

Union County Historical Society

"Preserving the Past for the Future"



Summer & Autumn 2011

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Union County Commissioners designate May "Union County History Month." Left to right: Paul Mauger, Rick Sauers, Murrie Zlotziver, Tom Greaves, Diane Meixell, Lois Huffines, John Mathias, Linda Estupinan Snook, John Showers, Linda Bollinger, and David Goehring.

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.

E-option Please let us know if you prefer a PDF, full-color newsletter sent via e-mail by sending *us* an e-mail: historicl@ptd.net. This saves the Society on printing and postage costs. Thank you!

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.

QUICK CALENDAR

Wednesday, August 10 - Saturday, August 13
Rural Heritage Days

Sunday, September 11th at 2 PM
Program and book signing.

"Celebrating Union County River Towns"

Thursday, October 13th at 7:30
"Bedrock: Genesis and Evolution of a Republican Bastion, Union County, PA"

Thursday, November 10th at 6 PM
Dinner and Program
"West End Civil War Soldiers"

Sundays 2-4 PM, through October 30
**Dale/Engle/Walker House Tours and
"Meeting of Cultures" Exhibit**

**UNION COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**
2011 OFFICERS & BOARD
M. Lois Huffines, President
Jeannette Lasansky, VP
Diane Meixell, Secretary
Kim Ranck, Treasurer
David Goehring
Tom Greaves
Sue Mapes
Duain Shaw
Gary Spangler
Mary Jo Spangler
Jeffrey Spotts
Deb Wehr
Steve Wilver



**Welcome New Members
who have joined since January 2011**

Sandra Barrett, Nordland, WA
John Donahoe, Selinsgrove, PA
Robert Dunkerly, Concord, VA
Shirley Frostman, Pewaukee, WI
Paul Metzger, Montoursville, PA
Kim Ranck, Lewisburg, PA
George Ritter, Birmingham, AL
Glenda Yost, Turbotville, PA

Welcome to New Life members

Marj Kastner, Lewisburg, PA
Karen Nace, Granbury, TX

Thank you to Life Members

Russ & Cathy Dennis for donation to the Dale/Engle/Walker endowment

Thank you to Members and Friends

James & Lois Dale for donation to the Dale library, William & Jeannette Lasansky and Mary Jo Spangler for donations for Shorkley diaries transcription, Jerilyn Reninger for unrestricted gift, Joe Sharp for donation from the maple sugar program, Deb Wehr for gift to PastPerfect project; Bill & Sharon Herald, Jason & Ella Zimmerman, and Leon & Lydia Zimmerman for donation for research by Jack Fisher.

We appreciate the bequest from the late Dr. Helen Royer, a long-time member.

 **A Message from the President**

Dear Sojourners in History,

We look to history to answer the “why” questions. Why did this happen? Why did events turn out in this way? In history we find reasons—the processes involving the complex threads of human decision-making and its consequences, the imperatives of our geography, and the capriciousness of weather events. Nothing is more constant than change itself, and in history we learn that consequences reach far beyond intent and our ability to predict the future. Perhaps this is what we mean when we say history repeats itself. It is a process of cause and effect, a chain of events, each an outgrowth of the previous. This is why it is important to learn from history how one age determines the next and how one advance provides the base on which future advances are made.



These macro-observations are no less true on the local level. Like the weather, history is local. Locally is where we live the reality of the macro processes. Local history tells us how our community came to be and who we have been in the past. On that foundation, we act and move forward—start businesses, build schools, express ourselves in architecture, and embrace our times. Our children will do no less with what we bequeath to them. Local history is that repository of memory from which we draw the insights to make our own decisions and raise our children to be part of their own community.

The Union County Historical Society continues ever faithful to its mission of preserving and interpreting the history of Union County. It provides resources and intellectual space to investigate and learn from the great repository of community memory. The Society has become what was in preliterate tribal times the wise old man and the knowing old woman, the ones who used to teach us by word of mouth who we were.

As the Historical Society looks forward to the summer, plans for Rural Heritage Days are in place and promise to be a great time for multi-generational families to recall together how folks “did it back then.” The theme is “A Meeting of Cultures,” a topic that demonstrates how two or more streams of cultural wisdom merge to the benefit of all.

This is a great time to join the Society or to renew your membership. Join in the fun and adventure into the past. Join in the thinking of how history made us who we are and how we are building on that base to shape the future. Share your experiences with us and see how we all fit in together. I look forward to seeing you at our Rural Heritage Days celebration and at our programs in the fall. Let’s celebrate history together!

Best wishes, *Lois Huffines*

8th ANNUAL *RURAL HERITAGE DAYS*

AUGUST 10-13, 2011

at the Dale/Engle/Walker House

Wednesday, August 10 from Noon to 4 PM - A fun-filled afternoon for children and adults!

What is a Treadle Machine and How Does it Work? ~ Make a Corn Husk Dolly ~ Take a Pony Cart Ride or Ride a Pony ~ Participate in 18th-Century Rope Walk ~ Watch the Redware Potter ~ Learn how to Make Paper from Clothing Rags ~ Help the Stone Mason at the Barn Wall ~ See the goat, piglets, sheep, and turtles ~ Watch a Spinning Demonstration ~ See Butter & Cheese making ~ Play old-fashioned games like sack races, tug of war, bean bag toss, hoop rolling, and juggling ~ Meet the Honey Bee Keeper and his Hive of Bees ~ What is a Hornmaker? ~ Learn about making soap ~ Visit the Wagon Shed filled with farm tools ~ Help Make Music at a Campfire ~ Decorate an onionskin dyed egg ~ Try your hand at Celtic writing ~ Pound on an Anvil with the Blacksmith ~ Sample Potato Candy ~ Enjoy a Grilled Hamburger or Hot Dog and Homemade Ice Cream ~ School groups welcome. No admission fee.



