NEW! Reproductions from the 1868 Atlas of Union County.

The Atlas of Union and Snyder Counties, published in 1868, is an invaluable research tool for genealogists and historians. These maps show every municipality's roads, waterways, and villages of a by-gone era. Property owners, school houses, churches, and manufacturers are also featured (including saw mills, gristmills, furnaces). Home owners and stores in the boroughs and towns are identified along the various streets and alleys. Borough maps of Lewisburg, Mifflinburg and New Berlin all include detailed business directories. The White Deer Township map includes New Columbia and White Deer Mills; Union Township map includes Winfield; Gregg Township map includes Uniontown (now called….?). Each map is approximately 12.5 by 17.5 inches, printed on sturdy stock. Cost is only $5 each. Available at the UCHS office. Mail orders accepted; shipping is $3. Send check or use Paypal on the UCHS website.

UCHS Members,

We're going green! To reduce our costs, we're sending future newsletters to your email address. Everyone else will receive their copies through the U. S. Postal Service. If we don't have your email address, please send it so you don't miss a thing! No need to worry; we won't share email addresses with any organizations or businesses.

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

Human beings have a primal need to remember and understand what came before. Sometimes we use the past to justify actions as we try to make sense of the world. Every interpretation we create, every perspective we gain affects how we deal with the present and how we shape our future.

“Doing” history is more than indulging in hazy nostalgia, misty memories, or “keeping things the same.” History gives us the tools to examine how and why people make decisions. New generations, in turn, learn to become active citizens by responding to changing circumstances.

Last winter, UCHS members met several times to identify our most pressing issues. Back in September, you supported that group’s recommendations and agreed to amend our Constitution and By-Laws accordingly.

Here is the new committee structure:

- Archives – obtains and maintains items in the collection;
- DEW – supervises the Dale-Engle-Walker house and property;
- Development – works on strategic fundraising for UCHS;
- Finance – oversees UCHS investments and committee budgets;
- Membership – creates all promotional communications, materials and activities;
- Outreach has four subcommittees:
  - Education (develops exhibits and DEW tours),
  - Events (coordinates larger events at DEW),
  - Programs (organizes talks on local history), and
  - Publications (oversees UCHS-published books and articles)
- Personnel – evaluates staff and tech needs.

Would you like to help UCHS grow by joining your neighbors on a committee or crafting our new strategic plan? If so, then please contact our office and speak with our staff members.

Does your school, church or social organization need someone to talk about local history? Our new Speakers Bureau offers over fifteen different presentations.

And don’t forget to check out our newly-designed website, the “go-to” place for the latest information, updates and research assistance.

Reawakening civic awareness and keeping this historical society relevant depend upon your sustained interest, participation and support. This is your county, your history and your historical society. By striving to make UCHS a welcoming place for visitors and volunteers alike, we all have an opportunity to chart its future course.

Thank you for placing your trust in this board. All of us will do our best to fulfill UCHS’s mission: “Exploring Union County’s past to inform the present and the future.” After all, we’re here for you.

Many thanks to departing board members Lois Huffines, Sharon Lynch, Susan Waggoner and Eric Wagner.

Bruce Teeple
What can the agricultural landscape of Union County tell us about our history and culture? In *The Shape of Time in Buffalo Valley: Farmsteads and Barns of Union County, Pennsylvania*, author Christopher Macneal (architect with Kieran Timberlake of Philadelphia) discusses the history of farm making and barn building in the county, drawing upon his survey of buildings and farmsteads. This new *Heritage* book includes 240 pages of text, drawings, maps, and photographs to describe an important aspect of Union County history.

*The Shape of Time in Buffalo Valley* is free for UCHS Life members, and those who renew or join for 2018. Please visit the UCHS office in the county courthouse, 103 S. 2nd St., Lewisburg (M-F 8:30-4:30), to pick up your book (and renew your membership). Those who cannot come to the office may send their membership renewal with an additional $4.00 to cover the cost of shipping the book. Additional copies are available at $30 (if shipped) or $26 at the office.


