



Mailing Address
 P.O. Box 1398
 Mattoon, IL 61938
 (217) 235-6744
 coleshistory.net

Dudley House
 895 7th Street
 Charleston, IL
 (217) 345-2934

**Research Center
 & Museum**
 ICRR Depot
 1718 Broadway
 Mattoon, IL
 (217) 235-6744

Greenwood School
 800 Hayes
 Charleston, IL

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COLES COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

May 2017 Edition

Coles County Tornado

On May 26, 1917 a devastating tornado hit Coles County tearing through Mattoon at 3:26 pm before heading to Charleston at 40 mph and causing similar destruction, injuries and fatalities, as can be seen below.



Scene, Corner of 13th Street and Platt, Mattoon.
 TORNADO AT MATTOON, ILL., which killed 216 people, 54 of these at Mattoon.
 500 injured at Mattoon, and property loss \$5,000,000.

Society Leadership

Officers

Larry Gutzler: President
 David R. Schilling: Vice President
 Nancy Cole: Secretary
 Brenda Taber: Treasurer
 Janett Winter-Black:
 (Past President)
 Dave Maurer:
 (Past Secretary)

Board Members

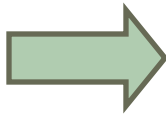
Paul Baumann
 Ed Dowd
 Sandra Graven
 Jerome Groniger
 John Hefner
 Daniel Jones
 Tom Spencer
 Norma Winkleblack

Shotgun Raffle

Want a chance to win a Mossberg 930 12 gauge shotgun or \$500 in cash? Contact any of the Historical Society Board members to purchase your raffle ticket. To increase the odds of winning, we only printed 200 tickets. They will be going fast.

You must have a valid FOID card to win the shotgun.

Sample Raffle Ticket



RAFFLE TICKET



*Coles County
Historical
Society*

**Mossberg MB 930
12GA. All Purpose
Field Shotgun 28"
Blued Barrel Walnut
Finish or
\$500 Cash**

Drawing will be held at
Mattoon Train Depot Museum

August 19, 2017 1pm

Need Not Be Present to Win

\$20.00



Mossberg MB 930 All Purpose Field Shotgun
12 Gauge
28" Blued Barrel Stock finish Walnut
MUST HAVE VALID FOID CARD TO WIN SHOTGUN
Only 200 tickets will be sold to increase the odds of winning

Name _____

Phone # _____

Address _____

*Coles County
Historical
Society
Gun Raffle*

1917 Tornado Memorial Service

Honoring those who lost their lives on May 26, 1917

Saturday May 27, 2017 1:00 pm
Coles County Fairgrounds
Lincoln Douglas Debate Museum Patio Area
(please bring your own chair)

Please join us to learn the history of the Tornado which resulted in deaths, injuries and property destruction in Mattoon and Charleston.

If you are a descendant we would like to hear from you.
The names of all that perished will be read at the time of the service.

Sponsored by the Coles County Genealogy Society

Calendar of Events

Museum at the Depot: Open on Fridays 12:00 Noon - 4 :00 pm and Saturdays 12:00 Noon - 4:00 pm (subject to change) Museum tours are also available by appointment. Contact Larry Gutzler at 235-6744. The museum is located in the basement of the Illinois Central Railroad Depot, 1718 Broadway Avenue Mattoon, IL.

1917 Tornado Memorial Service: Coles County Fairgrounds, Lincoln Douglas Museum Patio area. Saturday May 27, 2017 1:00 pm.

Founders Day: Stadium Grill Mattoon, IL. June 19, 2017 Social Hour starts at 5:30pm. Dinner starts at 6:30pm. (registration form included in newsletter)

Shotgun Raffle Drawing: August 19, 2017, 1:00 pm at the Train Depot Museum. Need not be present to win.

Yearly Membership Renewal Form

The CCHS, incorporated in 1954, exists to preserve and interpret the history of Coles County. We take seriously the responsibility to provide multiple opportunities to discover meaning in the local past and its relation to national and international events. Your support helps to sustain programs and properties owned and administered by the society.

Please take a moment to join or renew your yearly membership and to consider an additional donation to the cause of your choice. Just complete the form below and return with a check to:

The Coles County Historical Society
P.O. Box 1398
Mattoon, IL 61938

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Membership Level (check one) ___ \$1,000 Corporate Sponsor
___ \$500 Benefactor ___ \$200 Patron ___ \$100 Sustaining ___ \$50 Sponsor
___ \$25 Friend ___ \$10 Student ___ \$ (Other)

Project Support (donation above & beyond dues): \$ ___ Greenwood School

\$ ___ Dudley House \$ ___ Museum \$ ___ Endowment Fund

\$ ___ Research Center

_____ I prefer my name and contributions not be publicly acknowledged.

COLES COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 1398
Mattoon, Illinois 61938

Annual Founder's Day Dinner

The CCHS will be hosting its annual Founder's Day Dinner on June 19th at the Stadium Grill in Mattoon, IL. The evening will begin with a social at 5:30 pm followed by a dinner at 6:30 pm. This year our keynote speaker will be Bill Furry the Executive Director of the Illinois State Historical Society. We will have an awards presentation at 7:15 pm. Please RSVP by filling out the registration form below and mailing to:

Nancy Cole
1260 E. 1450 N.
Humboldt, IL 61931

Founder's Day Dinner
June 19, 2017 —Stadium Grill— Mattoon, IL

Name _____ Phone # _____ Number of Guests _____

Entrée: # _____ BBQ Chicken # _____ Cajun Pasta # _____ Grilled Tilapia

\$20 per person (Please enclose check or pay at the door)