



The Tipp Novelty

The Tipp Novelty was started in 1904 by James A. Scheip behind his home on the corner of 6th and Broadway, with the primary product of buggy whips. In 1920 his son Russell was made a partner. As the company grew it was moved to 222 N. 6th St. Russ' son-in-law, Wayne Brownlee succeeded him. The building pictured right was demolished and a new facility (shown left) built in its place to accommodate the addition of their glass decorating business. One early item is the spice container set shown below,



which could be found in many Tipp City kitchens. Another popular line was called "Cock 'O The Walk". Over time, the glassware line became known as "Wayne Ware", which included custom printed coffee mugs, wine glasses, beer mugs, drinking glasses



and just about any glassware is a sample of the many items building contained a giant glassware. The decorating individually silk screened, stood Chuck Kessler, used to create the silk screens from artwork and member Annette Calicoat was a decorator on summer breaks from college. It was a very hot job in the summer! Eventually Wayne's son, Scott became the owner. The bulk of the business was glassware but the novelty business remained, which was run by our former member, Gordon Pittenger, for decades.



you can imagine. The photo below they offered. The center of the oven that baked the paint on the stations, where each product was beside the oven. Our member,



Browsing their 69-page 1970 catalog is a trip down memory lane. There are: prizes, toys, whistles, party assortments, hats, puzzles, stuffed toys, megaphones, pom poms, pennants, fair whips and fair canes. They had it all. Anyone looking for prizes or souvenirs for rewards could find something there.

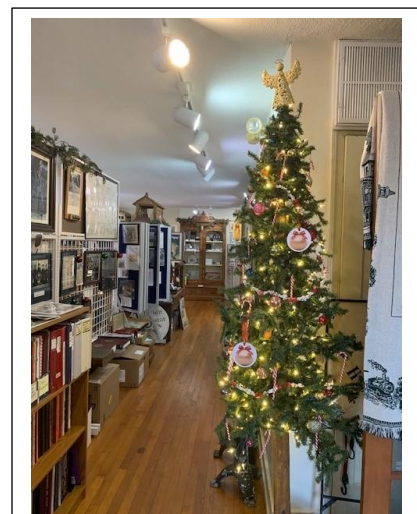
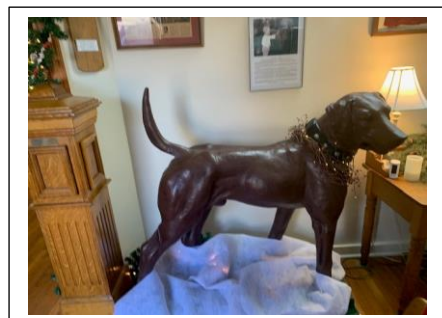
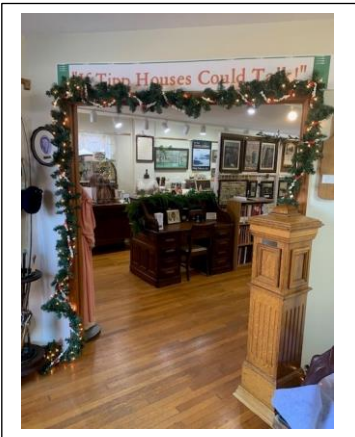
They went out of business more than a dozen years ago, but their products still remain in many homes.

Tippecanoe & Christmas Too

For many years the Historical Society provided story boards for homes featured in the Christmas in the Village Home Tour. But, in 2024, the Museum got to strut its stuff by being on the tour. For the first time, the Museum was among the homes on North Third Street featured on the Tippecanoe and Christmas Too Home Tour sponsored by the Downtown Tipp City Partnership. Dawn Kramer, part of the DTCP, made the Museum festive with lovely holiday décor, highlighting some Museum artifacts. Among those were the very popular cardboard Christmas villages created by the Dolly Toy Company. You can see these in the foreground of the picture of Susie Spitler, Museum Director. During the tour from noon to 4:00 on December 7th, over 200 people toured the Museum. With the guidance of Susie Spitler, Museum volunteers Chuck Kessler, Barbara Smith, Gordon Honeyman, Ron Re, and Ed Merta greeted guests, led tours and talked about some of the many holdings of the Museum.



Susie behind the Dolly Toy village
This photo was also in the Tipp paper recap



From the President

Hello Members, I apologize and accept the responsibility for the delay of the newsletter. Our January meeting was scheduled during the snow. I decided to cancel the meeting for the safety of our members.

Please note all the upcoming dates. When the museum reopens, we are always in need of volunteers for staffing 10 am to 2 pm. Shifts are two hours each.

I would like to thank everyone who supported in my two years as President. Those years went by very quickly. I learned so much and probably made a few (many) errors.

THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO.

Joanna

Upcoming Events

February 22nd
12:00

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Tipp Senior Center

Bring a sack lunch

Drinks and dessert will be provided



March 1st
10:00 – 2:00

MUSEUM REOPENS

[weather permitting]

and will be open every Saturday 10:00 – 2:00



April 22nd
6:00

ANNUAL BANQUET

Tipp Senior Center

Details to follow



June 1st
5:00 – 7:00

IF TOMBSTONES COULD TALK

Rain Date: June 8th

If you are interested in portraying one of our chosen honorees, call Susie Spitler



December 4th
1:00

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Bob Evans – Tipp City



Upcoming Board Meetings

All at the American Legion

Tuesday, March 11th, 3:00 pm

Tuesday, April 8th, 3:00 pm

Miami Valley Today February Progress Edition is going to include THS in their community section. We submitted an article highlighting our 2024 accomplishments.

Report from the Museum Director

- Things have been pretty quiet as we are not holding regular hours until March. However, we have received some requests through our website and our email address. One request was for information about the Wagon Wheel business, which was located in what is now Trophy Nut. Another inquiry was about the building at 201 W. Walnut (beside the railroad tracks) which was the Tippecanoe Kitchen Cabinet Co. I have responded with information to both of those gentlemen.
- A question posed to one of our members was: where was the match company on 4th Street? It was suggested that it would have been the Kilgore Company because they manufactured the Pullmatch ashtray located on N. 4th Street, which sounded reasonable. One of our members asked Shirley Rawlins about it and she thinks it was where Sugdens Furniture is now. She said her mother worked there. However, Rex Spencer, who owns that building, had no knowledge of it being there. Can anyone else give us any information that will solve this mystery? Just call me at 937-698-6798.
- The Board has approved to resume the cemetery walk so it's in the planning stage currently.
- We will be doing some cleaning and changing some displays in preparation for resuming open hours on March 1st, weather permitting. Liz will be working on assigning volunteers so be prepared to say yes when she calls 😊 I am looking forward to working with everyone when we start another year together!

Susie Spitler

Orphan Train



These youngsters are looking out the windows of an Orphan Train. As many as 350,000 orphaned children were shipped out of New York City from 1850 to 1929. The trains were the idea of Methodist minister Charles Loring Brace. It was a way of taking orphaned children living on the streets and in the alleys while begging for food, out of the city into the west and wholesome farm family life. Frank "Speed" Hill was on an Orphan Train that stopped in Tippecanoe City. He was adopted by the Hill family and eventually graduated from Tippecanoe in 1914.

In Memory

Carol Sue Cook
7/28/41 – 1/1/25



THS lost a member since the last newsletter.

She was a founding member and co-signed on the loan with Betty Eickhoff to buy the museum building.

We appreciate her years of membership and send condolences to her family.