



# THE COURIER

Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society

Email: [RTHSCourier@aol.com](mailto:RTHSCourier@aol.com)

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## MEET ELEANOR MAE WILSON SHONTING

### Author of the McNaghten Collection

By Mary Turner Stoots & Phillip Thomas

A 1941 graduate of Reynoldsburg High School, Eleanor Mae Wilson was an attractive teenager who loved to dance. The only child of James Henry Wilson and Lola Blanche McNaghten



*Eleanor Shonting*

Wilson Wright and granddaughter of Blanche Holcomb and Stewart McNaghten, her roots in Truro Township reach back to the late 1700s.

As a child growing up, Eleanor was fascinated by family history and started to collect information

and artifacts as early as she can remember. As an only child, relatives naturally handed everything down to her. If it wasn't, she hunted it down or asked for a copy.

Today, her eyesight is impaired which makes research virtually impossible; and she has been moved from her home on Merritt Island in Florida to an assisted living facility where storage space is limited. Rather than allow her life-long collection of genealogy and artifacts to end up in a dumpster, Eleanor's good friend, fellow genealogist, and former neighbor, Phillip Thomas, contacted the Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society (RTHS). We made arrangements to move everything from Florida to our museum. And now you know how we acquired the 'McNaghten Collection.'

If it weren't for Phillip Thomas, we would not have this incredible collection. When he found

out that Eleanor's family planned to destroy the binders and artifacts, Phillip took the initiative to contact a historical society over 1,200 miles away to see if it could be saved. We will be forever grateful for his forethought and help resulting in this wonderful gift.

RTHS now possesses over 300 binders of genealogy covering thousands of families, scrapbook material, postcards, photo albums, plat maps, graveyard maps, township maps, county maps, court records, letters, books, greeting cards, high school yearbooks, historical society periodicals from areas surrounding Truro Township; the list goes on.



The artifacts include furniture, a Civil War mess kit, tablecloths, hairbrushes, napkin holders, Ambrotypes, baby clothing (a baby baptismal gown from 1844), hand-woven fabrics, Judge David Pugh's gavel, girls' clothing, portraits, Daguerreotypes, bonnets, Masonic Lodge items, bead purses, tintypes, and much, much more.

RTHS probably has one of the largest and most professionally researched single genealogy *(Continued on page 02)*

**RTHS Museum, 1485 Jackson Street, Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068**

Mailing address: Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society, P.O. Box 144, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068



## Eleanor Shonting

(Continued from Page 01)

collections in Franklin County; possibly in the State of Ohio.

### Through the eyes of Phillip Thomas, you will now meet Eleanor:

*"She was a master seamstress and made most of her children's clothing. In her younger years, she mastered the art of tatting. I believe it is a form of delicate lace making. She had many talents. In painting, watercolor was her favorite medium. I have several of her paintings in my home.*

*An only child and one who loved her family and all items related to it. Her*

*memory for detail was phenomenal. As family members died she was the one who stepped forward to gather the family photos and historical items. I suspect that had it not been for her*

*dogged determination to preserve them, most of the items would have been trashed long ago. She also is the one who took the time to research and make the notes on all the pictures, cloth items, etc. That took dedication and a whole lot of time.*

*Eleanor was an expert on photography and its development, as well as gravestones. She was a walking encyclopedia on both subjects and gave classes on both.*

*I was a budding unorganized genealogist when we met some 30+ years ago. As they lived across the street and I worked nights, I would go over when I got home in the morning and have coffee and chat several days a week. We became fast friends.*

*Eleanor's genealogy research knew no bounds. She was blessed with beautiful penmanship and an inquiring mind. Even today in her advanced years she surprises me with the wealth of her recall. A month or so ago she broke into a song that was a favorite of hers during her school years and she sang the whole song!*

*Eleanor was an officer in the Central*

*Brevard Genealogy Chapter for many years. She was the primary person who manned the genealogy department at the County Library. She gave lectures to any organization that asked and several times was a welcome visitor to our SCV (Sons of Confederate Veterans) Camp in Melbourne, Florida, Capt. J.J. Dickison Camp #1387.*

