



# THE COURIER

Reynoldsburg-Truro  
Historical Society

SEPTEMBER-2017 Website: [www.rths.info](http://www.rths.info) Email: [RTHSCourier@aol.com](mailto:RTHSCourier@aol.com) Vol.43 No.5

## Put September 26<sup>th</sup> on your Calendar!

*The Membership will be Voting Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> at our General Meeting for the 2018 Officers and Trustees.*

*The doors open at 7:00 pm and the floor will be open to nominations.*

### Your 2018 Slate of Officers

- **President** – Mary Turner Stoots
- **Vice President** – Dick Barth or Peter Thomas
- **Treasurer** – Marvin Shrimplin
- **Recording Secretary** – Mark Myers
- **Corresponding Secretary** – Suzy Millar Miller
- **Trustee (3-year term)** – Wendy Wheatley Raftery
- **Trustee (1-year term\*)** - Vickie Edwards Hall
- **Past President (1-year term)** – Dick Barrett

#### **The 2018 RTHS Officers will be Elected at our September 26th General Meeting**

Do you have someone in mind whom you would like to see on the leadership team? Are you interested yourself? Contact **Dick Barth** for nominations by phone or email: **614-866-0142** **Rebdot1027@gmail.com**

The following officer is finishing out a 3-year term and will not be on the slate:

- **Trustee (2-years Remaining)** – Jim Diuguid

The following are appointed positions:

- **Courier Editor** – Mary Turner Stoots
- **Publicity Chairman** – Mary Turner Stoots
- **Communications** – Mary Turner Stoots

*\* Dick Barth is on the last year of a Trustee three-year term, and he is running for Vice President, so Vickie Edwards Hall will fill this spot*

**STREET ADDRESS** (No Mail): RTHS Museum, 1485 Jackson Street, Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068

**MAILING ADDRESS:** Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society

P.O. BOX 144, Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068

# 2017 CALENDAR

## SEPTEMBER 2017

**07** – Thursday - 10:30am-10:00pm  
City BBQ Restaurant  
Fundraiser All Day

**12** – Tuesday-Board Meeting, 7pm

**16** – Saturday-Open House 10am-2pm

**26** – Tuesday - General Meeting, 7pm

## OCTOBER 2017

**07** – Saturday-Class of 1967 and Class of 1977 Alumni Open House  
11:00am-1:00pm

**17** – Tuesday-Board Meeting, 7pm

**21** – Saturday-Open House 10am-2pm

**25** - Deadline for Nov Courier

**31** – Trick or Treat; Beggars' Night  
6:00pm-8:00pm

## NOVEMBER 2017

**03-06** – Publish November Courier and President's Holiday Letter

**14** – Tuesday-Board Meeting, 7:00pm

**18** – Saturday-Open House, 10am-2pm  
Holiday Gift Shop, & Children's Activities

## DECEMBER 2017

**02** – Saturday-Christmas on the Town, Open House, Holiday Gift Shop, Robotic Team, & Children's Activities  
10:00am-3:00pm

**05** – Tuesday - Board Meeting, 7:00pm

**09** – Saturday - Christmas Dinner, 6:30pm, MCL Restaurant, 5240 E. Main St., Whitehall

**22** –Deadline for January 2018 Courier



## RTHS 2017 OFFICERS

- President** – Richard Barrett  
(614) 755-4979 dick@rbarrett.us
- Vice President** – Neal Piek  
(614) 575-2525 np3711@wowway.com
- Treasurer** – Marvin Shrimplin  
(614) 759-1404 mshrimplin6018@wowway.com
- Recording Secretary** – Mark Myers  
(614) 868-5354 mmeyers4@insight.rr.com
- Corresponding Secretary**  
**Suzy Millar Miller** (512) 635-6376
- Trustee (1 year)**  
**Stephanie Petitjean** (614) 940-8862 scuba.stephanie@yahoo.com
- Trustee (2 years)**  
**Dick Barth** (614) 866-0142 Rebdot1027@gmail.com
- Trustee (3 years)**  
**Jim Diuguid** (614) 866-5972 judyjimd@gmail.com

