



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

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

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## Old School News

So much to share in February. Rich Bissell, Ken Roddie, Tom Sekerak and his son Chris, along with Joey Schultz our youngest perpetual member have been working since Christmas to capture all of the artifacts possible from the beloved Old School. After months of discussion and planning, the beloved building fell to the wrecking crew to make way for new development. Schultz is the grandson of Mary and Dick Sheller and a recent graduate of West Virginia University. These men spent hours and hours of devoted labor to capture as much as possible. Preservation is hard work and takes a special dedication to do it right.

The intrepid team collected an amazing variety of artifacts and has them carefully stored and catalogued in a variety of safe havens. The collection includes chairs from the auditorium, the floor underneath and the stage floor as well. Footlights and molded plaster from under the stage floor where you can still see the horse hair used in its construction.

The dust underneath the molding dates back 97 years.

They have a sandstone sign from the center of the outside of the building that is five feet long and three feet tall. There are two diamond shapes with the number 19 on one side and 21 on the other marking the opening of what was then the new school.

We have the school bell that called the kids to school at the older wooden school and was a fire bell at one time too. It is now in the museum.

The society is now working to decide what will be displayed, what will be stored for future displays and what will be sold to raise funds for future restorations. The work is just beginning.

On the last weekend in June we are planning a gala event to honor the building as well as offer memorabilia for sale. Mark your calendar for the last weekend in June. We will be hosting a weekend long celebration for the members and the community to celebrate the history of that grand old building. Follow us on Facebook, or check the website. Hint. Members will be invited to be early birds. More details to follow.

Alumni will be able to share their memories on video or in print. We are looking for old photos to scan and any other memorabilia you may have to loan or donate.



## March 2018

### Mark Your Calendars:

February 25, 2-5PM, Open House, at the VFW, MAPS Museum (Military Aviation Preservation Society)

March 25, 2-5PM, Open House, Elaine Marsh, Summit County Metro Park's Watershed Specialist, who will speak about dams on the Cuyahoga River and efforts to remove them.

April 14, Annual Meeting and Pot Luck at the Congregational Church.

May 12, Annual Plant Sale by Twinsburg Garden Club, at the Freeman Barn.

June 23 and 24 Gala in honor of the "Old School".

September 8 and 9 Olde Tyme Fayre

July 14, Horticultural Show hosted by Twinsburg Garden Club At the Freeman Barn.

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**Upcoming Open House Info**

Our February Open House will be held at the VFW Museum on Ravenna Road. The speaker, Reed Kimball, is a retired Colonel from the U.S. Army. He joined the MAPS Museum after retiring from the army, then teaching high school math and physics, serving as a high school principal in Michigan and finally the Campus Director of National College in Cleveland. He is now the Director of Education at the Military Aviation Preservation Society in North Canton. He has so many stories to tell and he is ready to answer questions. This is a joint project with the Twinsburg VFW Post 4929. The museum will be open at 2:00 and the presentation will start at 2:30. The Historical Society Museum will be open from 2:00 to 5:00 so you can step on over after the presentation.



The Historical Society display for February and March focusses on the world of work. The centerpiece is the Chrysler Plant but it includes all kinds of workers.

The March Open House will feature a presentation about the Gorge Dam. There will be more details in the next Newsletter, on the Facebook page and on the website.

**Membership Info**

We are expanding our membership drive and we need your help. We are working hard to update the website so that we will be able to use credit cards for membership. Memberships make great gifts and we are always looking for new folks with new ideas. A recent study presented 5 reasons why you might choose to become a member.

- You believe in our mission.
- You feel sense of community belonging.
- You see the social benefit.
- You want to expand your business network.
- You want a tax deduction.

Need more reasons?

- You will receive a membership card .
  - You will have the satisfaction of supporting your Historical Society
  - You will receive our monthly Newsletter.
  - You will help to grow our collection and support our programs
  - You will continue our founder's commitment to the history of Twinsburg,
  - You will get a 10% discount on all purchases from the Museum Store.
- This is the perfect gift for the person who has everything. And if you take advantage of our special, new two year membership you will receive two tickets to the 2018 "Tales of Locust Grove."

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Rev. Roselle Theodore Cross became minister of the Twinsburg Congregational Church on September 1, 1912. In October he married Miss Martha Hanchett of Twinsburg. Miss Hanchett was a student of Oberlin Academy 1872-1876. Rev. Cross had formerly been principal of Oberlin Academy. At the age of 72, on August 31, 1918 Rev. Cross ended his ministry. The church asked him to remain as pastor emeritus. Rev. R. T. Cross was the genealogist for the Twinsburg's 1917 Centennial book, "Twinsburg Ohio 1817-1917." Rev. Roselle Theodore Cross and 3 generations of his family. Photo taken in 1909 in New York before moving to Twinsburg.



**Rev. Cross Congregational Pastorates**

- Hamilton, NY, 1874-76
- First Church, Colorado Springs, Colo., 1876-81
- Third Church, Denver, Colo., 1881-89
- Fremont Avenue Church, Minneapolis, Minn., 1889-93
- York, Neb., 1893-03
- Eugene, Ore., 1903-04
- South Broadway Church, Denver, Colo., 1904-07
- Plymouth Church, Fort Collins, Colo., 1908-10
- Bethlehem Church, Cleveland, Ohio, 1910-12
- Twinsburg, Ohio, 1912-18; pastor emeritus, 1918-24

**1913** – February 22nd, at the annual meeting of the Samuel Bissell Memorial Library Association it was decided to undertake the publication of a book on the 100 year history of Twinsburg. The book was to be part of the 100th anniversary celebration of 1917. The result was the book "Twinsburg Ohio 1817-1917" also known as the "Green Book" because of the cover and the "Nosey Book" because it was for nose people. The entire matter was placed in hands of a committee. Mr. Chauncey Lane as chairman, Miss Eliza Reed, secretary, Mr. R. B. Chamberlin & Mr. Walter Lister in charge of finances, Miss Lena M. Carter, historian. And Rev. R. T. Cross as genealogist. **Flood of 1913.** Between March 23 and 26 heavy rains caused severe flooding in central and eastern United States. Approximately 650 died in Indiana and Ohio, 250,000 were left homeless and about 300 Million in damages (1913 dollars). Twinsburg faired better than most small towns. This photo is of the bridge over Tinkers Creek looking west towards the Square.



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**STAFF**

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