*Eleanor was the treasurer for her sorority. If I recall correctly she was also active as a volunteer in the Fire Department EMT program. in Delaware Ohio.*

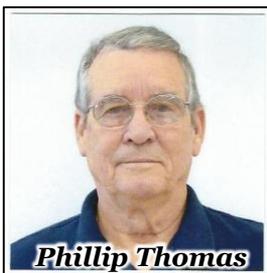
*Eleanor's father was a radio man in the navy. Once he and his family were stationed in a remote part of Panama and she told us about her memories of the local tribes and her adventures in the jungle.*

*One more Story: It was some years ago, at the Genealogy section at the Melbourne Library on Fee street in Melbourne. A man came in and asked her to come outside as he had something in his trunk that he wanted to show her. It turned out to be a Confederate Cross of Honor that he said he had found in a field out in the countryside. Eleanor, realizing that he had desecrated a soldier's grave, lit into him and it took another library staff member to keep her from calling the police. She made the man promise to return the relic where he found it. If he did no one knows. Eleanor was an even handed and honest caretaker of the past and I have always respected her for that and the other fine qualities she has."*

### **Please note:**

The McNaghten Collection is still in the cataloging stages and after hundreds of hours, we are just now beginning to see light at the end of the tunnel.

The material in the old binders has not been transferred to the new binders, (they haven't been purchased yet) but this is a preview of what's to come! The only difference is that Eleanor's name will be on the binder spine as well. We will post a public announcement when the collection is available for viewing.



**Phillip Thomas**

# Historic Mural Completed Includes “Five of the Finest”

By Suzy Millar Miller  
From the February 2010 Courier



Work on the mural, painted by Curtis Goldstein, began on September 12, 2009, starting with a portrait of Hannah Ashton, one of the founding members of RTHS. The 90 by 30-foot mural, depicting the history of Reynoldsburg and Ohio, is located on the west wall of Cotner Funeral Home in downtown Reynoldsburg. Upon completion, the mural was dedicated on December 5, 2009, during Christmas on the Towne Festivities.

Included in the mural are “Five of the Finest”. They represent all the Reynoldsburg Veterans who have served in wartime. In descending order: African-American George Stebout, died in Union Service during the Civil War; 2LT Charles “Buddy” Feucht, died in WWII; SGT Maebelle Weber, served in WWII; Army Specialist Robert “Ron” Buck, killed in Vietnam, February 1969, was a 1965 RHS graduate, on the Reynolian staff and school baseball team; Army SGT Titus Reynolds, killed in Afghanistan, September 2009, was a 2005 RHS graduate and a talented musician.



## 2017 CALENDAR

### MARCH 2017

- 14 – Tuesday - Board Meeting - 7:00pm
- 18 – Saturday - Open House, 10am-2pm
- 18 – Saturday - Calligraphy Class, 2pm-4pm
- 19 – Sunday - Calligraphy Class, 2pm-4pm
- 28 – Tuesday - General Meeting, 7:00pm
- 30 – Thursday – 10am -11pm Max & Erma’s ALL DAY Restaurant Fundraiser

### APRIL 2017

- 01 – Directory/Roster Published
- 11 – Tuesday - Board Meeting, 7:00pm
- 15 – Saturday - Open House, Helping Hands Shower 10:00am-2:00pm
- 25 – Tuesday - Card and Board Game Party, Reynoldsburg Senior Center 6:30pm
- 30 – Sunday - Month-End Deadline for the May Courier

### MAY 2017

- 03-06 – Publish May Courier
- 16 – Tuesday - Board Meeting - 7:00pm
- 20 – Saturday - Open House, Mike Zim Big Time Wrestling in Central Ohio, 10am-2pm

