

TONGANOXIE COMMUNITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

4th QUARTER NEWSLETTER, Dec. 2022



“Loyalty to the country always. Loyalty to the government when it deserves it”. Mark Twain

“Republicans want a man that can lend dignity to the office. Democrats want a man that will lend some money.” Will Rogers.

For those of you who haven't heard, December will be my last newsletter. It's kind of a sad feeling for me to give up publishing this newsletter, but I have been doing this for more than 10 years and about 2 years ago I began seeing too many physicians. This made it difficult for me to gather information about what the historical society was doing. Consequently, I was not always involved nor up to date with some of the activities the historical society was doing. Soooooo!!, I believe my resignation will allow someone else to be in charge to see that the members have good information.

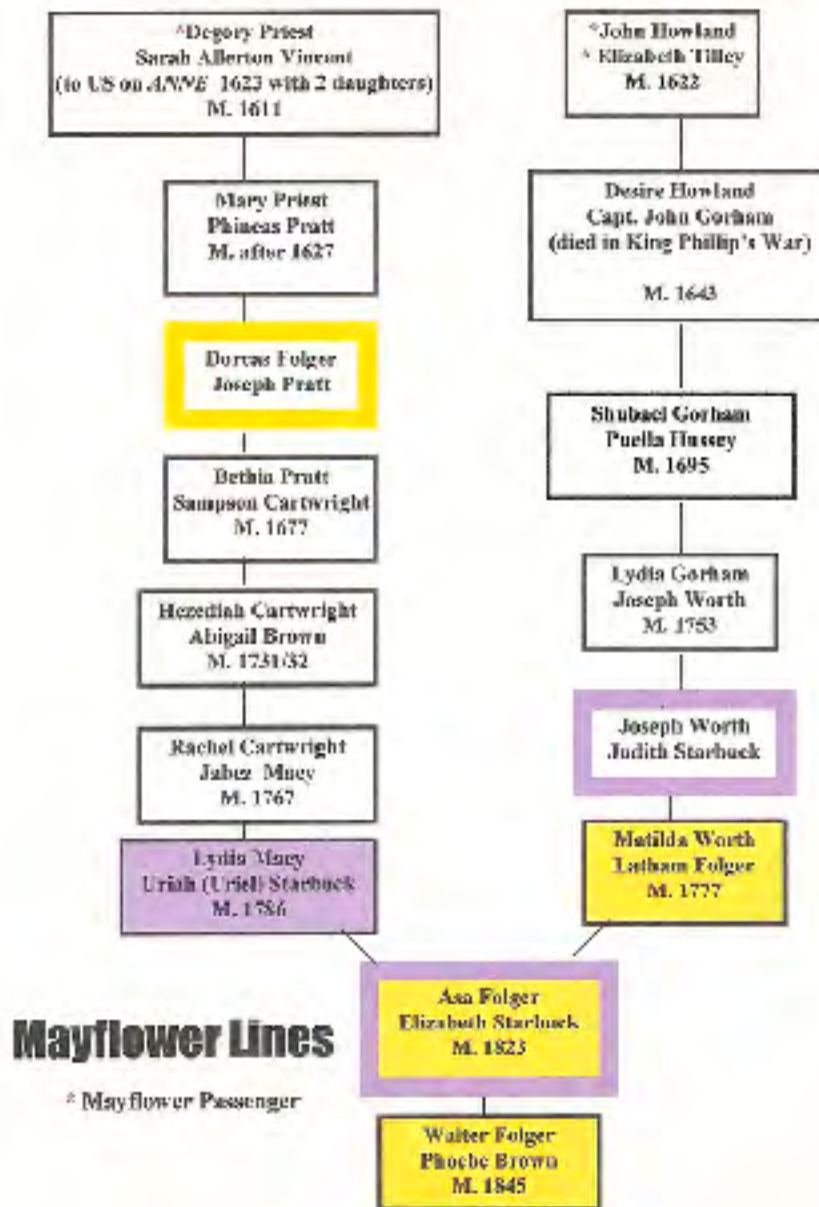
History has always interested me. This was true in high school and this interest continued through college and my adult life. My major was biological science in college, but I managed to take three courses in American history, a course in French history about their revolution, and finally 8 hours of Japanese and Chinese history. The Japanese and Chinese history was extremely interesting because of the differences in their culture and ours. Fortunately, I was able to spend one year in Okinawa and I found that rewarding.

However, this interest in history did not involve family history. To me in my early years, family history was quite boring. My mother on the other hand was extremely interested in family history, and she seriously attempted to get me interested in our family's history. If I was helping her with the dishes, she would begin talking family history. I would tune her out by not talking about family history. My interest in family history never happened while she was alive.

After she died I spent several months going over what she had in her house and guess what? I discovered numerous books, hand written documents, letters, and photos of our family's history. Most of my family's history stems from the Quaker Church. If you were a member of church A in Penn. and you were moving to North Carolina to church B you couldn't do it without both churches' written permission. The Quakers kept many documents on all members. The Quaker documents made our family history relatively easy to follow.

At this point I became seriously interested in my family's history. The problem now was my mother was not around to answer questions. Each week for 30 years or more I would like to have been able to ask her a question to clarify some family history. This is particularly true of old photos of which most were never labeled. **Soooo! I thought you might get a kick out of reading about some of my historical ancestors.**

Below are my lines of those who came on the Mayflower. There are two lines. One is Degory Priest and the second is John Howland.



DeGory Priest came on the Mayflower but he only lived for one month after he arrived. Our line results from his daughter, Mary Priest, who came two years after his death. Because of her we have two ties to the Mayflower by two different families.

DeGory Priest was in Holland before the Puritans got there. He was well liked by the people in Holland and in fact he held some local political offices. He had learned the language and was well received. Degory was one of 3 Englishmen who became citizens of Leyden.

THE MAYFLOWER SHIP- This boat was known as a “sweet boat” because it usually hauled a large quantity of wine . It took this boat 2 months (Sept 6 to 11 November) to make the trip to the new world. After the ship arrived the pilgrims spent 45 days exploring. Finally on Dec.25th they settled at Plymouth. The first 1/2 of the trip was easy with good weather. The second 1/2 was terrible. The ship became leaky. Some days the Pilgrims only went 1 mile, and the 102 pilgrims had to stay on the second deck. The second deck was only 5 feet high. Due to the weather and the cramped area, the Pilgrims couldn’t wash themselves or their clothes. Removal of human waste was not done and many became sick on the boat.

