

TUSCOLA WOMAN'S CLUB

Tuscola Woman's Club began as a Neighborhood reading Circle on September 15, 1894. The founder of this organization was Mrs. Susan Sanford. Mrs. Paige Smith, the club's first secretary, stated that the club's original objectives were "mutual entertainment and improvement." Meetings were held at member's homes for two hours every Saturday.

In 1896 the TWC joined the Illinois State Federation of Woman's Clubs. Mrs. Julie Paige Murphy was the first president-elect. After joining the State Federation, meetings were held monthly with five departments of interest: literature, household economics, Bible study, civics and art. Minutes from 1896 recorded programs on a variety of timely subjects as well as musical and choral performances. Similar program topics are enjoyed by the club today. In 1918 TWC joined the General Federation of Woman's Clubs.

On September 15, 1993, the TWC members held a special 100th anniversary celebration on the lawn of Lida Jane Hunt at 103 E. Van Allen. Lida Hunt was a 13-year old freshman when she was asked to waitress at the original "tea on the lawn" at the very first TWC meeting held in 1894. Current club members, along with Douglas County Club members and district and state officers, were invited to the 100th anniversary celebration. Many in attendance wore Victorian dresses.



**September 15, 1993
100th Anniversary of
TWC**

**Margaret Hackett, Mary
Williams, Catherine
Kellogg, Mary Ross,
Kathryn McCumber, Leta
Maloney.**

In 1993, a centennial logo was designed by local artist, Sarah Lawrence. It was the official representation of the TWC's 100 years of service to the community. The pewter medallion displays the Tuscola Public Library since the establishment of the library is considered the greatest success of the club's efforts to improve the community. The library was begun in 1897 with members contributing books and raising over \$1,200. Club member, Mrs. P. M. Moon, wrote to Andrew Carnegie requesting financial assistance to build the library. Carnegie agreed to present \$10,000 to the TWC on the

condition that the city match the funds. Mrs. Moon's husband, a local lawyer, took care of legal matters as his contribution to the project. The Tuscola Public Library was erected in 1903.

The Tuscola Woman's Club continues to thrive in 2006 with 76 members. Monthly meetings are held in the basement of the local library. TWC is especially proud of the integral part it played in construction of the tennis courts and the Prairieland Playground at Ervin Park. TWC members pledge to continue working together to enrich our fine community.



Spring Luncheon at Kaskaskia Country Club May, 2005 – Hat Day!

Seated: Olga Hall, Edith Bozarth, Mary Carmack, Ruth Parks, Lois Marsh.

Standing: Betty Leonard, Beverly Cheek, Kay Kleiss, Kathryn McCumber, Jane Wood, Dee Lenzi, Catherine Kellogg, Diane Lindblom, Helen Lee, Rowena Gates.



Woman's Club sponsored activities: Prairieland Playground and the First Girl's Traveling Softball Team in 1971.

1st row: Cheryl Mulligan, Jeri Wills, Bev Schweighart, Linda Leonard, LaVon Donley, Nancy Babbs.

2nd row: Trish Stahler, Joy Hanners, Kathy Weaver, Marsha Deem, Rena Matthews.

3rd row: Ted Galey (coach), Melody Meyer, Alice Borries, Sandy Hanners.

Not pictured: Coaches: Dennis Chaplin and Bernard Schweighart.

DAISY TROOP 2582 KINDERGARTENERS



Daisy Troop Park Cleanup
1st row: Summer Harl,
Emily Mills, Gabby Gunther,
Niki Jones, Bryce Ann Hudson.
2nd row: Brandi Reinhart, Ariel
Warren, Cheryl Warren, Halie
Pfeiffer, Amy Reinhart and
Faith Hardwick.

BROWNIE TROOP 565 – 2ND GRADE

1st row: Alexis Nau, McKayla
Zorn, Sarah Smith.
2nd row: Sophia Christy, Kodi
Reinhart, Lindsey Tschopp,
Kelsey Gobert.
3rd row: Kara O’Hearn, Ariel
Warren, Morgan Day, Analise
Beck.

Troop leaders: Cheryl Warren
and Amy Reinhart.



