



T W I N S B U R G HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

Phone: 330-487-5565

So Many Thank you's

This has been the busiest summer in recent memory. There are so many people to thank that I am sure some will be left out. We will catch that next time.

Many thanks to all who came and all who helped with all the wonderful things that happened on Founder's Day. The trustees went into overdrive, especially, Andy Tomko and Ken Roddie to get our buildings ready. After a very rainy start our Historical Society players performed our first original play in the Barn. Thanks to Marti Franks and Veronica Hughes for the script and a big thanks to the cast. Father and daughter Keith and Eleanor Kneisel, Veronica Hughes, Dennis Burby, Ray Diersing who performed and Mark Hersch, who was there in spirit. Marianne Pieramici, Roy Meier, Frank and Beverly Klimas, Dan Simecek held down the table On the Square. Rich and Lea Bissell, Bonnie Williams, Betty Tomko Andy, Nina Landles, Diana greeted folks at the museum. Dolly Raines enlisted over 150 people to help weave a bicentennial flag to put into the new Time Capsule. The visitors went through a birthday sheet cake and dozens and dozens of home made cookies, gallons of punch and lemon water. Jon played chauffeur in our designated golf cart.

After a quiet Open House July 30, we had a very satisfying attendance for our special Twins Day Opening. Twins began showing up at 11:30, a half an hour before our scheduled opening and the last pair left well after our closing time, but that was fine with us. All of our visitors were amazed and impressed by every thing they saw. Once again Ken handled the Barn which is as big a draw as the museum. He charms everyone.

Our August Open House on August 27, features our own local writer Veronica Hughes. It will be at the Riley House on Liberty Road, the white house across from Abrams Farm. She will be sharing the details of her new book, *Beyond the Monument*. She has researched all of the soldiers from Twinsburg who served in the Civil War and has all of their stories in one small book. She will share their adventures and what she has discovered. There are familiar names and some brand new. Each story has a link to Twinsburg. Many will surprise you. You will never see the monument in the same way,

Olde Thyme Fayre

See enclosed Flyer for more information.

September 2017

Mark Your Calendars:

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

September 9 & 10, Olde Thyme Fayre, Museum & Barn

September 24, 2-5PM, Open House, VFW Open House 2-5PM

October 6 & 7, Tales of Locust Grove

October 26, Halloween Story Telling

October 29, 2-5PM, Open House, VFW Open House 2-5PM

November 25, City of Twinsburg Luminocity

November 26, 2-5PM, Open House, Clock Show

December 2, City of Twinsburg Winter Wonderland

December 6, Historical Society Christmas Party

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Geauga County Historical Society

The Geauga County Historical Society announces the publication of its newest local history, Sketch of Fullertown and Its Early Settlers, by John Curtis. Originally published as a series of articles in a Geauga County newspaper in 1882, the book captures the recollections of Mr. Curtis regarding the pioneer days of the Fullertown settlement in Newbury Township, Ohio. Newbury is currently celebrating its 200th anniversary. A limited number of first printing copies are available at the Society's Crossroads Store at Century Village Museum in Burton, Ohio.

The Peninsula Foundation's 2017 Civil War Lecture Series

Held on the fourth Thursday of each month from March to October at the G.A.R. Hall (1785 Main St, which is Rt. 303) in Peninsula. Lectures begin at 7:00pm and are free to the public.

Dates still remaining in the series:

- 9/28: Remembering the Civil War: Reenacting and Battlefield Preservation, presented by Bradley Keefer
- 10/26: A Talk with Clara Barton, presented by Carol Starre-Kmiecik

Weavers News

At this year's annual meeting we were challenged to do something to interest the younger generation in being more involved in their history. In the 1990's Robert Culhan donated time & knowledge to preserve the crafts of weaving, caning, etc.

We hope some of today's students will become interested enough to weave Spirit Flags to use at their sporting events. It takes about an hour to weave an 7" x 12 " blue & white flag (including wristlet) with a T for Twinsburg Tigers.

During Founder's Day, visitors to the Museum were invited to weave a row (or more) and sign their name as a Bicentennial Weaver. The Flag woven & list of Weavers is to be included in the 2017 Time Capsule. (We had over 157 participants & that Flag is 25" long.)

At the special Twins Day Open House, 22 twins became Twin-Centennial Weavers and their 10" Flag will also be placed in the Time Capsule.

Three looms are already warped & in the Museum waiting for Weavers. We will be weaving Spirit Flags at The Olde Thyme Fayre, Sept. 9 & 10.

"The Tales of Locust Grove" is early this year.

If you are interested in being a part of it this year, please sign on to the Locust Grove 2017 Facebook page, send us an email or call and leave a message at the Historical Society. We are looking for new people and hoping to reunite with former folks. The dates are Friday, October 6 and Saturday, October 7. Check the website and the Face Book page for updates.

The museum is now open three days a week on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10 to noon. We need volunteers to help us on those mornings. This is a great way to get to know the museum and a better way to serve your community. We need volunteers to be on hand and help with the many projects we do to keep our buildings ready for prime time.

