



T W I N S B U R G HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

Phone: 330-487-5565

Big Plans for Founders' Day

Probably the main celebration for the 2017 Bicentennial will be Founders ' Day, planned for Saturday, July 22nd. This will be in the Park (Town Square) and will most likely spill over into the surrounding area. The Historical Society will have a booth in the Park *and* the Museum and Barn will be open. In fact, the day will be the official "re-opening" of the Museum. The Museum has not been closed, but so much is being cleaned out and rearranged that it seems a good idea to have a special day to celebrate the new look!

We are hoping for a good crowd....not only at our booth in the Park but also at the Museum and Barn. We might even have Locust Grove tours!

It is probably apparent that this is leading up to a plea for volunteers. If you can spare some time on July 22nd, we would love to have your help - just leave a message for Jon Howard at the Museum (330-487-5565). Any amount of time will be appreciated, and we thank you in advance!

World War I Display

As many of you know, the United States entered WWI in April of 1917. One hundred years ago, on the 2nd, President Woodrow Wilson spoke to a joint session of Congress, requesting a declaration of war against Germany. The Senate voted in favor on the 4th and the House followed, two days later.

The small town of Twinsburg sent MANY men to war, two of whom were brothers Herb and Ed Richner. Lea (Richner) Bissell has shared one of the more unusual anecdotes of the War: The Richner family received notice that Herb had been killed in action. A memorial service was planned, but Herb's father refused to go. This caused much criticism to be directed at Mr. Richner but he held his ground, saying that there was no point in having a service since Herb was not really dead. And he was right!! Several weeks or months later, the family received word that Herb was very much alive. He returned to Twinsburg, raised a family, and lived a long and productive life!

The Historical Society is fortunate to have pictures of Herb and Ed and the other men from Twinsburg who served in WWI. We also have copies of enlistment and discharge papers and other artifacts. Come see the relocated military display at the Museum....open MWF from 9:00-12:00 and the last Sunday of the month from 2:00-5:00.

May 2017

Mark Your Calendars:

May 13, 8:30AM, Garden Club Plant Sale at the Barn

May 21, "Familyday" at the Library

May 28, 2-5PM, Open House, VFW Open House 2-5PM

June 17, Taste of Twinsburg

June 25, 2-5PM, Open House, VFW Open House 2-5PM, "Civil War Veterans" Program, 3PM

July 22 Founders Day Bicentennial Celebration. Museum and Barn Grand Re-Opening

July 30, 2-5PM. Open House, Museum and Riley House, VFW Open House 2-5PM

August 4, Noon-4PM, Special Open House for Twins Days

August 5 & 6, Twins Day

August 26 Fundraising Gala/Dinner

August 27, 2-5PM, Open House, VFW Open House 2-5PM

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Help Wanted

If you have a few hours available, we are looking for helping hands to assist us in the upcoming annual Barn Sale (April 29), Taste of Twinsburg (June 17) and Founder's Day (July 22) events. Everyone has talents and here is a opportunity to share those talents. There are many easy tasks that need to be accomplished not only on the day of the event but definitely before. If you want to join in and help please just leave a message on the Society's voicemail machine @ 330-487-5556. And remember the Museum is open Monday, Wednesday & Friday between 9 & 12. Stop in and see the many changes that you made possible.

FamilyLand

Look for a Twinsburg Historical Society table at this year's "FamilyLand" at the Library. Planned for Sunday, May 21, and sponsored by the Foundation of the Twinsburg Public Library, the event is in it's third year and will last from 11:00AM to 3:00PM. The Historical Society table, among other things, will offer children a chance to name our "twins". These dolls currently reside in our newly created doll showcase and need names. Bring your children and grandchildren to FamilyLand and let them use their imaginations....and possibly win a prize. Whoever comes up with the names chosen will be give a gift card to Dairy Queen.

Beyond the Monument

At our June Open House, Veronica Hughes will be sharing her plans for a book she is writing ***Beyond the Monument: The Civil War Soldiers of Twinsburg, Ohio.*** Hughes tells the stories behind the names engraved on the monument in our square – and over a hundred more. She uses research from online sites that were unavailable when the Green Book was written to gather information on each soldier's life both before and after the war. She included stories about the individual regiments. Our own local historian Dale Diersing contributed to the content. Twinsburg High School senior Kala Mansfield is designing the cover artwork. The book is scheduled to be published in June. Hope to see a big turn out.

