



8996 Darrow Rd., Twinsburg, OH 44087-1720 Phone: 330-487-5565

www.twinsburghistoricalsociety.org president@twinsburghistoricalsociety.org

This month's newsletter dedication is to "Thank" Dale Diersing for all the work and knowledge he shares with anyone who asks.

If questions are asked Dale seems to be able to find the answers!!

Thanks Dale!!

January program: A brief reminder for anyone who receives the Newsletter electronically (*if you get this by regular mail it will not arrive in time.*): On January 18 we will have a presentation by John Kudley, President of the Aurora Historical Society. He will tell us about the History of Geauga Lake Park - it's sure to be of interest! He will also bring pictures and artifacts, so plan to visit awhile. The program starts at 7:00, although the doors will be open by 6:45 at the latest. There is no charge and we'll have refreshments. This is at the Museum.

January's Open House will once again offer an opportunity to make Valentines. We will have a variety of materials and fancy scissors - just bring your ideas. Open House is Sunday, January 29, 2:00-5:00. Kids of all ages are welcome!

This year's **Black History Celebration** has "Unity" as its theme. The celebration will be on February 25 at 2:00 at the Congregational Church in Twinsburg, on the Square. The program is still a work in progress but there will be music provided by the Zellner family, presentations by local officials and performances by some of our high school performance groups. We will have refreshments too. Check out our Facebook page, our website, and the Twinsburg Bulletin for more details as we finalize our plans. Mark the date on your calendars too. This is a day to celebrate all faiths and ethnicities we are blessed to have in our three communities, Twinsburg, the Township and Reminderville. This celebration has become an annual tradition and we welcome any suggestions, and of course, volunteers. If you have ideas to share please contact Dr. Constance Longmire at drcjlongmire@gmail.com.

March Open House is Sunday, the 26th, 2:00-5:00. At 3:00 we will have a presentation by someone from the Summit County Prosecutor's Office. They will give us ideas and tips on cybersecurity, among other things. The office says this is a "safety speech". Look for more details in the next Newsletter.

2023

February Newsletter

Mark Your Calendar

1/29/2023, Open House, Valentine Craft Making, 2-5PM. Museum.

2/1/2023, Trustee Meeting, 7PM, First Congregational Church.

2/25/2023, Special Program, **Black History "Unity" Celebration**, 2PM, First Congregational Church

2/26/2023, Open House, 2-5PM, Museum.

3/1/2023, Trustee Meeting, 7PM, First Congregational Church.

3/26/2023, Open House, 2-5PM, Special Program, "**Safety Speech**" by the Summit County Prosecutor's Office, Museum.

4/5/2023, Trustee Meeting, 7PM, Museum.

4/23/2023, Open House, 2-5PM, Museum.

5/3/2023, Trustee Meeting, 7PM, Museum.

5/21/2023, Open House, 2-5PM, Museum.

6/7/2023, Trustee Meeting, 7PM, Museum.

6/25/2023, Open House, 2-5PM, Museum.

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We are also in search of photographers. We need folks to capture our events, programs and Open Houses. We are in need of fresh pictures of our properties, the Barn, the museum, the Riley House and the Moses Roach House. We would like to freshen our Facebook banner and add pictures to our press releases. We would always give photo credit. Email your pictures to president@twinsburghistoricalsociety.org. If you have any questions you can also call us at 330 487 5565 and leave a message.

Want to get involved or just help out?

Are you a High School Student that needs community service hours?
Are you a person that just wants to get involved with the Historical Society as a volunteer? Please consider signing up as a THS Volunteer. It is simple, Just fill out the Volunteer Information Sheet and we will put you on our Volunteer list. When things come up we will contact you and give you dates, times and what we need help with. You can download the form by scanning this QR Code.



Please support the Twinsburg Historical Society by shopping at smile.amazon.com

Smile has the same products, **prices**, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on **AmazonSmile**, the **AmazonSmile** Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice. For example: the Twinsburg Historical Society

All you need to **do** is start your shopping at smile.amazon.com. The donation **will** be made at no extra cost to you. On your first visit to **AmazonSmile** (smile.amazon.com), you are prompted to select a charitable organization from their list of eligible organizations or better still, type in the Twinsburg Historical Society.

To see how much you have donated, hover over "Hello, [your name] Account & Lists", then in the right column of the drop-down, click on "Your **Amazon Smile**." You'll see your orders, what **donation** you've generated for your charity (us), and how **much** your charity(us) has collected overall from **Amazon Smile**. It **REALLY** adds up and is a perfect way to support a great organization at no cost to you.

Please note:

*The Facebook page is open to all for sharing historical information or old picture. It is a great way to drop great information and tasty historical tidbits. It is **NOT** for advertising or discussions about local issues or politics. We are a non-partisan group dedicated to the preservation of and participation in the history of our three communities. If you are not sure don't post. Send us a private message, email or give us a call.*

"The challenge of history is to recover the past and introduce it to the present."

