

Union County Historical Society

"Preserving the Past for the Future"

Winter & Spring 2010



Mission

The Union County Historical Society appreciates and values the role of history as the formative context for today's way of life. The Society is dedicated to enhancing the appreciation and visibility of Union County history, and to that end, it collects, preserves, and interprets historical sites, artifacts, and materials related to the history of Union County. It serves the citizens of Union County and those interested in Union County history by providing educational opportunities through exhibitions, publications, tours, and programming related to the history of Union County and by providing access to the historical artifacts and documents in its collections as appropriate to the safety and protection of the materials.

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"when an old man dies, a library burns down"
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QUICK CALENDAR

Sunday, February 14 at 2 PM

People as Property: Slavery and the Underground Railroad at the Dale House 1793-1840

Sunday, February 28 at 2 PM

Safe Harbor

Thursday, March 11 at 7:30 PM

Footprints in My Backyard: A Genealogy Journey

Thursday, April 8 at 6 PM

Early Undertakers and Funeral Directors of Union and Snyder Counties
Dinner at the Union County Sportsmen's Club

Thursday, May 13 at 7:15 PM

History of the Dairy Industry in Union County

Sunday, June 6, 2-4 PM

Dale/Engle/Walker House
opens for the season

The Union County Historical Society office/reference library is in the Union County Courthouse, 103 S. Second Street, Lewisburg, PA 17837. Hours are M - F 8:30 - 4:30 (closed noon - 1:00). Visit our website: www.unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org for events, updates, articles and more.

**UNION COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**
2010 OFFICERS & BOARD
M. Lois Huffines, President
Jeannette Lasansky, VP
Diane Meixell, Secretary
David W. Milne, Treasurer
David Goehring
Sue Mapes
Tom Rich
Gary Spangler
Mary Jo Spangler
Jeffrey Spotts
Deb Wehr

**Welcome New Members
who have joined since July 2009**



Ben Hoskins, Lewisburg
Dolores Geise, Sunbury
Margaret Kastner, Lewisburg
Rich Kerstetter, Millheim
Mark & Sue Mapes, Mifflinburg
Dan & Gloria McDavitt, Mount Pocono
Susan M. Navarro, Odenton, MD
Raymond Robbins, Mifflinburg
Clare Sammels & Chris Exner, Lewisburg
William Siegel, Mifflinburg
Mary Jo Spangler, Mifflinburg
Jeanne Zimmerman, Mifflinburg

Welcome New Life Members

John Bower, Milton
David L. Beckley, Lewisburg

Thank you to Life Members

Forrest Fothergill for donation for microfilming newspapers;
Dave and Marlene Mensch for donation toward Dale House furnace;
Margaret Bryan, Nada Gray, Mary Ellen Paulhamus, Jean Ruhl, Harry Snook and Nancy Wheaton for unrestricted donations.

Thank you to members who increased their membership levels

Robert Berger, Donald & Mary Byerly, Paul & Pam Mauger and Mr. & Mrs. Price

Thank you to Members and Friends

Richard Bower for D/E/W support, Harold C. Fisher & William L. Bender for donations for research, Virginia Nunley, Mary Jo Spangler and Jim Walter for unrestricted donations.



A Message from the President

Dear Sojourners into History,

There is an old African saying that when an old man dies, a library burns down. The saying points to the importance of history, specifically of local history.

In your own family, do you remember the family tales once told by your grandparents and parents?

Whatever those stories were, the younger generation needs to hear them and learn from them. Our history may seem just plain old-fashioned to some, but in it there is the wisdom of living and survival. Many of our ancestors were tough people, finding out for themselves how to make a good life while being good people.

Similarly, the community in which we live is full of stories and treasured remnants of the past: old buildings that whisper of times past and monuments that shout out commemoration. Again, there is wisdom in that history, and we can show gratitude for those who endured tough times by learning what those times have to teach.

That is what the Union County Historical Society does so well: it preserves and interprets our communal stories so that we learn from them and seek the wisdom inherent in them.

Be a part of the exploration of history. Visit the Society's office in the courthouse to peruse the resources there about family and community history. Come to our programs to see slices of our history remembered and interpreted. Tour the Dale/Engle/Walker House to see the visible memories of our past. And best of all, tell us your stories. Write down what you remember of growing up, going to school, helping with family chores, surviving illnesses, traveling across town, and adding your ideas to what a good life should be. Together we can celebrate the past while we work for the future.

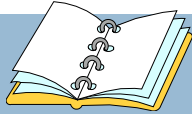
Don't let libraries burn down.



Lois Huffines
President

E-option

We can e-mail the newsletter to you as a PDF document. Not only will you see full-color photos but also this will save the Society on printing and postage costs. Please let us know if you prefer an electronic newsletter by sending us an e-mail: hstoricl@ptd.net.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS Programs

Sunday, February 14 at 2 PM

People as Property: Slavery and the Underground Railroad at the Dale House 1793-1840
at the Dale/Engle/Walker House, Strawbridge Road, Lewisburg

The Dale family was one of only two or three families in Union County who owned slaves until as late as 1840. Their slave Dinah (actually belonging to Samuel Dale's wife, Ann Futhey Dale) was enumerated in the 1790 and subsequent census and mentioned in Linn's *Annals of Buffalo Valley*.