### JUNE 2017

- 03 – Alumni Open House 10:00am-Noon
- 13 – Tuesday - Board Meeting 7:00pm
- 17 – Saturday – Open House 10am-2pm
- 27 – Tuesday – Family Indoor Picnic, 6:30pm; General Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 30 – Month-End Deadline for July Courier

### JULY 2017

- 03-06 – Publish July Courier
- 11 – Tuesday - Board Meeting, 7:00pm
- 15 – Saturday - Open House, 10am-2pm
- 18 – Tuesday - Pizza Cottage Fundraiser 4:00pm-9:00pm

**Watch Your Mailbox in Early April!  
The Membership Roster is Coming ...**



**Member Contact Info  
Calendar of Events  
List of Officers**

RTHS Courier, March 2017-03

*If you live out of town, send this flyer to all of your friends in central Ohio! (I know you have some!)*

**Take your family out to dinner  
and benefit the**

**Reynoldsburg-Truro  
Historical Society!**

**Max & Erma's at  
8050 East Broad Street**

**WHEN?**

**Thursday,  
March 30<sup>th</sup>**

**All Day Long!  
11am to 10pm**

All flyers must be turned in to the server at the time of purchase for the donation amount to count towards the Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society. Flyers may be turned in and counted towards dine-in or carryout purchases.

Gift card and alcohol purchases do not count towards any donation amount.

**Cut out a coupon for  
your family and print  
an extra one for your  
neighbor!**

Join Us For A

**FUNdraiser**

at **MAX & ERMA'S**



**Reynoldsburg- Truro Historical  
Society**

**Thursday, March 30th, 11am -10pm**

Max & Erma's East Broad  
8050 East Broad St.

Reynoldsburg, OH 43068  
614-367-0370

Present this flyer to your server and a percentage of your food sales will be donated back to the organization

VISIT [MAXANDERMAS.COM](http://MAXANDERMAS.COM) FOR MORE INFORMATION  
ON FUNDRAISING FOR YOUR ORGANIZATION

Flyer distribution on Max & Erma's property is prohibited and will result in the forfeiture of your organization's entire donation. Donation amount is not valid if donation is not made on past purchases. Max & Erma's donation cannot be combined with coupon or other offers.

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# 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 mmyers4@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

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

## THE COURIER

March 2017 Issue

Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society  
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, Phillip Thomas,  
Richard Barrett, Connie Parkinson,  
and Mary Turner Stoots

**Contributors:** Suzy Millar Miller,  
Connie Parkinson, Phillip Thomas,  
Richard Barrett, Sonja Herd,  
Mary Turner Stoots, and  
Mary Alice Feucht Foster



## New Members!

Mark Palmer – Contributing  
Dean Doane & Mary Tackett– Family

## 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**

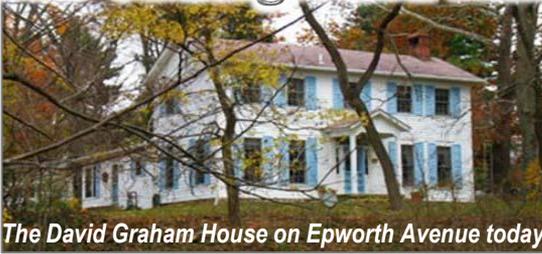
*Invite your friends to join!*

Do any of our ladies like to dig in the dirt? Why don't you start an RTHS Garden Club? We have a flower bed that you can practice on, and we could certainly use some help in that arena. You can call your group whatever you like. RTHS Garden Club sounds pretty formal. How about "The Rosettes?" or maybe the "Dirty Fingers" ... whatever. Let me know if you are interested!  
**RTHSCourier@aol.com**



# The Underground Railroad in the Burg

By Cornelia Parkinson



*The David Graham House on Epworth Avenue today*

Everybody has heard the term “underground railroad.” What does it mean?

The so-called underground railroad was the system by which a person helped another person to freedom. Usually this meant a white man or woman helping black men/women/children get out of slavery. The South usually meant slavery, Northern free states and Canada could mean freedom. All those of any color who took a part in emancipation were also risking their lives. Here in town we had many of all colors who undertook that risk simply to help another human being live free from the frequent cruelty of slavery.

