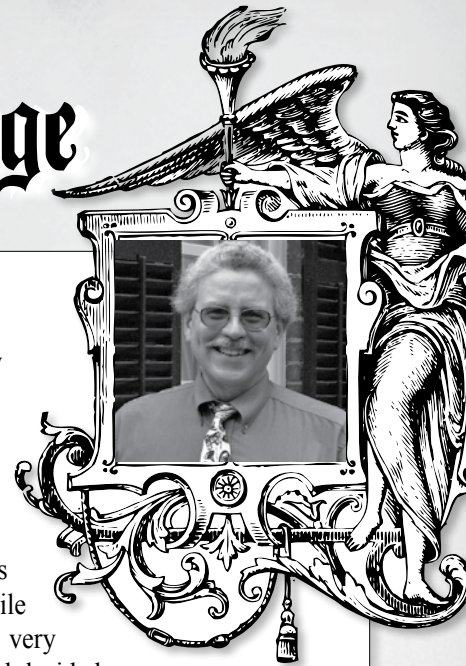


President's Message

By Tim McCormick



This edition of my bi-monthly President's Message comes to you from the maternity waiting room in the Goshen, Indiana General Hospital. It's early August and our daughter, Jessica, and her wonderful husband Matt Miles are a few doors down the hall trying to get things underway to deliver what, for Cindy and I, will be our first grandchild.

Jessica was born 28 years ago this month. She is our first child. Cindy was in labor for over 12 hours starting at 2:00 a.m., and we were both exhausted by the time Jess greeted us in the delivery room. I had mixed emotions leaving my wife and new baby at the hospital while driving home, alone. I entered a very quiet house, and walked into our living room. I was very tired, but too filled with the day's events to rest. I walked by our Victor Victrola VV-215 and decided to play a few records. As I looked through my collection, I stumbled upon "Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little Toes." The simple act of playing that particular 78-rpm record shortly after the birth of our daughter entered the event into McCormick Family folklore. The story has been retold again and again. What was once Tim's antique toy became the family Victrola.

I have threatened to gift Matt and Jess with their own Victrola for some time, but my common sense and practical half, Cindy, gently reminds me that they currently don't have room for a large Victrola. As the delivery date crept closer, I couldn't control the impulse to locate a copy of "Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little Toes" any longer. I requested to purchase a copy from Darrell Lehman. As it turned out, Darrell, the sweetheart that he is, mailed a copy of this record plus several other child titles as a gift. I loaded the records and a Victor Victrola VV-VIII (Honey, it is a small tabletop version – the kids could store it in a closet if they want) into my vehicle and headed to Northern Indiana. As it turned out, the gift of the antique phonograph and records was a good call. Matt enjoys moving the "Model 8" to the dining room table and playing a record now and again. I included a reproduction of the original Victor owner's manual, and I believe Matt has already read it.

I look forward to leaving this hospital, driving to Matt and Jess's home and participating in a new tradition, once again hearing Billy Murray sing, "Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little Toes." Life just doesn't get any better than this! (Baby boy, Seanan Lee Miles was born August 11th, 8 lbs 9ozs, 22 inches, red hair, ten little fingers, ten little toes)

Enthusiastically Yours,

Tim

P.S. Due to the up and coming Bohumir Kryl Project, and given the fact that we cannot find any volunteers interested in running for MAPS/IAPS office, our current board is volunteering ONE more year of service. Elections will take place as usual next year at this time. If anyone wishes to volunteer their services as an office holder, E-Mail me at President@MAPS-ITG.org and we'll have an election on the spot.



*Grandma McCormick
carrying on a conversation
with baby Seanan.*