Thursday, August 11 at 7 PM hear Eli M. Reiff talk about “**The History of Your Plain Sect Neighbors**” – the Dunkards, the Amish, and the Mennonites. Reservations are required for this free program as seating is limited. Call 524-8666 to reserve your place.

Friday, August 12 at 4 PM - Celtic Dance Workshop with Sue Garner and her dance group, Tir na Nog.

Ms. Garner has been conducting classes at the Lewisburg Conservatory of Dance since last fall and in central Pennsylvania since 2002. Audience participation is welcome at the workshop.

Friday, August 12 at 6:30 PM - Celtic Dance Performance by this Bellefonte dance group Tir na Nog.

Bring your own chair to these events. No admission fee.

Saturday, August 13 from 10 AM to 4 PM - A celebration of our rural heritage!

Old-time Music including a cappella hymn singing ~ Chicken Barbecue, Potato and Corn Roast, Watermelon, Fresh-made Ice Cream ~ Wagon Rides and Plowing demonstrations ~ Pony Rides ~ Hearth Cooking and tasting of pies and meats ~ Potato candy making ~ Binding and Threshing of Rye with Steam Engines ~ Hit & Miss Engines making Shingles, turning on a Lathe, and more ~ Fill a Bed Tick with Straw, and Grain Bags with Rye ~ Scythe cutting of grass ~ Blacksmith Demonstration ~ Caning Early Chairs ~



Dulcimer playing ~ Participate in 18th-century Rope Walk ~ Old Time Redware Potter ~ Stone Mason at work on the Barn Wall ~ Farrier Shoeing a Horse ~ Charcoal making ~ Gunsmith ~ Hornmaker ~ Lead Ball making ~ Honey Bee Keeper ~ Rail Fence making ~ Rye Straw Hatmaker ~ Spinning demonstration ~ Scratch-Decorating Onionskin Dyed Eggs ~ Hooked Rug making ~ Exhibits: *The Meeting of Cultures - Pennsylvania Germans and Their English Neighbors* ~ Quiltmaking and Hooked Rug displays ~ Wagon Shed display of 19th-century farm equipment, tools and vehicles, and a tool sharpening demonstration ~ \$4 donation per vehicle.



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.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The historic Dale/Engle/Walker House is open for tours Sundays 2 to 4 PM through October



The Dale/Engle/Walker House, a Georgian style limestone structure, was built c. 1793 by early settler Samuel Dale. The Federal style ell was added between 1820 and 1840, and a Victorian porch in the late 1800s. The house has been carefully restored.

Guided tours include the original 1793 hearth with period cookware and the replicated 1804 Dale Library collection. Your tour guide will discuss architecture, early immigration, slavery and the Underground Railroad, and other interesting aspects of Union County history.

The current exhibit, "A Meeting of Cultures," shows examples of early English and Pennsylvania German traditions.

The Wagon Shed exhibit features period farm equipment and tools from the Society's collection. The newly restored Milk House has panels explaining dairy operation at the farm in the early 1900's. Interactive audio stations enhance the tour experience.

Admission is only \$4/adult, \$2/student grades 7-12, \$1/student grades 1-6, free for preschoolers. Members \$1 off. Arrangements can be made for group tours.

Sunday, September 11, 2 PM

Union County River Towns

Discussion, slide show, and book signing

at the New Columbia Civic Center on Third Street, New Columbia

Union County River Towns is the newest book in the series of pictorial histories of Union County.

Author Jeannette Lasansky will present a slide show, and lead a discussion with the book's collaborators Bill Clemens, Jack Fisher, Alan Richard, Clara Shearer, Terri Stump, Ardith Wilkins, and Susan Ohl Wirth, on some of the group's finds as well as some new items discovered since the book went to press.

Audience participation is encouraged in remembering towns including Alvira, Spring Garden, Allenwood, White Deer, New Columbia, West Milton, and Winfield.

Autographed copies of *Union County River Towns* will be available for purchase.



Thursday, October 13, 7:30 PM

Bedrock: Genesis and Evolution of a Republican Bastion, Union County, PA

at Christ's Lutheran Church, 100 S. Third Street, Lewisburg

John Peeler, Professor Emeritus of Political Science at Bucknell University, will present a program on the development of the Republican party in Union County

"Union County, Pennsylvania, is well-known as one of the most reliably Republican counties in the state. A close examination of its voting patterns reveals that this has been true since the inception of the Republican Party, and that the county was reliably anti-Democratic even before that. This constancy is all the more striking when we consider the national and state contexts, in which the partisan balance has shifted several times since the early nineteenth century. Moreover, when the county's voting patterns are disaggregated to the precinct level, we find that the county's perennial Republicanism conceals significant shifts of Republican support within the county. The presentation will conclude with reflections on possible causes for this persistent pattern, and suggestions about the relevance of this case for studies of the American party system." Come to the program and learn more!