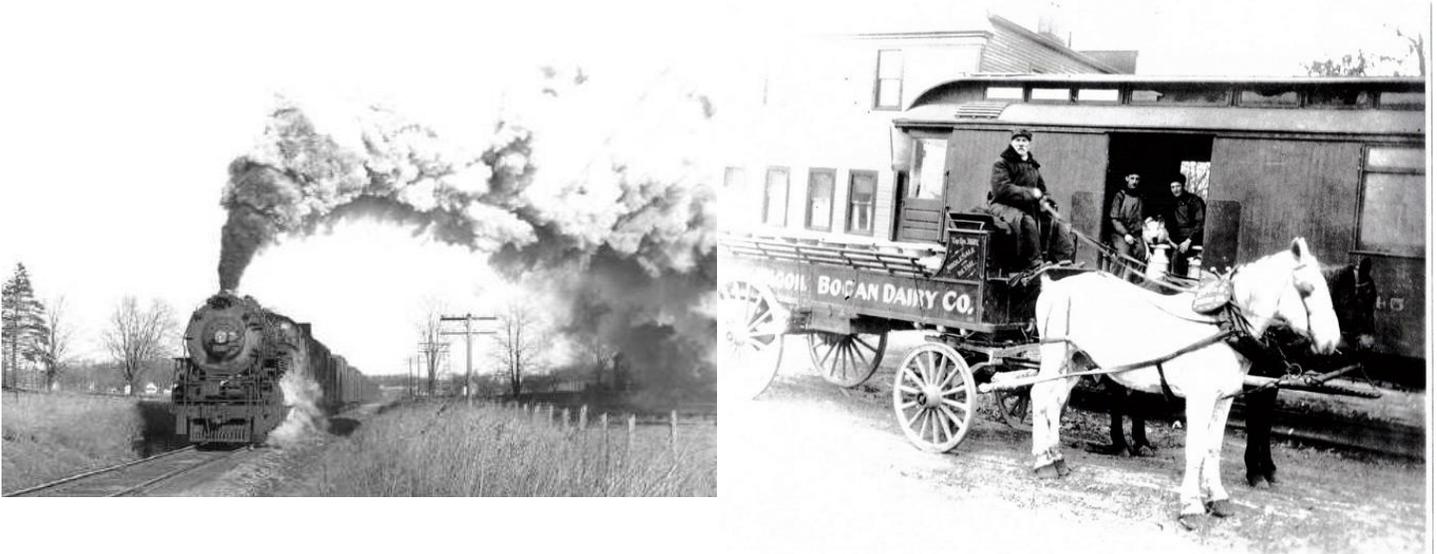
Check out the **NEW** website, come to the Open Houses, renew your membership and write our coming events on your calendar. You will not be sorry. See you on Face Book.

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1880 – The narrow gauge (3 feet) Connotton Valley Railroad came to Twinsburg. The narrow gauge railroad originally ran from the Connotton River Valley in Carroll County to Cleveland and was built to transport coal to the Cleveland and great lakes market. After reorganization in 1885 as the Cleveland and Canton Railroad the tracks were converted from narrow gauge to standard gauge. Two years later the American Rapid Telegraph Company came. The railroad line was extended to Zanesville and Chagrin Falls and renamed the Wheeling and Lake Erie.

The effort to fund a railroad in Summit County started with a vote in June of 1851. The Summit County Commissioners put a \$100,000 bond issue on the ballot which Twinsburg voted against 156 to 3, nevertheless Summit County voters passed the bond. Efforts to bring the Pittsburgh Cleveland Railway Company to Twinsburg also failed as the people who lived along the Stage Coach route strenuously objected. Due to a lack of local support the railroad was built through Macedonia instead. There was another attempt to bring a railroad to Twinsburg known as the “Waddell Line” but the project was abandoned and details are not known.

Train service to Twinsburg provided the local dairy farmers a means to transport their milk to Cleveland Dairy’s. Special trains were run with stops at railroad crossings for milk pickup. This also led to the arrest of three Twinsburg Dairy Farmer’s in 1927 for shipping milk to Cleveland in violation of their new tuberculin cow test ordinance (untested cattle). They quickly complied and had their cows tested.



Trivia - In 1886, the railroads in the southern United States used a rail width of 5 feet which prevented connecting the north and south rail lines. They agreed to narrow the gauge on all their tracks 3 inches to 4 foot 9 inches which was the Pennsylvania Railroad standard. Ohio’s standard at the time was 4 feet 10 inches but the inch difference wasn’t a problem. Over 36 hours beginning on May 31, 1886. Tens of thousands of workers pulled the spikes and moved all the rails 3 inches and spiked them back in place.

Trivia - There is an urban legend that the 4’ 10” rail gauge came from early steam engines imported from England. The English rail gauge dimension are based on the wagon wheel spacing and width of the roads built by the Romans for their chariots.

The Train Depot was on Depot Street off Cannon Road. The Train Depot was the reason, in the spring of 1891 the ladies of the town met to discuss what could be done to obtain a sidewalk from the Train Depot to the center of the town. "The Twinsburg Improvement Society" was formed and after 5 years had raised \$800 for sidewalks.

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