\*\*\*\*\*

**Courier Editor** – Mary Turner Stoots  
**Publicity Chairman** – Mary Turner Stoots  
(614) 866-6137 RTHSCourier@aol.com



## New Members!

Bob Lundfelt - Individual  
Karen Klein - Individual  
Paul Oldham – Lifetime  
Tim & Pat Starling - Family  
Louise White – Contributing  
Melissa Woodward - Individual

## SUPPORT LOCAL HISTORY!

### Join the Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society

Individual - \$20 Family - \$25 Sustaining - \$30 Contributing - \$50 Life Membership - \$300

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Make Check Payable to RTHS and mail to: RTHS, Box 144, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068**

# The RTHS Museum Received a Facelift!

Check out the new windows!

**BEFORE**



**AFTER**



**BEFORE**



**AFTER**

**BEFORE**



**AFTER**

**BEFORE**



**AFTER**



# The Tussing Road Covered Bridge

by Cornelia M. Parkinson ©

*Drawing by Colin Sutphin  
Article From the December 1977  
Courier*

The Blacklick Bridge, which spanned Blacklick Creek on Tussing Road just below Reynoldsburg, is a Howe Truss bridge of a single span, 130 feet long, built in 1888. Its general design was the work of William Howe, a Massachusetts millwright and house builder. It may have been built or subcontracted under Thatcher, Burt, and McNary, who sublet Ohio rights to Howe's designs.

A friendly man who liked music and the good things in life, William Howe patented his invention of a new type of bridge truss in 1840, 30 years after the first covered bridge in the nation was built. Howe's very simple design was primarily for use in railroad bridges. But the patent brought a revolutionary improvement to bridge building.

The Howe truss could be quickly and cheaply built of the greenest wood. Its secret of success was the introduction of a scarce material, iron. By incorporating iron tension rods into the truss, the bridge could be adjusted and readjusted.

This continual adjustment was vital to the maintenance of any highway bridge or railroad bridge. Today there remain in Ohio more Howe truss bridges than any other patented type. Its simplicity and ease of erection

made "The Howe" the most popular type of bridge in the world.

Wood was used for the early bridges because it was easy to obtain and could be bought cheaply near the building site. Proper stone was not available in many areas. As for iron or steel, although the Bessemer process had been discovered in 1856, these materials were not yet in common use in bridge building. The bridges were roofed and sideboarded to protect flooring from weather. But in snowy times, snow had to be shoveled onto the bridge floor so that horse-pulled sleighs could pass through.



On August 31, 1977, a trucker tried to drive through Blacklick Bridge with a load that was *twelve tons over* the 5-ton limit. Today the 89-year-old bridge still lies broken in the stream; the road is closed to traffic while a settlement is being discussed; and we have been robbed of a once-handsome, useful emblem of our past.



# William G. Pengelly

*Reynoldsburg's Handwriting Expert*

by Cornelia M. Parkinson ©

In the field of handwriting analysis, the expertise and authority of William G. Pengelly was internationally recognized in his own time. Mr. Pengelly lived in Reynoldsburg many years.

Pengelly was one of the early authorities in America to recognize the study of documents and chirography (art of writing or engraving) as a nearly exact science, demanding thorough study of the elements which definitely identify typewriting, as well

as those pertaining to signatures and handwriting. Factors entering into handwriting analysis include the effects of alcohol and mental disorder as manifested in handwriting; use of the microscope and comparative signatures in determining true or forged handwriting; the documents themselves, their age, composition of the paper, etc.

Pengelly's researches extended back to the earliest history of the written word, and included a study of the work of all his predecessors and contemporaries in the profession. He furnished decisions as proof in cases involving questioned documents and writing in courts from New York to Iowa, from Wisconsin to Arkansas. His services were requested by the U.S. Post Office, the intelligence department of the British Government. He wrote various articles on handwriting and safeguarding against forgery.

Born in Plymouth, England, in 1865, the son of a British Navy warrant officer, Pengelly came to this area in 1883. From then until 1915 he was employed by the Capital City Bank of Columbus, rising from secretary to president. As a banker he became interested in fraudulent documents, and pursued that study for many years. He was ranked among the foremost American experts.