Programs

Thursday, November 10, 6 PM

Leaves Driven Before the Storm:

The Civil War Service of the Seven Kline Brothers of Union County and Its Effect on Their Lives
Program and Dinner at the Carriage Corner Restaurant, Mifflinburg

Stan Zellers will present a narrative about seven brothers (one his great-great grandfather) who served during the Civil War, detailing their family life in the years immediately before the war, their service during the war years, and how the war affected them and their families. Zeller's presentation is based on about seven years of research - Civil War pension files and Military Service records, extensive reading, including regimental histories of two of the regiments in which several of the brothers served. At one time six of the seven served under John Hartranft, who went on to become Governor of Pennsylvania.

Civil War artifacts, photos, and music will augment the presentation.

Our popular buffet dinner - with choices of entrees, sides, salad, dessert and beverages - will precede the program. The program and dinner are open to members and the general public.

Awards for historic preservation and service will be presented to area individuals and/or groups.

Local UCHS members will receive reservation forms for the dinner/program in the mail in October. Others interested in attending should phone, email the Society, or visit our website for more information.

Fall Course on Local History at Bucknell Institute of Lifelong Learning ~ by Tom Greaves

This course will be a smorgasbord of historical facets, given by specialists currently working on what they will discuss. Presenters will also talk about the sources they are using and the ways they uncover historical insights. Each of the six weekly 90-minute sessions, between the last week in September and the first week of November, will feature a different history specialist:

Katherine Faull (Bucknell Prof. of German and Humanities): Moravian missions and local Indian tribes revealed through diaries;

Ted Strosser (Architect, specialty in historic preservation): analyzing log homes and log buildings in our area;

Tom Rich (former Dean of Engineering at Bucknell): "Down by the Old Mill Stream" (grist mills in Union County);

Lois Huffines (President of our Society, and former Bucknell Provost): general history of Lewisburg, Mifflinburg and of the West End;

Richard Sauers (Director, Packwood House): the residential and commercial growth of Lewisburg's Market Street;

Nada Gray (historian, author, educator): the Meixells and Shorkleys in Civil War-era Lewisburg.

The course is limited to 20 participants. Its location in Lewisburg and exact dates have yet to be determined. A fall course catalog and application will appear on Bucknell Institute of Lifelong Learning website [www.bucknell.edu/x50531.xml] in mid July.

Courses in the Institute for Lifelong Learning require membership (\$20 per half year; \$35 for a year) plus \$35 per course.

Collectors Note

The Society has a glass case at Roller Mills Antique Mall, St. Mary Street, Lewisburg (just off Rt. 15). We sell area advertising items, old postcards and greeting cards, early glass and china, books, and more. Some items have been donated for us to sell, and other items are de-accessioned from our collection. As items are replaced by better examples, deaccessioned pieces are sold or given to other groups, as appropriate. This allows the Society to continue to add to our collection.

We thank Craig Bennett and the staff of Roller Mills Antique Mall for their support.

RESEARCH LIBRARY UPDATE

Added to our family books and newsletters:

Blyler Family History book, given Fred Blyler
Reish Family History (updated), given by George A. Reish
Keefer Family Association newsletter
Keils, Rancks, Bowers and Shutts, given by Harold Evans
Raidabaugh Family History, donated by John C. Shedlock



Added to the library:

All Roads Lead to Sunbury, John Oakley Mertz. Given by C. Oakley Mertz
The Chronicle, Journal of Susquehanna Conference of United Methodist Church, Spring 2011
"Diary of a Civil War Soldier" Henry Simon Bennage 1831-1917, transcription given by Glenda Sheaffer
Forest Hill United Methodist Church Heritage Sunday Celebration 2010, given by Linda Richards
Marriages of Snyder County by Wagonseller and
Index to *Marriages of Snyder County* by Wagonseller, donated by Arleigh Helfer
Obituaries for Union County residents from 1994 to date (computer file)
George H. Ramer, *Congressional Medal of Honor Recipients*, given by Harold Weigle
Strunk Funeral Home Records 1908-1985 (computer file)
Union County Times 2010 issues, on CD



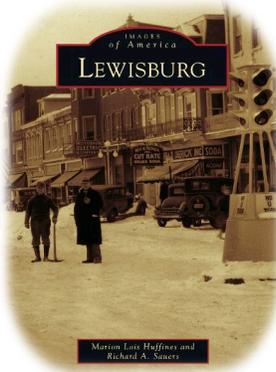
Recent visitors to the Society library have researched the following families and topics.

If you have information to share, please contact the Society office or the researcher.

