



It's a Puzzle – Part 2

Here we are-- ready to add more memories to our historical puzzle about the Vocke building. Just found; new puzzle pieces that fit perfectly – from of all places - Florida. Three women, known as the Dunnick girls before their marriages, sent these wonderful pieces (“Hi” from all of them)! (#32). Dunnick’s belonged to their family from 1945 till 1951, then sold to Polly (we found some pieces related to Polly's in the last article). Now we need to fill in the remainder of the area that covers memories of Dunnick's. Kay, Mary Lou, and Joan say the restaurant was their dad's baby, but their mom Helen did most of the cooking, except for the grill. The menu: vegetable soup and chili soups; ham salad, pimento cheese, and the famous Red Devil (their mother called them that after Tipp's mascot). Updated recipe: ground beef browned and finely broken down with a fork; add chopped onion to taste (because mother made large batches, she used dried onions instead of all that chopping). Add to pan enough HEINZ catsup until the mixture turns from brown to red. Let simmer. Always rinse the catsup bottle with water and add the water to the mixture. The sandwich was served with HEINZ dill pickles on the side! (so now we have 40 puzzle pieces!!). The restaurant sold Sealtest ice cream and made floats, peach ice cream was a special favorite. Kay says that the ice cream was kept in the floor, as Tom Rawlins said. She remembers the red devil being painted on the wall behind the booths. (Now up to 43 pieces - watch that edge over on the right side on the table). There was a round table in the front window and Virginia Vocke and Carolyn Weaver told me that they would rush down to get that table, not only to be seen but to view folks strolling by. (#44). The stools at the counter were red and swiveled around. Helen had Roger Haas paint five large pictures depicting Tipp City's first fire station, bicycle club, park covered bridge, canal boat being pulled by a mule, and the Chaffee building opera house (#45). She gave the last one to Marilyn Richards, the firehouse to Joan’s nephew and Joan has the other three. The booths with the hooks were as remembered in the previous article (up to 47). Mary Lou said that her daddy would close the shop as the band paraded by from the school to the field on Friday night so everyone could go to watch the game. He would open back up after the game for everyone to gather. We made cokes with syrup and flavored them with cherry or vanilla (#50). Joan says “I personally don't remember, but my sisters tell me that I was a charming baby and spoiled by everyone in town” (#51).

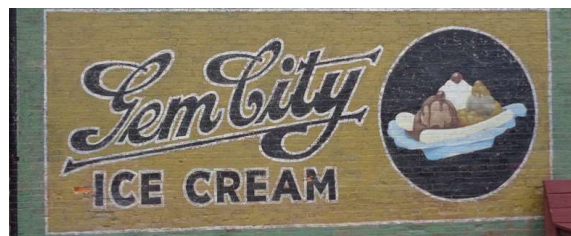
IMPORTANT...I must correct an error in last month's puzzle pieces...Mike Jackson's order was as follows: 1/2 order of fries, small coke, a red devil...40 cents plus 1 cent sales tax. This surely must add 3 pieces!!! (we have reached 52)

It's a Puzzle (Continued)

We found some pieces in the May 1951 paper. An article in the paper states "we sold out to Mr. and Mrs. Harold Jackson (#53). They have purchased "The Sandwich Shoppe" from the Dunnick family who have owned the restaurant since March of 1947 (#54). Polly Jackson has been working for the previous owners since last October. She will manage the business assisted by her husband, daughter Jerri and sons Junior and John (#55). The Jacksons will serve the famous Red Devil sandwiches along with other popular menu items, Sealtest Ice Cream, and the fountain service will be joined by baked beans and homemade pies and cakes (#56)." The article also states that "redecorating is planned. It will include new wallpaper featuring a rural landscape in green and white accented by green linoleum (#57). Many floral bouquets adorn the restaurant sent by well-wishers and admirers (#58). Mrs. Jackson invites all to visit when they reopen for business next week. Dunnicks have plans to take their family on vacation to Florida the latter half of this month" (#59 and 60).

