

TIPPECANOE COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION'S

TippecaNEWS

VOL 2 | ISSUE 4 | WINTER 2023

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IMPORTANT DATES COMING UP:

The History Store at the Tippecanoe Battlefield Museum is having its yearly Members-only sale! **December 14-17, we invite you to visit the Battlefield before we close the doors for 2023 to take advantage of additional savings!**

From December 14 through December 17,

All TCHA members receive 15% off purchases. (Instead of the usual 10% off)
Benefactor and Treasure members receive 25% off. (Instead of the usual 20% off)



The holidays are coming up, which means TCHA will be closed to the public for our end-of-the-year maintenance and inventories. Refer below to see when you can come in and catch us before we close the doors on 2023!

The Arganbright Genealogy Center and McCollough Research Library: The last day of operations for 2023 will be December 15th. The libraries will reopen January 4th.

The Tippecanoe Battlefield and History Store: The last day of operations for the Battlefield for 2023 will be December 19th. The Battlefield will reopen February 1st.

NOTE: While the Museum and History Store are closed, the park site itself remains open from dawn to dusk daily.

A graphic illustration of a hand holding a red sign with white text that reads "TEMPORARILY CLOSED". The sign is tilted slightly to the right. The background of the sign is a solid red color, and the text is in a bold, sans-serif font.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BY CLAIRE EAGLE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

THOUGHTS FROM CLAIRE AS 2023 COMES TO A CLOSE

With December 31st quickly approaching, it's common to take a moment and think about how much has changed in the past year. For me, it began with a visit to Lafayette in January for an interview, come March I had moved almost four hours north and began as TCHA's Executive Director. I've done quite a bit of behind the scenes work the last nine months. I've written grants, planned programs, helped with the Feast in any way I could, and most importantly, gotten to know TCHA. It's been amazing getting to know the staff, volunteers and all of you. I hope you'll join us for our Annual Meeting on Saturday, February 3rd at 2:00 p.m. at the History Center. You'll hear more about what happened at TCHA in 2023, enjoy some light snacks and spend some time among TCHA's growing membership.

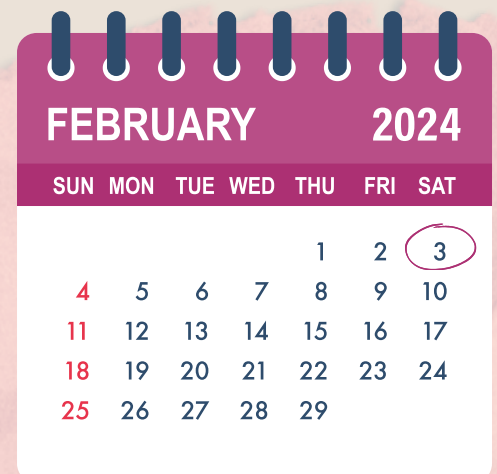
While our Annual Meeting is always a look back at the previous year, I'm very much looking forward to 2024. At the top of most of our to-do lists is preparing for the bicentennial of Lafayette in 2025 and Tippecanoe County in 2026. You might have seen the announcement of our Bicentennial Book. This book will include 200 stories about Lafayette and the area from the last 200 years. We'd love to have you involved. For more information, send an email to book200@tippecanoehistory.org or read on in this newsletter.

Finally, I have one quick reminder. This is the season of giving and I hope you'll continue to think of TCHA. We are so close to our goal for our Annual Campaign and would love to be able to announce at our Annual Meeting that we met it! All donations of any amount are so appreciated. Donations can be made by completing and returning the envelope included with the campaign letter sent this fall or by visiting tippecanoehistory.org/donate. As a 501(c)(3) organization, all donations to TCHA are tax deductible.

As always, please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions. Wishing you a safe, healthy and happy holiday season!

Mark your calendar!

Join your friends and fellow history fans for
the TCHA Annual Members Meeting,
February 3rd at 2 PM at the History Center.
More details to follow.



