



# THE HISTORICAL TIMES

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## The very heart of community life



The Granville Post office of 2017, still a place where friends and neighbors meet for a quick chat while getting the mail.

## Post office long a place to meet and greet

by B. KEVIN BENNETT

The local post office has a powerful connection with the people of the Granville community. As noted by one local historian, the ritual of local residents going to the post office is one of the oldest and most firmly fixed of community habits.

While the location has varied over the years, “going for the mail” made each post office one of the centers of village life. It has always been a warm place to meet and greet the neighbors, exchange their news, views and local stories in the lobby. It is not an exaggeration to state that even in this day of

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**U.S. Postmaster General James Farley speaks at the dedication of the Granville Post Office on August 4, 1937. Over 1,000 citizens attended the ceremony.**

email and twitter, the Granville Post office is the very heart of community life.

Yet curiously, in a community that meticulously records and treasures its history, no complete history of the various postal offices, operations and postmasters has been compiled to date. This then, is the history of the post office that parallels Granville's own story.

The exact date the first Granville Post Office was established cannot be ascertained with certainty. Records with this information were destroyed by the British during their brief capture of Washington, D.C. during the War of 1812. Timothy Rose, who was the first postmaster, kept the first office in a cabin that stood just in the rear of the woodhouse on the Judge Bancroft lot. In the summer of 1806 he built a frame extension and opened a tavern, which doubled as a post office. Like many postmasters to follow, locating the postal operation in one's business establishment guaranteed a steady flow of potential customers in addition to the stipend for space rental.

Another Revolutionary War veteran, William

Gavit, followed Rose as postmaster and kept the office in a small log cabin that fronted the public/church square and stood directly opposite the west side of the Baptist Church (now Opera House Park). Daniel Baker moved the office into a small frame building but later moved it again to the Buxton Inn. A noted stagecoach stop opened there in 1812, coaches would pull up to the courtyard with passengers alighting and mail being dropped off.

When Sereno Wright was appointed, not desiring to forego the profit angle, he moved the office to his home (now 121 S. Main Street) until he had completed construction of a one story store building and had the post office moved there. When George Ells assumed the postmaster position, the post office was moved to the D. Humphreys store (now the location

of Donato's). When Anthony Prichard, a local druggist active in the Whig Party, became postmaster, the post office was moved down the street to the Prichard Brother's store (now the site of the Whit's/ Uberburger eateries) where one could ostensibly pick up their mail along with various medicines and sundries.

And so it went, with the postal operations occupying a temporary location until the early 1880s when the government rented space on the west side of the Opera House facing South Main Street. This remained the site until December 1924, when postal services were moved to the newly completed Ohio Baptist Convention building. There the post office resumed operations in the space currently occupied by the Reader's Garden Book Store.

In June 1935 word was released that Granville was on the list to receive a new post office building. Federal funding in the amount of \$75,000 had been procured by Congressman William Ashbrook as part of the extensive public infrastructure spending of the Roosevelt administration. In keeping with



**The Smith house at the southeast corner of East Broadway and South Prospect Street was demolished to make room for the new Granville Post Office. Note the then-12 year old public library in the background.**

Granville “tradition”, there was much public discussion and input on location, architectural design and building materials as there was concern that the “Feds” would design something that stuck out in downtown Granville’s New England architecture. The building site eventually selected was the Smith property on the southeast corner of Broadway and Prospect, across the street from the previous post office.

John Bollenbacher was the architect selected and he was familiar with Granville, having earlier designed the Sigma Chi House at Denison University. Utilizing the Greek revival style, a red brick exterior was decided upon, local suggestions of using Waverly sandstone akin to the Granville Library and the Granville Inn being rejected by postal officials, mostly for reasons of cost. Construction started in autumn 1936 and was finished in early summer 1937. The office was opened for business on Monday June 28, 1937. Postal employees spent the weekend prior moving materials from the old location to the new post office.

Derisively termed “Jim Farley’s Sheep Barn” by locals upset with the taxpayer expense, the dedication ceremony was held on the morning of Wednesday, August 4th. Postmaster General Jim Farley traveled into town with a large retinue of federal, state and local officials and was the keynote speaker at a ceremony attended by over 1,000 people.