Our puzzle is widening and filling out as we add piece 61 and beyond. Cathy White Drake tells that after school her gang (sure to include Amy Lorms, Lisa Pinter and Suzi Lombardo) would go behind the counter and prepare their own burgers and fries. They made a suicide drink - all of the flavors of the soda fountain mixed together and helped prepare food for other friends. When the business became Lombardo's, the kids had a cafeteria at the high school on North Hyatt so clientele became more adult during the day and evening, featuring delicious Italian dishes. Folks really loved the food. When I talked to June, she said they had many regular customers (#68). She said the first day she opened the meat balls became so popular she ran out of pasta and had to serve it less than al dente. She said they had many customers from surrounding towns. June said that while her restaurant was open a couple from Dayton bought what is now Harrison's on the opposite corner. They told her that her lasagna was better than theirs and they hired her son Tony, who was 12 years old, to teach them the tricks of making pasta (Up to #74). Oops, just found more pieces from Dunnick's, Dr. Robert Price courted his wife to be, Marilyn, there. Mary Lou Dunnick remembers that she went to Ruth White's kindergarten class in Ruth's home on Main St and would be walked down to the restaurant after class (#76). Oops. more pieces from Polly's; Karen and Jerry Huntsberger tell about going to Polly's after school for cheese crackers and dill pickles (5 or 10 cents). Jerry remembers a pin ball machine in the back end. Kathy Beyl Groth shares that every Friday she had a Red Devil sandwich, french fries and a cherry coke. She also remembers walking from the Dow Street school for lunch (#79). Earlene Parsons says that when her daughter came to visit, she had never had a fountain coke - it was a big event. Billie Fischer says that she had a short adventure cashiering when it was Roberta's . We did secure a couple of pieces about Rohrer's family restaurant - in the 1980's and early 1990's Joe Hammann tells of enjoying a great breakfast of bacon and eggs on Saturday morning (#82). Joe also remembers the big wooden booths. The Tipp paper stated that Rohrer's served great pizza. Mara Deemers says eating at Rohrer's was a regular for her when she owned her antique store on east Main Street. When the Vocke building was home to the Coldwater Café (now located a few doors east), many small groups of friends and business clients met there for special occasions and we still do that. It is a very special dining location (#86). Hurrah for all the folks who owned or worked for or enjoyed meals in this special building over the years. DONE

by Ruth White



Sewing Machine Donation

Marjie Anderson has donated a treadle sewing machine to the museum. It is in very good condition and includes several accessories.

I learned to sew by making doll clothes on our treadle machine. Her son, Perry, and his wife Karen, made arrangements for us to pick it up. We were able to squeeze it in at the museum.

By Susie Spitler



From the Museum Director

- The book signing with Rob Brundrett went very well. Several people stopped in to purchase autographed copies of one or both of his books.
- The lady whose relatives built the house on what is now The Willow Tree and her husband spent a couple of hours gathering information at the museum. Then they spent another three hours visiting with the present owners.
- Jene Steele, Mutt Hoover's granddaughter, and a friend are coming to town the first of August to visit the museum and visit some of the places she remembers from her childhood. In the last few years she has shipped a number of family items for the museum.
- A gentleman is coming to the museum from out of state to meet at the museum on August 3rd to research the Samuel Freeman and Mooney families.
- Greta at KIT-TV contacted us about doing some tapings of items in the museum. She will cover the pictures as volunteers give the explanations. Each will be from 5 to 20 minutes. Jackie Wahl will do the first one, covering Dolly Toy. We are working on a list of others. If you have a special interest and would like to share about it, let me know (937-698-6798). This should be fun and interesting and will also give the museum a lot of coverage.
- Our booth at Vintage in the Village went well. We met a lot of people, handed out our brochures, sold some items, and directed several people to the museum. Most of them wanted to see our restored "Iron Dog". Susan Furlong sold several autographed copies of her various books. It is always a pleasure to have her join us.
- We have a class reunion group trying to schedule a time at the museum during Mum Festival weekend. Other than that, the museum will be closed that Saturday, Sept. 24th.
- I would like to offer many thanks to Liz Miller for scheduling volunteers, and to all those volunteers that allow us to keep the museum open!

By Susie Spitler

The Hunt for Family Pride

When my Granny passed away, she left pictures and mementos that sparked my genealogy research to see where it might lead--of course looking for family pride. The generations covered seemed to all produce hard working American families that served in past wars and raised families through life's hardships

My Mom married at 16 and started a family and moved on, relying on her great faith when her husband, my father, was killed in a hunting accident when she was but 28. She raised her three boys with pride. Her maiden name was Alberta Marie Evelyn North. She prided herself all through her life for having the initials AMEN. That seemed to pick her up in troubled times!

I found a great grandfather, George Frederick North, in Irene Miller's 1981 History of Miami County. He was born in 1711 and served in the Revolutionary War. He became master of the Francis & Elizabeth ship set up by Quakers to pick up people who had fled persecution and who had compromised by coming to America. In June of 1805 he crossed the river at Cincinnati to settle in Miami County.