LAMBDA ALPHA CHAPTER OF BETA SIGMA PHI

Beta Sigma Phi is an international organization which was created for women in search of cultural and social activity. The first chapter was founded by Walter W. Ross in Abilene, Kansas, April 30, 1931. Today it consists of approximately 165,000 members with chapters in all 50 states and many overseas countries.

Beta Sigma Phi sorority came into being in Tuscola, Illinois the year of 1956. Eleven local women, with Helen Jones as sponsor, came together and formed the Lambda Alpha Ritual of Jewels Chapter. Two meetings were held each month as well as teas, dances, parties and social affairs.

In the year 2006, three chapters, Ritual of Jewels, Exemplar and Preceptor Laureates are still active, some have been sorority members for almost fifty years, with an emphasis on charitable work and friendship.

BETA SIGMA PHI'S MOTTO: LIFE, LEARNING, FRIENDSHIP



CHARTER MEMBERS

Seated – Rose Marie Gilles, treasurer, Villa Grove; Mrs. Howard Bannon, vice president, Garrett; Mrs. Joe Swinford, president; and Mrs. Fred Jones, sponsor, both of Tuscola. Standing – Mrs. Alex Kohling and Mrs. Ronald Thompson, both of Tuscola; Mrs. James Rowley, Atwood; and Mary Beth Gilles, Mrs. William Goodman, Mrs Leonard Bunting and Mrs. H. W. Gillian, all of Tuscola.



**PRECEPTOR ALPHA
SIGMA CHAPTER**
Pictured – Jan Nayonis,
Betty Rann, Jan Houser,
Theresa Fields, & Doris
Dunn.

Not pictured – Dian
Little, Pat Noftz, &
Janet Rich



Front – Debbie Marker, Linda Brown, Diane Lee, Holly Wikoff, Theresa Rogers.

Second – Laura Magee, Tracie Harp, Lara Westjohn, Carol Burwash, Christy Hoel.

Third – Chris Hunt, Kim Lane, Dedee Hoel.

Not pictured – Johnsy Anderson, Jeannie Craddock, Marcia Fayhee, Kathy Fogerson, Kristy Gazzoli, Cindy Hemmer, Becky Moss, Lacreia Otto, Alison Schable.

Through selling St. Patrick's Day green carnations, having bake sales, selling raffle tickets, etc., we have fundraised, supported and volunteered for our community. Some of these are: the Santa House, Easter Egg Hunt, BETH's Place, Nunn Scout Building, JFL, Peace Meals, Miss Tuscola contestant sponsorship, ARTCo, Christmas Bureau, Rotary Food Drives, Christmas Parade, Salvation Army Angel Tree, Relay 4 Life, Holiday adopt-a-friend at the nursing home, our schools, playground equipment, and local trash pick-ups.

In an average year, Beta Sigma Phi members across the nation raise more than \$3 million for local charities and projects and donate more than 200,000 volunteer hours. As the diversity and vitality of our members and our community change, our sisterhood redefines itself and its purposes. The Lambda Alpha Tuscola chapter of Beta Sigma Phi wishes the Tuscola Community a very happy sesquicentennial and pledges our continued efforts to help our community grow and prosper.



BOY SCOUT TROOP 95
SEVENTY-FOUR YEARS OF EXCELLENCE
1933-2007

Tuscola Boy Scout Troop 95 has prospered over the last 50 years. The troop has many opportunities to serve their community like painting all the fire hydrants in Tuscola, to repainting the wooden playground equipment at Ervin Park. Other service projects include helping recycle old tires at FS in Tuscola, annually picking up Ervin Park after the Fourth of July Celebration, and participating in the annual Rotary Food Drive. They enjoy summer visits to Camp Robert Drake near Oakwood and earning merit badges at summer camp. The scouts go camping several times a year to areas like Fox Ridge State Park, Fern Bluff State Park, and Brown County State Park, IN. They have cycled 50 miles on the Tunnel Hills State Trail from New Salem to Springfield several times. The troop has enjoyed as many as 25 scouts in the 1980's down to just a few. Boy Scout Troop 95 also has produced 35 Eagle Scouts since 1952. Troop 95 now has 12 Boy Scouts and 4 leaders to keep scouting alive for the next 50 years.