BERTSON: Chuck Schroeder, sandiechuck@yahoo.com
BIRD/BURD/BERD: Denise Jenson, 244 Memory Ln., Rock Hill, SC 29730 djensen@chmuseums.org
BLACKFORD/DORMAN: Rich Kerstetter, PO Box 102, Millheim, PA 16854
BRAMWELL: Kim Gianna, 1191 Beekman Rd, Hopewell Ct., NY 12533
BURD/KURTZ: Bill Keiser, 201 Parkwood Dr., Lancaster, PA 17603, keiser1@comcast.net
COTNER: Barbara Shearer, 19 John Mar Ct., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
DAVIS/ROBB/CONNER: Mark Jordan and Alfreda Potrafile, 2206 S. 3rd St., Steelton, PA 17113
DIEHL: Jim Diehl 1401 10th Ave, San Francisco, CA 94122
FISHER/ARBUCKLE/BUSA: Glenda Yost, Turbotville, PA 17772, jagyost@windstream.net
FREDERICK/BOOP: Joe Koletar, 16670 Hutchinson Ct, Lakeville, MN 55044
FRENCH JACOB'S MILL: Norma Reich, Mifflinburg, PA 17844, 966-5949
FRYER/HAINES: Donna Valle, Indiana, dhvalle@gmail.com
KLINGERT: Jack Fisher, 775 River Rd, Lewisburg, PA 17837
KREAMER/KRAMER: Ken and Sandy Kramer, 450 E Bergeson, Shelton, WA 98584
LAURELTON: Joe Deinlein, Daily Item, 200 Market St. Sunbury, PA 17801
McCOLLUM/CULP: Bonnie Ashcroft, 1413 E. Park Hills Ave, State College, PA 16803
MECKLY: Robert McDonald, 166 Marks Rd., Millersburg, PA 17061
MILLER: Larry and Louise Miller, 2716 Pfitzer, Portage, MI 49024
PASCHALL/MATHER: Carolyn Cavalli, California, clcavalli@volcano.net
RAMER: Harold Weigle, 5325 Kipp Ct., Fairfax, VA 22030
RANCK/WILSON/REMAly: Janine and Bob Crossland, 13760 Ensenada Ct. Manassas, VA 22110
RITTER: Ronald A. Madle, 401 Ward Way, Mifflinburg, PA 17844
SAMPSELL/RHOADES: Amy Krasinski, 443 Unionville Pike, Julian, PA 16844,
and Alice McGregor, 15 Bud Ct, Port Matilda, PA 16870
SNYDER, SIMON: Steve Snyder, 601 Seabreeze Dr., Seal Beach, CA 90740, palmsny@gmail.com
STIVER/STOEVER: Krissy Stiver, 2 Drizzle Run, San Antonio, TX 78240
THOMAS, THOMAS & MINNIE: Joe and Lori Bollinger, 239 Meadow Lane, Pennsylvania Furnace, PA 16865
THOMPSON: Alice Poust, 308 S. 19th St., Lewisburg, PA 17837
WALKER: Roger & Marian Walter, 115 Grand Valley Rd., Mifflinburg, PA 17844

NEWS

FIRST IN THE SERIES



Lewisburg was published by the Union County Historical Society in 2010, in collaboration with Packwood House as part of the *Images of America* series, the first of four books in anticipation of Union County's 2013 Bicentennial.. This 128-page volume, by Lois Huffines and Richard Sauers, shows the history of Lewisburg, Kelly, and East Buffalo townships from earliest beginnings until

recent times, through wonderful period photos.

Contact the Society to order. Member price is \$19.79. Add \$1.19 tax for PA residents, shipping \$4.

TWO UPCOMING BOOKS

Mifflinburg and the West End have stories to tell. The hard work of making a life in early America demanded courage and determination of its settlers. There were good times when towns thrived, and tough times when efforts failed. Fires and accidents destroyed dreams, and financial distress halted progress, but the towns worked hard to survive, and those that did celebrated their successes with fairs, parades, bands, and church dinners. Mifflinburg and the towns of the West End endured to build their part of Union County.

Vintage photos will tell the unfolding stories of Mifflinburg, Swengel, Millmont, Laurel Park, Pardee, Glen Iron, Weikert, Hartleton, and Laurelton. It is a history full of surprises and wonderful spirit. Slated for publication July 2012.

New Berlin - our first county seat, Vicksburg, Mazeppa and the surrounding countryside will be the subject of the fourth and final book on Union County, Pennsylvania in the *Images of America* series. It is scheduled for publication in 2013 - for the Union County bicentennial celebrations.

You will want all four books on Union County: *Lewisburg* (2010), *Union County River Towns* (2011), *Mifflinburg and the West End* (2012), and *New Berlin* (2013). Great for reminiscing, reference, and gift-giving!

Please support UCHS by purchasing these books directly from the Society.

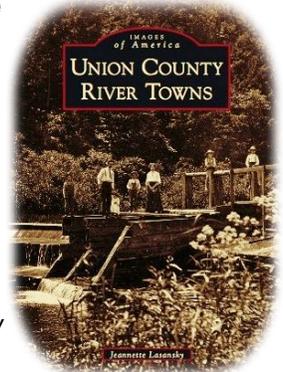
OUR NEWEST BOOK

Union County River Towns, with 220 photos and extensive captions - the second of four books on Union County in the *Images of America* series by Arcadia Publishing - **is now available!**

High ridges and lush valleys teeming with natural resources abutted Union County's river towns of Allenwood, White Deer, New Columbia, West Milton and Winfield. Creeks emptying into the Susquehanna River connected gristmills and communities like Spring Garden to their river neighbors. Narrow-gauge railroad lines brought excursions from White Deer to Tea Springs, and men and lumber to operations run by lumber barons. The Reading Railroad ran beside the Susquehanna, but other lines crossed it, establishing West Milton as a railroad hub. Central Oak Heights, Devitt's Camp and Spring Garden were west of the river, while rustic camps dotted groves and islands at the river's edge. In the mid-20th century, a new Route 15 altered most of these towns' streetscapes as World War II took the town of Alvira and area farmlands by eminent domain for explosives production.

