

Union County Historical Society

"Preserving the Past for the Future"

Summer and Fall 2012



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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A TITANIC EVENT

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CALENDAR of EVENTS

Sundays 2 - 4 PM through October 28, 2012

Tours of the Dale/Engle/Walker House

Exhibits: The War to End Slavery

The Evolution of Lighting

August 15, 16, 17, 18

Rural Heritage Days

August 30, 7:15 PM

**Mifflinburg Photographs,
Grover Bierly and the Photography of His Time**

September 9, 2 PM

Discussion and book signing

Mifflinburg and the West End

September 16, 1-2:30 PM

A Titanic Event

October 11, 7 PM

Warren Dietrich's Milk Route

October 15, 2 PM

Discussion and book signing

Mifflinburg and the West End

November 8, 6 PM

Annual John B. Deans Dinner and Program

Penns Creek Arks



**UNION COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

2012 OFFICERS & BOARD
Jeannette Lasansky, President
Deb Wehr, Vice President
Diane Meixell, Secretary
Kim Ranck, Treasurer
David Goehring
Tom Greaves
M. Lois Huffines
Sharon Lynch
Duain Shaw
Gary Spangler
Mary Jo Spangler
Jeffrey Spotts
Steve Wilver



Welcome New Members

who have joined since January 2012
Timothy Bittner, Lewisburg, PA
Louise Clapp, Aguilar, CO
Diane Lengle, New Berlin, PA
Nancy Remy, Mansfield, PA
Robert Ryan, Lewisburg, PA
John Walker, Dubois, PA

Welcome New Life Members

Linda S. Lynn, Lewisburg, PA
John Dersham, Fort Payne, AL

Thank you to Members and Friends

Jerilyn Reniger for unrestricted donation;
Elvin & Charlotte Z. Reiff for donation for
research by Jack Fisher;
Nada Gray, Jeannette Lasansky and
Diane Meixell for donations for
transcriptions of Shorkley diaries;
Nancy Crook, Del & John Kennedy and
Diane Meixell for donations for Fleece to
Shawl demonstration; and
Playworld for donation for
Rural Heritage Days Children's Day

Thank you

Dr. Charles Clark and Martha Gibson,
Mike & Carol Manbeck,
Dr. Sheila Phipps,
Alice Savidge, Terence Tran,
Carole Turner and Harold Wefer
for donations in memory of
Elizabeth "Betty" Bears



Looking Both Back and Forward

From my experience, historical societies excel when they look both forward as well as back—the latter being what we are accustomed to expect.

The Union County Historical Society has done a great job of collecting, caring for, making available, and interpreting the county's history to residents and visitors of all ages through its school tours, regularly scheduled programs, exhibits, symposia, special events like *Rural Heritage Days* and Black History Month, workshops, and publications. We have a publishing history since 1968 second to none in the Commonwealth.



The courthouse office, staffed by a combination of paid personnel, volunteers, and Bucknell interns, is home to a wide variety of original documents, microfilmed material, printed reference material, hundreds of oral history/tradition tapes, and images, for those researching on site or from a distance. The staff is experienced at using other materials in courthouse offices and helps researchers and genealogical visitors to find the answers to their questions.

All of this we do with the backing of our members, friends - including businesses and organizations, county offices, and the Union County Commissioners. We are all part of a team preserving and interpreting our collective past, enjoying what the present offers, and now, more than ever, looking forward as we approach our bicentennial in 2013. An article that appears in this newsletter informs you of the change in our recently refurbished office - in terms of creature comfort in a bright new environment; and the latest in technology presents dramatic change in research as well as dissemination of digitized information.

Forward thinking has been made possible through a bequest from Mary Ruhl Maher's estate, and solicited underwriting of office improvements by her daughter, Eleanor Rawitz, her niece Jean Ruhl, office volunteer David Goehring (and his wife Anne), and yours truly. In the future, you may wish to come forward to make a need and a wish become a reality for the UCHS and those it serves. Don't hesitate in coming forward when you can and in saying "yes," when asked. Gifts given while we can see them at work are doubly beneficial, and gift giving through bequests have another type of legacy—a standard for our children, friends, and fellow history buffs. Bequests often surprise us with that extra financial lift to the organization in looking toward the future as we collect, preserve, and interpret Union County's past.

Jeannette Lasansky, President

**9th ANNUAL RURAL HERITAGE DAYS: 18th-Century Science
at the Dale/Engle/Walker House
1471 Strawbridge Road, Lewisburg, PA 17837**

On Wednesday, August 15, Noon – 4 PM

Fun afternoon for children and adults

What is a treadle machine and "How does it work?" ~ Make a corn husk dolly to take home ~ Ride a pony or in a pony cart ~ Have a grilled hamburger or hot dog along with homemade ice cream made by Amishman Samuel Yoder ~ Sample Potato Candy ~ Participate in an 18th-century rope walk ~ See an old-time redware potter ~ Learn how to make paper from clothing rags ~ Help the stone mason at the Barn Wall ~ Watch a goat being milked and see many other animals ~ Watch a spinning demonstration and lucet cord making ~ See butter being churned ~



Participate in old-fashioned games like sack races, a tug of war, bean bag toss, hoop rolling, and juggling ~ What is a Hornmaker? ~ Learn about making soap and candles ~ Visit the Wagon Shed with early farm equipment and tool sharpening demonstration ~ Make music at a campfire ~ What is a yo-yo made from fabric scraps? ~ Pound on the blacksmith's anvil ~ Visit the



1793 Hearth and see its cooking tools, and more! No admission fee.

On Thursday, August 16, 6 PM

The Architecture and Masonry of the 1793 Dale House

Walk with Mihai Epure, mason, and Ted Strosser, architect, around the outside of the Dale house, discussing architecture, structure and foundation, building tools and trades of the 18th century. No admission fee.



