

Tippecanoe County
Historical Association's

TippecaNEWS

ISSUE 4 | WINTER 2022

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LESLIE MARTIN CONWELL

A letter to TCHA's membership, staff, volunteers, and supporters, who I have been so honored to serve in my role as a TCHA staff member for over 40 years -

I will be retiring at the end of this year from my position of Executive Director.

In July of 2020 I was asked by the board to step into the position of Operations Manager in addition to my other staff duties as Feast Event Manager and Program Director. I was charged with the responsibility to work in tandem with the board, staff, membership, sponsors, granting agencies, donors, and volunteers to insure the survival of the Tippecanoe County Historical Association through the significant challenges posed by the COVID pandemic and the subsequent cancellation of the 2020 Feast.

Two and a half years later we now see the results of everyone's hard work and dedication to TCHA and the Association's mission. As a team, TCHA survived the challenges posed by the pandemic. We met our mission during the most challenging time TCHA has ever endured and we have accomplished much towards ensuring the future financial security of TCHA. Thank you for your part and support in that process.

As Executive Director, I have now met my promise to the board I made in 2020 to help guide TCHA through this challenge. My husband has recently retired, and I am ready to step back a bit from a heavy workload and turn the reins over to the next person the TCHA search committee will select to lead as Executive Director. I foresee a bright future.

I will most likely be working once again as Feast of the Hunters' Moon Event Manager for 2023.

Thank you for the opportunities TCHA has given me, and for the trust you all have invested in me through the many years I've had the honor of working for the Association.



*Leslie Martin Conwell,
Executive Director of TCHA*

Mark your calendar!

Join your friends and fellow history fans for the TCHA Annual Members Meeting, January 21 at 2 PM at the History Center. More details to follow.



It's not too late to contribute to the Annual Appeal! TCHA needs your help to continue our mission to collect, preserve, research and share our diverse and exciting history. Your donation helps with anything from archival storage supplies to paying the electric bill. Give today at bit.ly/TCHAAnnualGiving

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Want to see photos from this year's Feast? Follow us on Facebook and join the Official Feast of the Hunters' Moon Event Group at facebook.com/groups/feastofthehuntersmoon/

FROM THE VAULT

COLLECTIONS DEPARTMENT NEWS

BY KELLY LIPPIE, CURATOR OF COLLECTIONS

In the fall of 2019 TIPCOA, the Tippecanoe County Area Genealogy Society, donated funds to TCHA to help restore county record books. With the onset of COVID-19, this project was put on the back burner, but in 2022 we were finally able to get on the schedule with a bookbinder in Indianapolis. Although TIPCOA donated enough money to have several books rebound, we decided to start with two that are often used and in the most need of restoration. After several months of work, the ledgers were finally finished at the end of October. Back on our shelves, we couldn't be happier with the quality of work and finished product. These books were restored with durable covers and strong stitching that should last for many years.

The first ledger book chosen for restoration was Book 1 of the Tippecanoe County Circuit Court Final Record. This book details the final determinations in court cases held by the Circuit Court in Tippecanoe County from 1827 to 1831. At nearly 200 years old and one of the oldest county record books, this ledger was missing its front cover and the binding was very fragile.

TCHA also had restored the Marriage Record Book 8. This records marriages in Tippecanoe County from 1858- 1859. As one of the earliest marriage books, it was in poor condition, with a failing spine and loose stitching.

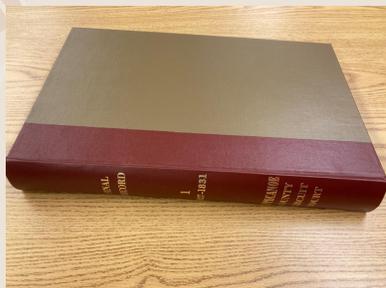
Both of these books are preserved at TCHA and are available to researchers at the Frank C. Arganbright Genealogy Center. The restoration work was done by Walker Restoration Bookbinding of Indianapolis. Special thanks to TIPCOA for providing the resources to make this restoration work possible! Visit their website.



