



UNION COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

Winter - Spring 2016

The Campus Theatre opened 75 years ago on January 17, 1941 on Market Street in Lewisburg, and it has added a vibrant excitement to downtown Lewisburg ever since.

The theatre was built by the **Stiefel brothers**, Oscar, Harold, Barney, and Morris, who had emigrated from Russia to the United States in the 1920s. Morris's son, Harold Stiefel took over managing the theatre in 1953 with his wife Jacquie. After Harold's death in 1988, Jacquie continued the family legacy. She sold the theatre to a Bucknell University film professor in 2001, who started a non-profit organization, The Campus Theatre, Ltd. The non-profit purchased the building in 2006 with assistance from Bucknell University.

In 2011, **Bucknell University** took formal ownership of the theatre, and now leases the building back to the organization for \$1 a year. Under Bucknell's leadership, the Campus Theatre has been fully refurbished, guaranteeing its continued importance as a social and economic anchor for Lewisburg's Market Street.



Many people remember Harold Stiefel fondly, seeing him often in front of the theatre, leaning against a parking meter, and greeting passersby.

Architect **David Supowitz** (1893-1964), renowned for his Revival Art Deco, specialized in theatre designs and produced the Hollywood Theatre in Atlantic City (1936) and the Goldman Theatre in Philadelphia (1946) among others. Lewisburg today proudly proclaims its Campus Theatre as one of the last of a dwindling number of single screen Art Deco movie theatres in the country. Amazingly, the majority of the theatre's original 1941 architecture, murals, and décor remain intact today.

Daniel Everett Sutton (1916-2011) specialized in architectural renderings. His drawing of the Campus Theatre shows moviegoers under the neon-lit marquee for a showing of "New Moon," a musical/romance/adventure film released by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer in 1940, directed by Robert Z. Leonard and W.S. Van Dyke, and starring Jeanette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy.



"The Campus Theatre" prints are now available – made to order from the historical society. Print size 16" x 16" is \$100; 12" x 12" is \$75.

Union County Historical Society office, 103 S. Second Street, Lewisburg, PA 17837
570-524-8666 ~ info@unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org
www.unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org



Greetings and best wishes for 2016!

Got history? You betcha! We all have a history that stretches far into the past because none of us made it into this world alone. We have individual events that we experienced; we have cultural events that we learned from those around us; and we have world events that shaped the times we live in. Of course, as we all know, things change.

It is a great time to be doing local history. Often the question occurs to us out of nowhere, "How did things get to be this way?" We might look at a building and note for the first time its architecture and ornamentation. For just that moment we are curious: Why was it built here and then? What influenced the ways it has been used? Who lived or worked there over the decades, and what was their life like? How does it affect me now? That's local history!

Come to the Union County Historical Society. Research people, places, even objects. Use the Society's resources to learn about your family and ancestors, about your home and your workplace, and about the county and community which holds you and your home as part of itself. Be a detective and investigate your past.



I hope to see you at the Historical Society's programs, dinners, and special events. Drop by the Historical Society office in the Courthouse to say "Hi" and look around. We've got history!

Lois Huffines, President

UNION COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Thanks for donations to support the society's work and Dale/Engle/Walker House from

Beth Condon, Lois Dale,
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Jerilyn Reniger, Audrey Sowka,
Mary Jo Spangler, and Susan Waggoner

Thanks to those who volunteered as guides and hosts at Dale/Engle/Walker

Elaine Campbell, David Goehring,
John Ruhl, Jeannette & William Lasansky,
Diane Lenge, Kim Ranck,
Susan Waggoner, Ardith Wilkins,
and Tour Coordinator Lori Walters

Thanks to those who decorated and staffed the society's booth at Christkindl Market

Kathy Brady, Karen Gardner, Beth Hackenberg,
Doug Hovey, Jeannette Lasansky,
Diane & Jim Lenge, Kim & Steve Ranck,
Duain & Joyce Shaw, Glenda Sheaffer,
Bruce & Michelle Teeple, Susan Waggoner,
Jamie Wagner, and Ardith Wilkins

The society's booth was beautifully arranged and busy throughout the event. It was a banner year for sales of books, DVDs, calendars, and Family Heirloom Weavers' textiles.