The Society's *2018 Calendar* contains photos of Union County people and places, World War I artifacts, Troop M 1st Pennsylvania Cavalry Roster, and notations of battles in which the US fought during the Great War. The calendar can be purchased at the society office, Country Farm & Home on Route 45 in Mifflinburg, Laurel Market in Laurelton, and at branches of West Milton State Bank and Mifflinburg Bank & Trust. Cost is only $6. Mail orders accepted; add $3 S/H. A limited supply of pocket calendars is available: $4 plus $1 S/H.

**NEW! POSTCARDS**

Remember sending postcards to family and friends? You can do that again with historic photo cards of Union County. The Society has reprinted many historic postcards, including photos of the West End Fair, the old New Berlin covered bridge, Slifer House, Mazeppa Union Church, and street scenes in New Berlin, and Mifflinburg. There are cards of trains and stations in Mifflinburg, Glen Iron, Vicksburg, and of the Mifflinburg-Lewisburg trolley, narrow gauge New Berlin-Winfield train, and PA RR locomotive #2233. Postcards are only $1 each.
HISTORICAL SOCIETY PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Programs are supported by a grant from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. Information on upcoming programs will be posted on the UCHS website: www.unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org. Please be sure we have your email address so we can send you advance notices about our programs.

African American Civil War Veterans Buried in the Lewisburg Cemetery
Saturday, February 24, 10:30 A.M.
at the Public Library for Union County, 255 Reitz Boulevard, Lewisburg, PA

Nancy Neuman will present a program on United States Colored Troops in the Civil War, focusing on USCT veterans who are buried in the Lewisburg Cemetery. The USCT had white officers, and one such officer is buried in the Lewisburg Cemetery. Join us as we examine this interesting aspect of local and national history. Nancy Neuman is president of the Lewisburg Cemetery Association and a past national president of the League of Women Voters. The program is free and open to the public, however, please call the library at 570-523-1172 to reserve your place.

Union County Historical Society Spring Dinner / Program
Thursday, April 19 at 6 P.M.
at the Country Cupboard, Hafer Road, Lewisburg

Spring Dinner / Program details and reservation forms will be sent to local members in March. Others interested in attending, please contact the Society via email at info@unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org or by phone to 570-524-8666. Information will also be posted on the society website.

SUMMER INTERNSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE at the Union County Historical Society.
To qualify for this paid position, students must be enrolled in an accredited four-year PA college or university, and be eligible for financial aid, and live in Union, Northumberland or Snyder County. Internships are intended to enhance the student's education and complement their field of study (such as history, education, business). Work at the society office (M-F) may include research, writing, designing the 2019 calendar, data entry, and general office tasks. Interns may also work as guide or exhibit planner at the society's Dale-Engle-Walker House. For information or to apply, please contact Linda Rhoades-Swartz at 570-524-8738 or info@unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org.

RESEARCH LIBRARY UPDATE

Added to the library:
The Land: A Biography of 13 Square Miles of the White Deer Valley, by Steve and Martha Huddy, 2017. Detailed history of WWII government development of the Alvira area.

