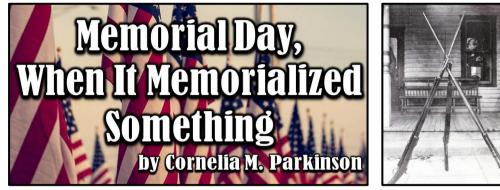


MAY-2022 Website: www.rths.info Email: RTHSCourier@aol.com Vol.48 No.3



from *More Historical Tales of Old Reynoldsburg Volume II* - published in 1985 by Cornelia M. Parkinson

Everyone got up early on Decoration Day, a long-time resident of the Burg remembers. "First thing in the morning, people went to Silent Home Cemetery to take garden flowers to decorate the graves. We always wanted them to look nice for the memorial ceremonies."

"On Decoration Day," Maude Wiswell wrote in her scrapbook, "We kids all would go to the schoolhouse and get our grade cards. The G.A.R. **Wis** (Grand Army of the Republic) band from Columbus came out, and we would march behind the band to Mason Hall. Somebody there would put on a program, and afterwards we went to the cemetery for a commemorative service."

Everyone got up early on Decoration Day, a long-time resident of orial Day ceremonies at Silent Home.

> Some good orator, maybe Gordon Evans or Linden Edwards, was requested to give Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. Once, it was Laura herself self who spoke the famous words.

Margaret Ruvoldt remembers Memorial Day, when all the old soldiers of the Civil War dressed up in their uniforms and

Maude Zarbaugh Wiswell

rell carried their weapons in the parade to the cemetery, and afterwards came to her grandparents' house. Her mother and grandmother Kenney made fresh doughnuts and served them hot to everyone who came.

(continued on page 02)



(continued from page 01)

"When I was a kid," says Pete Ashton, "on Decoration Day we'd get together over <u>on Jim Kenney's</u> front



W.V. "Pete" Ashton

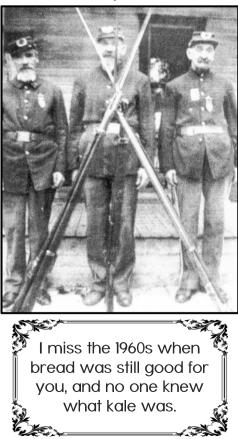
porch (now Tempe Taco). Everybody would gather, and they'd all sit there on the porch. Then they'd all go up in Mason's Hall and some fella'd give a talk. When that was over, we'd march down to the cemetery. George Weeks, Wayne Myers and I, and Gail Pickering and somebody else had a fife and drum corps. I played fife. I had a fife with a mouthpiece, you adjusted it to tune it. I couldn'ta held anything to my lip and play it and walk. These kids now do it. We'd march! Remember Gail Pickering, he wasn't very old then, but he could just beat the hell out

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of a drum. I think Pete Pickering played the bass drum. We'd lead those old soldiers as fast as they could go. When we got there, we'd go to that big monument the G.A.R. put up right in front of the cemetery, that spire with the ball on top. Then those old fellas would shoot their muskets. We liked all that racket and carrying-on."

1912 DECORATION DAY Three Union soldiers who could still wear their uniforms nearly 50 years after the Civil War. The center soldier is James Dunlap Kenney





THE COURIER

May 2022 Issue **Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society Mailing Address:** PO Box 144 Revnoldsburg, OH 43068-0144

Street Address (NO MAIL): 1485 Jackson Street Reynoldsburg, OH 43068

Museum Phone: 614-902-2831

Courier Editor: Mary Turner Stoots

Courier Editor Phone: 614-560-4987

Courier Email: RTHSCourier@aol.com

Photos & Illustrations Provided by: Connie Parkinson, Suzy Millar Miller, Colin Sutphin, Mark Myers, & Mary Turner Stoots

Contributors: Connie Parkinson, Suzy Millar Miller Mark Myers & Mary Turner Stoots

-2022 CALENDAR

17 - TUE - Board Meeting - 6:30pm

21 – SAT – Western Electric Open House 10:00am-2:00pm

24 – TUES – Western Electric Open House 5:00pm-8:00pm

30 – MON – **Memorial Day Service** 10:00am at Seceder Cemetery

JUNE

07 – TUE – Reynoldsburg Masonic Lodge 7:45pm Book Presentation to the Masons 14 – TUE – Board Meeting 6:30pm