Presenter Jeannette Lasansky will discuss slavery in Union County, and give a tour of the Dale house's original 1793 kitchen and furnished hearth. Visitors may view an informative display on slavery before and after the talk. Jeannette has been researching slavery in Union County since the acquisition of the 1793 Dale house by the Union County Historical Society. Some of her findings were published in *Samuel Dale (1741-1804): A Life and Estate in Union County* (Heritage Volume XXI, 2008). Jeannette has researched and published numerous books and articles on Pennsylvania's material culture. She is on the Board of Directors of the Union County Historical Society.

This program is free and open to the public. For more information, contact the Society at 524-8666 or e-mail hstoricl@ptd.net.

Sunday, February 28 at 2 PM

***Safe Harbor* film and tour**

at the Dale/Engle/Walker House, Strawbridge Road, Lewisburg

The Society will show the critically acclaimed film *Safe Harbor*, a documentary on the Underground Railroad in Pennsylvania. Narrated by Philadelphia storyteller Charlotte Blake Alston, *Safe Harbor* tells the story of the freedom fighters of northern Pennsylvania - free blacks and middle class whites - who risked everything in support of the anti-slavery movement. *Safe Harbor* is a Main Street Media production, in association with The Harry T. Burleigh Society. The film runs about one hour and is suitable for all ages.

Following the film, our host Jeannette Lasansky will lead a tour of the house, including the original c. 1793 kitchen with furnished hearth, and the attic. The exhibit on slavery in Union County can be viewed before and after the film.

Seating for the film is limited and reservations are suggested. Please call the Society at 524-8666 or e-mail hstoricl@ptd.net to reserve your place. There is no fee to see the film or tour the house.

Directions to Dale/Engle/Walker House: from Route 15 in Lewisburg, take Route 192 west for 1.5 miles to Strawbridge Road. Turn north onto Strawbridge Road and go 1.5 miles to the property. Drive up the lane to the parking area beyond the house. Signs are posted. The house is handicapped accessible.

Thursday, March 11 at 7:30 PM

Footprints in My Backyard: A Genealogy Journey

at Marlowe Hall, Riverwoods, River Road, Lewisburg

About 10 years ago Nancy Neuman started searching for her father's maternal ancestors. She knew that his grandfather Samuel Smith was born in Mill Hall, Clinton County, but how would she ever find her Sam among thousands of Sam Smiths? Where did Samuel's mother Beulah Templeton come from? Was she related to the Templetons in Dry Valley and New Berlin? Nancy was stunned to discover Samuel Smith's grandfather, Gideon Smith, in Lewisburg from 1795 to 1815 on land next to Buffalo and Little Buffalo Creeks.

Nancy will describe her journey: the false starts, sidetracks, brick walls, and the joy of learning more about people who occupied our part of Pennsylvania from the late 1770s until the mid-1800s.

Nancy Neuman has a B.A. degree from Pomona College, and M.A. degree in political science from the University of California at Berkeley. Neuman has taught at Washington and Jefferson College, Bucknell University and Pomona College. She has served on numerous important state and federal boards and is the editor of *True to Ourselves: A Celebration of Women Making a Difference* and *A Voice of Our Own: Leading American Women Celebrate the Right to Vote*. She was national president of the League of Women Voters 1986-1990, past president of the LWV of Pennsylvania and the LWV of the Lewisburg Area. She currently serves on the Lewisburg Cemetery Association board.

Nancy and her husband Mark came to Lewisburg in 1965 from Berkeley, California. Mark is Professor Emeritus of History at Bucknell University. Their three children graduated from Lewisburg Area High School.

Directions: from Rt. 15, take River Road (east at light), to the first right onto Riverwoods campus. Marlowe Hall is in the one-story main building on the left. This program is free and open to the public.

Programs

Thursday, April 8 at 6 PM

Early Undertakers and Funeral Directors of Union and Snyder Counties, From the Mid-1800's to the Present Time

Dinner at the Union County Sportsmen's Club, Weikert, PA

Funerals - all cultures have traditions for acknowledging those who have died and those who mourn. The undertaker or funeral director is an important member of the community fulfilling a necessary function.

James L. Schwartz and Joseph W. Epler will present an interesting program about the individuals who served as undertakers and funeral directors in our area. James Schwartz of Mifflinburg is a graduate of Temple University and Eckels College of Mortuary Science. He has been a licensed funeral director since 1959, owner of the James L. Schwartz Home for Funerals until 2004 and currently is funeral director with the Schwartz-Adamo Funeral and Cremation Service. Joseph Epler of Northumberland is a graduate of the Pittsburg Institute of Mortuary Science. He has been a licensed funeral director since 1967, owner of the Epler Funeral Home until semi-retiring in 2007 and now serves as funeral director at the Epler Funeral Home.

The program will be presented at the Union County Sportsmen's Club in Weikert. A buffet dinner will precede the program. Local members will receive dinner reservation information in the mail. Others interested in attending may call the Society office at 570-524-8666 or email hstoricl@ptd.net. The event is open to the public, however there is a fee for dinner.