FROM THE VAULT

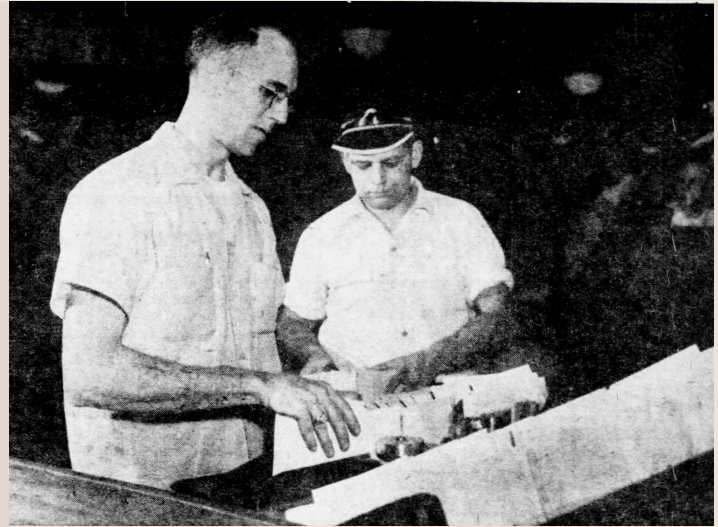
COLLECTIONS DEPARTMENT NEWS

BY KELLY LIPPIE, CURATOR OF COLLECTIONS

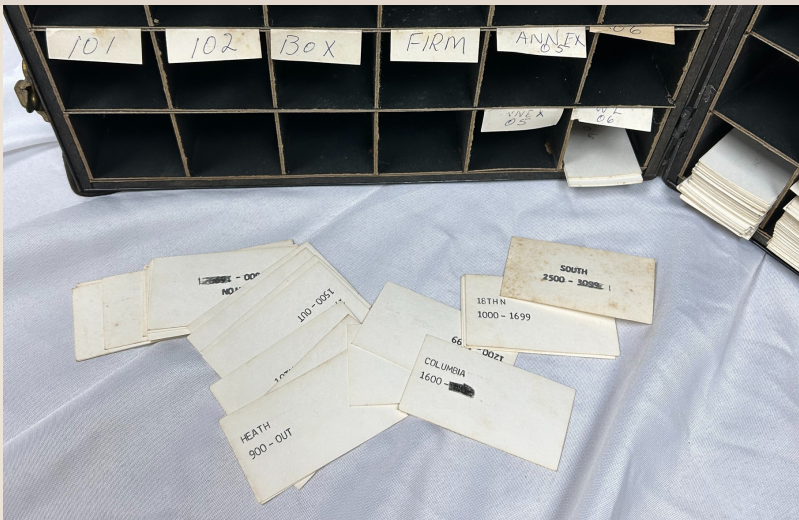
PERMANENT COLLECTION ADDITIONS

A recent donation to the permanent collection of TCHA is a sorting practice box for postal worker Gerry Anthrop. This suitcase-sized box allowed postal workers to practice and perfect their mail sorting at home before taking on the real task in the post office. This box still contains the street address labels for Lafayette postal routes. Gerry Anthrop, a life-long resident of Tippecanoe County, joined the postal service in 1941 and left in 1943 to serve in the army during World War II. He was one of seven Hoosiers to graduate from the Camp Lee Postal Inspection Service in 1944; a six-week program that prepared postal employees for the Army Postal Service. During the war, this group processed the millions of letters traveling to and from U.S. Troops and the Homefront. Today, the service still exists as the military arm of the postal service. In 1946, Anthrop returned to Lafayette to continue service in the Lafayette post office until he retired in 1973.

The box was made by the Amsterdam Printing Co. of Amsterdam, New York. The company made salesman sample cases and multi-use containers like this during the mid 1900s. The company is still in business today, creating products for marketing and business.



*Dwight Steckel and Gerry Anthrop working at the post office during the Christmas rush.
Photo from the Journal and Courier, December 17, 1955*



Sorting Practice Box cards



Sorting Practice Box

ALAMEDA MCCOLLOUGH RESEARCH LIBRARY

BY AMY HARBOR, RESEARCH LIBRARY COORDINATOR

A TOMBSTONE MYSTERY



The Tombstone of William Kopp

In early November we received an email from the Tippecanoe County Coroner's office about a tombstone they had found while moving things for a remodel. The stone said simply, William Kopp, 1822-1907. Their office had contacted the Health Department who could not find a death certificate for Mr. Kopp and referred them to our Research Library.

