



## Put September 25<sup>th</sup> on your Calendar!

*The Membership will be Voting Tuesday, September 25  
at our General Meeting for the 2019 Officers and a Trustee.*

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

### Your 2019 Slate of Officers

- **President** – Mary Turner Stoots
- **Vice President** – Dick Barth
- **Treasurer** – Marvin Shrimplin
- **Recording Secretary** – **VACANT POSITION**
- **Corresponding Secretary** – Suzy Millar Miller
- **Trustee (3-year term)** – Vickie Edwards Hall

**The 2019 RTHS Officers will be Elected at our September 25 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](mailto:614-866-0142) [Rebdot1027@gmail.com](mailto:Rebdot1027@gmail.com)

The following Board Members are finishing out a 3-year term and will not be on the slate:

- **Trustee (1-Year Remaining)** – Jim Diuguid
- **Trustee (2-Years Remaining)** – Wendy Wheatley Raftery

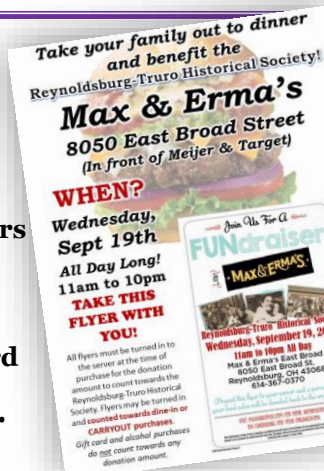
The following are appointed and volunteer positions:

- **Courier Editor** – Mary Turner Stoots
- **Publicity Chairman** – Mary Turner Stoots
- **Communications** – Mary Turner Stoots
- **Administrative Assistant** – Lauren Shiman

***Feel free to bring a snack to share at the meeting!***

***We all like to eat – don't you?***

Central  
Ohio  
RTHS  
Members  
will  
receive  
this  
Postcard  
in their  
Courier



### Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society

is having a Restaurant Fundraiser on  
**Wednesday, September 19!**

All you have to do is eat,  
and we get **20%** back!

**If you lose your postcard, no worry!**

We will have some inside the 'take-one'  
boxes by the front and back door  
of the museum.

Be sure to take extra ones for your  
friends and neighbors!

# 2018 CALENDAR

## SEPTEMBER 2018

- 08 – SAT – Class of 1963 Alumni Walk-Thru 12pm-2pm  
11 – TUE – Board Meeting, 7:00pm  
15 – SAT – Open House 10:00am-2:00pm  
17 – MON – Herbert Mills 3<sup>rd</sup>-Grader Interviews  
at Herbert Mills Elementary 10:00am-11:00am  
19 – WED – Max & Erma's Restaurant Fundraiser  
All Day Long! 11:00am-10:00pm  
22 – SAT – Calligraphy Basics, Mary Turner Stoots  
2:00pm-4:00pm  
23 – SUN – Hannah Moore – Meeting Room  
Reservation 3:00pm-8:00pm for a  
Family Baby Shower  
25 – TUE – General Meeting, Elections, 7:00pm  
30 – SUN – Multi-Vendor Shopping Spree & Fundraiser  
1:00pm-4:00pm

## OCTOBER 2018

- 10 – WED – Summit Road 3<sup>rd</sup>-Grade Tours  
9:30am-1:00pm  
13 – SAT – Chalkboard Sign Painting  
2:00pm-4:00pm - Mary Turner Stoots  
14 – SUN – Truro Township Fire Department -Open  
House at Fire Station #161, on Livingston Ave  
11:00am-2:00pm Fire Prevention Week  
16 – TUE – Board Meeting, 7:00pm  
20 – SAT – Open House 10:00am-2:00pm  
20 – SAT – Blacklick Woods 70th Anniversary  
Celebration 10am-4pm (9:00am Set-up)  
24 – WED – Deadline for November Courier  
31 – WED – Trick or Treat Beggars' Night 6pm-8pm

## NOVEMBER 2018

- 13 – TUE – Board Meeting, 7:00pm  
17 – SAT – Open House, Holiday Gift Shop, 10am-2pm



You are probably wondering how an empty ink cartridge can help RTHS.

Staples gives rebates for the empty tanks!

- We recently applied our available rebates towards a new printer for the museum. The printer ended up costing about \$35 and it retails for \$80
- The coffee machine in our lower level kitchenette was purchased with rebates at the cost of \$00.00
- Most of our office supplies are paid for with rebates
- The ink used to print the *Courier* is donated by the editor (between 11 and 13 cartridges per printing). Those cartridges are turned in for the rebates we use to buy the paper that the *Courier* is printed on, along with cardstock for postcards, displays, etc.
- Feel free to bring your empty cartridges (in a baggie to protect your fingers from ink) to our Open House events or General Meetings

## SUPPORT LOCAL HISTORY

Join the Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Names \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