The 1981 History of Miami County (it can be found in our Tippecanoe Historical Society Museum) states that Mr. North was an influential man in the community so, when the opportunity occurred to name the township (in which we now live), he was given that honor. He was a great admirer of our 4th President, James Monroe, hence our Monroe Township.

Having lived in Tipp city my whole life, I have found family pride. This has encouraged me to keep looking into my genealogy.

By David R. Cook

Dave Cook was mayor of Tipp City from 1976 to 1982 and his wife, Sue Cook, was mayor of Tipp City from 1994 to 2000

Fall Sale at the Museum

On Saturday, September 17th, the museum will be holding a sale of our items. Some will be reduced a little and some a lot.

We planned the day around the Opera House open house so we will be open for the duration of the open house and a couple of hours earlier, from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. This will be a good time to pick up those special gifts for any occasion!



Ohio Open Doors

The Ohio Association of Museums is hosting an opportunity for the citizens of Ohio to visit iconic buildings in our state. Member museums are given a time period when the building of their choice will be open to the public.

The Tippecanoe Historical Society is a member of this organization and decided to participate.

The Chaffee Opera House will be open on Saturday, September 17 from 12 Noon – 4 PM. John Richards and other members will be on hand during that time to talk with visitors. Volunteers are needed. If you would like to participate, please contact Jackie Wahl at 937-506-7498.

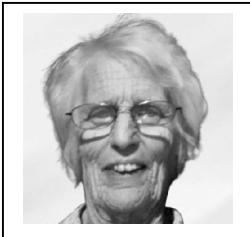


Storage Space Needed

We have had two bedroom suites stored at Dolly, Inc. for several years. When I called to see if we could add the sewing machine, I was told that, at some point in the near future, we will probably need to find someplace else for those pieces as Dolly continues to expand. We do appreciate them providing this space for us. Does anyone know of a clean, dry place where we could store these items? If so, please call me at 937-698-6798.

Susie Spitler

Membership News



Patricia Fennell
11-20-43 to 4-17-22

In Memory

THS lost a member since the last newsletter. We appreciate her years of membership and send condolences to her family.

Welcome New Members:

Diana Young
Andrew Potchik & Mary Jane Landis

New Business Member:

John J. Skolnicki, CPA

**NEW MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORIES
WILL BE OUT MID-AUGUST**

Upcoming Events

Saturday September 17th, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. – September Sale at the Museum

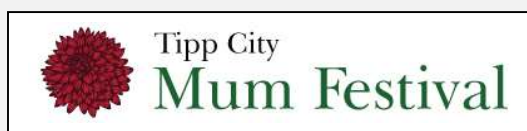
Saturday September 17th, 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. – Ohio Open Doors at the Chaffee Opera House

Saturday & Sunday, September 21st & 22nd - Booth at the Mum Festival. Times TBD

Tuesday August 9th – Board Meeting

Tuesday September 13th – Board Meeting

TBD – Lunch and Learn



Letter from the President

Hello everyone! Positive things are happening for/to the Tippecanoe Historical Society.

As you probably know, the fully restored Iron Dog (now known as Tippy) has been returned to the museum. This was an expensive project; thanks to the generosity of our members and the general public, the restoration expenses were covered by donations with the exception of less than \$2,000! That means less than 10% of the overall cost was shouldered by Society funds.

In May we held a picnic at the Roundhouse with approximately 25 members in attendance. This was the first attempt at a social event since the pandemic. The feedback I received was that the attendees enjoyed a delicious meal and visiting with other members!

Greta Clingan of KIT-TV approached Susie about taping “shorts” (15-20 minutes) about items, projects or topics at the museum. These will be shown on KIT-TV (that station now streams online) and the museum will receive copies of everything. Greta has also agreed that if we can manage to resurrect the Memories Tapings, she’ll help as she did before. More info will follow on both projects.

Under Upcoming Events, there are several items where manpower will be needed. By that I mean manning the Museum, Opera House or Mum Festival Booth. No one is being asked to do anything physically taxing but your time is desperately needed!

I truly feel the momentum of the Society is beginning to grow, which is what we need! I can’t stress enough that your help is needed so, when contacted, please consider getting involved. As always, any suggestions or comments may be directed to me @ 937-506-7498 or any board member.

Jackie Wahl, President

