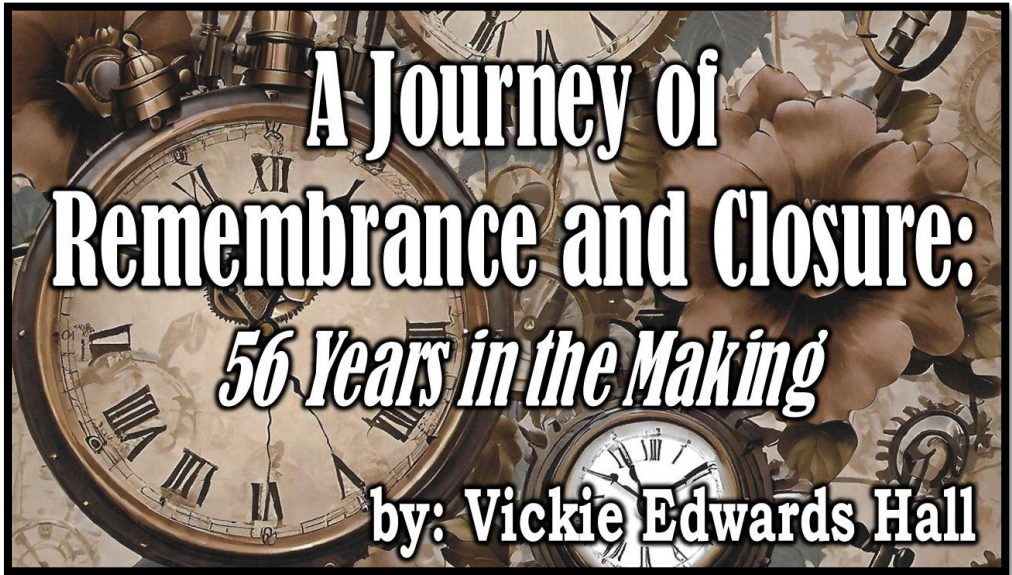




Elkins, West Virginia - In the summer of 1968, during the turbulent times of the Vietnam War, two young soldiers, Dean Pace of Muncie, Indiana, and David Shiflett of Montrose, West Virginia, crossed paths on the battlefield and forged a friendship that would transcend time and circumstances.

This is their remarkable story, one of friendship, loss, and, ultimately, one of closure.

Dean Pace and David Shiflett were serving in the U.S. Army in Pleiku, South Vietnam, when their paths

converged. With only two weeks left in Vietnam, Dean turned to David with a request. He asked if he could borrow \$50.00, promising to repay the debt before they both returned home. Little did they know that their lives were about to take a very tragic turn.

Soon after lending the \$50.00, David Shiflett was killed in action, leaving Dean heartbroken. Dean returned to the United States two weeks later, burdened not only by the loss of a friend, but also, by an unresolved debt.

For over half a century, Dean Pace never forgot David Shiflett and the \$50.00 debt he had yet to



(Continued on Page 02)



(Continued from Page 01)

repay. Then, in 2019, Dean, now living in Mansfield, Ohio, was invited to join an Honor Flight trip from Columbus, Ohio to Washington, D.C. During these trips, veterans are paired with guardians, and this is how Dean met Vickie Hall.

As they traveled together, Dean shared the sad story of his friend from West Virginia who had been killed in action. However, he didn't have all of the complete information about David, not even his hometown or the correct spelling of his last name.

Vickie Hall, who was determined to help, embarked on a quest to find this missing link in Dean's life. She assured him that one day they would make the journey.

The year 2023 finally saw Dean and Vickie setting out on a journey of remembrance.

They traveled to Montrose, West Virginia, to uncover the past that had haunted Dean for so many years.

Arriving in Elkins, they checked into their rooms and headed towards Montrose, embarking on a mission to piece together the puzzle of David Shiflett's life.

Their journey began with the discovery of a bridge dedicated to David Henry Shiflett, offering a clue to his hometown. Neighbors at the bridge suggested visiting a nearby cemetery,

which could hold the key to their search. As the day grew darker, they decided to return the following morning.

Friday the 13th proved to be their lucky day. Vickie called the Mountain State Memorial Cemetery office, where Mae Lilly provided them with the precise location of David Shiflett's grave. Dean, who hadn't seen his friend since 1969, stood on the verge of

closure. After visiting the grave, they expressed their gratitude to Mae Lilly, who also provided valuable contact information for David's family.