Thursday, May 13 at 7:15 PM

History of the Dairy Industry in Union County at Mifflinburg Bank and Trust, Mifflinburg

Dairy farming is an important part of Union County's history, economy and social structure. Simply driving through the county provides visual evidence in the fields and pastures we appreciate seeing over the changing seasons.

Norman Conrad, Union County Agricultural Extension Educator, will facilitate a panel discussion on dairy farming and related endeavors such as making cheese and ice cream, growing feed crops, marketing dairy products and more. Mr. Conrad has a BS and BA from Widener University and an MS from West Virginia University.

Panel members will include Donald Hoy, Tony Shively, and Hertha Wehr who contributed to our latest *Heritage* publication: *Cows on the Landscape and a Milkman at Your Door: Dairy in Union County 1900-2005* (see page 9 of this newsletter).

The program will be held at Mifflinburg Bank and Trust's new building (site of former bowling alley) on East Chestnut Street / Route 45, Mifflinburg. The program is free and open to the public.



Sunday, June 6, 2010, 2 to 4 PM

The Dale/Engle/Walker Property opens for the season



The Dale/Engle/Walker House was built c. 1793 by early settler Samuel Dale. A Federal-style ell was added between 1820 and 1840, and a Victorian side porch added about 1890. Guided tours of the limestone house, including the original 1793 hearth with period cookware, are offered on Sunday afternoons from 2 to 4 PM June through October. Two outbuildings are included in the tour. The Wagon Shed exhibit features period farm equipment and tools from the Society's collection. The newly restored Milk House has panels explaining the dairy operation at the farm in the early 1900's. Interactive audio stations enhance the tour experience.

A visit to the house is a great outing for local residents and out-of-town guests. Admission is only \$4/adults, \$2/students grades 7-12, \$1/students grades 1-6, free for preschoolers. Members \$1 off.

Directions: from Route 15 in Lewisburg, take Route 192 west for about 1.5 miles to Strawbridge Road. Turn north and proceed 1.5 miles to the property. PennDOT signs are posted.



COLLECTIONS



Archives & Museum Committee by Jeff Spotts

The Archives and Museum Committee anticipates a challenging New Year. Facing unprecedented economic times, including a recent cut or possible elimination of a Commonwealth of Pennsylvania grant for continued educational and Archives and Museum Committee work, the Archives and Museum Committee expects many challenges in the upcoming year. The cut or elimination of Commonwealth funding will reduce the number of professional archives consultant visits and limit available funding for purchases of local items of historical significance.

In view of this bleak economic outlook, we remain ever appreciative of gifts of items that further the Union County Historical Society's mission of preserving the past for future generations. Your financial support will help us to continue purchasing items and ensuring that our collection is properly cataloged in a professional manner. For those who are unable to make a monetary contribution, gifts of items are always appreciated. Archives and Museum Committee members are willing to meet to discuss tax-deductible gifting opportunities that will bolster our collection.

As we move into 2010, please consider your continued support of the Union County Historical Society and the Archives and Museum Committee. If you would like to schedule a consultation with members of the Committee, please call the Society office at 570-524-8666 or e-mail hstoricl@ptd.net.

Gifts to the Society's collections is the primary way in which we grow. We thank those who have thought of giving their items a permanent home:

- Rick Sauers - 28 local booklets including football programs of Lewisburg versus Hughesville, Mifflinburg, Milton, Montgomery, Montoursville, Muncy, South Williamsport and Warrior Run from 1969-1974;
- Jeff Spotts - Mifflinburg Bank calendars for years 1994 to 2000;
- Dave Velz - W.L. Donehower business cards, letterheads, and bags;
- George Reish - East Buffalo Township school-master desk of Gideon Biehl who resided in the Linntown area 1 mile west of Lewisburg; brass, electrified Rayo lamp; and child's safe bank from the Reish distillery in Cowan;
- Susan Liegey - two cabinet photos of Derr family homestead located south of Rte 192. This area was developed by the Brouses into Ikler Park;
- Jeanette Sloane Campbell - six framed prints of her drawings: a Mifflinburg covered bridge, Mifflinburg streetscape, Packwood House Museum and Presbyterian Church, Buffalo Creek covered bridge and house scene, PRR Station, and Lewisburg Reading RR Station;
- Elwood Walter - milk stool for the dairy collection;
- Elaine Wintjen - advertising ruler and local map;
- Phil Wagner - paper bag from Wagner's Stationery in 1960s;
- Phyllis Dyer - many papers of John Dyer including *The Evangelical Messenger* 1873;
- Ann Griffin - West Milton advertising fan;
- Carrie Brouse - Mifflinburg High School year books *The Nautilus* 1925, 1930, 1932-34; local high school commencement programs from 1939-1954;
- Esther Rein - two magnets for removing metals from cow stomach;
- Marilyn Keister - two metal advertising rulers for "George R. Hickernell for Commissioner" (1948-1955);
- New Berlin Heritage Association - booklet of Griffith and Boyd Fertilizers sold by E.H. Maurer, Dry Vally Crossroads, Union County;
- Mercer County Historical Society - various deed and land records of the Wolfe and Frederick families of Buffalo Township;
- The UC Commissioners Office - twelve local invoices from 1900-1954;
- John Van Buskirk Estate - six family photos including studio work of local photographers Ellen Shields, Donald Ross, Cornelius, and Hunter; envelope of Donald H. Ross, and ledger of Clayton Van Buskirk;
- Eric Imgrund - an old grinding wheel for the Dale/Engle/Walker Wagon Shed;
- Bucknell University - non-Bucknell material such as area business ledgers, deeds and maps, local business papers, notebooks of groups like the D.A.R., and artifacts such as a Betty lamp and candle mold now placed in the hearth;
- Anonymous donor - two early deeds.