David P Thelen

Renewing Members:

Genevieve Spera
Brian & Leslie Bowers
Theresa Matrisciano
Ralph & Katherine Linton

Renewing Business Partners:

Johnson-Romito Funeral Home
Jilek Roofing Inc.
M & G Pools
Taylor Dental

This month's Featured Business Partner:



Emery Electric is a medium sized electrical contracting company in Twinsburg, Ohio and is fully qualified to handle all of your commercial, residential and industrial electrical needs. Our team specializes in combining quality workmanship with a personal interest in your electrical project. We offer design and build services for those customers who may have specialized needs.

EMERY ELECTRIC IS CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF "PULLING TOGETHER"!

Cleveland Phone: (330) 963-7811

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Twinsburg, OH 44087**

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Racing in Northfield Timeline by D. Diersing 2015

GENERAL OHIO RACING NOTES

Northfield and Thistledown dominated horse racing during the postwar period.

When the aging facilities of Ohio's race tracks needed to be upgraded in the 1970s, the racing lobby, made up of track owners, horsemen, and breeders, lobbied the state of Ohio for help.

Ohio, anxious to preserve its lucrative source of revenue, permitted tracks to defray up to 70% of the capital costs for improvements such as new track surfaces, grandstands, and barns by using tax money earmarked for the state.

Northfield and Thistledown received \$4.5 million for the \$6.5 million they spent to upgrade their facilities.

In 1977 Thistledown had 218 racing dates with an average daily attendance of 4,826 and an average take of \$526,546.

Northfield had 197 racing dates with an average daily attendance of 3,376 and an average take of \$317,122.

In the 1980s poor economic conditions and inflation caused attendance and betting to decline.

Track owners complained about state taxes (about 5-6% of the gross betting), and the racing lobby persuaded the Ohio legislature to grant them a \$12.4 million annual tax break beginning in 1984.

In spite of the subsidy, the average pari-mutuel betting at Thistledown and Northfield was only slightly better in 1986 than it had been in 1977.

Financial problems continued into the 1990s, track owners concluded that their only salvation was to, establish off-track betting.

DeBartolo threatened to close Thistledown unless Ohio approved the legislation, but it was held up by opposition from the harness interests, some of whom believed that the parlors would seriously erode live attendance at their tracks.

In 1994 the state's 7 tracks were permitted to establish one or two off-track parlors that would offer pari-mutuel wagering via television.

NORTHFIELD TOWNSHIP First settle in 1807, organized into a Township in 1819 27 square miles (17,280 acres)

1912 – Macedonia became a village, 9.75 sq. miles (6,240 acres). Settled in 1905,

1912 - Northfield Center Township, 5.3 sq. miles (3,392.1 acres)

1932 – Sagamore Hills 11.3 sq. Miles (7,232 acres) separates and becomes Sagamore Hills Township.

1935 – Northfield Village 1.08 sq. miles (691.2 acres) succeeded from Northfield Township by vote. 3,677 people in 2010

NOTE - April 4, 1935, when Northfield Village succeeded from Northfield Township it left the Mayor and Township Council in chaos due to residency requirements because only one council member resided in the newly created Northfield village.

This concludes Dale's info on "Racing in Northfield Timeline". Thanks again Dale for letting us use this in our newsletters.

This Month in History:

1920 Royal Canadian Mounted Police Established

1976 In Guatemala and Honduras a 7.5 magnitude earthquake centered about 160 km northeast of Guatemala City kills more than 22,000.

1952 King George VI Dies

1929 Vatican City Gains independent sovereignty

1965 Canada adopts Maple Leaf For Canadian Flag

1954 Polio Vaccines Start in United States

2010 2/3 of the world's population using mobile phones

1954 DNA Double Helix Discovered

1922 Nineteenth Amendment To The Constitution passed

Trivia Challenge:

What famous criminal started a soup kitchen?

- A. Al Capone
- B. Adolf Eichmann
- C. Jesse James
- D. Charles Manson

A. Al Capone
In 1931, the *Chicago Tribune* pro-claimed that "120,000 meals are served by Capone Free Soup Kitchen," making Al Capone out to be a "Robin Hood". Many of those served by Capone said that he was doing more for the poor than the government.

Answer:

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Jon Howard*	Vice President
Audrey Kancler*	Secretary
Gayle Davet*	Treasurer
Lea Bissell	Historian
Richard Bissell*	Maintenance
Diana Kriedman*	Acquisitions
Marti Franks*	Publicity
Beverly Klimas*	Displays
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Giz Roddie*	Trustee
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Keith Harris*	Trustee
Leslie Roach Bowers*	Volunteer Coordinator

*** Trustees**

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