This seemed like it would be an easy puzzle to solve, but after searching through death certificates, city directories, obituaries, estate files, court records, marriage records and the rest of our sources, I found no trace of William Kopp in Tippecanoe County during that time span. I began to think maybe the name was misspelled and the stone had been discarded for that reason, so I searched for people named Kopf – a much more common name – as well as Copp and other possible spellings. Still, I found nothing.

I decided to cast a broader net and started searching Census records in surrounding counties during the right time period. I kept coming back to a William Kopp of about the right age who lived in Fountain County. I first found him in 1860 in Covington with a wife and two children. By 1870 they had four children and had moved upriver to Attica. I didn't know when he died, but he was still living in 1900. If he had died in Fountain County, there should be a death certificate, but a statewide death certificate index did not turn up a William Kopp who died in 1907 anywhere in Indiana.

I made a call to the Fountain County Genealogical Society to see if they knew anything about William Kopp. The next day I had an excited message from a volunteer who had located a death date and obituary, and sure enough he had died March 27, 1907. Searching by exact date and location, with no name, I found a death certificate for a William Ropp – an indexing error which became obvious when I looked at the certificate.

The obituary said that interment was in Riverside Cemetery in Attica, and we discovered that William's older brother John had been buried there in 1900. His daughter Lula Kopp Benamire would be buried there in 1915. The Tippecanoe County Coroner's office was delighted to know where the tombstone belongs, and I volunteered to deliver it to Maus Funeral Home in Attica. In the meantime, the Coroner's office had found another piece of the puzzle. A newspaper clipping from 1997 found in their office reported that the tombstone had been found in an apartment on 4 th Street above Chupp's Jeweler's after 3 men moved out. It was delivered to the coroner's office, which determined that William Kopp did not die in Tippecanoe County, and the tombstone has been there ever since. In fairness, there was not the online access to resources in 1997 that we have today.

Continued on next page.....

ALAMEDA MCCOLLOUGH RESEARCH LIBRARY

BY AMY HARBOR, RESEARCH LIBRARY COORDINATOR

According to his obituary, William Kopp was born in Carlisle, Pennsylvania to John Jacob and Christina Kopp. When he was two, the family moved to Hagerstown, MD and then two years later to Ohio, where they lived in Licking County and later Fairfield County. Around 1853 John and William moved to Fountain County, Indiana. The Kopp brothers were boat builders. What kind of boat builder lives in the middle of Ohio? A canal boat builder! The Ohio & Erie Canal went through Licking County, Ohio and the Hocking Canal went through Fairfield County. Of course, the Wabash & Erie Canal went through Covington and Attica.

We'll probably never know how William Kopp's tombstone turned up in an apartment in Lafayette in 1997, but soon it will be in Riverside Cemetery where it belongs.

This story was also featured by WLFI-TV 18. Watch the newscast and hear Amy in her own words at their website, <https://www.wlfi.com/news/local/tombstone-found-in-lafayette-makes-way-back-to-attica/>

INTRODUCING...FAMILY SEARCH

The Alameda McCollough Research Library is now a FamilySearch Affiliate Library, which means it has access to more genealogy resources to help you make more family discoveries. FamilySearch is a world leader in family history.

There are only a few hundred affiliate libraries in the country. The designation means library patrons will now have greater and more convenient access to the wealth of genealogical resources available through FamilySearch. The popular web service has over six billion searchable names and two billion images of historical genealogical records—and you get the helpful assistance of library staff and volunteers.

FamilySearch adds over three hundred million free genealogical records and images online yearly from all over the world and manages the famous FamilySearch Library in Salt Lake City. It has amassed billions of birth, marriage, death, census, land, and court records from more than 130 countries to help you discover and make family connections.