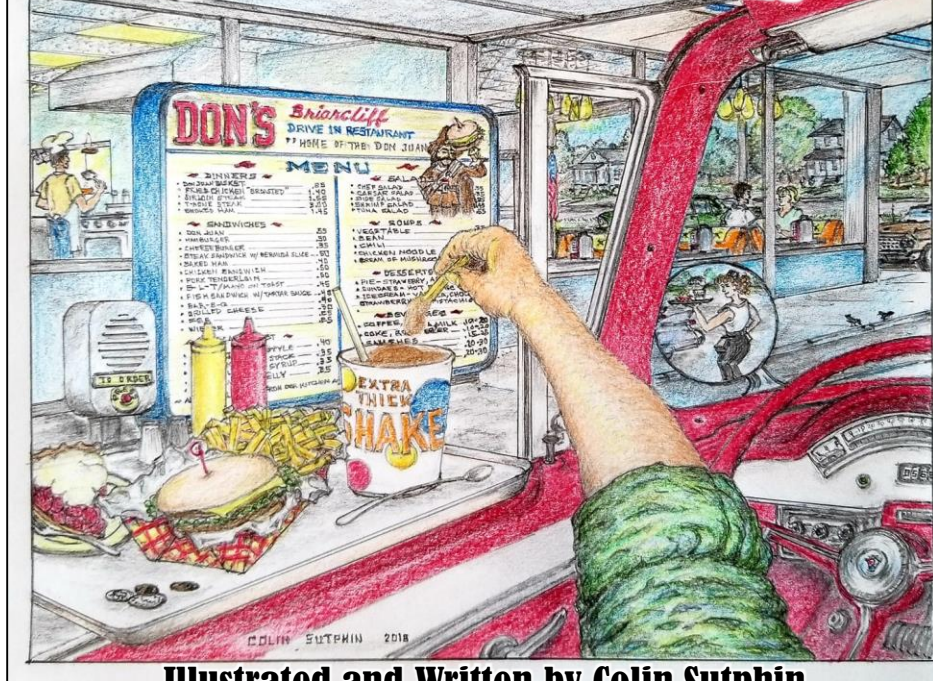
Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

*Invite your friends to join*

# Don's Briarcliff Drive-In Restaurant A Reynoldsburg Vignette



**Illustrated and Written by Colin Sutphin**

Imagine it is late summer 1960 and you have just returned to Reynoldsburg. You're been stationed in West Germany for the last two years, part of your enlistment in the Army. Now, you're home on furlough for 45 days.

So, you jump into your 1957 Ford convertible and drive west on Main street. Turning onto Aida Drive you spot the new Super Duper market. Also, a variety of other stores, including a state liquor store, clothing, shoes, dry cleaners and five and dime. A new Kroger market has just opened at the west end of Reynoldsburg Center. On your way out of the lot, you spy the new drive-in restaurant the family has written about. Don's Briarcliff Drive-In, Huh!

Its dinner time, why not? You pull into a curbside spot under the canopy. After a quick glance at the menu, you place your order by pressing the button on the "Squawk Box." I'll have the Don Juan basket, thick chocolate shake and strawberry pie, please. The carhop delivers your food soon, placing the tray on a bracket that swings over to the driver's window. That's cool, you think to yourself.

You grab a hot hand-cut French fry, then dip it into the milkshake. Wow!, that tastes good. Had I seen this done before? Maybe an

Army buddy at the PX (Post Exchange) in Germany. Hmm, not sure. There have been rumors that this little habit started back east in New York or Philly. No one knows for sure. But, I'd like to think it began right here at Don's, that very day.

The Don Juan burger has two beef patties, melted cheese, lettuce, tomato, onion and mayo. And, a colorful plastic sword sticking in the top. Neat. You remove the little sword and put it in the sun visor. The strawberry pie is topped with whipped cream, and it is delicious.

The food was great and the carhop friendly. I'll be stopping here a lot while I'm home on leave.

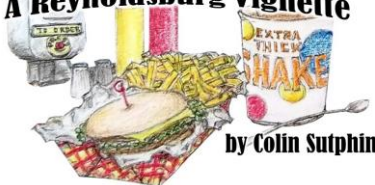
In 1958 KANBRO (Kanas Brothers) leased the northeast corner of E. Main Street at Briarcliff Drive. After which they built a restaurant and called it Don's Briarcliff Drive in.

That name came from an existing restaurant their family purchased in 1955, located on north high street just south of Worthington. The previous owners called it Don's so they continued with the name. Kanbro also owned the Champ Restaurant on Marion Road at the

*(Continued on page 04)*



# Don's Briarcliff Drive-In Restaurant A Reynoldsburg Vignette



(Continued from page 03) corner of South Champion Avenue I think the entire Kanatas family was in the business.

Don's was famous for their bottomless cup of coffee. Local construction workers and firefighters would come in to fill up their thermos bottles. The police would take their coffee breaks and meals here.

There was a preparation kitchen downstairs, where cooks made salads, pies and pastries.

Don's was on US 40, The National Road, a main east/west highway. Remember, the freeway, Interstate 70, didn't open until late 1967. I'm sure Don's had plenty of out of towners, and some notable people who dined there too.

This story was related to me by Kaye Gibson, a waitress at Don's: I don't remember the year, but every afternoon around 2:30 this lady would come in and order soup and a sandwich. After a couple of days she wanted to know if I could get a coffee and join her for company. We talked a few afternoons like that, then she asked me if I knew who she was. Of course, I said no and she laughed so hard. It was Greta Garbo, actress and pin-up girl during WWII. Anyway, Mike called upstairs to ask me something and I said, "Do you know who Greta Garbo is?" He got so excited that he changed shirts, put on a new bow tie then came upstairs to meet her.

He showed us a picture of Ms. Garbo that he kept in his Army locker. She was in Reynoldsburg doing a play at Country Dinner Playhouse.

Kaye also met Frank Sutton who played Sgt. Carter on Gomer Pyle USMC. Said he was really nice, not at all like his TV character.

She continues: "One other time I had to

open the back dining room for Bill Monroe and two of his band members. They ordered coffee and a BLT. I was so mad because Mike made me open the room so they could have privacy. I had no idea who he was at the time but well remember I was a little rude to him. He left me a \$50 tip."

Don's always presented the flag inside to honor their brother Chris who was killed in World War II.

After problems with a new landlord, the brothers decided to retire. So, on Sunday, March 7, 1985 at 7:00 pm, they closed the



doors to Don's Briarcliff Drive In Restaurant for the last time.

The friends I knew from Don's were Tom Kanatas, Harold Tackett, the Coles, Pete,

Polly, and Kaye. People had a lot of good times at Don's so many

years ago. The last time I talked to Tom was at Kroger's some years after he retired. Harold left Don's and became the chef for Jim Joseph at the

Longhorn Steakhouse.