The Society continues to bring local items "back home" through EBay purchases, including:

- **Local advertising items** for 1888 Lewisburg Fair, Christkindl Market first day cover, Cowan trade card, Lewisburg National Bank deck of cards, scoop from Pleasant View Egg Farm, Grove Furniture measure, Rock Oak Inn mug, Bucknell Hall plate, blotters from R.L. Poeth of Lewisburg, train ticket for the Reading & Columbia RR from New Berlin, post card order form of Rosedale Dairy, advertising ice scraper of Mim Oberdorf, serving spoon from Ira Keister's Auto Sales in Winfield, rain gauge from Zimmerman's Harness Shop in Millmont, and Central Pennsylvania Savings Association paper savings bank.
- **Real photo postcards** of Jack's Mountain, New Berlin, Devitts Camp, Lutheran Church in Lewisburg and George H. Brown residence in Mazeppa; photo-litho postcards of a cottage at Winfield; and early Lewisburg Area High School agriculture program.
- **Old calendars** of Walter's Oldsmobile 1910 and Prowants Menswear 1954.
- **Miscellaneous items:** 1898 Centennial Program for St. John's Reformed Church, 1937 New Berlin Homecoming Book, 1889/1891/1893/1912 Voneida receipt books, 1976 commemorative pewter of the Union Seminary of New Berlin, and 1917 Saturday News receipt with picture of Benjamin Focht.

Found locally:

- Rosedale Dairy's red small sized Paramount cottage cheese tin and New Berlin paint-decorated 19th-century nursing rocker.
- Group of twelve 19th-century envelopes with local business advertising return addresses such as J.C. Gundy tinware and spouting in Lewisburg, J.J. Ranck buggies in New Columbia, and Jack's Mountain Lumber Co. in Union County.
- Farmer's Best advertising piece from East Lewisburg.

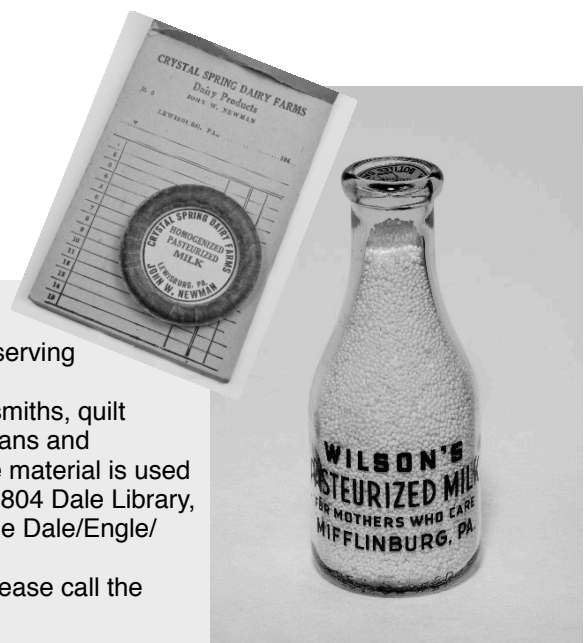
The Society's mission is to collect items made in, and associated with, Union County for the purpose of preserving the county's heritage.

The collection contains items made by area metal smiths, quilt makers, milliners, and basket makers; ads for area politicians and businesses; old business ledgers and photographs. Some material is used for research. Other items, like those in the 1793 hearth, 1804 Dale Library, Milk House and Wagon Shed aid in the interpretation of the Dale/Engle/Walker House.

If you are interested in donating to the collection, please call the office at 570-524-8666 or email to hstoricl@ptd.net.



This **new exhibit** at the Society's office features milk bottles, advertising and photos from the Society's extensive collection of dairy items. Another display of dairy material is at the Union County Government Center on N. 15th Street, Lewisburg. Both exhibits can be seen from now until June 2010.



RESEARCH LIBRARY UPDATE

Added to our family books and newsletters:

"James and Mary Maize Barber: Now We Have the Picture," *New Berlin Heritage Association Bulletin*, Volume XXXVII, 2009 - donated by author Denny Williams

Kiefer - *Kieffer Family Association Newsletter*, Volume XXII 2009

Walker Family in Union County - donated by author Robert Stoudt

Added to the library:

Deaths in Union County PA to 1882 - given by Mary Belle Lontz



Recent visitors to our library have been looking into the following families and topics. If you have information to share, please contact the office or the researcher.