The finishing touches to the building came several years later when Wendell Jones, a young artist from Woodstock, New York, completed a mural as part of a Works Progress Administration project. Depicting the original Granville settlers giving thanks upon their safe arrival, it adds a special historical flavor to the lobby. A local wag remarked at the time that the settlers depicted in the mural all had their mouths agape because “they had just learned that the government had just paid more for one building than they had paid for the whole township”.

With the addition of the new post office, the ebb and flow of mail services has in many ways



**Construction of the new post office in Granville (left, and below) began during the fall of 1936 and was completed during the early summer of 1937.**



remained unchanged, although technology has played its role in modernizing services. Arguably one of the most discussed changes occurred in November 1955 when home delivery service within

the village by postal carriers was initiated. Underscoring the fact that the post office was the informal meeting place was the considerable resistance to this change by those who felt this



**The “new” Granville Post Office as featured on a postcard mailed in 1941.**

would eliminate this precious feature of the community. It didn't, and yet another tradition was created, that of the friendly and reliable postal carrier delivering the mail on foot in all kinds of weather. Most readers will quickly recall such memorable personalities such as Tom Sawyer, Buss Reese and Gary Hamilton who walked their routes within the village for years.

### **The Postmasters of Granville**

There have been thirty-one individuals who have been appointed and served as Postmaster of Granville. Starting with Timothy Rose, Revolutionary War veteran and one of the founders of Granville to Michael Cleland, another military veteran who is the current incumbent, the community appears to have been blessed with conscientious public servants focused on discharging this important duty.

This isn't to suggest that various postmasters were uniformly popular during their tenure. A local historian recalling past postmasters in an 1885 *Granville Times* article observed: “...*There is no taint of fraud upon any of them-but some were not polite*

*and obliging as the present taste demands”.*

As stated earlier, appointment as Postmaster was largely due to one's political affiliation up into the 1940s. Hiring of postal clerks was usually trickle-down patronage, the net result often being simmering resentment from those of an opposite political stripe.

Yet, with few exceptions, Granville's postmasters seemed to have possessed the good sense to check overt partisanship at the office door. Notable exceptions were George Ells who in April 1844 was removed for “offensive partisanship”. Described as a “brawling noisy politician”, he sought to stay on when the Whig party achieved power by switching party affiliation. It didn't work. Later on, Postmaster John Beck's removal was eagerly sought by Granville Republicans in March 1861. On Beck's last day as Postmaster, a number of highly derogatory handbills were posted around the community about him.

### **Crime and the Post Office**

Despite its peaceful setting, the Granville Post Office has been the scene for some dramatic criminal activity over the years. On October 15,



**In a photo from *The Granville Sentinel*, Licking County Hazmat crew removes material from the Granville Post office in fall 2001 when a suspected bacteria contamination surfaced in the post office lobby. The incident turned out to be a hoax.**

1896, local scalawag Jimmy Considine broke into the nearby railway depot at night securing tools. He then proceeded the short distance north on Main Street and used the tools to break the lock on the front door of the post office, which at that time was located on the ground level of the Opera House. He then drilled the postmaster's safe, blew it open with a small charge and made off with \$300 cash and \$1,000 in stamps. Apprehended a week later, he was ultimately convicted and served his sentence at the Ohio Penitentiary.

Just a few years later on December 16, 1902, hoodlums pulled a similar caper and robbed the post office of cash, stamps and registered mail packages in a value estimated to exceed \$2,000. During that night they stole tools from a nearby blacksmith shop (at the location of the present fire station) and three men made their way through the back alleys to the post office on Main Street. One stood watch outside the entrance while the other two forced the front door. Like before, dynamite was used to blow the door of the safe off its hinges in the postmaster's office. Although it scattered the contents of the safe and room all about, the thugs absconded with cash, stamps and several registered packages. The culprits then escaped by a horse and buggy stolen from the barn of a nearby resident.

Awakened by the explosion, a widow and her son

observed what transpired from their window across the street. Exercising discretion, the young man waited till their departure before running the three blocks to the village marshal's home. Groggily responding to the late night summons, there was little the marshal was able to do at that juncture. The next day, a trail of unwanted mail and Postmaster Austin's personal insurance policy were found abandoned near the Union Station depot. Investigators concluded that they caught the train and returned to Columbus. A \$200 reward was offered, for naught.