- 18 SAT Open House 10am-2pm
- **18** SAT **Juneteenth** 10am-4pm at Huber Park
- 20 MON Deadline for July Courier

22 – WED – (SCOR) Senior Citizens of Reynoldsburg 11:30am Book Talk & Book Signing

29 - WED - Max & Erma's Fundraiser

SUPPORT LOCAL HISTORY



By Mark Myers

The Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society (RTHS) will again host the annual Western Electric Open House in May. The Western Electric plant at 6200 East Broad helped trigger the housing boom in Reynoldsburg in the late 1950s.



The last open house was held in May of 2019, and was well attended, but Covid has interfered since then. This year we feel safe to go ahead, and the will be held event across two days, Saturday, May 21, from 10:00am to 2:00pm, and in the evening on Tuesday, May 24, from 5:00pm to 8:00 pm. Admission and refreshments are free, but donations are gladly accepted. We will be trying to raise funds to help maintain the museum's three buildings.

Those who cannot attend, if they wish, may write a check, payable to RTHS, and mail it to RTHS, P.O. Box 144, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068-0144. On the Memo line of your check, please write: Western Electric.

The Western Electric Collection is composed of three parts: 6000 photos, originally gathered by Lloyd Parkinson, and 1700 obituaries, collected by Sallie O'Dell. These cover most of the sixty years of Western Electric's presence in the Columbus area. They are all indexed and kept on a cart in the lower level of the museum. Secondly, there is a fifteen-



foot display case in the barn, with Western Electric/Bell Labs artifacts; and thirdly, smaller items and (continued on page 05)

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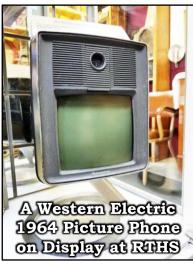


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and archival documents are kept in our storage building.



You are welcome to take pictures of anything and to tour the entire museum. Masks are optional. There is ample parking in the lot behind the museum, in the church lot to the north, and on the street. Call Mark Myers at 614-868-5354 for more information.



Mark Myers Western Electric Project Manager H 614-868-5354 <u>mmyers4@insight.rr.com</u>



Tocal Members!

Mark your calendars for

Wednesday, June 29

We are having a Max & Erma's Fundraiser! Purchases apply for DINE-IN AND CARRY OUT ORDERS 11:00am-9:00pm ALL Davi

11:00am-9:00pm ALL Day! You can also download a flyer at our website under "Calendar & Events"

www.RTHS.info



A presentation about the process involved when you write a book with pictures & captions!





The Seceder Cemetery is on the west side of State Route 256 just south of the five-way split. It is located behind the Bibibop at 2087 Baltimore-Reynoldsburg Road.



Sunshine Committee Do you know someone who needs some Sunshine? Contact Carol Deuber 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) 581-7048

Write "SUNSHINE" in the subject line of your email: cadeuber@gmail.com

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A Trusted Partner for Your Peace of Mind

IT'S TIME FOR A RAFFLE!!

by Mary Turner Stoots

Yes, it is time! And we have FOUR different items to choose from!! They were all donated by an RTHS lifetime member, who also happens to be my sister, Jeannine Turner. On Page 09 there are photos of each item, but please note that the size is not comparable between each item. The quilt is larger than compared to the jackets and the Teddy Bear is smaller compared to the jackets. This is simply the best way to fit everything on the page for your view.

A) This **quilted throw** was made by Jacque Lamb who lives by our parents in Florida. She made the 42" x 55" quilt for the raffle, and it was given to my sister to donate. It is currently hanging in the RTHS meeting room. You can see it displayed behind Connie and me in the photos of the book signing on page 11 of the March 2022 *Courier*.

B) A **quilted jacket and matching purse**. The jacket was pieced by my mother, Wilma (Wiswell) Turner, then she sent it to my sister, Jeannine, who quilted it and cut it out. The white collar and banding was added by Mom, and a neighbor friend made her a matching purse.

