

JANUARY-2020 Website: www.rths.info Email: RTHSCourier@aol.com Vol.46No.1

95 Years of Excellence by Suzy Millar Miller

Members of the Reynoldsburg High School Class of 1943 will be turning 95 this year. Most of the classmates were born in 1925 and we still have a few members, or relatives, of that class listed as members of RTHS. I wanted to honor them at the beginning of a new decade to show how much they mean to us. You will recognize many of the names of this outstanding group of people immediately.



In 1925, when the class of 1943 was born, the average income was \$2,239 a year. A new car cost \$290; new house was \$7,809 (but you could get a "self build" house from Sears in the \$2,000 range); a loaf of bread was 9 cents; gallon of gas 12 cents; gallon of milk 56 cents.

The President was Calvin Coolidge and the Vice President was Charles Dawes.

Some of the great inventions of the time were Scotch tape, the circuit breaker and methanol. Life expectancy was 54.1 years.

Headlines of the nation included: Scopes found guilty in Tennessee's "Monkey Trial"; Walter Chrysler founded an automobile company; the Charleston was the newest dance craze; American Automobile Association declared that women

drivers were as competent as men; tornadoes killed about 800 people in the Midwest.

Popular songs were: "Sweet Georgia Brown", "Moonlight and Roses", "If You Knew Susie Like I Know Susie", and "Five Foot Two, Eyes of Blue".

Famous people born in 1925 included: June Lockhart, Cliff Robertson, Art



Buchwald, Dorothy Malone, Peter Graves, Merv Griffin, Johnny Carson, William F. Buckley, Paul Newman, Jack Lemmon, Tony Curtis, Fess Parker, Angela Lansbury, Jonathan Winters, and Sammy Davis, Jr.

When the class of 1943 graduated, the United States was fighting in World War II and many of the Burg's residents were serving in the Armed Forces. Some of the 1943 classmates who joined early were: "Snerd" Hays (Navy), Don Marcum (Navy), "Pod" Hayes (Naval Reserve), Lee Hall (Naval Reserve), Tom Arnet (Army), Jim Morris (Naval Air Corps), Bill Brennon (Army), and Ralph Rickly (Army). According to the 1943 Reynolian, *(continued on page 02)*

(continued from page 01)

"Jim Gordon is working at the Depot, and Bill McCall is attending Monmouth College. Spike Myers was planning to enter the Merchant Marines but at the last moment he was rejected. He is staying in Detroit. In the near future Bill Nirote plans to enter the Army." – quote by Peggy Bingham. Most of the boys in the class



The Staff of the first Reynolian, RHS Yearbook, 1942-43. Lee Hall was elected editor; but was called into military service. **Seated:** June Stillwell (Mrs. Ben Weber); Marie Butts (Mrs. Walter Wagner); Sue McCray (Mrs. Tom Miles); Donna Turner (Mrs. Jim Gordon).

Standing: Bill Nirote, Charles Hanners, Mary Jane Tudor (Mrs. Gene Schmitt), assistant editor; Connie McNary (Mrs. Richard Parkinson), editor; Leon Walker; and Miss Margueriete Click, Faculty advisor. joined the Armed Forces within the next year.

The senior class of 1943 produced the first *Reynolian*, the RHS yearbook, with Connie McNary (Parkinson) as editor. Lee Hall was elected editor, but the Navy got him. Connie is still an active writer of Reynoldsburg history and the most treasured contributor to the RTHS *Courier*. The class motto was "We are not at our height, but still climbing." The class colors were maroon and silver with a red rose as the class flower.

RHS Class of 1943 Thomas **Arnet** (Tom), Hi-Y two years; Marion **Bingham** Howard (Bingy), Girl Reserves, F.H.A., Basketball, Physical Education

Instructor, Annual Staff; Margaret(Peggy) **Bingham** Esterly, Glee Club, Mixed Chorus, Girl Reserves, F.H.A., Cheerleader, Honor Society, Scholarship Team, Annual Staff; William **Brennon** (Bill), Orchestra, Golf, Annual Staff; Birdella Marie **Butts** Wagner (Birdie or Marie), Honor Society, Girl Reserves, Girls' Glee Club, Mixed Chorus, Scholarship Team, F.H.A., Annual Staff; Betty **Carey** Holly

(Honey), "Never too sober, never too gay – a rare good girl in every way."

