

Crete Area Historical Society Mission

The Crete Area Historical Society is here to preserve, display and communicate the history of Crete and this area. We will endeavor to save and share historic items, pictures and documents that will enable residents, teachers and visitors to learn about the people who have come before us in building this community.

A Little Bit of History

The area that became the Village of Crete was settled in 1836 by Willard & Dyantha Wood. They traveled westward by land and water from Vermont and built a log cabin home near the center of town. The area was known as Wood's Corners until the roaming Crete Post Office moved there in 1844 when Willard Wood became its 4th Postmaster.

By the 1840's, Crete had multiple stops on the Underground Railroad. The stories of Caroline Quarlls, Mary Jane Safford and Samuel Cushing offer a glimpse into Crete's early history.

Willard Wood drew the plat for the town of Crete in 1848, which was officially recorded in Joliet on May 12, 1849.

CAHS Meetings

Meetings are held the third Thursday of every month at 6:30p.m. at Crete Township Hall
1367 Wood St. Crete, Il. 60417

We Welcome New Members

For More Information

Please Visit the Crete Area Historical Society Website at:
CreteHistorical.com

Our Mailing Address

Crete Area Historical Society
P.O. Box 266
Crete, Il 60417

We would like to Thank all of our sponsors & donors who have generously supported the renovations of the future Crete Museum. Donations are needed to rehab the buildings and are appreciated.

CRETE AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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CRETE HISTORICAL MUSEUM

550 W EXCHANGE ST, CRETE, IL 60417

WWW.CRETEHISTORICAL.COM

**Preserving the History of
our Past for Today and
Tomorrow**

Memberships

Individual - \$20 per year

Corporate - \$150 per year

Individual Lifetime \$500

Couple Lifetime \$750

Benefits of Becoming a Member

- To share your knowledge, learn, and preserve our local history.

- Opportunity to work together with others to bring awareness to our Historical Museum as we plan our opening.

- Receive Newsletters with information on the Museum's progress, meetings, activities, fundraisers, and outings that are planned.

2024 Crete Area

Historical Society Officers

President: Ryan Martin

Vice-President: Tim Piepenbrink

Treasurer: Phyllis Monks

Secretary: Sheila Langenfeld

2024 Activities

- Memorial Day Parade – Mon. May 27
- Juneteenth
- “A Day On The Dixie” A’s-R-Us Group Touring our Sears Homes - Sat. June 22
- Booth at Farmers Market/Cruise Night Every Monday - June, July & August 4:00pm – 8:00pm
- Corn Hole Tournament – at the Museum Sat July 20
- Annual Membership Picnic August 15th at Crete Park Pavilion 5:00pm - 8:00pm
- 2nd Annual Golf Outing – at Lincoln Oaks Golf Course - Sun. September 15
- Booth at Fall Acorn Festival – Crete Park - September 20th & 21st
- Old Car/Truck/Tractor Display TBA
- Participating in Trinity Lutheran Cemetery Walk - TBA
- Christmas at the Museum Sat. Dec. 7th 10:00am – 3:00pm
- Field Trips & Tours – TBA
- History & Story Nights - TBA

Achievements

- The Crete Area Historical Society is a 501(c)3 Not-for-Profit Organization founded in 1979.
- In 1986, funds were raised during the 150th Anniversary year for the homestead of Willard & Dyantha Wood in Woods Corners. These funds continued to grow and in 2022 the Crete Area Historical Society purchased the 1853 Congregational Church & Train Depot Building for the future Museum.
- In 2018, the National Park Service designated Crete Congregational Church Building and the Crete Cemetery as Historical Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Sites.
- The gathering of Historical Artifacts & Preserving Crete's Heritage.