The master may have treated his people well enough, especially house servants, who were often loved and respected – and at need catered to – like family. But the white overseer, whose job it was to get a full day’s work out of “ever’ mizzable black critter in them-thar fields,” did not have to be kind about it. He had free rein to punish at will, and in his own way. If he grew a dislike for anyone, they were more apt to be punished.

Escape routes were called “underground” because runaway slaves could seem to vanish, even when pursuers were close on the trail. “Bounty hunters” or “slave catchers” were equipped for the job with pistols and whips and ropes to bind – plus 90-to-110-pound bloodhounds whose noses you couldn’t fool, or 165-to-185-pound mastiffs, fierce dogs three feet high. These mighty and powerful dogs were trained not to attack, but to catch and hold, so that the hunter could return a live specimen in reasonable condition to his master for the hunter’s reward.

The essence of the Underground Railroad was heroism. Men who helped fugitives risked heavy fines, jail sentences, and their very lives. Runaway slaves risked even more: most were used to being supervised at all hours; most were not allowed

schooling, and certainly were not taught what to expect in the outside world; so how could they manage on their own? Some did, going back to help others escape. Some didn’t, couldn’t, learn.



*David Graham*

Slavery as an institution is older than civilization. Wealthy and powerful men of all nations throughout time have owned slaves. The American Civil War was fought, in part, over the right for one person to have absolute control over the life, love, work, goals, even death of another person. Indentured servants and apprentices agreed

to work for a certain time, at the end of which their master was obliged to free them. Native Americans made poor slaves, because they expected their women to do the work. In any master-servant situation, those having power too often misused it. Slavery itself was intolerable.

Slaves were possessions. They represented real monetary outlay. They were bought and they were sold, paid for in cash or credit. Husbands could be sold; so could wives, children, newborn babies, at the master’s displeasure. Slaves weren’t given a choice. Slave laws favored the owner. From those laws that outlined the punishment for helping escaping slaves came the terrible risks the abolitionist slave-haulers took

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## The Underground Railroad

when they escorted runaways to a free state. Nevertheless, the Underground Railroad covered the United States, and its regular routes were numerous. A map of the eastern United States shows thousands of little lines drawn between points where slaves could be kept for a short time before being taken farther along the freedom trail. Slave-hauling was a monumental volunteer operation that would make today's businessman wealthy.

**The David Graham House on Epworth Avenue 1978**



Ohio was never a slave-holding state. Its importance in abolitionism came from its geographically abutting the slave states of Kentucky and Virginia (now West Virginia.) Any slave who could cross the Ohio River would still be in peril, but be in a free state where help was nearby. One popular route went out East Friend Street (now Main) in Columbus toward Reynoldsburg, then 20 miles northeast to Granville. One of the earliest Franklin County abolitionists was

Williams Noe, who from his home near Hibernia was able to give shelter, food, rest, and further transportation. (Hibernia was a settlement, never platted, at Main Street and Noe-Bixby Road; later on, at an Arcodel Bus stop, the driver called out, "Hibernia!")

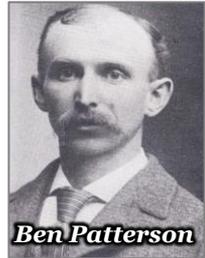


The best known station in The Burg was the David Graham house, at now 1312 Epworth. Families living in the house have told of digging noises in the cellar (rumor holds two slave catchers were buried there) and nighttime voices in the hallway. Other stations were in a cave off Main Street near Waggoner

Road; under the Primitive Baptist Church at the Y of Jackson and SR 256; the home of Joseph German on Main; and Viola McCray May's house which was near the site of the present Masonic Lodge. James C. Reynolds's general store, a log structure built 1839/1840 at now 7374 East Main Street, had a cellar hiding place about 7X15 feet, with airholes on three sides and a trapdoor on the west. A prominent man in a little town dare not travel nights too often, so James and his wife Minerva made their contribution as they could. No one let on that they knew.

