April 2024 | Tippecanoe Historical Society





#### Third and Main – Part 2

As I parked the car in front of the Township Building on Tipp's Main Street --on my way to the opposite corner of the intersection--memories flooded back of the Topper Dress Shop and waving to Bernice Maddux as I entered her store. She immediately greeted me with" Hi RuthAnn" to distinguish me from my mother-in-law, Ruth Sims White. We were both teaching kindergarten at Broadway School at the time. Then Bernice would have some item she knew I couldn't resist saved on the shelf and send me down the basement steps to the banquet room where there was a dressing room consisting of bed sheets over a clothesline. This set up worked fine sporting a large floor mirror that presented you with the view you desired!

But on to the real destination--the small ramp, glass door entrance to Community Services where I could, over time, choose a line to stand in to wait to be helped to register for a program, to describe a need for a program or service or to volunteer to help with an event or class they were offering. Oh My...the programs they are offering or have offered are many and most " have a story."

Here I will relate a few of the stories behind these and the folks who put "life into them". You can't mention the story of the beginning of Community Services without including the names of Ron Martin, Dr. John Lorms, Richard Wells, Jerry Huntsberger, Susan Gumbert, Mary Lou Wilson, and of course, Kathy Taylor (first employee and still the heart of the organization). It began in the Tipp City High School, then moved to the detached shop building near Broadway Elementary, (previously home to my kindergarten classroom), then was located on Main Street in the space above the present-day Bodega Deli and finally arriving in the present-day location.

The Summer Lunch On Us, a current program, was created after a remark was made to Kathy by Mark Mabelitini, a director of the our public library in 2010, regarding children who stayed at the library practically all day during summer vacation...He asked "where do they eat lunch" and the Summer Lunch on Us program was started.

When art programs featuring creative drawing and related techniques were requested, folks like Paulene Persing stepped up and offered classes "under the umbrella". Paulene is well known in our area, as well as her late husband, Tom, for their many hours of volunteer service to our community. Many art classes were offered at Broadway Elementary and at various school sites. At present, teachers for many types of classes are on the faculty of surrounding higher education sites. Rusty Hardin is another outstanding local artist who has helped the group and our town by teaching classes and leading other Community Services projects.

## Third and Main Cont.

When the fellowship of churches came to them in 1986 and wanted to make aid available to the community CS was asked to coordinate a Community Relief program that was based on real needs of people for temporary help with rent, for personal emergency medical needs, even help with the unexpected flood losses, (such as water heaters and furnaces, during our 2014 flood) by connecting with the Tipp Foundation, where families place funds to help others.. In other words, money available from those who want to help, donated to the agency who can help families in need. Our police dept has gift cards from CS to provide funds for fuel and food for those in real need, provided by funds from the Community Relief Fund.

Speaking of the police dept, our CS group started the Women's Relief classes at the Lutheran church offered by them and the "help with the car seat" installation at the Tipp Fire/EMS Department!! The CS office is the place for in-person (or online) registration for basketball 3rd grade through 12th; volleyball, flag football, Run for the Mums, and tennis at the middle school supported by Bud Schroeder of the Schroeder Tennis Center. All of these offerings are made clear in the brochures created by Katie Sonnanstine. There is the Christmas family project, Tipp City Sneakers, wood carving, Lunch and Learn and ,WOW, the eyeglass collection station with

help from two area Docs and sponsored by the Lions Club. The Nazarene church plan for Friday bags of food for needy students is managed by CS. Their 501c3 license obtained in 1976 has been invaluable over the years for so many projects they have worked on. All these projects would not be possible without help from everyone reading these words as we pass a tax levy of .5 mills whenever it comes due!!

SO, IF YOU WISH TO HELP YOUR NEIGHBORS OR NEED HELP FROM YOUR NEIGHBORS COMMUNITY SERVICES AT THIRD AND MAIN IS THE PLACE.

**Ruth White** 

### **Interaction Suggestions Please**

The Board discussed the fact that we do not have enough interaction with our members. We would like to change that, but we need your help. If you have any ideas about programs or activities that you would like to see us plan, please share them with us. You can mail your suggestions to our mailing address, which is P.O. Box 42, or you can call Susie at 937-698-6708 or Joanna at 937-216-8951.

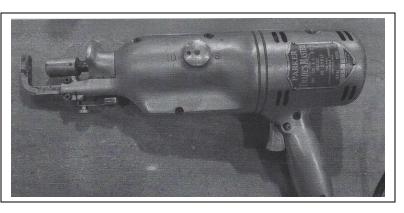


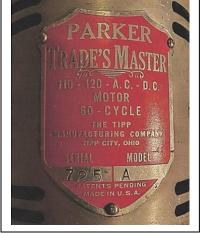
The Historical Society Museum is now open every Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.



