



T W I N S B U R G HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

Phone: 330-487-5565

Tales of Locust Grove

Our thanks to all who helped make "Tales of Locust Grove" such a success! Actors, musicians, donors, attendees, and the weather all worked together for a wonderful two evenings. We had 215 people come through on Friday, and 124 on Saturday. As usual, our Locust Grove "residents" received rave reviews. And certainly no one left hungry, thanks to the Twinsburg merchants who donated: Brewster's Cafe, Fresh Start Diner, George's Doughnuts, Giant Eagle, Gionino's Pizza, Heinen's, Marco's Pizza, Pizza Hut, Romeo's, Starbucks, Subway, Teresa's Pizza, and Twinsburg Beverage. Profits for the event will be between \$1100 and \$1200. This money is earmarked for the upkeep of Locust Grove (see article on page..... entitled.....) Donations, however, are for the maintenance of the Museum and Barn, and we received \$145 in donations! Just as importantly, we had visits from many people who had never been to the Museum before and were quite impressed. This is the sixth year for "Tales of Locust Grove"....and thoughts have already turned to *next* year!

Bob Evans Fund Raiser

The Bob Evans fund raiser on Oct. 4 drew a lot of support. Familiar faces were present all day, and many people stopped to reminisce about our display of old toys. We don't know what we will receive for the day, but hope to have a report by the next Newsletter. Again, we thank all who took part, all who donated, and all who bought quilt raffle tickets.

Thank you

This seems to be a Newsletter with lots of "thank yous" for donations. Twinsburg is truly a supportive community, and we are grateful. One person has been especially kind to us in recent months and, with her permission, we thank Dale Depenbrok Watson (RB Chamberlin class of 1964) for her generosity and interest.

History Forum

Plan to be at the Historical Society on Wednesday, Nov. 13th, if you want to hear about Twinsburg in the 40's, 50's and 60's. This "History Forum" will feature a panel of Bev Hegedish, Marge Herrick, Ray Diersing, Dan Simecek, and Lea Bissell. Dottie Oliver will contribute her skills as Moderator. As we did with our first "Forum", in the Spring of 2012, we invite all to bring their memories and questions. And, of course, there will be refreshments.

November 2013

Mark Your Calendars:

Nov. 13, 2013

Community History Forum 7:00PM

Saturday, Nov. 16,
10AM

**Internet Genealogy at
the Summit County
Main Library**

Sunday, Dec. 29

**Open House, Christmas
Party, Caroling**

Wednesday, Feb. 19

**"Grandma's Attic &
Grandpa's Garage"
7:30 PM**

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Halloween Story Telling at the Barn

This event is Oct. 24 and is a collaboration of the Historical Society and Twinsburg Library. It is open to children ages 5 and older. Registration, which is required, is through the Library. Twinsburg residents may register in person beginning Oct. 3rd. Online (www.twinsburglibrary.org) and phone registration (330-425-4268 Ext. 3) begin October 10th. This is always a fun event - there are stories and audience participation, and children may wear their Halloween costumes if they wish. Cider and donuts end the evening!

Internet Genealogy at the Summit County Main Library

Saturday, Nov. 16, 10AM - Main Library, Computer Lab 2

There are an overwhelming number of Web sites for genealogy research. This class will provide tips for locating online resources, focusing on finding those that are free. For those researching family history, this could be an invaluable class. Call the Special Collections Dept. at the Akron Public Library, at 330-643-9030, for questions and to register.

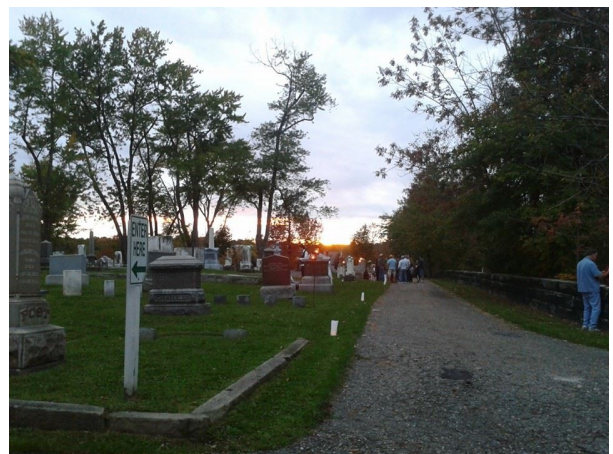
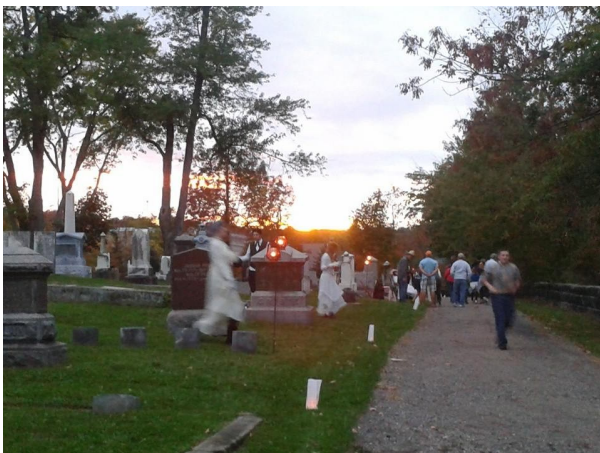
Christmas Party