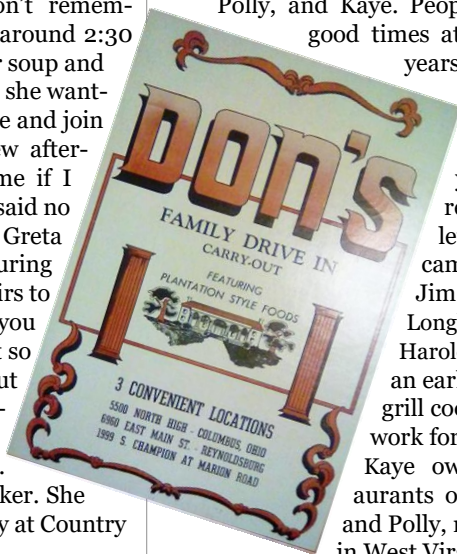
Harold passed away at an early age. Pete, the grill cook, later went to work for Western Electric.

Kaye owned three restaurants of her own. She and Polly, now retired, live in West Virginia.

I surely hope you have enjoyed this trip down memory lane.

Colin Sutphin

~Thanks again to Kaye Gibson for sending photos of Don's



# We Need Volunteers!

Any amount of time you can offer will be appreciated; even if it's only for one hour or 30 minutes

Please call or email if you are able to help! 614-902-2831  
RTHSCourier@aol.com

**09/17/18 MON 10:00-11:00** - The Herbert Mills 3<sup>rd</sup>-grade students will be conducting interviews with residents who have lived in Reynoldsburg at least 50 years. Their teacher has asked that a group from RTHS come to the school to be interviewed. Do you qualify? If so, any pictures or artifacts you could bring along to show the kids would be greatly appreciated. Please contact me at 614-902-2831 so I can give the teacher an approximate number attending. **WARNING:** Be prepared to have lots of fun!

**10/10/18 WED 9:30-1:00** - Summit Road Elementary School Third Grade Tour with **100 students**. We need people to help guide the students safely around our facility, to Silent Home Cemetery, and to & from the Mural at Lancaster & Main. If you have mobility issues, then you can have a sit-down job!

**10/14/18 SUN 11:00-2:00** - Help man a table at the Livingston Ave Fire Station #161 to celebrate Fire Prevention Week. The Fire Department is excited that we will be joining them for this event.

**10/20/18 SAT 10:00-4:00 (9:00 Set-up)** Blacklick Woods Metro Park 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary - We need a Volunteer to join us at a table in one of the picnic shelters for only a few hours (not all day). We will be handing out brochures and flyers about the Quilt Raffle (we are not allowed to sell raffle tickets on site - park rules).

**10/31/18 WED 6:00-8:00** - Beggars' Night! Come to the haunted museum and have some pizza with us before the Trick or Treaters all arrive. You will have fun!

Visit Our Gift Shop in the Lower Level



We are steadily working on stocking our Gift Shop in the lower level meeting room. The merchandise will also be displayed on our website. We currently have RTHS branded items, along with donated products. Check out our LuLaRoe Tomato Leggings and Comfort Tees! Everyone needs a Tomato Tee! The svelte girls would look great in the Leggings. The word is, they are extremely comfortable.



Check out the new look of our website!  
[www.RTHS.info](http://www.RTHS.info)



Our server moved us to a new platform so everything is new. We will keep a current calendar online for all our members. The website still has sections 'Under Construction' but we are working on it!



## Sunshine Committee

### Do you know someone who needs some Sunshine?

Contact Wendy Wheatley Rafferty 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) 262-2673 (Please Call After 2:00pm)

Write "SUNSHINE" in the subject line of your email:

[cdutchman1@aol.com](mailto:cdutchman1@aol.com)

# The Dairy Queens

©by Cornelia M. Parkinson

Almost everybody knows the Dairy Queen, goes there every summer, used to hang around there with the gang from school. Books have been published with *Dairy Queen* in the title. Many souvenirs representing Dairy Queen products have been available over the years. RTHS had a Dairy Queen display, with material contributed by Cassie

Adams, co-owner of the two local DQs. We remember when it first came to The Burg, out where the Firestone lot is now, remember the people who owned and ran it. With Connell Hardware out of business after nearly a century and a half, the Dairy Queen is the oldest continuously operating business in the Burg. Vick's Pizza was established in 1961, Bozman Plumbing in 1963.

But none of them ever had Christmas dinner on the

premises. A Christmas Eve several years ago, electricity was out all over town. But the Livingston Avenue Dairy Queen had electricity, so the Ohio and MN families of Adams, Iles, and Parkinson cooked and ate their festive meal there. The group, without fail, had shared the holiday meal for several decades, but that was unique.

The formula for Dairy Queen (DQ) soft-serve was first developed in 1938 by Iowa-born John Fremont McCullough and his son Alex. An ice-milk product (5% cream) lower in calories and lighter in weight than regular ice cream or frozen custard (10% plus), it has been imitated numerous times, but seldom surpassed. Today the original recipe is the basis for many items on the DQ menu board:

they include Dilly bars, sundaes, shakes, the Peanut Buster Parfait, ice cream cakes, Blizzards (candy bar or cookie bits embedded in the soft-serve -- yummm!), as well as hot foods. DQ workers were teasingly referred to as Dilly-Dippers, because for years the round, chocolate-dipped bars were handmade in DQ stores.

The McCulloughs talked their friend Sherb Noble into offering the product in his ice cream store in Kankakee, IL. On the first day of sale, within two hours Noble's employees dished up more than 1600 all-you-can-eat-for-10-cents servings. In 1940 the three men opened the first Dairy Queen store in Joliet, IL, 32 miles from Kankakee. That same year saw the start of the DQ

franchise system, 10 stores by 1941. All stores hold to the same rules, have similar buildings, and serve similar treats.