On Friday, August 17, 6:30 PM

Lecture and Demonstration by "Chemist Joseph Priestly"

Ron Blatchley as Joseph Priestly, the Discoverer of Oxygen, will talk about science c. 1793. Bring chairs to this outdoor event. No admission fee.

On Saturday, August 18, 10 AM - 4 PM

Full day of demonstrations and activities

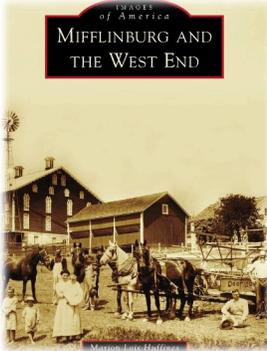
Old-time music all day including a cappella hymn singing ~ Chicken Barbecue, Potato, and Corn Roast, Watermelon and Homemade Ice Cream ~ Draft horse-drawn Wagon Rides and Plowing demonstrations ~ Pony Rides ~ Open-fire cooking and tasting of breads and meats ~ Potato candy making ~ Binding and threshing of oats with steam engines ~ Hit-and-miss engines making shingles, turning on a lathe, and more ~ Blacksmith demonstrations ~ Caning early chairs ~ Participate in an 18th-century rope walk ~ Old-time redware potter ~ Stone mason at work on the Barn Wall ~ Farrier shoeing a horse ~ Fire starting from spark ~ Gunsmith ~ Hornmaker ~ Lead ball making ~ Rye straw hatmaker ~ Fabric Yo-Yo making ~ Exhibits: *The War to End Slavery* and *The Evolution of Lighting* with mini lectures on "From candles and pig grease to LEDs" ~ Sewing Machines as they developed and hooked rug displays ~ Surveying demonstrations ~ Dulcimer playing ~ Wagon Shed with vehicles, 19th-century farm tools and equipment including tool sharpening demonstration ~ And more! \$4 donation per vehicle.



NEWS

Latest Arcadia Publications

NEW! *Mifflinburg and the West End* by M. Lois Huffines, tells 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. The photographs represent the combined resources of the Union County Historical Society, the Mifflinburg Buggy Museum, and private collections.



This is the third in a four-book series for the Union County Bicentennial. It is sure to evoke memories and more than a few sighs about older times in Union County, in the same way that *Lewisburg* and *River Towns* enchant their readers.

Lois Huffines will hold a series of book signings and discussions. The book can also be purchased at the Society office (M-F 8:30-4:30), the Dale/Engle/Walker House (Sundays 2-4 PM) or ordered. Price is \$21 (members) or \$23 (non-members) including PA tax; shipping is \$5.

***Mifflinburg and the West End* Discussion and Book Signings**

Sunday, September 9 at 2:00
at the Hartley Township Community Center
1724 State Road 235, Laurelton, PA

Monday, October 15 at 2 PM
at the West End Library, Laurelton
45 Ball Park Road, Laurelton, PA

Author Lois Huffines will talk about researching this new addition to our Arcadia book series on Union County history.

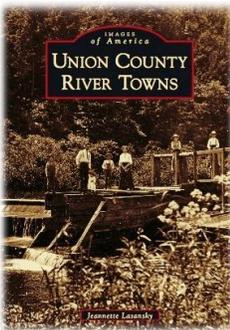
Mifflinburg and the West End includes hundreds of photos, many never published before. The detailed captions convey the history of the borough of Mifflinburg and the small towns of the West End of Union County.

Copies of *Mifflinburg and the West End*, as well as *Lewisburg* and *Union County River Towns* will be available for purchase.

NOTE: Price for each Arcadia book is \$21 for UCHS members and \$23 for non-members. If ordering more than one book, shipping cost is \$5 plus \$1 for each additional book mailed to the same address.

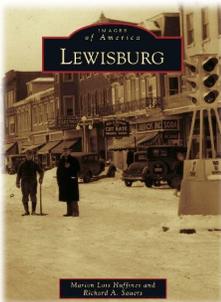
***Union County River Towns*,**

by Jeannette Lasansky, covers the history of Allenwood and nearby Spring Gardens, Devitt's Camp, and Alvira; White Deer, New Columbia, West Milton and Central Oak Heights, and Winfield through text and 220 historic images. A wonderfully informative book.



Lewisburg by M. Lois Huffines

(of the Union County Historical Society) and Richard Sauers (of the Packwood House Museum), shows the history of Lewisburg, Kelly Township and East Buffalo Township from earliest beginnings until recent times, through wonderful period photographs, and text. A great book for reference and for gift-giving!



OLD PICTURES NOW BEING SOUGHT
of Dry Valley, Dice, White Springs,
Vicksburg, Buffalo Crossroads, Cowan,
Forest Hill, Red Bank, and Rand, for the
fourth pictorial history book on Union County,
to be published in summer 2013, for the
Union County Bicentennial Celebration.

