



February 23, 2017, Our Old Bookcase, Third book in New Idea's history

Photo caption: This is the cover of the third book in New Idea's history, which is due August 5th.

OUR OLD BOOK CASE

By Joyce L. Alig, President, Mercer County Historical Society

You may place an order for this book, "New Idea Company's Uni System, 1963-1999, Coldwater, Ohio," at the Sunday afternoon April 2, 2017 Exhibit about the History of New Idea Company at the Mercer County Historical Museum, 130 East Market, Celina.

When New Idea Company closed in December 1999, the Mercer County Historical Society requested the records of the New Idea Company at Coldwater. In January, 2000 this Society asked for people to join the New Idea Historic Preservation Committee. As a result, this NIHP Committee has been meeting since 2000. Their Mission is To Preserve New Idea History and To Educate the public about that History.

This NIHP Committee has held exhibits of New Idea Farm Equipment and Antique Tractors at the Coldwater Community Picnic, and other Farm Equipment shows, e.g. Darke County Power of the Past; Van Wert Old Fashioned Farmers Days, and Sandwich, Illinois Farm Show. This Committee has also held New Idea Farm Equipment Manuals sales.

After a decade, this NIHP Committee asked about writing a History of the New Idea Company, 1899-1999. When studying the history of New Idea Company, this NIHP Committee realized that this history was a complex history to address. Therefore, the NIHP Committee began gathering history and photographs, and wrote about the first book in the Series: "New Idea Company's Horse Drawn Spreaders, at Maria Stein and Coldwater, Ohio." This book was published in 2013 and was for sale at the August 2013 Coldwater Community Picnic at the Park. By the time the 2015 Coldwater Community Picnic concluded, that book about the New Idea Spreaders was "sold out!"

Between 2013 and 2015, when the Committee realized what a success that their first book about the New Idea Spreaders was, they decided to write the second book in this Series, "New Idea Company's Corn Pickers." This Corn Picker book was printed in time for the 2015 Coldwater Community Picnic at the Park. To address the popularity of this second New Idea History book, this book is also about sold out in February.

Therefore, before this New Idea Historic Preservation Committee makes the final decision as to how many copies of this new book, "New Idea Company's Uni System, 1963-1999, Coldwater," to print, the NIHP Members will be taking orders for this book at the Sunday, April 2, 2017 New Idea Company History Exhibit at the Mercer County Historical Museum. For those who cannot pick up an Order Blank for this book, email histalig@bright.net or write the NIHP, 3054 Burk-St. Henry Rd., Saint Henry, OH 45883.

The Messenger Press at Carthagenia is printing this new book which will be available to be picked up at the New Idea Committee Exhibit, at the Coldwater Community Picnic, on August 5-6, Saturday and Sunday. For the book to be mailed, contact the above address.

Put your order in before the first of May, 2017, so that you are confident that you will receive a copy of this third book in the Series of New Idea's History. In August.

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