Their ice-milk cones and Dilly bars have a distinctive trademarked curl on top. Inspired by a sidewalk brazier he saw in New York, in 1957 a franchise owner in Georgia opened the first "Brazier" store serving hot foods. By the 1970s most stores had become Brazier stores, offering a gradually

increasing menu of "Hot Eats and Cool Treats." The word "Brazier," still found on older stores, has been supplanted by signs reading "Dairy Queen Restaurant," and even just DQ inside the familiar logo.

Worldwide, DQ is the largest seller of soft-frozen desserts. Annual revenues top two billion dollars, hard-earned at first a nickel at a time, now a little more easily. But operators still work long hours -- lifting heavy product cans, placating certain cranky customers, doing the bookwork, fixing equipment, hiring, training, and managing employees, doing it all again when the employee quits. Most high-schoolers any DQ hires have never had a job. They don't know how to work. Only a treasured few employees have made a career of working there.

DQ has more than 6400 stores in 27







countries, about 70% of which are in the US and Canada. The first Canadian store opened in Climax, Saskatchewan, in 1953. Texas boasts the most DQ stores; Bloomington, IL, has the largest US store; Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, hosts the largest store in the world; Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada, has the world's busiest store. Minnesota (IDQ headquarters are in Edina) has the most DQ restaurants per person.

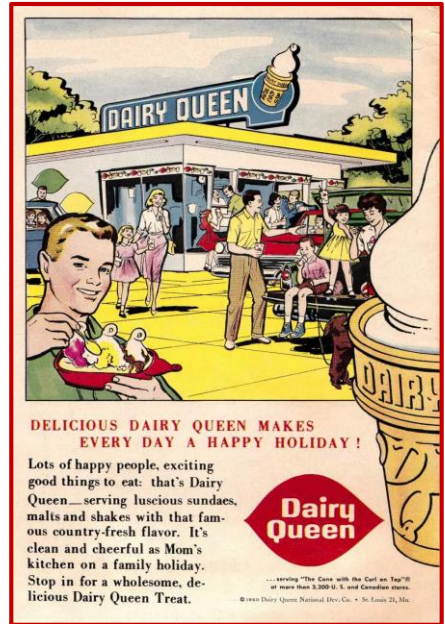
Dairy Queens in general came to represent the meeting place, a center of small-town social life, during the 1950s and 1960s. In 1958 the famous red DQ symbol was introduced, later modified but similar. In 1962 the company became International Dairy Queen, Inc (IDQ). In 1987 IDQ bought the Orange Julius chain, then Karmelkorn; in 1998 Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway bought IDQ.

The first Reynoldsburg DQ was begun by Francis Evans and Gene Mayer in 1953. Francis, a handsome, happy man, lived with his family in the stucco house once reserved for the use of the Methodist Church ministers, at the northeast corner of Broad and Cypress Alleys, under the town water tower. Both house and tower are long gone.



He and I were talking in the alley halfway between our two houses when he told me his plans, adding that it was usually five years before such a place showed a profit. He was a Standard Oil Company employee; I don't know who ran the store, located at Aida and Main Street. In 1958 Owen Adams, Sr., and

his wife Lil\* bought the store from its second owner, Roy Gilmore. They were hard-working and affable, increasing the business considerably over their years of ownership. At age 15 their older son, Owen Edward, Jr., "Buck," began to work there. Then, he probably did not expect to be a DQ owner/operator for nearly 55 years. Cassandra "Cassie" Parkinson



got a job there, and not only married Buck, but trained employees and learned all the numerous tasks needed to run the business. Because of his constant exposure to the public, nearly everybody in town knows who Buck Adams is.

Owen did not own the land where his building sat. So, in 1968 he built a larger eat-in DQ at 6545 East Main Street. The building is still a DQ, with a drive-in added. One time I questioned the worth of a drive-in but was told: "When you have two little kids in booster seats, it's 'way handier not to have to take them out of the car just to get ice cream cones." Oh.

Buck served in the US Army, and when he was discharged in 1969, he and Cassie came back to The Burg and his parents' DQ. After a few years he wanted to buy the place but they weren't ready yet. Buck bought land at 6563 E. Livingston Avenue and built his own DQ in 1977. At one point he added a drive-in

(Continued on page 08)



(Continued from page 07) window, the approach to it rather unusual because of property limitations. At another point he enlarged the store to twice its capacity, making it more attractive, more like the restaurant it had become. Both additions were designed by Cassie's father, Richard W. Parkinson, OSU Professor of Engineering.

When Owen and Lil were ready to retire and sell the store in 1980, Buck couldn't buy it. For almost 20 years others owned it; in 1999 the then-owner offered Buck first chance to buy the store his father had built. As both a practical and sentimental move, Buck and Cassie decided to consolidate: with the two stores they would have 12 square miles of territory in which no other DQ could be built unless they consented.

It took six weeks of cleaning and repairing to bring the Main Street store up to satisfactory standards. After that Buck had his hands full managing two busy stores. He hired another manager, but five years passed and that wasn't working. Once

**Watch for  
the new  
RTHS  
Brochure  
Coming  
Soon!**



more Buck was running both stores. In 2007 Buck and Cassie sold the Livingston Avenue property to an investment company. The DQ on that site ended. Several businesses have occupied the premises briefly. Now the Arena Restaurant serves good food and seems to be successful there.

For the following six years Buck managed the Main Street DQ. In 2013 he and Cassie sold it to Boyd Warner and others. Buck retired. Today the Dairy Queen, in a building 50 years old this year, sitting right on The Burg's primary thoroughfare, does a thriving business. Francis and Gene, Lil and Owen, and especially Buck and Cassie, would be happy to see that.

\*Owen died in 1987. Lillian Adams Ward died in June 2018, age 96, and was buried in Celina beside Owen. Lil was a lady, stylish and beautiful even in her nineties.