Thanks to our "Friday Volunteers"

Judith Blair, Kathy Brady, Jack Fisher,
David Goehring, Tom Greaves,
Beth Hackenberg, Doug Hovey, Marj Kastner,
Dan & Gloria McDavitt, Glenda Sheaffer,
Susan Waggoner and Ardith Wilkins

In addition to helping visitors to the office, volunteers take on projects such as researching courthouse and society resources (including ancestry.com), organizing books, arranging displays, looking up obits and news reports.

Are you interested in volunteering in the office on Fridays one morning or afternoon per month? Contact or visit the office.

Annual Dinner/Program and Awards Presentation

The society's annual **John B. Deans Dinner and Program** was held on Thursday, November 12 at the Carriage Corner Restaurant in Mifflinburg. A filled house enjoyed the program on "The New Berlin and Winfield Railroad, and Locomotive #2" presented by Will Sanders of Lewisburg, and Philip McMeins and Matt Crull of Midwest Central Railroad, Mount Pleasant, Iowa.

Awards for significant contributions to the appreciation and preservation of history were presented:

The Outstanding Contribution Award was presented to **Thomas P. Rich** for his development of the Union County Historical Society web site and his service to the Society for nearly 10 years as its Webmaster; for his extensive and definitive research on the county's gristmills, resulting in the 2014 *Heritage* volume, *Water-powered Gristmills of Union Country, Pennsylvania*; for gristmill related public exhibits and lectures; and for the production of "Something Different—A Working Gristmill," a film that tells the story of Grove's Mill. Tom Rich is professor emeritus of mechanical engineering at Bucknell University. He served as the dean of engineering at Bucknell for 11 years and held the Rooke Chair in the Historical and Social Context of Engineering.



Tom Rich accepts the Outstanding Contribution Award from Lois Huffines.

The Historic Preservation Award was presented to **The Gutelius House Museum** founders, staff and volunteers for their deep insights and selfless dedication to what has become an historic asset in our community. The restored little log house in the heart of Mifflinburg is now a center of activities for all ages and thus has made history come alive. Representing the Gutelius House were Jan & Jim Beckley, Kathy & Jim Ranney, Joan Campbell, Karen Fritz, and Anna Raschi.



Sharon Lynch presents the Historic Preservation award to Jan Beckley and Kathy Ranney of Gutelius House.



Jean Ruhl and Eleanor Rawitz accept the Lifetime Service Award from Jeannette Lasansky (center).

The Lifetime Service Award was presented to **Eleanor Rawitz** and **Jean Ruhl** for their lifetime commitment to preserving the history and traditions, the use of and the physical integrity of the historic Old Buffalo Church in Buffalo Crossroads, Union County, Pennsylvania.

Union County History

The latest issue of **ACCOUNTS** of Union County History is on the society website: www.unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org. **ACCOUNTS** is always free, and you will find a host of good reading within each issue. Here's a quick summary of what's inside:

- **Lois Huffines'** article reveals the origins of the film "1937 Lewisburg" and contains many stills. **Bonnie Stahl** analyses class photos from one-room schools of the county and **Beth Hackenberg** has written a personal account of her days at Buffalo Crossroads School. **Robert Dunkerly** reveals the Civil War through the graves (Union and Confederate) in Lewisburg's cemetery. **Bruce Teeple's** exploration of the droll Boonastiel stories reflects Pennsylvania "Deutsch" heritage a century ago. **Christopher Macneal** presents Part 2 of his definitive examination of the Barber houses in Union County with fine photographs and drawings. **Jeannette Lasansky** thinks about our Sense of Place in Union County and **Richard Sauers** supplies lists of businesses and institutions, many now closed, that have operated in our county.

I invite you to join your neighbors who have become **ACCOUNTS** authors. It's not as daunting as you might think. I'm here to lend a hand as you move from idea to outline to draft to final article. Let's add some of what you know to the historical record of Union County. Your own recollections, a family episode, the story of a long-gone business, a dramatic event, or a story behind a document you have can be the basis for an essay that really should be part of our county's record.

Do get in touch with your idea; and read the new issue of **ACCOUNTS**.