2005 Tuscola Boy Scout Troop 95

Back row: Scout Master, Richard Ervin; Asst. Scout Masters, Richard Lamb, Chuck Benner; Troop Committee Member, Dan Magee.
Middle row: Cory Benner, Jarad Lamb, Zach Bosch, John Ervin, Nick Moore.
Front row: Austin Shelby, Chase Kauffman, Tyler Luckenbille, Matthew Magee
Kneeling: Vincent Magee, Slade Ward, and Seth O'Connell.

THE NUNN BUILDING –A Cabin for Tuscola Scouts

The Nunn Building is a memorial to the late Robert C. Nunn, Eagle Scout. A group of persons promoted the construction of a cabin to be used by Tuscola Scouts. Pictured here are seated Mr. and Mrs. Robert Nunn and Roy Toomey. Standing are Vern Wright and Scoutmaster, Amos Albritton.



HOME FOR LOCAL SCOUTS

200 S. Ohio St.
Construction - 1966

A wooden sign, shaped like an arrowhead, proclaims the Robert C. Nunn Scout Building. Roy Toomey, Vern Wright, William McCarty, Wayne Neal and Amos Albritton served on the building committee and oversaw the presentation and dedication. Nunn, the namesake of the structure, was a lifelong Scout who attained the rank of Eagle Scout. He died in 1964 at age 17.

On the twenty-fifth anniversary, the scouting community gathered to celebrate. Judge Frank Lincoln delivered the keynote address. “This building is to serve as a home for scouting in this community. A gathering place where young boys and girls alike can receive guidance, for the up building of character, that they may be trustworthy and loyal at all times. May this home always serve as a place where people learn to be helpful to one another, whether Scout or not, and friendly to everyone. Within the confines of this place, may youth be taught to be clean, in body and in mind, that they shall be reverent toward God and respectful to others who have different customs and religion.

This is a place of fun, a house of instruction, a home of leaning, and a temple of faith. This is a building dedicated to youth – the greatest asset our country has.”

PACK 80 CUB SCOUTS

Pack 80 is the local Cub Scout pack of the Boy Scouts of America. The Pack averages over 40 Cub Scouts per year. Some of the activities the Pack involves themselves in are the Memorial Day Flag ceremonies, Sale Street cleanup each month, conservation projects, nursing home visits, family campouts, fishing derbies, car washes, and pack and den meetings. Pack 80 is sponsored by the Tuscola United Methodist Church. Pack 80 is in the Prairie Fire District within the Prairielands Council.



1st row: Kaleb Williams, Christian Wood, Andrew Foy, Tommy Ruiz, Tristen Williams, Tucker Robinson, Tanner Robinson, Kane Farlow.

2nd row: Marc Davis, John Evans, Jeff Johnson, Christian Ray, David Manselle, Nicholas Kemp, Mark Snyder, Broc Smith.

3rd row: Mitchell Farley, Andrew Sullender, Ethan Hearnley, Zachary McCallister, Mark Timlin, Austin Rexroad-Campbell, Clayton Turner, Griffin Day, Brandon Reifsteck.

TUSCOLA EAGLE SCOUTS

Max Albritton, Ryan Batts, Danial C. Blausey, David J. Blausey, Dustin Boyer, Patrick Boyson, Gary Brewer, John L. Chapman, John O. Cletcher, Ed Cox, Zachary Davidson, Robert Dole, Francis J. Donnelly, Jr., Christopher Eheart, Karl Eheart, Stephen Fox, Ted George, Bill Hardin, Bryan Hasler, Phillip Hasler, James Hasler III, Drew Hawkins, Steven L. Hettinger, I. H. Hine, Jack Holden, Jan Phillip Jamison, Benjamin Klett, Robert H. Knapp, Jason Lamb, Tyrel Ledbetter, Brian T. Lee, James D. Lee, Raymond Lee Jr., Michael C. Lemna, Jeremy Leonard, William Linton, Clifford R. Magee, Daniel Magee, Dean Mann, John M. Mann, Wyatt Martin, Tracy Murphy, Robert C. Nunn, Bradley Opperman, Bill Overturf, John L. Pendergrass, James Pohlig, Wesley Poynter, Robert Romine, Noah Ruggieri, Rafael Ruggieri, Alexander Ruggieri III, Edward Schultz, Mark A. Seip, Sasan Shabrou, Jeffrey A. Thompson, Mark C. Toomey, Bill Victor, Daniel T. Wilhelm, Dean W. Wilhelm, Joe L. Wilhelm, Kevin E. Wilhelm, Phillip A. Wills, James Fenton Wright, R. C. Wulliman.

