

### Centre County Encyclopedia of History and Culture

What do Philipsburg's Union Church, the Mann Axe factories, and grilled stickies have in common? The history of all three can be found in the Society's new *Centre County Encyclopedia of History & Culture*.

The online encyclopedia is one of the most ambitious research projects the Society has ever undertaken. The recently launched reference work, which can be found at [www.centrehistory.org/encyclopedia](http://www.centrehistory.org/encyclopedia), provides an authoritative look at the county's rich past. The more than 100 initial entries present the county's history and culture, in all its variety, through topics and themes and will continue to grow in the future.

Users can read about Mount Nittany, Neff Round Barn, Duffy's Tavern, the Centre County Courthouse, and the Creamery. They can read about Andrew Gregg Curtin, Hilda Thompson, George W. Atherton, Thelma Price, and Sherman Lutz.

Users also can read about the Eagle Ironworks, movie theatres, Titan Metal, the Pennsylvania Military Museum, and Penn State football. They can read about the Grange Fair, *The Aaronsburg Story*, and the Central Pennsylvania Festival of the Arts.

The co-editors of the encyclopedia are Ford Risley and Lee Stout. Risley is a member of the Historical Society's Board of Governors and a Distinguished Professor of Communications at Penn State. Stout is an emeritus board member and the retired archivist for Penn State.

"The encyclopedia will be a valuable resource for anyone interested in Centre County's history and culture," Risley said. "The entries address a variety of topics, from before the county was founded up to today."

"I don't know of a comparable project for an individual county outside of a major metropolitan area," Stout said. "It is evidence of both the talented historical researchers and writers we have here and the keen interested Centre Countians have for their past."

The last major written history of the county, John Blair Linn's *History of Centre and Clinton Counties*, was published in 1883. A great deal has happened in the past century and the encyclopedia is meant to fill in some of the historical holes.

The encyclopedia has been a nearly all-volunteer effort. More than 40 authors and photographers from across the county wrote entries and photographed subjects.

Some contributors, such as Michael Bezilla, Sally McMurphy and Jeffrey Wert, are authors who have published books on subjects they have also written about for the encyclopedia. Other contributors, such as Katie O'Toole,

Jeff Rice and Sally Heffentreyer, have lived in the county for many years and have a great interest in it.

Online encyclopedias have advantages over their print counterparts. Because they are not a book on a shelf, they can be used by anyone with Internet access. Online encyclopedias also can be easily updated and corrected as new information becomes available.

The encyclopedia follows accepted scholarly standards in the research, documentation and

presentation of the content. All entries have been carefully reviewed and edited for accuracy, clarity, objectivity and completeness. Errors of fact or interpretation will be investigated and corrected if needed.

New encyclopedia entries will be added monthly. Risley and Stout hope readers will suggest entries. They also welcome new contributors.



The new CCHS website was made possible in part through a grant provided by the Centre County Board of Commissioners and Happy Valley Adventure Bureau. The website and encyclopedia were designed by Graphics & Design, a State College-based company.



## About the Centre County Historical Society

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Founded in 1904, the Centre County Historical Society, the County's official historical society, is an educational organization that promotes appreciation and research of Centre County's historic and natural resources through its properties, collections, programs, publications, and advocacy.

A community and volunteer-based organization, the Society is headquartered in the Centre Furnace Mansion, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This site includes the restored and furnished ironmaster's home, furnace stack, and landscaped grounds and gardens. Centre Furnace was home to the earliest 18th century industry - charcoal iron making. In the 19th century Centre Furnace played an important role in the beginnings of Penn State University. The Society also owns and operates the nearby Boogersburg one-room school.

The Centre County Historical Society depends on financial contributions that help support our free public programs and educational opportunities for children, and provide necessary funds for the maintenance and operation of the Society's facilities and collections. Your membership and generosity are sincerely appreciated. Donations may be made by visiting CentreHistory.org and click on "Donate Now" or by simply sending in the form on the back of this newsletter.

Society members and others in the community are also invited to support these activities by contributing to the Centre County Historical Society Endowment Fund, managed by Centre Foundation at CentreFoundation.org.

*Mansion Notes* is published as a benefit of membership in the Centre County Historical Society and is made possible through the G. Harold Keatley Fund.



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The Centre County Historical Society (CCHS) is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization, under Section 501(c)(3) of the I.R.S. Code. Donations are tax deductible. Official registration and financial information about CCHS may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, (800) 732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

## ☞ Contact Us ☞

Centre County Historical Society  
Centre Furnace Mansion  
1001 East College Avenue  
State College, PA 16801  
(814) 234-4779

info@centrecountyhistory.org  
YouTube channel: <https://rb.gy/sfxzk7>  
[www.centrehistory.org](http://www.centrehistory.org)  
[www.facebook.com/centrefurnace](https://www.facebook.com/centrefurnace)  
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[www.instagram.com/centre.county.history](https://www.instagram.com/centre.county.history)

### CCHS Office Hours:

MON-FRI, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

### Research at the Centre Furnace Mansion:

Research requests can often be handled remotely by email. Special arrangements for on-site research may be made by email or calling the office. For additional information, staff may be reached by calling 814-234-4779 or by emailing [info@centrecountyhistory.org](mailto:info@centrecountyhistory.org).