Jumping ahead one hundred years, in October 2001 an intentional anthrax bacteria contamination threat took place in the lobby of the current post office. Occurring shortly after the September 11 terrorist attacks, public concerns were at a high level resulting from a string of mailings in which anthrax was purportedly being sent by mail to designated targets. A letter filled with white powder was mailed by an anti-abortion terrorist (and convicted bank robber) to a pro-choice advocacy group in the village. One of the officers of the group, after retrieving the letter from their post office box, opened it within the lobby with the powder spilling out. Public safety and medical personnel quickly responded and the Post Office was quickly sealed off. A decontamination tent was established and

# Granville Postmasters, 1806 to present

A list of the Granville Postmasters since the office was established:

NAME	APPOINTED
Timothy Rose	1806-1808
William Gavitt	April 1, 1809
Daniel Baker	October 22, 1812
Sereno Wright	January 18, 1818
George Ells	March 21, 1834
Abel Wrightman	June 1, 1841
Anthony Prichard	March 7, 1844
Darwin Humphrey	May 6, 1845
Gordon Johnson	June 23, 1849
Augustus Rogers	April 12, 1853
George Tight	November 1, 1853
Darwin Humphrey	June 16, 1854
John Beck	December 4, 1858
Howard Howe	March 28, 1861
George Whiting	June 5, 1866

William Sedgwick	March 3, 1879
Edgar Wright	February 23, 1883
J. C. Malone	June 14, 1890
Albert Jones	June 13, 1894
Lucius Austin	August 8, 1898
John Geach	April 1, 1915
E. L. Jones	October 23, 1923
Noah Overturf	February 20, 1936
Abram Flory	October 31, 1946
Michael Nye	November 10, 1973
James Blankenship	June 27, 1992
Craig Moore	March 22, 2003
Ginger Ballard	November 26, 2005
Melody Rurik	August 13, 2011
Danielle William	November 17, 2012
Michael J. Cleland	February 7, 2015

Longest serving –Abe Flory-27 years

Shortest serving –George Tight 6 months

impacted personnel were treated on site. Fortunately, the Granville incident proved to be a non-toxic powder rather than deadly anthrax. The perpetrator was eventually caught and sentenced to a very long term in Federal prison.

*B. Kevin Bennett is a Granville historian and frequent contributor to The Historical Times. He is also a past president of the Granville Historical Society Board of Managers.*



Another view of the Smith house that stood at the southeast corner of East Broadway and Prospect Street, where the post office is located today. At the opposite corner (right) was the building that preceded the current structure that is now the Village Offices.

# 2016 Annual Report of the Granville Historical Society

For the first time, *The Historical Times* is presenting an annual report of the Granville Historical Society with information on the Society's finances and its many achievements during 2016. Also included are lists of volunteers and donors for the year. The Society's Board of Managers hopes that Society members and community members find this information useful.



**Volunteers meet weekly to help catalog and digitize data for the Granville Historical Society's artifacts.**

## Society ends 2016 in healthy financial shape

In the fiscal year ending December 31, 2016, the Granville Historical Society received \$12,405 in membership contributions and \$21,181 in annual fund contributions. Both membership contributions and annual fund contributions were in excess of amounts budgeted.

The Society also received in \$64,000 in grants. The largest grants received were from the Granville Foundation, primarily for support of the Alexandrian Bank Bicentennial exhibits, and funds made possible through the efforts of Dale and Tina Knobel to support yearly programs produced by the Society. Other grants were from the Village of Granville and Granville Township for maintenance of archival records and databases, and from The Energy Cooperative Round-Up for roof repair.

