

Restoration, At Long Last

Forty years ago, in April 1981, years of visioning came to fruition when the Centre County Historical Society committed to hiring an architect for the rehabilitation of the newly acquired Centre Furnace Mansion. The restoration of the building's interior and exterior during the 1980s culminated with the roof being replaced in 1988. But historic buildings, like the nearly 200-year-old Centre Furnace Mansion, require constant maintenance and periodic rehabilitation. So now, a generation later, restoration work has begun to address replacement of the mansion's roof and restoration of its porches.

The roof will be replaced with treated Certigrade No. 1 top-quality red cedar shingles. These technologically advanced shingles match the type and varied widths of the shingles found on the original 1830s roof and promise a longer life than those installed when the roof was last replaced 33 years ago.

The current restoration doesn't stop there, however. The Mansion's eaves, corbels, and three of its porches are also on the list for this phase of the project. Honeybee investigation in the mansion's eaves, and relocation of the bees if at all possible, will be undertaken as well.

The Mansion Restoration Project is being conducted in close cooperation with the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission's (PHMC) Historic Preservation Office. Hours upon hours of meetings and communications, both internal to the CCHS and external with the PHMC, laid the groundwork for decisions about the scope of the project and the materials to be used.

In addition, the Covid-19 pandemic affected the project considerably. The National Association of Home Builders recently reported that lumber prices alone have increased more than 200% since April 2020. Supply chain issues also added substantial increases to building materials. A year ago, the project was estimated to cost about \$250,000. This past month, the CCHS signed contracts for a total project cost of over \$352,000.

With the challenges these increased costs presented, the CCHS is extremely grateful for the generous support of grant-funding agencies: The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission Keystone Preservation Grant, the Hamer Foundation and the Happy Valley Adventure Bureau Tourism Grant together provided \$156,000. Leadership

gifts from astoundingly generous CCHS members and supporters provided an additional \$176,000. Nonetheless, additional private gifts will be needed over the coming weeks.

Professional contributions-in-kind have also made all the difference, specifically from Alan Popovich, AIA, APArchitects, and Bill Marcum, RRC, Martech Associates, Inc. Their dedication to the restoration project cannot be overstated.

In the 1970's, as CCHS was grappling with the details of restoring the Mansion for the first time, our current restoration architect and CCHS board member Alan Popovich was a student at Penn State. Alan did graduate work with Denson Groenendaal, whom he credits with awakening his interest in historic preservation. Professor Groenendaal's specialties in Penn State's College of Arts and Architecture included historic preservation, restoration and rehabilitation, heritage project development, preservation technology, and interpretative planning. To our good fortune, these areas of expertise would come to be Alan's specialties as well, examples of which can be seen at the Mansion, throughout Centre County and beyond.

Registered roofing consultant Bill Marcum, vice president of Martech Associates Inc., entered the roofing construction industry in the 1970s and went on to start his own consulting firm in 1986 with his wife Mary Marcum, president. That led to 35 years of planning the roofing systems of many historic structures at universities, churches, and historic sites locally and around the country, as Bill became an authority on slate and other types of historic roofs. Bill is also the local historian whose

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Mansion Roof Replacement 2021



Mansion Roof Replacement 1988

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 at <https://centre-county-historical-society.square.site/> 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.



Funding for this publication is supported by a grant from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.



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 ☞

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YouTube channel: <https://rb.gy/sfxzk7>
www.centrehistory.org
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Public tours at the Centre Furnace Mansion continue to be delayed until further notice.

The gardens and grounds remain open for strolling, but we ask that you use caution with roof repairs underway. Current CDC health protocols for wearing masks, hand sanitation and maintaining physical distancing apply.

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.



STAY CONNECTED

If you are not receiving our email updates for programs and other activities and would like to, please contact Johanna Sedgwick at jsedgwick@centrefurnace.org and let her know to add you to the contact list.

