



T W I N S B U R G HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

Phone: 330-487-5565

PLEASE NOTE

There is no Open House in December. The only December event planned by the Historical Society is the Holiday Party on Wednesday, the 7th at the Riley House.

December 2016

Mark Your Calendars:

December 7th, Holiday
Party, 7:00PM

Bicentennial Calendar Update

Don't miss out on the Historical Society's 2017 Calendar - we think it turned out quite well! Creating it is one of the ways that we are participating in next year's Bicentennial. It includes historic pictures and facts and lists many of next year's events. Thanks to our 24 sponsors and tremendous help from Steve Noble at ERC Printing, the cost is only \$5.00. Calendars are available at the Historical Society Open Houses and the "Friends" Gift Shop at the Library, or simply call and leave a message at 330-487-5565 and we will make arrangements to get you one.

Getting Started in Family History

Saturday, January 7, 10:30 am – 12:30 pm

Saturday, March 18, 10:30 am – 12:30 pm

Join the Special Collections Division for an introduction to genealogy for new family historians. This class includes an overview of genealogical sources available at the library, suggestions for getting started, and tips for organizing your research. This class meets in Meeting Room 2AB, High Street Level, Main Library. Registration required.

Branching Out: U.S. Vital Records and Obituaries

Saturday, January 28, 10:30 – 12:30 pm

This class focuses on the types of genealogical information and sources researchers encounter, what to expect when working with U.S. vital records and obituaries, and basic strategies for finding these records. As we will be using electronic resources, basic computer skills are recommended. This class meets in Computer Lab 2, First Floor, Main Library. Registration required.

These FREE classes at the Akron Public Library require registration. For more information and to register, contact the Special Collections Division, 330.643.9030 or speccollections@akronlibrary.org. Visit our Web site at <http://sc.akronlibrary.org/>.

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Historical Society Holiday Party

We will continue our tradition of celebrating Christmas at the Riley House on Liberty Road on Wednesday December 7. Gather at 7:00 PM to share some potluck treats and perhaps a glass of red wine or something softer. All are welcome. This would be a great time to renew your membership. This will also be the last chance to buy raffle tickets for the handmade Railroad quilt, sewn by the Tuesday morning quilters. If you still have Christmas shopping to do we will have copies of the beautiful coffee table book *Explore Twinsburg*. The cost is \$32.00 and credit cards will be accepted. We will have the Bi-Centennial Calendar too and that is only \$5.00 and is so easy to mail to your out of town friends who are homesick for their city.

If you are interested in more frivolity bring a white elephant to share. Regift something from last year, or gather some Christmas ornaments that have been stored in the basement. It doesn't have to be a Christmas item. I still use the three tier plastic hors d'oeuvre tray from many Yule's ago. You can also pick up something inexpensive from a local store. Perhaps you have a bottle of spirits that just doesn't suit your fancy. It is sure to please someone's. Candy is dandy.

We always have a good time. If you have never been inside the Riley House, here is your chance. Wear your Christmas sweater. Make new friends and renew old bonds. What an easy way to get into the spirit of the season. The highlight of the evening is the drawing when we find out what lucky person won this year's quilt. Like us on Facebook, check out our website www.twinsburghistoricalsociety.org

**We are now on
Facebook!
Join Us!**

A Mystery

A question that periodically gets asked of the Historical Society is "when was the 'H' dropped from the spelling of Twinsburg(h)?" No one has been able to answer the question. The "Green Book" (published for the centennial in 1917) is of no help as it uses both Twinsburgh and Twinsburg. The Civil War Monument in the town square is the most visible example of the use of the "H" in past years.

A Twinsburg resident, who wishes to remain anonymous, found the issue really intriguing and did some research. It seems that President Benjamin Harrison, around 1890, determined that if an "H" is at the end of a community's name, and is "silent", it should be dropped. The reason for this is not known, but using the "H" was more in keeping with the Scottish language at the time, and using no "H" was more English and German. President Harris created the US Board on Geographic Names which, in 1891, decreed "In names ending in 'burgh' the final 'H' should be dropped". And, for the most part, that is what happened.

But some communities fought back. According to information provided by Trustee Roy Meier, Pittsburgh is one such city. From 1891 to 1911, the spelling was officially Pittsburg. There was even confusion prior to 1891 because the original city charter (1758) uses the "H", but it is missing in official copies of the document that were printed at the time. Many resisted the "official" spelling of the City, such as the Pittsburgh Gazette, the Pittsburgh Stock exchange, and the University of Pittsburgh. After mounting pressure, including that from a US Senator, in 1911 the City again became Pittsburgh.

Apparently the early citizens of Twinsburgh were not as concerned about the "H". Perhaps they were tired of not knowing which was the proper spelling and were just glad to have a decision made.

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Sheridan Morgan purchased the Masonic property and moved the former Lodge away from the street but the Village Mayor (Lex Day) objected and the building was torn down. Mr. Morgan purchased several properties on the south side of the Square, moving homes to other locations in Twinsburg. He built an IGA Grocery Store and Dairy Bar. This corner later became the home of Starbucks Coffee and the Dairy Bar was converted into Mr. Chicken.



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