Jack **Carson**, "Downbeat", Annual Staff; Patty **Click** Butler (Chicken), Glee Club, Mixed Chorus, Girl Reserves, F.H.A., Homecoming Queen attendant in Freshman year; Ralph **Connell**, F.H.A, Band; Sybil **Duffy** Heim (Sybbie), Girl Reserves, Glee Club, F.H.A., Homecoming Queen attendant in Junior year; Charles Phillip **Esterly** (was spelled Oesterle) (Chuck), Senior Class President, Varsity Basketball, Baseball, Mixed



Chorus, Hi-Y; Margaret Fulton Brown (Peggy), Annual Staff.

Gladys Lucille **Gillespie** Mapes (Tiny), Glee Club, Basketball, Cheerleader, F.H.A., at Summit School; Franklin **Gornall** (Frank), Orchestra at Rome, Honor

(continued on page 03)

(continued from page 02)

Society; Leland **Hall** (Lee), Senior Class Vice President, Hi-Y, Boys' Glee Club, Mixed Chorus, Basketball, Annual Staff; Charles **Hanners** (Charlie), Senior Class Treasurer, Honor Society, Student Council, Annual Staff; William Alden **Hayes**

(Pod), Hi-Y, F.H.A., Basketball, Baseball; Richard **Hays** (Snerd), Basketball, Baseball; Marvin **Hicks** (Tuny), Honor Society, Student Council; Betty **Hollinger**, Honor Society; Richard E. **Johnson** (Dick) (Slim), Sergeant-at-arms Freshman year, F.H.A.

Ester **Jones** Early (Essie), F.H.A. two years; Maryalys **Karnes** Hill (MAK), Girl



CHEERLEADERS Peggy Bingham, Sue McCray, June Stillwell

Reserves, Band, Glee Club, Mixed Chorus, Sextet, Honor Society, F.H.A., Annual Staff; Marjorie **Kielmeyer** Thornton (Margee), Girl Reserves, F.H.A., Annual Staff; Grace **King** Ducey (Dynamite), Glee Club, Mixed Chorus; Betty **Lewis** Gornall (Sugar), Glee Club, Mixed Chorus; Don **Marcum** (Butch), F.H.A; William **McCall** (Bill), F.H.A., Hi-Y, Band, Glee Club, Orchestra; Marilyn **McCandlish** Friesland (Chick), "A flower of meedness on a stem of grace."

Dorothy Alice **McCray** Miles (Sue), Girl Reserves, Honor Society, Glee Club, Sextet, Band, Orchestra, F.H.A., Cheerleader, (continued on page 04)



Hi-Y

First Row, L-R: Jim Steckel, Ben Weber, Rusty Tomlinson, Harold Smith, Dick Morris, Ralph Rickly

Second Row, L-R: Mr. Estle, advisor; Charles Karnes, Bill Brennon, Ralph Weaver, Terry Gahn, Ralph Connell, Kenneth Van Schoyck, Shumate Moreland, Charles Oesterle. **Not Pictured:** Gale Roshon, Spike Myers, Pod Hayes, & Bill McCall

(continued from page 03)

Mixed Chorus, Annual Staff; Cornelia **McNary** Parkinson (Connie), Senior Class Secretary, Scholarship Team, Annual Staff, Cheerleader at Bloomingburg, Ohio; Mae **Mitchell** Freeman (Maxie), "Humor is like history – it repeats itself."

James Elmore **Morris** (Elmer) (Jim), Hi-Y, F.H.A., Band, Orchestra, Woodwind Ensemble; Bonnie **Murphy** Kuehner (Murph), F.H.A, Honor Society; William R. **Nirote** (Bill) (Reggie), F.H.A, Basketball, Band, Music, Baseball; Wilfred R. (Ron) **Nirote**; Ralph Dean **Rickly** (Beany), F.H.A., Hi-Y, Basketball; Doris **Sanders** Spradlin (Red), Glee Club one year; Virginia **Sands** Porter (Ginny), Girl Reserves, F.H.A.; Marye Louise **Schultis** Mansfield (Ann), Band, Glee Club, Mixed Chorus, Sextet, Girl Reserves, Orchestra; George **Seltzer** (Bromo), Basketball, Orchestra, Speedball, Track, Baseball.