CCHS postcards and newsletters are unable to be forwarded by the Post Office. To help cut down on the costs of returned mail, simply give us a call 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. We can also update your winter or summer address.

President's Corner

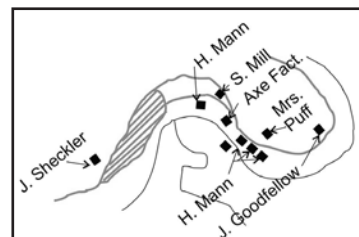
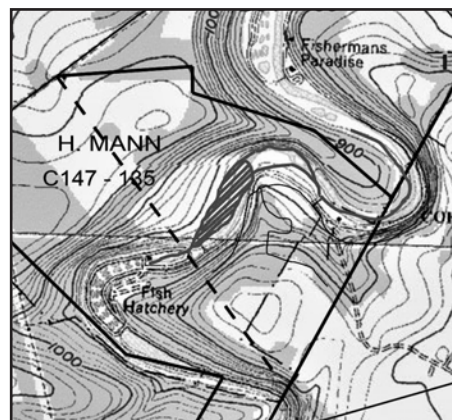


A Man(n) with an Axe to Grind

That phrase normally is associated with taking revenge. However, for the Mann family it meant success.

Related to the Centre County's iron trade was Harvey Mann's axe factory located along Spring Creek. The production of Mann axes is normally associated with the town of Axemann located along the Logan Branch of Spring Creek. Actually, when Harvey Mann's axe factory existed the town was called Boiling Springs and not until 1884 was renamed Axemann. The Axemann operation was a large facility involving several buildings and two dams to drive water wheels for power. It was during an era when axes were in high demand that the facility at Boiling Springs proved inadequate for expansion.

In order to support his Logan Branch operation, Harvey Mann had secured a land warrant that straddled the main branch of Spring Creek downstream from Philip Benner's Rock Iron Works operation. There Mann constructed a factory for finishing and polishing his axes. He also built a saw mill and a large dam to provide the waterwheel power for both. It was in operation prior to 1861 and Pomeroy's atlas of 1874 provides details which suggest Mann provided company houses for his workers. The dam was in an ideal location with steep embankments on both sides of Spring Creek. The area can



Harvey Mann's Land Warrant on Spring Creek with dam location superimposed.



Steve Walton and Bob Caroline in Spring Creek with a rescued grindstone.

be located today upstream from Fisherman's Paradise and near the Fish and Boat Commission shooting range. Fishing in that same area a few years ago when the creek was low, Bob Caroline found a large circular flat stone, which was revealed to be one of the grindstones used at Harvey Mann's Spring Creek facility.

Harvey Mann had another land warrant located about three miles west of Runville off Bush Hollow Road. The area appears on modern topo maps appropriately named Grindstone Gap as along an almost dried-up tributary of Wallace Run. Here Harvey Mann quarried his grindstones. There is evidence that up to 12 six-foot diameter grindstones were cut from the exposed rock formation. One such 6-foot-wide grindstone appears nearly chiseled out but then abandoned, marking the end of a once flourishing operation. It is not known if the stones quarried at Grindstone Gap were the only source of grindstones for both of Spring Creek and Logan Branch operations.

The Axemann facility on the Logan Branch has a much more involved history for another time.

~ Bob Hazelton

Director's Message

May is National Historic Preservation Month, a month that celebrates the nation's heritage through historic places, the stories they reveal and the people who bring them to life.

As restoration work on the Centre Furnace Mansion gets under way, I am reminded of its own preservation story. Planning efforts for the restoration and rehabilitation of the Centre Furnace Mansion in the 1980's was a monumental effort. But it was only possible because members of the Historical Society and the community recognized its importance. This led to an initiative in the late 1960's and 70's to divert the 322 Bypass transportation project from being routed through the Centre Furnace site.

