



Dorothy in Louisville, KY in 1990.

DOROTHY FRIEND

CHARTER MEMBER

Dorothy Friend was one of the very early members of TCI. She participated whole-heartedly in TCI activities, serving on the board and attending all conventions until just a few years before her death in 2004, at age 93. She was an ardent collector for many, many years and searched for thimbles and thimble shoes with the same eagerness and enthusiasm that she brought to all of her activities.

She wrote a booklet titled *British Commemorative and Souvenir Thimbles* which was published by Thimble Collectors International in 1987. Dorothy received the Troy Award from a grateful TCI and gave a memorable talk on her beloved thimble shoes -- a first on that subject which suggested a new area of collecting to many members.

Along with various charitable activities, playing a superb game of golf and excellent bridge, she was a great traveler. She took annual trips to England for the Christmas celebrations and went on to a variety of foreign destinations. These trips produced many of the thimbles in her collection of British Commemoratives as well as ideas for the interpretive needlework she sold in her studio.

As a needlepoint enthusiast, designer and teacher, she became well known for her unusual modern approach to this age-old craft. She was the subject of many admiring articles in the Chicago Tribune newspapers weekend Craft section. An obituary in the Tribune was headed Dorothy Friend, 93, Took Needlepoint in New Directions.

Dorothy really was a mover and shaker!

Written by Di Pelham Burn (UK)

The photos shown below are of some of her commemorative thimbles, British and American. Commemorative thimble holders, a pincushion coach with bone wheels and a Royal coach tape measure.



Here is a selection of thimble shoes or slippers that were in Dorothy's collection. Pressed glass in all colors and also ones with embellishment; bone china, leather, fabric with beading, wood, gilded, brass and even sterling silver. Special cases were made to display the thimble shoes or slippers.