Tom Greaves, Editor of **ACCOUNTS**
greaves@bucknell.edu

**February Exhibit and Programs at the Dale/Engle/Walker House
1471 Strawbridge Rd., Lewisburg**

The programs and exhibits offered by the county's historical society during Black History Month this February are free of charge, open to all, and are suitable for adults and students age 9 and older.

The exhibit at the house will feature copies of primary source material that has yielded information about the area's slave and free African-Americans: handwritten letters, tax assessments, census records, wills, manumission records, sale bills, "passports," written remembrances, photographs, cemetery records, and broadsides. Some of the items are located in area county courthouses and historical societies or universities such as Cornell University. Other documents or items are still in family hands.

Directions to the Dale/Engle/Walker House: from Route 15 in Lewisburg, take Route 192 west for 1.5 miles, turn north onto Strawbridge Road and continue 1.5 miles to the site. Drive up the lane to the parking area near the house. Signs are posted.

Safe Harbor

Sunday, February 21,
exhibit opens at 1 PM, film at 2 PM

Safe Harbor, a riveting one-hour film, presents the flight to freedom of slaves on the way to Canada through the city of Erie in the northwestern-most part of Pennsylvania. Freedom was realized after crossing into Canada.

Narrated by Philadelphia storyteller Charlotte Blake Alston, *Safe Harbor* tells the story of the freedom fighters – free blacks and middle-class whites – who risked everything in support of the anti-slavery movement. The film runs approximately one hour and is recommended for all ages.

An introduction on the Federal laws of 1783 and 1850 that made people risk their lives for freedom, and the countless others who helped in their escape, will be given by historian Bruce Teeple of Centre County.

***Change in History, Change in Perspective:
Interpreting Slave Sites***

Sunday, February 28, exhibit opens at 1 PM, program at 2

History is not written in stone. Understanding the past is an ever-changing process that reflects new information, connections and contexts. This is especially true when we look at how historical sites have woven the slave experience into their narratives.

What challenges, perspectives and decisions do we face when interpreting these sites? Where are places — in the North as well as in the South — that have connections to slavery? What do these sites have in common? What unique story can each site tell us?

Join the discussion with Union County Historical Society members Bruce Teeple and Jeannette Lasansky as we examine some of these issues at the 1793 Dale House — a slave site from 1793 to 1840. Handouts on many of the sites in the Middle Atlantic states and some in the South will be available.

See the early hearth at the Dale House, where the slave Dinah, and the Dale women cooked.

***Cora, It's War: Recollections of World War II with Daisy Zimmerman Reiter*
Sunday, March 13, 3 PM**

at Riverwoods, Creative Arts Room, Lewisburg, PA

In a small town in Pennsylvania, "a resilient little girl comes of age during one of the most difficult times our country has ever known. Shortages and rationing; air raid drills and the deployment of neighbors and friends – in *Cora, It's War*...Cora vividly experiences the struggles and sacrifices of those on the home front during World War II." This memoir/novel was written by former teacher Daisy Reiter for school children, although readers of all ages enjoy it, especially those who remember the war years.

Daisy Zimmerman Reiter will discuss her book and experiences, and then lead a discussion with the audience on their remembrances of WWII and life in rural Pennsylvania during the war years. The program is free and open to all, suitable for adults and children.

Directions: From Rte 15 north of Lewisburg, take River Road (at the light opposite the hospital) to the entrance to Riverwoods. The Creative Arts Room is in the large Ridgecrest building.



"You're Still Kidding, Aren't You?"
The County History Quiz Spectacular! Round 2
Saturday, March 19, 2016 at 2 PM
at the Campus Theatre, Market Street, Lewisburg

Mifflinburg's **Kelly Walter, John Showers and Michael Sundberg** vs.
Lewisburg's **Kathy Swope, Nancy Neuman and Judy Wagner**



The epic battle between local history nerds continues! Last year, the Mifflinburg team took home the trophy as winners of the first Union County history quiz spectacular, "You're Kidding, Aren't You?" This year, the teams reassemble for a no-holds-barred rematch on the stage of the Campus Theater.

Join in as WKOK's **Mark Lawrence** again dishes out the devious questions. You'll leave laughing, and a little more up on some of the more outrageous, obscure and – yes – titillating sagas of Union County's storied past. Audience participation is encouraged. You won't believe the questions . . . Or the answers!