Pennsylvania has 3,424 listings on the National Register of Historic Places, ranking fourth in the nation. Centre County ranks #15 in Pennsylvania with 63 listings located in every corner of the county, 48 historic sites and 15 historic districts, that all tell the unique and interwoven stories of the area. Each were saved and/or preserved by the same passion and hard work of the communities, individuals and organizations that care for them.

Whether stories are discovered in the attics and recesses of old houses or the archives and collections of museums and historic sites, preserving them is critical to our understanding their history. They help us understand our past so we can pass down the stories to our children, through oral history, publications, exhibitions, history talks or docent led tours.



CFM docent, Gloria Nieweg, giving a mansion tour.

Mansion tours:

We are currently giving the occasional tour when visitors call us and schedule a time. We plan to announce an opening date this summer when construction work, and hopefully the pandemic, comes to a close.

Mary Sorensen

Upcoming Programs and Events

New Deal Post Office Murals in Central Pennsylvania

Virtual talk by David Lembeck
Sunday, June 6, 2:00 p.m.

This talk, based on the 2008 exhibition presented by the State Museum of Pennsylvania, *A Common Canvas* was created to commemorate the seventy-fifth anniversary of Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal. *A Common Canvas* is the result of a research and documentation project by co-curator David Lembeck and photographer Michael Mutmanský. Between 1934 and 1943 artists were commissioned to create artworks for specific post offices in towns and cities throughout the state. Pennsylvania has the second largest number of post office artworks in places like Selinsgrove, Altoona, and Renovo. These beautiful murals and sculptures preserve details of Pennsylvania's agriculture, industry, and history. A registration link will be posted on CentreHistory.org a week prior to the talk.

David Lembeck has been studying Pennsylvania post office art and architecture for over twenty years. Following graduation from Penn State with a dual major in Graphic Design and Speech Communications, he worked in publication design in Baltimore, Washington, D.C., and State College. Much of his work deals with architecture and historic preservation.



Selinsgrove Post Office
"Susquehanna Trail"

by George Rickey, 1939

Photograph: Michael Mutmanský



"Iron Pouring" by Jean de Marco, 1941, Aluminum.

Danville Post Office. Photograph: Michael Mutmanský

Virtual presentations are held on the Zoom meeting. Programs are free and open to the public, and donations are appreciated. The programs have a limit of 100 registrants, but will be recorded and made available on the CCHS YouTube channel.

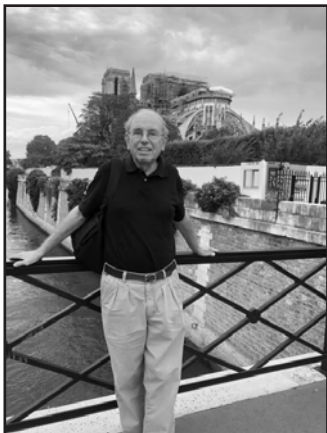
Program links will be provided first to current members, then to the public via our e-newsletter, Facebook page and website: CentreHistory.org. There will be an opportunity to ask questions after the talks.

Please let us know if you have any questions or are not receiving CCHS email updates by contacting us at 814-234-4779 or email info@centrecountyhistory.org.

Discovering WWI: From Boalsburg to France and Back

Virtual talk by Bob Potter
Sunday, July 25, 2:00 p.m.

The recent centennial of World War I briefly brought this devastating conflict back into the news. Bob's journey began with the desire to learn about the history of the 28th Division Shrine in Boalsburg on the original training grounds of Col. Theodore Boal's mounted machine gun troop. He will share his experience through an illustrated presentation that will take you through selected aspects of U.S. World War I involvement that he discovered through travel in the rural regions of France where over 115,000 doughboys died in under a year and where 35,000 are buried or commemorated as missing in action in American World War I cemeteries.



