



T W I N S B U R G HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

Phone: 330-487-5565

Thank you:

This has been a cruel winter, and unfortunately some of our Trustees have spent extra time outside on behalf of the Historical Society. Our thanks to Ken Roddie and Rich Bissell who have made several trips to the Riley House because the heat has gone out. There seem to be a variety of causes for this, and they are working on solutions. We also thank Stan Jewell, who often shovels our sidewalks and steps and makes a path to the parking lot. You may recall that Stan "retired" a few months ago.....

March 2014

Mark Your Calendars:

Saturday, April 12th.

4:30PM

Annual Meeting/Potluck

Annual Meeting:

We hope to see many of you at the Annual Meeting/Potluck, where everyone seems to bring the food they make best. This will be April 12 at the First Congregational Church of Twinsburg, on Church St. Come at 4:30 and visit a bit before we start eating at 5:00. Please bring your own place settings and a dish to share. At approximately 6:00 we will have our program, and after that we will hold our meeting and have election of officers.

The program, "Happy Days are Here Again - the Baby Boom Years" will be presented by a representative from the Summit County Historical Society. It is billed as a "journey down memory lane" and highlights the various forms of entertainment between 1946-1964. This should be a good follow-up to the Open House on March 30th which is a focus on the toys of years ago.

It's Dues time again:

Actually, a month past dues time, but we forgot to say anything in the last Newsletter. If there is a red dot on your address label, that means we would appreciate your dues. Our expenses do not decrease. Checks and the included form may be mailed to PO Box 7 or brought to an open house on March 30th. You could also bring it to the Feb 23 open house if this newsletter gets to you before then.

Coming Next Month:

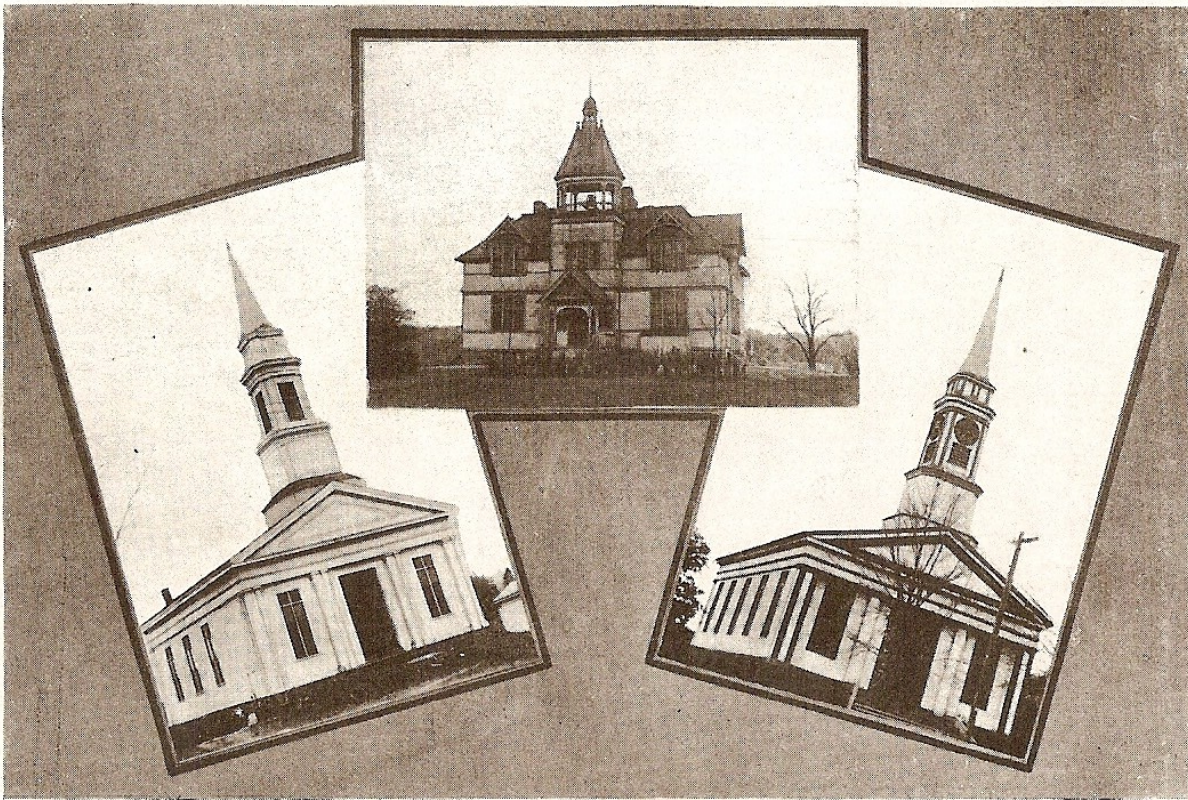
Our Web site is in the process of being totally upgraded and renewed. More on that next month when we officially launch it!!