BATTLEFIELD UPDATES

BY TREY GORDEN, PHD, BATTLEFIELD MANAGER

COMMEMORATION AND MORE AT THE BATTLEGROUND

This year, on November 4th, as we do every year, we commemorated the Battle of Tippecanoe. It was a wonderful day. DuBois' Company of Spies and Guides were here, as were John and Nolan Wickett. All of these dedicated and fascinating folks were on hand in authentic clothing and uniforms, along with their historically accurate camping gear, to spend two nights patrolling the grounds and answering your questions. As usual, the American Legion, Post 11, came to give the salute, and the re-enactors conducted the wreath-laying ceremony. Dr. Luke Gascho delivered our keynote address, "Living on Indigenous Landscapes: Potawatomi and Settler Histories in Northern Indiana," and LTC (R) John Polles, PhD, led us on a walking tour of the battlefield, recounting the dramatic events of the Battle of Tippecanoe. Yours truly presented "The Tippecanoe Battlefield – Indiana's First Tourist Attraction" a history of the battlefield after the battle itself. Admission to the museum was free all day.

We've already started thinking through next year's celebration. If you couldn't make it this year, there's always next time. Don't miss it!

Looking out the front window of the museum, I can see that all the Fall leaves are gone from our old oaks, and the other trees won't be far behind. It's cold, grey, and drippy out there. On December 20th we'll be closing the museum down through January for Christmas, New Year, inventory, cleaning, and exhibit maintenance. But don't worry, the Tippecanoe Battlefield Park will stay open daily, as usual. You can still come out when the snow is on the ground and get your Winter photos. I recommend you do ... the place looks splendid in white.


Upon reopening on February 1st, we will observe Winter hours, opening at noon and closing at 5:00 PM, EST until March 1, when we'll be back to regular hours. Merry Christmas! We wish you and your friends and family joy in whatever way you celebrate the holidays, and we look forward to great conversations with each of you in the new year.



DuBois' Company of Spies and Guides



TCHA Executive Director Claire Eagle (L) and Battlefield Manager, Trey Gordon, PhD, (R) with Dr. Luke Gascho

Thank you to  **indiana humanities**
for awarding us the grant to
host Dr. Gascho!

FEAST OF THE HUNTERS' MOON

BY LESLIE MARTIN CONWELL, OUTGOING MANAGER

LESLIE'S REFLECTION ON 40± YEARS

I will be retiring on 12/31/23 after 40+ years with TCHA.

My association with TCHA began in 1974 when my mother, Fern H. Martin, joined the staff as TCHA's PR person and "Feast Assistant." In 1975 I worked with the Harrison High School French Club, serving French onion soup at the Feast of the Hunters' Moon. In 1978 I was hired to be a blockhouse trader, back in the days when the Fort Ouiatenon blockhouse museum and trading post was open 6 days a week.

The TCHA staff and Feast organizers recognized my interest in local history and the Feast, and encouraged and supported me while I got my anthropology degree at Purdue and did graduate work at IU. I can never thank them enough for their mentorship. I continued to work at the fort through college and was hired as full-time TCHA staff when I graduated. Over the years I have worked in many capacities at TCHA, including Lead Docent Interpreter, Program Director, Gift Shops Manager, Feast Event Manager, and Executive Director. I'm thankful to TCHA's Board of Directors, staff, membership, Feast Steering Committee, volunteers, Feast participants and community partners for the opportunities for personal and professional growth I've been given with the Association.

I'm extremely proud to have served TCHA for so many years, and particularly proud that the Feast gives critical financial support to TCHA, where it provides over 60% of the Association's annual operating budget to help run TCHA's sites and ensure that we can continue our important mission through our archives, collections, and programming. The Feast also helps support over 50 other community non-profit organizations. It annually brings in over 2.5 million to the local economy and has been a vital part of keeping heritage crafts alive.

How blessed am I to have served for so long with an organization that does so much for the community?

TCHA is indeed Tippecanoe County's "History Keeper," and I hope that in some small way I've helped TCHA meet its mission statement through these 40+ years. I'm excited about Brooke Sauter stepping into the Feast Event Manager role. She has the connections and the expertise to move the Feast and TCHA into the future. Please make her feel welcome! I'll be doing some volunteer work for TCHA after I retire, including working with the Feast photo archives.

Thank you to my TCHA and Feast family for a great 40+ years! Thank you to my husband, Rick Conwell, for his unwavering support for my work at TCHA.