## **THE COURIER**

*September 2018 Issue*  
**Reynoldsburg-Truro  
Historical Society**

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Mary Turner Stoots

### **Courier Editor Phone:**

614-560-4987

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Connie Parkinson, Colin Sutphin,  
Suzy Millar Miller & Mary Turner Stoots

### **Contributors:**

Connie Parkinson,  
Colin Sutphin, Suzy Millar Miller  
& Mary Turner Stoots





The following is a summary from the Board Meeting that was held on August, 14, 2018. Our Board Meetings are all open to the membership and

you are always welcome to join us:

- New ballasts were purchased for the meeting room lights. It's bright in there now!
- Vickie Hall & Wendy Raftery are working on some fun and NON-labor intensive fundraising ideas. They will be added to the calendar.
- Neal Piek has retired from the webmaster position. Thank you Neal, for your years of maintaining our website!
- The membership filled out a questionnaire last Fall. The two strongest points were that they wanted the RHS Class Composites on display and a Gift Shop for the Museum.
  - The majority of the class pictures are now on display thanks to Jim Diuguid maintaining Anniversary Hall and the triple pegboard he constructed for the schoolroom.
  - The Gift Shop is currently a work in progress in our lower level meeting room thanks to Jim & Judy Diuguid, Marvin Shrimplin, and Vickie Hall. We currently have RTHS branded items and books for sale, along with donated products. Check out our LuLaRoe Tomato Leggings and Comfort Tees!
- A 'Vendor Only' yard sale will be scheduled for the 2019 calendar coming out soon.
- Mary Stoots is working on yard signs to advertise our events.
- So far, the RTHS Facebook page has reached 217,484 people
- Upcoming events include:
  - ✓ 08/15/18 – RHS Classes of the 1960s Tour
  - ✓ 08/17/18 – RHS Classes of 1969 & 1970 Tour
  - ✓ 08/18/18 – August Open House with guest speaker Rhonda Eberst

- ✓ 08/18/18 – Saturday Nights in Old Reynoldsburg with Max & Erma's in our parking lot
- ✓ 08/25/18 – RHS Class of 1968 Alumni Walk-Thru
- ✓ 09/08/18 – RHS Class of 1963 Alumni Walk-Thru (tentative)
- ✓ 09/19/18 – Max & Erma's Restaurant Fundraiser
- Mary Stoots designed a new brochure and will get pricing from printers
- Donations received:
  - Wes Richards donated the Soap Box Derby car that was formerly on loan.
  - Laura Bennett Myers donated a huge inventory of LuLaRoe Tomato Leggings and Comfort Tees.
  - Jerry Foltz donated a vintage Fire Alarm Box to add to our RTFD Collection.
  - Mark Myers continues to receive Western Electric artifacts and scrap-books for a display he is working on.
- RTHS will host a table in one of the picnic shelters on October 20th and 21<sup>st</sup> for the Blacklick Woods 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. We need volunteers to help man the table.
- The Columbus Metropolitan Library returned high resolution scans of our Yearbooks from 1943 through 1958. They plan to scan all of the yearbooks we have on file.
- A film was applied to the barn glass doors so our artifacts are not visible when unattended.

**A BIG THANK YOU TO:** All the ladies who bring 'goodies' to our Open House events: **Jeannine Winters, Dotti Barth, Judy Diuguid, Kim Fisher, and Ivalee Basinger.** To **Judy Diuguid** for cleaning the Museum, working in the yard, and periodically giving the Prez a ride home. **Hannah Moore** for cleaning the museum. **Jim Diuguid** for constructing & setting up the trifold pegboard in the Schoolroom, filling it with class pictures, and hauling the Prez around. **Mark Myers** for indexing and cataloging all of the Western (Continued to page 13)



## Attention Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society Members:

The Kroger Company has been very good to RTHS. Each quarter it sends us a check for over \$100.00! The amount is based on how much our members (those who are registered), spend at Kroger's. This is an easy way to help RTHS financially with **no added cost** to you.

But, you must be registered. It's as easy as one, two, three (see the picture below):

- 1) Go to **www.Kroger.com**
- 2) Click on **'Savings & Rewards'**
- 3) In the drop-down box, click on **'Kroger Community Rewards'**
- 4) Follow the instructions to Register

New members can enroll by searching for either the **number: LJ440**, or the **name of our organization: REYNOLDSBURG-TRURO HISTORICAL SOC**



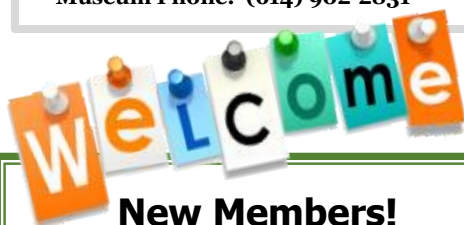
**If you don't have a computer**, but you have a Kroger Plus Card, the rewards program can only be registered online. I called the Kroger Company and they informed me that the stores do **NOT** have access to help you register for community rewards. In this case, **TELL ALL YOUR FRIENDS TO REGISTER!**



- **President – Mary Turner Stoots**  
(614) 866-6137 RTHSCourier@aol.com
- **Vice President – Dick Barth**  
(614) 866-0142 Rebdot1027@gmail.com
- **Treasurer – Marvin Shrimplin**  
(614) 759-1404 mshrimplin6018@wowway.com
- **Recording Secretary – VACANT**
- **Corresponding Secretary Suzy Millar Miller** (512) 635-6376
- **Trustee (1 year) Vickie Edwards Hall** (740) 503-4955 jowen143@twc.com
- **Trustee (2 years) Jim Diuguid** (614) 866-5972 judyjimd@gmail.com
- **Trustee (3 years) Wendy Wheatley Raftery**  
(614) 262-2673 cdutchman1@aol.com
- **Past President – Richard Barrett**  
(614) 755-4979 dick@rbarrett.us

\*\*\*\*\*

**Courier Editor:** Mary Turner Stoots  
**Publicity Chairman:** Mary Turner Stoots  
**Museum email:** RTHSCourier@aol.com  
**Museum Phone:** (614) 902-2831



