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The Commerce Museum will be open the third and fourth full week end of every month from 1-5 PM except January which it will be closed all month for changing displays. We were able to buy a glass display case (Thanks to Joan Caldwell for finding it for us), and hope to be able to display more items under lights.

We have about \$3,000.00 in the cemetery fund and we finally got the first part of the cemetery cleaned up again after the toreador hit it last summer. We had to get a tree trimmer in to remove the big old pine tree in the Worsley's lot and with lots of time and patience they were able to remove it with out damaging the fence any more than it already was. Gravel has been hauled on the road to the cemetery and we hope this will help with the cleanups. Before we would have to cancel if it rained. We would like to encourage people to come help clean up on the first full week end of April. We will have a rededication of a civil war headstone the last weekend in April. Visit the Commerce web site at www.clas.net/~commercemo. It will connect you to the Scott County Genealogical Society web site (not connected to the Scott county Historical and Genealogical Society).

Mrs. Jack (Dixie) High, is buying the old school house in Commerce, Missouri and hopes to have it fixed up by the year 2000. It will be part of the museum in the coming years. If you have any photo's or any thing about the old school you would like to have on display let us know.

Last year we had an increase of 50% more people come through the museum than in 1997. One problem Commerce has is it is not listed on the interstate and the highway department told Mr. John Steel that we had to have letters from people not living in Commerce to write wanting it listed on the interstate. If you would like to see Commerce have a sign on the interstate please send us a card and we will put them all together and send it to the highway department.

The Crowley's Ridge Scenic Byway starts in Arkansas and will end in Commerce. We would like to thank the Tourism committee for all the hard work they did to bring it to Commerce, as this is where the Mississippi River and Crowley's Ridge meet.

One of our goals for 1999 is to start cleaning on another part of the cemetery, get a marker put up for some of the civil war veterans, continue to get the history of Commerce and the surrounding area out to the people, along with the family history of the people.

We will continue to help find records and information about the people of the area and could always use some help.

You may notice that the newsletter is over 24 pages (again) as the editor put more information in it that space and did not want to delete anything. We have received some more pictures and items for the museum and want to thank all for helping. It is your museum and you are the ones that will make it a nice place to visit and lots to see.

You can write to us at P. O. Box 93, Commerce, MO 63742-0093 or call 573-264-3960 if you would like to visit the museum when it is not open.

Thanks for your support and we hope to hear from you in 1999.