



T W I N S B U R G HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 7, Twinsburg, OH 44087-1720

Phone: 330-487-5565

Trustee News:

It was with regret that the Trustees accepted the resignation of Betty Tomko, but this was done with the hope that she will rejoin the Board in the future. In the meantime, she will continue to monitor the phone at the Museum and pick up messages. And a new Trustee has been added! Marti Franks, recently retired from Twinsburg High School, joins the Trustees officially in December. Marti has been involved in all presentations of "Tales of Locust Grove" and is already handling publicity for our group. Welcome Marti!

No December Open House:

THERE WILL BE NO DECEMBER OPEN HOUSE because the last Sunday of the month is Christmas Day. However, there are always Trustees willing to take individuals or groups on private tours. Just leave a message on the Museum's answering machine (330-487-5565) and arrangements can be made. The next official open house will be January 29th.

We've had some comments at recent open houses about how nice the Museum is looking. For over a year, Charlotte Wike, Trustee, has been working her way through the Museum, from kitchen/craft area back toward the office. She has cleaned, rearranged, and added to displays and she is also re-doing the various labels and descriptions. These areas have a much more appealing look. Come see for yourselves!

Christmas Party:

This year's Christmas party will be held at the Riley House on December 7th. Come at 7:00, enjoy complimentary refreshments, and tour the house. If you would like to participate in a gift exchange, bring a wrapped white elephant (one that is not overly valuable). The highlight of the Christmas party will be the annual QUILT RAFFLE. This year's quilt is approximately 100" X 80" and the theme is "Spinning Stars". Raffle tickets, \$5.00 apiece, will be available at the party. If you can't get to the party but want to see the quilt and buy a ticket, stop at the Museum on Tuesday, between 9 AM and Noon. Dolly Raines, who always supervises the making of these quilts and does the majority of the work, would be happy to sell you a ticket. And, you can see the quilt that is currently being made for 2012!

December 2011

January 2012

Mark Your Calendars:

December 7, 2011

*December Meeting
At the Riley House
Holiday Party 7PM*

January 29, 2012

Open House 2-5PM

February 1, 2012

February Meeting

March 7, 2012

March Meeting

April 4, 2012

April Meeting

May 2, 2012

May Meeting

June 6, 2012

June Meeting



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Bob Evans Fund Raiser Wrap up:

A big "THANK YOU" to all who came to Bob Evans on Nov. 8th in support of the Historical Society. There were familiar faces all day long! Unofficial reports say that we will receive \$300 as our share of the day's proceeds.

Looking for Charity:

If someone has a laptop they no longer need.....perhaps they will be replacing it with a newer model over the Holidays....the Historical Society could make good use of a laptop. We have been trying to improve our organizing and record keeping, and a laptop would help! Just contact one of the Trustees or leave a message at 330-487-5565 if you have one you would like to donate.

2011 Recap:

As this is the last Newsletter for 2011, and our next one is in February of 2012, this is a good time to look back before we start to look ahead.

Our first Open House was on January 30 hosted by Lea Bissell and Charlotte Wike. It was the first of the monthly events with the exception of December when the Open House will be replaced by the annual Christmas Party, this year at the Riley House. It is on Wednesday, December 7, at 7 PM. This year we established the \$500 Robert Culhan Scholarship. This is in part to recognize the contributions of the students for our annual Locust Grove event and also to honor the dedication of long-time member Bob Culhan. The winner for 2011 was Katie Simecek.

In March we hosted 14 special-needs adults from the Youngstown area. They were accompanied by 7 assistants. Throughout the year we host a variety of groups and it is always a pleasure. It was especially enjoyable, however, to see the enthusiasm of this special group. The second American Girl Tea Party, sponsored by the Twinsburg Public Library, was held at the Riley House on April 16. Another successful way to involve young people in the history of our city.

On May 22 Dan Simecek presented a very interesting and well-attended talk on the history of the Twinsburg Fire Department. A DVD is available for those who missed the talk - just give us a call to borrow it. Our June Rummage Sale on June 25 and 26 was another revenue source thanks to the generosity of the donors and the shoppers. Our July 31 Open House was enhanced by an Ice Cream Social through the kindness of our local Dairy Queen. People also had another opportunity to pick up some left over bargains from the Rummage Sale.

In August we had a float in the Twins Day parade, the first in a long time. The float was named the "Most Unique" by the judges. We also had a table in the Chamberlin Park area and fielded many questions about Twinsburg's history. Musicians from the Gitter Pickers performed at the "Music at the Barn" on August 26 to a packed "barn" of listeners and participants. September 10th and 11th was the Olde Tyme Fayre with lots of crafts and food and fun. Former Twinsburg Mayor Jim Karabec spoke at the September Open House, sharing his knowledge of old barns in general and ours in detail. Befitting this event, three sides of the Barn had received some badly needed painting by the time Jim spoke. The north side, with the lettering, will be re-painted next year. October was a busy month that included the fourth annual Tales of Locust Grove on October 7 and 8. The attendance was better than ever, and over \$1400 will be available for repairs at the old cemetery. Storytelling at the Barn on October 27 and our regular Open House at both the Museum and the Riley House rounded out the month.

