

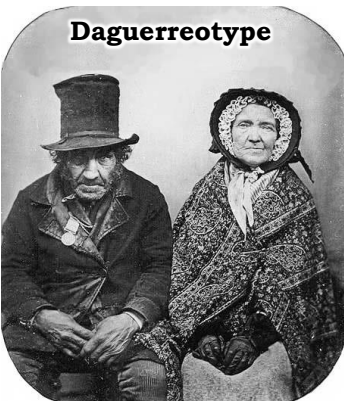


Buyers of old photos -- or those who have inherited them -- cannot just assume that the item they hold in their hands is The Real McGinty. These three kinds of photography have been imitated and are sold by the unwitting, or the witting, as an actual daguerreotype or whatever. There are ways to tell real from *faux*, and we'll tell you later. First, though, when and how were the originals created?

Before the daguerreotype, likenesses were sketched or drawn in pen, pencil, colored crayons or charcoal, on canvas, paper, slate, wood, etc.. They might be painted in oil or watercolor by some established artist of the time or by an itinerant "artist" who, although his end result be primitive, could still produce a recognizable facsimile of the sitter. Such artists still appear at carnivals and fairs today, specializing in caricatures.

Caricatures now are most commonly seen in editorial or political cartoons, where a quick sketch of the individual emphasized one or two features, such as a banana nose, elf ears, or three-layer eyebags and might be identified by a label or the context of the cartoon. Or if a cartoonist drew a speaking likeness, others imitated it and identification was automatic.

These methods were reasonably satisfactory, but a military general could not sit for days away from a good war, just to have his portrait painted. Or children in a family could not go for long without wiggling. Some faster process was needed to preserve fleeting moments -- one click and you'd have it forever.



Daguerreotype

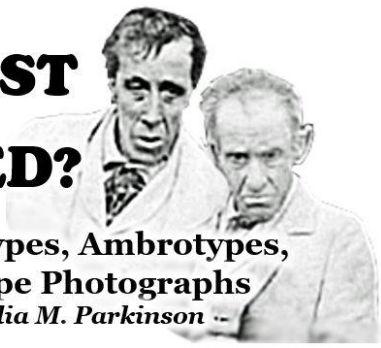
Joseph Nicéphore Niepce ("Nype") 1765-1833, French physicist seldom mentioned in this connection, produced permanent "heliotypes" using glass plates coated with bitumen (like asphalt). Louis Jacques Mandé Daguerre (Da-gair) 1789-1851, French, was a painter of opera backdrops. In 1822 Daguerre was cofounder of Paris's Diorama. Using sunlight, he tried to imprint permanent pictures on metal plates. Daguerre and Niepce worked together from 1829 to Niepce's death, then Daguerre worked alone until he discovered a practicable means of photography and announced it in 1839. Claude Niepce Saint-Victor 1805-1870, improving on Niepce and Daguerre, was first to use albumen, one of first to attempt to fix an image on glass, one of first to produce steel engravings via photographic methods.

The daguerreotype process used a silver or copper plate coated with silver, polished highly, and exposed in a camera. The dry exposed plate was developed over hot (continued on Page 02)

HONEST or FAKED?

**Daguerreotypes, Ambrotypes,
and Tintype Photographs**

by Cornelia M. Parkinson



Daguerreotype

(continued from page 01)
mercury fumes that made an image form in the silver coating. Easily damaged, the originals were sealed behind glass in small hinged, closeable cases. Daguerreotype images are as heavy as the metal they are printed on, not lightweight like modern photographs. They are sharp and accurate in detail. (A type of camera, used 100 years before, threw an image on a surface, but the technology did not then exist to produce anything permanent.)

In 1851 Englishman Frederick Scott Archer 1813-1857, photographer and sculptor, invented a wet-plate

collodion process backed by a dark or painted glass plate. His process was the basis for both the later ambrotypes and tintypes. Collodion was a liquid made from nitrocellulose and other material dissolved in alcohol and ether. A sheet of glass was coated with collodion then wetted in a silver nitrate solution. Quickly

Honest or Faked?