## New Members!

Judith Duncan - Individual  
 Cori Walker - Individual  
 Beverly O'Dell Swartz – Individual  
 Ron Shirey – Individual  
 William Kibbey - Individual  
 Ruth Leonard – Individual  
 Connie Pack Owen – Individual  
 Carolyn Kreider Egner – Individual  
 Carl & Rhonda Eberst – Family  
 Roberta McElhinny Silverman - Individual

# These Shoes Are Meant For Walking

by Suzy Millar Miller

For the kids of “The Burg” in the ‘50s and ‘60s September meant the annual trip to the shoe store to find those special school shoes. It was a grand adventure to go shoe shopping! Depending on the year, you had to decide if you were going to wear buckle shoes, saddle shoes, moccasins, tennis shoes, or loafers (tasseled, penny, or plain). In the early ‘60s the girls liked to wear white Keds or Capezios. Parents would take their kids to a shoe department at J.C. Penney, Montgomery Ward, Lazarus, Sears, Roebuck & Co., or a shopping center like Town and Country to a specialized shoe store. Connie Parkinson said that she went to Gilbert’s, in downtown Columbus, where they had low prices and a great selection (AND an X-ray machine).

In grade school, I remember going to the Schiff Shoe Store in Bexley (on Main Street) where we got to look at our feet in the big fluoroscope machine and see how our toes looked in the shoes we were buying. Of course, we had no idea that our feet were actually getting an X-ray! The shoe-fitting fluoroscope was invented around 1924 and used by many shoe stores. The machines were banned in 33 states by 1970 due to the possibility of radiation burns. Just think of all of the radiation those shoe salespeople were exposed to in a year.

On a brighter note, Schiff Shoes sold Buster Brown Shoes. Buster Brown was *THE* shoe for the kids in grade school. I liked them

because my Buster Browns had little buckles on them because I didn’t know how to tie my shoes until late in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. (**Explanation:** *I flunked shoe tying in Kindergarten because I was left-handed and couldn’t make those knots and bows stay tied. Finally an uncle showed me how to do it and I stayed up most of the night practicing tying my shoes!*)

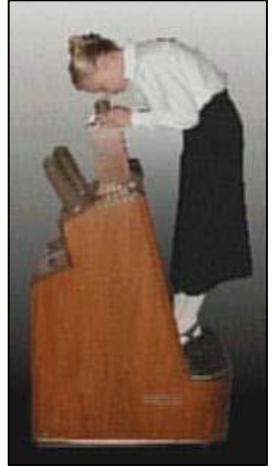
Buster Brown shoes had a great advertising advantage in the ‘50s through one of the most memorable kid shows of the era – the Buster Brown Show! Remember Smilin’ Ed’s (McConnell) Gang (radio) or Andy’s (Devine) Gang (TV)? The show aired every Saturday and started out with, “Hey kids, it’s the Buster Brown Show!” Then Buster Brown would appear and say, “That’s my dog Tige, he lives in a shoe! I’m Buster Brown, look for me in there, too!” For me, the star of the show wasn’t the host, it was that disrespectful Froggy, the Gremlin.

After Andy would say, “Plunk your magic twanger, Froggy and make yourself visible!” The magical frog would appear on top of the big clock and say, “Hiya kids, and laugh “Ha, ha, ha”. Froggy would play tricks on the guests by making them do or say things they didn’t mean to have happen. Froggy would stick out his tongue and dance around. After Froggy created mischief, he would disappear in a cloud of smoke. A company in Akron started manufacturing rubber Froggy dolls in 1948 and apparently people can still find them on e-Bay. The toys had a squeaker in them and if you covered the air hole of the squeaker and pushed in Froggy’s stomach he would stick his tongue out.



While the younger kids were wearing the buckled shoes, the preferred shoes of the older classes and teenagers in the ‘50s were Spalding saddle shoes. Those shoes always looked scuffed and comfortable. The cheerleaders wore saddle shoes with their

(Continued on Page 12)





# These Shoes Are Meant For Walking

by Suzy Millar Miller



(Continued from page 11) uniforms. Here is a picture of Mrs. Eula Houser's fifth grade class from 1955. **First row:** Ellen Snook, Judy Ayers (a current RTHS member), Penny Lindenberg, Carol Cruea, Alice Beard, Sylvia Coey, Sharon Krumm, Nancy Edgar. **Second row:** James Hackney, Michael Bender, Ronald Darst, Gary Keels, Ronald Helsel, Daniel Krumm, Charles Krafft, and



Robert Barber. Also in the class, but not pictured are: Mary Broseus, Jerry Price, Paul Cade, and Don Broyles. When I got my first pair of saddle shoes in the early '60s, they weren't Spalding shoes. They were some other brand, recommended by the aforementioned Schiff Shoes salesman for me to improve my arches - and were my most hated footwear. I believe those were the last shoes I ever had from Schiff's. My mom made me

wear them to school. I really hated those shoes. The saddle shoes were out of style at a time when "style" was important. We didn't have a lot of money to waste on extra shoes, so I was stuck with them!

It was wonderful that we had gym class in high school, because we were required to have special shoes to wear for class. Oh, the joys of tennis shoes! It saved me from a whole school day of those awful saddle shoes. I especially thank our gym teacher, Ann Treacy Robinson (an RTHS member), for making

all of the girls wear those one-piece, snap up, blue gym suits and tennis shoes. The gym shoes of choice were white Keds. We kept them clean and polished them with white liquid Kiwi shoe polish. (I still have a pair of white



tennis shoes in my closet, but they aren't Keds. I toss the tennis shoes into the dryer to help fluff pillows!) The photo is of the Home Economics Club in the 1964 Reynolian. The club was sponsored by Mrs. Dorothea Marshall. This picture of the club's feet shows the "in" footwear for teenage girls in the early '60s.