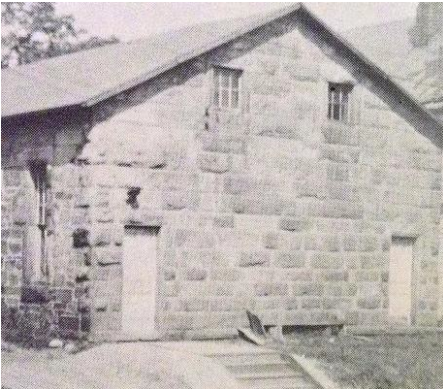
Researching Your Immigrant Ancestors Before 1820

Saturday, June 3, 10:30 am – 12:30 pm at Akron Public Library

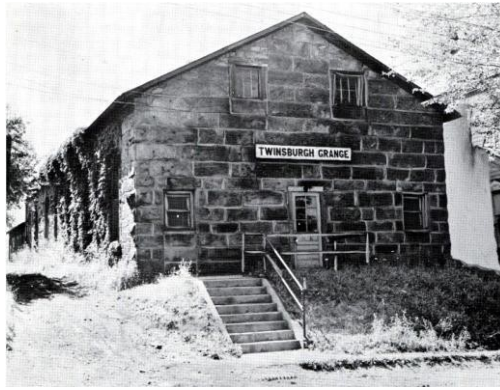
Tracing ancestors before 1820 can be extremely difficult due to a lack of documentation and limited accessibility of surviving records. Focusing on European immigrants to the eastern seaboard, this class is an overview of strategies and sources commonly used in researching early immigrants. Please note: This class is geared toward genealogists with intermediate research skills. This class meets in Computer Lab 2, High Street Level, Main Library. Registration required.

These FREE classes 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/>

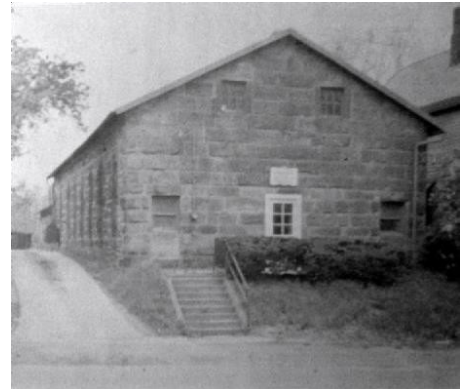
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1860's



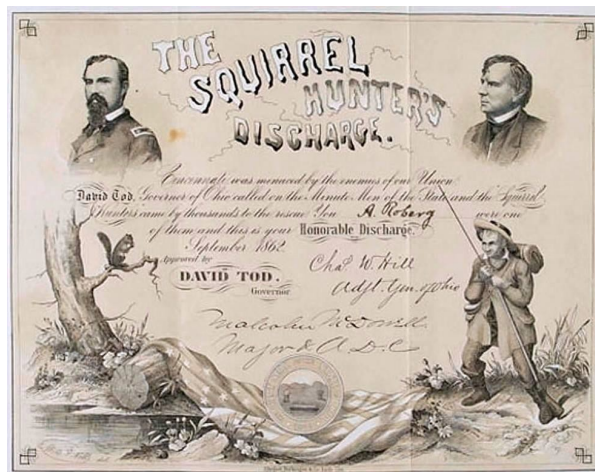
1940's



1960's

The Bissell Institute Building originally had two entrance doors which were converted to windows and a new entrance door was added to the center. L to R “Bissell Institute” 1866-1896, as the “Grange Hall” 1920-1963, and as the “Twinsburg Historical Society 1963 to Date”. In 1964, legal ownership was transferred from the Grange to the Twinsburg Historical Society.

1862 - Thirteen men from Twinsburg armed with muskets and shot guns went to defend Cincinnati against Confederate attack. The untrained men along with union forces defended Ohio from Confederate invasion. The term “Squirrel Hunters” was given to the civilians who assisted in the defense of Cincinnati (the 6th largest city in the US at the time). Mr. Evelyn Parmelee (Dr. Glenn Chamberlin’s grandfather) who was 19 at the time was one of 13 from Twinsburg. To thank the Squirrel Hunters the Ohio legislature printed discharge papers for their military duty. In 1908 the Ohio General Assembly passed a resolution to pay each Squirrel Hunter \$13, equal to one month’s pay.



A few years later (Aug. 23, 1864) Mr. Evelyn Parmelee enlisted in the regular army. He saw battle at Murfreesboro and Stone River, Tennessee. He mustered out on June 3, 1865 at Washington D. C. and returned to Twinsburg.

1867 – Twinsburg celebrates its semi centennial (50 years). A celebration was held on July 4th on the Square which included dedication of the just completed Civil War Monument.

Twinsburg Historical Society News Letter

P.O. Box 7

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STAFF

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