

Sam and Ethel's

Can a restaurant give you a hug?? Let's begin on the "wait time" steps outside and the sidewalk below. This outdoor area is surrounded by views of historic buildings on all sides and plenty of memories and life stories abide within them. The inside restaurant wait time spot holds maybe 8 or 10 people at most and gives a closer view of diners in booths and at the counter enjoying yummy plates of something; wait gals busy, busy, busy--kitchen cooks clearly seen working over stoves and counters to produce plates of "down home" cooked meals; and often times another wait line for the additional two rooms of the restaurant where more wooden booths and tables await customers.

You will overhear a lot of, "I know you, when did you graduate?" "You were my teacher", I had you in school", "we were on that committee, remember?" "We worked together at community services", "Whatever happened to??", "I didn't know you were still around here", "How is your family?" "Did you know about.....?"

Jackie Wahl tells of being on the way to a meeting which was being held in the "back room" at Sam and Ethel's a few years back. As she was late, she was speeding and got a ticket. She related that fact to those gathered in the back and as she left the meeting, the folks in each room on the way to the street door chided her as the word had spread throughout the whole place!! Gordon Honeyman says during the John Moore era, John used to arrive at 4a.m. and close at 8:30 seven days a week. Gordon also offered the fact that Liberace and other famous personalities, including Jonathan Winters, were seen at Sam and Ethel's when they were in Dayton with the Kenley Players presenting shows at Memorial Hall and probably were also in Tipp to visit Ann Ingerman's famous antique store located in the Opera house on Main Street.

As some members manned our museum on North Third Street and were sharing information, someone reminded us that the current name Sam and Ethel's originated when Sam and Ethel Moore owned the establishment beginning in 1957. Blueberry Pancakes!!!!!! Bill McGrath related "When my kids were growing up (they now have children of their own) a huge treat for them was the very large blueberry pancakes.

Katie Sonnanstine says, "right on" to Bill McGrath...When Katie and Neal were living in Houston, they came home to visit Neal's parents on the farm on Route 202 and chose Sam and Ethel's for breakfast with them. Neal said "don't order pancakes"...one is enough as it covers the plate!!!!!"

Sue Cook (a former mayor of our fair Tipp City) tells of being elected to her office and hearing that a lot of town businessmen met at Sam and Ethel's for breakfast in the early morning, decided to join them one morning...which was a huge surprise to the men as they knew her name but had never met her in person. (She told me she gained valuable helpful insight to the running of our city!!)

Nancy Cartwright says it was probably in the 70's she baked pies for Sam & Ethel's, mostly 4 a day, and 6 on Friday (or Saturday). Beth, her daughter, would take the 4 (she worked there a few years) and I would take the 2 in later on those days. I did make my own crust, and quite a bit of the apples and peaches came from our trees. One of the favorites was a Chocolate Peanut butter, and of course Dutch Apple.

Sam and Ethel's Cont.

From Jerry Miller come these thoughts...I am a member of a small informal group from the Tipp City Methodist Church that meets at the restaurant for breakfast, bible study, discussion and fellowship. When I first joined the group, they were meeting at the Tipp of The Town. We eventually moved to Bob Evans, but now Sam and Ethel's is our destination. We have a large, reserved table "in the middle room". They are very welcoming to us ...we meet at 8:00 AM every Thursday. Come join us!

As a post note: I took my daughter Cathy for a birthday breakfast recently. We enjoyed the most delicious pecan waffle (lots of pecans) and bacon. As we waited and then when we were on our way to our table, other diners looked up to see if they knew us and I realized I was doing the same thing as we passed them...we both expected to see someone we knew. On that occasion I met Greg Enslin's wife Samantha and her parents. Samantha shared that her parents had just left their table in the "back room" to join her in the counter room. She said most regulars had their favorite room preference--counter room, middle room, back room.

Kathy at Community Services reminded me of the wonderful America Doll party hosted by Sam and Ethel's. All the young girls accompanied by their dolls had a great time. Jessica Dorn mentioned that her husband Matt often chooses our Main Street restaurant. He enjoys the "old fashioned atmosphere". Jess Coon son of Sue Coon has lived many places...New York, Georgia, Kentucky, but still is happy when he is here for a visit to return to Sam and Ethel's. In fact, they were there just a couple weeks ago. Karen Kuziinsky contributes (as we worked the museum one Sat morning) that the Dayton bike club, in the 1980s, used to stop, while on a tour, for pie at our restaurant. Also, I would like to add that Matt Bayman's super great Magazine, THIS LOCAL LIFE, \$25 for a whole year's subscription, carried an ad, in the current edition, for today's Sam & Ethel's owned by Keith Long. By the way, Matt's magazine is the best publication for our local area within a hundred miles or more!!!!!!