Leslie with her mother, Fern Martin

FEAST OF THE HUNTERS' MOON

BY LESLIE MARTIN CONWELL, OUTGOING MANAGER

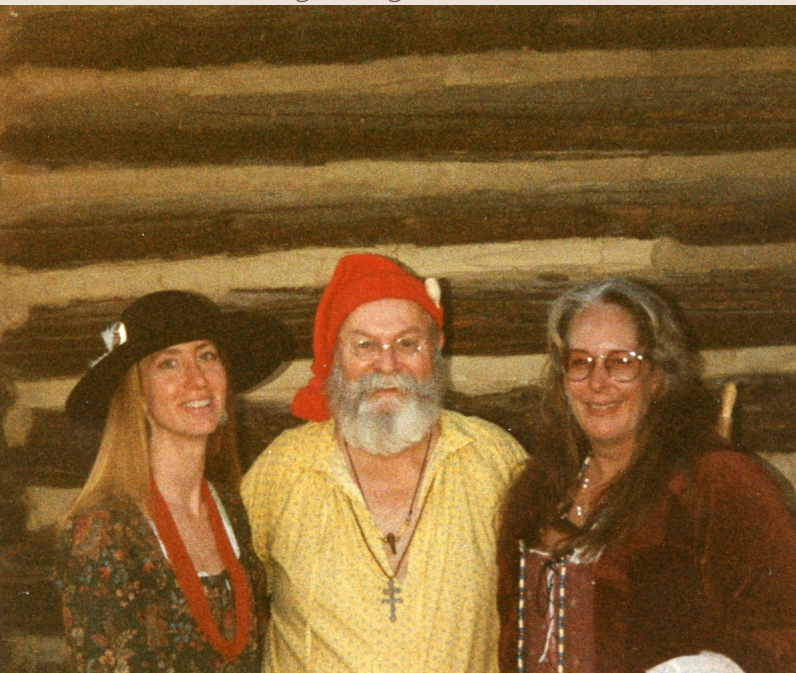
MEMORIES OF LESLIE'S TIME WITH TCHA



Leslie and Ike Lundberg during a blockhouse tour, 1983



Leslie in the blockhouse, 1994



Leslie with Don Stoike and Cheri Pate, 1990



Leslie (Left, blue) with Paula Woods (R)



*Leslie with husband Rick,
at the 50/300 Feast, 2017*

FEAST OF THE HUNTERS' MOON

BY LESLIE MARTIN CONWELL, OUTGOING MANAGER

MEMORIES OF LESLIE'S TIME WITH TCHA



Leslie with Larrissa Sasgren, 1994



Leslie with Larrissa Sasgren, 2023

Leslie adds...

In 2023, Larrissa drove all the way from her home in Boston to see me before I retired, and we recreated the iconic 1994 picture! I was standing on the Opening Ceremony platform so I'd look taller than her. SO much love in this picture.



Into the next chapter:
*Leslie passing the Feast tiara
over to Brooke Sauter,
incoming Feast Event
Manager, 2023*

FEAST OF THE HUNTERS' MOON

BY BROOKE SAUTER, INCOMING MANAGER

INTRODUCING THE NEXT FEAST EVENT MANAGER

With 2024 comes new leadership at the Feast of the Hunters' Moon. Following in Leslie's footsteps, Brooke Sauter will be filling the role as Feast of the Hunters' Moon Event Manager. Brooke comes from a nonprofit marketing and volunteer management background, and has a passion for living history. She has been a "Feaster" for over ten years and travels the midwest participating in living history events. You may have seen her running around the Feast grounds previously, camera in hand, as the Feast event photographer.

~

From Brooke:

I am so excited to be stepping into this role! I have been "in training" with Leslie since September of 2023, and got to spend some of the 2023 Feast "in the driver's seat", learning from the best of the best. I am grateful for Leslie's kindness and leadership as she has shown me the ropes, and helped welcome me into the wonderful community the Feast has developed. I am also grateful for Jeff Schwab and Claire Eagle for their direction and support, as well as the TCHA Board for entrusting me with a job I know is vital to the event as well as the historical association as a whole.

Should you have any thoughts or ideas you want to share, you can reach me by email at Feast@tippecanoehistory.org. Please note: This is not a new email, I am just taking over the preexisting Feast inbox! Stay tuned, as I have grand plans for 2024, including the return of the Feast sewing circle in the spring.