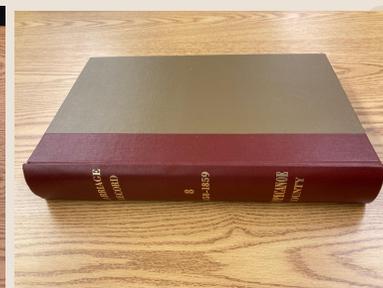
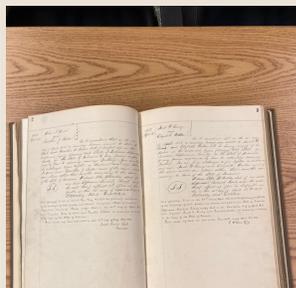
Circuit Court Final Record Book 1, pre-restoration



Marriage Record Book 8, pre-restoration



Circuit Court Final Record Book 1, post-restoration by Walker Restoration Bookbinding



Marriage Record Book 8, post-restoration by Walker Restoration Bookbinding

FROM THE DIRECTOR

BY LESLIE MARTIN CONWELL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Grant Received from North Central Health Services for Feast of the Hunters' Moon Grounds Equipment

The Tippecanoe County Historical Association (TCHA) has received a \$6,900 grant from North Central Health Services to fund the purchase of a new trailer for use in Feast of the Hunters' Moon setup, teardown, and other event grounds work.

The "Feast" is TCHA's signature event, and supports fundraising efforts for more than 50 other community non-profits as well as a large portion of TCHA's budget. Statistics collected by Visit Lafayette-West Lafayette indicate the Feast brings in over 2 million dollars annually to the local community.

TCHA Executive Director Leslie Martin Conwell states that "the purchase of a utility trailer will provide a critical piece of mobile infrastructure in support of the community service mission of the Tippecanoe County Historical Association, as well as support and benefit the other participating non-profit organizations in their missions and fundraising work at the Feast. TCHA, Feast staff, and volunteers are very committed to building and providing a safe event space that facilitates this great educational and fundraising experience. The utility trailer would go a long way towards ensuring that the logistics needed to successfully deliver this important community event will be met in an efficient and safe manner."

This project is made possible through a generous grant from North Central Health Services (NCHS) administered by The Arts Federation.



Jeff Burnworth and Jeff Schwab standing with the new Feast trailer



FROM THE DIRECTOR

BY LESLIE MARTIN CONWELL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Grant from Community Foundation of Greater Lafayette to Facilitate Collections Care, Volunteer and Community Engagement, and Program Outreach

The Tippecanoe County Historical Association (TCHA) has been awarded a grant of \$9,900.00 from the Community Foundation of Greater Lafayette.

Several projects had recently been identified by TCHA as mission critical- The purchase of additional, upgraded computer equipment for the collections, library, and archives; the upgrading of lighting from florescent to LED in the first floor collections and archives rooms; and the upgrading of the camera and microphone system for public programming. This multi-level project facilitates collections care, promotes volunteer and public engagement, encourages research, promotes organizational sustainability and responsibility to the environment, and enables the sharing TCHA's collections, archives, and research with the public in educational programs.

These projects are particularly important, especially in light of the upcoming City of Lafayette (2025) and Tippecanoe County (2026) bicentennial celebrations, and TCHA's participation in those events as Tippecanoe County's "history keeper."

TCHA is dedicated to collecting, preserving, and sharing Tippecanoe County's stories, from its Indigenous roots to the many cultural communities, businesses, individuals, organizations, schools, and many more that have called Tippecanoe County home. TCHA has an almost 100 year history of faithfully collecting these stories, as expressed through collections items and archival material, and then making them available for sharing. TCHA sincerely thanks the Community Foundation of Greater Lafayette for their funding assistance.



Curator of Collections, Kelly Lippie, working with a patron in the archives

**COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
OF GREATER
LAFAYETTE**

About the Community Foundation of Greater Lafayette

Established in 1970, the mission of the Community Foundation of Greater Lafayette is to inspire, nurture, and practice philanthropy, stewardship, and leadership in the communities they serve.