Added to family histories:
Keeffer Family Association Newsletter, 2017 issues.
Our Patriots with Honor, Bausachs, Bowersox, Bowersocks and related families. Service members from these families. Donated by the Bausach Genealogical Society.
KREAMER, Gilbert & Viola: Mary Resides, 244 Gerald St., State College, PA 16801. maryresides@verizon.net
YEARICK, Henry / ROUSH, George: Mia Malesovas, 7103 Henson Farm Way, Summerfield, NC 27358. miacarlinafarm@yahoo.com
SNYDER: Jo Simpson, 474 Chetola Rd., Seneca, SC 29672. josgen1@gmail.com
NOBLE SONS OF LIBERTY: Michael Drexler, 1105 Abbey Lane, Lewisburg, PA 17837. drexfish@gmail.com
HOY, EYER: Beverly McIntosh, Barbara Smith, 10 Magnolia Dr. St. Louis, MO 63124. bsmithss00aol.com
FIDDLERS TRACT, Lewisburg: Kelly Shireman, 232 W. Market St., Marietta PA 17547. kiscdc@comcast.net
SWANGER: K. Haines, 24 Cobb Terrace, Rochester, NY 14620
RHOADES: Kathy Vitullo, 1708 Cedar St., Newfield, NJ 08344. kathyvitullo@yahoo.com
SPYKER: Tomi Spyker, PO Box 721, Sunbury, OH 43074
SHIRK / SCHURCH: Sue Shirk, 1001 E. Oregon Rd., Lititz, PA 17543. susburg@msn.com
BURD: Ray & Betty Goetz, 4218 Piney Woods Rd., Christiansburg, VA 24073. bettyinvaclasof58@gmail.com
GIBSON: Dwight & Pam Cook, 7451 E. Millstream, Anaheim, CA 92808. dwightc1@hotmail.com
SHERRY / HILDEBRAND: Michael Huttner, 6628 Gleason Terrace, Edina, MN 55439. huttnermn@comcast.net
DENNIS / WISE: Steve Dale. satch88@comcast.net
BOWERSOX, Michael: Mark Weitzel, PO Box 14, Pottsville, NY 14770. mewrgw421@gmail.com
GIBBONS, John and Edward: David Gibbons, 191 NW Reed Lane, Dallas, OR 97383. dgforge52@hotmail.com, and Dennis Gibbons, 857 Mossy Ridge Lane, Lincoln, CA 95648. ospreyx@msn.com
WISE/ WEISER: Lillian Wise, 121 Mt. Rd., Concord, NH 03301. ljdwise@yahoo.com
RHOADS, Mary: Shannon Soper, 1132 E. 200 N., Orem, UT 84097. shannon.soper@gmail.com
KAIN / PARKER / SHIVELY: Ned & Meg Rutter, 19 Stonewater Dr., Simpsonville SC 29680
KLINGMAN / CLINGMAN: T. Combs, deacon7@hotmail.com; and Vicki Lilly, vlilypaddy@gmail.com

Research services provided:
- copy of single document, such as a will or deed; obituary (must know death date)
- search of census and related documents
- search of family files, search on ancestry.com
- compiling a family history

See Genealogy and Local History Research Quicklink on our website.

Fees: If you wish to visit our office and use our library resources, our fee is $5 per day for non-members; free for UCHS members. On-site assistance is available for those visiting the UCHS office. If you're unable to work in our office, our research fees are:
- $50 for one hour of general genealogical or property/deed search, plus 50¢ per copied page for courthouse and UCHS documents exceeding 20 pages
- $7 to research will, letter of administration, or orphans court record, plus 50¢ per copied page
- $5 for researching and copying each obituary (must supply month and year of death)

Please send an email inquiry with your research questions first. We will advise.

Donations: The Society accepts Union County family histories as printed or digital files for the society's genealogical library.
Dorothy L. Bowersox Genealogical Library Donations

This collection of reference books was used by Dorothy (LeVier) Bowersox as she researched family history in Pennsylvania and neighboring states. The Bowersox family, interested in keeping her book collection intact, has donated the material to UCHS as the logical place for Bowersox and related families to do their own search of family ancestors. Many Union County families moved west, like the Bowersox. We are honored to house this collection in our library. Donated by Dorothy’s son, Larry Bowersox.


East Hanover Township Dauphin County Pennsylvania Bicentennial Celebration 1776-1976.


History of Center and Clinton Counties by John Blair Linn. Reprinted in 1975 by Louis H. Everts. [672 pages plus index]

Atlas of Centre County Pennsylvania from Actual Surveys by and under the direction of Beach Nichols. Philadelphia: A. Pomeroy & Co., 1874. Large format reprint by the Centre County Historical Society.