**BOY SCOUT TROOP 80
FOUNDED IN 2001**



BOY SCOUT TROOP 80

1st row: Sharom Shabrou, Andrew Foy, Tommy Ruiz.

2nd row: Jeff Broch, Alex Kemp, Nate Lee, (Asst. Senior Patrol Leader), Brad Wicker.

3rd row: Jim Lee (Committee Chairman), Adam Beals (Senior Patrol Leader), Mahmood Shabrou (Asst. Scoutmaster), Tyler Sapp, Ian Galbreath, Butch Price (Scoutmaster).

Scouts not pictured: Drew Hawkins, Derek Quick, Shaheen Shabrou, Joel Lee, Austin Yoder, Phil Irace, Brandon Price* and Ryan Batts*.

Ryan Batts and Brandon Price are not pictured because they were serving as Camp Counselors at Camp Drake for the entire summer.

**DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS CHAPTER**

The Douglas County chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution was organized March 2, 1923 in Tuscola with Madam Rachel Edgar chapter assisting. At the meeting held in the Tuscola Library, Mrs. John H. Chadwick was elected Regent by 21 charter members. Since that time meetings have been held in homes and churches of members, The GAR Room and in restaurants. The original chapter name was changed to Stephen A. Douglas on March 2, 1932.

The chapter has sponsored the Good Citizenship award in the 6 high schools of the county and gives an American History award to an eighth grade student in each of the elementary schools, plus essay contests for elementary students. The qualities of good citizenship are: **Dependability** – which includes truthfulness, loyalty, punctuality; **Service** – which includes cooperation, courtesy, consideration of others, responsibility; **Leadership** – which includes personality, self-control, initiative; **Patriotism** – which includes unselfish loyalty to American ideals.

At the time the present Douglas County Court House was built (1911-1913) a room was built especially as a museum for Civil War mementos and for veterans' meetings. The last living GAR veteran of Douglas County, John R. Cantrall, gave the responsibility of caring for and supervising this room to members of the Stephen A. Douglas chapter Daughters of the American Revolution. The ladies accepted this responsibility and enjoy meetings in this room. In 1980, Sons of the Union Veterans and an association of Friends of the GAR Room were organized. Both organizations now help with the care of the room and its contents. They also help with tours of this room for the public.

In keeping with the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution motto, God, Home and Country, our chapter has always tried to help meet the needs of our nation and community, doing so to the honor of God and with His help.



Front row: Hazel Bloye (associate member), Dorothy Lytle, Marlene Lincoln, Mary Ann Middleton (State Regent), Jane Hooe (2003-05 Illinois State Regent), Marguerite McDaniel, Ruth Parks (associate member).

Back row: Martha Ewing, Jean Pendergrass, Marie Owen, Kay Kleiss, Areta Joines, Ethel Miner, Judy Landeck.

THE DOUGLAS COUNTY MUSEUM

The Museum Association of Douglas County was formed in 1984 because many historical and decorative arts objects were being destroyed and/or removed from the county, even though a historical society existed at the time. The establishment, maintenance and operation of the museum are the goals of the Museum Association.



**FOUNDERS OF DOUGLAS COUNTY MUSEUM – 1984
LUCILLE MURRAY, BOB HASTINGS, LYNITTA ALDRIDGE BROWN**

Activities and Displays have included: Railroad exhibits, Motorcycle Madness, Old Time Radio, Cup and Saucer and Cross Stitch Exhibit, Farm Exhibit, Quilt Show, Salute to the Veterans, WW II – Where Were You?, Jarman Babies, History of Religion, Childhood Memories, American Indian Artifacts, Toys Thru Time, 50's – 60's Exhibit.

Fund raisers have included: Tea Dances, Jonah Fish Fry, Soup Suppers (Founders' Night).

Event – Breakfast with Santa (draws around 1,500 children and adults).

Educational Programs: Schindler's list survivors, Musicals, Paint by Numbers, Rt. 66, Survivors of the USS Indianapolis, Pearl Harbor Survivors, Cross Stitch Programs, Extensive Obituary File of Douglas County, Genealogical Reference Library, Local History, Various Collections: Jewelry, Clocks, etc.