Doors open at 1 PM with a pre-show continuous stream of period images set to music by Stephen and Martha Huddy.

Tickets @ \$10 for adults and **\$1** for students are available beginning February 16 at West Milton State Bank; Mifflinburg Bank and Trust Company offices; the Union County Public Libraries; and The Mercantile, Market Street, Lewisburg. Tickets are also available from the Union County Historical Society, 103 South Third St., Lewisburg, during office hours Monday through Friday or by mail. On the day of the event, March 19, tickets will be sold at the Campus Theatre box office starting at 12 noon.

***Taming the Back Country: A look at the people and places
that transformed the wilds of Western Union County*** with Jonathan Bastian
Thursday, April 14, 6 PM
Program and Dinnner at the Union County Sportsmen's Club, Weikert, PA

While the American West had multiple mass migrations of settlers seeking new opportunities for prosperity, the West End of Union County had its own westward migration. The West End is a natural resource hot zone. While coal was king and not found in Union County, lumber was queen and this county had miles of virgin timber. Pardee and Laurelton both became home to important logging operations which brought jobs and immigration to the quiet and sparsely populated region of Penn's Woods. But the logging came at a price. The cost was greater than any person in Union County could afford. All too often it cost the lives of fathers, sons and brothers who risked their life or at least limb to provide for their families.



Pardee Lunber Company workers

Join us on an exploration of *Taming the Back Country* by looking at the people and places that transformed the wilds of Western Union County. This program provides an opportunity to step back in time and into the shoes of the men and women who made Pardee, Laurelton and Weikert an important chapter in the story of the American industrial era and ultimately what it is today.

The **program by Jonathan Bastian**, researcher and speaker on West End lumbering history, follows a buffet dinner at the Sportsmen's Club.

Reservation forms will be sent to local members in March. Others interested in attending, please contact the Society at 570-524-8666 or info@unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org.

UPCOMING > A History of the Ku Klux Klan in Central Pennsylvania on Thursday, May 12, at 7 PM at the Public Library for Union County, Reitz Blvd., Lewisburg.

Presentation and discussion with historian Bruce Teeple of Aaronburg. Registration requested: call the library at 570-523-1172. Watch for program details on our website.

Buffalo Presbyterian Church at Buffalo Cross Roads – “Old Buffalo” Church – organized 1773

Among the early pioneers who pushed westward from the east coast of America were Scots-Irish Presbyterians who settled in what is now Union County, Pennsylvania. These pioneers established churches along their route of settlement, about 10 miles apart (evident in the nearby churches of Chillisquaque, Warrior Run and Old Buffalo). Each location had a supply of water from a spring, and some of the churches are thusly named: Silver Spring, Big Spring, Falling Spring.

In 1773 the Presbyterians in Buffalo Valley began meeting at a centrally located place in the woods near a spring. These settlers were called the “Buffaloe Congregation,” for nearby Buffalo Creek. The first church building was a log structure on the north side of Meeting House Road (now Route 192), across from the present cemetery. Soon after the log church was built, Native American raids forced most of the settlers to flee. After the Native Americans left, the congregation returned to use their log church.

In 1816 the log church was replaced by a larger stone church on the south side of the current Route 192 (now the cemetery site). The stone church was replaced in 1846 by the present

brick structure, with stones from the 1816 church used in the foundation and part of the cemetery wall.

Worshippers came from all parts of Union County to attend Buffalo Church. At maximum the 273 members almost filled the church. But as various towns were

established, church members wanted to build churches in the new communities. Buffalo Church earned the name “Mother of Churches” because from its original membership five new Presbyterian churches were established:

Mifflinburg (1819); Bethel-Washington, Allenwood (1831); Laurel/Hartleton (1832); Lewisburg (1833) and New Berlin (1841). By 1919, the last members transferred to the Lewisburg church. Except for semi-annual reunions, “Old Buffalo” Church, as it came to be known, was no longer an active Presbyterian church. Later in the twentieth century, two Mennonite groups worshiped there until they built their own churches, Buffalo Mennonite Church at Kelly Point, and Shady Grove Mennonite Church, west on Route 192, and a Baptist congregation worshiped at Buffalo Church and maintained a counseling center on the church grounds (later relocated to New Columbia).