When I was in high school we were taught that the Pilgrims wanted to go to Virginia and that the trip took much too long compared to other vessels. In fact! The Pilgrims did want to go to Virginia and they were right on the path for getting there. We were taught that in those days the state of Virginia was the same size as it is today. This was a tremendous error because in those days Virginia extended north to the mouth of the Hudson River, where the City of New York is now located. Some teachers thought the Pilgrims were several hundred miles off course. However, in those days normal passing was around 2 months. The Pilgrims were not off their course. They were getting to the state of Virginia. because then Virginia extended to the mouth of the Hudson River, which is where the Pilgrims wanted to be.

Due to the coming of winter plus the fact that some of the ocean they would traverse from New England to New York was very dangerous, they elected to stay in Plymouth.

JOHN HOWLAND- He fell off the Mayflower during some of the bad storms. He was saved by being able to grab a loose piece of rope. He was being hindered by the waves beating him against the ship. One of the ship’s mates was able to grab the rope and pull him back into the boat.



John Howland was an indentured servant to John Carver. John Carver and his wife died the first winter. In addition Elizabeth Tilley’s mother and father also died that first year. This made John Howland in charge of the Carver and Tilley kids. Elizabeth was 13 when she made the trip and 16 when John Howland married her.

John and his wife, Elizabeth Tilley, went up to what is Maine today and traded with the Indians. This is how the Pilgrims got the money to pay their debt for the trip from England. They did this for 6 years. John and his wife had 10 children of which **DESIRE Howland** was the first born. **She is my direct line to the Mayflower.**



KING Phillip's War -Desire Howland married John Gorham who was a Captain during King Phillip's war. This war involved the Indians vs. the Pilgrims. King Phillip's name was Metacomet. He was Massasoit's oldest son. The Indians were upset because their food was being destroyed by the Pilgrims and by this time, 1675, the Indians were struggling for meat, particularly deer meat. In addition more and more of their land was being used by the English. This war has been considered the bloodiest war when you compare percentages killed. In this case 60% of **both** sides were killed.

The Puritans, Mary Dyer, Martyr, and a Quaker,—In 1635 she sailed from England to the Mass. Bay Colony with her husband, Wm Dyer. At this time they were not Quakers and they took an active role in the Puritan religion. However, Mary began to listen to some Quaker ladies talk about their religion. In 1650 she returned to England and remained for 7 years. In 1654 she joined the new Quaker movement. In 1659 she went to Boston but was immediately sent home because of her being a Quaker. One month later she returned and listened to some imprisoned Quakers talk about their situation. Mary Dyer was seized and condemned to be hanged on the Boston Commons. Two male Quakers were hung, but Mary was sent back to Rhode Island. June 1, 1660 Mary was hung on the Boston Commons. She was offered her life if she would denounce the Quaker Religion. She refused and was hung on the Boston Commons. ***I am not sure about my families being linked to Mary Dyer. She shows up in my mother's Dillon family history. My mother and my Aunt Margaret both believed Mary Dyer was in our family line. I have never found any concrete evidence that Mary Dyer is part of our line. I can't prove this with the work that I have. I include it in this information because I am interested in how the Pilgrims treated the Quakers, and how they interpreted the Commandment, "thou shall not kill".***

George Haworth, the Emigrant—In 1699 George Haworth sailed from Liverpool with Wm Penn. This was Penn's second trip to United States. The trip took 14 weeks. One half of the people died on the trip due to lack of good food and water. He suggested that lack of good water or beer made eating salt meat difficult. George wrote 4 letters to his mother, but she never answered any of them. He suggested in his letters they needed more beer due to the salted meat. ***In the early Quaker beliefs, according to Fred Leimkuhler, it was O.K. to drink Beer as long as you didn't drink too much.***

George Haworth (3rd generation) and his brother James,—These brothers knew Daniel Boone while they lived in North Carolina. Several families, including the Haworth brothers and Daniel Boone and some of his family made their way into Kentucky to homestead in that state. They were attacked by Indians as they made their way back to North Carolina. Several in their party including Daniel Boone's oldest child were killed by the Indians.



The Haworth families stayed in North Carolina for 12 years. At this time they again went into Kentucky, but once again they found the Indians difficult. George Haworth left Kentucky and with his boys went into Tennessee and constructed a log cabin. He returned to North Carolina to get the rest of the family with all of his boys, except the two younger boys who he left behind. The two youngest who were 10 and 12 years old stayed behind. He left them plenty of food to survive for 3 weeks. However, the spring floods were much greater than usual, and it was 6 weeks before he

could reach his two young boys. When the boys saw their mother, father and the rest of the family they came out to meet them. All were happy that nothing had happened.

Tristram Coffin—— He was born in England in 1609 and died in Oct. 1681 on Nantucket Island. In England the family was very prominent. The King was having trouble with some of the people. The bottom line is the problem resulted in a civil war in which many people were killed. Tristram's brother was killed in this war. It was believed that Tristram left England because of this war and he sailed to Boston in 1642. He and his wife lived in several different areas before moving to Nantucket. While living in Newberry, Mass. he ran a ferry across a river, and he and his wife operated an "Ordinary" (an Ordinary was a Tavern). She got in trouble with the town laws for selling her beer for more than allowed. She was able to keep out of trouble because she used two more measurement of hops than usually used to make beer.

In 1659 he and several people called "First Purchasers" went to evaluate the island Nantucket, and purchased the Island from Thomas Mayhew for 30 pounds and two beaver hats. Soon Tristram purchased Tuckermuck island for 80 pounds. He was one of the wealthiest men to live on Nantucket Island. In his will he gave most of his holdings to his sons and daughters.

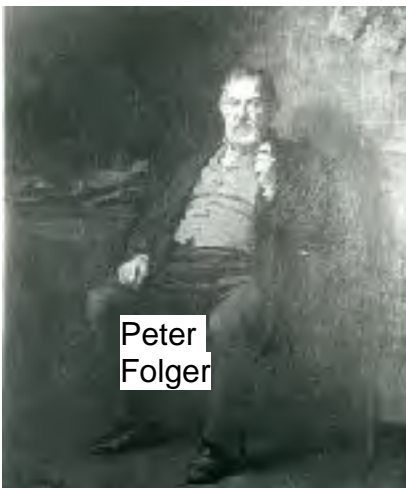
Mary Coffin Starbuck was well known on the island. She was well educated and could read and write. Her husband could not read or write. She could easily speak in public and became known as "mother of the settlement". She became a Quaker when she was 56 years old due to the influence of Thomas Story, a noted Quaker and friend of Wm Penn. She ran the store, utilized Indian help and allowed the Indians to charge items. She kept the books on what they owed and what was owed to them.