Renee, who works at Sam and Ethel's and is also the heart of the summer "Lunch on Us" program in our city, says 'Every day I work, at least one person I serve has never been to the restaurant before. When they leave, I know they will be back.

I found Keith Long, present long-time owner of Sam and Ethel's, quietly managing while seated on his favorite counter stool nearest the kitchen. As we talked about important visitors, he mentioned Brutus Buckeye (he was in town with a group of OSU men having a look see at Trophy Nut). He wowed the patrons as well as the "foot traffic outside. Keith said his best advertising is through the city, that places his signs on the bike path!! One of Gail Stickleman's models of the restaurant is displayed near the front door. Keith also brought up that the police in our city have alerted him several times when they have found his door (after hours) unlocked or that "something just didn't seem quite right" Can you believe it? Larry Nichols, from the Francis barber shop article, showed up while I was talking to Keith to display his home-grown, giant-sized radishes and gave out a hug, too!!

NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE SEATED, YOU ARE BOUND TO FEEL A HUG AT SAM AND ETHEL'S!!!

By Ruth White



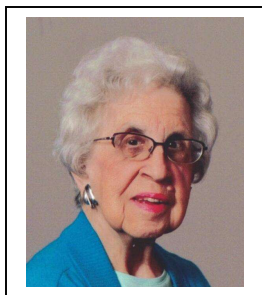
From the Museum Director

- We continue to get inquiries for various reasons. Jim Retter called from California seeking information on various topics. He grew up on Tipp-Elizabeth Road next door to Dr. Kiser's farm. Some of you might remember his aunt, Thelma Retter. She worked at Stouder and later at Dettmer in the maternity ward. She was present at my birth and also when my son was born.
- We had a request from a firm in Kansas City, MO asking about a Waltz Dry Cleaners that was located in what was the Rexall Drug Store. They emailed three newspaper ads from the Troy Daily News featuring Waltz Dry Cleaners at 31 E. Main St., None of the Board members remembered there ever being a Waltz Dry Cleaners in that building and our files do not mention it. If anyone knows about this, let us know and we will add it to our files.
- Catherine Fuller, a Rohrer family descendant, donated a doll to the museum. She lives close to Cleveland and made the trip down to bring us the doll. It belonged to her great grandmother, Ida Rohrer Garver, who was born in 1866. Her father was Jacob Rohrer (1815-1910) and her mother was Elizabeth Kendig Rohrer (1821-1894). We have a lot of history in the museum about the Rohrer family. Catherine's brother is David Fuller who donated the roll top desk. We are ordering a special case in which to display the doll.
- The gentleman that creates our ornaments is dealing with several issues, one of which is a 3% rise in his costs and outdated equipment. There is every possibility that we may no longer be able to order the ornaments.
- All of these happenings demonstrate how important the society, the museum and our volunteers are to people far and wide.



Susie Spitler 937-698-6798

In Memory



Marianne Barnhart
8-11-1934 to 6-1-2023

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

Letter from the President

Hello members.

I hope everyone is doing well. The Historical Society lost another dedicated member, Marianne Barnhart. She and her husband Norm both loved the Historical Society.

There are some "Save the Date" events. On July 31, 2023, Ron Re will be talking about the history of the Tipp City Police Department. This will be held at the Tipp City Library beginning at 6:30 p.m. The Historical Society will again be at the Mum Festival, September 23rd and 24th. We will be looking for volunteers to help with this event. On October 18th, Gordon Honeyman will be leading a taping of "Living in the 50's in downtown Tipp City". This will be held at 12 noon at the Senior Center. This is a bring-your-own brown bag lunch, including a drink of your choice. This is along the same line as the tapings that were previously held at the old Senior Center several years ago. It would be wonderful to resume the tapings. A doll that belonged to Ida Rohrer will soon be on display at the museum. The doll is believed to be from around 1875. The ornament project still has a few unanswered questions. We are waiting on additional updates.

Thanks for all you do and stay healthy.