**Daguerreotypes, Ambrotypes
& Tintype Photographs**



a US patent for a process that applied collodion to a metal plate instead of glass. These plates were always iron, never tin, yet were called "tintypes," or ferrotypes, or melainotypes. If you've wondered what 'japanning' is, here's the scoop: the iron sheet was covered with a

hard glossy black or brown Japanese lacquer. From then on tintypes were made just like ambrotypes, except that the tintypes could be handled without a case or in a paper mat, and even mailed. Tintypes, therefore, were the least expensive of the processes, and were quite popular with Civil War soldiers who

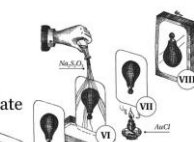
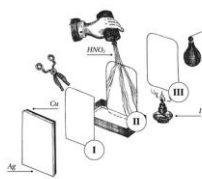
might carry loved ones' pictures in a pocket. They were relatively easy to prepare, expose, develop and varnish within a few minutes while the customer waited.

The collodion tintype was used from about 1860 to 1870, and with another upgrade was made into the next century. By the 1880s there were factory-applied dry emulsions that were yet another improvement over the cumbersome wet plates. Tintypes were shoved out by high quality albumen prints on paper, invented in mid-1860s, and by later improved processes.

The plate system was limited in that a single plate was a single finished photograph. If you wanted six copies for others, six photographs had to be taken. A camera with multiple lenses solved that problem, so that multiple small images on one plate could be produced from

THE DAGUERRETYPE PROCESS

- I. Clipping the corners and bending the edges of the plate
- II. Polishing
- III. Sensitization



- IV. Exposure
- V. Development
- VI. Fixing
- VII. Gilding
- VIII. Sealing, casing and other display options

Daguerreotype Camera



the wet glass plate was loaded in a camera and the exposure snapped. The glass plate was then developed in two chemical baths to stabilize the image.

Within three years James Ambrose Cutting (n.d.) had patented a variation of Archer's process that he called the Ambrotype. The emulsion or the varnish tends to flake or crack away from the glass backing, so any ambrotype or daguerreotype you see now may be damaged unless it has been encased. Ambrotypes had brief popularity, from about 1855 to 1865.

In 1856 Hannibal L. Smith (n.d.) received

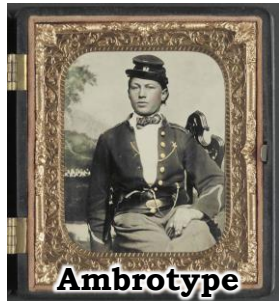


one exposure. A further update was film. The film itself, exposed in the camera, was the negative (dark and light reversed). The developed

(continued on Page 03)

film was permanent, and could be exposed to light without damage, and used over and

over. So a positive image (or many images) was made by shining light through the negative onto light-sensitive paper, and there



was your photograph. Changes happened again and again over a fairly short time, in both the cameras and the exposure medium: Cameras in a wood box, folding cameras, family Brownie cameras with their sharply clear images, cameras with settings for time, light level, distance, clarity, and so on, to Polaroid pictures that developed one print in the camera itself, movie cameras, motion-tripped cameras, large or easily concealable miniature cameras, to automatic digital cameras that don't use film at all. Long



and short lenses have been developed to emphasize foreground or distant background, colored lenses to pick shadowy images out of the background, night lenses for surreptitious picture-taking. Exposures have been made on metal, glass, and many other materials including cotton T-shirts and huge pasteboard posters. We are still working to make photography easier and finer. We have advanced from still photos to moving pictures, black-and-white to clearly delineated colors, all methods nearly mistake-free in operation. Just remember to take the lens cap off.

So. Back to honest or faked. A daguerreotype can be told by its polished silver appearance. Tilting the image appears to change it from a positive to a negative.

Honest or Faked?