STAHL, HOYER/HEYER - seek parents of Rebecca Stahl 1813-1901 m. Sam'l Hoyer 1811-1899, Peter Stahl 1817-1875 m. Catherine Hoyer 1816-1898: Jack Berlien, 9007 Greylock St., Alexandria, VA 22308

BOOP: Patricia Heilner, 7210 Jefferson St., Harrisburg, PA 17111

ELIAS LONG: Linda Ebert, 18 Cheery Lane, Denver, PA 17517, 717-484-0294.

DOCK/DUCK: Roy Schrack, PO Box 717, Avis, PA 17721

HAMILTON: Al Seames, 7716 W. Wildflower Crest Way, Tucson, AZ 85743

SIERER, SHEARY, BOGENREIF, KLINGMAN: Jack Spooner, 1 N. Aspen Place, Lewisburg, PA 17837

EBERHARD: Phil Eberhard, 7200 Munson Hwy., Hudson, MI 49247

McCULLUM, CULP: Carole Gill, 12306 S. Eagle V. Rd., Tyrone, PA 16686

HARDING, BYERS: Bill & Judy Rummler, 26260 Mira Way, Bonita Springs, FL 34134

WAGONER, MOORE, YERGER: Lynn McManus, 29 Pleasant St., Proctor, VT 05765

SHIVELY, SANDERS: Med & Meg Rutter, 19 Stonewater Dr., Simpsonville, SC 29681

BELLMAN: Darlene & Lyle Rutter, 4609 37th Ave., Rock Island, IL 61201

LEPLEY, ETTINGER: Lenora Smith, 6106 Old Tpk Rd., Lewisburg, PA 17837

LYNN/LINN: Philip Scaglione, 310 Municipal Rd., Ebensburg, PA 15931

SHAMP, ZEARFOSS: John Dilworth, 497, Bayou Ridge Rd., Dover, AR 72837

PICK: Niki Moore, 6479 Belle River Rd., China, MI 48054

BOGENREIF, YOUNG: Sandra Crissinger, 3788 Mayfair Dr., Grove City, OK 43123

HUTCHINSON: Linda Garrison, 232 Riverhill Dr., Catawissa, PA 17820

SHOUT, RITTER, RITZMAN: Jim & Joyce Robinson, 5506 Chenault Dr., Modesto, CA 95356

STERNER: Don Hildebrand, 2555 Oakland Rd., Dover, PA 17315

HUFFMASTER, SWAMM: Don & Sylvia Martin, RR2 Box 120F, Wysox, PA 18854

FREDERICK, Benjamin: Wm A. Frederick, 321 S. 25th Street, Allentown, PA 18104

HENDRICKS; Fran Waite, 649 S. Chubb Dr., Doylestown, PA 18901

BLACKFORD, DORMAN: Rich Kerstetter, PO Box 102, Millheim, PA, 16854, richkerstetter@verizon.net

VAN GUNDY, FULLMER, PARKS: Jim & Judy Van Gundy, 240 Boundary Ave., Elkins, WV 26241

LEWISBURG FAIR: Donald Stover, 159 Rusty Run Lane, Mifflinburg, PA 17844; 966-3590

LEWISBURG CARRIAGE HOUSES - seeking information and early photos: Jim Mauch, 216 S.3rd St., Lewisburg, PA 17837, 570-204-2906, wil@weatherhillfarm.com



A Big Thank You



Researchers Jack Fisher, Mary Belle Lontz and Glenda Sheaffer provide much appreciated help on family genealogies and property searches. In addition to volunteering in the office, they work on their own time on research requests for those who cannot come to Union County. Thank you!



At Rural Heritage Days we hosted well over a thousand people during four days of events this past August. More than 150 people volunteered to help with the events or demonstrate different skills that used to be commonplace in the eighteenth, nineteenth and early twentieth-centuries. We thank all who made Rural Heritage Days events so enjoyable.

The milk house with new interpretive station and dairy panels was opened to coincide with our latest Heritage book *Cows on the Landscape and a Milkman at Your Door: Dairy in Union County 1900-2005*.



Two demonstration areas worked on items that were then permanently installed on site: the turned, tall porch post made by Gregory Wert, and a split-rail fence that was hewn, drilled, and assembled by father



and son team Bill & Billy Deitrick. Each year, we hope to continue to have more hands-on activities and “make and take home” items like our very popular corn dollies.

Coming from the furthest away to demonstrate were butter print/stone carver Marshall Rumbaugh and rye straw basket maker Susan Kellerman, who are from Dallas and Lancaster, Pennsylvania respectively, and corn husk dolly organizer/maker Diana Lasansky from Trumansburg, New York.

Giving the Society financial support or specific gifts for Rural Heritage Days were the Susquehanna River Valley Visitors Bureau, West Milton Bank, Edna Sheary Charitable Trust, Standard Journal, Daily Item, Harmony Springs Farm, Shikelimo Chapter of the D.A.R., Leanne Keefer-Bechdel, the Lasansky family, Diane Meixell, Eli Reiff, Bill Deitrick, Rich Nornhold, Ralph & Sue Aument, David Goehring, Hannah Clark Wert, Millie Engle Noll, Bill Clemens, Jim Walter, Peg Gelnett, Ted Strosser, and Eric Imgrund.