Photographs and/or postcards, dating prior to 1976, are requested of family reunions and community events, businesses, parades, school classes, sports events and other topics of interest from these towns.

Images can be brought to the Society office in the county courthouse, 103 S. Second Street, Lewisburg, M - F 8:30-4:30 (except noon to 1:00). Photos and postcards may be donated or loaned.

Please contact us at 570-524-8666 or hstoricl@ptd.net to discuss this opportunity to share your photos with others.

Latest Heritage Publication

African Americans in Union County: Slave and Free is the latest in the biennial Heritage series published by the Union County Historical Society.



African Americans in Union County: Slave and Free

Union County Historical Society
Lewisburg, Union County, Pennsylvania

In this new book, Bruce Teeple discusses slavery and abolition in Pennsylvania, Jeannette Lasansky writes about slaves and slaveholders in Union County, and Sam Alcorn recounts West Virginia slave Charles Bell's flight to freedom.

Catherine Hastings gives insight into the lives of African Americans in our area in the 19th and early 20th centuries. A list of African American gravesites in Lewisburg Cemetery is included.

As we continue to remember the Civil War - fought 150 years ago - it is interesting to read about local history, people and events.

This new Heritage book is free with 2012 Society membership.

MEMBERS: If you have not yet picked up your copy, please stop in the UCHS office to get your book. Order additional copies at \$13.50 members' price (+6 % tax for PA residents). Shipping is \$4.

ACCOUNTS ~ Looking for Stories

The Spring issue of your Society's free, on-line journal, ACCOUNTS, is now available on the Historical Society's website:

www.unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org.

You'll find six fascinating and lively essays by your neighbors and friends.

ACCOUNTS isn't reserved for scholars and historians. It's a community resource, where interesting information about the history of our county and its people is preserved. Surely you know things about a building, a family history, a business, an event, a photograph, or a person that ought to be remembered. Sketch out an essay and send it to me.

Do you know someone I should invite to do an essay? Just send me the name, address, and potential subject and I'll take it from there.

Are you uncertain about your writing skills? I am happy to work with you, starting with an idea, an outline, or a draft. Together we can assemble an essay that will inform and enrich the readers of ACCOUNTS.

As of now there are still a couple of slots in the Fall issue and lots of space in the 2013 issues. Send me a note, or call me, and your worthwhile essay will start to take shape.

Thanks,

Tom Greaves, Editor,
ACCOUNTS of Union County History
greaves@bucknell.edu; 570-523-8880

2013 Calendar

Presented by
The Union County Historical Society



2013 CALENDAR

The 2013 calendar contains wonderful photos of Lewisburg, Mifflinburg, Millmont, Cowan, Mazeppa, Allenwood, Buffalo Crossroads, White Deer and Laurelton. Depicted are children, stores, mills, a lunch room and auto business; street scenes and farm yard.

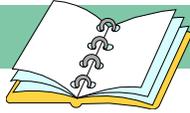
Members' price is \$5 (plus 6% tax for PA residents). Shipping is \$2.

RARE BOOKS

We have one each of the following out-of-print *Heritage* books available for sale: 1976 and 1994 at \$25 each.

We also have two of each of these hard-to-find Oral Traditions books: *Made of Mud* @ \$120 (new on Amazon @ \$184); *Central Pennsylvania Redware Pottery* @ \$120 (new on Amazon @ \$199); *To Cut, Piece and Solder* @ \$80 (not available new on Amazon).

First come, first serve! Contact UCHS office at 570-524-8666 / hstoricl@ptd.net if interested.



CALENDAR

Sundays from 2 - 4 PM now through October
Tours and Exhibits at the Dale/Engle/Walker House

Guided tours of the Dale/Engle/Walker House - a restored 18th-century limestone house with 19th-century additions - include the original c. 1793 kitchen furnished with early cooking implements, Samuel Dale's 1804 library (17th century or later copies), and interactive audio stations on Samuel Dale, and Dinah. The Wagon Shed has an extensive exhibit of vintage farm tools, vehicles and equipment, and the Milk House has a dairy display.



"The War to End Slavery" exhibit - on the Underground Railroad, the Sanitary Fair Commission, and local people who served in the Civil War - features diaries, letters, surgical equipment, GAR materials, uniform items, and photographs. "The Evolution of Lighting" display includes early grease lamps, candles and more.

Directions: 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.

Monday, August 30, 7:15 PM

Mifflinburg

Grover Bierly and the photography of his era
at Herr Memorial Library, Market Street, Mifflinburg, PA

Lois Huffines and John Dersham will present a double program: Lois will speak about the borough of Mifflinburg, and her research for *Mifflinburg and the West End*, the latest in our Arcadia series on Union County. John Dersham will discuss Mifflinburg photographer Grover Bierly and the technology of his trade in the early 1900s. Bierly photographs are in the Society's collection, depicting scenes, houses and residents of the county.

This program is free and open to the public. Attendees are invited to share recollections of Mifflinburg and western Union County history.

Sunday, September 16, 1:00 - 2:30 PM

A Titanic Event

at The Campus Theatre, Market Street, Lewisburg, PA

The Historical Society will host Tom Badman's superb presentation on the sinking of the Titanic, one of the most compelling maritime stories of the twentieth century. Badman will also display part of his extensive collection of Titanic memorabilia.