C) A **Blue Sleeve Sweater with a quilted front.** A friend of Mom's from Canada machine knitted the

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sleeves, back, and banding around the neck and bottom. The front was entirely pieced and hand-quilted by Jeannine Turner. She also sewed it all together

D) This **quilted Teddy Bear** was made by Jeannine using the remnants of a vintage quilt that was given to her by Nina Graham many years ago. She delivered groceries to Nina from our grandparents' store as a child, and Nina always appreciated Jeannine's kindness, so she gave her an old quilt from the cupboard. Since the quilt had some holes, Jeannine found a way to repurpose it into something new. What a wonderful way to display fond memories!

The winners of the raffles will be selected at the Annual Holiday Dinner in December. The tickets will be on sale all year, and we plan to reach out as far and wide as possible to sell tickets because we want to make this the most successful raffle to date for RTHS!!



IT'S TIME FOR A RAFFLE!!







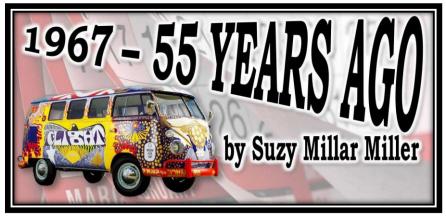




- (A) Quilted 42"x 55" Throw
- (B) Jacket & Matching Purse Combo
- (C) Blue Sleeve Sweater with a Quilted Front
- (D) Teddy Bear made from a Vintage Quilt



RTHS Courier, MAY 2022-09



It was the "**Summer of Love**" or "**The Age of Aquarius**" when the President was Lyndon B. Johnson and the Vice President was Hubert H. Humphrey. The population of the United States was 198,700,000 and the National Debt was \$326 billion. U.S. Astronauts Gus Grissom, Edward Higgins



White, and Roger Chaffee were killed in an accident aboard Apollo I. The Green Bay Packers defeated the Kansas City Chiefs in Super Bowl I and the Public Broadcasting Act of 1967 established PBS. The first cryogenic preservation was performed on Dr. James Bedford with the intent of future

resuscitation – he is still frozen. The first Automatic Cash Machine (ATM) was installed at Barclays Bank in England. Unemployment was at 3.8%, life expectancy was 70.5 years and median income was \$7,200. Over 75,000 young people descended upon San Francisco's 25-sq.-block Haight-Ashbury

District to celebrate musicians like Janis Joplin. Cassius Clay, after converting to Islam and changing his name to Mohammed Ali, refused military service on religious grounds during a time period when men signed up for the draft were headed to the Vietnam Conflict.

The *Newlywed Game* premiered on ABC and Elvis Presley married his sweetheart, Priscilla Beaulieu. The first Boeing 737-100 took its maiden flight. The Supreme Court unanimously



legalized interracial marriage. Thurgood Marshall is sworn in as the first black Supreme Court justice. *Hair* premieres off-Broadway and the *Rolling Stone* magazine debuts with a 35-cent cover price. Dr. Christiaan Barnard performed the first human heart transplant in South Africa.

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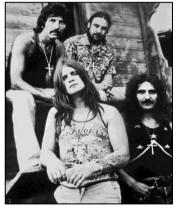
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On **June 6th**, **1967**, **the RHS class of 1967** composed of 197 high school students walked onto the athletic field to receive their diplomas. The class contained the most students ever graduating from RHS. Only 30 of those students had attended Reynoldsburg for all 12 years. The rest of the large number showed the extraordinary growth of the Burg in a short time



When the future class of 1967 started in 1955 the Burg was a village where everyone knew everybody. Then that village grew to became a city with many new people from other places. During that time the Burg went from a small farm-based village to the turbulent 60s "time of change" city it became. To use entertainment terms, we went from *Ozzie and Harriet* to Ozzie Osborne. That's a lot of change!

They were the kids who went out to play with friends with our mother's parting words ringing in their ears, "Be sure to be home before the streetlights come on." They waded in the creeks, rode bikes everywhere, visited friends, and didn't tell anyone where they were going. They took the Lakeshore bus into Columbus to shop, lit fires next to the creek in the winter to keep warm, and did a lot of things they would never allow their grandchildren to do nowadays. They grew up into their own way of life through experimentation



and learned what was good and what was bad. They learned the "hard way" by making mistakes and then learning to do better.