InspiringGreater.org

FEAST OF THE HUNTERS' MOON

BY LESLIE MARTIN CONWELL, EVENT MANAGER

A Beautiful Feast of the Hunters' Moon Weekend Brings in Above Average Attendance

Several days of absolutely perfect weather brought 46,258 people to visit the 55th annual Feast of the Hunters' Moon, October 1-2. Feast goers enjoyed favorite Feast foods such as buffalo stew, forfar bridies, and noodleables while they took in the sights and sounds of the period craftspeople, music, dancing, and historical interpreters.

Important note - the 2023 Feast will be held October 7-8.

This is a different date than originally announced, but a change was necessary when Purdue University made a change in their 2023 football schedule.

The Feast is the biggest fundraiser of the year for the Tippecanoe County Historical Association. It also helps support more than 50 other area community non-profits, and annually brings in more than \$2,000,000.00 into the local economy Feast weekend.



We thank the following sponsors!

Subaru of Indiana
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Teays River Brewing & Public House
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In-kind sponsors:

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Vester and Assoc.

Haley's Lock, Safe, and Key
Jim's Garage



BATTLEFIELD MUSEUM UPDATES

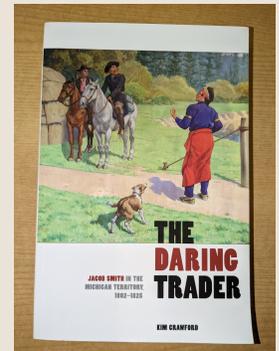
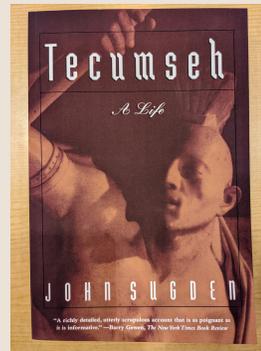
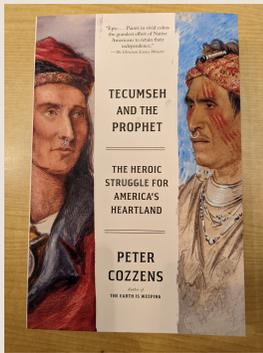
BY TREY GORDEN, TIPPECANOE BATTLEFIELD MUSEUM MANAGER

Highlights for the History Store

Don't forget to check out the History Store at the Tippecanoe Battlefield Museum for unique gifts for the history lover in your life. TCHA members get 10% in store and online purchases! Click here to visit the online store.

Books:

- Tecumseh and the Prophet, by Peter Cozzens
- A wide selection of novels by Alan Eckert, principally his Winning of America series.
- Tecumseh: A Life, by John Sugden
- The Daring Trader: Jacob Smith in the Michigan Territory, 1802-1825, by Kim Crawford
- Indians and a Changing Frontier: The Art of George Winter, By Christian F. Feest



Also:

- Our speckled Eagle Gate logo mugs: Looking for a gift for the history buff on your list? This sturdy, commemorative mug looks great by the fireside, whether in camp or by your living room fireplace.
- Horn cups: These lovely little cow's-horn drinking cups recall life on the frontier, and demonstrate how people accustomed to using what they had and wasting nothing could bring touches of elegance to their lives in the most creative ways.



- Feast 55 Hoodies: We know how it goes. Feast weather was a little warm this year, so you thought you didn't need a hoodie. Well, now it's cold and you're wishing you'd gotten one. We've got you covered! This great-looking design is still available ... until they aren't, of course. So hurry in, soon!

Speckled Battlefield Mugs



*Above: Feast 55 Hoodies
Below: Horn cups*



ALAMEDA MCCOLLOUGH RESEARCH LIBRARY

RESEARCH LIBRARY NEWS

BY AMY HARBOR, RESEARCH LIBRARY COORDINATOR

The Stuff We Find in the Library

Last week a volunteer, who's been working with Greenbush cemetery records, sent me an email with a snapshot of an entry, asking, "Does this really say 'leg'?" The record in question was the burial of Clark Kellogg's leg on November 18, 1899.

The unfortunate Mr. Kellogg had slipped while boarding a train, at 5 th and Main Streets, and his leg was crushed under the wheels. There was even a death certificate created for the leg, documenting that it was buried in Greenbush Cemetery in the family plot. This was not the first time I'd run across such a thing.