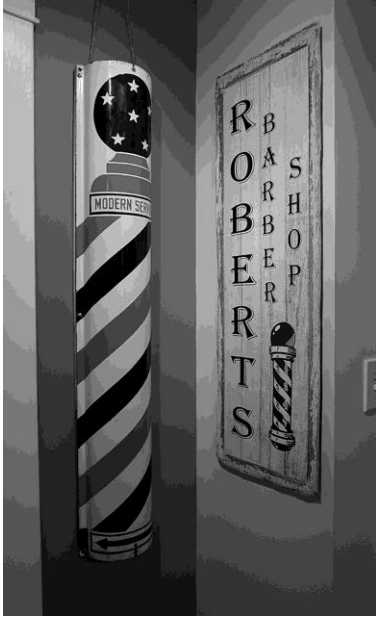
Expenses (see final 2016 financial statement, pages 9 and 10) were all within budgeted amounts resulting at the end of the year in an excess expense of \$4,200, \$1,600 better than budgeted. Cash balances as of December 31, 2016 were \$56,900, approximately \$6,000 lower than the start of the year.

Financially, 2016 proved to be a successful year for the Society despite reductions in cash on hand and expenses exceeding revenue.

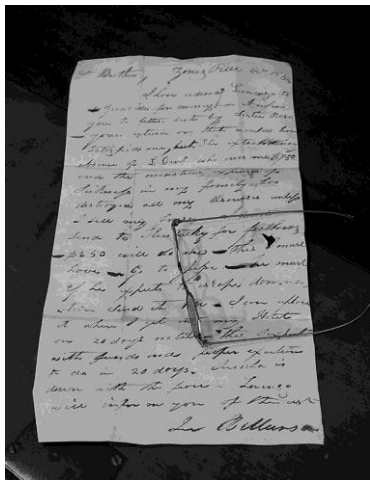
**--Jane Wilken, Treasurer**



# 2016 Annual Report



Bus Roberts' barber shop was recreated in a new exhibit in the Granville Historical Museum as part of the observance of the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the stone bank building, now the front section of the museum.



The Granville Historical Society Archives has carefully filed and stored 19<sup>th</sup>- and 20<sup>th</sup> century documents that are often copied or the subject of research by visitors.

## Granville Historical Society Statement of Revenue and Expense and Cash Balances and Comparison to Budget For the Period ending Dec. 31, 2016

### Balances Forward Dec. 31, 2015

Park - Operating	50,901
Park - Operating Reserved	(16,212)
Park - Book	11,611
Park - Book Reserved	(5,156)
Huntington	415
<b>Total Balances Forward</b>	<b>62,927</b>

Revenue	Budget	% of Budget
Annual Fund 2015	1,280	\$ 1,000 128%
Annual Fund 2016	21,181	12,500 169%
Membership Dues	12,405	11,000 113%
Books & Merchandise	1,878	2,500 75%
Other donations	934	1,500 62%
Programs	4,025	
Raffle	-	1,150 0%
Other Income	2,022	2,000 101%
Withdrawal from Investment Account	-	6,500 0%
Withdrawal from Mahard Trust	3,000	3,000 100%
Grants		
Energy Cooperative Round-Up	1,250	
Granville PTO	153	
Granville Foundation	8,587	
Granville Garden Club	500	500 100%
Program Support (SF)	50,000	
Village of Granville (Archive)	1,500	1,500 100%
Township (Archives/Maple Grove)	3,000	
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>111,715</b>	<b>\$ 43,150 259%</b>

### Expenses

Accessions	-	\$ 250 0%
Archives	295	400 74%
Board Expenses	340	750 45%
Bldg & Grds	17,943	19,865 90%
Collections	501	500 100%
Education	153	200 76%
Exhibits	28	600 5%

# 2016 Annual Report



A Granville third-grade student checks out the horn of the Edison Standard Gramophone that's part of the World War I exhibit in the museum.



The Society participated in an Ohio History Connection "Open Door" event, using the Old Academy Building for a reenactment of the abolitionist events that took place in the building during the 1830s.

