



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

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

Phone: 330-487-5565

## **Christmas Party**

We are doing our Christmas Party a bit differently this year. All are welcome to join us on Sunday, Dec. 29th, at the Museum, 8996 Darrow Rd. During our regularly scheduled open house, 2:00 to 5:00, we will have light refreshments, holiday music, and Christmas caroling. We will also have a white elephant gift exchange, and anyone who wishes to participate should bring a wrapped "white elephant", worth less than \$10.00, by 3:30.

## **Locust Grove Improvements**

*This was the article that was referenced in last months news letter that did not make it into the newsletter.*

The following are improvements that have been made at Locust Grove. Over 40 stones got straightened and or repaired. 12 stones were cleaned and polished. 8 temporary section signs were installed. These signs designate the specific sections of the cemetery as it relates to those deceased in the sections. Permanent signs made from cast iron were purchased for \$780 and will be installed in the spring.

## **Honor Flight Network**

*Mission Statement:*

*Transport American veterans to Washington D.C. to visit those memorials dedicated to honor their service and sacrifices.*

On November 13, 2013, several of us were enjoying the Second History Forum at the Museum, but, our hearts were with three of our members as they traveled to Washington D.C. with the Honor Flight. Don Bissell, Stan Jewell, and George Richner had a wonderful, busy day, even if it started before the sun came up and didn't end till after 10:30 pm. I think they would all tell you it was one of the best days of their lives. They each were able to bring a "guardian" to help them get around, not that they needed it, but Rich Bissell, Dan Richner and Don Schultz will tell you how great it was to be there and see our vets savoring the attention and gratitude owed them. They were able to visit the WWII Memorial, Vietnam Memorial, Korean Memorial, and then a stop at Arlington Cemetery. I could tell you more but my suggestion is ask them. Watch that slow grin spread across their face and watch their eyes light up. A Memorial was finally built for them by the Government, but it's the Honor Flight Network that is making sure any and all WWII vets that want to see it can. Our hats are off to this great organization. We should also thank Marylou Sheller who had the idea and set it into play with the help of Daughter and Granddaughter

By Gail Herrilko

**December 2013**

**January 2014**

## **Mark Your Calendars:**

**Sunday, Dec. 29**

**Open House, Christmas Party, Caroling**

**Wednesday, Feb. 19**

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

**Saturday, April 12th.**

**Annual Meeting:**

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**End of our 50th Year Celebration**

It's been a busy 2013, as we celebrated the growth of the Historical Society from its beginning in 1963. We started with a dinner fundraiser at Bob Evans on Jan. 22 and also had a 50-50 raffle, since we were beginning our 50th year celebration. Amazingly, the raffle netted \$50.

In March we launched our amazing Barn Quilt project, with a program about Crown Point Ecology Center in Bath, it's Barn Quilt, and about Barn Quilt's in general. The pattern for our Freeman Barn Quilt was revealed that night.

Our special commemorative mugs, proclaiming our 50th anniversary, arrived just in time for the annual meeting, April 20th, when we enjoyed a potluck dinner and a special visit with Esther and Jerry Corbett. The following week end we started the Barn Quilt project, with Mayor Katherine Procop painting the first section. May was busy! The Garden Club again held its plant sale at the Barn. Hallie Ponter, daughter of Ed and Joan Ponter, was announced as the winner of our scholarship. At our Open House, May 26, we were a target of Twinsburg's "Cash Mob" plus we finished painting the Barn Quilt. We had many visitors! At the May 28th City Council meeting, Mayor Procop presented a proclamation, congratulating us on our 50th anniversary. Founding Trustee Marge Percy was on hand with current Trustees to accept the award. The Garden Club was similarly honored.

June 14th brought "Riding the Freedom Train", an interactive presentation by 12 Twinsburg college and high school students who told their stories about the Underground Railroad and Twinsburg after the Civil War. At July's open house, we unveiled the Twin Star Barn Quilt. Marge Percy and Mayor Procop pulled the strings that uncovered the Quilt. It was an amazing production, all made possible by Charlotte Wike, Rick and Gail Herrilko.