During their visit to the cemetery, they met some individuals who had



(Continued on Page 03)

(Continued from Page 02)

known David's brothers, Eddie and Steve Shiflett. These individuals suggested a visit to the Railroad Depot might yield more information. They followed the advice and found a volunteer at the Depot's Visitor Center who knew the Shiflett brothers. The pieces of the puzzle were falling into place.

As they walked toward the VFW, Vickie noticed the local newspaper office and suggested they ask for help. The newspaper staff directed them to the reporters, who suggested they visit the Peter Pan Dry Cleaners, owned by Jake Roberts. There, they met Jake, who was ready and willing to assist. Just as they were about to delve further into their quest, Vickie's phone rang, and it was Eddie, David's brother, returning her earlier call.

Eddie agreed to meet them at the cleaners, and the moment of closure drew nearer. When he walked in, Dean and Vickie felt an overwhelming sense of peace. Tears, hugs, and smiles filled the room as Dean explained why he had embarked on this emotional journey - to pay off a 56-year-old debt.

With a sense of profound significance, Dean handed Eddie the \$50.00 he had borrowed so many years ago. Eddie promised to tape the bill onto David's



picture in his home. What was once a lingering debt had become a symbol of enduring friendship and closure.

Dean's journey of remembrance and reconciliation occurred on a Friday the 13th, but for him, it was a day to remember. It took 24 hours in Elkins, West Virginia, to close a door that had been left ajar for 56 years.

Dean and Vickie cherished their time in Elkins, expressing their gratitude to the many residents who helped them accomplish what they had come to do. Their journey was a testament to the power of friendship, determination, and the kindness of strangers.



Eddie & Dean



Upcoming Events

Are you planning on coming to the 4th of July Parade? Mary Stoots plans to ride in a VW bug convertible!

Thank You Sheryl Knapp!



Be sure to visit us at the

Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society

Open House

Saturday, July 18, 2026
10:00 am to 2:00 pm

1485 Jackson St. (across from the Hannah J. Ashton School Building)

Come on over to our Open House! We would love to visit with you! AND – We will have snacks in the kitchen!

The Tomato Festival is always a FUN time! Take your kids & grandkids to this event and enjoy a great time with your family!

Reynoldsburg Tomato Festival

August 13-14-15
THU-FRI 4pm-10pm
SAT 11am-10pm

Be sure to visit us at the

Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society

Museum Open House

Saturday, August 15, 2026
10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Come to the Museum and take a walk back in time
1485 Jackson Street (across from the Hannah J. Ashton School Building)

We hope to see you for our Open House! From 10:00am – 2:00pm Come and enjoy the Museum along with a snack!

We would love to see you at this tour! If you have never done it before, please consider Volunteering!

The Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society

Welcomes the RHS Classes of 1970 & 1976

For an Alumni Walk-Thru, Saturday, September 12, 2026

From 10am to Noon – 1485 Jackson Street – Across from the former Hannah J. Ashton School

Upcoming Events



We hope to see you for our September 15th General Meeting and Indoor Picnic! It starts at 5:30pm, and I am looking forward to seeing you!

Join us for our September Open House! We will have snacks in the kitchen, and we'd love to have some time to visit with you!



Come to the Pizza Cottage on SR256 and join us for a fundraiser! a flyer is enclosed for you to present to your server!

Join the Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society

Members enjoy a bi-monthly newsletter, directory, gift shop discounts, a vote at general meetings, and the knowledge that they are supporting the preservation of Reynoldsburg history

Membership dues categories are as follows:

- ☐ \$30-Individual ☐ \$40-Household ☐ \$50-Sustaining ☐ \$75-Contributing ☐ \$150-Promoter
- ☐ \$300-Lifetime Membership* ☐ \$1,500-Small Business Sponsor ☐ \$5,000-Corporate Sponsorship

* A Lifetime Membership can be for an individual or a family, and is paid one time only

Please make checks payable to "RTHS," and Mail to RTHS, PO Box 144, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068-0144

Name

Address

Phone

E-mail

Do You Have an Idea?



Bob Martin (Select Fabrics) was at Christmas On The Town, and he was asking about the Card Party. The board talked about the work that goes into a card party, and what we decided was to put an article in the newsletter with a survey. Here are the questions:

- Do you have any Ideas for different types of Fundraising?
- We are looking for fresh ideas!
- What audience do you wish to address?
- Do you know of someone who is willing to Volunteer?
- How many do you think should be attending?
- Where, or what location would we be holding the fundraiser? Senior Center? Museum?
- Would you like to join us for a Yard Sale? We could sell the spaces.
- Please help me with this task!