I used to baby sit kids for 50 cents an hour. I saved up every penny. It took a long time to earn the \$10 it took to buy a pair of the desired Capezio shoes, but I succeeded! Capezios had no arch support, no side support, no cushioning sole, no laces, but lots of style. Those shoes felt like you were going barefoot

and made your feet look elegant like a ballerina! Of course, the problem with them was that the three stitches that held the straps in place came apart easily. I had to keep spending money at Shorty Lisk's Shoe Repair Shop getting them stitched regularly. After I bought the Capezios, my mom wouldn't let me wear them to school. Since I left for school before she did, I would put on my saddle shoes and trudge out of the door. Then on the way to school, I would get my Capezios out of my Giant Purse and put them on while stuffing those saddle shoes (Continued on page 13)



## These Shoes are Meant For Walking

by Suzy Millar Miller

(Continued from page 12) and socks into the purse (there's a reason I carried a really big purse!). When I arrived at school I was suitably shod in those delicate Capezios. Going home I would reverse the process and arrive at home with my saddle shoes. I finally put my foot down at some point at the end of the school year and refused to ever wear those saddle shoes again. Just for the record, those saddle shoes would not wear out. They must have been really sturdy shoes – or maybe because I didn't wear them as much as I should have.



Now my footwear of choice is ballet flats, sandals, or Crocs. None of these shoes have any foot support which probably

explains why my feet are like "duck" feet with toes that are not straight. Although, traditionally, I think it was because I danced in ballet and was wearing those hard-tipped toe shoes at an early age. Or maybe I can blame the fluoroscope at Schiff's Shoes!

Plunk your magic twanger, Froggy!

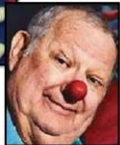


(Continued from page 09)

Electric artifacts as well as donating a book cart on wheels! **Vickie Hall** for pricing books for our Gift Shop and bringing in MORE new members! **Kim Fisher** for bringing wonderful food pantry items to our open house events and working so hard in the yard!! **Lauren Shiman** for helping to move our website to the new platform, and working so diligently with the Reynoldsburg School System to schedule tours. To **Mark Myers** for working with **Jim Diuguid** to organize the accession sheets for 2018, moving the Al Haft Display with the help of **Jim Diuguid & Mike Zim**, putting together the temporary Girl Scout Display, organizing the vertical files, updating the Bennett Garage Donor Plaque at his own expense, and organizing boxes in the garage.

- The next meeting is September 11, 2018, at 7:00 pm.

## Flippo the Clown aka Bob Marvin aka Marvin Fishman



January 6 1927  
June 12, 2006

Ohio native Bob Marvin (born Marvin Fishman) began playing tenor sax professionally at the age of 17. When he came to Columbus, Ohio to attend OSU, he joined the bands of Chuck Selby\*, Ziggy Coyle, and others. Although he is best known for his television alter ego, Flippo the Clown, Marvin led his own band for more than 30 years.

As readily recognized during his heyday as Ohio State football coach Woody Hayes, Fishman, whose stage name was Bob Marvin, was called "a comic genius" by co-workers during his career at WBNS-TV (Channel 10) and the pioneering cable service Qube. For three decades, he delivered a mix of humor that drew off-duty firemen, college students, moms and schoolchildren to the TV.

"He was never corny or went for the cheap laugh. He was hip with a capital H," said Fritz "The Nite Owl" Peerenboom, who worked with Fishman for nearly two decades.

"Flippo would do his live stuff, and it existed on three levels: The kids picked up on it, the adults picked up on it and the hipsters picked up on it. There were so many ways to read between the lines."

The future TV star was born Jan. 6, 1927, in Cleveland. He made his first media appearance, singing on the radio, at age 8.

After an Army stint in Korea, Fishman enrolled at Ohio State University, starting in optometry, switching to journalism, then music. While still at OSU, he was playing saxophone with a group appearing at the Neil House in 1950. A Channel 10 producer offered him a job singing and performing in sketches on the Homemaker's Hobnob morning show.

In 1952, the Ward Baking Co. and J. Walter Thompson ad agency (Continued on page 14)



# Flippo the Clown

(Continued from page 13)

asked WBNS to produce a clown show for children. When a circus clown chickened out, Fishman auditioned and a legend was born.

Chuck White, public-affairs director at WBNS, called Fishman "a comic genius."

"It was basically adult humor, but, because he was a clown, it was funny to kids. If you were an adult, you could hear the subtext." Tales of his antics on and off the set were legion, typically involving pranks and slapstick stunts with an adult twist. In one gag, staff announcer Don Riggs as Santa Claus was reading letters from children, until Fishman, just out of camera range, poured a glass of cold eggnog into his boots.

"Oh, boys and girls," Riggs responded, "I'm up in the North Pole, and, oh! — it is cold and wet."

Ola Hanson, a trombone player with the Columbus Jazz Orchestra, played with Fishman in the 1960s and with a group that recorded an opening for Flippo's The Early Show.

"We recorded the music 10 or 12 times," Hanson said. "On the last one, I blew a note — I missed it completely. That's the one he used. And every day when the music finished, he'd say, 'Hey, Ola missed that note again.'"

Fishman "made an art of the not-so-subtle," said John Markus, whose career as a sitcom writer and producer with such programs as The Cosby Show was inspired by childhood visits to see Flippo in action. Despite being from the Midwest, Fishman had "a big component of the Borscht Belt, the Catskills in his cadence and joke-telling," Markus said. And, Fishman took risks: "It was television at its most robust."

In a 2004 *Dispatch* profile, Fishman spoke of seeing his enduring effect on central Ohioans in unlikely places. "I drove into a gas station, and a guy comes up to me and says, 'You're the guy who came up with 'Nerk' for Newark, and I want to shake your hand,'" Marvin recalled.

"I said, 'Why?' And he said, 'Look at my license plate.'"

"It said, 'Nerk.'"