IMMIGRATION


Immigrants to the Middle Colonies; A Consolidation of Ship Passenger Lists and Associated Data, Michael Tepper, ed. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1979. [178 pages]


WILLS

Index to Fayette County, PA Wills 1783-1900. Compiled by Bob and Mary Clossen. USA: 1980.


DEATHS / MARRIAGES


The Union County Historical Society's Annual John B. Deans Dinner /Program was held on November 9, 2017 at the Rusty Rail Brewing Co. in Mifflinburg, PA. The program “The History of Lewisburg & Mifflinburg from Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps” was presented by Mike Molesevich. Awards for Historic Preservation were presented to Marcia Milne, Tony Noll, and Eric John and Paul John.

Marcia Milne and her late husband David worked many years to maintain a 1789 log cabin. The frontier-era cabin came into Marcia Kantz Milne’s family in 1803, when Christian Kantz purchased it from Peter Druckenmiller, who built the cabin in 1789. The cabin is now outfitted with period items, including a rope bed, butter churn, kitchen utensils, and farm tools. Marcia Milne has offered the cabin with its contents as a gift to the Historical Society, and will fund its transfer to the Dale Engle Walker property. Plans are still in the works – watch for announcements in upcoming newsletters and on our website. Through Marcia Milne’s generosity, the Union County Historical Society gains a wonderful opportunity to expand the educational services and events it offers to the community.

In 1791 George Christian Spangler was deeded a farm on Penns Creek west of New Berlin in Union County. He and his descendants successfully farmed that land until 1963 when Dick and Grace Noll purchased the property, including the beautiful c.1802 two-story fieldstone farmhouse and 19th century bank barn. In 215 years of farming on the Noll-Spangler farm, agricultural practices have evolved greatly. Clearing the land required a great amount of labor to make farming with horse drawn implements possible. Today the farm is highly mechanized and produces grain exclusively.

Tony Noll grew up on this memorable, historic farm. After much research and time, Tony completed the 34 page application for recognition on the National Register of Historic Places, which was awarded 2016. The Noll-Spangler Farm is the first farm to receive this notable status in Union County. The farm is recognized for the critical role it has played in the development of our nation and for the significance of agrarian life in Central Pennsylvania. In July of 2017, over 340 people joined Tony and his family in celebrating this remarkable accomplishment.

Rusty Rail Brewing Co. in Mifflinburg is in a magnificent building, with a long history, going back to the time it was a buggy factory. A whirlwind of name and function changes reflects the changes in Mifflinburg history. Where other enterprises could not keep up, this building became the home of new visions and bold attempts to survive in a quickly changing society. In 1911, with the success of the Model T, local investors organized the Mifflinburg Body and Gear Company, building a large three-story factory, power plant, and kiln on the west side of N. Eighth Street to manufacture ironwork and bodies for carriages and automobiles. Over the years, the building changed owners, names, and purpose. As the Mifflinburg Body Company, it produced thousands of automobile and truck bodies, best known for its wood station wagon bodies. Operating presently in the 250,000-square-foot complex are Ritz-Craft Corporation and Legacy Building Products.

Paul John and Eric John bought the building as the home for Legacy Crafted Cabinets. They still had 100,000 square feet of unused space. While retaining the sense of history of the place, the Johns created the Rusty Rail Brewing Co., a restaurant serving good food and drink. They sell beer produced in the Rusty Rail Brewery in restaurants and bars across the state and employ some 90 people. Their vision and creativity has repurposed a building which will invigorate Mifflinburg with thoughts of its past and an appreciation for the possible. The Union County Historical Society recognizes Paul and Eric John for their vision to preserve the history of this building while also making it a beacon for the future.