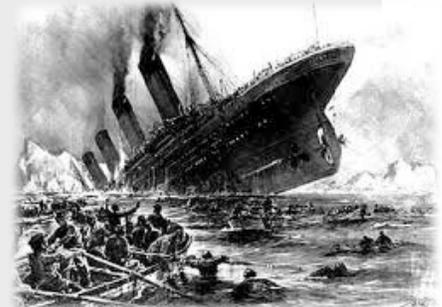
A buffet of light refreshments will represent the food served on the ill-fated ship, and period music will set the mood.

Crew tickets are \$5 for those under age 21; Third Class tickets are \$10 for those 21 years or older; Second Class is \$18 (with surprise perk at the theatre).

First Class tickets at \$30 entitle attendees to sit with Titanic survivors "Emma Bucknell," wife of Bucknell University's William Bucknell, and "the unsinkable Molly Brown," American philanthropist and activist. The first thirty to send in their reservations for First Class tickets will get a replica Titanic brass key fob.

Ticket holders in the Millionaire's Circle, at \$100, will sit with the great financier "John Jacob Astor" who did not survive the Titanic's sinking. Those in the Millionaire's Circle will also receive a souvenir copy of the NY Times of April 16, 1912.

Tickets are available from the Union County Historical Society office in the Union County Courthouse, 103 S. 2nd Street, Lewisburg, PA 17837. Please include with your check, the number in your party and "ticket class." **Reserve early for this exciting event.**



Thursday, October 11, 7 PM
Warren "Short" Dietrich's Milk Route
Cowan Lutheran Church Social Hall, Church Road, Cowan, PA

Mark Wehr will talk about his childhood memories of helping his uncle, Warren "Short" Dietrich on his milk route. His talk reminds us of early times of large milk cans delivered on open milk trucks, spring houses for cooling, and local dairying practices. Mr. Wehr is a native of Mifflinburg. He was a dairy farmer himself, and for the past 16 years he has been a regional salesperson for dairy equipment. He has seen, first hand, the process of change in the dairy business over many years.

The program is free and open to the public. Directions: from Route 15 in Lewisburg, take Route 192 west to Cowan, cross the bridge, turn left onto Church Road.

Thursday, November 8, 6 PM
Annual John B. Deans Dinner and Program
Penns Creek Arks
at the Carriage Corner Restaurant, Mifflinburg

Penns Creek once served as an important means of transportation for goods leaving western Union County en route to the Susquehanna River and points south.

Earl E. Brown will present a program on this waterway and the boats known as "Penns Creek Arks." Brown is a retired Marine officer and Naval Aviator. He has published on water commerce in colonial America and has directed studies for the national government.

This informative program will follow a buffet dinner, and awards presentations for contributions by individuals or groups for historic preservation and service. A Silent Auction - of books and other items of interest - will be held during the Social time preceding dinner.

Local members will receive reservation forms for the dinner/program in the mail. Others interested in attending can contact the Society at 570-524-8666 or hstoricl@ptd.net.

OFFICE RENOVATIONS!

Thanks to the vision and efforts of the courthouse maintenance staff, especially Colin Clayberger and Merle Swartz, and the generosity of the county commissioners, our office is renewed, refreshed, AND LARGER! How is that possible? You'll have to come in and see.

We have new carpeting, freshly painted walls, new ceiling and lights, new bookcases and chairs, and most important, more space for our visitors.

In addition, we have a new microfilm reader that converts film to digital copy (on new PC); it is much easier to use than the old reader. Purchase of the reader was made possible through a bequest from the Mary Maher fund. The Society has census and tax records, manufacturers indexes, and newspapers on microfilm.



Before: too much stuff in a small space.



After: Wally has room to work at the research table, and Becky files the mail in the opened-up staff area.



COLLECTIONS



Archives & Museum Committee by Jeff Spotts

Not to ruin the surprise, but members attending the Society's *Rural Heritage Days* events in August will see firsthand how "technology" changed the early, rural Union County farm and 18th-century living. Technology continues to evolve daily and new technology is impacting the efforts of the Archives and Museum Committee in two very interesting ways.

First, the Committee has successfully transferred its collections data from a legacy system into Past Perfect software that is now being used to capture pertinent information about the collection and new acquisitions. Two laptop computers are devoted to this endeavor, although there is a bit of irony in entering information about vintage and antique items into software via a laptop computer. We have a sophisticated system that will allow us to better carry out our mission.

Second, the internet and its resources have brought new opportunities to further build the collection. The number of Union County items purchased from several hundred or thousand miles from home continues to grow.

Such efforts to meaningfully add to the collection cannot occur without financial support from our members and the tax deductible donations that we continue to receive. We take this opportunity to thank recent donors, tell our members about exciting finds and encourage your continued support. To learn more about making a tax deductible gift to our Committee, or Society, as a whole, please feel free to contact the Society's office via telephone at 570-524-8666, and focusing again on technology, via e-mail to: hstoricl@ptd.net.

Recent purchases include:

Porcelain watering can c. 1906 from Bucknell's Physical and Chemical Engineering Lab; milk bottle cap opener for C.E. Stimeling dairy; pencil for Steininger's Restaurant, Lewisburg; 1963 calendar for Strickler Grocery, Glen Iron; commemorative items from the Federal Correctional Facility at Allenwood.