Another prominent abolitionist was Alexander W. Livingston, on whose seed farm were outbuildings, lofts, and other hiding places that could be used for days at a time when necessary. A. W. owned a long wagon called The Ark, having seats along the sides in which a number of fugitives could be taken to the next station in Granville or Utica. Alex's employee, Ben

Patterson 1836-1914 was one of the slave haulers out of The Burg, transporting runaway slaves to Granville or even the many miles to Mt. Vernon. That trip would take a whole night. Eliza Patterson's



granddaughter Mary Eliza Durant told that when Ben was gone, his wife was afraid to be alone, so she stuck a big wooden mush paddle through staples in the door and doorframe, and felt safer.

Harrison "Hack" Long was "a man of do or die," a carpenter, served during the Civil War and later worked for William Forrester in his stone quarry. In Hack's house, said historian Fay May, a brick wall raised the house about five feet aboveground, so an outside stairway led up into the living room. Slaves hid in relative safety here, awaiting the hazardous ride to the next station.

Other men in Truro and Jefferson Townships known to have worked with the Underground Railroad are George W. Black, Jason Bull, David Patterson (owner of land  
*(Continued on Page 08)*



## The Underground Railroad

(Continued from page 07)

a bit east of Waggoner Road and perhaps a

relative of Ben), Daniel Thompson, and John W. Thompson. John was a wagon maker. Both Presbyterians and Seceders were strong for abolition. First Presbyterian Reverend Jonathan Cable served, and Archibald Cooper, carpenter, one of the church founders and original elders, who also served on the First Board of Trustees, Borough of Reynoldsburg. On behalf of Seceders were “Uncle Billy” Connell (possibly buried in Seceder Cemetery; where his wife, Janet Strang, was buried), Samuel Gillett, and William G. Graham. Graham 1803-1854 was described as a “pioneer.”

Ten years after the Civil War, when fear of capture had passed, the Black Prince from Africa once again lent Reynoldsburg his awesome presence. He had sheltered here

before, and was described as “six feet six inches in height, broad shouldered and with the strength of a horse, eight times the power of an ordinary man. . . blessed with more than ordinary [intelligence]. . . very valuable to any farm.”

Men and women of the area – many not named here – were brave, doing the fear-engendering job with qualms, but doing it anyway because it was part of their belief system. And those they aided to freedom met fates varying from no improvement to vast improvement over the unfair institution of slavery. Some people did not win; but others did win.

Several sources have been used for this article. 1. Parkinson: *History of Reynoldsburg and Truro Township, Ohio*, ch 62. 2. Siebert: *Mysteries of Ohio's Underground Railroads* and *The Underground Railroad*. 3. Hetty Graham Evans: several souvenir booklets for Reynoldsburg's Homecomings. 4. Fay May: *Boots and Saddles* columns, *Canal Winchester News-Gazette*.

## Shirley Temple Black 1928-2014



One of the most beloved child stars in film history, Shirley Temple (Mrs. Charles) Black (1928-2014) went from Hollywood actress to distinguished diplomat in a life filled with adventure, fame, and service to her country.

The diminutive star cheered Americans during the last years of the Depression, gracing movie screens with her dimpled smile, ringlet curls, and irrepressible spirit. A talented performer, she was the number one box office draw for four years in a row, and she was awarded the first-ever juvenile Oscar at only six years of age. Her movies were seen by millions in the 1930s and continue to entertain each new generation.

After leaving Hollywood, Black became involved in politics and public service. She was appointed a delegate to the United Nations in 1969 and U.S. ambassador to Ghana and Czechoslovakia in 1974 and 1989 respectively. She was the first woman to serve as U.S. Chief of Protocol and was a charter member of the American Academy of Diplomacy.