Primary author Jeannette Lasansky worked closely with Ardith Wilkins, Sharon Herald, Terri Stump, Bill Clemens, Jack Fisher, Susan Ohl Wirth, Clara Shearer and Alan Richard, among others to develop this interesting volume.

Members can contact the UCHS office to order the book (member price is \$19.79 plus \$1.19 tax for PA residents, shipping \$4).



Do you have **old photos or photo postcards of Union County** businesses, farms, parades, trains, schools and school children; family, political and civic gatherings? We especially seek photos of Hartleton, Laurelton, Mazeppa, New Berlin, West Milton, Vicksburg, and Winfield. Images may be donated or loaned for use in the calendar project or upcoming books.

Please contact us to discuss this opportunity to share your photos with others.

New CD	2012 CALENDAR
<p><i>Building Pennsylvania</i>, a new electronic publication by Tom Rich (Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Bucknell University), outlines the historical development of four major technologies: canals, iron and steel, lime and cement, and waterworks.</p> <p>Over 700 pages of text, charts, tables, illustrations, and photos tell the story of human ingenuity and toil, of Pennsylvania's technological history. On CD for PCs.</p> <p>Available for members at \$22.50 plus \$1.35 PA tax, (non-member price is \$25 +1.50 tax); add \$4 for shipping.</p>	<p>The 2012 Calendar will be ready for purchase in August. The calendar contains historic photos of Winfield, Lewisburg, Mifflinburg, Glen Iron and elsewhere, of a parade, post office, hotel and resort, and families.</p> <p>Alan Richard of RichardHouse Photo Restoration does the photographic work for the calendar, which is printed by Mifflinburg Telegraph. The calendar will be available at the Society office, the Dale/Engle/Walker House, area banks and selected merchants.</p> <p>Still only \$4.50 for UCHS members (\$5 for non-members).</p>

Announcing: *ACCOUNTS of Union County History*

How often have you been in a conversation about our local history, and thought, "Gee, that's worth knowing. Why isn't there a place where things like that can be recorded and saved for the future?" Now there is.

The Society is starting a new, on-line publication. It will be called *ACCOUNTS of Union County History*. It will come out twice a year, in the fall and spring, as part of the Society's web page. *ACCOUNTS* will be free to all members. The first "issue" will come out this fall. You are earnestly invited not only to read each issue, but also to contribute items to its pages. Asking for your written contributions is the purpose of this announcement.

Here are some specifics:

- *ACCOUNTS* is an opportunity for all Society members to contribute to Union County's historical record.
- *ACCOUNTS* is not a journal of formal scholarship. No bibliography or footnotes please.
- Items will be short: 200 – 1500 words (a double-spaced page has 250 to 300 words; so 1 to 6 pages).
- A variety of items are being sought, such as:
 - Accounts of historical events in the County
 - Accounts from family history
 - Accounts of the lives of persons associated with the County
 - Accounts of businesses, communities and places
 - Descriptions of objects and their makers (such as furniture, buggies, etc.)
 - Accounts of buildings (homes, farm buildings, churches, commercial buildings, etc.), monuments, and public works

ACCOUNTS will be edited by me (Tom Greaves, Society board member). Tom Rich (Society webmaster) will put each issue on the Society's website. Need help composing? I am happy to work with you to get your draft ready for *ACCOUNTS*. It would be most helpful if you would type your contribution and send it to me as an e-mail attachment, but if you are one of those valiant holdouts against the age of electronics, I can even do the typing from your hand-written copy.

There is no plan to make *ACCOUNTS* available in a paper format, with all the complexities and expense of subscriptions. You'll only be able to get it at the Society's website. (Haven't yet looked at the website? Its address is: <http://www.unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org/>)

Do you have an item to propose? Please send me an e-mail and I'll be in touch. I'm also happy to get your suggestion about a potential author I might approach who has interesting items.

ACCOUNTS is not reserved for those who are polished, experienced writers. It is an expression of ourselves as a community, a community of folks who pay attention to local history and want to help enrich it. I look forward to hearing from you.

Tom Greaves, Editor, *ACCOUNTS of Union County History*, e-mail: greaves@bucknell.edu



COLLECTIONS



Archives & Museum Committee by Jeff Spotts

As summer temperatures begin to climb so has the activity of the Society's Archives and Museum Committee. With a growing need to transfer collections information into new software, Deb Wehr and Mike Manbeck successfully completed the integration of data into PastPerfect, the Committee's new collections software. This system will permit the group to organize the Society's collections, and allow Deb to enter data in an attempt to move away from regular consultant visits that must be curtailed with the elimination of funding from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. This change will move the collection into modern times, while more effectively and efficiently preserving the past.

The Committee most notably has preserved the past with the help of Jeannette Lasansky and Society member Jack Fisher, who worked tirelessly to assess a large group of deeds donated by Bucknell University, and make appropriate gifts to local historical societies and organizations for land outside of present day Union County. This effort was monumental and shows a true sense of selflessness.

To learn about ways you can help the Society by donating tax-deductible items of Union County interest, or providing financial support, please contact the Society at 570-524-8666 or historicl@ptd.net.

The Society adds to the collection through purchases, locally and from on-line sources.