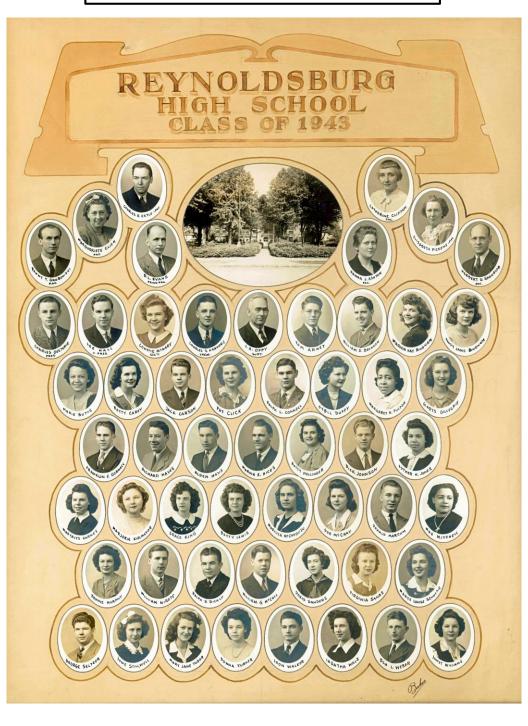
HOMECOMING QUEEN and COURT L-R: Barbara Wollam, Max Hamilton, Donna Turner, queen; Lagatha Walz, Betty Pickering

June Stillwell Weber (Blondie), Glee Club, Band, Mixed Chorus, Cheerleader, Girl Reserves, F.H.A., Annual Staff; Marv Jane Tudor Schmitt (Red), Girl Reserves, F.H.A., Glee Club, Mixed Chorus, Annual Staff: Donna Turner Gordon (Squirt), Girl Reserves, F.H.A., Glee Club. Mixed Chorus. Annual Staff, 1943 Homecoming Oueen; Leon Walker (Welding Walker), F.F.A., Annual Staff;

Lagatha **Walz** Fledderjohann (Dade), Girl Reserves, F.H.A., Glee Club, Mixed Chorus, Homecoming Queen Attendant, 1943; Ben **Weber** (Web), Basketball, F.H.A., Hi-Y; and Ruth Janet **Williams** Rickly (Janet), Girl Reserves, Honor Society, Glee Club, Sextet, Orchestra, Mixed Chorus.

The members of the class of 1943 contributed on every level of society as business owners, executives, professional men & women, writers, parents, mentors, friends, and even a federal auditor who helped Reynoldsburg grow into a stable, thriving community.

I feel blessed to have known almost all of them. Thank you.



What the Heck is THAT?

WHAT THE HECK IS THAT? That's the same thing I said when I first saw it, until I saw the stick.

Underneath this mountain of white & dark chocolate chips, red & green sugar Christmas trees, and Heaven knows what else, is an apple.

My good and dear friend, Wendy, gave me this massive collection of sugar stuck on a stick for Christmas. I guess the apple part of it is supposed to be healthy ... that is, if you can FIND the apple!

Well, - it came in a box addressed To "Doug and Mary" so I figured that half of it belonged to me. Believe it or not, this picture is only onehalf of the apple!!! Because, ... yesterday, I decided I need to try out MY half!

I got out a knife and cut that bad boy down the middle. Then I stood back and thought, "this abomination must be an amoeba or something because now I have two of the same entity! It didn't look any smaller AT all!

After sealing Doug's amoeba X-mas Apple in plastic and hiding it from myself in the refrigerator (which isn't hard to do since the refrigerator light burned out on Wednesday), I was faced with "Sugar Mountain." To make things easier, I put the knife to work again, and I ended up with about six smaller mountains.

By this time, I had noticed that the caramel on this apple wasn't colored like 'normal' caramel, oh no, I couldn't be THAT lucky.... It was DARK brown, yes, ... like CHOCOLATE Carmel.

OK! Now I need to make a decision. I'm not

diabetic or anything like that, but: will I go into some kind of sugar coma if I eat this thing? Or should I wait until Doug's here in

> case we need to call the squad? No, ... I decided to take the plunge and stuck a piece in my mouth.

> > Oh-My-GOD! I think I glued my mouth shut! I couldn't even talk if I wanted to.

That chocolate caramel was about a quarter-inch thick and it was stuck to all my teeth and would have been stuck to my tonsils if I still had any.

Now I know why my grandparents always had a dish of caramels on the table. TO SHUT US UP!!!! (you would too if you had 8 or 9 red-headed grandchildren in the same room).

After about two or three minutes, I was finally able to swallow the first bite and had just stuck another piece in my mouth when the phone rang. It was my brother, Tom.

Me: "Hrerrooo." Tom: "are you OK?" Me: "Cermilll Upppil" Tom: "What?"

At this point I had my finger in my mouth attempting to dislodge a giant chocolate chip from one of my molars. I decided I needed to call him back.

Me: "Ail cull ububk"

Tom: "What?"