Joanna Pittenger



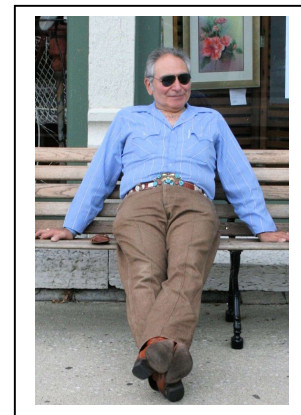
History of the Tipp City Police Department

Long time former Tipp City Police Officer, Ron Re will be giving a talk about the history of the TCPD.

Date: Monday, July 31st

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: Tipp City Library



Volunteers Needed



We are continuing our annual presence at the Tipp City Mum Festival this year.

It's an excellent opportunity to get the word out about our great Tippecanoe Historical Society!

We need volunteers to man our booth on September 23rd and 24th.

Please contact Joanna or Susie if you are interested.

Annual Meeting/Banquet Recap

The annual meeting and banquet was held on April 25th at 6:00 at Charis Ministries, which is the old St. John the Baptist Catholic Church on the corner of 3rd and Broadway.

Incoming President Joanna Pittenger gave a brief welcome, followed by a welcome from hostess Linda Ares, along with a prayer.

Thirty-eight members enjoyed a delicious feast of salad, half a broasted chicken, baked potato, roll & butter catered by member Linda Ares, who is also a THS member and pastor of Charis. The meal was rounded out with a choice of Mehaffie's apple crumble, cherry or lemon meringue pie.

As her last official act as outgoing President, Jackie Wahl conducted a short business meeting including confirmation and introduction of the new Board of Directors. She presented Susie & Wayne Spitler, along with Nancy Cartwright a bouquet of flowers and lifetime membership, in gratitude for all their hard work for the society.

The presentation by Gordon Honeyman was a review of 45 beautiful photos taken by former Tipp resident Bill Milner. The photos were displayed on a large screen TV with commentary by Gordon. Although many of the people in the photos were unidentified, the members enjoyed seeing and discussing them.

It was a lovely event. Everyone had a good time and left full (most had take-home because they were huge servings).

By Annette Calicoat



Part of the serving team preparing the salads



THS members enjoying conversation with the meal



Jackie conducting her last business meeting



Gordon commentating on the photos showing on the screen



Bill's photo that is on the screen



Upcoming Events

Monday, July 31st 6:30 – History of the Tipp City Police Department by Ron Re
Tipp City Library

Tuesday, August 8th – Board Meeting

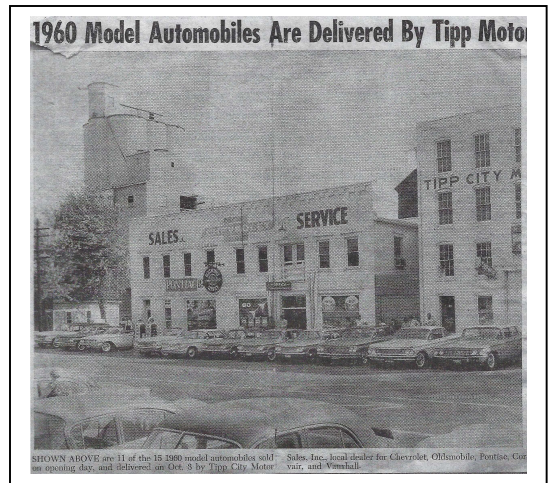
Tuesday, September 12th – Board Meeting

Saturday & Sunday, September 23rd and 24th – Tipp City Mum Festival THS booth

Tuesday, October 10th – Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 18th 12:00 – “Living in the 50’s in Downtown Tipp City” by Gordon Honeyman
Tipp Senior Center
BYO lunch

Old Photos of a Business on Broadway



The same building decades apart. The picture on the right is of the Detrick Grain and Mercantile Co. located on Broadway just west of the tracks. To the left is the Detrick Grain Elevator, now gone. The car dealership changed to Tipp City Motor Sales. Under the photo to the left it read: "Shown are 11 of 15 1960 model automobiles sold on opening day and delivered on Oct. 3 by Tipp City Motor Sales, Inc., local dealer for Chevrolet, Oldsmobile, Pontiac, Corvair and Vauxhall". Their motto was "It's worth a trip to Tipp". There are currently several businesses in the buildings.