We hope to see many of you at our annual Christmas party, this year to be held at the Museum on Sunday, Dec. 29. This will be during our regular open house hours, 2:00 - 5:00. We will enjoy light refreshments throughout the open house and plan on a white elephant gift exchange. Anyone who wants to participate in the gift exchange should bring a wrapped "white elephant" worth less than \$10 by 3:30. As a special treat, we will have Christmas Caroling with a group organized by Lyndsi Hersch, a THS grad, "Tales of Locust Grove" alum, and organizer of last summer's program "Riding the Freedom Train". All welcome - adults and children of all ages!

Tree Planting

The final part of our 50th Anniversary Celebration will be having a tree planted in the town square (or in the "Park" for long-time Twinsburg residents). More info to come.

Tales of Locust Grove Pictures:



Hostesses for Open House Oct. 27th are Gayle Davet and Gail Herrilko

Check us out on the Web: www.lwkweb.com/twinsburghistoricalsociety

TWINSBURG'S FIGHT FOR TEMPERANCE

MRS. MARY FESSENDEN

Part 1 of 3

History tells us that the first mills erected in Twinsburg were a sawmill in 1817, a gristmill in 1818, and a distillery in 1821. We also are told that the whiskey was carried away in gallon bottles as fast as it ran from the pipes. However, on account of the difficulty in obtaining rye, this distillery did not long continue in operation.

That first distillery and whiskey bottles have caused Twinsburg a deal of trouble. Liquor drinking was made popular by the fact that liquor was served at all house and barn raisings. As the population increased business also increased. For years liquor was free to be bought or sold at the stores and no questions asked. At the close of the Civil War the U. S. government put a revenue on liquor, and later the state required the vendor of liquors to have a license.

Intemperance seemed to be on the increase everywhere and there was great agitation all over the country regarding it. There began to be organizations in our own town. The "Sons of Temperance" did good and faithful work to down the monster, but it had gotten an iron grasp on Twinsburg. The people became alarmed and went to work with a will. They knew it would be a hard pull, and a long pull, but they were confident victory would finally crown their efforts. We already had a few laws that, if enforced, would help our condition.

The building on the corner across from the hotel was owned by Mr. James Hill who kept a store of general merchandise, both dry and wet goods, and curiosities of all description. Surely Dickens would have called it another "Old Curiosity Shop." Mr. Hill was a unique character and everything in the building was characteristic of himself. On the first floor were dry goods and all sorts of implements and notions; in the basement were all kinds of wet goods; wines, whisky, brandy, rum and New Orleans molasses. In 1872 Mr. Hill died and Mr. A. L. Nelson was appointed administrator. All the goods were sold except the wet goods which were removed to the stone store on the northwest corner of the square. Here they were sold and the supply replenished as soon as necessary. It was not long before there began lively times in the old town of Twinsburg. Old men, young men and even boys were soon drawn into the vortex. Mothers began to be alarmed for their sons, and wives for their husbands. In the meantime the proprietor had purchased the Hill building and fitted it up for a saloon and soon had men behind the bar dealing out intoxicants. For some time this was the only place in town where the nefarious business of selling liquor was carried on for the purpose solely of making money.

This business affected not only our own town, but the surrounding country felt the baneful influence of the Twinsburg saloon. Topers would drive into town and their horses would stand for hours, pelted by the merciless storms, while they, inside, were preparing for the doom that surely awaited them. I would here assure my readers that I know whereof I speak for I have lived to see the awful results of that saloon.

The ladies of Twinsburg, thinking it time to have something done to stay the tide of intemperance in our own town, and stimulated to action by the success of our sisters in other places, resolved to do all they could toward the suppression of this growing evil. Several meetings were held before any society was formed. A permanent organization was talked of and it was finally decided to have a society with a constitution and officers. A committee was appointed to draft a constitution, and a meeting was appointed for April 8, 1874, in the M. E. church. This meeting, which opened with singing and prayer, was largely attended. The proposed constitution was read, accepted and signed by sixty ladies. Thus the "Ladies' Temperance League of Twinsburg" came into existence. A pledge was drawn and circulated. Out of a population of seven hundred only two hundred and eighty signatures were secured. This result was partly due to the fact that so many were ardently attached to the use of hard cider kept by many of our citizens who would not discard it from their cellars.

The above is from the Green "Nosey Book". Which still can be purchased from the Historical Society

Monthly Meetings First Wednesday of every month at 7:00 PM
Open House the last Sunday of Every Month from 2-5PM

Check us out on the Web: www.lwkweb.com/twinsburghhistoricalsociety

Twinsburg Historical Society News Letter

P.O. Box 7

Twinsburg, OH 44087

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