We had a successful season of house tours from the first Sunday of June through the last Sunday of October. We thank our hosts and guides for welcoming our visitors from near and far, including many house guests of local folks.

The Society now looks forward to two **Black History Month events** in February. In this, our 7th year of Black History Month events, we will include time for visitors to view exhibits prior to the presentations, and afterwards offer tours of the hearth, the window with the face, and attic areas. See page 3 of this newsletter for details on the programs.

We welcome proposals for family reunions or other celebratory events and are always pleased to host group tours and home-schoolers. Call the office at 570-524-8666 if you would like to know more.

As with all houses, improvements and maintenance were done this past summer and fall. Two major efforts included installing a new, more efficient furnace by Perry Webb, and a garden based on plans and plants from Creative Plantscapes by Boy Scout Spencer Brought.

On November 7, Bill Deitrick directed a major work effort on a wide range of yard and farm cleanup activities with members of the Linn Conservancy, the Historical Society and Bucknell University: Tom Rich, Deb Wehr, Mary Jo Spangler, David Goehring, Wayne McDiffett, Geoff Goodenow, Diane Donato, Ben Hoskins, Amber Giove and nearly thirty members of Theta Chi and Chi Phi fraternities and the Pi Beta Phi sorority. These volunteers filled potholes in the main lane, raked leaves, spread straw over the farm fields, removed brush and cleared firewood from the hillside. Also, under the direction of Amy Gronland, Webelos II Den from Cub Scout Pack 3509 cleaned out all the bluebird boxes on the property.

Our fall and spring work efforts are important in keeping the property looking good and we appreciate the extra muscle that the Bucknell students provide our Society. In the summer months our student interns regularly do yard maintenance tasks. Volunteer Roxy Carl maintains the tiered flower gardens near the house, which are enjoyed by all from spring through fall.

In short, we work hard at making the property an educational, enjoyable, and beautiful place to visit. If you have not attended programs and events at the site we hope to see you this year!

NEWS

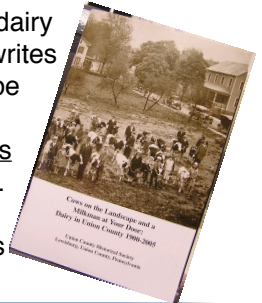
New! Heritage Volume XXII, 2010

Cows on the Landscape and a Milkman at Your Door: Dairy in Union County 1900-2005

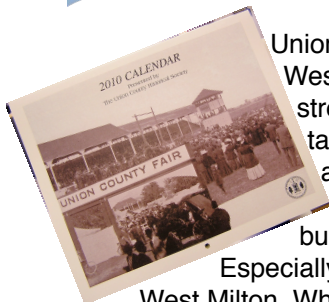
In this newest Heritage book, Hertha Wehr shares her fascinating story of family dairy farming in Union County; Donald Hoy talks about a young milkman's life; Tony Shively writes about the L. S. Shirk Millmont Dairy; and Mareta Digan and Jeannette Lasansky describe the University Farm.

Members renewing for 2010 receive a free copy of *Heritage 2010*. Local members are asked to pick up their copies at the Society office - this saves us greatly on postage.

For those who might like a copy for friends or relatives, additional books can be purchased from the Society at the member price of \$13.50 (please add .81 tax if book is shipped to a PA address. Cost of shipping is \$3).



2010 Calendar



The 2010 calendar features a wide assortment of old photographs from around Union County, including Allenwood, Hartleton, Lewisburg, Mifflinburg, New Berlin, and West Milton showing images of school children, WWI parade, steam tractor, trains, streetscapes, hunters and more. The calendar is still at the low price of \$4.50 (plus tax) for members (\$5 plus tax for the general public). A limited number of calendars are still available at the Society office and selected merchants and area banks.

Do you have old photos of Union County, of schools and school children, businesses, farms, parades, street scenes, trains, political and civic gatherings?

Especially sought are photos of Allenwood and Gregg Township, New Berlin, New Columbia, West Milton, White Deer, Hartley and Kelly townships. Photos may be donated to the Society, or loaned for use in the calendar project. Credit is given in the calendar for privately owned photographs.

Local Photos Sought for New Book

The Union County Historical Society and Packwood House Museum are collaborating on a book on the Lewisburg area, that we hope will be the first in a series of four covering the entire county, leading up to Union County's Bicentennial in 2013.

The Historical Society and Packwood House are searching for pictures of long-term businesses and events that are not in either group's holdings. Photos sought include: the Victorian Parade, Lewisburg Arts Festival, events in the parks, Evangelical Hospital in its various expansions, the Farmers' Market or Auction, Purity Candy and Lewisburg Builder's Supply in their different locations, the Lewisburg airport and miniature golf course. Interior shots of local and older businesses are particularly desirable.

Also sought are photos of troops leaving for or returning from World War II, any celebrations associated with the end of WWII, and civic activities associated with the war.