Local Purchases:

- Shirk's General Store, Millmont, 1980 calendar with embossed German scenery back; RiverWoods' mug; L.W. Strunk & Sons, Mortician, Mifflinburg, thermometer;
- two cobalt-decorated stoneware pieces made by local potter Gail Dunlop for the local 1976 Bicentennial;
- three large aerial views of Lewisburg and area around the Federal Penitentiary from 1957;
- 1905 photo of the Mifflinburg Country Club baseball team;
- large desktop advertising blotter from c. 1905 of primarily Mifflinburg businesses like W.R. Lance Monuments;
- menus from numerous Union County eateries;
- Mary Koons' advertising Christmas card and Christmas decoration by Design Tiles;
- Koons' Hardware match holder; and
- Fox Theatre playbill.

E-Bay Purchases:

- Rare real photo postcards of Forest Hill's Forest House from the 1930s and very rare Horton card of the Forest Hill/Wabash gristmill from 1907-11, of New Berlin's "Water Club," a 1906 view of the Penns Mills/Halfpenny & Grove flourmill at

- Millmont; of the Rand School, P&R Railroad station in Allenwood, St. Peter's Reformed Church, Winfield's Hyman House by Malinda Drum, early view of Lewisburg Creamery and 1970s photo of the Allenwood prison complex;
- One hundredth anniversary booklet of Lewisburg National Bank (1853-1953); 150th anniversary book for the First Presbyterian Church, Lewisburg; 8th Anniversary booklet of the Evangelical Home; the 50th Observance of New Columbia's Church in 1957;
- Trade cards for Samuel Crowl signs and window lettering in Lewisburg and for A.S.Hoch at Kelly Crossroads; old envelopes with advertising for S.J.Weiser stoves, lamps, bells, rags, old metal, tin ware/spouting/roofing in Mifflinburg in 1890; for the Lewisburg Settee Arm Co, 1894; small notebook advertising Leopold & Sons, clothier in Mifflinburg; thermometer/calendar from 1964 advertising Wayside Furniture, Mifflinburg; and floaty pens for Purity Candy and for Reptiland;
- Stock certificate for the Glen Iron Furnace; key fobs for Prowant's in Mifflinburg and Lewisburg and another for Brookside Homes, Lewisburg; Lewisburg Chair and Furniture Company 1958 book of company rules; calendars for Shirk's Store in Millmont, West Milton Bank for 1968, Mazeppa Mills for 1955, and Bingaman's Appliances of Mifflinburg for 1951.

A big "thank you" to those who have made the following gifts to the Society:

- Mary Lippert-Coleman: booklets on Central Oak Heights: A Place, a Program 1975, 90th Anniversary Central Oak Heights, and 100th Anniversary 2009 Central Oak Heights;
- Jeannette and William Lasansky: several local round oak rod baskets, local postcards, Irey shoemaker boot hook (Lewisburg), 50th Anniversary pen and comb from Zeigler's Barber Shop (Lewisburg);
- Nancy Neuman: 150th Anniversary plate for St. John's United Church of Christ 1824-1974
- New Berlin Heritage Association: two Heritage volumes;
- William Slear: Scarlet D roasted peanut bag, bank deposit bags for West Milton Bank, Central Counties Bank, and Lewisburg National Bank; 1915 leather bound pocket calendar from J.H. Stahl's Cigar Store, Lewisburg;
- Gary Spangler and Mike Manbeck: local 2011 calendars;
- Marvin Wagner: heavy cloth construction apron from the Lewisburg Planning Mill Company;
- Margaret Loughhead: framed images of the Lewisburg Baptist Church, 1907 Lewisburg Free Bridge, old post office c. 1907, and 1884 map of Lewisburg;
- Gary Murphy: Laurelton Center presentation plaque, Dr. Mary Wolfe photo and material;
- Judd Clemens: Commemorative Biographical Record;
- Dave Mensch: large Mensch Agency flyers, 1930 and 1975 multi-town directories, West Milton Bank rattan fans, two Mensch Agency blotters, 19th-century cook book, Lewisburg School Authority seal, 1925 Sanborn Map Book of Lewisburg;
- Campus Theatre: tickets for the 4th and 5th War Loan Bond premieres at Campus Theatre February 9, 1944, "The Gang's All Here" and July 5, 1944 "And the Angels Sing," Campus Theatre teen cards, Campus Theatre paid admission ticket signed by Jacqueline Stiefel dated December 1943 for seat AA-4; nine Roxy playbills; Victorian Parade tabloids for 1990, 1993, and 1994; badges for the 10th and 14th Victorian Holiday Parade, and The Victorian Lady (est. 1986) special advertising piece.
- **Bucknell University made a major gift of many items of local interest** including diaries of teacher, surveyor, and justice of the peace, Elias B. Riehl (East Buffalo Twp.) 1884-1924; Clover Club (Lewisburg) photos and minute books from 1889-1893; History of the Charity [Masons] Lodge 1816-1966; William Maclay's original field books and letters from 1769-1777; George Derr's 1808 notebook, and other original papers through 1848; White Deer Forge day book from 1818-1923, and Lewisburg saddle maker Joseph Bower's day book from 1807-1815; Federal Penitentiary 1960s newsletters; Phillip family photo album c. 1906 with 29 local photographs including Lover's Lane or College Hill/River Road; Lois Kalp's *Town on the Susquehanna and Field, Hills, and Streams* about Bull Run; cabinet photos and "History of Washington Presbyterian Church" from 1926; Lewisburg Council of Churches material including Alton Motter's history of same; several First Presbyterian Church commemorative booklets and histories from 1897, 1933, 1946, and 1958; real photo postcards of two Lewisburg personalities: Martin Hahn, and John Reamer with pet goose, Lewis Township high school graduates from 1909; 11 large cabinet photos taken by Ginter or Cornelius in the late 1870s of the Camping Association including the African-American Reeler family; Pike School cabinet photos, Ray's Church photos from 1885-1966; carte de visite of Simon Cameron by Ginter; 1898 Lewisburg Cemetery charter and bylaws by George Miller; 1880 Lewisburg Business Directory; Complete Directory and Post Office Guide for Lewisburg and Four Rural Routes, 1911, and Union County Postmasters written by Charles Steese in 1949; and a large framed 1856 map of Union County.
Also received were ledgers from the Andrew Gregg Tucker Post #52 of the GAR 1867-1890; diaries of Elisha Shorkley (1859 -1866) and George Shorkley (1862-65) and related letters from 1861-65 and 1870-1885 as well as information of his Arctic trip in 1902-03; bylaws of Knights Templar; Life and Death in Rebel Prisons (1865); other Shorkley material and Jasper Lyndall Brady's Civil War scrapbook of news clippings from 1863-1864 including a broadside from the White Deer Woolen Mills.