Daguerreotypes, Ambrotypes & Tintype Photographs



Tintype and ambrotype processings were nearly identical, but a strong magnet held to the

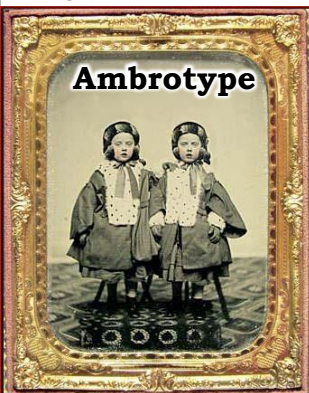
surface will distinguish metal backing from glass. All original ambrotypes should have painted backs or be backed with black paper, cardboard, or glass. Tintypes were metal.

A magnifier will help here. The thingamabob that really does-a the job is the dot-cluster pattern of current photography, visible under magnified scrutiny. Any ancient photograph can be skillfully copied -- yet the dot pattern will reveal the youth of the image.

Honestly old pictures have no dots, but an unbroken tonal range from white to grey to black.

If you see several daguerreotypes and tintypes, look for too many similar cases or paper mats. You won't often find two alike, not to mention more.

Daguerreotype cases were made of wood covered with leather, cloth, or paper, with a three-dimensional design, often quite intricate and usually the same front and back, impressed into the covering. Multi-portrait cases existed; all details in those holding more than one image should match. Original hinges were brass; so a case with differing impressed designs front and back, or some other type



hinge, might raise questions about authenticity.

Armed with your magnifying glass and this information, you will be in a better position to identify real from false, and possibly pick up a bargain at an estate sale.



Ishmael "Ish" Skaggs

1927-2018



Longtime resident and RTHS member Ish Skaggs passed away on May 7, 2018.

Ish was a man who thrived on helping others. If someone needed something, he was there for them. If someone

needed a mobility device, he would make one and take it to them.

There was a disabled lady in town who needed transportation to her job. Ish stepped in and offered to drive her. From that day forward, he picked her up for work and brought her home after work. One day, he read a story about a family that had adopted three children with spina bifida. They lived in the Akron area. Ish made a cart for the kids so they could ride around in the neighborhood, then he called another RTHS member and asked if they would help transport to cart to Akron. The cart was transported to Akron, and the family was thrilled. The men who delivered the cart left with tears in their eyes.

Ish helped in any capacity possible when we were building the barn. He was always willing to lend a hand. Everyone interviewed about Ish said the same thing, "If you met Ish Skaggs, you immediately liked him. He was a genuinely nice man with a big heart." ~ Mary Turner Stoots

Ishmael "Ish" Skaggs, age 90, of Reynoldsburg, went home to be with Jesus on Monday, May 7, 2018. Ish served in the United States Navy at the end of WWII, was member of Wonderland Community Church for 70 years, Reynoldsburg Civitan Club, and Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society.

He is preceded in death by his wife of 72 years, Judy, parents Willie and Ruth, sisters Louella Easter and Loretta Skaggs, brothers Sam and Melvin Skaggs.

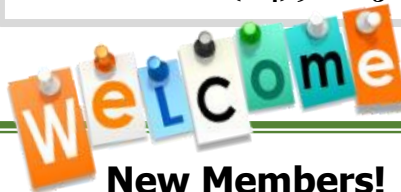
Ish is survived by son, Gene (Sue) Skaggs; daughter, Brenda (Paul) Blythe; grandchildren, Parnelli Skaggs, Mario Skaggs, Jeremy (Deanna) Blythe, Justin Blythe, Jim (Marilyn) Van Sickle, and Mindy Keys; great-grandchildren, Shelby and Bailey Skaggs, Alex Skaggs, Andrew Van Sickle, Elcee, Isabel, Regee, Parker, Tyson, and Raymond Blythe; great-great-grandson, Eli Collins.

A service was held for Ish at Heritage Freewill Baptist Church and he was buried at Glen Rest Memorial Estate on Friday, May 11, 2018. Contributions may be made in his memory to Wonderland Community Church, 4693 Friendship Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43230.



