



Crosby Township Historical Society Newsletter

OCTOBER—DECEMBER 2018

“Hiking is a bit like life:

The journey only requires you to put one foot in front of the other...again and again and again.

And if you allow yourself the opportunity to be present throughout the entirety of the trek,

you will witness beauty every step of the way, not just at the summit.”

- Unknown



In 2017, Crosby Township Historical Society member, David Roessler, shared his remarkable story of hiking the Pacific Crest Trail. Although that 2015 journey was an unbelievable adventure for him, it had not been his original plan. David had always wanted to take the Appalachian Trail, so in 2018, with important lessons learned from his previous experience, he set out to accomplish just that.

David completed the entire Appalachian Trail from Springer Mountain, Georgia, where he began, to Mt. Katahdin, Maine where it ended. This endeavor took 180 days, starting on February 28th to August 26th. The Appalachian Trail took him through 14 states, including all 13 of the original colonies. He hiked through Georgia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine. Although the Pacific Crest Trail was 2,650 miles long, compared to the 2,190 miles of the Appalachian Trail, this hike was a rocky one with hundreds of steep mountains to climb and frequent rain. The advantage this time was that the trail was well marked with towns closer together where David could get food resupply 3 or 4 days, compared to 5 to 7 days on the Pacific Crest Trail. While this trail was more populated, the farther north he went, the fewer hikers he saw. David thought Virginia and New Jersey were the easiest, and New Hampshire and Maine being the hardest. More than 80% of the hikers drop out before reaching Maine. Continued page 2

David, having attended Army Ranger School and enduring the elements working for the United States Postal Service, still benefitted from his hike on the Pacific Crest Trail. He took two years in educating himself and preparing for the first hike, but he stated there is always more to know. “I learned exactly what gear to take with me and what gear to leave home. I was able to get my pack weight down to bare minimum. I learned how little you need to survive in the wilderness, with just a few things in my backpack. I can survive and be happy for months at a time. Material things are not very important to me anymore.”

The Appalachian Trail has good cell phone connection, as compared to the Pacific Crest Trail. Touching base with home is important to the family and the hiker. There are hundreds of shelters along the Appalachian Trail which was another advantage, but the hiker has to always be



prepared to make his own sleeping location, if the structure is too crowded. Speaking of crowded, David relates, “Probably one of the funniest encounters happened at one of the shelters. Late one night, while sleeping in a shelter with a few other hikers, a skunk was moving from hiker to hiker licking the salt off their faces. We were all afraid to move and scare it, so we just let him lick our faces.”

David Roessler was asked if there are any more long hikes in his future. “I may attempt the Continental Divide Trail in a couple of more years; it’s 3,100 miles long. Having completed the Appalachian and Pacific Crest, completing the Continental Divide would be what they call the “*Triple Crown*” and very few people have completed all three.” God Speed, David!

Time Change and Trustee Nominations

At the October meeting, the Society’s membership voted on changing the beginning time for regular meetings **from 7:30 to 7:00 p.m.** The time change will begin in the month of March 2019.

The Nominating Committee has been busy soliciting names for the positions of the three Trustees that make up the Society Board Members. Their responsibility is to oversee the work of the officers and attend the board meeting on the second Thursday of the month. Their term will be for two years. The membership will vote on these nominees in March 2019 for the ensuing years. To date the nominees are: Mike Minges, David Roessler, Jim Innis, and Duane Singleton.

Congratulations \$\$\$!!!

Congratulations goes to the Society Board members who received a \$750 grant from Butler Rural Community Connection to help pay for the renovation of the old town hall! The application was submitted in August and the Society was notified of the award in September. This money will go towards new roof shingles. Last year they received a \$500 grant from Butler which was used this September to blow in insulation for the attic.

15th Anniversary of the Reconstruction of the Passmore Log Cabin



Fifteen years ago Kelly Rolfes presented to the newly formed Crosby Township Historical Society a log cabin that he owned. It was located on Willey Road in New Haven and had been in the Passmore family. The Society accepted the gift and prepared to relocate it to the place it now stands. Raising funds, volunteer work, and time made the project a reality. On Thursday, September 20th our Society celebrated their hard work at our annual picnic at the cabin with food furnished by the Society, music by Bill Morgan, Tamina and Ron White, and the history of the reconstruction presented by member Jim Innis.



The Society also made available for sale a CD of the reconstruction. We thank all of those who helped to create this event a pleasant time of fellowship and remembrance.

New Historian Scrapbook

A special thanks to Tracy Burgess, our Historian, for doing such a fine job preparing our history scrapbook for 2018. Be sure to see it at our regular meetings.



~ Sales Corner ~

Crosby Township Bicentennial History

\$15 plus shipping

Stanley McClure's Crosby Township Cemetery Transcriptions Collection

\$5 plus shipping

Back Issues of the Newsletter 50 cents

Passmore Log Cabin Reconstruction CD

\$5 plus shipping

Bicentennial Proclamation and Road Signs

At the Crosby township meeting Monday, October 8, Township Trustee Chuck Heis read the Proclamation the trustees issued recognizing New Haven's Bicentennial. Trustee Heis then presented the document to Melba Guard, our Society's President. The trustees also purchased road signs advertising New Haven's Bicentennial. They are now in place under the signs designating the village of New Haven. They look great! Our sincere thanks to the Crosby Township Trustees and the township's maintenance crew for their support and fine work in making this historic event memorable.



Officers:

President.....Melba Guard.....367-2186
Vice President.... Tony Torres.....581-9337
Secretary..... Shirlee Morgan...367-9671
Treasurer..... Chuck Heis.....738-4343
Trustee.....Mike Minges.....367-0172
Trustee.....Duane Singleton..319-4166
Trustee.....David Roessler...638-9265
News Editor.....Karen Klaene.....922-3379

kklaene@fuse.net

CTHS Board meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Regular meetings are held on the third Thursday at 7:30 p.m., March through December in the Crosby Township Senior Center, 8910 Willey Road. Meetings are open to the public.

Our Purpose...to encourage the preservation of historic structures and sites; identify, collect, and preserve literary, graphic and artefactual materials significant to prehistoric and historic cultures, schools, churches, businesses, and families of Crosby Township; to increase community awareness and appreciation of this heritage through documentation, educational programs and other public events; and to assist persons interested in this history by making our collected cultural resources available for study.

2018 Membership Dues

Single \$10.00

Family (3 or more in same house) \$15.00

Life Member \$100.00

Please mail dues to: Chuck Heis, Crosby Township Historical Society, Inc., 8911 Willey Road, Harrison, Ohio 45030

Crosby Township Historical Society
8910 Willey Road
Harrison, Ohio 45030-9774