



## Letter from the President

Wow! It's hard to believe that 2023 has begun. Time really does fly, especially when you are busy.

Interesting times have been occurring at the Society. Last fall, two Chaffee descendants (one lives in Beavercreek) visited the museum. They were thrilled with the amount of information available to them. Recently, a Garver descendant (Garver Furniture Company) spoke with Susie Spitler and Bob Bartley. This gentleman has a rolltop desk manufactured in Tippecanoe and he was wondering if we would like to have it; he wants to donate it! Of course, we said "yes!" Since the museum is closed for the winter, there's time to determine where it will fit in.

Chaffee's Pub House (located on Second Street in the Opera House building) has a Chaffee Brothers Garage sign on display. It is the property of the Society and is on loan to Shawn and Lisa Richards, owners of the Pub House. Another way the Society is reaching out to the community.

Why are you a member of the Tippecanoe Historical Society? There are several common reasons: an interest in local history, a way to get involved in the community, a way to meet new people. I am a native of the Tipp City community and it might surprise you to learn that all three of those reasons apply to me. Follow your interests, GET INVOLVED! You'll be glad you did!

Our new Facebook page is generating interest. The last I heard there are over 300 followers! Membership information will be posted soon.

It's membership renewal time. I know I had stated in the last two newsletters that a new membership listing would be out soon. Time got away from me and when I realized that it is time for renewal, common sense told me to get through this process so that the list will be as up to date as possible. My goal is now no later than mid-March to finalize this project.

On a personal note, I have made the decision to leave the position of President. I will remain on the board as Membership Chair. My goal for 2023 is to hand over the reins of leadership in several organizations. This doesn't mean that I'm walking away, I'm not. Being involved with my hometown and the organizations I love remains a driving force for me.

Jackie Wahl



## Tippecanoe Herald 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Imagine my surprise when I opened an old **Tippecanoe Herald**, loaned to me by Bob Lenehan, and discovered it was the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary edition of the newspaper published on June 11, 1969!!! The surprise was especially significant as the last historical article I wrote highlighted an article from the first edition of the **Tippecanoe Herald** published 100 years earlier. That edition addressed what our town should do in order to thrive in the future, stating that it had to progress from an agricultural community to more industry. Has our town evolved as the article said it should? Here is a quote from this 1969 edition published 100 years after that first edition.

**Early in the month of May, 1869 Joshua H. Horton, of Piqua, Ohio was a passenger on a north-bound Dayton and Michigan Railroad train (now the Baltimore and Ohio R. R.) and started a conversation with John W. Ford, of Tippecanoe. Mr. Ford was relating how his town expected a "boom" in the near future and suggested that Mr. Horton establish a newspaper in the town, since he was a publisher by trade and had been compositor for C. W. Hudson, editor of the Tippecanoe City Reflector, during 1854 and 1855.**

**Tippecanoe was becoming an industrial town: the Wheel Works (Mr. Ford's company) was about ready for operation; the distilleries, malt house, and brewery were running; a malleable iron foundry was being established; a bank organized; and a number of other enterprises in the manufacturing field were in the process of incubation.**

I am proud to point out that the Tipp City area is currently following in our forebearers footsteps and we are producing many products that are currently needed by other communities as well as our own. Just a few are listed here (writer's note- I only made it through part of the first page of the business phone directory to find the following products made in our area): Airplane windows, boat windshields, canopies for experimental aircraft, security protection systems, circuit boards, cable harness, pizza, tool and die products, straight edge cutting tools, new homes, medical equipment, adhesives, glues, delay relays, flashers for military use, welding robots, electric motor winding machines (there are three and a half pages yet to go!!) Keep up this great tradition Tipp City, the world needs our products!!!!!!!

By Ruth White



**THE HERALD'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION FORCE - L to R - Tom Lenehan, Mechanical; Vernon Bowling, Publisher; Mrs. Barbara Hartley, Editorial; Larry Finch, Editor; Mrs. Rhoda Hausfeld, Editorial; Ron Mettert, Advertising; John Watson, Mechanical; Jack R. Smith, Mechanical. We all hope you enjoy reading the largest newspaper ever published in Tipp City. Photo By Hoover**

These two pictures were from the 1969 paper



**AN EXPLANATION - The Open House and Birthday Celebration will be held in our new future quarters. For the next few weeks until we have the building ready for complete occupancy please bring your news, advertising, etc. to our present location.**

## But wait...there's more

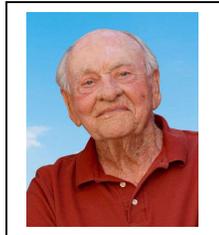
The following are some thoughts that Dave Cook said "popped into his head" after reading the above article from the 1969 *Tipp canoe Herald* regarding the industrial growth in Tipp City over the years.

