

*In Memoriam for our Member who has Passed*



*Like branches on a Tree, we all  
grow in different directions; but  
our roots keep us all together.*



*Ellyn  
Kern-Brown*

**Member of Coleraine Historical Society: 20 years 1964 – 1984**

**Positions held in CHS: One of 9 Founders of CHS**

**Held numerous Trustee positions of Transportation, Program, Curator, Arts & Crafts**

## *Obituary*

**March 19, 1938 – January 9, 2023 (Age 84)**

**On January 9, 2023, our last CHS FOUNDING MEMBER passed:  
ELLYN KAYE KERN-BROWN**

**ELLYN RUTENSCHROER** was born in Cincinnati, OH to parents Gilbert and Helen Rutenschroer.

In 1958, Ellyn married Kenneth Kern. They had 4 children: Deborah (Kern) Wildrick, Douglas MacArthur Kern, Lincoln Warren Kern, Bennett Marshal Kern and 2 step children Andrea Kern and Brian Kern.

In 1959, she received a Bachelor Degree in Sociology from the University of Cincinnati.

In 1965, the Kern family moved to Indianapolis, Indiana where they felt their Democratic ideologies would be more welcomed.

From 1963 to 1965, Ellyn was President and Manager of Tri-State Country Club in Bennington, IN. Beginning in 1965, Ellyn was Publisher and writer with Cottontail Publications in Bennington, IN. From 1974-1986, she was Office Manager for her husband's company Kenneth C. Kern and Associates in Indianapolis, IN.

Ellyn was named a notable publisher, writer by Marquis Who's Who.

- 1979 published the book "Underground Homes of Indiana"
- 1998 published the book "Switzerland County Indiana Cemetery Locator"
- 1982 published the book "Where the American Presidents Lived: Including a Guide to the Homes That Are Open"
- 2002 published "Ohio River Writers: Collection of Short Stories & Vignettes"

In 1973, Ellyn and Ken divorced.

On September 16, 1978, Ellyn married Gerald (Jerry) F. Brown.

1974 the Midwest Sunbathing Association, named Ellyn Rutenschroer Kern as their Woman of the Year.

Other notable memberships include:

- Midwest Sunbathing Association
  - Woman of Year 1974
- American Association Nude Recreation
  - Woman of Year 1987
  - secretary-treasurer 1984-1985, 1988-1991
  - research and education chairman 1986- 2018
- Trustee Modern Sciences and Arts 1993-1996
- Member National Writers Association
- International Association Indiana Publications
- Ohio Valley Writers League
- Indiana Campground Owners Association (board directors since 1992),  
Recreational Vehicle Indiana Council
  - (alternate director 1988-1989, director 1989-1991)
- National Association R.V. Parks and Campgrounds
- American Federation Astrologers
- Switzerland Chamber of Commerce (secretary 1991)
- Mensa

Ellyn remained active in historical societies. Ellyn and Jerry Brown were members of the Indiana History Society and Switzerland County History Society (served as secretary 1990 until 2021)