Bob may be most well known for his role as first full time Executive Director of Centre Foundation from 2000 to 2007. His tireless volunteer contributions to non-profits throughout Centre County include CCHS, United Way, Central Pennsylvania Festival of the Arts, Nittany Valley Symphony, Schlow Library, the Boalsburg Village Conservancy and Boalsburg Heritage Museum to name a few.

Thank you to Winter/Spring Speakers

We wish to extend our many thanks to our winter and early spring speakers for providing educational and engaging virtual programs that are a meaningful addition to CCHS programming!

- Dr. Patrick Parsons - *Pennsylvania: The Cradle of Cable Television*
- Dr. Stephen H. Browne - *George Washington's First Inaugural Address and Why It Still Matters*
- Charles Fergus - *Nighthawk's Wing*

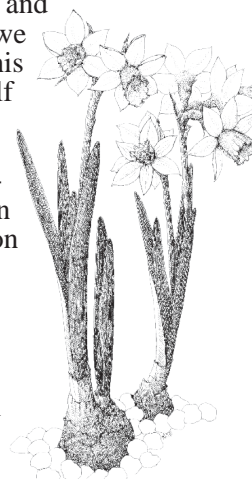


Charles Fergus speaking during "Nighthawks Wing"

26th Annual Plant Celebration

Saturday, May 8, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

After having to cancel last year's sale, the Centre County Historical Society is pleased to announce that its 26th Annual Plant Celebration at the Centre Furnace Mansion hosted by the Mansion Gardeners will take place on Saturday, May 8. We look forward to welcoming the public back for this annual CCHS tradition to celebrate the Mansion's gardens and those who keep them beautiful. While we will not be hosting an open house this year, shoppers are welcome to do a self guided tour of the gardens.



We are happy to welcome back returning and look forward to new vendors in addition to the Centre Furnace Mansion Gardeners:

2021 participating vendors:

- Deb's Flower Farm
- Go Native Tree Farm
- Meadowsweet Native Plant Farm
- Note cards by Esther Del Rosso
- The Rock Garden Nursery
- Rose Franklin's Perennials
- Shuey's Market

Parking: The Mansion's restoration work is well underway and you will be able to see the progress! Parking will be available in our grass lot off of E. College Avenue as well as in the parking lot off of Porter Road. There may be construction equipment in the Porter Road lot, please be patient! Volunteer parking attendants will be available in the morning. **Read More at CentreHistory.org.**



2018 Plant Celebration

Covid-19 Protocol: In line with Pennsylvania's guidance on outdoor gatherings, core public health measures such as face covering (mask-wearing), social distancing, and hand hygiene still must be enforced. We ask our visitors, vendors and volunteers to adhere to these protective measures throughout the event.

While you are out, visit our friends at the Lemont Village Association who are also holding their annual plant sale on May 8. Full details at lemontvillage.org.

Centre Gives

May 11, 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. May 12

The Centre Foundation has made a huge difference for many an organization's ability to continue its mission work, including CCHS.

Centre Gives is a unique, online giving event designed to encourage community giving and to support the great work of Centre County non-profits. This year, in the shadow of COVID-19, Centre Gives will be more important than ever. Beginning at **9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 11, and ending at 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 12**, the online giving event will last for 36 hours.

Your donation of \$10 or more to the Centre County Historical Society through Centre Gives will not only qualify CCHS for a larger share of Centre Foundation's \$300,000 stretch pool, but for additional prize money during the event as well.

Your contributions through Centre Gives provide critical funds for the many ongoing programs and activities that are held at the Society's historic sites. If you have attended talks or exhibitions, volunteered as a docent or gardened in the Mansions period gardens, been an intern, helped with collections or data entry projects, volunteered for events, written for a newsletter or publication, then you are familiar CCHS's mission. You probably already know that through these, and other activities, we work in collaboration with local, regional, county and state organizations and individuals to help preserve and promote Centre County's historic, cultural, and natural resources.

There are many items on the daily do list to make the Centre Furnace Mansion, the Boogersburg School and the activities at these sites and beyond available to the public. Your donations help us to accomplish these mission goals.