Real photo postcards including "the Store" at Central Oak Heights, WWI homecoming parade, White Deer Hotel and iron bridge, Pennsylvania House furniture advertising card, Spring Garden and Glen Iron covered bridges in 1930s, and interior of Mifflinburg Lutheran Church; leather Bucknell postcard from 1906; cabinet photos from New Berlin and Dry Valley.

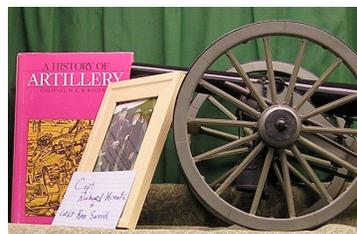
Advertising for Sheffer's in White Deer on ice cream dish and spoon; Raymond Beachy exterior thermometer; comb from Donahoe's Furniture; staple holder from Pleasant View egg farm; and pens from Busser Supply, Lewisburg, and Dr. John Holman.

Advertising rulers from Ruhl's Rental and Shuler & Alder; invoice from Winfield Roller Mills; 1930s CCC book of Hugh Seger; and Alvira post card with tinsel.

Real photo postcards of Glen Iron and Alvira bridges, and Allenwood horse and wagon; Central Pennsylvania College (New Berlin) catalog; 1859 Bucknell diary; Devitt's Camp and New Berlin blue sky and real photo cards.



UCHS office display of Recently acquired items , including some great local advertising pieces.



Courthouse Collections Exhibit

Each month the county courthouse lobby has a "collection" display by UCHS members or courthouse staff. Society members are invited to join the 2013 exhibit schedule. Please tell us what you collect and which month you would like to exhibit. We will accept exhibitors on a first-come basis. Contact the Society at 524-8666 or hstoricl@ptd.net.



We thank the following for these gifts to the collection:

- Betty Jane Mincemoyer: 80 old school books for the Red Bank School, Herbert E. Stover's *Pennsylvania: A History of Our State*, and Dorothy Judd Sickles' *Riding the Air*, a book from the Trutt School
- Bill Clemens: New Columbia 2012 calendar;
- Terri Stump, author: *New Columbia*;
- George Faries, Jr.: framed photo of Medical detachment of 190th Field Artillery (Lewisburg) 1942;
- William Koons: framed diploma of Katherine Roush (Mifflinburg HS 1935);
- Jeannette & William Lasansky: Christmas ornaments made by Mifflinburg's Design Tiles of Mifflinburg architecture: the Farmers' Bank, the Heiss Coachworks and O.R. Laney's store, also by Rick Wolf etched glass ornament of the Lewisburg light standard; New Columbia ice house cast tag; large format color post cards for new Bucknell book store and campus bison; Ernest Ritter and Dr. John Holman advertising pens. For the 1804 Dale Library: William Coxe's *A View of the Cultivation of Fruit Trees* 18th century facsimile; Thomas Reid's *An Inquiry into the Human Mind* 1785 facsimile; Mary Wollstonecraft's *The Rights of Woman* 1792 facsimile, William Cowper's *Poems* reprint of 1794 edition;
- James & Lois Dale: For the 1804 Dale Library: Daniel Neal's *The History of the Puritans*, printed in Dublin in 1757;
- Lois Huffines: Mifflinburg Bank & Trust Grand Opening tile by Design Tiles of Mifflinburg in April 1996;
- Patricia Robb: Mifflinburg HS Class of 1931 50th Class Reunion booklet;
- Jane Courter: official man's Sesquicentennial bowler;
- Mike & Carol Manbeck: 1987 Mifflinburg Farm Union Bank calendar and 2011 Keystone Housewares calendar;
- David & Sally Sotirovich: *The Family Presbyterian and Good Samaritan*, New Berlin 1852;
- Jeffrey Spotts: 1960s flyers on Iron Horse train rambles; Union County Fair 1936 scorecard, reproduction of 1884 aerial map of Mifflinburg;
- Tom Styers: for the Dale/Engle/Walker wagon shed: green bone grinder, concrete block-making equipment from early 1900's, foot operated clamp, scaffolding supports, wooden rake and steel barrel rings;
- New Berlin Heritage Association: photo of Sassaman's General Store in Glen Iron in the 1940s;
- Elwood Russell: Celtrac Crawler Tractors, Lewisburg, 1944;
- Fred Blyler: c. 1920 milk jug of Boyd and Crissie Hopp, Thompson St., Mifflinburg (Boyd was the brother of A.A. Hopp the buggy manufacturer), Blyler store receipts and fuel oil receipts from WWII; West Milton United Methodist Church 85th Heritage Rally booklet of 1978;
- Doris Marino: demitasse silver spoon with engraving of 1855 Union County Court House, several poetry volumes on "Old Gap," a cabin owned by Bucknell professor and chair of Biology, Nelson Davis, used by students as a research station, located 15 miles west of Lewisburg, near the Seven Notch Mountains, plus hundreds of slides now being identified by Lois Huffines;
- Helen Jean Snook: deeds, receipt book, invoices, and advertising envelope from Snook's Mill in Mifflinburg;
- Glenda Sheaffer: two WW I medals for Stoughton J. Myers, typescript of Civil War diary of Simon Bennage; & carte d'visite of John B. Lincoln by Slear, Mifflinburg;
- Nelson Yost: 11 PA House catalogs;
- James Swartz: Lewisburg Chair and Furniture Factory scrapbook, and trademark registration certificate for Pennsylvania House;
- Phil Wagner: paper advertising bags from Bendt's, Lewisburg, and Wagner's Stationery, Lewisburg;
- Bob and Dianne Lynch: Great Western Hotel liquor license, G.C. Murphy's menus, Lewisburg Fair advertisements, 25th Anniversary booklet of Buffalo Valley Sportsmen's Association, Cedar Run School attendance record; East Buffalo Township school attendance records, and numerous calendars.



