

Grant County Historical Society

Minutes for the Meeting

March 15, 2023

- **Meeting** was called to order by vice president Angie Holt at 6:15 pm. President Travis was out due to death in the family. Opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.
- There were 14 present, including 3 officers and two guests.
- Minutes of February 2023 were presented, with copies available. Minutes approved as presented.
- Treasurer's report was presented with copies available. Treasurer's report approved as presented.
- **Committee Activities:**
  - The Executive Committee has not met. No activity to report.
  - The Program Committee reviewed progress on the annual dinner, which will be at the Tomahawk Club on April 19, 2023. Sarah asked for members to staff the membership table. Angie will check with the Tomahawk to prepare center pieces for the tables with a Lew Wallace theme for the evening.
  - Membership- Letters have been sent out to county high school Social Studies teachers to introduce the Society. No response from Madison-Grant or Oak Hill. Jr. Memberships are available.
  - Publications- The newsletter has been emailed. Janice Miller submitted a report about her interview with a local centenarian.
  - Outreach- County historian Bill Munn will speak on April 16 about 100 years in Marion. Rhonda advised that the Probate Packet project is complete. 5, 884 have been reviewed. They are prepared for digitalization.
  - Nominating- The officers present indicated their willingness to serve another year. Board members will be elected.
- **Unfinished Business:** The Show & Tell activity may be tried within the membership this summer. General public may also be invited.

At 6:45 pm, our speakers began their presentation. Karen & Bill Creech brought an extensive part of their collection of World War 2 artifacts, and spoke about Grant County's roll in the conflict. 338,000 Hoosiers were in the war. Grant County had 70 casualties. Their collection includes an original of Matter of Arms: the Story of Pearl Harbor. Celebrities Abbott & Costello and Carol Lombard were in the area in 1942 selling war bonds. Indiana led the nation in bond sales. Local companies in the war effort included Farnsworth (who made radios), and Delta Electric. They made portable signal lights, flotation signals, and wrist compasses. Farnsworth was eventually purchased by RCA. The collection included articles from Ernie Pyle, war correspondent who was killed by a sniper in the war.

Vice President Angie adjourned the meeting at 8:00pm. Our next meeting will be the annual dinner.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Miller, Secretary