### Centre Furnace Mansion Tours:

Tours are available by appointment at the Centre Furnace Mansion on Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.. Please call us at 814-234-4779 or schedule your tour online at [CentreHistory.org/visit-us/visit](http://CentreHistory.org/visit-us/visit).

- We continue to follow CDC guidelines and require mask wearing while indoors at the Centre Furnace Mansion.
- We are limiting the capacity of our tours for now for the safety of our staff and visitors by requiring that tours be pre-scheduled.
- Hand sanitizer will be readily available and encouraged upon entering.
- Public areas in the Mansion and restrooms will be cleaned beyond normal cleaning schedules.



Current CCHS members receive advance notification for program registration through our e-newsletter.

If you are not currently receiving our e-letter and would like to, please contact Johanna Sedgwick at [jsedgwick@centrefurnace.org](mailto:jsedgwick@centrefurnace.org) or 814-234-4779. Or visit [CentreHistory.org](http://CentreHistory.org) and sign up at the bottom of the page.

## President's Corner



### On the Crash of the B-17

By Robert Hazelton

In the last issue of Mansion Notes, I detailed the history of the two early Bellefonte flying fields. The first airfield, on roughly the site of the present-day Bellefonte Area High School, started in 1918 as a mid-point refueling stop for mail planes flying from New York to Cleveland and then on to Chicago.

By 1929, the need for a bigger and better airfield led to the development of a larger facility. This one was located on a 90-acre farm field bordered by present-day Garbrick Road and Airport Road, a short distance north of Pleasant Gap and Route 26. By the 1940s the Bellefonte Airfield, as the new facility was named, was no longer used for mail service. Basically, it had become a private airport. It became known informally as the home of the Noll Flying Field where father and son Henry and Terry Noll taught many local residents how to fly.

One of Terry Noll's students was Elwood Homan, now nearly 100 years old, who lives in the historic Bucher Ayers farm at Pennsylvania Furnace. Elwood earned his pilot's license in 1952 and has been flying his own airplanes ever since. Elwood is a fountain of knowledge about Centre County aviation history, and I have written about some of his stories in previous issues of Mansion Notes. As might be expected, he well knows the history of the Bellefonte Airfield at Pleasant Gap.

During one of our conversations, Elwood asked me if I had ever heard of the B-17 crash at that airport in the 1940s. I had not and found it surprising that a military aircraft would ever have been in the area back in the WWII era. Actually, very few people knew about it, even at the time; the military asked the local newspapers not to print anything about the incident, as it would amount to bad publicity for the war effort.

Meanwhile, I asked Dave Grove what he might know. Dave is Elwood's nephew and a retired commercial airline pilot living near Zion, just beyond Bellefonte. Coincidentally, Dave was the perfect person to ask, as his father years later bought the farm where the crash occurred: the Henry Garbrick farm off Garbrick Road. Dave knew something about the crash, but wanted to learn more. So he began his research. He found a government archive that contained a detailed and declassified 33-page report of the incident that he painstakingly transcribed. What follows is a summation from Dave's transcription.

It was June 27, 1942—just six months after Pearl Harbor. At 7:30 p.m. Earnest Long, the night watchman at the Noll airfield, was surprised to see a B-17 aircraft circling over the field. This was highly unusual, to put it mildly. The B-17 was a very large military aircraft with four engines and a wing span of over 100 feet—not something anyone would expect to see flying over Pleasant Gap. The plane turned and headed toward Lewistown. Long was even more surprised when, about an hour later, it returned, circled the field and made an approach to land.

The plane first touched down about 100 feet inside the southwest corner of the field. The grass field was some 2,000 feet long, which was more than enough length for even a B-17 to land. But the field was wet with rain. Compounding the situation, the pilot was inexperienced had perhaps never landed on anything other than a paved runway.

The government investigator filed the following report: "It landed northeast on the field into the wind with flaps down and that the wheels first touched the field about 100 feet from the southwest end of the field and then took a hop and glided about 500 yards and from there on skidded down the field about 200 yards, crossed a dirt road and into the farm of Harry [sic] Garbrick, which adjourns [sic] the flying field. Noll stated that it was raining at the time of the landing; that it was foggy in the area, visibility was poor and that the field was very wet and that the brakes were applied they did not do much good."

*Continued on page 6*



## Director's Message

As 2021 comes to a close and holidays quickly approach, we at the Historical Society have much to reflect on and be thankful for this holiday season. First and foremost, we are grateful for the support of so many members, volunteers, and friends who have helped us through the most extraordinary time.

In ten months, the Society has completed fundraising and implementation of the first phase of a major restoration on the Centre Furnace Mansion thanks to the amazing contributions of nearly 150 individuals, four granting agencies and professional in-kind contributors.