In December 2005, Fishman donated his

clown costume, photographs and other memorabilia to the Ohio Historical Society.

Although Fishman was indisputably a star, friends noted that he was humble despite his celebrity. He spent 27 years at Channel 10 and six more at Qube, ending in 1983.

In recent years, Fishman was unable to enjoy his musical talent because of breathing problems — "all the places have smoke," he complained — and he missed performing. He said last year, "If there's an afterlife, I want to be playing tenor sax on a cloud with Glenn Miller's band."

*~ There are no credits available for this story because you have just read the obituary of Marvin Fishman aka Bob Marvin aka Flippo the Clown published June 12, 2006 in the Columbus Dispatch. He was 79 years old. The laughter is gone: we still miss him.*

I had the privilege of working with Flippo for an event. We were having a clown contest where I worked at Ohio National Bank (later, National City Bank). I was the liaison to Bob Marvin. The contest included the entire Franklin County area and the judging was at our

Operations facility on West Broad Street. Flippo showed up early and was a HUGE hit, because ALL of us grew up with him.

When he got out of the car, he handed me a heavy briefcase, and told me it was for later on. I guarded that briefcase with my life! He judged the contest, made us laugh until the tears started to melt our clown makeup, then the event ended; or at least we *thought* it did!

He asked for the briefcase, opened it up, and took out a massive stack of 8"x 10" Flippo-photos. Then, he sat down, and for the next hour (or more), autographed one of those pictures for each and every one of us. We numbered over 200. ~ Mary Turner-Stoots

*\* In a 1970s interview for the Columbus Dispatch Sunday Magazine, Chuck Selby revealed that he had suggested the stage name Bob Marvin.*





# Calligraphy Basics

By Mary Turner Stoots

**Saturday  
Sept 22, 2018  
2pm-4pm**

Class will be at the RTHS Museum in our Lower-Level Meeting Room accessible from the Rear Entrance at:  
1485 Jackson Street  
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068

Initially, I learned this art form from a sign painter; so unlike most who start small and work up to larger tasks, I started on the larger end of the spectrum. I still occasionally paint signs, but not unless it's for a close friend or somebody slaps me in the face with a bunch of money.

Before PowerPoint, everyone used flip charts. I saved the down payment for my first house by making flip-chart presentations for National City Bank statewide. Eventually, I was introduced to a calligraphy pen, and found something I could use without the aid of an easel. I've since addressed enough wedding envelopes to fill a barn. As a former member of the Columbus Calligraphy Guild, I would like to help others learn the basics.

Would you like to learn some of the fundamentals of calligraphy? Maybe you need to address some wedding invitations, or would like to make some fancy handmade Birthday, Thank You, or Get Well cards! On Saturday, September 22, I will be teaching a class on basic calligraphy. The class will be restricted to 15 people so I can have the opportunity to work with each person individually, and the session will be two hours, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm.. If need be, I can add additional classes to the calendar. All ages are welcome. Children must be accompanied by a parent.

In class, I will walk you through an italic alphabet, show you how to use a calligraphy pen, and provide handouts covering a large variety of fonts. The literature will also include the 'etiquette' requirements for addressing formal envelopes.

For a small entry fee of \$7.00, I will provide the handouts mentioned above, a felt-tip calligraphy pen, pads of paper to scribble on, indoor seating, and a guaranteed fun time! Any fees collected above and beyond the cost of the supplies will be donated to the Historical Society Museum. Questions? Feel free to contact me through the Courier email or you may reach me by phone: **RTHSCourier@aol.com 614-902-2831**

**You must mail the class fee to the address on the bottom of the coupon  
We do not accept mail delivery at the museum street address**

**Register by US Mail or by the Courier email above and send your class fee as follows:**  
Make your \$7.00 check payable to RTHS (Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society)

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

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

► **Your class seat will be confirmed upon receipt of your class fee.** Calligraphy Class

Mail this coupon and the fee to Mary Stoots, 1070 Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068



Class will be at the  
RTHS Museum:  
1485 Jackson Street,  
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068

(across the street from  
the Hannah Ashton  
Middle School, one block  
south of Main Street)

Park in the Rear of the  
Building. Our back  
entrance is directly off the  
parking lot and leads  
straight to the Meeting  
Room where we will have  
our class!

**614-902-2831**

**Register by US Mail or by the Courier email below and send your class fee as follows:**

Make your \$10.00 check payable to RTHS (Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society)

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

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

► **Your class seat will be confirmed upon receipt of your class fee.** Chalkboard Signs

Mail this coupon and the fee to Mary Stoots, 1070 Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068

**You must mail the class fee to the address on the bottom of the coupon  
We do not accept mail delivery at the museum street address**

I learned basic lettering from a sign painter when I was a teenager. I used that skill to make flip charts for business presentations for a long time; at least until Microsoft developed PowerPoint. I still occasionally paint signs, but haven't had the time since I've been helping out at the museum. Every once in a while I will paint one, but lately, ALL of the requests have been for Chalkboard Signs.

Since they seem to be the 'rage' right now, I thought I would share the experience with a class.

On Saturday, October 13, I will be teaching a class on chalkboard sign painting. The class will be restricted to 15 people, and the session will be two hours, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. If need be, I can add additional classes to the calendar. All ages are welcome. Children must be accompanied by a parent.

In class, I will show you a short video of the progressive steps I took to make some signs, and walk you through a simple alphabet, along with how to use the brush like a chisel point pen. I will also provide handouts covering a large variety of signs and fonts.

For a small entry fee of \$10.00, I will provide the handouts mentioned above, 8"x 10" black presentation boards to paint on, brushes, paint, pencils, black Sharpie markers, indoor seating, and a guaranteed fun time! Any fees collected above and beyond the cost of the supplies will be donated to the Historical Society Museum. Questions? Feel free to contact me through the Courier email or you may reach me by phone:

**RTHSCourier@aol.com 614-902-2831**