Gifts continued

- Also received were land deeds of the parts of Northumberland that were later Union County from the 1760s-1820s;
- daybooks of James Geddes, saddle maker from 1807 and guardian for numerous Lewisburg young people 1826-1864; papers of Ludwig and George Derr; papers for the Lewisburg Debate Society 1838; papers for and against Lewisburg's going "wet" vote of 1953;
- 1830 section drawing for the Lewisburg canal; 1884 map of Lewisburg; call for turn out for enlistments in the Civil War in 1862, for a GAR reunion in 1910, and for a program about Gettysburg at the Old Opera House, undated.

Land deeds or other material pertinent to other areas were given to Northumberland, Columbia, and Clinton County historical societies, as it is our custom to transfer non-Union County material to the correct and best repository.

EXHIBITS AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

The showcase outside the Society's office features items from our collection. Currently on display are items from Grover and Brothers store (such as this great vintage photo), donated by Society member George Reish.



Monthly Exhibits in the Union County Courthouse

lobby feature items from the collections of courthouse staff. Thus far we have enjoyed matchbooks, fly-tying, patriotic Longaberger baskets, Boyds bears, tea sets and fairies, cookie jars, and toy tractors with articles from Zeigler's store.

Be sure to see these interesting collections when you visit the Society or other courthouse offices.



CIVIL WAR BOOKS available from the Society

The Civil War Remembered, published in 2011 by the National Park Service, US Dept. of the Interior, was "designed to provide a measure of understanding of this most momentous era of our history." This well-done book contains essays by noted historians and is fully illustrated with vintage photos, and maps. A wonderful overview of this terrible war. A great value at \$12.

Union County and the Civil War, by Betty Cook of Lewisburg, is a nice collection of articles, line drawings, and photos highlighting the involvement of Union County residents in this national struggle. Price is \$10.80 for UCHS members.

Underground Railroad, published by the National Park Service, US Dept. of the Interior, 1998, was prepared as "an interpretive handbook on the Underground Railroad in the larger context of American antebellum society, including the history of slavery and abolitionism." The collection of essays, photos, and maps provides important insight into our history. Priced at only \$10.

PEOPLE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

VOLUNTEERS

Heartfelt thanks to our Friday Volunteers Judith Blair, Jack Fisher, David Goehring, Tom Greaves, Marj Kastner, Glenda Sheaffer, and Jack Spooner, and computer advisor Tom Egan.

We especially thank researchers Jack Fisher - who specializes in land searches, Glenda Sheaffer - who does family genealogies, and Mary Belle Lontz - who is currently researching the Civil War, for their invaluable help.

Got time? Volunteers to staff the office on Fridays are always welcome - learn about local history while assisting visitors with research and helping on office projects.

Volunteers are needed on the Education Committee (plan or participate in programs for students), Program Committee (select topics and speakers), and Bicentennial Planning Committee. Also, if you like to scrapbook, we could use your help. Please give us a call.

Become an active part of your Society!

New Treasurer

Kim Ranck of Lewisburg was selected as Treasurer of the UCHS board at a special meeting in March 2011. She fills the position vacated by Dave Milne that was temporarily filled by Andrea Bashore. We thank Andrea for filling in, and welcome Kim to the board.

Kim brings much experience to the position from her professional work at Mifflinburg Bank & Trust, and varied community involvement.

Paul Ernst

The Society is saddened by the passing of long-time life member Paul Ernst of Lewisburg. Paul served on the board from 1988 to 1990 and as treasurer from 1991 to 2005. He was a great source of information on local history, as well as a committed volunteer for school bus tours and on many other Society projects. In addition to his involvement at the Society, Paul worked with many other community groups over the years.



Education Coordinator's Report

by Linda Estupinan Snook

The 2010 - 2011 school presentations at Linntown, Lewisburg, went really well. The teachers love the "Women in the Revolutionary War" presentation because there are many more women than are referenced in the textbooks.

The Red Bank School was spectacular in terms of learning - I have some wonderfully thoughtful thank you notes. The children memorized a short poem by Lord Byron, played with rocks and tin cans and were interested in the lesson and the experience. Linntown is planning to use Red Bank School as a field trip. I developed a lesson on the development and history of The Pledge of Allegiance, which will serve for future classes.

