkansas Museum on Friday October 12, 2007 and will run through March 2008. There are beautiful quilts of all sizes, shapes, colors, machine quilted and hand quilted. It is a lovely show. Please spread the word to your friends and neighbors.

- From Pat Proctor at
Historic Arkansas Museum,
Little Rock



Quilt Gets Permanent Home

The quilt at the left was created in 1986 by the Home Demonstration Clubs of Cross County. Each club made one or two blocks in order that the quilt could reflect the talents of each club. It has been stored at the Cross County Library for twenty years, but was recently brought to the Cross County Museum. Anyone wishing to see the quilt should ask at the museum office.



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The ERA may be viewed on the website above.

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In Gratitude

Our appreciation goes to the **Cross County Bank** for the printing of this newsletter. The bank is located at 1 Cross County Bank Plaza, PO Box 9, Wynne, AR 72396, Telephone 870- 238-8171, with branches in Wynne, Hickory Ridge, and Cherry Valley.

Hickory Ridge History Book for Sale

35 Degrees 24 Minutes North 91 Degrees West: A Town Called Hickory Ridge by Don Evans, Isaac Bratcher, James Jeffers, and Johnny Wilson. Price \$40.00. Contact Johnny Wilson at 870-697-2993 or johnny.h.wilson@att.net.

Need a SPECIAL BIRTHDAY GREETING? Furnish the postage for the next ERA and we will put your birthday greeting here. Want to surprise your girlfriend with a PUBLIC PROFESSION OF LOVE? We will gladly place your special message in this space! Call us!

Cross County ERA

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THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEEDS YOU! (And Cross County needs the Society!)

If you would like to become a member of the Cross County Historical Society, fill out the form below and mail along with your check to the Cross County Historical Society, P. O. Box 943, Wynne, AR 72396.

Would you like to **save postage** and view the newsletter on the website instead of receiving one at home? _____

Memberships: Individual \$15__ Family \$25__ Institutional \$35__ Sustaining \$50__ Patron \$100__ Benefactor \$250__ Advocate \$500__
Lifetime \$1000__

Name _____ Email Address _____

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Gift ()In memory ()In Honor of: _____

Address: _____

Please notify the following of this gift: _____

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***Please make checks payable to Cross County Historical Society and mail to P. O. Box 943, Wynne, AR 72396
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