Me: Ail cull ububk ..AIL CULL U BUCK!" Tom: "Yeah! GO BUCKS!"

06-RTHS Courier, JAN 2020



New Members!

Stanley L. Tucker – Individual Dakota J. Hubbard - Individual Lisbeth (Betsy) Ochsenwald McCloskey Individual

Sunshine Committee

Do you know someone who needs some Sunshine?

Contact Wendy Raftery 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

2020 CALENDAR

JANUARY 2020

Publish January Courier

- 14 TUE Board Meeting 7:00pm
- 18 SAT Open House, 10am-2pm

FEBRUARY 2020

- 11 TUE Board Meeting 7:00pm
- 15 SAT Open House, 10am-2pm
- 19 WED Deadline for March Courier
- **29 FRI** Dues Deadline for listing in the Directory

MARCH 2020

Publish March Courier

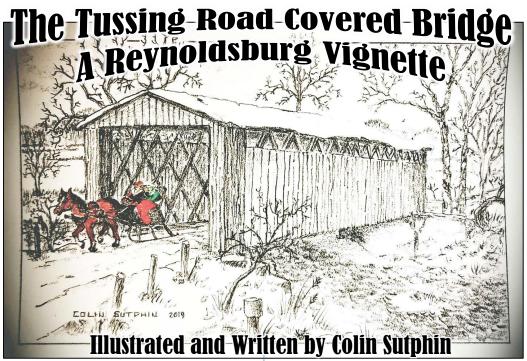
- **17 TUE** Board & General Meeting Combined - 7:00pm
- 21 SAT Open House, 10am to 2pm

APRIL 2020

Directory/Roster Published

- 14 TUE Board Meeting, 7:00pm
- 18 SAT Open House, Helping Hands Shower 10am-2pm
- 20- MON Deadline for May Courier
- 28 TUE Board Game & Card Party at the Reynoldsburg Senior Center 5:30pm to 8:00pm





First of all, it is pronounced "TWO-sing."

Located two miles south of the village of Reynoldsburg, this covered bridge was just west of the Baltimore-Reynoldsburg road. Built in 1888 to replace an older bridge, this new structure would span more than 130 feet over Blacklick Creek, which was named for the dark mineral salts along its banks. The attraction of wild game to these natural salt licks provided good hunting for the indigenous people in centuries past.

The bridge was a thirteen panel Howe Truss design, constructed by August Borneman, Founder of the Hocking Valley Bridge Works.

In August of 1977 a dump truck owned by the New Albany Mill was on a delivery of over 17 tons of gravel to a construction site on Tussing Road. The driver ignored or didn't see the posted 5 Ton weight limit sign. In his attempt to cross the 89year-old bridge, the driver collapsed the entire span, dump truck and himself into the creek below. Uninjured, the truck driver was cited.

The section of the road from SR256 to Hines Road was closed to thru traffic until a new concrete and steel span could be built. This new bridge, just to the west of the H.E.R. Realtors building, still carries daily traffic along Tussing Road.

In the late 1950's and early 1960's the young guys, including myself, would drive our cars to the covered bridge. Then, rev the engine just to hear the loud mufflers echo throughout the wooden structure. Also, we would peel the tires, do a burn out, on the wood bridge deck.

I know, Ladies.. BOYS!! Well, that's the way it was.

In a recent conversation with Sylvia Tussing Hering, she related some of her memories of the bridge.

She begins ... "After daddy would come in from farming on a hot day, we would drive down to the creek and go (continued on page 09)



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swimming in a spot just south of the bridge. I also remember playing in the (crick) below the bridge, turning over rocks to find crawdads under them.

"My neighbors and I would ride our horses down to the bridge. I loved the sound of their hooves clopping across the wooden floor. My father farmed the fields just east of the bridge. He often found arrowheads there.

"When I got older and dating, it was convenient to stop at the pull off after the bridge. Just for a little while, before going home. The car got stuck one night and my dad had to pull us out with the tractor. Don't think that wasn't embarrassing.

"That bridge played a large part of my happy childhood memories."

Thank you, Sylvia.

In this pencil drawing the scene is early winter about 1900. The view is to the east as a couple emerge from the west end of the covered bridge. Their little two passenger sleigh is being drawn by a bay Morgan horse. An 8" snowfall of a few days earlier is beginning to melt; but there is still enough on the ground for a jaunt to town. The day is mostly overcast with the temperature hovering in the mid 20's°.

As usual, several of my avian friends are present.

I really enjoy trying to bring to life these scenes from the past here in the Reynoldsburg area. I hope you enjoy them too.