Grant Expenses	18,344		
Marketing	829	1,975	42%
Membership	655	500	131%
Museum Operations	81	400	20%
Programs	3,288	750	438%
Publications	1,402	6,900	20%
Raffle	-	1,150	0%
Society Support	18,593	19,020	98%
Total Expenses	<u>62,453</u>	<u>\$ 53,260</u>	117%
Expense Offset	-	(4,250)	
Expenses Adjusted for Offsets	<u>\$ 62,453</u>	<u>\$ 49,010</u>	
Excess Revenue/Expense	<u>\$ 49,261</u>	<u>\$ (5,860)</u>	
Less Transfer to Merrill Lynch	<u>\$ (55,281)</u>		
<b>Total Revenue / Balance Forward</b>	<b>56,907</b>		
<b>Less Expenses and Transfers</b>			
	<hr/>		
<b>Cash Balances – Dec. 31, 2016</b>			
Park - Operating	\$ 43,250		
Park - Operating - Reserved*	(7,706)		
Park - Book	13,242		
Park - Book - Reserved**	(5,156)		
Huntington	415		
Total Cash Balance	\$ 56,907		
* Raffle Proceeds	\$ 3,584.00		
Otterbein Grant	667.88		
Granville Foundation - Alexandrian Bank	300.99		
Granville Foundation - Alex. Bank Supp.	3,153.39		
** Granville Foundation Grant - 2014	5,000.00		
Reese Foundation Grant - Balance	156.00		
<b>In-Kind Contributions Received</b>			
Flowers for Garden	\$ 41.96		
Web Site Hosting	216.00		
Total In-Kind Contributions	\$ 257.96		

# 2016 Annual Report



The Society has established a tradition of opening its museum on Granville's Halloween celebration, "Beggars Night."

## Society's investment funds show growth in 2016

The Granville Historical Society has three separate investment "accounts." In all cases the goal for these accounts is to preserve capital and grow the accounts after "permitted" withdrawals:

- Endowment Fund account - proceeds used for museum operations.
  - Balance as of 1/1/2016 = \$126,347.
  - Balance as of 12/31/2016 = \$142,636.
- Mahard Trust account - proceeds used only for the maintenance, operation and utilities for the Old Academy Building.
  - Balance as of 1/1/2016 = \$113,117.
  - Balance as of 12/31/2016 = \$119,958.
- Knobel Fund account - proceeds used for Society programming.
  - Balance as of 12/31/2016 = \$51,082. Account established November 2016.

The investment vehicles have been chosen by members of the Finance Committee, composed of Tom Martin, Rick Moller, Charles Peterson, Jane Wilken, and David Rinehart – chair, with thanks to the able advice of Mr. Moller.

**--J. David Rinehart, Chair, Finance Committee**

## 2016 Annual Report

# Society's outreach hitting new heights as measured by 'touches'

The Granville Historical Society reaches its own members and many other Granville area residents — as well as visitors — more than ever, as evidenced by its record of “touches.”

A “touch,” in this sense, is a tracking of each contact the Society has with specific members or specific members of the general public, as in a mailing, a visit to the museum, attendance at a program, or the use of archives or the Society's information.

In 2016, the Society recorded 19,101 touches in these and other ways.

The Society hosted 13 programs and events in both the Robinson Research Center and the Old Academy Building. Lecture programs included “FDR and the New Deal” by Richard Lucier, “Built to Last: The Many Incarnations of the 1816 Stone Building on Broadway” by Lyn Boone, “Builder Thomas Watkin” by Cynthia Cort, and “The Turkish Coup Attempt” by Catalina Hunt — all well-attended.

The museum was once again open for Beggars Night, handing out Halloween treats to some 1,173 youthful visitors. On the day of the Granville Candlelight Walker Tour, just over 1,000 visitors came into the museum and another 120

attended Christmas craft events on the same day in the Old Academy Building.

Museum open hours attracted 378 Granvilleans and 833 out-of-town visitors in 2016, both regarded as solid numbers.

The Society's website, [www.granvillehistory.org](http://www.granvillehistory.org), also was busy, with monthly hits ranging from 371 in July to a high of 582 in April.

Our monthly electronic news piece, *Modern Times*, under the editorship of Maggie Brooks, and each issue of the quarterly *Historical Times*, edited by Tom Martin, both generally reach nearly 350.

Visits to the Society's Archives on Thursdays by individuals conducting research totaled 106 last year.

Finally, a total of nearly 60 volunteers assisted in the museum and the Robinson Research Center. They assist Curator and Collections Manager Cynthia Cort in helping to identify, record and organize museum artifacts, Archivist Theresa Overholser in the Archives, Museum Committee chair Keith Boone as museum hosts during open hours, and landscape coordinator Anne Aubourg with garden maintenance.