With the generosity of this year's great lineup of speakers, we held seven intriguing talks, at first virtually. Then in the summer, we transitioned to hybrid virtual and in-person talks attracting nearly 175 attendees altogether.

Other events and programs in the past year included the John H. Ziegler Historic Preservation Awards that was held virtually. We brought back the Plant Celebration at the Mansion, the Boogersburg School Open House and CCC Legacy Day at Poe Valley State Park. Most recently, the free online Centre County Encyclopedia of History and Culture was launched along with the new CCHS website.

We are off to a good start with efforts to move our archives to the Ice House building having equipped it now with appropriate air conditioning, heating and fire detection thanks to individual donors and granting agencies.

We have hosted many service days at the Mansion and School throughout the year, including the annual United Way Day of Caring, JustServe service volunteers who have been helping regularly, and numerous Penn State student groups. Service days are essential to helping us with property maintenance and a variety of other projects. We are grateful for their hard work.

Last, but far from least, we are thankful for CCHS Volunteers who have stuck with us through these challenging times to make the past year a highly productive and successful one to lay the groundwork for a robust 2022!

We are pleased to bring back the Stocking Stuffer Magical Holiday Market in person. And we are excited to look ahead to the next phase of the Mansion's restoration work to include window restoration and painting the brick exterior along with other repairs. Also in the planning, is a nice lineup of 2022 programs and events at the Mansion and beyond. We will keep you posted!

May your holidays be filled with peace and many joys,

~Mary Sorensen

## Upcoming Programs and Events

### John H. Zeigler Historic Preservation Awards of the Centre County Historical Society

Sunday, January 23, 3:00 p.m.

at Centre LifeLink, 125 Puddintown Rd., State College

Congratulations to Award Nominees for the 33rd annual John H. Zeigler Historic Preservation Awards ceremony that embody the vitality of historic preservation and "doing history" in Centre County:

- Education and Advocacy - Bob Cameron, Columbus Chapel and Boal Museum
- Preservation and Restoration - Gary Brandeis, Richard Campbell, and Nancy Slagle
- History and Heritage - Benjamin Fehl, The Crooked House
- Support and Volunteerism - Thomas Wilson and the St. John's Stewardship Team
- President's Award - Judy Heberling
- Jacqueline J. Melander Award - Sue Hannegan

We will be holding the Awards Ceremony on January 23, to celebrate and learn about their amazing work and dedication of the award nominees. RSVP will be required.

For more information about this program or to RSVP, contact Mary Sorensen at (814) 234-4779 or msorensen@centrefurnace.org.



Special thanks to the Centre County Government for C-Net sponsorship.

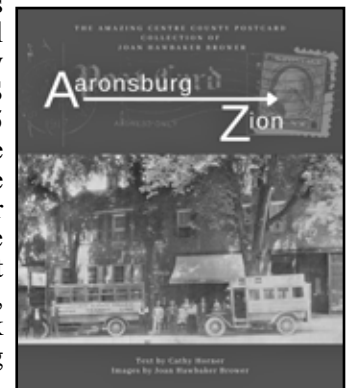
### Aaronsburg to Zion, The Amazing Centre County Postcard collection of Joan Hawbaker Brower

Presented by Joan Hawbaker Brower

Sunday, January 5, 2:00 p.m.

at Centre LifeLink, 125 Puddintown Rd., State College

Joan Brower and Cathy Horner have been working hard over the past two years to bring together a long awaited book that features a broad sampling of Joan's incredible Centre County postcard collection! There will be an opportunity to pre-order this book at this year's Stocking Stuffer and Joan will be providing a talk hosted by CCHS at Centre Lifelink EMS located in State College at 125 Puddintown Rd just around the corner from the Centre Furnace Mansion. The book will sell for \$35.00. We know the book will be in great demand. If you cannot get to the Stocking Stuffer this year, please contact Johanna Sedgwick at jsedgwick@centrefurnace.org to pre-order this book.





## 19th Annual Stocking Stuffer

### A Magical Holiday Market

Friday and Saturday, December 3 & 4, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 5, 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.

\$5.00 Admission, masks required.

Usher in the holiday season this year by visiting the beautifully decorated Centre Furnace Mansion. As we return to an in-person Stocking Stuffer, our focus will be on the holiday sale featuring over 40 regional artisans, antique dealers and crafters. There is a full listing below.

The Stocking Stuffer will feature a variety of holiday gift giving ideas including:

- Art, antiques and crafts made regionally.
- Books on local history.
- Antiques and vintage gifts that have been donated by members and friends to benefit CCHS.
- Garden related and other items hand crafted by CCHS volunteers.

#### MEMBER APPRECIATION PRE-SALE

Thursday, December 2, 12:00- 5:00 p.m.

Current CCHS Annual and Life Members are invited to a members-only day to shop the Stocking Stuffer! Admission is waived as a small token of thanks for your support of CCHS.