QUILT CLUB



1st row: Joyce Ellis, Marilyn Mooday, Kathleen Boerngen, Libby Fox.

2nd row: Sharon Neilson, Lynette Reeder, Scarlet Bergner, Doris Pickett, Mary Hill, Maribeth Opperman.

3rd row: LaVerne Waite, Jeannine Miller, Sandi Robinson, Barb Frahm, Kim Lytle, Martha Pankau, Janet Stumeier, Millie Chenoweth.

The Tuscola Quilt Club was founded in 2000 by Doris Pickett and Scarlet Bergner. The club has put their talents to admirable use. The club has donated handiwork for raffles that have benefited a number of worthy causes: BETHS Place, the American Cancer Society, Tuscola Public Library, Douglas County Museum, the Humane Society, 4th of July fireworks fund, Marine Comfort Quilts and Linus Blanket Crisis quilts.

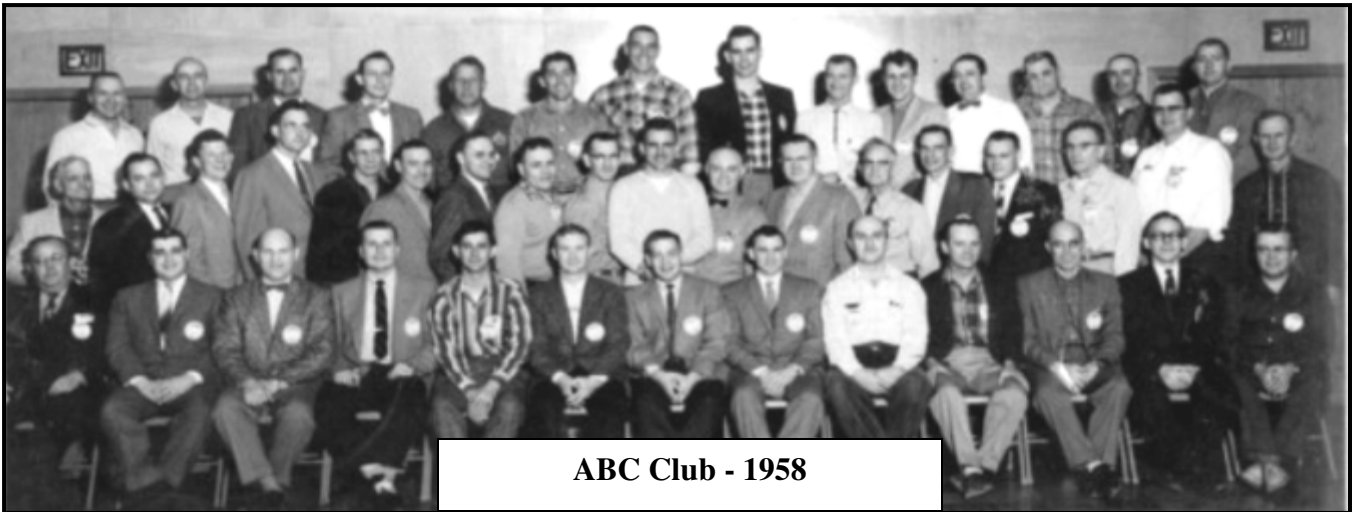
**Libby Fox, Jeannine Miller,
LaVerne Waite**



TUSCOLA AMBUCS – FOUNDED FEBRUARY 20, 1955

The AMBUC project nationally is a Living Endowment, which is the funding of scholarships for therapists who assist handicapped children. The motto is **to assist individuals with disabilities to lead independent lives**. Members are assessed \$40 annually for dues and raise other money to help locally with building ramps, handicap accessible parks and adapting computers for the disabled. Local members include: Louis Badger, Dorothy Badger, Don Chappell, Gary Doud, Darrell Ford, C. S. Gordy, Shane Gould, Jake Groves, Greg Hastings, Bill Hemmer, Jon Hensley, Steve Hilgendorf, Phil Lamb, John Leamon, Dave Lecher, Jim Lee, Roger Long, Brian Lynch, Mike Meyer, Brian Moody, Don Moody, Tim Mooney, John Morris, Dennis Obrecht, Greg Obrecht, John Pangburn, Myron Pangburn, Butch Price, Jerry Reynolds, Larry Skinner and Bob Utterback.