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Museum Phone: (614) 902-2831



New Members!

Shirley Keske Thoburn- Individual
Margaret Herbert Wagner- Individual
Kendall Weeks- Individual

David W. Reidel

President
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The following is a summary from the Board Meeting that was held on June 12, 2018. Our Board Meetings are all open to the membership and you are always welcome to join us:

- Mold was removed from the men's room wall and a new runner installed in the downstairs hallway by Jim Diuguid – Thank you
- The new runner was purchased for half-price thanks to Judy Diuguid!
- Our parking lot has been resurfaced. Thank you, Dick Barth, for organizing this project
- Vickie Hall & Wendy Raftery are working on some fun and NON-labor intensive fundraising ideas
- So far, the RTHS Facebook page has reached 202,168 people
- Upcoming events include:
 - ✓ 06/16/18–Open House – Connie Parkinson's Book Talk, "I Could Write a Book?" (Yes -- That's a possibility!)
 - ✓ 06/26/18– Family Indoor Picnic & General Meeting
 - ✓ 07/21/18– Open House & Artisan Exhibit
 - ✓ 07/24/18– City BBQ Restaurant Fundraiser
- Vickie Hall suggested adding small bookshelves in various spots of the museum to sell books. Mary Stoots advised her that we will definitely add some bookshelves to the Gift Shop we will be adding in the Lower Level in the near future
- RTHS has received funding to transport all of the third-grade classes from six elementary schools to our museum
- Mary Stoots' husband Doug fabricated a steel sign-holder to erect a 2-foot x 3-foot sign on our lawn advertising monthly events
- Donations received:
 - ✓ Mark Myers received 14 scrapbooks, full of labeled photos, from a Western Electric Company events historian
 - ✓ Joan Canter donated miscellaneous yearbooks and mementos from her late husband, Marion Canter, who taught in Reynoldsburg for over 30 years
 - ✓ Jim Diuguid received old cancelled checks drawn on The Merchant Bank from the Masonic Lodge to make a "Banking in Reynoldsburg" display
 - ✓ Rod Griffin donated a display case we positioned in the lower level for the future Gift Shop

- RTHS received 86 Thank You letters from the third-graders at Slate Ridge Elementary School. Mary Stoots put them in a binder that is available for everyone to read in the kitchen eating area on the first floor
- Thank You to: Jim Diuguid for installing the runner & removing mold from the restroom wall, Dick Barth for organizing the lot resurfacing, Rod Griffin for donating a display case, Judy Diuguid for cleaning the museum, Jim Diuguid for moving a display case upstairs, and Kim Fisher for all the hard work you do at the museum!
- Thank you to all of the following people who helped with the Hillard Ebrom Funeral Reception: Judy Diuguid, Jim Diuguid, Jeannine Winters, Dottie Barth, Judy Holzbacher, Woody Holzbacher, and Ivalee Holzbacher Basinger
- The next meeting is scheduled for July 17, 2018, at 7:00pm



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

Staples gives rebates for the empty tanks!

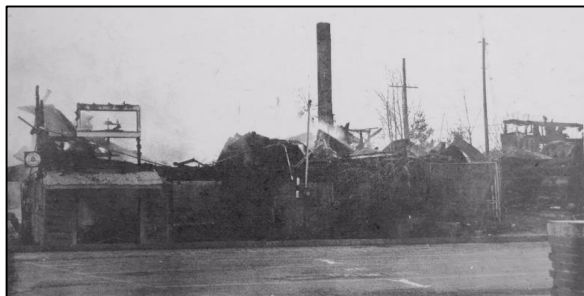
- We recently applied our available rebates towards a new printer for the museum. The printer ended up costing about \$35 and it retails for \$80
- The coffee machine in our lower level kitchenette was purchased with rebates at the cost of \$0
- Most of our office supplies are paid for with rebates
- 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!