Oh..

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to everyone!

Colin Sutphin

Dues Deadline! February 29th

We must have your dues before February 29th if you want to be in the roster!

We Need to Borrow Your Yearbook!!!

Don't worry, we won't keep it unless you want us to!

We are scanning all the yearbooks, so the Columbus Metropolitan Library can have a copy, as well as RTHS. It is a specialized scanner that will not hurt the binding.

The job is just about finished, but we are missing the following years:

- 1976
- 1982
- 1992

If you live locally, and have one of these yearbooks, please contact Jim Diuguid at 614-866-5972 or by email at: judyjimd@gmail.com



by Cornelia M. Parkinson From the January 11, 1980 Courier

In 1880, a grain elevator was built in Brice. Three years later, John H. Motz bought the elevator and begun a family business that served the farmers of the surrounding areas for the next 75 years.

Motz took as his partner William Cook, who was the telegraph operator at the railroad station depot [now Depot Lock Shop] across the tracks from the mill. Cook remained a partner until the 1930s. Also from the early 1900s, for 10 or 15 years, there was the Motz Grain and Feed Company at Summit Station.

In 1914, Lester Motz joined his father in the business. A few years later, Lloyd did the same.

During its long years of service, the grain company supplied molasses from cistern under the old Powell Church. The church building had been moved onto Motz's property, east of the depot. То make the cistern, they simply dynamited under the old church building. When a train carload of molasses arrived, the molasses was unloaded using a five-inch hose on the bottom of the car. Gravity did giving the the rest. thus rise to "Slow expression. as Molasses in January." The molasses was pumped out for mixing with cow feed.

Elevator fires, and mill fires, were all too common, what with a haze of grain dust always hanging in the air. But the Motz-Cook Grain Company was lucky. They never had a fire. But they did have a platform which went clear to the top of the shaft, and it was a scary thrill to ride.

The company also sold sack feed, fence posts, wire, coal, fencing, lumber, grain, and middlings; and gave away sawdust and corncobs for the asking. During the 1940s and 50s, their feed sacks were printed with dress patterns; the sacks made pretty and sturdy play clothes for children.

The elevator was built with hand-hewn wooden beams fitted together with wooden pegs. The hardwood floors withstood the rough usage of the years.

About 1952 a partnership was formed among the brothers, their sister Edith and her husband, Holmes Hummell, and Fred Beery. Founder J. H. Motz died in 1958 and Lloyd died in 1965.

John Zarbaugh, a lifelong Brice Resident, worked at the mill for 42 years, the only place he had ever been employed. Curtis Petty is another long-time employee. But by 1967, farmers were taking their grain to larger elevators. Wendell Tolbert recalls that he. his father. and grandfather, had always taken their wheat harvest to Motz-Cook.

The elevator closed in July 1967; furnishings were auctioned on December 16. The property was sold and the familiar landmark subsequently demolished.

Today (1980) Curtis Petty is a school custodian in Whitehall. John Zarbaugh is retired, living in Brice. Edith Motz Hummell is the last of the family who owned and operated the grain company.

THE COURIER

January 2020 Issue

Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society

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Museum Phone: 614-902-2831

Courier Editor: Mary Turner Stoots **Courier Editor Phone:** 614-560-4987 **Courier Email:** RTHSCourier@aol.com

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SUPPORT LOCAL HISTORY Join the Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society Individual - \$20 Family - \$25 Sustaining - \$30 Contributing - \$50 Life Membership - \$300				
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Make Check Payable to RTHS and mail to: RTHS, Box 144, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068				
	Iı	nvite your frie	ends to join!	RTHS Courier, JAN 2020-11



Suzy Millar Miller



THE 2019 CHRISTMAS DINNER

Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society Christmas Dinner MCL Restaurant 5240 E. Main Street Whitehall, OH 43213 Phone: 614-861-6259

6:00 pm Bring a door prize and join us for Dinner! We want to thank everyone who

Saturday, December 14, 2019

We want to thank everyone who came to the Christmas Dinner. It was a record crowd!

Suzy Millar Miller gave us her version of the Gettysburg Address, then presented Mary Turner Stoots with a Lifetime Membership. Dick



Dick Barth & Mary Turner Stoots



Suzy Millar Miller & Brian Millar

Barth Presented Mary with an Executive Award. There were LOTS of door prizes for everyone, and we all had a great time. There are many more pictures on the website at <u>www.RTHS.info</u> under the 'Photo Gallery' tab at the top of page. Check it out!



Happy New Year!!