

The Bank of Geneva

In 1889 Mr. Charles D. Porter, husband of Indiana author Gene Stratton Porter, started the Geneva Bank. Prior to the bank's inception, Mr. Porter put a large burglar-proof safe in his drug store and rendered what accommodation he could to those whose business required them to handle large sums of money. He successfully operated the Geneva bank until 1893 at which time they organized The Bank of Geneva. Mr. Porter was joined by A.G. Briggs, David Studabaker, W.H. Niblick, R.B. Allison, S.W. Hale and George Hartman.

The bank's original capital stock was \$45,000.00. In the Great Depression a three-day bank holiday was ordered to stabilize the nation's failing banking system. After the holiday the Bank of Geneva was one of the few banks that was permitted to open on the first day. The Bank of Geneva was able to serve its customers throughout the worst financial times known in the United States.

Since its founding, the bank has never had a major change in management. The Bank of Geneva intends to continue its longstanding tradition of independent local ownership by maintaining the same quality service, professionalism, confidentiality, and integrity that has served area customers for over a century.