Black was honored for her achievements in film and diplomacy. In addition to being appointed the first-ever Honorary Foreign Service Officer in the late 1980s, she was also the Kennedy Center Honors recipient in 1998 and a year later was included on the American Film Institute's list of the 50 Greatest Screen Legends. At the 2006 Screen Actors Guild ceremony, Black was

presented with their Life Achievement Award. In her acceptance speech she only had one piece of advice, “If you want to receive a Life Achievement Award, start early!”



# The Reynoldsburg Civic Club

*"These things we will do"*

*Written by Mary Alice Foster with updates from Sonja Herd. Photo and Edits by Connie Parkinson*

Through good times, depressions, and wars, the Reynoldsburg Civic Club is a living history of our town. In the early 1900s as villages grew to cities, women residents addressed the need for a variety of civic improvements by establishing clubs to address those needs. They were called Women's Clubs, and still exist in many communities.

In November of 1922, Jesse Weiberg, a woman of action and decision, who lived at the corner of Rose Hill Road at Route 40, decided the village of Reynoldsburg (then 600 inhabitants) needed a civic improvement organization in the form of a women's club. Apparently, she needed a hobby, because she also ran a restaurant. Women had been granted the right to vote only several years earlier. To take on the civic improvement of a village was no small thing. Mrs. Weiberg was no ordinary lady. She was a joy – an alleluia from head to foot. When she talked about Reynoldsburg you knew it was a combination of the Garden of Eden, The Promised Land and all Seven Wonders of the World.

On November 17, 1922, the first organized meeting was held at her home. The group was named Reynoldsburg Civic Club. The motto chosen was "These Things We Will Do"; song, "America The Beautiful"; colors, Yellow and White; flower, Chrysanthemum. Refreshments were to be served at all meetings. These women were no "Sunbonnet Sues." They were as different and varied as the pieces of a patchwork quilt. They lived in the village and on surrounding farms. They had one common goal – work for the betterment of Reynoldsburg.

Since its inception, the Civic Club has raised funds for a variety of civic projects and served as an innovative force for many community services.

Their first project was to start a library, the FIRST one in Reynoldsburg. The State Circulating Library delivered books to Esta Lunn's Dry Goods Store. Reynoldsburg Civic Club established the FIRST kindergarten. Classes were held in the United Presbyterian Church. Pupils paid \$2.00 per week; the teacher received \$10.00. Mothers furnished cookies and kettles of hot cocoa.

Civic Club started the FIRST Tourist Camp, establishing it on the school grounds. They furnished tables, benches, wastebaskets, running water and outside toilets. Another FIRST was furnishing the teachers' lounge at the Reynoldsburg school. (Then all pupils were in one building.) They also provided the FIRST pay telephone.

In 1932, when the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse were deflation, demoralization, destitution and despair, they worked even harder. Automobiles were becoming fairly common, so the town needed a traffic light. Civic Club bought and maintained the FIRST traffic light. One summer they donated petunia seeds to every resident. The whole town was abloom. They organized the FIRST PTA, and FIRST pre-school clinic with a nurse and doctor in charge.

Members of Reynoldsburg Civic Club launched the American Field Service. Their support helped build the Truro Township Fire Safety House and bring the Vietnam Moving Wall to Reynoldsburg. They purchased the flagpole for the Municipal Building; pulse tachometer and rescue kit for the Fire Department; large "Welcome to Reynoldsburg" signs; athletic equipment for the schools; sponsored Girl Scout troops; sent representatives to Buckeye Boy's and Girl's

*(Continued on Page 10)*



**Jessie White Weiberg**

## Reynoldsburg Civic Club

(Continued from page 09)

State; gave to the fund to refurbish the Middle School's auditorium, to Helping Hands, Cancer Fund, Heart Fund, United Appeals, 1976 Bi-Centennial, German Measles Vaccination Program, Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society, Recreation Department, Visual Aid Program, Teen Center, etc.

In recent years, the projects supported by the Club have been the Holiday Banners on the major street utility poles, the mural on the building wall at the corner of south Lancaster Avenue and Main Street and a scholarship to assist a local resident with their education. The Livingston House, the Tomato Festival and various charities have been given funding including two yearly contributions to Helping Hands.