Fund Raisers at Bob Evans in March and November helped raise money needed for upkeep of our buildings. November had the last Open House of 2011, and the Christmas Party at the Riley House on December 7 is our last chance to ring out the old. All are welcome.



POST OFFICE AND CIVIL STATUS

From official records we learn that Twinsburg's first postmaster was Moses Wilcox. He was appointed Mar. 28, 1825, but where the office was and how much business was done is not known. After the death of Mr. Wilcox in 1827 Mr. Ethan Ailing was appointed to the position. At that time mail was received once a week from Hudson. In 1828 the total postal receipts were \$36.01. With the institution of the stage line came a tri-weekly mail. In 1839 the receipts were \$256.67, and in 1860 about \$400.00 although postal rates had been greatly reduced. For the quarter ending Sep. 30, 1890, they were \$100.01, while for the quarter ending Sep. 30, 1916, they were \$176.58. After the Cleveland and Pittsburg railway was built the mail was daily brought from Macedonia, Mr. Salmon Nelson being carrier. Later Mr. Alanson Mills held the position many years. The first money order issued by the Twinsburg office was dated Apr. 7, 1890; Oct. 2, 1916, money order No. 17000 was issued. The money order receipts totaled \$542.06 during September, 1916. In July, 1903, a rural free delivery route was established with Mr. O. P. Nichols as carrier. He was succeeded in 1908 by his son, Bela F. Nichols. There are now two mails each day bringing an average of 334 pieces of first, 246 of second, 161 of third, and 17 of fourth class mail. Following is a list of Twinsburg postmasters with dates of their appointments: Moses Wilcox, Mar. 28, 1823; Ethan Ailing, Oct. 24, 1827; Edwin T. Richardson, Nov. 2, 1839; George H. Ailing, Jan. 6, 1851; S. D. Kelly, July 9, 1853; Alonzo L. Nelson, Jan. 17, 1855; Hector Taylor, May 27, 1861; George Stanley, Apr. i, 1868; William McKinney, July 19, 1871; Sherman Lane, Dec. 13, 1880; Fred D. Barber, Nov. 3, 1885; Seth R. Hanchette, Apr. 27, 1889; Alonzo L. Nelson, July 24, 1893; Bert Chamberlin, Jan. 30, 1897; Albert W. Elliott, Jan. 17, 1901; Roy W. Nichols, Oct. 21, 1908; Albert W. Elliott, Dec. 2, 1911. It is quite probable that since 1831 the post office has always been located immediately overlooking the northern portion of the public square, and for over twenty years in its present location.

The people of Twinsburg have never been conspicuous as seekers of office and, consequently, Twinsburg has not been represented in public office so much as some other towns, this tendency being emphasized by the fact that the county seats have both been rather distant. At the time of the organization of the new county of Summit, April, 1840, Mr. Augustus E. Foote was elected as a county commissioner, and re-elected that fall for the regular three year term. (2011 Editor's note: Prior to 1840, Twinsburg was in Portage County.) In the numerous adjustments necessary at that critical time Mr. Foote rendered efficient service. He was also a representative in the state legislature in 1843-4. Another county commissioner from Twinsburg was Nelson Upson, elected in 1860, re-elected in 1863, resigning the office in March, 1866.

Orrin P. Nichols, one of Twinsburg's prosperous farmers, also a successful lumberman in western Pennsylvania and northern New York, was elected representative to the state legislature in 1875. He died April, 1877, before the expiration of his term of office, lamented by his colleagues and fellow townsmen. William McKinney, one of Twinsburg's "soldier boys," and at the time of his election, Twinsburg's postmaster, was elected in 1880 county sheriff, and re-elected in 1882. Throughout his four years of service he was assisted by Evelyn A. Parmelee, a comrade from Twinsburg, as deputy sheriff. Horace P. Cannon was in 1859 made president of the Summit County Agricultural Society, and in 1863 was re-elected to that office which he filled with characteristic zeal. The present township officers are: Township trustees, Dr. L. G. Grist, William Fee, Ransom Tyson; clerk, Ellsworth J. McCreery; treasurer, Edward Crouse; constable, S. H. Crankshaw; superintendent of roads, V. R. Hempstead; notaries public, A. J. Brown and Dr. R. B. Chamberlin.

This is another section from "The Green Book"



Twinsburg Historical Society News Letter

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Twinsburg, OH 44087



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