*Brooke Sauter and Leslie Martin Conwell,
Incoming and outgoing Feast Event Managers*



*Brooke, in yellow, being introduced at the 2023 Feast
Photo Credit: Andy Owen, Lafayette, IN*

SPECIAL INITIATIVES

JOIN THE BICENTENNIAL BOOK PROJECT

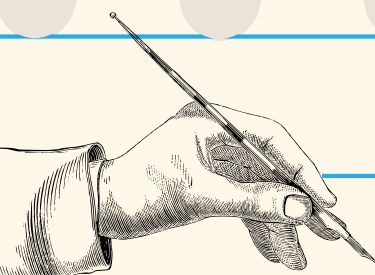


In honor of the Bicentennial of the founding of Lafayette (2025) and Tippecanoe County (2026) the Tippecanoe County Historical Association is working on a book about the history and development of Tippecanoe County from 1825 to present. This publication will consist of two hundred stories of individuals, institutions, businesses, and events that shaped the county to what it is today.

NO PUBLISHING EXPERIENCE REQUIRED! We are looking for historians, writers, and amateur sleuths to document the history of Lafayette and Tippecanoe County for this forthcoming book. You will be a credited author in this publication! You do NOT need to have prior experience writing or publishing to participate. Nor do you have to live in Tippecanoe County! We are looking for talent and passion, regardless of where you live.

*From the TCHA Archives:
A photo of the 1936 St. Francis High School yearbook staff*

A list of topics has already been established by the TCHA Bicentennial Events Committee. Most topics are still available and need an author like yourself! Each article has a 600-word limit. (This is about a page and a half.) Plus — the staff of the Association and Bicentennial Committee are available to assist you with research, archive searches, and access to artifacts pertaining to your topic. We also have a select group of volunteers available to help with the writing of this article, if you are a history whiz but not as confident in your writing abilities.



View the list of suggested article topics: bit.ly/Book200Topics

View the updated author's guide: bit.ly/Book200AuthorGuide

Ready to get started? Send an email to book200@tippecanoehistory.org to claim a topic and get involved!

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

***We want to help
TCHA preserve and
share our local stories***

***.. and planned giving is
an easier way to do
this!***

**Ask your financial
advisor about your
options for worry-free
planned giving**



PHOTO CREDIT CENTER FOR
DISEASE CONTROL

AMAZON WISH LIST

While Amazon Smile has been discontinued, other giving opportunities are still available - including our Amazon wish list.

Check out TCHA's Amazon wish list and help out by buying supplies to help with maintenance and artifact preservation:

<https://amzn.to/3MODfuo>

LEGACY BRICKS

Leave a lasting mark on Lafayette by ordering a Legacy Brick to be placed at the TCHA History Center on Columbia Street. Your brick will appear for everyone to see right on the patio of the building, across the street from City Hall. To order your Legacy Brick, download the order form and return it the address included.

Download the form now on our website at bit.ly/TCHALegacyBrick

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Welcome to our new members who have joined the Association in the last quarter:

Pam Barnard- Individual
Jonathan and Zhao Bauchet- Family
Renu Bhatia- Individual
Wanda Cornell- Individual
Monica Doerr- Individual
Michael and Stephanie Elliot- Family
Jason and Tiffany Freeman- Family
Anne and Lawrence Koloc- Buja- Family
Scott and Karen Latta- Family
Zachary Reed-Skala- Individual
Deborah Seders- Senior Individual
Whitney Walton- Senior Individual
Larry and Janine Zwiebel- Senior Couple

Thanks to our returning members who have renewed their membership in the last quarter of 2023:

Georgine and Lawrence Asborn- Senior Couple
Del and Carla Bartlett- Patron
Colby Bartlett- Patron
Dan and Pam Becker- Senior Couple
Chris Biang- Senior Individual
Joann Bonner- Patron
Mark and Barbara Bowman- Family
Karen Brand- Senior Individual
Carolyn Bridge- Senior Individual
Joan and Joseph Briller- Senior Couple
Marilyn Brown- Senior Individual
James Buckhorn- Individual
Dale and Toni Butcher- Senior Couple
David and Julie Byers- Sustaining
Dave Chasey- Individual
Edward and Rebecca Chosnek- Senior Couple
Tammy Chowning- Family
Don and Mindy Clayton- Senior Couple
Suzanne and Dan Collins- Patron
William and Dianne Combs- Patron
Nancy Cordes- Senior Individual
Kathy and Kacey Crager- Senior Couple
Phillip Crousore- Individual
Todd and Pam Crum- Senior Couple
Cynthia Crystal- Individual
Kevin Cullen- Senior Individual
Diana Dahl- Patron