Mary Stoots
(614) 560-4987
RTHSCourier@aol.com

THE COURIER

July 2026 Issue

**Reynoldsburg-Truro
Historical Society**

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& Vickie Edwards Hall

Contributors:

Mary Turner Stoots,
Vickie Edwards Hall,
& Cornelia M. Parkinson

MAX'S BARBER SHOP

PHONE: (614) 861-9019

**7379 EAST MAIN STEET
REYNOLDSBURG, OH 43068**



MON - FRI 9:00-5:45

SAT 8:00-12:00

CLOSED SUNDAY



A Brief History of RTHS

**By: Cornelia M. Parkinson
and Mary Turner Stoots**

1975-76 HISTORICAL SOCIETY OFFICERS

President:	H.O. "Bud" Platter
Vice President:	Phyllis Daugherty
Recording Sec:	Barbara Crabtree
Corres Sec:	Linda Cooper
Treasurer:	Elaine Fencil
Exec Board:	Robert Gerdeman
Exec Board	Clark Oldham
Curator:	Lee Hanford
Membership:	Helen Kitzmiller
Membership:	Jim Kielmeyer
Membership:	Diane Manifold
Hospitality:	Linda Cooper
Hospitality:	Debbie Dressel
Ways & Means:	Florence Leach
Artifacts:	Tom Smith
Artifacts:	Tom Wilhelm

At the June 16, 1976 meeting, it was voted that the Society accept Ralph Connell's offer of the second floor of his building at 7345 East Main Street.*
(Recently Vick's Pizza upstairs -1883)
The building, erected in 1883, for many years had a duckpin bowling alley in the upstairs. Recently, it was used as a Teen Center. Volunteers can call Bud Platter, 866-5153.

* BTW - Ralph charged rent of \$1.00 per year, and he rarely remembered to collect it. (continued on page 08)

The first part of this story was written 50 years ago by Connie Parkinson, and Mary finished the tale for anything that happened after 1976.

On April 30, 1975, twenty-two interested people met at Graham Road School to discuss the idea - - long tossed around in the community - - of forming a historical society. Temporary officers and committee members agreed to serve until the first annual meeting in September 1975. Following the Ohio State Historical Society guidelines, the committee drew up a constitution.

Stated aims of the Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society are to discover, preserve, and disseminate knowledge of the history of Reynoldsburg and the surrounding areas; and to illuminate past life, events, and activities.

Regular meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month throughout the year. Officers are elected for one year, and dues are payable at the annual meeting. The 1976 Annual Meeting is September 15, place to be announced Later.

Dues are annual: \$1 for students, \$2 for individuals, \$5 for family, and \$25 or more for sustaining memberships.

Join before September, and you could be a Charter Member!

2026 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY

PUBLISH THE JULY COURIER

04 – SAT – JULY 4TH Parade –10:00am

Reynoldsburg Community Assoc

14 – TUE – Board Meeting, 6:30pm

18 – SAT – Open House 10:00am-2:00pm

AUGUST

11 – TUE – Board Meeting, 6:30pm

13 – THU – Reynoldsburg Tomato

Festival 4:00pm–10:00pm

14 – FRI – Reynoldsburg Tomato

Festival 4:00pm–10:00pm

15 – SAT – Reynoldsburg Tomato

Festival 11:00am-10:00pm

15 – SAT – Open House 10:00am-2:00pm

20 – THU– DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER
COURIER

SEPTEMBER

PUBLISH SEPTEMBER COURIER

12 – SAT – Alumni Walk-Thru for the RHS

Classes of 1970 & 1976 10:00-Noon

15 – TUE – Board & General Meeting &

Picnic - 5:30pm

19 – SAT – Open House 10:00am-2:00pm

30 – WED – Pizza Cottage Fundraiser

11:00am-8:00pm

OCTOBER

PUBLISH PRESIDENT'S HOLIDAY LETTER

13 – TUE – Board Meeting, 6:30pm

17 – SAT – Open House 10am-2pm

17 – SAT – Halloween Party–

Reynoldsburg Comm Assoc

20 – TUE – DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER
COURIER



By: **Cornelia M. Parkinson
and Mary Turner Stoots**

(continued from page 07)

The Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society (RTHS) purchased the land at the corner of Broadwyn and Jackson in 1985, hoping to build a museum in that spot.