One of the most significant Coffin stories is "**The Wreck of the Essex**". This is a **true story** about a whaling vessel that was charged by a sperm whale and sunk in the south Pacific. Most of the people on the vessel did not survive, but one life boat of people barely did survive. They ran out of food and water and reverted to cannibalism to survive. **Owen Coffin** lost a gamble and was shot and eaten by the few crew members who were still alive.

This story has been presented at least two times to the public on Public TV. Hermann Melville bought the diary of those who survived and published "Moby Dick". Another Coffin on this ship was the Captain of the ship. His name was not Coffin, but his mother's name was Coffin.

There are Coffin's still living in the Tonganoxie area today, and if you are interested in the Kansas history from 1854 to 1861 you might like to read "**The Settlement of the Friends in Kansas**". This writing tells about the difficulties the Quakers had during the years 1854 to 1861.

Wm Coffin in Kansas and his helpers and friends decided to have a celebration in 1855. And what a feast they had! Not only did they have the usual items served at a feast, they also celebrated with **Mud Turtle soup and a roasted Blue Heron.**



Peter
Folger

Peter Folger —— Peter Folger was born in England. He left England for America in 1635, settling initially in [Watertown, Massachusetts](#), and later moving to [Martha's Vineyard](#), where he worked as a teacher and surveyor. His father, John, a widower, came to the colonies in 1636 and in the 1640's, ultimately settled in Martha's Vineyard. **In 1644 Peter Folger married Mary Morrell, whom he met on the voyage from England. Morrell was an indentured servant. Folger bought her freedom from Hugh Peters for £20. They had nine children by 1669,**



His
daughter,
Elizabeth

Walter Folger, my great
great grandfather

the last of whom, Abiah Folger, married Josiah Franklin, and was the mother of Benjamin Franklin.

At the Vineyard, Folger supported himself by teaching school and surveying land. He was hired by Governor Thomas Mayhew and his son Thomas Mayhew Jr. to convert the Native American population to Christianity, during which time he learned to speak the native language. **He was a Baptist in faith, and as such was told not to visit with the Puritans on the mainland.** Rev. Experience Mayhew, in a letter to John Gardner, Esquire, dated 1694, states that when Thomas Mayhew, Jr. left for England in 1657, he left the care of his church and mission to Peter Folger. There Peter Folger began a long career as an interpreter with the American Indian population. He mastered Algonquian language. In 1659 Folger, through his missionary work and surveying Nantucket, was familiar with the island, Nantucket. He aided a group of white settlers who had purchased the island from the younger Thomas Mayhew. The only churches on the island in Folger's time were found among the American Indians. Folger comfortably settled his family, acted as an intermediary with the American Indians, and continued his highly successful evangelizing efforts as a Baptist minister. He also worked as a teacher, surveyor, miller, and farmer, and even served as the clerk of courts.

In 1663 Folger moved to Nantucket full-time, having been granted a half a share of land by the proprietors, where he was a surveyor, an Indian interpreter, and a clerk of the courts. The founders of Nantucket recognized that they needed people on the island who could provide special skills. The First Purchasers wanted these skilled people to come to the island. To help this they provided what was referred to as **"Half Share" men**.

On the 21st of July 1673 Peter was chosen clerk of the court. He held this position several years. It was during this time that he refused to record some proceedings of the revolt of the "half share"men. He did this because he thought the proceedings were illegal. He was placed in jail as were other Half Share men. A request to the Governor to release him was written. Many thought that the Justice was too harsh. Eventually he was released. This

dispute between the “First Purchasers” and the “Half Share” men placed Tristram Coffin and Peter Folger at odds with each other. This was never resolved.

In his Poem, “*A looking Glass for the Times*”, Peter Folger supports religious freedom and strongly condemned the spirit of intolerance which was common that day. Thomas Macy (Think Macys Department stores) was fined for keeping some Quakers during a storm, and remember Mary Dyer and the Puritans in Boston.

A few generations after Peter Folger, a Folger who went with two brothers to California to find gold, decided he would stay in San Francisco and learn the coffee business, Thus, Folgers coffee was started. It grew to be quite large. In 1963 the Folger’s coffee was sold to Procter and Gamble. I think it has been sold twice since its beginning and probably the Folger family is no longer involved.

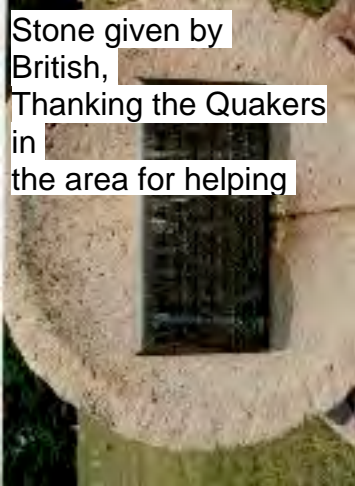
Newlin Family—The first Newlins that we really have some knowledge about is Nicholas Newlin. It is not really known when he was born but it is believed to be around 1620 to 1630. He held positions of leadership in the community of Concord. (Today Concord is a suburb of Philadelphia, southwest of the Franklin mint about two miles.) Nicholas and Nathaniel, his son, were considered prominent members of the Concord Meeting.

Nicholas was chosen to represent Chester Co. on the Provincial council of Pennsylvania. In 1704 Wm Penn. commissioned Nicholas Newlin as a justice in the colonial court.



Nathaniel Newlin held his first public office in 1686 when the County court of Chester appointed him “viewer of the fence” for Concord, the next year he was Constable for Concord. He held several significant positions in government. In 1704 Nathaniel Newlin built a mill in Concord. This was a large mill that can be seen today. Today it is owned by E. M. Newlin of Philadelphia and the mill is operated for educational purposes. Nathaniel Newlin was a wealthy man. Part of his wealth was 8,452 acres of land that he owned at the time of his death.

John Newlin II — Not much is known about him except he became part of the movement of Quakers from the Philadelphia area to North Carolina. His wife, Mary Pyle Newlin, had a father who was a surgeon. During the Revolutionary War, they lived near the ***battle of Lindley Mill.***



Stone given by British, Thanking the Quakers in the area for helping

John's wife, **Mary Pyle Newlin**, had a dad who was a physician noted for helping treat the wounded in the Revolutionary War. The Quakers treated everyone and for this the King of England sent a large stone to the people thanking them for taking care of the English wounded. This stone can be seen in the cemetery across the road from Spring Quaker Church.