Thanks to Christkindl Market volunteers: Jamie Wagner, Diane Lengle, Kim Ranck, Sharon Lynch, Phyllis Dyer, Doug & Karen Hovey, Glenda Sheaffer, Nate Roush & Miranda Picarelli, Bruce Teeple, and especially Karen Gardner; Deb & Mark Wehr for providing the much-needed heater; and Brynwood Rentals for providing tables, display shelves and moving carts. This year’s event was, as usual, a successful fund-raiser for the historical society. Mifflinburg's Christkindl Market, an outdoor German-style Christmas market, is a festive shopping and dining experience. Please consider joining other UCHS members next year in the fun of decorating and staffing the UCHS booth at the Christkindl Market.
Events at Dale-Engle-Walker

A New York City Tour Group visited Dale-Engle-Walker on a sunny Sunday afternoon in August. The bus tour of 14 people from five boroughs of New York City visited the house as part of a tour of central Pennsylvania. It is always a learning experience to see what we are familiar with through the eyes of others. They were very interested in the agricultural history of the house – what was grown, the use of horses, the size of the families. Questions were asked about the crops currently grown, especially soy beans. They knew rhubarb (for pies), horseradish and what apple butter was. They were good guessing the use of the hearth cooking tools and appreciated what a task cooking was for the number of people that lived there or visited Samuel Dale’s family. Most enjoyable was sitting on the porch, enjoying the breeze and looking over the green farmland. Diane Lengle

A Penn State University, Office of Life-long Learning group of 40 people visited the house in December, with Rich Nornhold, Diane Lengle, and Jeannette Lasansky serving as guides, and Gale Duque as host. They were quite impressed with the tour, and “learned a great deal more about a number of topics, all presented in a most enjoyable manner.” Group tours can be arranged by appointment. Call the UCHS office at 570-524-8666 for details.

The Dale-Engle-Walker Liberty Garden was made possible through the generosity of the Good Time 4-H Club, Country Farm and Home; with sign donated by Decal Dynasty Wraps and Graphics. Special thanks to Jay Bowersox for weeding the garden and keeping it looking nice throughout the season.

Fall Volunteer Work Effort at the Dale-Engle-Walker Site and Dales Ridge Trail Completed

Getting the trail parking area and property around the house prepared for winter were the fall goals. Helping were the Union County Historical Society’s assistant property manager and neighbor, Fred Swanger, and Linn Conservancy coordinator, Geoff Goodenow along with repeat volunteers: Doug Hovey, the UCHS vice president; Diane and Jim Lengle from New Berlin; Tom Travis, the Dale's Ridge Trail chief steward; John Murphy; Diane Meixell; and Bucknell’s Delta Zeta sorority sisters: Dylan Reynolds, Tara Harper, Payton Johnson, Avery Snyder, and Alicia Kim, organized by Sydney Napp, the sorority’s vice president of philanthropy. Eric Imgrund scheduled gravel placement. Refreshments for the crew were supplied by the Lasanskys.

The next property work effort will be in the spring — a combination of Bucknell students with Union County Historical Society and Linn Conservancy members and friends. Please write to lrs@unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org if interested in being alerted as to the date. Jeannette Lasansky

Dale Library

Samuel Dale had a library of more than 300 books, inventoried in his will filed in 1804. The Society has been collecting editions from 1804 or earlier, just like those Dale would have owned, and reprints of hard-to-find originals. The latest addition to the Dale library is a book published in 1798 written by James Monroe, who served as minister to France. Monroe later became president of the United States, serving in that office from 1817 until 1825. The book, A View of the Conduct of the Executive in the Foreign Affairs of the United States, is connected with the mission of the French Republic during the years 1794 to 1796. This book is a gift in memory of James Dale from Lois Dale, Bill & Ruth Ann Price, and Beth Condon.
The Archives Committee would like to thank everyone who donated and gifted to the society during 2017. Your gifts and donations to the collection of materials held by the society supports its mission of enhancing the appreciation and visibility of Union County history.