### Be a Stocking Stuffer Supporter

Unable to attend this year? Consider being a Stocking Stuffer Supporter. For details or to donate, visit: <https://centrehistory.org/events/stocking-stuffer/>

### Outdoor Decorating!

Join us on **Sunday, November 28** anytime from 1:00-5:00 p.m., to help decorate the Mansion with our talented CFM Gardeners. Interested? For details, reach out to Mary Sorensen at [msorensen@centrefurnace.org](mailto:msorensen@centrefurnace.org) or call 814-234-4779.



CFM Gardeners Decorating Day 2019

### Food Bank Donations

It has been nearly two years and the effects of the pandemic are still very much present. Many of our neighbors and friends have been adversely impacted during this extraordinary time. We offer the Centre Furnace Mansion as a convenient spot to drop off canned food and other non-perishable items to support the State College Food Bank and we will see to it that these items are promptly delivered there. Please see the list of current needs here: <https://scfoodbank.org/donate/current-needs-list>.

If you are planning to attend or volunteer at this year's Stocking Stuffer, please feel free to bring your food and non-perishable donations with you.. If not, please reach out to us at [info@centrecountyhistory.org](mailto:info@centrecountyhistory.org) or call 814-234-4779 to get drop off instructions.

### 2021 Artists and Antique Dealers

Au Natural  
Busy Bee Ranch, LLC  
C S Stangel Pottery  
Chocolates by Leopold  
Claire Lorts Designs  
ColorUpLife, LLC  
Connie DiNunzio, Antiques  
Deck the Halls  
Dennison Press  
Earlythings 1776  
Easily Distracted Designs  
Festive Knitted Cone Trees  
Festively Dressed  
Flotsam & Jetson Jewelry

Irish Hollow Patchwork  
Jackie's Vintage Collection  
James F. Byrnes Blown Glass  
Jerry Jackson  
KnittenKaboodle  
Koo-Weh Nana  
Linden Hall Antiques  
LMGO - Laughing My Glass Off  
LucydGlutenFree  
Marianne Fyda's Studio  
Melissa Diamanti  
Moyer Collectibles  
Nancy Burch Brassington, Artist  
Notecards by Esther Del Rosso

Peaceful Pleasures  
Riviera Artistry  
Second Season Mittens  
Simply d'Bloom  
Stephanie Gush Designs  
Tangled Timber  
Textures Bags and Textile Arts Studio  
That Garden Place  
Ties to Nature  
valleypurl  
Village Eatinghouse Handcrafted Sauces  
Whitetail Lane Farm

# The Crash of the B-17

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Earnest Long, the night watchman, put it more succinctly: "...the plane took a hop and glided several hundred yards, crossed a dirt road and onto the property of Henry Garbrick... With the wet grass, breaking did not help."

Meanwhile, Henry Garbrick had been watching when the big plane landed and thought it would stop in the field. But it kept coming and was nearly upon him before he knew it. So he ran and positioned himself upright against the barn just as the plane's wing passed over him, plowing into the barn. He had yelled to his grandson, nine-year-old Dick Garbrick, to run and get away from the barn. Young Dick was so small and the wheat so tall that he didn't get more than 100 feet from the barn when the plane finally came to a halt. It had stopped just in front of the farmhouse. As the plane's wing struck the barn, Henry was hit by shattered boards, knocking him to the ground and bruising his leg. Then, miraculously, four crewmen climbed out of the plane right in front of the farmhouse's kitchen window. Thankfully, they were not hurt and no fire broke out to threaten the farmhouse.



Left engines and wing and into corn crib/garage. One of the four cars shown under the wing.

The damage extended beyond the wing's hitting the barn, however. There was a large corn crib which doubled as a garage with four cars inside, one of them a new 1941 Ford coupe. In addition, there was an adjacent airplane hanger on the property that had its steel "I" beams knocked out, causing the roof to collapse.



Corn crib with left wing of aircraft embedded. Tree on right side. House and barn would have been to the right of tree.

Word of the crash got out quickly to those with close ties to the airport, including Elwood Homan and his brother as well as a few others. They went to the site, but



Left two engines and wheel in foreground. Fuselage in background buried under tree limbs.

the military had it roped off. The plane was a total loss and was soon hauled away by tractor trailers. It was a new B-17 with only 20 hours of flight time of which almost half of those hours were from its final flight originating from Long Beach, California. The pilot was Lt. James C. Fitzgerald, who had been licensed for only 10 months. The official account of the incident was, "...error in judgement and poor technique of the pilot and poor teamwork with weather playing a minor role."

An adjuster surveyed the crash site, and the military paid for damages to the Garbrick property, which totaled \$643.

That's the end of the story, but there's an even earlier beginning. Why was there a B-17 in the area in the first place, and why did it fly over the airfield at Pleasant Gap, head to Lewistown, and then return to land?