John did not always follow the Quaker way, but he seemed to keep out of trouble. John and Mary are buried in the cemetery of the Spring Friends Meeting.



Spring Friends Meeting Church

James Newlin and Deborah Lindley Newlin—James Newlin had moved back to North Carolina. He met Deborah Lindley, the daughter of Thomas Lindley who operated the Lindley Mill which is still in operation today.

They married. James and his brother, Eli, died before the western migration of the Newlin's got underway. Deborah with three of her children, however, moved 500 miles to Indiana. **The Newlin family came from Ireland to Phildelphia. Several months ago I was doing some research with a knowledgable local expert on Irish history. She discovered that her relatives and my Lindley relatives attended the same church in Ireland in the 1500's.**



Plaque honoring Deborah & James Newlin—seen

The Battle of Lindley Mill—"On the morning of the 13th of September, as the unsuspecting vanguard of the stragglng Loyalists crossed a small stream, a volley tore into their ranks, instantly killing McNeil and pinning down Capt. Archibald McKay's company of Highlanders.

Fanning rode forward to organize a flanking attack on the Whig position. Under assault from both front and rear, the Whigs stubbornly held their ground for several hours, but were finally driven from the field. When he was seriously wounded in the arm late in the battle, Fanning gave the command to McDugald, who safely reached Wilmington with the prisoners." ***More than 250 men on both sides, were buried and cared for by Quakers in the surrounding community. The hard-fought battle was the bloodiest of the war in North Carolina. Dr. Pyle a local loyalist was the physician who took care of both sides of the***

wounded. He was a colonel in the loyalist army who himself was seriously wounded. He was later captured and paroled.



Lindley Mill still

The battle of Guilford Court House and the Battle of Lindley Mill (both nearby in North Carolina) played a significant role in Washington's ability to whip the English at the Battle of Yorktown which ended the Revolutionary War.

Beauchamp (pronounced Bee Chum)—They were originally from France, but were forced to leave because they were on the losing side of a rebellion in France. They fled to England where they lived.

Wm Beauchamp was born in London, England in 1745. He ran away from home when he was 12, leaving his parents behind. He stowed away on a sailing vessel and eventually arrived on the eastern shore (He was on the most southern part of Maryland) of Maryland in 1764. Here he married **Sarah Elizabeth Smith**, a tall red haired lady. They were members of a **Nicholite Church**. This type of church was considered a Quaker Church, but it did not act as most Quaker churches. For one thing they didn't believe in formal education. Reading and writing were not significant in this church.

Around 1787 they later moved next to the north of South Carolina's border on the Little Pee Dee river near Gum Swamp in Richmond Co. North Carolina. On February 27, 1790 William bought 591 acres from Thomas Wetherly. They later moved to Marlboro Co. South Carolina (their son Henry is listed here in the 1800 census).

William Beauchamp, Sarah and William's son, is listed in the 1790-1810 census in Worcester Co., Maryland. In 1792 they were received as members of the Deep River Monthly Friends (A Nicholite church) meeting house (the Quaker movement) in Guilford Co., North Carolina. They later transferred to the Piney Grove Meeting in South Carolina which was closer to their home. In 1811 they moved to the New Garden Monthly Meeting, near Dublin, Wayne Co. Indiana. Wm and Sarah moved around a considerable amount, finally settling in Dublin, Indiana. Their daughter, Mary Beauchamp, was born in Dublin, Wayne Co, Indiana in 1817. **Mary married Daniel Adams, HS Adams father. The Adams and the Beauchamps were generally poor farmers.**

Jones Family —The first Jones (William Jones) in my line was born around 1650-55 in Prince George Co., VA. He later moved to Surry Co., VA. This move was before Bacon's Rebellion 1576-77. William took part in Bacon's Rebellion against the English Governor, Wm. Barkley.

From Virginia, the Joneses moved south into South Carolina and North Carolina. While in these states the Jones families were politically involved. They were involved with having judges in the family.

It is not known when Wallace Jones I was born, but he died in 1823. His son, Wallace Jones II was born in 1773. Wallace Jones II was not born a Quaker and he did many things as a young person which might be a problem when he desired to become a Quaker. Wallace had a brother, Henry, who lived in Georgia. This bachelor brother, Henry, had slaves, but Wallace now being a Quaker did not have any slaves, and thought it was a sin to own a slave. His brother visited him and told him about his will and especially about his slaves. A discussion about slaves was held. Henry, the slave owner, believed to own a slave was a "divine situation". The brothers went their own way and never spoke to each other. Henry died just before the Civil War began. When word came to Wallace about Henry's death, he refused the slaves.



Mary Newlin Jones

Philamon

My Great grandfather, Philamon Jones, came to Leavenworth Co, Kansas in 1870. He settled about 3-4 miles south east of McLouth. He and his wife were strong Quakers from Indiana. He gave time and money to Stanwood Church and the cemetery which was involved with the Quaker religion. He and his wife worked for the church and at one time he and his wife and another Quaker family were the only members. He was obviously successful in what he did for the church because it's still a solid church.

The Jones were all very short people.

His children described him as a very successful farmer and a hard working person. He was a strict person. He had 6 boys and one girl, my grandmother. He gave his boys a choice of 40 acres of land or a college education. One half of the boys chose the farm and the other half chose the college education. His daughter did not get a choice. She got 40 acres of land. Some of the family believe she got even, because when she graduated from Emporia Normal school she wore a white dress. She should have worn a black dress.



Daniel Adams
b.1809

Adams family—Tradition states that the Adams family entered the United States around 1625 near Jamestown, VA. Then they migrated in a north westerly route where they worked as tenant farmers on large estates. Then they turned south west into NC and later to Tenn. and Ky. In all these places they were poor farmers. They lived in eastern KY.. Later they moved to Indiana.



Adams 1st noted

Henry Smith (H.S.) Adams was about 12 when his mother and maternal grandfather died

within a week of each other. His father remarried another woman who had 6 children. This made a family of 10 kids. HS Adams did not like the situation. When he was around 15 he went to live with his Beauchamp grandparents near Dublin, Indiana. In the summer he did odd jobs and generally wound up taking care of work that required horses.