By 1975 Buffalo Church had not been an active Presbyterian Church for 56 years, and it was badly in need of repairs. On February 10, 1975 the Trustees of the Northumberland Presbytery in Williamsport deeded the cemetery of the Buffalo Presbyterian to the church Cemetery Association, and it sold and deeded Buffalo Church and its grounds to George and Ethel Ruhl, and George’s sister, Mary Ruhl Maher. The deed bound the owners and heirs and assigns to properly maintain the site for religious and historical purposes. The 1773 Buffalo Church Association was established to manage the operation of the Church under its new ownership and deed mandates.

Restoration of the Old Buffalo Church

The front steps were replaced, exterior trim repainted, and the exterior eastern brick wall was waterproofed. Inside, the ceiling plaster was replaced, ceiling and interior walls repainted. The front platform was replaced. Wiring was updated, and electric heat, ceiling fans, and storm windows were installed. The early kerosene lamps were reproduced and electrified, and the pump organ and potbelly stove were restored.

On January 30, 1976 The Buffalo Presbyterian Church was entered in the National Register of Historic Places by the US Department of the Interior upon nomination by the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Officer. The National Register lists properties significant in American history, architecture, archeology and culture. The newly-restored Buffalo Presbyterian Church was ready to be part of the country’s proud Bicentennial Celebration on July 4, 1976.



Old Buffalo Church remains a dignified presence on its gentle rise just east of Buffalo Cross Roads. It has been on the historical society's school bus tours since 1996. People stop regularly to see and photograph the church and visit the cemetery, searching for certain gravestones. On Memorial Day, veterans honor military who are buried in the cemetery with a moving ceremony.

“Old Buffalo” Church, continued

When the people who had had the vision and determination to rescue and restore Old Buffalo Church passed on – George Ruhl in 1990, Ethel Ruhl in 2004, and Mary Ruhl Maher in 2007 – ownership and care of Old Buffalo Church and management of the 1773 Buffalo Church Association passed to Jean Ruhl (daughter of Ethel & George Ruhl) and Eleanor Maher Rawitz (daughter of Mary & Roland Maher).

Challenges Ahead

The difficulties of owning and maintaining an old rural building are unchanging: mice, squirrels, insects, water, and wind. The roof and foundation require monitoring. Painting and carpentry repairs are routine. Trees and grass need to be trimmed, and fallen walnuts need to be picked up. Windows need to be washed. Twenty-first century realities include an alarm system.

What are the challenges ahead for Old Buffalo Church? Shall we keep the very heavy potbelly stove in the church, or shall we just display a full-size picture of it? Shall we forfeit some authenticity and add gutters, downspouts and drains to better direct water away from the foundation?

How can we best reframe the story of Old Buffalo Church for a digital-age audience, used to multi-media presentations? Shall we create a website for Old Buffalo?

And perhaps the most important challenge of all: What succession plan shall we develop for the management of Old Buffalo Church that will assure its preservation beyond its present owners and caretakers, so that the structure of “Old Buffalo” and its important history will be available for the generations that will follow?

“How shall we mark Buffalo Church’s 250th anniversary in 2023?”

Gutelius House Museum by Karen Fritz

Frederick Adam Gutelius and his wife Anna Catherine (Biestel) raised 15 children (one died in infancy) in the house he built in Mifflinburg c. 1802. Gutelius was a blacksmith, but had studied surveying and conducted many surveys in Mifflinburg and the county. In 1813, he was elected as one of three commissioners for the new Union County. One year later, he added Esquire to his name when appointed Justice of the Peace for the Mifflinburg area. The Gutelius family was of the Reformed faith, active in the Elias Church where Frederick Gutelius served as secretary and treasurer.

Members of the Gutelius family had a variety of professions: coverlet weaver, cabinet maker and carpenter, editor and proprietor of a local newspaper, minister, foundry worker, hatter, and buggy builder. It's been said that there were more Gutelius family members than of any other families in Mifflinburg and surrounding areas for some time in the 1800s.

An old house becomes a museum

In 1997, a log house came up for public auction at the corner of Fifth and Green streets in Mifflinburg. Families in the neighborhood were concerned about the fate of the house, including its being removed for its logs. At the sale, the current Justice of the Peace of Union County was asked to do the bidding. At the end of the day, neighbors and others having a interest in preserving history owned the property, and we started the process of incorporating into Preservation Mifflinburg, Inc.