That story begins at Long Beach where McDonnell Douglas manufactured the B-17. The bigger picture is that there were other contractors that built B-17s and together produced over 12,000 of these long-range heavy bombers known as the Flying Fortress. They were used in the war effort in both the Pacific and European theaters. It would have been common to be ferrying these planes within the continental United States for training and staging at various airports before eventual deployment to the war zones.

The B-17 that crashed at the Pleasant Gap was being ferried from Long Beach to the Middletown Air Depot, operated by the U.S. Army Air Corps, near Harrisburg. Actually, there were two planes that left together from Long Beach. They made a refueling stop in Kansas and then



Farmhouse on right corn crib on left.

continued east. They ran into bad weather, causing one B-17 to turn back. But the radio on the plane piloted by Lt. Fitzgerald was inoperative. Unaware that its companion plane had turned back, Fitzgerald and his crew soon became lost. They tried to find the small Mid-State Airport, outside Philipsburg in Rush Township, Centre County, but clouds, fog, and rain had created a low ceiling. Thus the crew continued on, eventually crash-landing at the Bellefonte airfield at Pleasant Gap. And now you know the rest of the story.

Photos provided by David Grove.



## Centre County Sports Historian Wins National Award

In the previous issue of *Mansion Notes*, we reported that Ron Smith, Ph.D., of Lemont, provided invaluable historical perspective to the U.S. Supreme Court that shaped its recent 9-0 decision (June 21, 2021) permitting college athletes to be compensated for the use of their names, images, and likenesses (NIL).

Ron initiated the Supreme Court amicus brief challenging the NCAA's conception of amateurism in the case of *NCAA v. Shawne Alston*. Ron then invited five other historians to contribute to the joint effort.

Those six historians have just won the Education Law Association's Steinhilber Award for the best legal brief of the year.

The Education Law Association committee wrote: "[The] brief was highly original in its concept, well organized, clear, concise, easy to follow, and masterful in its application of related legal literature. Reviewers praised your frank discussion of the limits of amateurism as an 'historical fiction' in college sports and were very impressed that Justice Gorsuch cited this brief in his majority opinion."

Ron Smith said, "Our group of historians is very pleased that historical studies have had an impact upon a historic question and current issue. Most of the historical facts in the brief and cited by Justice Gorsuch in the 9-0 decision were previously found in my 2021 book, *The Myth of the Amateur: A History of College Athletics Scholarships*, published by the University of Texas.

Ron is a Penn State Professor Emeritus. He and his wife Sue are long-time life members of the Centre County Historical Society. More information on this accomplishment may be found at <https://historynewsnetwork.org/article/181369>.

## Board News

We would like to thank CCHS Board Member Shannon Wright for her service on the Board of Governors and wish her well on her new endeavors. Shannon has been on the Board since 2018 and served as Governance Chair for two years. She started with CCHS in 2012 as a Penn State intern.

## Reminder for Snow Birds

Many of you will be spending time away during the cold winter months here in PA. CCHS postcards and newsletters are unable to be forwarded by the Post Office. To help cut down on the costs of returned mail, email Johanna Sedgwick at [jsedgwick@centrefurnace.org](mailto:jsedgwick@centrefurnace.org) call us at 814-234-4779 and let us know what dates you will be out of the area so that we may stop and resume communications efficiently.



## Scotia Model Project Recap and Update

By Bob Hazelton

In previous issues of *Mansion Notes*, I've reported on the two-year-old project to build a model replica of Scotia—Andrew Carnegie's nineteenth century iron mining operation and town of about 400 residents. This once-thriving community, located a few miles west of State College on State Games Lands #176, has been literally buried by history—until recently, that is.

In 1892, Carnegie commissioned a survey of Scotia. The survey was detailed enough to show all the buildings, roads, railroads, and even the elevation contours. That survey—coupled with some historical photos—provides a general visualization of what Scotia looked like. Unfortunately, many of the photos were taken after Scotia was abandoned, showing buildings that were falling apart.

The idea of building a model of Scotia came from a chance meeting between Gary Moyer, a model railroad enthusiast, and myself. It launched a project that I initially thought would be too difficult to execute, even with the survey and photos in hand. But Gary's confidence was inspiring, and so we began. The "we" included Bryce Boyer, who had been working with me on Scotia for over 10 years, and Bryce's brother-in-law, Don Read, who is in the model railroading business. Sometimes things fall in place, and this was one such instance.

Working with the historical photos, Don "designed" and built the very impressive superintendent's house. Meanwhile Gary had built the equally impressive and complex ore washer building. With Gary's lead, he and Bryce built the 15 company houses, plus other buildings. Normally, model railroaders purchase off-the-shelf kits. But that would be too easy and untrue to the history of Scotia and its buildings. So we needed to be authentic, which meant building from scratch. Needless to say, it has been a long process. We estimate that we may need another year or so to complete the project.

We augmented our team with friends—Dave Thiel, Jim Reeder and Jim Eberly—who had expertise in building scenery and laying the model railroad track. We welcome anyone else who has similar interests and expertise. Trees are a big part of the scenery and can be built from home. If you are interested, please email Gary Moyer at: [garygmoyer@comcast.net](mailto:garygmoyer@comcast.net).