H.S. Adams was a gregarious fellow who enjoyed talking to everyone. He was now 21 years old and looking for work in Leavenworth. He signed as a teamster for one year with the army. The army at Ft. Leavenworth was getting ready to go to Utah and "put down" the



HS Adams
about 21 Years

so called Mormon Uprising. During the trip to Utah he managed to be involved with some Indians in western Wyoming. The Indians were celebrating something that required everyone to smoke a peace pipe. Henry didn't like the situation and pretended to be sick. The Indian's laughed and went on celebrating. Before he went to the Mormon Uprising, he was in Kansas and had the occasion to observe the Delaware Indians dancing to a green corn dance, which he enjoyed.

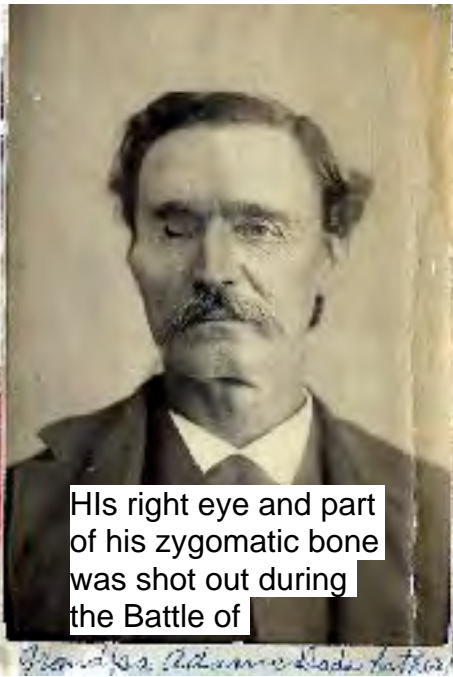
During the Civil War, he had at least two times to discuss the war situation with some of the black slaves in Kentucky and Arkansas. Both

times he believed the black people fully understood the situation.



My grandfather
& grandmother

Mary Louisa Small



His right eye and part
of his zygomatic bone
was shot out during
the Battle of

When he got married, HS Adams could not read or write very well. His wife taught him to read and write. **His wife's family, the Smalls, could read and write.** Many of the Small cousins were professional teachers or physicians. Later in his life Henry used to travel each week to the Hiawatha City library and check out several books. HS Adams provided the name "Lincoln's Rest" to the house his daughter, Annie, and her husband, NG Walters lived. Today this house can be seen, but many external changes have been made.

Henry was in the Civil War fighting for the Northern side. He was wounded and captured by the South during the Battle of Champion Hill. After a few weeks he was paroled and was able to serve out his time in Indiana as a medication nurse.

The Dillon Family—Luke Dillon was born in Kilkenny Ireland ca. 1789-1791. He married a red headed woman, Susannah Garrett. Susannah's father disapproved of this marriage and

disowned her. Luke and Susannah had all but one of their children in Ireland. The last child was born in the US.

The Dillons moved from Ireland to Philadelphia where they lived for a period of time. One of the faults of Luke Dillion, and one which Susannah's father disliked, was Luke's use of alcohol. Luke went out one night in the winter and never came back to his home. That spring he was found sitting under a tree frozen dead.



William Dillon my great great grand father

Daniel Dillon, son of Luke Dillon, moved west to the Opeckon Creek where he belonged to the **Hopewell Meeting in Frederick County, Va.** (northern part of V.A.). The Dillons lived there several years. They then moved south to North Carolina in 1752 and settled in the New Garden Meeting in Guilford Co., North Carolina. From this point the Dillons moved to various parts of the U.S.

Jesse Dillon lived close to the New Garden Meeting, Guilford Co. North Carolina. Jesse was a veteran of the Rev. War and therefor became eligible for land at a reduced rate.



The federal government provided bounty land for those who served in the **Revolutionary War**, the **War of 1812**, the **Mexican War**, and **Indian wars** between

1775 and 1855. It was first offered as an incentive to serve in the military and later as a reward for service.

Jesse's land was near Wilmington, Ohio. He and his wife are buried in the Dover Cemetery. Many grave markers in this cemetery were destroyed. Jesse's was one of the markers destroyed. A new grave marker was provided through money donated by many cousins and the National DAR. My mother helped organize this effort.



Dover cemetery & relatives of Jesse Dillon

During the Revolutionary War many of the Quaker families moved west to avoid the military. They moved from North Carolina to Kentucky and Tennessee.



The Dillons moved from North Carolina to places west. Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, Iowa, and finally some of them moved to North Branch, Kansas. A few moved to McLouth to start a nursery,



Geo and Emma Jones

but this didn't work. All but my Grandfather, George Dillon, moved back to North Branch, Ks in Jewell Co. During Woodrow Wilson's

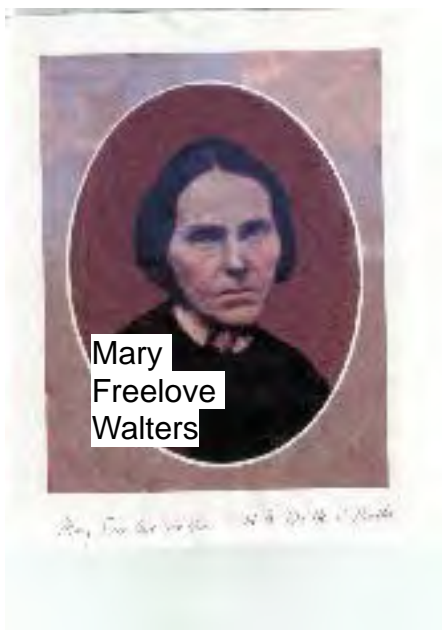
presidency, George Dillon became postmaster in McLouth. After being postmaster, he moved to Wichita, KS and worked at Friends University so all of his kids could get a college degree. He kept his farm in McLouth (The farm was actually owned by his wife) and that farm is where I live.

The Walters Family —The first Walters (**Thomas Walters**) in my line was born in 1757 in the Shenandoah Co., VA. In 1785/86 he was married in Shenandoah Co., VA. He died in Madison Co. Alabama. He married Mary Elizabeth Siveley. It is noted that the Walters were first in Shenandoah Co., VA. and later many of them migrated to Eastern Tenn, in the area referred to as Franklin, and some went into Alabama.