The following weekend was Twins Days. Through communication by Lea Bissell, we were able to have almost 30 descendents of the Wilcox Twins on our float, decorated as a celebration of our 50th anniversary and a Wilcox family reunion. These families also made visits to our Museum and Barn.

September brought all of the varied experiences of our Olde Thyme Fayre, and October another successful "Tales of Locust Grove", Bob Evans Fundraiser, and "Storytelling at the Barn" with the Library. Ed Ponter spearheaded improvements at Locust Grove Cemetery.

The History Forum was Nov. 13, and the year's events will end with our Christmas party on Dec. 29.

At some point in between those dates, it is hoped that Twinsburg Township will plant a tree in the Town Square, donated by the Historical Society to honor our 50th.

Interspersed with all of the activities are open houses, special tours by Scouts and others, Tuesday morning quilting, weaving, and rug braiding, and countless inquiries by phone or email from out-of-towners with questions about Twinsburg.

And next year we start all over again. Please let us know if you have program ideas or would like to get involved!

**Just an FYI:**

The Riley House is owned by the City but maintained by the Historical Society and that it is available for meetings or parties. Inquiries should be made to 330-487-5565

**Bob Evans report:**

We made \$279 on October 4th. Thanks to all of you!!!

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**Twinsburg Historical Society Forum 2013**

Dottie Oliver served as the moderator of the annual forum hosted by the historical society. Bev Hegedish, Marge Herrick, Ray Diersing, Dan Simecek and Lea Bissell took us back to the Twinsburg of 1940, 50, and 60. Around sixty people came to listen and share. The museum was “full to the brim”. Audrey Kancler and Gail Herrilko kept setting up chairs as people kept coming in. The speakers remembered the days when Twinsburg was mostly a country town and you walked where you wanted to go or you didn’t go. Lea talked about the neat play house behind her Richner house and kids could play all day. They went swimming in the fountain in Crown Hill cemetery except on days when there was a funeral. They remembered their days in the school system when the “Old School” was the real school and winter was for sledding down that hill.

The panel had spent almost their whole lives in Twinsburg. Ray Diersing told about playing war in the Richner yard and Lea Bissell was the nurse. When Ray was taken to her “field hospital” she gave him a shot through a cardboard patch. Well the needle went through the patch and Ray decided he was not going to be wounded any more.

Among the five of them there were roughly 400 or so years to share. We walked around the square and heard how there were two Twinsburg’s joined by a common theme. Everyone was connected and stayed that way over the years.

Several of the folks in the audience contributed their memories as well. Marge Herrick spoke for all when she said, “ I am so glad I had the chance to grow up here. It was a wonderful place”. It was a great night. See you next year.

Marti Franks

**Forum Moderator :Dottie Oliver**



**Forum Speakers: Bev Hegedish, Lea Bissell, Marge Herrick, Ray Diersing and Dan Simecek**



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**Twinsburg History Word Search Puzzle**