As it turns out, the Museum building was donated by Thad Greene and Marissa Ong in January of 1993, and moved to its current location at Jackson and Broadwyn in Old Reynoldsburg, in the fall of 1993. Over several years, major renovations, and the addition of a storage barn, all of the artifacts were moved from the space above the Connell Hardware store to the new location, and the Museum doors opened in 2007. The purchase and restoration of the Bennett garage completed the three-building complex.

Our Museum is half of a farmhouse, built between 1848 and 1850, that once faced State Route 256 near Livingston Avenue. The other half was moved (using one horse) early in the last century and located a block away, facing Lancaster Avenue at the southeast corner of Broadwyn Drive. Our half of the house is used as a museum, learning center, and meeting place, and is furnished with items donated or lent to RTHS.

The RTHS Museum is located at 1485 Jackson Street, in part of John D. French's original 1831 village plat. Here, you will find an increasing collection of tools, costumes, photos, household farm items, furniture, clothing, and published materials relating to historic Reynoldsburg and Truro Township.



RTHS 2026

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RTHSCourier@aol.com

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Museum Phone: (614) 902-2831

Website: www.RTHS.info

Email: RTHSCourier@aol.com



Sunshine Committee

**Do you know someone who
could use 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.

Cell: (614) 581-7048

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

cadeuber@gmail.com

David W. Reidel

President

dave@reidelinsurance.com



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Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068-0543

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Herbert Mills Interviews

I was speaking to my contact at Herbert Mills Elementary a few weeks ago, and I asked her why they don't do the interviews anymore. She said that after Covid, they never started them back up again, but she

would love to initiate the project this coming school year and do interviews in the Fall.

I'm not sure yet how they will be structured for this Fall. Originally, we would go to the third-grade classrooms and let the kids ask questions, then about every 20 minutes or so, we would switch classrooms. Later on, we just stayed in one classroom for the entire session. The last time I went, there were three or four of us in the lunchroom with ALL of the third-graders, and the teacher would

pick who asked the questions. The requirements to participate are very easy:

- A) Have you lived in Reynoldsburg for at least 50 years?
- B) Or – Has your family lived in Reynoldsburg for at least 50 years?
- C) Reynoldsburg High School Alumni are welcome, but being a graduate from RHS is not a requirement.

Please let me know if you are interested because I don't necessarily want to open this up to the public unless I have to. We'll need 10 or 12 volunteers, because they currently have four Classes of third-graders. Please Let me know if you are interested!

Mary Stoots (614) 560-4987 RTHSCourier@aol.com

PS: I ran this article in May's Courier and didn't get one single volunteer!!

RTHS Museum, 1485 Jackson Street, Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068

Mailing address: Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society

P.O. Box 144, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068



America-250 Greeting Cards



#42

**\$5.00 per pack of 4 Cards
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#20



All of the Cards are Blank on the inside, and they measure 5½" x 4¼"

If you would like to see more designs, send me an email (listed below) with that request, and I will send you pictures of all the selections currently available.

The circled digits are the Design Numbers

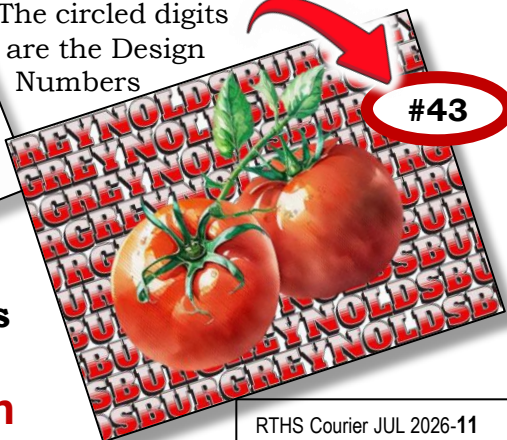


#21-B

**6 Postcards
for \$2.50**

RTHSCourier@aol.com

#43



Reynoldsburg 4th of July Parade



Judy handed out Flags to the Boy Scouts from the back seat



Tom & Aaron



Lisa Walked and Smiled!

I will collect more parade photos for our website!

We are heading to Main Street!



A Huge Thank you to:
Judy Diuguid for handing flags to the Boy Scouts, to Sheryl Knapp for driving me in her VW Convertible, to Tom Mulligan and Aaron Young for carrying the banner, and to Boy Scout Troop #68 for distributing the flags to the crowd!