RESEARCH LIBRARY UPDATE

Added to our family books and newsletters:

Diehl, Fetter, Kleckner, Yerger, et al, *All Roads Lead to Sunbury, Book 2*, given by Oakley Mertz;
Keefer Family Association Newsletter, 2012 issues;
Millmont Times, 2012 issues to date

Added to the library:

Union County Times 2011 issues, on CD
Indexes to *Lewisburg, Union County River Towns,*
and *Mifflinburg and the West End* (Arcadia series)

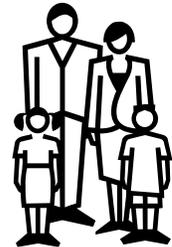
Research Services Available

Genealogical research: single document (i.e. will or obituary) to complete family history. Fees are \$5 (single document) to \$35 and up (full search) depending on the complexity of the search. **Deed search:** to earliest county record available. Includes maps of property. Fee is \$50 - \$100, negotiated on an individual basis. **DIY:** The Society staff is glad to help members and visitors do their own research.

Recent visitors to our library are looking into the following families and topics.

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

KNURR / ROTE: Sean Potochney, 2408 Waldron Way, Marriotsville, MD 21104
HAUSE: Gerald Hause, 3166 Col. John Kelly Road, Lewisburg, PA 17837
SLIFER: Joyce Moyer, 705 Market St., Apt. 713, Sunbury, PA 17801
JAMES, MARY A.: D. Allen Hornberger, 3807 Buckwheat Valley Rd., Mount Pleasant Mills, PA 17853
HUMMEL / YOUNG: Eric Brosius, 511 Duke St., Northumberland, PA 17857
VANVALZAH / WILSON / METZGER / LAWSHE: Nancy Army Pi-Sunyer, 149 Watchung Ave., Montclair, NJ 07043; npi-sunyer@comcast.net
YOUNG: John Walker, 930 W. Long Avenue, Dubois, PA 15801; jswalker@comcast.net
KIEFFER / BECHER: Crayton Buck, 73 Dale Circle, Hammond, NY 13646
MECKLEY / KRATZER / SANDEL: Nancy Remy, 190 Wakefield Terrace, Mansfield, PA 16933
UNGARD: Robyn & Jeff Ungard, 4849 Walden Lane, Kettering, OH 45429
REISH: Amelia Fish, 24 Euclid Ave., Middletown, NY 10940
MOYER / BREINMYER: Larry & Linda Riker, 69 Cloverland Dr., Rochester, NY 14610
HERALD / HUNTINGTON: Charles Martin, 175 Valley Ht. Dr., Williamsport, PA 17701
DERR / CATHERMAN: Steve Manning, 520 Clinton St., S. Williamsport, PA 17702
PROWANT: Virginia Moss, 6446 Turnberry Is. Ct., Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202; ginny042@tampavay.rr.com
KINMAN: Rob & Ann Roberts, Box 1373, Ferndale, CA 95536; rob95536@yahoo.com
BINGAMAN: Carole Jones, 35 Ross Circle, Oakland, CA 94618
EIDEM / BILGER: Ray L. Moyer, 6 Eagan St., Pottsville, PA 17901
WILSON: James O. Stevenson, 4408 Manor Hall Lane, Fairfax, VA 22033
RAY / YOUNG: Sara Butson, 30 Ketcham Dr., Essex Jct., VT 05452; Donna Cupitt, 2334 Iris Ct., Jamison, PA 18929; and Linda Derr, 410 9th St., Selinsgrove, PA 17870
HARTMAN / RAUCH: Michele Miller-Rausch, 144 Allison, Vernon, VT 05354
CATHERMAN: Pat Wright, 14357 Garfield, Spring Lake, MI 49456; justwright0@gmail.com
KELLY, COL. JOHN: Kathy Swope, 48 Oakwood Dr., Winfield, PA 17889
WERTZ/ KOCH / HAGEY: James Robison, 324 N. Franklin St., Allentown, PA 18102; jadoro@juno.com
BINGAMAN: Arleigh Helfer, 1729 Strickland Dr., Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302
SNYDER / GARMAN / HENSINGER: Sharon Garman, 802 E. 3rd St., Auburn, IN 46706; and Mark Garman, 140 E. Spruce St., Apt. K, Selinsgrove, PA 17870
KLOSE / HARE / KLINE: Doug Long, 7606 Rd. 79, Bellevue, OH 44811
WENTZ / BECK: Peggy Wentz, 112 W. South St., Nanticoke, PA 18634
GEBHART / RUHL: Robert Stoudt, 3717 Sharon Street, Harrisburg, PA 17111
ALVIRA: Ken Lynch, 2464 State Route 44, Allenwood, PA 17810; 538-1970
CAMERON HOUSE: Duane Haggy, 211 Log Cabin Lane, Lewisburg, PA 17837
LEROY INCIDENT: David Kaler, 1700 Dighton St., Camp Hill, PA 17011; davidkaler@hotmail.com
LION'S CLUB 1940s: George Reish, 4835 S. Joplin St., Aurora, CO 80015; georgreish@aol.com
MACLAY SURVEY / SLIFER: Robert Ryan, 48 Cherrywood Dr., Lewisburg, Pa 17837; 524-5480