The following donations and gifts have been accepted by the Union County Historical Society Archives Committee since July of this year.

**Theodore A. Sallade** of Lewisburg donated material from the Buffalo Valley Grange #520, including record books, membership cards, dues book and other material.

**Ardith Wilkins** of Allenwood donated Jeannette Campbell postcards, pay stubs from Central Oak Heights, graduation exercise and certificate from the White Deer Township School in New Columbia, handmade apron which included a poem from the Ladies Aid Society, a program dedication from the White Deer Elementary School in New Columbia, black & white photographs taken at the Koch family reunion, Bucknell Backcourt Club Awards Banquet program from 2010, Widow Catherine Smith Mini Park Dedication from May 1976, early postcard view of United Methodist Nursing Home, photographs of Helen Bastian Smitha and Alice Wilkins Bastian, and a laminated newspaper article from the 1990’s showing Park Messimer and Ralph Wilkins, members of O.U.E. as they were painting signs in opposition to the Burner Project in Gregg Township.

**Marcia Wolfe** of Lewisburg donated numerous deeds from properties in Lewisburg Borough.

**Donald A. and Mary Lou Russell** of Lewisburg donated a cloth bag which was used to store wheat.

**The Wagner Family** of Lewisburg donated a booklet pertaining to the history of St. John’s United Church of Christ 1824-1974.

**The Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren** of Mifflinburg donated a “Come to the Table” cookbook, published in 2011, which contains a collection of recipes from the church family.

**Elaine Wintjen** of Lewisburg donated campaign material relative to Lisa Seward, Union County Register and Recorder.

**Jodi Jarrett** of Lewisburg donated numerous color photographs of historic houses, churches and schools in Lewisburg as well as views of Bucknell, Bechtels, Evangelical Hospital, Wm. Cameron Engine Company, the Campus Theatre, Pennsylvania House, the Civil War Monument, the railroad bridge over the Susquehanna, postcard views of street scenes in Lewisburg and photos taken at the annual Lewisburg 4th of July Parade.

**Mary Belle Lontz** of Lewisburg donated two pamphlets relative to the Undertakers and Funeral Directors of Union County, and Undertakers and Funeral Directors of Snyder County.

**Robert E. Minnich** of Quarryville, PA donated a vent manufactured by the Standard Ventilator Company of Lewisburg.

**David Meachum** of Port Richey, FL donated a soapbox derby helmet and T-shirt along with a watch and case from a Lewisburg jeweler.

**Kate Kissel** of State College and **Patty Driver** of Lewisburg donated a coverlet.

**Richard E. Reichley** of Middleburg donated a c. 1930 photo enlarger and two plates.

**Paul and Susan Hampel** of Bristol, PA, donated a deed for property in Union Township dated 1833.

**Kim Mattern** and the Snyder County Historical Society donated a booklet entitled “As It Use To Be” by Clair Groover, a booklet entitled “Cooking on the Pennsylvania Road” by Mike Stevens, from 1998, and a greeting card (and envelope) with a drawing of the Slifer House Museum, Lewisburg.

**Mary Mastascusa** of Lewisburg, donated a three-ring binder containing numerous photographs taken at the reception for Professor Ralph “Charlie” Walker’ following his retirement from Bucknell University.

The following purchases were made by the archives committee since July:

an advertising thermometer promoting M & H Stees of Lewisburg; H. P. Frock of Lewisburg business card; a real photo postcard taken by photographer Urs Eisenhauer of Millmont; cabinet photographs taken by Slear of Mifflinburg and Ginter of Lewisburg; Union County Fair material from 1926 along with a New Berlin postcard.
Membership in the Union County Historical Society supports programs and events, 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 special 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:

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

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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 (usually closed noon - 1:00)  
570-524-8666  info@unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org

Visit our website: [www.unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org) for events, articles, resource list and more.

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.