Scotia model village. Photo by Bob Hazelton.

## CCHS Acquisitions

January 2020 - October 2021

2019.25 Photograph of Faye Gates.

*Gift of Derek Sherwood*

2020.01 Ettinger and Co. jacquard coverlet.

*Anonymous Donor*

2020.02 Double weave coverlet with M. POTTS/1802 cross-stitched on white section.

*Anonymous Donor*

2020.04 Program for presentation of The United States Army-Navy Award for Excellence to the Titan Metal Manufacturing Company, Bellefonte, PA, September 2, 1942. Certificate from Titan Metal Manufacturing Company to John B. Wert, Jr. Full page newspaper advertisement for Titan Metal Manufacturing Company's World War II honor roll from Centre Democrat, April 8, 1943.

*Gift of Penny Blazer*



2020.05 Friendship quilt from Rebersburg, PA. Quilt contains 425 names embroidered in red on quilt top.

*Gift of Sybil Mays*

2020.06 Wooden slat and bentwood rocking chair.

*Gift of Virginia Walker*

2020.07 Photocopy of school tax receipt from Snow Shoe, Centre Co., for J.S. Somerville, April 1, 1870.

*Gift of Clearfield County Historical Society*

2020.08 Archival material and photos about Sherm Lutz, Snow Shoe, PA, and Way family.

*Gift of Clark Confer*

2020.10 Ann Patton Tract Ore Prospects Map drawn with ink on vellum.

*Gift of Candace Vallimont*

2020.11 Ledger book of Friedrich Schenck 1806-1820. Schenck account ledger 1846-1853. Ledger for Howard Ware House, 1847/67. "Austin S. Schenck's Book" ledger, 1899 colored map of Centre County. Commercial orchard site plan drawing by J. Foster Musser '16, dated May 17, 1915.

*Gift of James Sorensen*



2021.01 Pair of wooden frame snowshoes.

*Gift of Patricia Zarkower*

2021.02 Watercolor painting of the Duck Pond on College Ave., January 12, 1942.

*Gift of Emma Westerman*

2021.03 Extensive collection of photographs and documents relating to Russell L. Foster, David Boal, Mary Olds Foster, and William Foster.

*Gift of Rebecca Foster*

2021.04 Photographs: Bellefonte Central RR, Elena Glenn and Virginia Ricker, State College/Mt. Nittany winter scene. Program and prayer State College Centennial Day Observance. Yearbooks: 1922-1926 State College High School Maroon and Gray.

*Gift of Heather Ricker-Gilbert*

2021.06 *The Snow Shoe House: The Jenkin David Family House, Snow Shoe, Pennsylvania, 1890-1990* by Jean Finlayson.

*Gift of Leigh Allard*

2021.07 Photographs from Penns Cave.

*Gift of Tredyffrin Easttown Historical Society*

2021.08 Four postcards of scenes around Snow Shoe.

*Gift of Virginia Bergey*

2021.09 Photograph of the Bellefonte Central Railroad engine stopped across a dirt road.

*Anonymous Donor*

2021.10 Program from Cathaum Theatre. *Our Town* booklet, 1925. Booklet, The Pennsylvania State College Bulletin, Preliminary Announcement, 1928.

*Gift of Charles Reiss*

2021.11 Seven photographs of the Centre Furnace Mansion.

*Gift of Charles Dawson*

2021.12 Photograph of single engine biplane sitting in field.

*Gift of Connie Daugherty*

2021.13 Two photographs of the Pastime Theater, State College.

*Gift of Gary Wood*



2021.14 Five hand tools: boring machine, slick, adz, ax, and spud. In memory of William R. Dickson.

*Gift of Andrew Yablonsky*

2021.15 Cast iron hand iron. Hand forged by a blacksmith. Iron belonged to General Philip Benner and was in the Benner mansion.

*Gift of Robert N. Benner*



2021.16 Eight items relating to Andrew G. Curtin, Camp Curtin, and the Civil War.

*Gift of Robert Fromme*

2021.17 Hardbound handwritten diary from 1938 kept by young man who graduated from State College High School in 1938. He and his family are not identified in diary, but he mentions many State College residents by name.

*Gift of Susan Burmeister-Brown*

2021.18 Hardbound ledger used as scrapbook for articles about George Gray Barnard.

*Gift of John Dillon*

2021.20 Two children's wooden pencil boxes.

*Gift of William Benson*

2021.21 19th century Seth Thomas mantel clock.

*Gift of Richard Pencek*



## Archives Move Update

Work continues with planning to move the CCHS archival collection to the new space in the Ice House building. The fire detection system was installed late this summer along with a ductless air conditioning/heating unit. Work to reorganize the textile collection stored in the Ice House attic has been ongoing to make them more accessible. In the coming months, we will be painting, continuing preparation of the space and then begin to move the archival collection.

We would like to thank the Downtown State College Rotary Club for its financial assistance this fall through its community grant program.