Our small group did what we could to make the house presentable, holding auctions, teas, receptions and open houses for the public, inviting their support. Memberships from Gutelius descendants and others helped a great deal. One person, Dorothy Knauss, a Gutelius descendent, bequeathed her estate to Preservation Mifflinburg. After settlement, Country Homestead of Kreamer was hired to do restoration work. The outside and downstairs are finished; upstairs and roofing will start in 2016.

Restoration has led to these discoveries: pegged rough-jam at the east door; many first layer rose-head nails, recycled building materials used as early shims for original horizontal siding; later period siding, exterior split lathe and clay plaster with lime coat; at least three layers of paint in red, blue and gold; original lime finish coat over daubing, with more to be discovered.

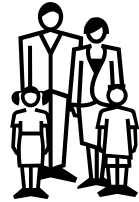
The museum hosted its first Gutelius Reunion in 2014. Gutelius's from ten states shared family history, listened to Justice of the Peace Jeff Mensch and Commissioner John Showers (Frederick Gutelius had served as JP and Commissioner), and toured log houses in Mifflinburg. **The Gutelius House Museum, 432 Green St., Mifflinburg** has become a venue for living history, hosting speakers, workshops, teas and exhibits for the public and the local schools. Visit www.TheGuteliusHouseMuseum.org



Recent Genealogy Searches and Their Researchers

If you have information to share, contact UCHS at 570-524-8666 or info@unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org, or contact the researcher (address and/or email is below).

BOLLINGER/ DUCK / HENDRICKS: Jessica Barnhart, 593-6 Geneva Dr., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
KRELICK: Pam Holland, pamela.holland@gmail.com
SNYDER: Michael Snyder, 110 Ottawa St, 4A, Toledo, OH; mdsnyder108@gmail.com
SNYDER: Jo Simpson, 474 Chetola Rd, Seneca, SC; josgen1@gmail.com
MABUS: Lynn Mabus, 250 Whispering Hills, Chester, NY 10918
PAUL/BURGET: Martin Newton, 133 N. 4th St., Lewisburg, PA 17837
FISHER / BOSTIAN: Heather Palframen, 32 Wallace Rd., Middletown, NJ 07748
WERTZ/KOCH/HAGET: James Robison, 324 N. Franklin, Allentown, PA 18102
DIEFFENDERFER/KOSTENBADER/BENNAGE: J. Robison, 324 N. Franklin, Allentown, PA 18102
MAGEE/REEDY/SWARTZ: Joann Heydenreich, 240 James Ave., Bloomsburg, PA 17815
BOYER: Susan Smith, 1166 Wylie Rd., West Chester, PA 19382
BRADY: Patrick Larkin, 13 Nancy Lane, Hooksett, NH 03106
KREBS, Charles, Harry: Dennis & Maryellen Krebs, Box 46, New Galilee, PA 16141
SLOUGH: Janet & Richard Slough, 1568 Blackberry Lane, Harrisonburg, VA 22802
KLINGMAN/BURD: Bill Keiser, 201 Parkwood Dr., Lancaster, PA 17603; keiser1@comcast.net
KNEPP/MOOK: Sue Knepp and Kristi Knepp Taylor, 10510 Brodie Lane, Austin, TX 78745
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ULRICH, John George: S. Smith, 1820 Pemberton St., Philadelphia, PA 19147;
and Neil Ulrich, 2431 N. Old Trail, Selinsgrove, PA 17870
SHIELDS, William: Steve & Patty Shields, 4721 Covenant Way, Powder Springs, GA 30127
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annecoxhudson@hotmail.com
BIEBER/SHADE/LEECH/WERTMAN; SWARTZLANDER, Conrad: Valerie Bieber, 1225 Snyder Rd.,
Milton, PA 17847; bccimax@aol.com
LEWISBURG: Jack Fisher, 775 River Rd., Lewisburg, PA 17837
WWII: Ethel Snook, 69 Verna Rd., Lewisburg, PA 17837



Research Library Update

Added to family histories:

- Derr: A Derr family tree; prepared and donated by Leighton K. Derr of Lancaster PA
- *Wertman Lines*: Newsletter of the Wertman Family Assoc. issues to date

Added to the library:

- *The Chronicle*, Journal of the Historical Society of the Susquehanna Conference of the Union Methodist Church, Spring 2015 issue
- *Union County Times* 2015 issues



Genealogical research services are provided by UCHS staff and volunteers, for a single document (such as a will or obituary) to a family history. Fees are \$5 (per document) to \$50 and up (full search) depending on complexity. **Deed searches** are negotiated on an individual basis. Please inquire.