Photos may be brought to either organization *and as soon as possible* because work on the project has begun. All photos will be returned to their owners after consideration for the project.

The primary authors for the book are Lois Huffines, Board President of UCHS, and Rick Sauers, Executive Director of Packwood House. It is hoped that the book *Living, Working and Celebrating in the Lewisburg Area* will be available late October 2010.

For more information call the UCHS at 524-8666 or the Packwood House Museum at 524-0323.

Research Challenge

2010 is Black History Initiative Year and April 2011 marks the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the Civil War.

Area historical societies are investigating the Underground Railroad and the role of free black residents and Methodist, Quaker and Mennonite congregations in supporting this "road to freedom."

Union County's role in the Civil War will be a focus of study and programs for the Society and other area groups for the next several years. Volunteers are needed to help with these projects.

Anyone interested in doing research is asked to contact UCHS at 524-8666 or hstoricl@ptd.net.

PEOPLE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

At the Annual John B. Deans Dinner November 12, 2009, the Historical Society recognized three individuals who have made significant contributions to the preservation of Union County history.

An award for Outstanding Service was presented to **David Goehring** for his long-time commitment to the Historical Society.

David Goehring is a descendant of John Glover of Union County. The Glovers lived in the "West End" and the present extended family owns Camp Westfall near Glen Iron. David and his wife, Anne, live in Lewisburg. David has a B.S. in mechanical engineering from Lafayette College, and worked for the Pennsylvania Railroad, the Lehigh Valley Railroad and Amtrak, retiring as Superintendent of Locomotive Maintenance. Since retiring, David has been involved with many groups including the Susquehanna Valley Chorale, the Presbyterian Church in Lewisburg and the Mifflinburg Buggy Museum.



Since joining the Historical Society in 1998, (Life member since 2006), David has served as board president and vice president, chair of the program committee, and member of the education, finance, marketing, nominating, and personnel committees, and worked on the Grove's Mill Bridge restoration project. He helped with revisions of Union County: a Celebration of History and was a sponsor for the Mifflinburg Walking Tour brochure. David works in the office on Fridays, helps at our booths at Christkindl and New Berlin Day, is a guide on the school bus tours for county children, and volunteers at the Dale/Engle/Walker property on the grounds' crew, at Rural Heritage Days, and as host and guide for Sunday tours.

We are enormously grateful for David's help over the years, and for the "behind-the-scenes" support of his wife, Anne. David is someone on whom we can depend - for help on a project, for insight on a problem, and for a great story about history, railroads and trains.

An Outstanding Service award was presented to **Jim Walter** for his support of the Society and his excellent photography.

Jim Walter has been a resident of Union County for the past thirty-six years. He and his wife, Sherry, live in Mifflinburg. Jim is a graduate of Lehigh University and the University of Connecticut. His career included work at Laurelton Center and the Selinsgrove Center, from which he retired as Director of Personnel Services.



Jim joined the Society in 1987. He worked in the office 1998-99 and was involved in the project of preserving documents on microfilm for easy research.

Jim's avocation is photography. His photos are featured in the definitive Union County history book, *Union County: A Celebration of History*, and five Heritage books: *Dairy in Union County 1900-2005*; *Samuel Dale (1741-1804): A Life and Estate in Union County*; *The History of the Federal Penitentiary at Lewisburg*; *The J. A. Spigelmeyer Rod and Gun Club / Union County Sportsmen's Club*; and *The CCC Camps of Union County*. His photos of Rural Heritage Days and other programs help document the Society's work.

In addition, Jim is experienced with museum work, having served for many years on the Mifflinburg Buggy Museum Board. For the Dale/Engle/Walker Milk House he recently helped on the panel of photographs and text on dairy operations at the farm in the early 1900's.

We thank Jim for all his work, for his beautiful photographs and for his friendship over the years.

An Outstanding Service award was presented to **Dick Steffensen** for his work with Packwood House Museum and UCHS.

Dick Steffensen and his wife, Elsbeth, live in Lewisburg. Dick received a Bachelor of Fine Arts with Major Honors from the University of Pennsylvania. He has studied the major furniture collections in America, and Norway, Denmark, Germany, France, Austria, Hungary, and England.

Dick worked as Staff Designer at Pennsylvania House from 1963 until the company closed in Lewisburg. He was responsible for much of the case goods produced - the formal mahogany, 18th-century and casual cherry, pine, oak and maple furniture groups - and has also worked with several other furniture manufacturers.



At the Packwood House Museum, Dick served on the board 1996-2004, and as president 1998-1999. He has worked on over 30 exhibits including the scholastic arts exhibits, holiday exhibits, the recent quilt exhibit, and displays of toys, tools, art, silver and much more.

At the Historical Society, Dick was treasurer of the Oral Traditions Project, on the board of directors 1997-1999, and helped archive Pennsylvania House materials - organizing and collecting items reflecting the history of the company including photographs, sales materials and catalogs.

In his free time, Dick enjoys being a grandfather, traveling, gardening, building furniture, and designing houses. Dick is a creative person who works best in his workshop. We, the community, all benefit from his efforts and talents.

PEOPLE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The Historical Society mourns the passing of two Life Members this year.