The class members became teachers, doctors, ministers, retailers, entertainers, bankers, technology workers, engineers, contractors, military veterans, homemakers, food service workers, firemen, policemen, writers, office workers, musicians, insurance providers, city and state employees, travelers, pilots, accountants, real estate agents, and served in many more professions. Some people worked in different industries over their lives.

They dealt with hardships, loss of loved ones, sickness, and distances, but

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they also had joy and laughter. I try to think of one positive thing every day, even when everything seems dark in my life. Sometimes, the only good thing seems to be the sunset. Other times, everything seems happy.

One a very happy note is that the Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society has many current members who were in the RHS class of 1967.



Jeff Brocwell and his wife, Carol (class of '68), help out at open house events whenever possible. Jeff is the RTHS member who makes the birdhouses that we sell in the gift shop. RTHS will also include the birdhouses in our silent auction at the 2022

Board Game and Card Party. He also made a very detailed and accurate birdhouse that is a replica of our museum, which we are very proud to display prominently for our visitors. Jeff worked for Western Electric/AT&T/Lucent for over 30 years.

Shirley (Adkins) Buck moved to the Burg in 1959. She was a real estate salesperson for many years. After that she started working for Cracker Barrel. Recently, Shirley donated a senior picture and Varsity athletic jacket that belonged to her brother-in-law Ron Buck who is shown as the Vietnam veteran on the Reynoldsburg mural wall. She also donates many of the outstanding door prizes and silent auction items for our annual Board Game and Card Party





Lynn (Brown) Venafro was a nurse and enjoys doing genealogy and research. Her father used to work for Western

Electric. Lynn also worked with Cub Scouts, Brownies, and Girl Scouts.



Marilyn (Curry) Shaw enjoyed the Powder Puff Football game and Y-Teens. Marilyn modeled clothing in high school and worked as a high fashion model for "Noni Modeling Agency" where she was chosen to model for the Vidal Sassoon showing at Vets Memorial.

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Vickie (Edwards) Hall is a Trustee on the RTHS Board. She has served with

the Red Cross since high school and has been active with the Columbus Convention Center. She is also the past reunion coordinator for the class of 1967 and is planning to attend a reunion for their 55th class anniversary. Her activity calendar is

packed with many volunteer events to this day!

Nikki Fledderjohann worked with AT&T for 30 years and has enjoyed international traveling. Her grandfather was Oath Young who was the crossing guard at Main Street and Jackson in The 50s. In 1967 she became Reynoldsburg's first "Betty Crocker Homemaker of Tomorrow". Nikki's school years including





kindergarten were all at Reynoldsburg.

Dianne (Foltz) Hoffman worked for 20 years at Don Foltz Jewelers along with her father, Don, and mother, Thelma. She is also a registered jeweler and certified gemologist, and has a certificate in Jewelry Design. She currently enjoys gardening and has volunteered at the Inniswood Botanical Metro Park. She

attended Reynoldsburg schools for 13 years, including kindergarten.



Edward (Monty) Hayes became an RTHS Life member last year. He attended Reynoldsburg schools for all 12 years. His career was in Engineering, and he owned Ventura Engineering.





Steve Holderman was in the US Army for

20 years. During that time in the military, he was a paratrooper with 54 jumps. In high school he was the assistant sports editor for the *Doubloon* and the photographer for the *Reynolian*.

Bill Mavis joined RTHS as a Life member this year. He has been database manager for the class of '67 for many years. Bill sang with the Junior and Senior High Chorus for many years. He got to meet up with the '67 RHS foreign exchange student,



Ulli Kroll Fiedler, while on tour with a chorale group that sang in Austria and

(continued on page 14)

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Germany in 2010. They had not seen each other since 1967. Bill was in the

Navy as a medical corpsman. He and his wife, Bonnie, were both stationed for a time at Bethesda Naval Hospital which became Walter Reed National Military Center. In the picture, Bill Mavis is Mayor for a day and sitting in the middle of the group.