Mifflinburg Intermediate School enjoyed the fall walking tour and we are on again for the fall of 2011. I have met several times with Principal Scott Zimmerman who discussed restructuring due to school closings and upgrade of the curriculum. I am currently working on lesson plans on the War of 1812 and the Civil War, which has not been taught in these grades. Needless to say, I am thrilled!

The Buggy Museum will remain on the bus tour, and there will be a little longer presentation in the museum at the end of the walking tour.

"Dr. Christ" (Tom Stickley) did a fine job presenting to the children at Slifer House Victorian Camp. Dr. Christ and three of the nurses from Lewisburg marched in the Lewisburg Parade.

I am so looking forward to the next school year. The guidebook and CD for the teachers will be ready for September.

Interested in being a school bus tour guide? It's great fun! Please contact Linda at 966-0756 (H), 966-5052 (W) or malynda@dejazzd.com

Changes to the UCHS Board of Directors

Proposed slate of officers for UCHS board 2012:
for president: Jeannette Lasansky
for vice president: Deb Wehr
for board terms ending 2014: Lois Huffines,
Gary Spangler and Sharon Lynch.
Continuing on the board are David Goehring,
Tom Greaves, Sue Mapes, Diane Meixell
(secretary), Kim Ranck (treasurer), Duain Shaw,
Jeff Spotts, and Steve Wilver.

The slate of officers and board members will be voted on at the Society meeting/program on September 11 at the New Columbia Civic Center.

The Dale/Engle/Walker Property by Jeannette Lasansky

If you can envision your home being readied for nearly two thousand spring and summer visitors, then you will be able to understand what our members and friends have accomplished since early April when the work was undertaken.

Society and Linn Conservancy members, and Bucknell students (from Chi Omega and Kappa Alpha Theta sororities primarily) came together for a spring work morning on April 2, supervised by UCHS member Bill Deitrick. Gary Spangler, Geoff Goodenow, Carl Oberheim, Ben Hoskins, Mark & Deb Wehr, Steve Wilver, Duain Shaw, and I joined forces to tackle Dale's Ridge trail and house related work: lane repair, scraping painted surfaces, clearing invasive species along an upper trail section, removing winter debris from the house site and hillside, spreading mulch on garden areas, and building the frames for Deb Wehr to establish a raised bed garden of potatoes, scallions, and more for Rural Heritage Days.

In late May, more mulch was brought in for Roxy Carl who maintains and plants the tiered gardens between the wagon shed and the house. She makes the site look really good. Eric Imgrund put a day into decommissioning the original hand dug well that had gone dry in the winter of 2010. Billy Deitrick has kept us mowed and Becky Mapes, our student summer intern, does weekly outside chores so we look good.

Eagle Scout projects continue at the property, primarily focusing on the plantings on the ridge side behind the house. Bill Deitrick is supervising Ben Radel's work this summer. At the house itself, volunteer professional painter Jim Arndt repainted the porch floor, railings, and posts. He had done some interior walls over the winter while I touched up interior trim. Karen Kline came late May, after the school tours were complete, to dust, vacuum, and wash all floors while Fred Wert put in some gutter guards to alleviate clogged down spouts. Never a dull moment.

Others worked on new exhibits for the summer and fall: "Meeting of Cultures."

When this home was built in 1793, the region was settled by English/Scots-Irish and Pennsylvania German immigrants. Samuel Dale and his wife, Ann Futhey Dale, were Scots-Irish people who moved to Northumberland County from Chester County. Their social circle was primarily prosperous "English" but among their neighbors and trades people were many Pennsylvania Germans. The Dale home and its furnishings, their farm and their farming practices—all cultural traditions—include some things that were related to their Scots-Irish or "English" homeland traditions but also would have had traces of Pennsylvania-German influence. Hence, this exhibit's title, "Meeting of Cultures." We hope you come on a Sunday afternoon now through October and enjoy learning about the cultural preferences, differences, transfers, adaptations, and innovations between a family like the Dales and their neighbors. Much of what is on display has come from the Society's collection; some is from the Dennis and Mary Jo Spangler family, from Jeff Spotts, Nada Gray, Tom Greaves, and the Lasanskys, such as decorated birth certificates, blanket chests, coverlets and quilts, a Mifflinburg grandfather's clock, powder horns, samplers, and more.

On the first day of the house tour season, people stopped by to celebrate our 10th anniversary of owning and operating this important place. We look forward to the next decade and sharing it with our friends and neighbors.

Come to *Rural Heritage Days* at the Dale/Engle/Walker House, August 10-13 to enjoy the farm animals, demonstrations and activities that celebrate the rich rural heritage of Union County, Pennsylvania.

EXHIBIT: A Meeting of Cultures: Pennsylvania Germans and Their "English" Neighbors



The theme of cultural viewpoints is expressed in crafts like basket and quilt making, in house furnishings such as blanket chests, clocks, and chairs, and in topics like inheritance traditions and even slavery. The Dales were Scots-Irish and had many Pennsylvania-German neighbors so they experienced a cultural mix of ideas as did many in Union County from the late 1700s to the mid-1800s.



Union County Historical Society
Union County Courthouse
South Second & St. Louis Streets
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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

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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.