T V V K S L H I E P W U L F M Z Y D H W R F K G H I D G C V F B P Q J F G B  
P M W F K X O B R R E L S L A U L G O J A B X I R Q L V K Y H N E R K E B N  
H E P B O Z R C U X E I Y S N B X O Q M M Z N H A R L E Y W A R R I C K K F  
O X W W R U Y W U S G D Q H V X M F R E X D Y L Y Z H B Y X A X D S P E S E  
R K E T F F T P S S W H H V F G O F P T X U L R K A T K A X S P E O C Y K W  
O I M F A O F I A C T W O X E M J G Q H F F Y H A M V O R K M J D B O O O E  
C W J I L Q B B Z Y M G E E R V R T C A D U F E C Y P Y F L N K K A A D Y Y  
T T Z X K L Q U N O V X R A R I F O X N K U Q X J P R S A Z T G R A L J Q V  
O O P C E B P T H V G O F O L F I E Y A J Q G W W U V D G G G J S G U C A F  
N A R U S K S D Y I D S P A V S K Q W L X Q F X L N L H N M R A A W Y G E I  
D S M K D T V I D W T L A Y V E M P S L J H M N I S P X W U P V Q L B X Y R  
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S O D I L I A R E J A C Z O Q W I G P N H B S O W Y C X T F Q X M M W L N T  
V L O W C Y K B K F D U I Z K G T T G G G J O R B C H A M B E R L I N L M C  
C D C W R D R W P W K H N A T I O N A L R E G I S T E R V O Y K T L U E P O  
J E I C Q O R Z A J E V O O W K Z Q H Z A P Y O N Z F M F A F C Y M H T G N  
N T V O C W W X L L G A Q F I D R N N Y G F B U F I P D S B V Q U N M K E G  
I Y I U S H V M T T U P T V I U O Q Q N F C B A S A D D E S F B Y U D N H R  
X M L X Q J K R S D R U A H I C O N N E C T I C U T L A N D C O M P A N Y E  
W E W U J N D J G T G E Q K E Y Z S J T V B V M A I L P O U C H J L J T D G  
K F A Q J E Y I M P A J O G Y R R Y A D E A P J M O U U D P U B N T Q G B A  
B A R S L C V G O B H G P Z I R T S R S P N C W U W N R O V L A S A G S B T  
V Y M D K Z A O S P B I Z Z O T E A U K J D T E A L E C V X M B D U I I Z I  
P R O W D B I C E M W W L B R R H O V K F S T M J N I Z G U P I V V D Y O O  
N E N E V Q D Q S J U D M O E Z H W Q E F T F L W U H U L G I Z G P K B E N  
R A U E X G Z H W L I L A T P Y Q H M W R A F Q U K H W S D S O J V S Q O A  
W C M Z P J O J I K E L H P E O J U E C W N X X M O X E R L U D K C E C J L  
R K E C C A O J L C D J Z L J F S N R B P D O T M W E C M Q A H G V R G K C  
T Z N D D S M W C K J N I P G Q Q T W C P C L G O P H K P L U N D D K J X H  
A W T G H M A R O U K R N H J N Q X T I L I R Y H T E D A T E A E C I Y A U  
X J L L U R N C X H V P Q C E T W M P I P R I G K L D F O R D F B R F O Y R  
Y P V O E J R R Y U I V L G I F K L W J A V R S U J E S D W I B L S G T H C  
M S V U H Z C O Y H H S P Q A G Y N J M K O B O E N I T Q L D E P N X Q U H  
M G F E N J A M F S N H I B P A O H E N Q K A F R E E M A N B A R N C V A D  
C W N T Y I J M L V U M O O O R A C C M J V L V X H A X O E Y C C A P X G K  
T M I B L Q E L F T A G Y E A O W L M S L W I I I L K G S R C Z Z E S R D F  
G R A N G E Y J R Z S B Z A T W I N S B U R G I N S T I T U T E R G I K B M  
S X P M N Y G R O L T Q D G O Q R L K C O K J N B P M H C Y F U W C J M Q Y

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|----------------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Grange       | • Ethan Alling   | • Olde Tyme Fayre             |
| • Band Stand   | • Freeman Barn   | • National Register           |
| • Luman Lane   | • Locust Grove   | • Civil War Monument          |
| • Mail Pouch   | • Moses Wilcox   | • Starkweather Tavern         |
| • Philo Post   | • Corbetts Farm  | • Twinsburg Institute         |
| • Julius Lane  | • RB Chamberlin  | • Connecticut Land Company    |
| • Riley House  | • Harley Warrick | • First Congregational Church |
| • Aaron Wilcox | • Samuel Bissell |                               |