We would also like to thank NYU student intern Priscilla Mariani for all of her work this semester! We wish her well as the semester comes to a close.

More to come in the Winter!



*The Centre County Historical Society  
is grateful to the  
**Downtown State College Rotary Club**  
for its recent grant to help fund the  
CCHS Archives Project*

## Missing Issues of Town & Gown

We are hoping that someone can help us with our *Town & Gown* magazine collection in the CCHS library. We are missing the following issues:

January 1966	July 1978	April 2006
March 1966	August 1978	May 2007
July 1966	June 2001	January 2008
November 1968	December 2002	July 2008
May 1969	July 2003	August 2010
October 1970	April 2004	September 2011
January 1971	December 2004	June 2012
July 1972	January 2005	July 2014
September 1972	July 2005	August 2014
February 1974	November 2005	August 2015
April 1974	December 2005	September 2015

If you have any of these issues and would be willing to donate them, we would love to have them! Please contact Mary Sorensen at [msorensen@centrefurnace.org](mailto:msorensen@centrefurnace.org) or call at 814-234-4779.

## Docent Corner

Tours times have been reinstated by appointment, the Boogersburg open house took place once again, and now we are preparing for the Stocking Stuffer being held in-person. As we ease back into some semblance of normalcy, we extend warm thanks to our CCHS Mansion and Boogersburg Docent Committees for all of their enthusiastic support!



*Joy Schon, Johanna Sedgwick, Karen Hazel  
and Lynn Royse prepare for Stocking Stuffer.*

## Day of Caring

Our many thanks go out to over 70 individuals, organizations and businesses who volunteered and contributed to the 2021 United Way Day of Caring at the Centre Furnace Mansion and the Boogersburg School historic sites. Special thanks to our CCHS volunteers who came out to lead groups, oversee check-in, lunch prep and even move mulch, prune unruly shrubs, and pull their share of weeds!

Oh behalf of the Board of Governors and staff of the Centre County Historical Society, we extend our warmest appreciation to Centre County United Way and to all who have graciously donated materials and/or took time from your busy schedules to join us on the Day of Caring and make it a highly productive day!

For photos and a full listing of contributors and volunteers, visit: <https://centrehistory.org/join-support/day-of-caring/>



## Mansion Restoration

2021 was an unforgettable year for CCHS as so many critical repair and restoration needs were addressed on the Centre Furnace Mansion by the incredibly generous support of many in this first phase. As we round out the year, we are pleased to add that the roof of the Mansion's Spring House has been repaired by Smith Masonry and the flagstone walkway that has been in long need of repair has been replaced by Alex's Proscapes as well as French drains to accommodate the new rainwater collection system. It is wonderful to go into winter with these major projects completed as we plan the next phase including painting, window restoration, and the Mansion's front staircase.



*Top: Replaced flagstone walkway.*



*Bottom: Repaired Spring House*

Visit [www.centrehistory.org/restoration](http://www.centrehistory.org/restoration) to see the details of Phase 1.

## Gardener's Corner

The Centre Furnace Mansion Gardeners deservedly concluded the gardening season at the Mansion with the United Way day of Caring followed by a workday to put up fencing to protect vulnerable trees from our determined deer herd! JustServe volunteers have been helpful with end-of-season garden projects from weeding to helping organize the tool shed.



Before long, we will be working on outdoor decorating in preparation for Stocking Stuffer. If you are interested in

*Mike Canich can usually be found with an edger or wheelbarrow.*



*Chris Igo, Beverly Lipski and Jan Villastrigo deer proofing.*

assisting or contributing greens and supplies, call or email Mary Sorensen at [msorensen@centrefurnace.org](mailto:msorensen@centrefurnace.org) or 814-234-4779.

Special thanks to our CFM Gardeners for overseeing efforts in the gardens to make the Mansion grounds a beautiful and welcoming place.

## CCC Legacy Day

CCC Legacy Day held tradition this August at Poe Valley State Park with humid warm weather and occasional sprinkles, but this didn't dampen the spirits of over 125 guests. Folk singer and songwriter, Van Wagner, welcomed attendees in the morning with CCC-themed music, followed by an introduction by Bill Marcum and showing of a rare film clip of some of the activities of Poe Valley Camp S-63.

We extend our gratitude to those who generously contributed programming including Erik Ledbetter, William Forrey, Paul Fagley, and Angela Wentling-Jaillet to make the 2021 CCC Legacy day an amazing day.

Many, many thanks to our sponsors and partners for their contributions to make this day possible: Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, staff at Poe Valley State Park, William and Mary Marcum, Mid-State Roofing and Coating, Inc., Millheim Small Engine and Cafe Lemont. And enthusiastic thanks to Ed DeBrasky, Laura and Michael Contino, and Peter Sorensen for helping during the event.