Wilda (Moore) Kuhn worked in banking for 40 years. She has volunteered with Samaritan's Purse, an international charitable organization. Her grandchildren are the third generation of her family to graduate from RHS. Wilda went to kindergarten and 12 years of school at Reynoldsburg.



Pamela (Pack) Oldach was in the dental field for many years. In 1967 she was Honored Queen of Bethel 64, International Order of Job's Daughters. Pam and her mother, Ruth, had a mother-daughter tea with about 50

senior girls and their mothers the day after graduation. Pam was a member of the RHS grand national championship cheerleading squad while in high school.



Karen (Poling) Weber volunteers her help to the museum when we are having 3rd grade class tours and helps teach classes at the museum. She enjoys volunteering for RTHS. She worked for the YMCA of Central Ohio as their Childcare Coordinator. She was also voted as 'Most

Talented' along with Steve Fisher her senior year.

Dave Reidel and his wife Barbara are Life members of RTHS. Dave is an insurance professional who advertises in *The Courier*. His donations help us whenever we have big projects. He also researches and verifies that RTHS is adequately covered for any unforeseen problem that might arise during these trying times . Dave and Barbara have been married over 50 years.





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Peggy (Scholl) Typrowicz and her husband, Tom, started a paint roller company called Work Tools International. The rollers and brushes can be found in the Whizz rollers brand nationwide. Peggy is also a Eucharistic Minister for her local church and visits the sick on Sundays to bring them Holy Communion.



Denny Spires and his wife, Marsha (RHS '71), are contributing members of RTHS. Denny worked for Buckeye Automotive for 35 years. In 1967, Denny celebrated his 18th birthday with classmates while he was hospitalized following an accident. Denny worked at Spires Honda for many years. When the company was sold to Buckeye Honda, Denny became a vice president. Denny has attended many RTHS events and volunteers as needed.



Jeannine Turner is a Life member who supports us through many creative means. She made a quilt, quilted jacket, and a teddy bear for our 2016 raffle; hand-stitched another quilt for the 2018 raffle; designed and created a cushion for the church pew in the RTHS museum

kitchen in 2021; quilted two jackets and made a teddy bear from a vintage quilt for the 2022 raffle, and she donated a quilt made by Jacque Lamb to include in this year's fundraising raffle as well. Tickets are available for the raffle at the museum, from *The Courier*



insert, and a PDF file that can be downloaded from our website at <u>www.RTHS.info</u>. Jeannine started kindergarten in 1954 and went to Reynoldsburg for all her 12 years of schooling.



John Vanover and his wife, Robin, joined RTHS in 2021. He worked for Western Electric/Lucent/ Bell Labs for 31 years where his major responsibility

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was documenting telephone equipment. He also served as the middle-man between the company and outside vendors. He also has been active in the Cutting and National Cutting Horse Association where a horseback rider separates a single cow from the herd.



John Waldorf and his wife, Kay, (RHS '68) became RTHS members in 2018 after the 50th high school reunion in 2017. He is currently an

independent financial consultant. His financial work took him all over the globe for many different companies. After John graduated, he went to work for Denny Spires' dad cleaning Toyota cars before they were put on the showroom floor. John (along with his friends Monty Hayes and Denny Spires) worked on the '67 reunion committee since the 1972 reunion. John is interested in Reynoldsburg history and enjoys reading *The Courier*.



President – Mary Turner Stoots (614) 560-4987

Vice President – Dick Barth (614) 866-0142

Treasurer – Marvin Shrimplin (614) 759-1404

Recording Secretary - Mark Myers (614) 376-6809

Corresponding Secretary Suzy Millar Miller (512) 635-6376

Trustee (1 year) - Donald Larimer Trustee (2 years) - Judy Diuguid Trustee (3 years) - Vickie Hall (740) 503-4955

The Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society truly appreciates its member and the class of '67 has been graciously supporting us through their talents, donations, and volunteer time. Hopefully, we didn't forget to list any of the current members.

The year of 1967 truly embodied changes in society while keeping the basis of friendship, charity, and hard work that continues to this day. Doesn't it make you want to take your Sonny and Cher albums out of the closet and play them on your old-fashioned turntable record player for the grandkids?

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