Pengelly was of stocky build, and has been described as "not handsome, a little like Alfred Hitchcock" in appearance. He married a tall stately woman named Elizabeth Lunn, daughter of Dr. Lewis T. Lunn of Reynoldsburg. The couple took into their home H.E. "Elzie" Minor, a brother of Lester Minor who lives at 1311 Lancaster Avenue. Pengelly taught Elzie his profession.

A 32nd Degree Mason and a member of Aladdin Temple, William Pengelly was elected in 1899 a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, and was a life member of the Ohio Archeological and Historical Society. He was a founder of the old Northwest Genealogical Society.

He died in 1935 and is buried in Reynoldsburg in the Silent Home Cemetery.



# Bits About the Burg

By Suzy Millar Miller

*Originally published in the  
Reynoldsburg Reporter, Wednesday,  
September 22, 1982*

*From the September 2008 Courier*

The “Reflector” was the title of the RHS school newspaper in the mid-thirties. The 1936-37 staff consisted of Constance Fischer, editor; Richard Parkinson, associate editor; Elbert Weber and Ruth Campbell, sports editors; Maebelle Weber, Girl Reserve editor and Spice editor; George Wood, Senior editor; Jean Kelsey, Junior editor; Robert Halterman, Sophomore editor; and Howard Smith, Freshman editor.

The senior class officers were: George Wood, president; Harold Pickering, vice president; Virginia Turner, secretary, and Elmore Hayes, treasurer. The members of the 1937 class were: Loretta Andrews, Margaret Antrim, George Barnes, Richard Broerman, Thurman Bulen, Ruth Campbell, James Evans, Mary Alice Feucht, Constance Fischer, Noland Foor, Richard Green, Ruth Judy, Marrel Krumm, Robert Hauck, Elmore Hayes, Leroy Hicks, Helen Little, Mary Ellen Lisk, Helen Miller, Emerson Mays, Mary Moore, Harold Pickering, Jack Rickly, John Sanders, Hugh Smith,

Aurel Snook, Margaret Tudor, Virginia Turner, Elbert Weber, George Wood, and Mildred Young.

The junior class had an exciting year as reviewed by the year-end “Reflector”. Some of the highlights were:

“The first social event of the year was a wiener roast at the ancient and venerable location. This memorable occasion was one of great extreme because it began as a usual wiener roast, but ended in Canal Winchester, since everyone took part in a general exodus, leaving their ... behind them.”

“... Then we juniors ambitiously staged a doughnut sale, clearing \$13 toward the Junior-Senior banquet. The evening of that same day, a house-party was held at the home of ‘Julie’ Kelsey. This was our first venture into the ‘pound party’ style. A very successful venture as it turned out.

Never was such a bountiful supply of edibles accumulated at any junior party. (We might add that Howard McIlvaine left early apparently because no one would play “post office” with him, however he might become flustered if we mentioned it, so we shall leave those things unsaid.)”



By: Suzy Millar Miller



# Sunshine Committee

Do you know someone who needs  
some Sunshine?

Contact Delores Trivett if you are aware of an RTHS member who could use a Get Well, Thinking of You, Sympathy, or any other type of card for some added sunshine in their life

**614-866-6791**

**Write "SUNSHINE" in the  
subject line of your email to:  
RDEET@AOL.COM**

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1485 Jackson Street  
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068

**Courier Editor:**  
Mary Turner Stoots 614-866-6137

**Courier Email:** RTHSCourier@aol.com

**Photos Provided by:**  
Suzy Millar Miller, Connie Parkinson,  
Colin Sutphin & Mary Stoots

**Contributors:** Connie Parkinson,  
Suzy Millar Miller and Mary Turner Stoots

## David W. Reidel

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Above is a Sponsored Advertisement by one of our Patrons

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# A Trunk of Circus Memories

With Sharon Sellitto - Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017

A Marvelous Open House!



Front-Page News!

A Real Trapeze!



A Clown Came to Visit!



A Roustabout!



A Beautiful Star!