Famously, Stonewall Jackson's arm lies in a marked grave near where it was amputated during the Civil War. It was not uncommon for a severed limb to be buried in a cemetery plot, and in some places, it was the law for sanitary reasons. In other cases, religious beliefs dictated that severed limbs and the rest of the body should be buried together to be made whole in the afterlife.

Clark W. Kellogg was reunited with his leg just four years later. Records show that he died from epilepsy on December 2, 1903, at the age of 42. He was an inmate at the Central Hospital for the Insane in Indianapolis at the time of his death. Such was the sad fate of people with seizure disorders in the early 20th century.

Clark William Kellogg was buried in Greenbush Cemetery with his parents and 3 siblings.

1899 death certificate of Mr. Kellogg's leg

Improving Rapidly.
Clark Kellogg, who had his right leg amputated below the knee, at St. Elizabeth's hospital, Saturday evening, is doing very nicely to-day, and it is thought he will speedily recover from his injuries. He is the son of Ex-Councillman Samuel H. Kellogg, residing at the corner of Tenth and Tippecanoe streets, and received his injuries

in central portion to-night.
late Saturday afternoon, on Fifth street, near Main, in attempting to board a northbound Monon freight train. Missing his hold he fell under the wheels and his right leg was horribly mangled. The great toe on his left foot was also severed. Mr. Kellogg is 37 years of age and is improving very rapidly.
FOR PUBLIC SAFETY

GUEST AUTHOR COLUMN: BY DAVID M. HOVDE, TCHA BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEMBER

John Bradford Harper: Purdue University's First Graduate

John Bradford Harper was the first graduate of Purdue University and the sole member of the class of 1875. He went on to have a distinguished career in civil engineering, all be it short lived.

In my role as a member of the Purdue University Archives I spent a good deal of time recovering many lost stories of Purdue's past and many made it into Purdue at 150, a book I co-authored. Recently while visiting family in Colorado, I made a pilgrimage to Harper's grave in Durango.

John Bradford Harper was a transfer student and came from Northwestern Christian University in Indianapolis (Butler University) with Harvey W. Wiley (Professor of Chemistry), the last faculty member hired in the first year of Purdue's operation. John's father was a civil engineer and had been a colonel in the Union Army. During his time at Purdue, Harper helped found Purdue's first fraternity Sigma Chi, the Irving Society; its first literary society, its first organized sports team the Purdue Nine, and its first student newspaper The Purdue which he co-edited with Professor Wiley.

After graduating he worked for two railroad companies and in the late 1880s moved to Colorado. Among his endeavors there was being the La Plata County surveyor and the Durango City Engineer. In 1900, he was appointed to the position of Superintendent of Irrigation for the Pueblo and Jicarilla Indian Reservations in New Mexico. In this position he worked various irrigation projects. His last project before his death was the highly innovative Zuni Dam and reservoir that still exists today.



*Memorial to Harper at the Black Rock Reservoir.
Photo credit: Lars Hovde. 2022*



*John Bradford Harper's grave in the Greenmount Cemetery.
Photo credit: Marj Rush Hovde. 2022*



GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

AMAZON SMILE

Shop Amazon and select TCHA as your charity on Amazon Smile. It's easy to set up, especially if you already have an Amazon account. Learn more and select your charity at smile.amazon.com

Check out TCHA's Amazon wish list to 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

ADVERTISE IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER!

The TCHA Membership newsletter is now entirely digital. This e-newsletter reaches an average of 300 people, 4 times per year. Advertisements and announcements should be family friendly. TCHA reserves the right to decline ad or announcement designs due to content. Ads can include a color photograph or graphic and text and should be submitted in a JPEG or Word document.

\$50.00 for a ½ page in one newsletter appearance.

\$25.00 for a ¼ page in one newsletter appearance.

For more info or to purchase ad space, Contact: memberships@tippecanoehistory.org or by phone at 765-476-8411 extension 3.

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Tippecanoe County Historical Association, Feast of the Hunters' Moon, and Tippecanoe Battlefield Museum



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And on our website at:

[TippecanoeHistory.org](https://www.TippecanoeHistory.org)

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