



# T W I N S B U R G HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

Phone: 330-487-5565

## Late News

Many apologies for not announcing the winner of the 2012 quilt in the last Newsletter! This was the "Double Wedding Ring" pattern and the drawing was held at the Christmas party on Dec. 5. The raffle brought in the most money ever - \$705!! The winner is Carol Cornell. The current year's quilt's pattern is Rising Star. It can be viewed at the Museum, where the Tuesday morning group is busy working on it, or, it is prominently displayed on the front page of January's Twinsburg Tribune...along with the quilters!

## No March Open House

There is no March Open House at the Museum because Easter falls on the last Sunday of March. Appointments to visit the Museum can always be made by leaving a number on the Museum phone - 330-487-5565.

## Fund Raiser at Bob Evans

January 22nd was cold and snowy, and Bob Evans customers trickled in slowly at first. But there were many familiar faces, and at 6:30 PM there were at least 32 people who were eating dinner at Bob Evans because of the Historical Society. Friends and strangers admired the display "Dressed for Dinner" which was assembled by Charlotte Wike and gave an idea of what people might have worn when going out for dinner 75 to 100 years ago. There is no report yet on what was earned that night, but the 50-50 raffle netted \$50 for the Historical Society. Quite a remarkable coincidence since we are celebrating our 50th anniversary. Geni Spera won the raffle. Our thanks to all who supported us!

## Annual Meeting/Potluck

Location: Twinsburg Congregational Church, 9050 Church St..  
April 20, 2013, Arrive between 4:30 and 5:00  
Dinner at 5:00 and short meeting  
6:30 - Program: A Visit With Esther and Jerry Corbett

## February's Open House:

Host & Hostess: Gayle Davet and Rich Bissell

## March 2013

### Mark Your Calendars:

**Monthly Meetings First  
Wednesday of every  
month at 7:00 PM**

**Open House the last  
Sunday of Every Month  
from 2-5PM**

**March 13, 2013 7:00PM  
Barn Quilts Program**

**No March Open House.**

**April 20, 2013  
Annual Pot Luck Meeting**

**May 11, 2013, 9:00AM  
Twinsburg Garden Club  
Plant Sale**

**More coming next  
month.....**

2013 Membership Dues  
forms went out in last months  
newsletter. If you forgot to  
pay them or lost the form you  
can go to our website and fill  
it out on line, then print it  
and send it in with your  
dues!!

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**Our Next Miniature Building is.....**

Our next miniature building will be Corbett's Barn. We hope to have a good supply by the annual meeting. Those of you who have discovered that our buildings make great gifts will be happy to know that they will soon be for sale in the Friends' Gift Shop at the Library and at the Chamber of Commerce, which is back on Church Street.

**Valentine's Day**

Valentine's Day will be over by the time you receive this Newsletter, but the collection of old Valentines will still be on display at the Museum.

**The Green Book**

Interestingly, our Green book, Twinsburg, Ohio 1817 - 1917 aka "The Nosey Book" was begun 100 years ago. It was decided at the annual meeting of the Samuel Bissell Memorial Library Association, Feb. 22, 1913, to publish Twinsburg's history for the 1917 Centennial. The book is remarkably comprehensive in its scope and details of the lives and genealogies of the residents.

**Music and the Nosey Book**

The recent excellent production of the "The Music Man" by the Twinsburg Community Theater and the continuing successes of the schools' show choirs makes the Green book's section on music even more relevant. Twinsburg's first "singing teacher" was Luther Prentiss who came to Twinsburg in 1823. From 1845 to 1860 John Fessenden taught music at the Twinsburg Institute and included residents of the town at no charge. Singing schools dwindled in the late 1800's and at some point this bothered people as it was felt that all children should have the opportunity to learn something of music. The solution seemed to be to teach music in the various schools but this was awkward as there were several buildings scattered throughout the community. However, in 1910 the vote was taken to centralize the schools. It is reported that a factor in the vote to centralize was the realization that the ability to teach music would be much better in a central location.