Linda and Donald Decker- Senior Couple
John Dienhart- Individual
Michael and Phyllis Dotson- Senior Couple
James & Patricia Driscoll- Senior Couple
Linda and James Eales- Senior Couple
Grant Fischer- Individual
Gail Flack- Senior Individual
James and Jane Frankenberger- Patron
Carol Frantz- Senior Individual
Virginia Freeman- Senior Individual
C. Thomas Getchel- Senior Couple
John Gladden- Senior Individual
Gary and Kristine Goodwin- Senior Couple
Nancy Greenwood- Patron
Amy and Jon Harbor- Patron
Seth Harden- Individual
John M. Harris and Joan E. Hostetler- Senior Couple
James & Constance Hayman- Senior Couple
Kathy Heaphy- Senior Individual
Alan Hefner- Senior Individual
Kathy Hiser- Senior Individual
William and Peggy Hoover- Patron
David Hovde & Marj Rush Hovde- Senior Couple
Carolyn Jones- Senior Individual
Steve and Angie Klink- Family
Jack Korty- Senior Individual
Elizabeth Lawson- Senior Individual
Deirdre LeMire- Benefactor
Tiffany Lorton- Family
Jeffery Love/Purdue Federal Credit Union- Treasure
Michael and Pamela Luenz- Patron
Rob and Callie Marksbarry- Senior Couple
Steve McCammon- Individual
Gerald & Cecilia McCarthy- Patron
Mary Anne McCarty- Senior Individual
Thomas and Susan McCully- Patron
Laurel and Richard Mellien- Senior Couple
Bill and Betsy Miller- Family
Richard & Patricia Miller- Senior Couple
Brian and Karen Musser- Senior Couple
Mark and Anne Nesbitt- Senior Couple
Carolyn Niemantsverdriet- Senior Individual
Barbara Nolan- Individual
Ruth S. O'Connor- Family
Greg Paeth- Individual
Mike and Nancy Piggott- Senior Couple

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Walter Poppinga- Senior Individual
David & Lynda Raymer- Patron
Matt and Ellen Riebsomer- Family
James and Mary Jo Risk- Benefactor
Quentin and Camilla Robinson- Patron
Betty Rohler- Senior Individual
James Roller & Amanda Worrell- Family
Larry and Marianne Rose- Patron
Benjamin L. Ross and Jason Griffith- Family
Mayor Tony Roswarski- Sustaining
Ruth Ann Schafer- Senior Individual
John and Lisa Schaust- Senior Couple
Jacqueline Schmidt Ruckman- Family
Charles and Sue Scholer- Patron
Stewart and Jackie Schreckengast- Patron
Shirley M. Schulz- Patron
Jeffrey and Ronda Schwab- Sustaining
Marsha L. Selmer- Senior Individual
Peter & Charlene Sherry- Senior Couple
Tim & Kathi Shriner- Patron
E. Dana and Maggie Smith- Patron
Linda Sorensen- Senior Individual
Jeremy Spann- Family
Michael & Janet Stapleton- Senior Couple
Terry and Kathleen Stevens- Patron
David and Rene Thompson- Family
Gary and Susan Tishler- Senior Couple
Harold Tully- Senior Individual
Jane Turner and Carl Hager- Patron
Tom & Chris Turpin- Patron
Diana L. Vice- Individual
Michael and Marilou Warden- Sustaining
Terry and Shirley West- Senior Couple
Jared G West- Individual
Charles & Susan Whittemore- Senior Couple
Lloyd M. Wilkinson- Patron
Huw and Tricia Williams- Patron
Margaret and Leonard Wood- Treasure

**This holiday season, we
are grateful for our
dedicated members. The
historical association
thrives thanks to you!**

thank you

**Memberships make great gifts! Get your
holiday shopping done early by visiting
tippecanoehistory.org/get-involved/membership/**