Bits About the Burg

By: Suzy Millar Miller

50 Years Ago - The Red Barn burned down on Sunday, June 16, 1968

Many of us remembered going to dances at the Red Barn. It had been a Reynoldsburg hangout for years. The cutline of the photo below which appeared in the *Columbus Citizen-Journal* on June 18, 1968 read: “\$30,000 Barn Fire Warms Reynoldsburg – Truro Township firemen battle flames that destroyed a large barn owned by Al Haft, Sr., at 6949 E. Main St. in Reynoldsburg Monday. Fire Chief John Knight estimated damage to the barn, converted



into a wrestling gym, and contents of \$30,000. Cause was undetermined, but authorities are checking into the possibility of arson. A large amount of wrestling equipment, bleachers and a truck burned. Truro and Whitehall firemen were successful in keeping flames from Nicaletti's Restaurant. (Photo by Jack Godfrey, *Little Weekly*, Reynoldsburg)”

Shown above a photo which appeared in the **June 19, 1968** *Little Weekly*. “Out of Order – The little white-circle sign says ‘Public Telephone’, but it was out of order in this ‘barn that was’. This is how the old red barn, behind the A&P Store, looked on Sunday afternoon. The Truro Township Fire Department received the call at 2:26 a.m. Saturday. The blaze made a spectacular sight and attracted many onlookers. Equipment from the Brice Station was sent to assist and Whitehall Fire Department sent their aerial truck and a pumper. Violet Township, Pickerington, sent their tanker-pumper to stand by at the local station. The origin of the fire is undetermined. Loss was set by the Fire Marshall at \$28,000. For many years the Barn has been the site for Barn Dances. – Photo by Smokey)

Editor's note: Seventy years ago a sailor named Jack was home on leave and tagged along with his sister Jeannine, to a dance at the Red Barn one night. They lived in Whitehall, and she was a junior at Reynoldsburg High School. While he was surveying the crowd, a pretty little girl in the corner caught his eye, so he asked his sis who she was. “That’s Wilma Wiswell,” said Jeannine. “She graduated last year and works in her father’s Red & White Store. Do you want me to introduce you?” They were introduced and this coming January, my parents, Jack and Wilma Wiswell Turner, will celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary.

When Mom & Dad heard the Red Barn was on fire, they went to the scene, held hands, and watched together as it disappeared.

Now I have a sister Jeannine who was named after my aunt; but my sister never had the courtesy to introduce me to any sailors!

More... **Bits About the Burg** By: Suzy Millar Miller

***Originally published in the Reynoldsburg Reporter,
 Wednesday, October 27, 1982***

In March 1963 the general news about the Burg included:

The Reynoldsburg Bank merged with the City National Bank. The Reynoldsburg Bank began serving the Burg in 1958.

Don Hammond, Mrs. Frances Palmer, and Daniel Cicy ran for council seats in Ward 3.

The first ninth-grade class play of the Reynoldsburg Junior High School was presented. The play, directed by Lillian Brown, was "Father Knows Best". Admission price was 25 cents for ninth-grade students and younger, and 50 cents for adults and 10th-grade students and older.

The picture to the right is the cast of "Father Knows Best" as follows:

First row: L to R: Suzy Millar, Shirley Van Buren, Carol Houser, Kevin Turner, Linda Martin, Phil Jeffers, and Linda Sisk.

Second row: L to R: Mrs. Lillian Brown, Myra Sharp, Joe Mason, Neal Baileys, Steve Conkle, Harold Price

Third row: L to R: Joe Morris, Carol Ingalls, Gail Chirico, Myra Sharp, Libby Ricketts



Mr. and Mrs. Herman Woodruff celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with an open house on Waggoner Road.

The French Run poster contest for the "French Run Family Fun Festival" was won by: Susan Jacobs, Dale Davidson, Elaine Turner, Diana Lynch, Steven Sheets, Benjamin O'Dell, and Kyle Cline.