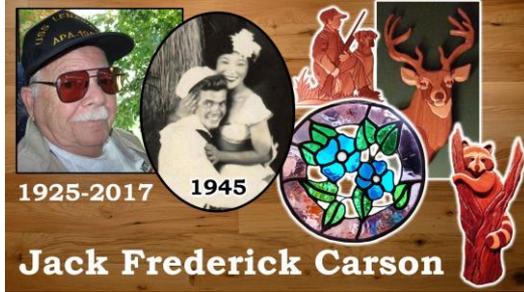
In 2016 the Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society, Keeping Reynoldsburg Beautiful and the American Legion Fallen Veterans Memorial were recipients of financial contributions.

The Reynoldsburg Civic Club provides women in the Reynoldsburg School District with an opportunity to stay connected and continue to serve the community. As the Club nears 100 years of existence it is appreciative that the Reynoldsburg Truro Historical Society preserves the Club's records.

This organization covers the span from Model T cars to space ships. Its members have touched many lives. They dream the impossible dream. Some women see things as they are and say, "Why?" . . . Women of the Reynoldsburg Civic Club dream things that never were and say, "Why not?"

*The Club meets the first Tuesday of the month, September thru June for lunch and a guest speaker and welcomes new members. If you are a civic minded woman who is interested in attending a meeting, please contact the Courier editor, Mary Turner Stoots at 614-866-6137, or email*

***RTHSCourier@aol.com*** and Mary will connect you to a representative from the Reynoldsburg Civic Club.



by Mary Turner Stoots

Merriam Webster defines the word *ORNERY* as cantankerous or grouchy, but I would say it should have more of a naughty or mischievous definition. I guess it depends on the dictionary, or where you were raised. If you looked up *ornery* in a Reynoldsburg dictionary, you would probably find a picture of Jack Carson.

Jack graduated from RHS in 1943; he was friends with the whole Turner family. He was also the orneriest critter whom God ever put on this earth. If you knew him, you would be nodding your head right now, ... and smiling as you thought of him.

He was my friend. I was the one who laughed at everything he said, which made things worse because every time I laughed he would just continue telling jokes to make me guffaw some more. People would say, "Stop laughing! You are just encouraging him!" What's wrong with that? I was honored to be his audience.

And he liked to play jokes on people. One time he called me and asked what he should bring to our family reunion (Jack isn't related, but was always considered family). I told him not to try to cook anything, just pick up a bag of ice. He came into the reunion, walked up to me and said, "Here's the ice!" Then he handed me a baggie with one partially melted ice cube. When I looked at him with a raised eyebrow, he said, "My freezer space is limited so I can only make one ice cube at a time; which makes things very difficult when I throw a party."

One of his favorite amusements was MY Facebook page! He would delight in posting tongue-in-cheek remarks to either embarrass me or make me bust out laughing when I read them. I never knew what to expect, but I'd give

(Continued on Page 11)



# Jack Carson

*(Continued from page 10)*

anything right now to be able to anticipate more of his humor and quick wit.

The last time I talked to him was at Christmas. He said his hands were numb (from diabetes), which makes it very hard to see. I said, "How do your hands affect your eyesight?" He replied, "My hands are so numb I can't use them. I have trouble with each little task. Every time I try to pick my nose, I poke myself in the eye!"

Jack was a master woodworker and made beautiful stained glass pieces. Some of the gifts he gave to me are pictured in the header banner on the previous page. That's not all of them. If you said you liked something he made, or he saw you staring at one piece for a long time, he would just hand it to you. The mark of a truly generous man. My parents have so many of his wood

intarsia pieces that their house looks like a 'Jack Carson Exhibit.'

If you never had the opportunity to meet Jack, then you are unfortunate. He will be sadly missed by many; especially me. Rest in peace, dear friend.