A band was first organized about 35 years after Twinsburg was settled, and several formed and disbanded through the 1800s. Apparently by 1909 there was no band, for that is the year a Professor Parkinson came to Twinsburg to organize a band. He said he had heard that Twinsburg was a "decidedly musical town". Details of the formation of the band begin on p. 72 in the Green book and include the names of Prof. Parkinson's successors....all of whom are "Professor". As we learned from "The Music Man" this was a normal title for a band leader in those times.

Orchestras were also formed in Twinsburg, starting in 1880, although might have consisted of only five or six people at times. But 100 years ago, Twinsburg had both a very active band and orchestra.....quite an accomplishment for a town that by 1917 numbered only 829 (Green book. p.184.)



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**Save The Date:**

Wednesday, March 13, 2013, 7pm. Join us at the Historical Society for the unveiling of the pattern for the Freeman Barn quilt and the significance in choosing this pattern. We are having a special program that evening presented by Christopher Norman, Executive Director, Crown Point Ecology Center, the site of the only other barn quilt in Summit County. Mr. Norman will share the story of their barn quilt and give some background on the quilt trail. Additionally, we will learn about Crown Point, a 115-acre "living laboratory" farmland in Bath, Ohio, which hosts educational programs for adults, Summer Farm and Science Camps for children, a Community Supported Agriculture Program, and a Foodbank Farm. Mr. Norman is very enthusiastic about his work, a wealth of knowledge on sustainable agriculture, and a speaker you won't want to miss!

**The Way We Were**

As we continue to celebrate our fiftieth anniversary it is a good time to go back through our closets. Fashion often follows history and the fashions of the early sixties were moving away from the post war deprivations into something more youth oriented. The high fashion of the magazines did not find its way to the J.C. Penney catalogue.

The 1963 Tiger Tales, the yearbook for R.B. Chamberlin High School, pictured girls in skirts to the knee. Peter Pan collared blouses were covered by crew neck sweaters and a plaid pleated skirt that wrapped around and fastened with an oversized decorative safety pin. Plain cardigan sweaters were worn over print blouses and a wide belt. Over blouses were popular eliminating the need for belt. Skirts could have large buttons adorning the front of the skirt and the shirtwaist was still popular. High heels were saved for Sunday and prom. Girls chose from loafers or canvas Keds or a plain pair of flats. Girls wore slacks but they were not school clothes and blue jeans were blue and nobody thought of them having been designed. Most of the designers were designing for the British invasion. Most everyone wore stockings and many still held them up with garter belts or panty girdles which had the added advantage of pulling in the belly and flattening the back side. Earrings were for dress up and were clipped or screwed into place. They usually matched the necklace and often the bracelet as well. Dances ranged from sock hops to informal to semiformal to formal. Formal was reserved for proms and weddings. Not too many coming out parties or debutante balls here in Twinsburg that year.

Boys wore school pants and shirts with collars. Ties were skinny and mostly for teachers who wore sports jackets or suits. Boys wore loafers or gym shoes but they didn't resemble the wide variety of styles and colors of Nike, or Converse. Of course leather tie shoes or loafers were good for dress. Boys closets were not as full as the ladies. Colors were fine for school and play but white was preferred for dressing up.

It was easier tell where people were headed by what they wore. You needed a good warm coat and the ladies tucked their warm leather gloves in the pocket. Most people wore wrist watches. It was the preferred graduation gift.

Colors were calmer and warmer and fabrics were heavier and had to be ironed. Wash and wear was coming in but the whites couldn't be bleached and there was always that tattletale gray.

Hair color was reserved for the more mature. The young set went for bleaching to blond. Boys were beginning to look at longer styles but they left color to the girls.

Prom dresses had full short skirts and spaghetti straps. Cap sleeves for the not so fancy events. Boys wore dark suits and the sport jacket was just gaining acceptance.

Clothes were worn for a long time but not as long as the post war years. Flipping through the Bulletin and the yearbooks there is little hint of the explosion of youthful influence that will work its way to Twinsburg.

Next time we will talk of the events, local, national and international that shaped the days to come.

# Twinsburg Historical Society News Letter

## P.O. Box 7

### Twinsburg, OH 44087

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