The Reynoldsburg 4-H Sewettes officers were elected. They included: Marsha Clingo, Sandy Le Furgy, Jane Walker, Jean Walker, Linda Walker, Judy Rogers, Sue Jemison, and Judy Wickcliff.

Reynoldsburg Schools adopted an individualized reading program. Teachers, Mrs. Mary Brundage, Mrs. Robert Love, and Mrs. Elton Savage agreed that the program was improving the children's reading skills.

Mary Ann Anderson was choreographer for the Minstrel Memories.

Do you remember?

The Albers grocery chain?

The Diana Shops?

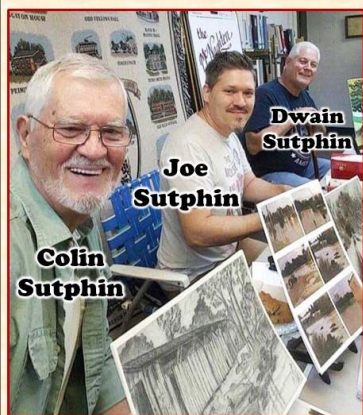
When everyone burned their leaves on the curbside?

Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society

is hosting an Artisan Exhibit featuring local artists,

The Sutphin Family: Colin, Dwain, and Joe Sutphin.

RTHS will also be showcasing the various talents of our members and their families!



Do you, or someone in your family, have a talent for:

- Carving? • Stained Glass?
- Drawing? • Metal Sculptures?
- Calligraphy? • Glass Blowing?
- Batik? • Sculpting? • Pottery?
- Weaving? • Woodworking?
- Canvas Painting? • Intarsia?
- Counted Cross Stitch?
- Paper Sculptures? • Quilting?
- Rock Painting? • Photography?
- Leather-Tooling? • Beading?
- Floral Arranging? • Paper Tole?
- Wire Sculpture? • Tie-Dye?
- Jewelry Making

or any other art form?

**We know we have
LOTS of talented local
members!**

Bring a couple of your
favorite pieces to display
at our Open House

Saturday, July 21st

10am-2pm

We will open the doors on Friday,
July 20th from 10am to 2pm so
you can bring in your
Masterpieces!

Call 614-902-2831 for alternate
arrangements

It's time to dust off your artwork and bring it to the museum! We will have several people participating this year who weren't involved last year!

One person asked how many pieces they could bring, and as far as I'm concerned, the more, the merrier! I'd rather see more of your artwork than have any empty spaces. We can always expand and set some things upstairs.

We will be setting up in the lower level accessible from the parking lot at the rear of the building. When you bring your artwork on Friday, July 20th, you must enter from the rear as the museum will be closed and **we can't hear you if you come to the front door.**

Write down your name and the title for each piece. I will take your list home and make placards to put with each item for the Saturday displays.

If any of the visitors ask how much the entry fee is, just point at one of our donation jars. *(Please practice pointing at home so you are comfortable with this motion prior to the event.)*

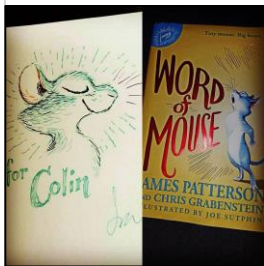
~ Mary Turner Stoots

Our Featured Artists: The Sutphins

Colin graduated in 1961 and specializes in historical local artwork reflecting memorable scenes within Reynoldsburg and Truro Township. His medium of choice is pencil, ink, and charcoal.

Dwain was in the class of 1967 but opted to join the service before graduation and fight for our country. We thank him for his service. Dwain's medium of choice is felt-tip pens. He also creates handmade fishing lures.

Joe is Dwain's son and a professional artist who has illustrated a variety of children's books including "Word of Mouse" by James Patterson and Chris Grabenstein, "Dr. Critchlores School for Minions" volumes 1 thru 4, "Raffy on the Run," and he's currently working on a new



book called "Tumbleweed Thompson." Joe's medium of choice is old fashioned dip pens with a unique ink formula that he created.