# 2016 Annual Report



**Third-grade students annually tour the Granville History Museum, pictured here viewing the World War I exhibit in the Cherry Room.**

## Thanks to our volunteers!

The Granville Historical Society's Board of Managers thanks the following individuals who contributed so many volunteer hours in 2016 to ensure the success of the Society's programs, publications, archives, collections and educational efforts, as well as upkeep of our buildings and grounds and staffing the museum.

The 2016 volunteers list follows. An asterisk (\*) indicates those who served on the Board of Managers and a double-asterisk (\*\*) denotes the individuals who have been named as emeritus members of the Board of Managers.

Anne Aubourg\*, Patrick Aubourg, Jessica Bean, Kevin Bennett, Larry Bicking, Liz Bicking, Keith Boone\*, Nancy Brede, Maggie Brooks\*\*, Earl Browning, Cameron Close, Cynthia Cort\*, Dick Daly, Stacey Dickson, Jarrett Dillenger, Catherine

Dollard, Stewart Dyke, Laura Evans, Dagmar Farris, Joyce Fleitz, Tracey Fleitz, Beverly Gage, Leon Gage, Dorothy Garrett, Brian Gregory, James G. Hale, Willow Heichel, Flo Hoffman\*\*, Bill Holloway, Jane Holloway, Becky Clark-Hoover, Jim Hoover, Chris Julian, Marilyn Jung, Suzanne Kennedy, Norm Kennedy, Jennifer Evans Kinsley, Rita Kipp, Rich Kipp, Bill Kirkpatrick, Tim Klingler, Jodi Lavelly, Marianne Lisska, Tony Lisska, Barb Martin, Tom Martin\*, Rick Moller\*, Cheryl Moore, Nancy Noeker, Fleur Metzger, Lynn Overholser, Theresa Overholser\*, Charles A. Peterson\*, Kathy Poulton, Janet Philipps Procida\*, J. David Rinehart, Dave Rutledge\*, Mary Jo Seiple, Ron Sherwood\*, Becky Skeen, David Skeen\*, Maggie Sobataka, Sandy Stewart, Marilyn Sundin, Amy Welsh\*, Jane Wilken\*, Bill Wilken and Gary Yeakle\*.

# 2016 GIVING CIRCLES

The Granville Historical Society recognizes with gratitude the following individuals and organizations contributing gifts in 2016:

## **Charles Webster Bryant Clara Sinnett White**

John & Cynthia Cort

## **William T. Utter**

Paul & Linda Griesse, Charles A. Peterson, Jane & Richard Scott, Jane & William Wilken

## **Francis Wayland Shepardson**

Keith & Lyn Boone, Jean Montgomery, Don & Mary Schilling, Jack & Nancy Schmidt

## **Minnie Hite Moody**

Carol & Ken Apacki, Patrick & Anne Aubourg, Claudia Marchildon & Dave Bingham, Dick & Joyce Horton, Tony & Marianne Lisska, Thomas & Barb Martin, Bill & Theresa Overholser, Bob & Janet Philipps Procida, Gib & Lou Reese, Ron & JoAnne Sherwood, Richard Mahard, Corinne Ailes, Stephen & Terry Applegate Gary & Suzanne Baker, Ella Mae Bard, Tom Baxter, Liz & Larry Bicking, Doug & Marilyn Boldon, Raymond Bragg, Maggie Brooks, Jeane Brown, Earl & Elaine Browning, Joseph & Diane Charles, Cameron & Kristine Close, Louise Cort, Tim & Sarah Davison, Patrick & Kathleen Dean, Louise Denny, Rob & Nancy Drake, Stewart Dyke, F. W. & Janet Englefield, Paul Enke, Jim & Minxie Fannin, Jeff & Linda Figler, Mike & Janine Flood, Ann & Dick Fryman, Leon & Beverly Gage, Alex & Mary Ann Galbraith, Trevor & Carolyn Gamble, L. James & Jane Gordon, Chip & Sally Gordon, Alan & Nancy Hoffman, Flo Hoffman, Katherine Hoffman, Becky & James Hoover, Paul Jenks, Carl & Kate Jennings, Bob & Carolyn Johnson, Susan & Zaven Karian, Anne Kauffman, Eloise DeZwarte & John Kessler, Trish Koons, Dan & Sarah Leavell, Cheryl Linscott, Meghan & Bruce MacKinnon Ellen Martin, Mary Jane McDonald, Alan & Kris Miller, Rick Moller, Art & Corky Morrow, Nancy Noecker, William Osborne, Dave Proctor & Wayne Piper, Doug & Sandy Plunkett, T. David & Beth Price, R.T. & Jodi Ramsay, Greg & Patty Ream, Lou Ream, Bob Rush, Dave & Leda Rutledge, Bob & Lynn Schweizer, Jim & Nancy Siegel, Dave & Becky Skeen, Earl & Karen Strimple, Marilyn Sundin, Helen Sunkle, Donald Tritt, Mary Lee & Dick Van Meter, John & Sarah Wallace, Clarke & Sara Jean Wilhelm, and Pat & Ronald Winters.