Mary Eleanor Koons of Mifflinburg owned and operated the Mary Koons Shop, which sold giftware, needlework supplies and hand-made Amish and Mennonite quilts. Mary was a founding member of the Mifflinburg Buggy Museum and Preservation Mifflinburg, Inc., a supporter of Mifflinburg Heritage and Revitalization Association and Herr Memorial Library, and life member of the Union County Historical Society. She also supported the Merrill W. Linn Conservancy, donating a permanent conservation easement to land near the Hassenplug covered bridge in Mifflinburg, which has been developed into the Koons Nature Trail.

Anna Elizabeth (Kreisher) Richard of Lewisburg was a life member of the Union County Historical Society. Her civic and social memberships included the Rebecca, White Shrine of Jerusalem, Order of Eastern Star, Lewisburg Civic Club, Hospital Auxiliary, Cub Scouts, Red Hatters, and American Cancer Society. Anna had a life-long commitment to working with girls in the Campfire Girls, Sunshine Girls, Rainbow Girls and Girl Scouts. While in Japan, her Girl Scout troop participated in the opening and closing events of the 1964 Summer Olympics and Youth Camp.

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

THANK YOU to our Friday Volunteers:

Judith Blair, Jack Fisher, David Goehring, Dave Milne, Glenda Sheaffer, and Jack Spooner, whose help we really appreciate.

We also thank our tech support/computer guru Tom Egan who is a tremendous help to us.

New Friday volunteers are always welcome. Volunteers assist visitors doing research, answer phone calls and perhaps help on an office project. In the process, you learn about Union County and the work of the Society. Training is provided.

Can you spare one Friday morning and/or afternoon per month, or whenever suits you

CHRISTKINDL MARKET

THANK YOU to the volunteers who braved the cold this year at our booth at the annual Christmas market in Mifflinburg: David Goehring, Tony & Janice Shively, Jeannette Lasansky, Lois Huffines & Dave Vernon, Roger & Nancy Curran, Diane Meixell, Sue Mapes, Bill & Molly Crisswell, Roxy Carl, Terrelle Walls, Deborah Wehr, Dave Milne, Glenda Sheaffer, Judith Blair, Theresa Narus, Drew Stonesifer, Bill Koons, Ray James & Elaine Wintjen, Carol Manbeck, Carla Watson.

The Christkindl Market provides an opportunity to tell people about the Society, and to raise money through sales of our books and calendars, and the lovely table runners by Family Heirloom Weavers of Red Lion, PA.

SUPPORT YOUR HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ONGOING SALE of Antiques, Collectibles and Books

**at Roller Mills Antique Mall, St. Mary Street
(just off Route 15) in Lewisburg**

In the Society's case at this large local antiques mall, we offer vintage postcards and greeting cards, area advertising items, pressed and cut glass, decorated china, books, and more. Perhaps you will find something to add to your collection, library, or to give as a gift.

Many items are donated to the Society for us to sell. Other items are from our collection. As the Society reviews its collection, some items are replaced by better examples. Deaccessioned items are sold or given to other organizations, as appropriate. This allows the Society to continue to acquire articles with a connection to Union County and our cultural heritage.

Our thanks to Roller Mills Antique Mall owner Craig Bennett for his support. Proceeds from our sales help fund programs and services of the Society.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Member support is needed to

- plan future programs
- organize and participate in Rural Heritage Days
- design and maintain exhibits
- develop sales and marketing ideas
- investigate fundraising possibilities
- maintain our scrapbook

Please call the office or any Board member to find out more. Committees usually meet quarterly; exhibits are arranged twice per year; other tasks can be done at your convenience.

Now, more than ever, member support is important.

Become an active part of your Society.

Union County Historical Society
Union County Courthouse
South Second & St. Louis Streets
Lewisburg, PA 17837

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Membership in the Union County Historical Society supports our annual historic sites tours and Red Bank One-room school experience for Union County students; programs and tours; and the growth of our collection of Union County photos, postcards, account books, diaries, and items made by Union County crafts people.

Membership also enables us to restore and maintain the Dale/Engle/Walker House, which offers tours, exhibits, programs, and *Rural Heritage Days* events.

Members receive the biennial *Heritage* publication and our newsletters, a discount on books, and free use of our extensive reference library.

Mail this application form to:

Union County Historical Society, 103 South Second Street, Lewisburg, PA 17837

Contact us by: Phone: (570)524-8666 ♦ E-mail: hstoricl@ptd.net

Check out our Web site: www.unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Phone (H) _____ Phone (W) _____

Please circle membership level:

NEW! Student (K-12)..... \$10
Individual \$30
Family \$45
Contributor \$60
Patron \$100
Sponsor \$150
Lifetime (individual) \$400

The Union County Historical Society is a non-profit organization. Membership is tax deductible. In addition to membership, donations specific to the Society's work - education, the collection, genealogy, the Dale Library, or the Dale/Engle/Walker property - are gratefully accepted. Unrestricted donations are used as the Board of Directors feels there is a need. The Society is prepared to accept gifts of appreciated property and planned giving, such as bequests. Thank you for your support.