PEOPLE MAKE A DIFFERENCE: Forthcoming Elections of the Society

This year's Nominations Committee has formulated the slate of candidates below for office and board positions and recommends their election. The slate will be presented by the President at the Society's September 9th meeting in Hartley Township. She will call for any further nominations from members present, and will then ask for a vote. Those elected begin their terms following the November, 2012 meeting of the Society's Board of Directors.

For Secretary: Lois Huffines, serving Nov. 2012 – Nov. 2014

For Treasurer: Kim Ranck, serving Nov. 2012 – Nov. 2014

For the Board: Sid Dreese, Mary Jo Spangler and Kathy Brady, serving Nov. 2012 – Nov. 2015

Lois Huffines retired in 2007 as Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs at Bucknell University and Professor of German and Linguistics. Lois received her Ph.D. in Germanic Linguistics from Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana. During her tenure at Bucknell, her research focused on the Pennsylvania German dialect and how it changed over time because of its contact with English. Using Pennsylvania German as an example, she studied the linguistic process of how a language dies. Since her retirement, Lois has served as President of the Lewisburg Kiwanis Club, and two terms as the President of the Union County Historical Society. She chairs the Society's Publications Committee.

Kim Ranck is a Lewisburg native and a graduate of Lewisburg Area High School. She received a B.S. in Business Administration from Susquehanna University. She is also a graduate of Leadership Susquehanna Valley. Kim is a career banker and is currently the Manager of the Lewisburg Office of Mifflinburg Bank & Trust. She has been the Treasurer of the Society since January 2011. Kim lives in Kelly Township with her husband Steven. In her spare time she is active in her church and the Penn State Master Gardeners program.

Sidney Dreese resides in Camp Hill, grew up in Mifflinburg, and graduated from Mifflinburg High School. He graduated from Clarion University of Pennsylvania with a B.S. in Education, from Drexel University with a Masters in Library Science, and from Pennsylvania State University with a Masters in American Studies. The title of his thesis was "A Civil War Home Front Study: The Mifflinburg Telegraph Tells the Story." He is the Director of the College Archives and Special Collections at Albright College. His interests include reading, genealogy, and the Civil War era.

Mary Jo Spangler lives in New Berlin with her husband Dennis. She is part of a fourth generation dairy operation producing milk, crops and electricity. The house they live in is one of the original establishments in the valley - a stone house that was constructed in the 1750's. Surrounded by this rich history, Mary Jo enjoys genealogy, collecting antiques and the preservation of local history. She is an active member of the *Rural Heritage Days*, Program and Archives & Museum committees, was a prior Board member, and is currently serving on the Board filling an unexpired term.

Kathy Taylor Brady of New Berlin is a native of Rand in West Buffalo Township and a graduate of Mifflinburg Area High School. She graduated from Bloomsburg University with a degree in Elementary Education. After teaching for ten years, she worked for the USPS, retiring as Postmaster of New Berlin in 2010. Kathy is a member of the New Berlin Heritage Association. Her interests include church and community activities, crocheting and boating. She volunteered at children's day and Saturday activities for 2011 Rural Heritage Days.

The Nominations Committee wishes to thank those members who suggested names for us to consider, and these five candidates who, if elected, agree to serve the Society for the coming term of office. *Tom Greaves, Chair, Gary Spangler, and Mark Wehr*

BYLAWS REVISIONS

The board has approved Bylaws revisions (posted on our website) which bring our Bylaws into conformity with our current practices. These changes will be presented for vote by members attending our September 9, 2012 meeting. Revisions such as those proposed are voted on from time to time since they were first drawn up in the 1960s.

Researchers and "Friday" Volunteers

We are grateful for the research provided by Jack Fisher and Glenda Sheaffer, who also volunteer in our office on Fridays. We appreciate the research and indexing provided by Mary Bell Lontz. And we thank Judith Blair, David Goehring, Tom Greaves and Marj Kastner for staffing the office on Fridays.

Are you interested in genealogy or local history? Why not volunteer in the Society office once a month on Fridays, assisting visitors with research and helping on office projects. Training is provided. Please give us a call. **Get involved!**

Notes from Summer Interns Rebecca Jane Mapes and Walter Watkins

"Working at the Historical Society has taught me a lot about the value of history first hand. Over the past two summers I have learned a lot about doing research, especially genealogy research. It is really interesting to find people's family history, and as a result I have started doing my own. I love working with the office ladies, Wally, and the volunteers, which is always a real pleasure. I have gotten to meet and help many visitors from all over the country, and that is quite a unique experience as well." *Becky*

Becky is entering her Junior year at Penn State University this Fall. She grew up in New Berlin, PA.