We will not be hosting an open house during this time, but if you would like to make a donation by phone, we can help you! Call us at 234-4779 on May 11 and 12 between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. if you would like help by phone or would like to set a time to stop in.



Centre
gives

May 11 & 12, 2021

Donate between
3:00-4:00 p.m.
on May 11
to help us
compete for the
**Tea Time Power
Hour prize!**

Donate at
CentreGives.org



Remember the additional prizes!

Tea Time Power Hour - If we all join together and plan to make our donations between 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. on May 11, the organization with the most unique donors during this hour will win an additional \$500 prize!

Also, every donation to CCHS between 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. on May 11 and May 12 will be placed into a random drawing for an additional \$500 Endowment Prize.

Jacqueline J. Melander Society Reception

Sunday, August 15 @ 4:30 p.m.



Marjorie and Wayland Dunaway, chairs, and Judge Roy Wilkinson, honorary chair, of the Centre Furnace Renaissance Campaign and Jackie Melander, CCHS President during the 1980's restoration of the Centre Furnace Mansion.

The Jacqueline J. Melander Society was formed in 2015 to recognize individuals who have chosen to leave a legacy of local history for future generations. The Society has been named in honor of Jackie Melander, who was the driving force behind the preservation and restoration of the Centre Furnace Mansion. Planned gifts from Melander Society members will help to ensure that the CCHS remains a financially viable and culturally valuable institution for our children and grandchildren.

If you value local history, you can make a lasting impact by remembering the Centre County Historical Society in your will. A planned gift can support the Society's broad mission of preservation, advocacy and education.

There are many ways to leave a planned gift, but the simplest way is to leave a bequest to CCHS in your will. There are also tax benefits associated with planned giving. There is no minimum amount required to join the Melander Society. Rather, this is an opportunity to demonstrate your commitment to preserving our past for generations to come.

If you have already designated the CCHS in your will please let us know so we can add your name to the growing ranks of the Melander Society. If you have not, please consider taking this significant step and let us know by contacting us at the Centre County Historical Society at 814-234-4779, or email msorensen@centrefurnace.org.

Gardeners Corner



We owe a debt of thanks to our Centre Furnace Mansion Garden Committee for their persistence and hard work in the mansion's gardens this spring! It has been a beautiful spring in the gardens with early and late blooming snowdrops and gardenfuls of daffodils, hellebore, anemone and other spring ephemerals gracing the historic landscape. Cool temperatures made for long lasting blooms. As scaffolding and lifts have needed to inch close to the mansion, plants were removed and potted up from the Kitchen garden for safe-keeping. The lower kitchen garden that was revitalized last fall has a wonderful show of bulbs, Virginia bluebells and now asparagus, black current and rhubarb.

Are you a gardener? We would love to invite you to join us! Our Gardeners gather each Thursday for a few hours to work in the gardens and extra hands are always welcome. Many of our Gardeners are seasoned Master Gardeners as well and working with this team is also an opportunity to learn a few new gardening tips and tricks. If you would like to help out, even for an hour or two, gardening times are 1:00-4:00 p.m. on Thursdays until the summer days get too warm. Then, we switch to Thursday mornings from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Please feel free to stop out during this time and introduce yourself or give us a call for more information at 814-234-4779.



CFM Gardeners Mike Husband, Jo Merrell, Judy Heberling, Marty Warner, Carol Gouty, Katie Frieden, Beverly Lipski and Mike Canich

Service Groups

For all the ways you contribute and pitch in, we cannot thank you enough. This spring we have had several service organizations that have helped us out in the gardens and to help us temporarily move items in storage to prepare for construction.



Just Serve Sisters weeding in the shrub garden.



Just Serve Elders picking up the many sticks that fell over the winter.



Penn State Serve State Students for Philanthropy weeding in the front bed.



Penn State Homecoming Committee cleaning up near the furnace stack.



Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity helped with moving contents from the attic in preparation of the roof work.

Archives Space

Over the past year CCHS Archives Committee: Lee Stout, Sue Kellerman, Judy Heberling, Mary Sorensen and Johanna Sedgwick took the opportunity during down time to evaluate solutions for CCHS Archives Collection storage. Our current archives storage room is less than adequate in terms of climate control, space and location. Centre County related photographs make up a significant part of the collection, along with documents, letters, maps and other ephemera. Their safe keeping is, of course, a top priority. The collections are documented and in good condition, but we are out of space in their current location.

With that, the Ice House building behind the Mansion will be re purposed for the archival collection. The Ice House building is a modern building built in 2008 on the limestone foundation of the historic Ice House that burned down in 2003 as a result of a lightning strike to a neighboring tree. Since 2008, the Ice House building has served well as a location to host temporary exhibitions. This building will give us more space and, with a couple of improvements, make a suitable new location for the archival collections.

A fall grant application will be submitted for the PHMC Historical and Archival Records Care Grant to fund archival housing, needed shelving and staff to help us migrate remaining archival records from the original FileMaker to our current PastPerfect database with the goal of making a portion of the collection, particularly the photographs, available online. What this grant will not cover is fire detection and climate control needed in the Ice House to move forward with work. We anticipate these components will cost up to \$6,000.

If you are interested in contributing to this effort, we would love to hear from you! Please contact Mary Sorensen at msorensen@centrefurnace.org or call at 814-234-4779.



CCHS archives shelves in current archives storage room.

From the Archives

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	October 1970	May 1978
March 1966	January 1971	July 1978
July 1966	July 1972	August 1978
November 1968	August 1972	October 1978
May 1969	September 1972	March 1986

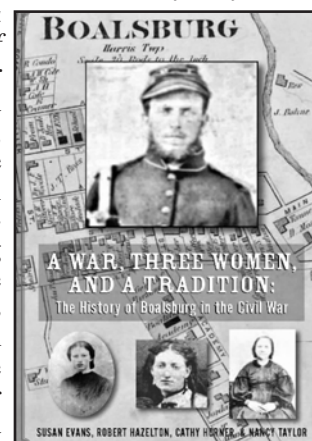
If you have any of these issues and would be willing to donate them, we would love to have them! Also, if you are handy with Excel and would be interested in helping us catch up with indexing this collection, please contact Mary Sorensen at msorensen@centrefurnace.org or call at 814-234-4779.



Memorial Day parade in Livonia, ca. 1950
CCHS Places & Spaces Collection, 1998.PS.2038

Museum Store

Some reading for Memorial Day! Researched and written by local historians: Susan Evans, Robert Hazelton, Cathy Horner and Nancy Taylor, *A War, Three Women and a Tradition: The History of Boalsburg in the Civil War* looks closely at the lives and families of Elizabeth Myers, Emma Hunter and Sophie Keller – the three women credited with starting Memorial Day. Unlike anything that has been written before on this subject, this book ties together who these women were, why they walked to the cemetery that day in October of 1864 and what they did with the rest of their lives.



The book also gives a fascinating look at the connections Boalsburg and all of Centre County had to the major players of the Civil War including President Lincoln. Available at the Centre Furnace Mansion or online at centre-county-historical-society.square.site.

Restoration, At Long Last

Continued from cover article

research and writing have captured the history of Company 1333 - Camp S-63, Poe Valley, of the Civilian Conservation Corps and other Centre County CCC history.

The restoration team also includes long-time general contractor Veronesi Building and Remodeling, Inc., in State College; subcontract team Mid-State Roofing and Coating, Inc., in Belleville; and painting contractor Homewrights Construction, LLC., in State College. Honeybee investigation in the mansion's eaves, with an eye to relocating these beneficial insects, will be done by Andrew Jones of Tug Hollow Honey in Huntingdon.