## From the Museum Director

- Things at the museum have been busy. We had a fellow doing environmental research on a property on S. Second Street. We were able to provide copies of some pictures for him.
- We had a gentleman from out of state who belongs to a club that collects antique tools. He sent a picture of a tool that is a drill, but the bit can be removed and replaced by a saw blade. It was manufactured at The Tipp Manufacturing Co. We had no file, so with the help of volunteers, we were able to send him a picture of the building on the corner of N. Fourth Street and Franklin Street and found it listed in a 1942 and a 1955 phone book. Shirley Rawlin's dad, Ted Black, was the owner. Does anyone have information about this business that would help us build our files?





- Bob Anderson brought in two framed pictures of Tipp City military personnel. The large picture is labeled Boot Camp Graduation U.S. Naval Training Center Great Lakes, Illinois Company 374 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion November 29, 1950. Those in the picture are John Anderson, Bob Anderson, Jack Barton, Norman Barnhart, Howard Helke and Carl "Pep" Suerdieck. Howard Rousseau was also in that battalion but not pictured. Bob also brought in a postcard with an aerial view of the Northmoor Drive-In restaurant and the Dixieland Motel with cottages that were on the corner of 25A and 571. Additionally, he brought in a large framed aerial view of Vocke Auto Parts and the 571 surrounding area from approximately 1970. Plus, he had some fantastic stories to share! We thank Bob for donating these treasures to the museum.
- Which brings me to a matter of a discussion several of us have had recently. The question came up "where will we be in ten years?" We appreciate all those who volunteer and all those who might not be able to volunteer for various reasons, but who support the society and museum with their membership dues and in other ways. The fact is that we do need younger folks to become involved who are interested in keeping Tipp history alive and the museum going. If you know of grandchildren, neighbors, friends, or anyone else who might be encouraged to contribute time and energy, please send them our way. It is critically important for the survival of the society as well as the museum!

Susie Spitler

# Letter from the President

Hello Members,

I hope everyone is doing well and was able to view the wonderful eclipse. A big THANK YOU to the members who donated and or attended the Quarter Auction in March. Over \$1,300.00 was raised to support the Historical Society. We are in need of new members to help support our cause. Applications are available at the museum. Please stop in and pick up a couple to hand out. Your help in recruiting is greatly appreciated. Jackie Wahl has compiled a list of members who owe dues 2023 and/or 2024. Please contact Jackie or me to check your status.

I have two new items of note. The Nosey Neighbor Tour is taking place on May 11, 2024 from 4:00 – 9:00 p.m. It's a behind the scenes tour of locations in downtown Tipp, brought to you by the Downtown Tipp City Partnership. The museum will be open so, please volunteer to help staff the museum for this event. Save the date for our Christmas Brunch at Bob Evans on Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

There are many open slots to cover the museum on Saturdays in May and June. The museum is open from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. If you are able to help, please check for openings.

Thanks for all you do and enjoy a beautiful spring. Joanna Pittenger



#### Amole Soap Company



The Amole Soap Company was purchased by the stockholders of the Tipp Whip Company and the Davis Whip Company in 1917 and removed from Illinois to Tippecanoe



March 1968

to the latter's' facility on S. First Street in 1920. They developed a larger business, making various kinds of soap products, which were sold under their name as well as under different supply house's labels. This company was reorganized and later sold in 1938 to A.W. Timmer and his two sons, Thomas G. and Robert H. Timmer, who sold in 1949 to the Davis-Young Company of Dayton and Jay Neff of Tipp City. It was operated as a branch of the Dayton Company until 1951 when it was moved to Dayton.

## **Upcoming Events**

Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup> – Nosy Neighbors Tour, Downtown Tipp City

Tuesday, May 14<sup>th</sup> – Board Meeting

Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup> – Board Meeting

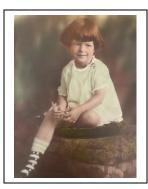
Tuesday, July 9<sup>th</sup> – Board Meeting

Saturday & Sunday, September 28 & 29th – Tipp City Mum Festival – THS Booth

Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup> – THS Christmas Brunch at Bob Evans in Tipp

#### Happy 100<sup>th</sup> Flo Miller







Flo will celebrate her centennial on May 24<sup>th</sup>. If you wish to send her a card, please mail it to her daughter: M. Fennel, 1989 Cider Mill Way, Tipp City.

### Congrats to Nancy Cartwright's Grandson

Nancy's grandson Adam's group performed in the WGI (Winter Guard International) Color Guard World Championships at the Nutter Center and UD Arena on April 11-13<sup>th</sup> and scored 10th out of 38!!



At their banquet, following the championships, Adam received 3 awards honorary captain, rock solid, and PERFORMER OF THE YEAR!

**Congratulations Adam** 