The following information was posted from the Evans Funeral Home:

Jack Frederick Carson age 91, Friday, February 17, 2017 at Franklin Woods. He was a former resident of Whitehall and Grove City. He was a proud World War II veteran serving at the battle of Iwo Jima aboard the USS Lenawee (APA-195). He was a skilled craftsman of stained glass and woodworking.

Preceded in death by wife, Joy Carson; parents, Walter Carson and Norma Coriell; sister, Betty. Survived by daughter, Christine (Keith) Spillman; sons, Mike (Terri) Carson, Steve (Maria) Carson; step-daughter, Kathy Sommer; 11 grandchildren; 7 great grandchildren; best friend Rick Poplstein of Florida. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

**Calligraphy Basics**  
**March 18th 2:00pm-4:00pm**

*By Mary Turner Stoots*

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, March 18, I will be teaching classes on basic calligraphy. The classes will be restricted to 12 or 13 people so I can have the opportunity to work with each person individually, and each session will be two hours. 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 \$5.00, 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: [RTHSCourier@aol.com](mailto:RTHSCourier@aol.com)

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

Make your \$5.00 check payable to RTHS (Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society)

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

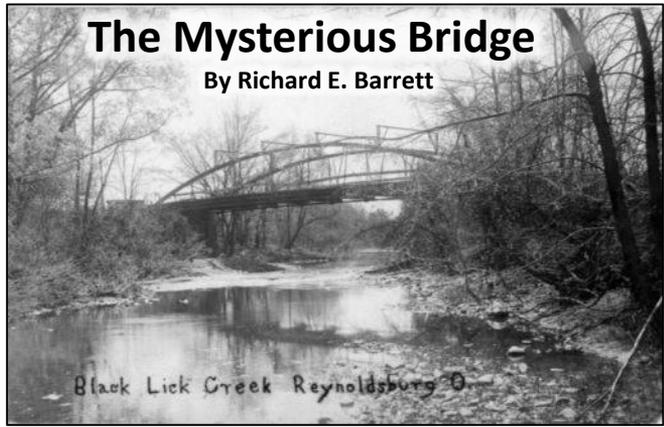
**The Class is on March 18 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm**

**► Your Seat will be confirmed upon receipt of your class fee.**

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

For several years I have had postcards from about 1910 that showed a bridge that was identified only as “The Old Bridge, Reynoldsburg, O.” It was obvious that this was not an earlier bridge over Blacklick Creek on Route 40 or Main St., as the bridge did not look strong enough to carry the traffic on that road. But where was it?

At a postcard show last fall I found another view of the bridge. It was entitled “Black Lick Creek, Reynoldsburg, Ohio.” Also, it had a note on the back that identified it as “Jake Smith’s Bridge.”



# The Mysterious Bridge

By Richard E. Barrett

Black Lick Creek Reynoldsburg O

Looking at 1872, 1883 and 1895 maps of Truro Township showed that Jacob Smith owned a 200 acre farm on the west side of Blacklick Creek at what is now Livingston Ave. The 1872 and 1883 maps show his land being on both sides of the road, while the 1895 map shows his land only on the south side of the road. Later maps (1910 and 1925) showed that the Ashton family owned that property. Now it is part of Blacklick Woods Golf Course.



1883 Map

Finally, a question answered.



## Forgotten Expressions

By Cornelia Parkinson

**comeuppance** = get what you had coming; you brought it on yourself  
**straw boss** = person who acts as if he's in charge

**linsey-woolsey** = fabric woven of flax (linen) and wool  
**rip-snortin' time, a** = a fine time, even a little rowdy  
**dolled up** = dressed as for a special occasion  
**dressed to the teeth** = used when men wore ruffs high up around the neck  
**fortnight** = two weeks or fourteen nights

**sennight** = one week, seven days  
**Friday week** = Friday a week from now; not usually Friday this week  
**hoedown** = square dance, a particular series of dancing steps  
**settin' up** = staying up privately with the one you like, or mean to marry

## 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: **RDEET@AOL.COM**