The attempted formation of the State of Franklin involved the eastern 8 counties of present Tenn. These 8 counties were originally part of North Carolina. To pay a debt for the Revolutionary War, North Carolina gave the 8 counties to the federal government. The federal government didn't want the land nor did North Carolina. The so-called State of Franklin never existed as a state. For about 4 years it existed as a republic. Sometime later Tennessee took over the 8 counties. A few years ago I called the Tennessee State house and discovered that during the 4 years

Franklin existed there was very little work done in keeping vital statistics. That had an effect on family histories because there were very few records kept. Even today it is difficult to find family information when it involves these 8 counties in eastern Tenn.



One of Thomas' offspring was Absalom Walters who was born in 1786 and died at Table Grove in Illinois. What happened was the Walters clan moved from VA. and eastern Tenn. and after some time passed, they moved down the Ohio River to the Mississippi river. They moved up the Mississippi River to the Illinois River. They stopped south of Louistown, Illinois.

Today there are many Walters spread out over farms west and south of Louistown, the county seat.

John Walters— b. 1810 and died 1850 probably from typhoid fever. Over about 3 years 5 of his children followed him with death from typhoid fever. John was around age 40 when he died. He and his wife, **Mary Freelove Walters** had 13 children (8 lived to maturity.).

One of John's boys, **Hiram Bailey Walters**, (He was called HB) married Anna Rhine Brown Walters, and they moved to Brown Co, KS.



Hiram Bailey Walters, My great grandfather—He was born in Bernadot, Fulton, Co. Illinois. He was married to Ann Maria Rine. She had a previous marriage (her first husband died.) that brought two boys (Harv and Mike Brown) into that family. She died in Kansas City in 1907.

One Sunday she and her son, Mike Brown, were traveling home after church. The team behind them became a runaway team and caused them to wreck. Ann, HB's wife, was severely injured. Her spinal cord was injured. She never recovered from this injury and was an invalid towards the end of her life. She died at the home of her daughter. This home was located on state line near the Plaza. My Aunt Lela saw her in 1904 and 05. She was now bedfast.

HB and his wife migrated to Northeastern Kansas from Illinois shortly after the Civil war.

Hiram and his wife had 5 girls and 4 boys- Nelson Green, my grandfather, was born near Baker, KS which doesn't exist anymore. NG Walters was the oldest boy.

Hiram Bailey Walters was a very productive farmer. He managed his home farm plus several other farms. His home farm was self productive. In addition to raising the normal produce a farm might do, they had a large peach and apple orchard and they cared for many bee hives. He was in the habit of placing his boys in charge of additional farms. He bought and sold cattle and was known to traveled even into Mexico to buy animals.

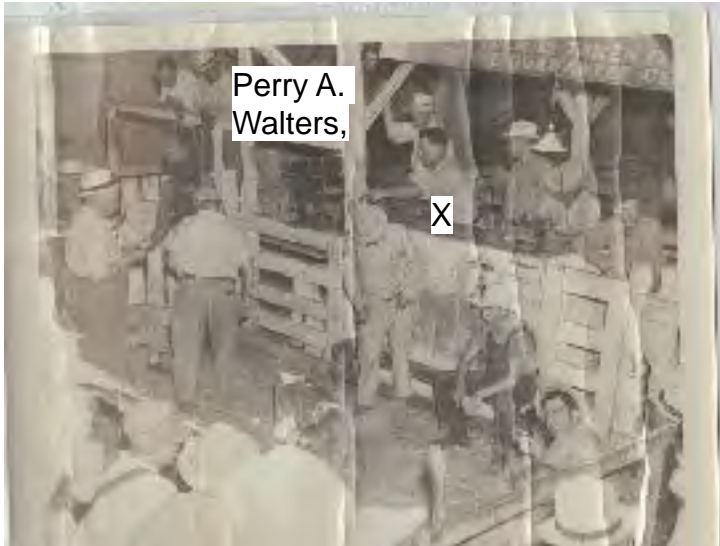
In August 1912 HB and a friend and a physician were traveling to Colorado when HB became ill in Hays, KS. He died in a hotel from hemorrhage. His son, Nelson Green and one of his daughters came to get him. The funeral was in Hiawatha. People came from all over to be in the funeral. The procession was over 5 miles long.



Nelson Green Walters, called "Net", attended the funeral, but the rest of his family was living in Oklahoma. For three years Nelson's family lived in Inola, Oklahoma. Several cousins also lived there. Annie, Nelson's wife, became very sick and the Walters family returned to Kansas. Annie was sick and in a St. Joseph, Mo. hospital for a long time.

When my father was 15 they decided they should move to a place that had schools closer to where they lived. They came to a place

about 5 miles north east of Tonganoxie and bought the farm. This farm became known as "Lincoln's Rest". Their cattle came by rail on the Kansas City, Wyandotte and Northwestern RR. My father always came to high school from the farm, but my aunt Lela would stay in town Monday night through Thursday night. Friday she would come home. When NG retired he sold the farm and moved into Tonganoxie.



My dad, Perry A. Walters, was an auctioneer most of his adult life. According to my mother he quite often made over \$4,000.00 per month. In 1951 the big floods during the summer drowned all the farm animals. He was now getting older. He was unaware of some serious medical problems that he had developed. Anyway the sale business never recovered. He relied on money from farming, from his Justice of the Peace fines, and my mother went back to work teaching school.

During WW II a friend of my dad was picked up for "Ice picking" fish. Food was very scarce during WW II. Lots of it was rationed. Anyway Stranger Creek had flooded and when it flooded many fish came out of the river water onto farm land water. The fish being ice picked were going to die because the water in the corn furrows would eventually dry up. The game warden brought the culprit to the judge for breaking a law about fishing. The man had a large family, the fish would die and dad looked at his law books to evaluate what he could do. He discovered that the law defined a stream as 50 feet either side of the stream's center. Since these fish were way past the 50 foot rule, Judge Walters ruled the fish were trespassing and let the victim go home.

During WW II a friend of my dad was picked up for "Ice picking" fish. Food was very scarce during WW II. Lots of



My horse in this picture was called Ranger. I don't remember my first horse, except it was called "Black Beauty". She was a very tame horse. My folks could put me on her and she would walk around the fence by the hour, or until someone came and took me away. Unfortunately she became blind and my folks sold her. My next horse was Ranger. He was quite spirited and would buck when he didn't want to do something. I was quite scared of him at first. My dad had always said "Don't ever let a horse

know you're afraid of him". I practiced this rule, but he still bucked.

Right after WW II, dad decided we would "break" him to pull a two wheel buggy. Since Rangers past history was somewhat difficult, dad got 4-5 men to help him break this horse to the buggy. When they got Ranger all hooked up he took off in a gentle walk and continued that pace until everyone was pleased that he seemed to like the buggy.