Louis Badger, Myron Pangburn, Dave Lecher, Dorothy Badger, Don Chappell, Phil Lamb, Wayne Doud, Steve Hilgendorf.



1st row: Eli Murphy, Charles Sutton, John Smith, Bill McCarty, Raymond Owen, Robert Hastings, Raymond Lee, Jr., Keith Tingley, Waldo Ball, Harold Scheu, Roy Toomey, Charles Brewer, Albert Teeters.

2nd row: E Ray McQueen, Gene Hall, Ed Rayburn, Duane Bruce, Lewis Consoer, Bill Alexander, _____, John Rothgeb, Ed Schultz, Dennis Dietrich, Glenn Thompson, E. E. Ferguson, Orson Moorehead, _____, Dick Elder, Tom Powell, Gene Snuffin, _____.

3rd row: Hershel Hooker, Bill Rogers, Jim Lamb, Joe Swinford, Ron Thompson, Bob Hausmann, Bill Huber, Al Carson, Harold Zane, Joe Wills, _____, Frank McQueen, Boyd Wiesener, Ray Allen.

The American Legion Auxiliary Unit of Douglas County Post No. 27 was founded March 16, 1919 to support the American Legion and veterans of the United States. In 1921, the Poppy of Flanders Field became the official memorial flower of the American Legion Auxiliary. Each year on Memorial Day, the Poppy flowers are sold to support veterans and scholarships.

PALAESTRUM TUMBLING



5 – 7 Year Olds

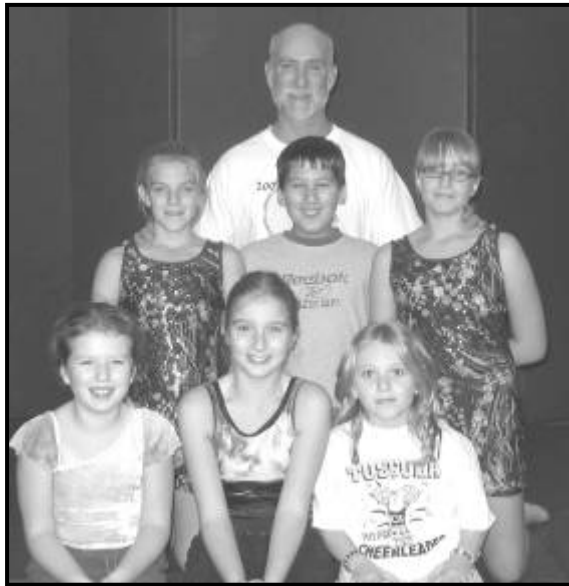
1st row: Ericka Butler, McKenzie Fleener, Sarah Birchenough.

2nd row: Christopher Bloomer, Noah Butler, Lindsey Tschopp, Laurna McClain, Spencer Scott, Connor Baer.



3-4 Year Olds

Clayton Hausmann, Braidon Boyer, Emma Zimmer, Lilly Lawrence, Matthew Bennett, Tyler Bialeschki, Halle Gauna.



8-10 Year Olds

1st row: Kayla Postelwaite, Taylor Campbell, Meagan Frailey.

2nd row: Hannah Scribner, Chas Campbell, Clarisa Phillips
Instructor: Bill Staley.



3rd – 6th Grade

1st row: Nicole Lough, Carlee Reardon, Ryce Ward, Reagan Smith.

2nd row: Logan Grace, Glenda Wald, Madeline Birchenough, Skylar Stevens.

3rd row: Sam Birchenough, Sienna Scott, Tiffany Jones, Taylor Grace, Felicia Tucker.

RED HAT SOCIETY

The Red Hat Society is a group of women who are encouraged to take a little time out for themselves, occasionally to play with their friends and participate in activities they find enjoyable. The object is that growing old can be fun and frivolous and togetherness to celebrate the joys of aging gracefully. In other words, offer women one thing: RECESS! The group originated in November, 1998 in California. Each member must wear the proper clothing denoting her membership at each event; red and purple if she is 50 or over and pink and lavender if she is under 50. The Tuscola chapter #13280 began Jan. 29, 2003.



1st: Kathryn McCumber, Sharon Proffit, Marge Conn (Queen), Bev Bennett, Kathryn Kellogg. 2nd : Jane Wood, Helen Lee, Rosemary Graham, Jean Pendergrass, Jan Houser, Barb Moss, Doris Dunn.