Since 1978, when the Mansion was bequeathed to the Historical Society by David B. Garver, much has been done to preserve, restore, and enhance the ironmaster's home, its grounds, and the Centre Furnace stack site. The current Board of Governors, CCHS volunteers, members and supporters stand on the shoulders of our predecessors who devoted years of effort to preserving these community treasures at the gateway to State College and Penn State. The two sites stand as testament to the two most important economic and developmental advancements in Centre County history: the 18th century origins of the iron-making industry and the 19th century founding of the Pennsylvania State University. The Mansion proper has been visited and enjoyed by tens of thousands of visitors and school-age youngsters over the last forty years. As the restoration project finishes up this summer, we look forward to hosting thousands more.

CCHS members and friends are invited to stop by, park in the lot off Porter Road, and take a look (from a safe distance) at the scaffolding and construction currently underway. Please contact Mary Sorensen at msorensen@centrefurnace.org or 814-234-4779 for more information.



Above: Centre Furnace Mansion today.

Below: Original 1830s shingles on the Mansion roof enclosed in the attic with the addition of the ell in 1846.



Thank you to the leadership gift donors:

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in memory of Carolyn Clinefelter Smith

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FOUNDATION**



This project is being made possible in part through a grant provided by the Centre County Board of Commissioners and Happy Valley Adventure Bureau.

Membership

Our many thanks to 73 new and 276 renewing members for swelling our ranks this year. As of April 26, our total membership stands at 442—349 annual and 93 life members. The growth in membership is already nine percent more than the 406 members in 2020, and there are still months to go to make our goal of 500 members. Thank you for your dedication and generous support to CCHS!

New Members

Janice & Bill Donahue
Carolyn Anderson
Patricia Antolosky
William & Deborah Asbury
Anonymous
Clarence & Darlene Bachmann
Charlie & Don Bainbridge
Donald & Barbara Barney
Richard Barrickman
Diane Bartram
Stephen Browne
O. Richard & Christine Bundy
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In Memoriam Remembering Friends

Diane Kerly

Cultural and natural history are intertwined in most ways with every aspect of a community and its people. Long-time member of CCHS, Diane understood that and was an ardent supporter and active with a multitude of non-profit organizations in Centre County including her service to the Hamer Foundation. Her gentle spirit of giving will be felt in Centre County for years to come.

Nancy Shedd

A local historian and impassioned educator, Nancy cared deeply about preserving the history of Huntingdon County as the Huntingdon County Historical Society executive director from 1989 to 2004 and volunteered for many years more. She also served on the board and committees of the Pennsylvania Federation of Museums and Historical Organizations (now PA Museums.) Nancy will be remembered as a collaborator at our sister historical society in Huntingdon.

John Eastlake

An educator, historian and avid hiker, John was always at the ready to share his knowledge. With his Bachelors in Agriculture-Forestry from Penn State in 1959, John went on to work for the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources after 39 years, a career that surely benefited both. John frequently did talks about the Civilian Conservation Corps at the Legacy Day at Poe Valley Camp and was a valuable committee member for that event.



John Eastlake speaking at the 2017
CCC Legacy Day.



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Interns and Student Volunteers

Communications Chair Lee Stout and Ford Risley have a vision to create a digital Centre County Encyclopedia of History and Culture. The Committee has been busy over the past year working on and soliciting entries for what will become the new Centre County Encyclopedia of History and Culture. Web design and development are currently in the works, but we do not want to give too much away yet! This online encyclopedia will be a separate section on our evolving CentreHistory.org website.

Cheers and many thanks to Penn State Students who have participated in research and writing articles for the Encyclopedia:

- Grey Rochon, Junior in the Schreyer Honors College, B.A. Psychology, B.A. Sociology and B.A. History.
- Arielle (Ari) Lim, Senior, B.A. Labor and Employment Relations, B.A. History, Medieval European



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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.*)
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