*Top: Bill Marcum*

*Bottom: A portion of the extensive collection of CCC apparel and gear that was on display and presented by Erik Ledbetter.*



## 2021 Annual Fund

**M**any, many thanks to all who have contributed to our Annual Fund Campaign thus far! It provides much-needed income to pay operating and maintenance expenses for our buildings and grounds, support our small professional staff, and otherwise pay for so much of what we do.

If you find yourself facing the IRS's Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) before year's end, we encourage you to consider giving to the CCHS by directly transferring funds from your IRA. Your gift (aka, qualified charitable distribution) is excluded from your taxable income, which can reduce your federal tax obligation.

However you give, your generosity will enable us to carry out our mission of discovering, preserving, interpreting, and presenting the fascinating history of our beloved Centre County.

Donations received October 1 - November 5, 2021.

Kent & Mary Addis	Helen Manfull
Joyce Adgate	Susan & Louis Mayer
Bill & Deborah Asbury	John & Jodi Mentzell
Charlie & Don Bainbridge	Jo Merrell & Floyd Todd
Mimi Barash Coppersmith	Gary & Karen Miller
Sven & Carmen Bilén	Ann & George Moellenbrock
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George & Mary Harrigan	Graham & Sandra Spanier
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Beverly J. Hickey	Ann Taylor & Marty Gutowski
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Susan N. Hochreiter	Sally S. Tucker
Judy Heberling & Michael Husband	Mary Watson
John & Gina Ikenberry	Steve Walton
George & Ann Johnstone	Roger Williams & Karen Magnuson
J. Alfred & Avis Jones	Nancy Wolf
William & Barbara Jones	Andrew Yablonsky
Joe Keiser	Scott & Glenda Yocum
L. Suzanne Kellerman	Craig & Diane Zabel
Walter Y. King	Anonymous
Maynard Kohler	Anonymous
Felicia Lewis	
Helen Love	



## Mansion Restoration Fund Donors

Donations received August 6 - November 5, 2021.

Anne & Tom Cornell	Peggy & William Hartman
Joseph & Nan Geise	Robert Potter
Louis & Judy Geschwindner	Kay Sengle
Carol & Lee Gouty	Jackson Spielvogel
Bill & Ann Gray	

## Thank You

**W**e are thankful for the many things that people do every day to help out with CCHS. Whether through service, donated items, or providing program support. We thank the following for their contributions:

Becky Dreese - donation of an iPad for Stocking Stuffer.

Katie Frieden - donation of Stocking Stuffer supplies.

Judy Heberling - donation of archival supplies.

Albert Jarrett - painting outdoor chairs and bench.

David Lembeck - donation of graphic design

Beverly Lipski - donation of garden supplies.

Emily Kostenecki - for property committee work.

Jo Merrell - donation of a beautiful plant urn for the Mansion's Dining Room and garden supplies.

Kari & Tom Reyburn – for providing program technical support.

Graham Spanier - completed a comprehensive indexing of CCHS's Town & Gown Collection.

Service Organizations:

- JustServe Elders and Sisters for regularly helping in the gardens and grounds and wherever needed!
- Penn State Serve State
- Penn State Circle K

Day of Caring Donors and Volunteers:

Mike Canich  
Joyce Christini  
Becky Dreese  
Elizabeth Dutton  
Katie Frieden  
Steve Gentry  
Carol Gouty  
Judy Heberling  
Mike Husband  
Chris Igo  
Sue Kellerman  
Beverly Lipski  
Lou Mayer  
Jo Merrell

Ann Moellenbrock  
Gloria Nieweg  
Fran Nufer  
Carol Phillips  
Sharon Phillips  
Geri Reeve  
Lynn Royse  
Annie Taylor  
Floyd Todd  
Jan Villastrigo  
Linda Witmer  
Nancy Wolf



*JustServe Sisters helping paint jars for Stocking Stuffer.*



*Fresh coat of paint thanks to Albert Jarrett*





CENTRE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

CENTRE FURNACE MANSION

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- ☐ I wish to help cut down on mailing costs and help the environment. Please send my newsletters via e-mail!
- ☐ I would like my membership / donation to remain anonymous.

Your membership in the CCHS also makes the preservation possible for the Centre Furnace Mansion, Boogersburg School, and countless other explorations of our shared history and heritage – places that help us “get away” without even having to leave Centre County.

As we continue to schedule an engaging series of programs and events, we invite you to reconnect with the past and help preserve the beauty of the present through your membership. Your support means everything.

As our thanks to you for partnering with us on our mission to discover, explore, preserve, and interpret Centre County history, your membership benefits in CCHS include:

- 10% off CCHS publications (*Don't forget to mention that you are a member when purchasing books in our Museum Store. If purchasing books through our website, enter MEMBERS10 at the checkout.*)
- Lending privileges that allow you to check out books from the CCHS research library
- *Mansion Notes* Newsletter
- Advanced notification of upcoming programs via email

Join or renew at <https://centre-county-historical-society.square.site>, fill out this form and send to CCHS, 1001 E. College Ave., State College, PA 16801 or call us at 814-234-4779. The annual membership period is January through December.