In 1948 we sold this pony for \$250.00. A remarkable price at that time. I think he brought that money because I drove him around the outside sale ring. People believed he was very gentle. I was 8 years old then.



Mary Elizabeth Dillon

My mother, Mary Elizabeth Dillon Walters, was commonly called "Maybeth". I never heard her called by her full name. She was responsible for me being educated. She has a bachelor's degree from Friends University and a masters degree from the University of Kansas. My father didn't believe a college degree was worth the effort, while my mother believed just the opposite. She paid my way through 5 years of college and helped me get through dental school.

I worked my way through dental school as a lab technician in old Bethany Hospital. I worked every 5th night and every Saturday and Sunday.

While I was in dental school, she was always ready to help when some unusual dental school requirements that cost additional money was required.

She also helped my dad in his auctioneering business because she kept the books. She was the clerk of the auction.

In addition she is largely responsible for Tonganoxie having a swimming pool. She knew the lady who was going to buy the old pool and build apartments where the old pool was. Maybeth and Walt Neibarger worked together to get the city to buy the old pool, and now we have a remarkable swimming pool that everyone can enjoy.

After my dad got sick, she kept the family together by going back to teaching school. She was able to do this from the time I was in the 7th grade until she was 75 years old and I was married. She provided most of the money to keep everything stable.

She was a very determined woman, but you would never know this because she was very quiet until she knew she needed to talk. A REMARKABLE WOMAN!

COMMUNITY GENEROSITY

Many thanks to the Tonganoxie community for the generosity. **Shoppers at Brothers chose to round up their purchases at the register during October 2022 and raised more than \$2,600 for the Tonganoxie Community Historical Society.**

Rich Swedo, manager at Brothers Market, presented a check to Tonganoxie Community Historical Society's Kay Soetaert, left.



THIRD GRADERS COME TO THE MUSEUM

Six classes of third graders visited the museum on October 10 for their annual field trip. October 10 also just happened to be Indigenous People's Day. Every year, the third graders step into a one-room schoolhouse to learn about school in the late 1800s and early 1900s. They see and touch artifacts that illustrate the many uses of the bison. They play old-time games and explore the museum through a scavenger hunt. This year, farm implements were introduced along with some young farm animals.

This field trip is fun and would not be possible without the efforts and energies of teachers, aides, parents, TCHS volunteers, and the students. We look forward to next year!

WILLIAM ALLEN WHITE AND THE KKK, 4TH TUESDAY OCTOBER 2022

Beverly Olson Buller, a member of the Humanities Kansas Speaker Bureau, was our October Fourth Tuesday presenter. The program focused on William Allen White, specifically on his role in fighting the KKK in Kansas in 1924. Over 40 people came to hear the talk. We are indebted to Humanities Kansas for sponsoring this program.

If you missed the program, stop by our gift shop, where we are selling two of Buller's books. One is a short biography, entitled From Emporia: The Story of William Allen White. The other is a very touching and inspiring biography of White's daughter, Mary, who championed causes throughout her high school years and was a daring and active young woman. The book about Mary is entitled A Prairie Peter: The Story of Mary White. Both books are suitable for young adults and middle school aged youth, as well as adults.



BARN BLOCK WORKSHOP

Ten participants showed up at 9:00 am on Saturday, October 8 to create barn quilts to take home at 2 pm. TCHS has been offering Barn Block workshops since 2013. The workshops are a great way to spend a Saturday, making new friends and

catching up with old friends.

We will start celebrating our tenth anniversary of these workshop with our next workshop in March 2023, firm date to be announced soon. Let us know if you are interested by sending an email to TCHSTonganoxie@gmail.com.



TCHS HISTORY CAMP GOES STATEWIDE

The Kansas Museums Association met in November of 2022 for the annual meeting of museums around the state. This year, four volunteers attended the conference to share our experiences creating History Camps in 2021 and 2022. We have such a good time preparing for and holding the camps. It was good to hear feedback from others around the state who also offer camps for youth.

History Camp 2023 will go into the planning phase in the next two to three months. History Camp will happen the first week in June, three hours per day, for youth entering grades 4, 5, and 6. Look for more details coming in May.

TCHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board elections were held in October 2022, the first time since 2019. Elected were: Kris Roberts, President, one year term; Janet Burnett, Vice President, one year term; Shirley Martin, Treasurer, three year term; Ray Stockman, Director, three year term.

The following board members are completing terms that were previously vacated: Rose Mangan, Kay Soetaert, Donna Higbee, and Ken Mark.

Connie Torneden has just completed the first year of her fourth three-year term as Secretary. We are so fortunate that she has agreed to stay in this role.

HOLIDAY APPRECIATION DINNER FOR MEMBERS & VOLUNTEERS

Our Holiday Dinner was held on December 13 in the hay barn. We had a full house. Volunteers were toasted with a song (tune of Winter Wonderland) with lyrics by Janet Burnett. We said bon voyage to Dan Carr, a long-time volunteer, who is moving to Overland Park in January 2023. Dan brought many skills and much wisdom to our Wednesday workdays and we will sorely miss him. The good news – his niece, Judy, who also attended the dinner, has committed to bringing Dan back this summer for a Wednesday reunion.



We also had a most unique Christmas tree this year. Back in 2019, Anna Mary Doege Landauer and Alberta Doege Welch donated a tree post that their grandfather, Joseph Eble, made in the early 1900s. Every year, their grandfather would cut cedar boughs to flesh out the tree and their grandmother, Anna, would decorate the tree with hickory nuts and black

walnuts wrapped in foil paper from tobacco pouches and hung as ornaments. We decorated our tree with bittersweet and nuts wrapped in foil and topped the tree with an angel that Alberta gave us from Anna Mary's collection of angels. We will create and decorate this tree every year.

BUILDING & GROUNDS IMPROVEMENTS

2022 has been a very busy year around the museum.

Kansas Gas just completed the installation of a natural gas service line on our property. Our yard lines are in progress and we will hook up five furnaces to natural gas later this year.

We replaced the HVAC system in the museum in August, assisted by a generous donation from JW Evans.

Carol Dee Knox Smith saw the storm windows that were installed on the church and was so impressed that she offered to pay for storm windows on the Honey Valley Schoolhouse. The storm windows were installed on December 30, 2022. Carol's son, Scott, is paying for the refurbishing of the doors to the schoolhouse. The doors have been scraped, sanded, and glued and are ready for paint. Make sure that you notice the storm windows the next time you are at the historical site.