**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](http://www.lwkweb.com/twinsburghhistoricalsociety)

## TWINSBURG'S FIGHT FOR TEMPERANCE

MRS. MARY FESSENDEN

### Part 2 of 3

Nevertheless the temperance ball was kept rolling. The League's prayer meetings were held every week interspersed with lectures and mass meetings. Special days devoted to prayer and fasting were well observed. It is a duty and a privilege to give special mention of the great help and encouragement the League received from our pastors, Rev. Mr. Ely of the M. E. church, Rev. Mr. Post of the Congregational church, and Rev. Mr. Thompson and Rev. Mr. Hall of the Baptist church, and their wives; also the noble women of whom were Mrs. S. M. Bissell, Mrs. J. North and many others who were equally faithful. These pastors spared themselves neither day nor night, preaching in their pulpits, recommending and trying to secure speakers, working among the men, rallying the people for the public lectures and mass meetings. During this time no opportunity was lost to endeavor to persuade the proprietor of the saloon to abandon his ungodly business. Time after time our League sent a delegation to plead with him, but it seemingly was useless. He claimed that he was in a legitimate business, that he was a benefit to the town, that he helped the government, and, furthermore, that one cause of intemperance was "the over anxiety of mothers for their sons," it "having a tendency to destroy their manhood." He said he found nothing in the Bible that forbade the selling of liquor. He expressed his willingness to have the ladies visit him again but intimated the closet was a more suitable place to pray for him than any public place. The ladies promptly assured him the closet had not been neglected in importuning the aid of a Higher Power in his behalf.

So the women of Twinsburg worked on, prayed on. The battle was on, the crusade never faltered. They never lost sight of the object for which they worked and prayed.

An appeal had been prepared and circulated throughout the town. This appeal, signed by one hundred and eighty-two ladies was presented to the proprietor of the saloon and he was asked to sign the Druggists Pledge. He declined. He was then asked if he would be willing to have services held in his store. He said he would like it very much as it would be something new. A selection from the Bible was read, a hymn sung, a number of prayers offered, all joined in singing "Nearer, my God to Thee" and the ladies passed out, feeling their labors and prayers were in vain. Yet we still remembered that God is ever in his watch-tower.

At our annual meeting May 11, 1877, a resolution was adopted that the name of this society be changed from "Ladies' Temperance League" to "Woman's Christian Temperance Union."

About this time five men were appointed to secure speakers for the evening mass meetings. The following were some of the speakers secured : Rev. Mr McRoot of Hudson, O., Rev. Josiah Strong, Hudson, O., Jay O. Dell, Cleveland, Mr. Dissette, Cleveland, Senator Goodhue, Akron, O., Judge Marvin, Akron, O., and Captain Fishure, Akron, O. The influence of these lectures were good and great and everlasting. The workers were encouraged, the work began to be more popular and some who had been indifferent began to climb into the temperance water wagon.

In May, 1878, a wave of the Murphy movement reached us. We had public meetings nearly every evening for a number of weeks. The work was carried on under the auspices of the W. C. T. U., assisted by the five men who secured the speakers. May 3, 1878, Elder Early of Bedford and Mr. Flick of Newburg spoke of the reformation and work of Mr. Murphy. It was a most impressive service. One hundred signed the pledge and wore home the badge. The help received from our pastors was a remarkable factor in forming public sentiment during this crusade. It was the general thought and expression that no legislation had ever succeeded in making men good, the reform must come from within. A prayer made by one of our pastors will never be forgotten by those who heard him. He prayed thus: "O God, we pray Thee that, if it is possible, we pray Thee, convert the saloon keepers; but if it is not possible, we pray Thee to sweep them off the face of the earth. Amen." This minister was the father of three nice boys who were daily exposed to the awful influence of the Twinsburg saloon.

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

# Twinsburg Historical Society News Letter

## P.O. Box 7

### Twinsburg, OH 44087

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#### STAFF

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