## **Friends**

Linda Ailes, Allen County Public Library Craig & Peggy Asplund, Polli & Gregory Bailie, Jim & Julie Bain, Kim Bancroft, Cyrus & Margaret Banning, Deborah & Kevin Bennett, Brent Bennett, Karen & Clarke II Berdan, Marilyn & Regis Birkbichler William Bishop, Allene Blackstone, Rev. Susan Blue, Sandra Boffa, Daniel & Martha Bonar, Carol & Trump Bradley, Luther & Nancy Brede, Ronald & Barbara Bruner Nancy & Gregory Burdette Kimball & Pamela Carey Karen Chakoian, Millie Charron, Helen & Jeri Clark, Ellen Conrad, Eloise & Roger Core, Fred & Suzanne Costaschuk Bruce & Susan Cramer Andrew & Cheryl Crawford, Anne & Richard Daly, Melinda Woofter & Jeff Danby, Nancy Recchie & Jeffrey Darbee, James David, Tony & Linda Delligatti, Charla & Ralph Devine, Marcia & Jonathan Downes, Jeannette Drake, Rebecca Dungan, Bobbie Eckhoff, Di & Jim Erickson, Robin & Todd Feil, Patricia & Dan Finkelman, Carol & Martin Flautt, Tracey & Bill Fleitz, Ginny & Dan Fletcher, Mel & Reed Fraley, Vanessa & Michael Fuson, Virginia & Paul Gakle, Myra & Tom Gallant, Dorothy Garrett, Charles Geach, Betty & Paul Goodridge, Monica & William Graffeo, Elizabeth Gray, Phyllis Greene, Brian Gregory, Shirley Hale, Tracee Laing & Paul Hammond, Ann Hansen, Alice Hart, Deborah & Don Haven, Jordan & Joan Henley, Anne Goodge & Lon Herman, Paula & Bob Hinebaugh Maureen Driscoll & Mark Hoffman, Jane & Bill Holloway, Gloria Hoover, Terrie & Don Hostetter, Betty Hullinger, Ron & Barbara Hupman, Ingrid & Richard Jacobs, Lela Lou & Dean Jamieson, Jean & Alan Jankowski, Judy & Adriann Janssens, Eric & Janet Jones, Patsy & Donald Jones, Arnold Joseph, Travis & Chris Julian, James & Joy Jung, Marilyn & Michael Jung, Connie Barsky & Steve Katz, Joanie & William Kelley, Mike & Kevin Kennedy, Norman & Suzanne Kennedy, Jean & Ed Kerle, Elaine & Lyle King, Rita & Richard Kipp, Sara & Jack Kirby, Anna Nekola & Bill Kirkpatrick, Tina & Dale Knobel, Alan & Joy Lacko, Susan & Joe Leithauser, Bernadette & John Lieberth, Mary Ann & Bob Malcuit, Lauren Martin, Jeanne & Jack McClain, Scott & Dorian McClintock William McConnell, Barbara McFarland, Fleur Metzger, Michael & Dixie Mickelson, Eloise & Lawrence Miller, Lois & John Minsker, Larry & Brenda Mix, Rebecca & David Morris, Phyllis Morrow, Patricia Kosmalski & Richard Mortensen, Kris & Jeffrey Myers, Patty & Keith Myers, Jane Norton, Audrey & Orville Orr, Ruth & Robert Owen, Shirley Palmer, Fred Palmer, Kirsten & Jurgen Pape, Ruth Ann & Robert Parsley, Chris & Jim Patin, Fred Pringle, John Pyle, Jeane Randolph, Julie Rausch, David Richards, Sandra & J. David, Rinehart Lola Roley, Martha Rowland, Donna & Wes Sargent, Steve & Sue Schlicher, Heidi & Sam Schnaidt, Steve & Polly Schneider, Elaine & James Schwarm, Mary Jo & Dorse Seiple, Louise & Richard Shiels, Barbara Sinsabaugh, Brad & Julie Smith, Andy Sterrett, Sandra Stewart, Philip Stichter, Kathy & Phil Stukus, Karen & Paul Treece, Becky & Dave Underhill William & Dixie Utter Barbara Vockel<sup>[SEP]</sup>Dante & Brenda Weisend Jonathan Wells<sup>[SEP]</sup>Amy Welsh, Teddy Westlake, Judy White, Freddi & Terry White, John Williams, George Winkler, David & Donna Wright, Beth & Gary Yaekle, Nancy & Charles Young, Kevin Harrison & BethAnn Zambella, and Neal & Billie Zimmers.