Not pictured: Marilyn Hoch, Molly Seibold, Betsy Stuerke.



BETHS PLACE

Because Eventually The Healing Starts

ADVOCATES, BOARD MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS



1st row: Linda Brown, Barb Lake, Cheryl McWilliams, Debbie Smeathers, Linda Scribner.

2nd row: Barb Utterback, Barb Gibson, Becky Hardway, Janice Pearce, Clarice Houseman, Judy Fraser.

3rd row: Vilma Cooper, Pam Leonard, Lisa Stark, Colleen Lehman, Joyce Alexander, Denni Turner.

Not pictured: Mary Baird, Amy Crump, Chloanne Greathouse, Deb Hissong, Marie Norvell, Maggie Parker, Cassie Peterson, Barb Reinhart, Ruth Ann Williams, Sharon Farlow, Margie Meyer, Malia Graves, Kathy Maxey, Doris Schrock and Cary Wood.

Serving Douglas County and the surrounding area, BETHS PLACE helps people who are in domestic violence situations and hopes to help stop the cycle of domestic violence! Following a tremendous amount of volunteer labor, supplies and services, BETHS PLACE was opened in April, 1999.

TUSCOLA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INC.

In 1972 community leaders met for the purpose of promoting the economic development of Tuscola. The name has changed many times, and different groups have merged, but the goals have remained the same. Previous names: Tuscola Community Development Corporation (TCDC), Tuscola Area Improvement Association (TAIA), and now Tuscola Economic Development, Inc. (TEDI). Brian Moody is the present TEDI executive director. Through its history, the combined groups have been responsible for bringing to town: Holiday Inn Express, Ironhorse golf course, the Main Street Program, three medical clinics: Carle, Provena and Christie.



KANINE KAPERS 4 – H CLUB 1968

**Trophy Winners Dog Obedience
Sherrie Spence and Buster, Gary
Lake and Tinka, Cindy Gates and
Ami, Celeste Baer and Pepi, Jeri
Wills and Dan, Jeri Lake with Joe.
Judges: Richard Streibich and
Virginia Jones.**

ARTco

The Actors' Rural Theatre Company (ARTco) began in 1999 as an offshoot of the Villa Grove Community Theatre in Villa Grove, IL. What started as a group that produced one large summer musical annually became an organization that presented a variety of shows each year. When the Gem Theater, the location of ARTco productions, closed its doors, the group was forced to look at alternatives. The decision to move to Tuscola was multi-faceted: Tuscola is conveniently located near the intersection of three major highways; it is a progressive community on an economic upswing with ancillary businesses to attract and accommodate theater patrons (hotels, restaurants, shopping); a larger population from which to draw a base audience; and a former church building owned by an avid supporter.

ARTco's Board of Directors consists of volunteers committed to promoting theater in Central Illinois. Most members work in fields unrelated to theater, finding time to assist in the ongoing productions of the company. Because of ARTco's exceptional employment of volunteerism, it was recognized in 2000 by the Hometown Governor's Award committee and received a first place commendation.

TUSCOLA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Chamber of Commerce was incorporated in April, 1906, with M. F. Stacy, W. E. Rice, Henry Wamsley, O. E. Stanbery, N. G. Ervin and A. W. Wallace incorporators. The first undertaking of the new corporation was to establish Enterprise Addition to the community of Tuscola. This addition comprised about 35 acres of land in the northeast part of Tuscola. The land was then platted into town lots which were sold. The profits realized from the sale were invested in factories. One factory manufactured woven wire fence and another manufactured endgates for wagon beds.

The C of C fell enactive from 1907 to 1920. Under leadership of Dr. L. R. McNeill, the Tuscola Commercial Club was formed. This commercial club assumed the name of Chamber of Commerce with Dr. McNeill as president. C. A. Vest was secretary and C. C. Buehrig the treasurer. By year's end there were 75 members. Dues collections totaled more than \$5,000 per year. During those early years one of the items purchased was a street sprinkler since the streets did not yet have permanent surfacing. The C. of C. also sponsored band concerts each Thursday evening during the summer.