Central Ohio RTHS Members will receive this Postcard in their *Courier*



Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society
is having a Restaurant Fundraiser on
Tuesday, July 24th!
All you have to do is eat BBQ,
and we get **25%** 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 an extra
one for your friends and neighbors!

Do you have a smart phone? Scan the barcode in
this picture and present it to the cashier!

2018 CALENDAR

JULY 2018

- 17 - TUE - Board Meeting, 7:00pm
- 21 - SAT - Open House, Artisan Exhibit
10:00am-2:00pm
- 24 - TUE - City BBQ, Restaurant Fundraiser
10:30am to 10:00pm ALL DAY!

AUGUST 2018

- 14 - TUE - Board Meeting, 7:00pm
- 18 - SAT - Open House 10:00am-2:00pm
- 24 - FRI - Deadline for September Courier
- 25 - SAT - Class of 1968 Alumni Walk-Thru
10:00am-Noon ~ Contact: Renae Addy

SEPTEMBER 2018

- 03-06 - Publish September Courier
- 08 - SAT - (Tentative) Class of 1963 Alumni
Walk-Thru
- 11 - TUE - Board Meeting, 7:00pm
- 15 - SAT - Open House 10:00am-2:00pm
- 22 - SAT - Calligraphy Basics, Mary Turner Stoots
2:00pm-4:00pm
- 25 - TUE - General Meeting, 7:00pm

OCTOBER 2018

- 13 - SAT - Chalkboard Sign Painting
2:00pm-4:00pm - Mary Turner Stoots
- 16 - TUE - Board Meeting, 7:00pm
- 20 - SAT - Open House 10:00am-2:00pm
- 24 - WED - Deadline for November Courier
- 31 - WED - Trick or Treat Beggars' Night
6:00pm-8:00pm

NOVEMBER 2018

- 03-06 - Publish November Courier
- 13 - TUE - Board Meeting, 7:00pm
- 17 - SAT - Open House, Holiday Gift Shop,
10:00am-2:00pm

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



Some RHS alumnae gathered in the front room during our Titanic Fashion event on May 19th.

In the seat of honor is Ivalee (Holzbacher) Basinger (RHS Class of 1949 and Homecoming Queen, as well as 3 years as a cheerleader!).

Left to right behind Ivalee is:

- Jeannine (Turner) Winters (Class of '49 and Mary Stoots' aunt)
- Wendy (Wheatley) Raftery ('64)
- Vickie (Edwards) Hall ('67)
- Karen (Poling) Weber ('67)
- Sheryl (Henry) Marshall ('65)
- Mary (Turner) Stoots ('70).

It was a fun event, and we had a great turnout!!

THE COURIER

July 2018 Issue

Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society

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Courier Email: RTHSCourier@aol.com

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Suzy Millar Miller, Neal Piek
Vickie Hall & Mary Turner Stoots

Contributors:

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



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.