The Dale/Engle/Walker Historic Home and Farm

On Saturday, November 14th many hands made the annual Fall work effort move along. Assistant property managers Eric Imgrund and Fred Swanger, and UCHS board members Doug Hovey and Susan Waggoner, worked with Linn Conservancy members Tom Travis, Dale's Ridge trail steward; John Murphy, Bob & Barb Thomas, a set of monthly Dale's Ridge trail stewards; Bucknell interns Alexa Gorski, Sandy Logan, and Keerthana Krishnarajah and fellow students David Trueluck, Dasha Kostyuchek, and Fern Morrison plus Leonard Orozco, one of two Bucknell Residential Advisors, and another nine students. Teams of workers moved from one project area to another quite effectively, noted Doug Hovey who headed the effort on the grassy slope and former Engle truck patch behind the house. All were reinforced by local apple cider, tea, and donuts courtesy of the Lasanskys. Tasks included removing invasive plants and ash tree debris along the western edge of the slope, doing lots of raking, removing weeds in graveled areas, and sweeping the porch and walkways.



Over the winter months, we hope to make continued progress on trimming up the farm field edges with farmer Lloyd Zimmerman, and Eric Imgrund. They will continue the work and the vision of the late Gary Slear, past property manager, who spearheaded an effort to reclaim the southernmost and particularly fertile field of over seven acres from invasive plants. Bill Deitrick followed that lead and sought to see if the Engle truck patch might be retaken from Russian Autumn Olive and Japanese Honeysuckle through massive hand-cutting followed by occasional mowing. That has been quite successful effort and ten years later most of it is cleared—a grassy area now often used as a Rural Heritage Day demonstration area or for a new viewpoint of the site's terrain.

Look forward to joining our collective efforts during the annual Spring work morning in late March or early in April 2016!
Jeannette Lasansky, Property Manager

Remember this site for renting for a formal photography session, a large family reunion, a wedding ceremony, or full wedding with ceremony, reception, and meal. All have been done here, and we make sure the house and grounds look their very best for the occasion. Rental rates are from \$50-\$500 depending on the length of time and complexity of the preparation and coverage. Members get a 10% discount on big events.

SUMMER INTERNSHIPS AVAILABLE

Undergraduate students are encouraged to apply for a paid summer internship at the Union County Historical Society. Students must:

- attend an accredited four-year PA college or university, and
- be eligible for financial aid, and
- live in Union, Snyder or Northumberland County.

Internships are intended to enhance the students education and compliment their fields of study; suitable majors include history, business, education, community development and the like. Work at the society office (Monday through Friday) may include genealogical research, preparing press releases, member support through correspondence and data entry, annual calendar design, and general office tasks. Interns may also serve as tour guide or host on Sundays at the Dale/Engle/Walker House.

Letters of interest must be received at UCHS by February 28.

For more information, please contact Linda Rhoades-Swartz at 570-524-8738 or info@unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org.

The History of Funerals and Funeral Directing In Union County, Pennsylvania

By
James L. and Carol G. Schwartz



The NEW *Heritage* book, *The History of Funerals and Funeral Directors in Union County* is FREE to Life members and those who renew for 2016. Have you picked up your book? If unable to come to the office, please send \$5 to cover the cost of shipping.

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

Return Service Requested

Membership in the Union County Historical Society supports programs, historic sites tours and Red Bank one-room school experience for county students, 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 maintain the 1793 Dale/Engle/Walker House which offers tours, exhibits, programs and *Rural Heritage* events. Members receive the biennial *Heritage* book, newsletters, a discount on books and free use of our extensive reference library.

New, renewing and gift memberships: please mail this form to:
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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.

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) 570-524-8666
info@unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org

Visit our website: www.unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org for events, articles, resource list and more.

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