In the 1919 an advertising club was formed with 35 business firms participating. The club designated the first Wednesday of each month as bargain days and allowed each member to advertise four bargains on that date. The club, in order to encourage trading at home, was described as quite liberal in pricing bargains. Among free prizes were a Buick touring car, a Studebaker, a Chevrolet, and several Fords. Luke Miller was president of the Advertising Club.

Jumping ahead to 1952, the Chamber held "Old Timers Night" honoring past presidents: H. Ray Warren, Roy Moulden, S. L. Victor, R. H. Carpenter, Wilbur Hoel, Ed Hackleman, O. A. Smith, C. A. Rice, Max Vest, E. M. Owen and Roy Toomey. J. F. Turner, who participated in the organization (1902) of the Chamber forerunner, the Tuscola Business Men's Club, said, "Tuscola in the early days had a 'bad name' after the turn of the century. Railroaders, traveling salesmen and various other individuals had nothing good to say about Tuscola. Merchants had the reputation of being old and grouchy." Various cliques in the city made it difficult for a newcomer to get started in business. Eventually, business people came to a better "understanding" and a desire to work for mutual betterment. S. L. Victor discussed life in the community during the Depression years. Corn was 12 cents a bushel, oats 10 cents a bushel, and soybeans 32 cents a bushel. This was a the height of the Depression in 1932. Corn yields in 1932 were 26 ½ bushels per acre, as compared to 55 bushels in 1951. Douglas County farmers could not foresee 200 bushels per acre of corn.

Victor also reported that during the Depression, the C of C issued script money. During those years a new Chevrolet sold for \$475, while a quarter section of land "three miles from Tuscola" sold for \$90 per acre.

Chamber presidents from 1920 to 1958 were: Dr. L. R. McNeill, E. E. Stacy, Harry P. Campbell, W. A. Fullerton, Harry C. Marsh, O. L. Parker, Fred Michener, J. H. Patton, Frank A. Warren, F. Earl Parker, H. Ray Warren, Roy Moulden, A. Gasaway, Henry J. Senn, L. R. McNeill, S. L. Victor, Luther Black, Ray H. Carpenter, Dewey Parker, Jay R. North, Wilbur Hoel, Ed Hackleman, O. A. Smith, Vern Wright, C. A. Rice, Max Vest, E. M. Owen, George Flesor, Harry L. Pate, Perry Stackhouse, Roy A. Toomey, Roland Rayburn, Robert Boyd, Harold Todd, Delbert Grimm, Clarence Ferchow and Ray Allen.

Presently, the Chamber of Commerce is a not for profit organization that is led by a Board of Directors consisting of 15 people representing a cross-section of the local community. The Chamber strives to provide support to local businesses and improve the quality of life for those who live and work in the Tuscola area. Events sponsored by Chamber include the Miss Tuscola, Junior Miss Tuscola, and

Little Miss Tuscola pageants, the Community Easter Egg Hunt, the Chamber Annual Dinner, the Fourth of July Celebration, the Chamber Golf Outing, Harvest Fest, the Community Halloween Party, Farmers' Night, the Chamber Community Thanksgiving Luncheon, and Christmas Town. In addition, the Chamber is involved in Business "After Hours" events, hosts ribbon-cutting ceremonies for new business and provides an annual scholarship to graduating seniors who are seeking a career in business.



1st row: Kristi Heath, Treasurer; Devon Nau, Vice President, Michelle Murphy, Laura Meyer, Kim Higgins.

2nd row: Tracy Callan, Secretary; Bob Woodard, President, Aaron Damler, Kate Moody, Jerry Hall.

LITTLE LEAGUE

Little League is the largest organized youth program in the world. It was founded in 1939. The objective of this program is to instill sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage and respect for authority. Tuscola joined Little League in 1951. In 1974, girls joined the league for the first time. In 2006, a total of 375 children signed up to play ball. Over 33 community businesses sponsor teams. Tuscom Little League is a non-profit organization that relies on volunteers for everything from coaching to umpiring, from working in the concession stand to maintaining fields, from sponsoring a team to making a monetary donation or making a purchase in the concession stand. Through volunteers, playing fields, equipment shed and a concession stand have been built. Batting cages, equipment and uniforms have also been purchased.

The Little League Pledge:

I Trust in God
 I love my country
 And will respect its laws
 I will play fair

And Strive to Win
 But, win or lose
 I will always do my best.