"As a student of history, I have thoroughly enjoyed my time here at the Historical Society. Every day has brought new mysteries and adventures. Whether it is ascending to the top of a steeple for an article (for the Daily Item) or methodically analyzing documents from the 18th century, this internship has been extremely educational, folkloric and fun!" *Wally*

Wally will be attending Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Florida this Fall. He grew up in Mount Carmel, PA, and graduated from Bucknell University in 2012.

The Dale/Engle/Walker Property by Jeannette Lasansky

The spring property cleanup on March 31 involved: four Theta Chi brothers, four Delta Upsilon brothers, two Bucknell University Young Professionals, and five Bucknell engineers; Craig & Marie Smith, as well as Ben Hoskins, Carl Oberheim, and Geoff Goodenow from the Linn Conservancy, and Mark & Deb Wehr, Steve Wilver, Bill Deitrick, and Jeannette Lasansky from the UCHS - 25 volunteers total.

On a very wet day they did general yard cleanup, extensive landscape work behind and beside the house, red shed, and corn crib, and filled lane potholes. They also trimmed areas of overgrowth, staked leaning trees at the trailhead parking lot, re-installed the Dale/Engle/Walker road sign on Strawbridge Road, filled ground hog holes in the CREP field, cleaned up a raspberry patch, and did some major Dale's Ridge Trail trimming. Some site fence painting will be done by Jeannette, and corn crib repairs by Gary Spangler later in the summer.



On April 10, Bucknell geology professor Rob Jacobs and about 20 Bucknell students began collecting data that will begin to answer questions we have about the condition of possible under-cutting on the trail around post #10.. For the students it was an opportunity to learn what geophysics is and how to collect data. The information gathering was being scheduled for a second session. No final report or recommendations have been received yet.

In late May, work began as an Eagle Scout project under the supervision of member and assistant property manager, Bill Deitrick. This project is an irrigation system for the garden area directly behind the Dale house, with donated material and labor from a number of local professionals. We will report on this project in the next newsletter including who were our business friends on this Eagle Scout initiative.

Education Coordinator's Report by Linda Estupinan Snook

The 2011-2012 school year has been a busy one. In October 2011, Mifflinburg Intermediate School students attended the one-room Red Bank School for a week. Students also took the Mifflinburg Walking Tour to learn more about their town.

A celebration honoring retired teacher Mrs. Marion Danowsky, attended by many of her former students, was held at the Red Bank School on March 22, 2012.

Our "Women in the Revolutionary War" program was presented to classes at the Linntown School in Lewisburg, and the "Civil War Women" program was offered to St. Joseph School in Danville, in March.



Home school students from Union, Snyder and Northumberland counties heard the "War of 1812" program in April, as part of their history lessons.

Linntown students participated in "The Pledge of Allegiance" lesson at the Red Bank School, and had classroom lessons on the Revolutionary War and Civil War during Pennsylvania History Day in May.

Mifflinburg students - and their teachers and tour guides - enjoyed the bus tours to historic sites in the county: New Berlin museum, Leroy Springs, Sierer House, Buffalo Crossroads Church and cemetery, Dale/Engle/Walker House, Slifer House, Grove's Mill, and Mifflinburg Buggy Museum.

We are looking forward to another great school year for 2012-2013.

When History Goes Digital by Tom Greaves



Probably every reader will remember taking pictures with a camera that used film. You bought the film, took pictures - selectively so as not to waste film and development costs - took the exposed roll to the drug store, and a week later got pictures and negatives back.

With digital cameras, which have now virtually replaced film cameras and driven Kodak into bankruptcy, the game has changed. Now you can take pictures essentially for free, deleting the bad ones but keeping, probably, several times as many pictures as you ever took on film. And why not? It costs next to nothing. Whereas at a birthday party you used to take 5 pictures, now you take 25.

Your Society maintains an extensive collection of historic photos, but our practices have been geared to the film era. We, too, need to adjust to the technology and the new ways people record events. What will we do with offers of a large number of old photos on a CD? How will we handle the volume of pictures we will surely be offered in the future? And how will we inventory them, preserve them, and catalog them so that individual pictures and topics can be readily located?

After discussion, the Board and the Archives Committee of the Society have settled on the following policy, now added to our procedures manual. We wanted to share it with you.

"The Society accepts collections of digitized photographs of relevance to its mission. Insofar as possible the following data should accompany each photo: (1) date of photo, (2) photographer, (3) location, (4) identities of persons depicted, and (5) description of what the photo depicts. When a digitized image is known to have been modified and manipulated using software, that also should be noted. Additional information, applying to a set of photos as a whole, should be added if available: (1) how the photos came to be collected, (2) how to contact the donor for further information, and (3) data on the camera settings, if known, used for particularly significant pictures. The Society prefers that the digitized photos and images be stored on a CD or DVD, but the Society will consider accepting a photo collection on another form of digital storage where necessary."

So far, the dawning of the photo digital age is too recent to include photos of historical content, but that will change. Your Society will be ready when it does.

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 throughout the year; 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

www.unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org

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NEW! Student (K-12)..... \$10

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Patron \$100

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Lifetime (individual) \$400

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please notify the Society office of any change of address. Also tell us if you are "temporarily away" (post office term); our newsletter is sent bulk rate and will not be forwarded.

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.