# FROM THE ARCHIVES



**NO ‘MINNESOTA FATS’ IN DEPRESSION-ERA GRANVILLE:** This GHS archival photo shows the 117 N. Prospect Street billiard parlor (on left) — now the Everest Gear sportswear shop — and former tire store (right). In the 1935 Granville Directory, Henry Brickler is listed as Billiards owner. A partial photo identification of “morning green bench visitors” includes Hubert Robinson, left, and Guy Roads, “deputy sheriff” and Keith Hammond. *Granville Historical Society Archives.*

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## HISTORY TODAY: A rapid ‘changing of the guard’

In recent years, the “changing of the guard” in Granville has been remarkable. There were changes in nine influential-managerial positions in the community, public and private, from 2011-2016.

It started when longtime Granville Public Library director Nadine Robson retired on April 30, 2011 after 30 years in the position.

Following Robson was Norm Kennedy, who retired as fiscal officer/clerk of Granville Township in March 2012 after 28 years in the position. Kennedy was also clerk of the Granville Exempted Village School District for six years through 1999 and was treasurer of the Granville Volunteer Fire Department for many years.

Next: Dale Knobel, president of Denison University, retired in June 2013 after 15 years in the position; one of the longest-serving Denison presidents.

The Granville police chief changed on June 30,

2014, when Jim Mason stepped down after seven years, succeeded by Bill Caskey.

Seth Patton, DU’s vice president of finance and management for 19 of his 36 years there, retired in June 2015. Patton was credited by new Denison president Adam Weinberg for Denison’s strong financial position and town-gown relationship.

On Oct. 30, 2015, Charles A. Peterson took an early retirement as editor of *The Granville Sentinel* after just short of 20 years in the post.

Then, Village Manager Steve Stillwell announced his intent to retire, stepping down in July 2016. That was shortly after Alison Terry stepped down as village planner after eight years in the post.

Finally, in July 2016, Jeff Hussey, the first chief of the newly established Granville Township Fire Department, resigned to become deputy state fire marshal after 10 years as Granville’s first full-time, paid chief.

GRANVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
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## THE HISTORICAL TIMES

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## **GET CONNECTED, JOIN THE SOCIETY**

The Granville Historical Society is an all-volunteer, non-governmental not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization with membership open to all. Joining the Society is a delightful way to meet people who share a love of and interest in Granville's rich, well-documented history. Monthly programs, quarterly publications, and a museum that is open five days a week during the season are some of the ways that enable Society volunteers to share facets of what makes Granville so fascinating with members and guests. Volunteers are welcome in the Archives and Museum Collections areas, as well as museum hosts.

Please visit [Granvillehistory.org](http://Granvillehistory.org) for further information about all that we do and how you can get involved.

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