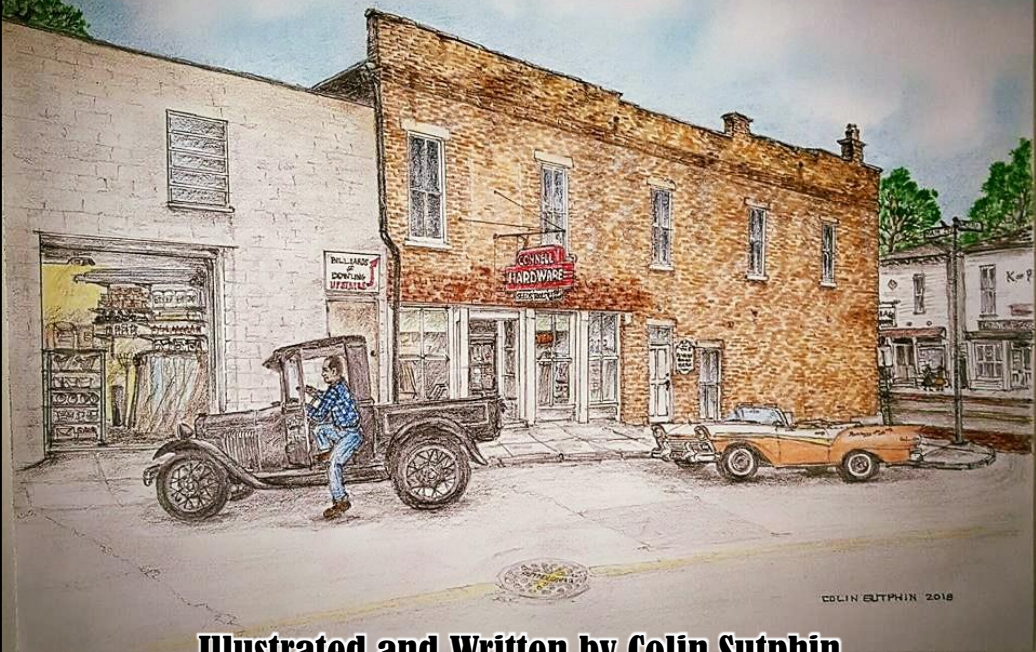
But, you must be registered, and you must RE-Register **each April**. It's as easy as one, two, three:

- 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



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!**

Connell Hardware- A Reynoldsburg Vignette



Illustrated and Written by Colin Sutphin

The year was 1959. Reynoldsburg, a village about eleven miles east of downtown Columbus, was in the throes of becoming a city. Population increased almost 1000% during this decade. We were the fastest growing city in Ohio at that time. And, with employment opportunities at plants like North American Aviation, the newly opened Western Electric Co. and the Lockbourne Air Force (SAC) Base, families were looking for a good place to raise their kids.

A chronology...

Ralph Connell's grandfather Ezra Osborn founded the business as a tinsmith in the back of the K of P building on April 1, 1872. After many years Osborn moved the shop to a new location on Main Street where the old Green Gables Restaurant building is now. Farm implements and hardware were added to the growing inventory.

Later, son Howard Osborn moved the business to the corner of Main Street and Apple Alley. In 1922 Ralph's father Elzy and mother Nelle took over the hardware store. In 1934 they moved again to 7345 E. Main Street at the corner of Lancaster Avenue.

In 1948 Ralph Connell became the third-generation owner. He served customers for well over half a century. If you lived in a Huber or Brookside home, for example, and needed a particular item, they most often had that part. If you had to have a key made, Ralph would make you a key that worked.

The last time I talked to Ralph was the summer of 2006. Sadly, he passed away at the store in 2007. His

daughter Charity Connell, husband Cody Lemaster and Charity's mom Jean took over the day to day operation of the store. On August 31, 2013 Connell's was finally closed after 141 years of doing business.

Thanks, Charity, for your permission to use and your help with the chronology.

The color pencil drawing above depicts a scene of Connell Hardware about September '59. I have Ralph Connell in his 1929 Ford Model A pickup truck returning from a late afternoon delivery. Apologies ... my attempt to draw a young Ralph was not all that successful.

The signs on the building were... the red Connell Hardware and Open sign with neon lighting, the tag sign below that stated they had Seeds .. Tools .. Fishing Worms. Upstairs were billiards and duckpin bowling. The lower right-hand part of the building was occupied by the Reynoldsburg Bank.

The coral and white 1957 Ford convertible belonged to a recent RHS graduate. She's around the corner in Count's Pizza with her best friend. See if you can guess their names. Across Main Street two high school girls are in front of the Village Store. Elmore Hayes had a great soda fountain in there when it was Hayes Pharmacy. Cherry phosphate, anyone?

Main Street still had vestiges of the old brick pavers, soon to be covered with asphalt. I hope you, young and old alike, have enjoyed this trip down Memory Lane. ~ Colin Sutphin

This Event was Packed with Fun & Music!