1. There was a makeup or perfume that was developed in Tipp and distributed in a dark blue neat shaped bottle. I think it was named Amole. The company later moved just south of Dayton and I think went out of business. The museum may have some bottles.
2. Kilgore made flares for the war efforts.
3. Dolly Toy made all sorts of baby décor including Disney characters & lamps of all shapes and sizes
4. Buggy Whips were made on the east end of town.
5. Tube Products made a variety of auto tail pipes for all sorts of special engines.
6. Process Equipment made experimental equipment for Oak Ridge, TN. A lot of atomic research equipment. I worked there in high school, but it was all secret. Even employees did not know what it was used for.
7. The Phone equipment exchange located at Brandt was a big connection both north and south.
8. Tipp developed its own electric power generating station and operated it for a long, long time. Even after demand became too much, it was used to shave peaks and they purchased the rest of the power. I was on Council when it just got too much load to handle economically.
9. Spring Hill developed a mail order business after raising plants became economically impossible. I understand their mailing list grew to quite a few million customers.
10. Van-Ler plant at the south end of 2nd St. grew into one of the largest complete panelized home packaged systems in the area, developed by Nelson Borchers.

### In Memory



Betty Eickhoff  
8-5-1920 to 12-17-2022



Norman Barnhart  
1-22-1930 to 10-18-2022

THS lost two long time members since the last newsletter.  
We appreciate their years of membership and send condolences to their families.

**The Historical Society Board wants to thank the friends and families of these two members for the many contributions made in memory of these two special people!**

### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

This year the majority of our members will receive the form via email. Simply print out the form and mail it with your check to the post office box. Those members without email will find the form in this mailing.

#### Welcome New Member:

Shirley Rawlins  
394 Miles Avenue, Tipp  
937-667-2058

## From the Museum Director

Things are pretty quiet at the museum as we are not open regular hours during January or February, but there are still some things happening.

- A fellow from Bethel Township stopped in. While looking for information, he found a beautiful fold-out picture of where he lives. It showed the house and barn, racetrack and stock raised there. This was in a wooden box with several very old atlases that Hugh Hadden donated to us. I took it to Staples and they made a beautiful copy for him. He was so excited and is going to have it framed so he can hang it in the home just south of St. Rt. 571 and St. Rt. 202.
- A gentleman contacted us about a desk he would like to donate. It was manufactured by the Garver Furniture Co and was in "an old post office" in Tipp City. He will be delivering it on January 16th so we will have all the information for the next newsletter. How exciting!
- We did decorate a tree for the park this year. There was a lot of controversy about the location of a number of the trees. We were able to salvage all of our decorations and will see how things work out for next year.
- For quite some time we have talked at our Board Meetings about collecting pictures of Tipp City now. We have so many pictures of what Tipp looked like many years ago, but have few pictures for our files of all the changes through the years. What a shame we didn't get pictures of the Tip of the Town before it came down! If any of our members would enjoy walking around town and taking pictures of the many businesses and venturing west to all the existing businesses out that way, please let me know.
- Our rotating display case now has Christmas items. We will need to change it out before we reopen. If anyone has items they would like to share please let me know.
- We appreciate the numerous donations to the Society in memory of Norman Barnhart and Betty Eickhoff, an indication of how highly they were thought of. Norman always enjoyed sharing with the third graders about what it was like to grow up in Tipp City. He, along with Marianne, was always so willing to volunteer at the museum. He always had such good stories to tell! And Betty was our "go to" person. She was so sharp and knew so much about Tipp, having spent all 102 years of her life in Tipp! Both are very much missed by friends and family.

Susie Spitler 937-698-6798

### Upcoming Events

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**BOARD ELECTIONS** – Coming in a couple of months

Now is **your** chance to determine the path the Society will take. **GET INVOLVED!**

**MEMBER GATHERING** – This Spring. The format will be less formal than a banquet.

Time and place TBD. Information will be sent when details are established.

Tuesday February 14<sup>th</sup> – Board Meeting

Tuesday March 14<sup>th</sup> – Board Meeting

Tuesday April 11<sup>th</sup> – Board Meeting