Midco installed internet at the museum in November, increasing our download speed by a factor of almost four.

The wheelchair lift that was installed in the church expired last spring. After months of waiting, due to supply chain issues, the new lift is installed. We have a few improvements yet to make at the lift, but it is functional and working.

In 2023, we will be making much needed improvements to the exterior lighting on the site. We are planning to start work on renovating the toilet rooms in the hay barn. The 2022 Pete and Margaret Leighty Trust grant will be funding the tuckpointing of the office area, which will start in the late spring.

UPCOMING FOURTH TUESDAY PROGRAMS IN 2023

Fourth Tuesday programs are held at the historical society grounds at 201 West Washington. They start at 7:00pm. We usually meet for the program in the church sanctuary and then move to the hay barn for refreshments and conversation.



January 24, 2023. “Lyda Burton Conley and the Strength of the Wyandot Women,” presented by Judith Manthe, Principal Chief of the Wyandot Nation of Kansas. Lyda Burton Conley was the first woman admitted to the Kansas Bar and she argued a case in front of the Supreme Court of the United States.

February 28, 2023. “Memories: Identifying Old Photos of Tonganoxie People and Places,” presented by Tuna Conrad and TCHS volunteers and you. We have a collection of old photographs that need some identification, and we welcome photographs from the community.

March 21, 2023. “The Civil War in Kansas,” presented by Will Haynes, Director of Engagement and Learning for the Watkins Museum in Lawrence. This talk presents the story of Kansas during the Civil War and how it helped shape the state’s image for years afterward. The program is sponsored by Humanities Kansas.

FROM THE MUSEUM

As our past quarter rolled by very swiftly, we are reminded that the museum relies on the generosity of the residents and relatives of past residents of our community to donate and share their history and treasures with us and thus the community. We are grateful for their generosity both of artifacts, letters, and memorabilia as well as financial support. And we most especially are appreciative of the many individuals who give their time and talents to make this museum and society viable. The historical society is powered by a cadre of dedicated volunteers who show up in rain, snow and beautiful weather to keep our wheels oiled. If you have time to share and love history please give us a call.

In each newsletter we feature a few new items which were donated to our collection. These items are not necessarily the most important and do not come close to the total number of donations we have coming in to our archives.. It merely offers a birds eye view of some of the artifacts that are here.

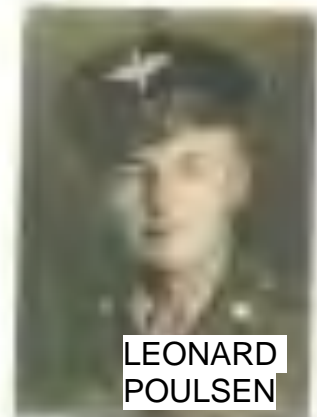


Rich Hudson who is related to Mattie Enochs Fairchild on the Enoch side of the family gave us a series of hand written letters from 1898 up to 1904 from Carrie Elizabeth Emerson who was a niece of Mattie Fairchild. Mattie Fairchild taught her to sew and Carrie was quite a seamstress and these every day letters evoke a real sense of ordinary life in those years. Also, included in this box were several items stitched by Carrie. A photo shows a child’s romper set.

Meg McKinney Young, a granddaughter of Fred Zoellner, who lives in Texas, sent a book titled “Hymns on the Holy Communion” which was presented to Annie Zoellner by her teacher, James Hutchinson of Pleasant Valley School on February 22, 1873. It is inscribed by the teacher with a note that this is “for the greatest number of head marks in spelling class.”

John and Carolyn MartIn brought to us a nice packet of information about Leonard Poulsen, the only son Mr. and Mrs. Chris Poulsen, Tonganoxie. He was killed April 6, 1945 over Leipzig, Germany when his plane collided with another plane just as they released their bombs. This was the 20th mission of his second tour, a month before V-E day. Leonard was buried in the Ardennes American Cemetery near Liege, Belgium.

This letter from one of the surviving officers is a moving testament in Leonard's service and is the major motivation for us to share the devastation of war. It is addressed to Leonard's sister, Mrs Helen Mills of Tonganoxie.



Dear Mrs. Mills:

This is one more hard letter for me to write. You are the last of the hopeful kin of my boys to write. I have to tell you that only the navigator, tail gunner and myself were blown clear when our plane exploded.

From what my Navigator saw, Sgt Poulsen was trying to get to his parachute when the explosion came. Later on, a German major told me that five bodies were found around the plane. That would account for all. He also said that they were buried in a churchyard near the town of Liesnig, Germany.

Sgt. Poulsen was in the nose at the time. He had just gotten our bombs away. I am sincerely sorry and wish it were different. Please remember that it is done and he surely is in a better place than this war-torn world. Respectfully yours.

Lt. Walter D. Strang

The museum maintains a card file with names of local citizens who served in our nation's wars. We welcome any supporting documentation and/or stories of their time in the military.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS ARE DUE IN JANUARY

Your membership in the Tonganoxie Community Historical Society is important.

Membership dues bring in income, needed to pay the utility bills and maintain the buildings on our historic site. Our members volunteer for many projects throughout the year – some are regular Tuesday or Wednesday volunteers – some are regular field trip volunteers – many help out with our chili suppers.

Membership is what you want it to be. Our newsletter managed by a volunteer, highlights local history stories and showcases our events. Our museum is open to visitors three days

a week, staffed by volunteers. Our Fourth Tuesday programs bring speakers to the community who share their knowledge and make us think.

We place a high priority on education and our programs with third graders, history camp, and Fourth Tuesday programs all our volunteers.

If you are a life member, thank you – we are proud to have over 80 life members on our active member list.

If you are a member paying annual dues, we appreciate your annual declaration of interest in our society and our missions to collect and make accessible the artifacts and stories of our local history.

If you are not yet a member, we invite you to consider joining us. We welcome your interest, your comments, and your involvement - at whatever level you choose. We are proud to be a part of the Tonganoxie community.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____ Date _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ e-mail _____

MEMBERSHIP TYPE:

INDIVIDUAL (annual) \$15.00 INDIVIDUAL LIFE \$150.00

FAMILY (ANNUAL \$25.00 a great investment !!!!!

I WISH TO MAKE A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION TO TCHS

AMOUNT \$ _____ NOTES _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO TCHS AND MAIL TO:

**Tonganoxie Community Historical Society
P. O. BOX 785
TONGANOXIE, KANSAS 66086-0785**