Twinsburg Historical Society News Letter
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Tuesday mornings at the Museum:

Tuesday mornings at the Museum are warm, welcoming, and busy. Many women are regulars, coming almost every Tuesday to work on the latest quilt or create items which may be purchased at open houses or other events. Currently we have a unique selection of potholders, pillow covers, placemats, and one-of-a-kind denim purses, to name just a few pieces for sale.

These "Crafters", as the Tuesday group is called, include Marilyn Cagin, Mary Esson, Gail Herrilko, Carole Krupa, Lois Lowe, Marilyn Lown, Kim Mazey, Dolly Raines, Judy Richner, Lana Verbic, Charlotte Wike, and Jane Weiss and her Mom, Phyllis. Two newcomers, welcome additions, are Jean Elbert and Naomi Stutzman. And there is always room for more - come any time after 9:00.



METHODIST CHURCH

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDING

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/twinsburghistoricalsociety

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No Batteries Included
By Marti Franks

Remember these from the golden days of yesteryear? Tops and Tinker Toys, Jax and jump ropes, dolls and doll houses all had one thing in common. No batteries included because none were necessary. They were powered by kid energy or imagination.

There were plenty of toys and games that you could play all alone. One deck of cards and a flat surface and you were good to go. Concentration and Solitaire and all of its permutations. Hours would fly by. If a buddy showed up, the games was switched to Gin Rummy, Go Fish, or Crazy Eights. There were specialty cards like "Authors" and "Old Maid".

Some toys fit in the toy box. Slinkies tangled with the yoyo string. Jump ropes and and baseballs and stuffed tigers and bears and pandas. Marbles in those felt or burlap drawstring bags, The round box of Tinker Toys and the random Lincoln Logs that seemed to always be in the bottom. Erector sets were usually, but not always stored in their own boxes.

Some toys were for girls, like dolls and the boys had GI Joes. Everyone had stuffed animals. There were rag dolls big and small. Some had names like Raggedy Anne and Raggedy Andy. Other dolls were named for characters and celebrities. The Shirley Temple doll with all those curls, the blond and glamorous Sparkle Plenty, and Poor Pitiful Pearl. There were tiny story book dolls and the elegant Madame Alexander collection. Baby dolls that cried real tears and had a little voice box that said "maaa" when you held it at the right angle.

There were stacks of board games too. Monopoly, Parcheesi, Chinese Checkers, and regular Checkerboard with Backgammon on the other side.

Chalk was great for drawing a hopscotch grid and it fit into any pocket so that you could play it any where.

There were inside toys and outside toys. There were Toys for two and toys for many. You could make toys out of paper and string. Kites were made out of news paper with old ties for tails. Jump ropes were cut from clothes line and dropping clothes pins into a milk bottle was a great birthday party game. Toys could be repurposed. A card attached to a your bike wheel made that satisfying slapping sound. Old trading cards were great for that.

Bikes and tricycles and little riding cars couldn't fit in the toy box so they were in the garage or in that crawl space under the porch.

Play dates were not arranged they just happened as kids roamed the neighborhood looking for someone to play with. Some kids left home on a summer morning with some cheese crackers in their pocket, stopped back home for lunch and then back out until the streetlights came on. You didn't dare complain of nothing to do as mothers always socks to sort, clothes to fold and a basement or garage to clean.

We don't depend as much on batteries as we do on chargers and hand held devices are the companion of choice. Playing Checkers on a small screen doesn't seem as much fun as stretching out on the living room rug on a rainy afternoon.

Come to the March Open House to reminisce about the toys of the good old days. Some call it history, some call it memory but it will be fun for all.

Editor's note:

A special part of the March 30 open house will be a 4' by 8' electric train layout set up just for the day by Ray Diersing. You can blow the train's whistle!

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