

The Contested Exhumation and Reburial of John Patton

By Roger L. Williams

John Patton, the founding ironmaster of Centre Furnace, died in 1804. A major figure in Centre County's origins and no small player in the American Revolution, Patton reappeared to make history again 134 years later—or at least his remains did.

But first, of course, came his birth, in 1745 in Sligo, Ireland. Patton immigrated to America in 1761, when he was 15, settling in Philadelphia and rising as a prosperous merchant and, later, as an ironmaster in Berks County. He made his true mark in the American Revolution. In 1776, at age 31, he was appointed major of the 1st Battalion of Colonel Samuel Miles's regiment of 1,000 Pennsylvania riflemen. For a brief time, he commanded the defenses of Philadelphia. In conjunction with prominent merchants including Robert Morris, Patton helped to raise substantial funds to support the war effort.

Patton as Officer in the Continental Army

At the disastrous Battle of Long Island in August 1776, Major Patton escaped capture. In March 1777, he married his second wife Jane Bartholomew Davis of Philadelphia. That same year, Patton won promotion to colonel of one of 16 new regiments authorized by the Continental Congress, receiving his appointment from General Washington.

During the Valley Forge winter of 1778, Congress appointed Patton to superintend the purchase of flour and meat for the beleaguered Continental Army. Shortly thereafter, Washington tapped Patton to serve in his personal bodyguard. In July 1779, he was elected to the First Troop, Philadelphia City Cavalry, and served as Cornet of the troop until war's end. In 1783, along with Colonel Miles, he was inducted into the Society of the Cincinnati, the nation's oldest patriotic organization, composed of American and French army officers—a band of brothers.

Patton as Major General of Pennsylvania Militia

Patton's military service did not end there, however. In 1793, four years after he had arrived at Centre Furnace, Patton was appointed by Governor Thomas Mifflin as major general of the 8th Division of Pennsylvania militia (Bedford, Huntingdon, and Mifflin counties). He mobilized, equipped, and drilled his troops to take part in the campaign of 1794 to quash the Whiskey Rebellion in western Pennsylvania. After his seven-year term expired, Governor Thomas McKean commissioned him as major general of the 19th Division of state militia (Centre, Huntingdon, and Mifflin counties).

Patton and Miles Buy Huge Tracts of Land

Like many ambitious men of his time, Patton was keenly interested in real estate and land development, the greatest entrepreneurial undertaking of the early American Republic. The goal was to take up warrants for thousands of acres, move settlers in to provide a social and economic base, and then sell or rent farmland or town lots at profit.

In 1772, before the Revolution, Samuel Miles took up some 9,000 acres of land in what is now Miles Township, Centre County. After the war, he began selling or leasing farms to Pennsylvania Germans from Dauphin, Lebanon and Northumberland counties. As they tilled the soil, the farmers plowed up iron ore—very rich iron ore, as it was assayed in Philadelphia. Miles took out warrants for more land in what are now Boggs, Spring, and Benner townships.

Patton also took up land warrants in the area before and after the Revolution. When Miles and Patton began to consider the location for an iron furnace, they decided upon the upper Spring Creek site and took up warrants for 8,000 acres in the vicinity of the planned iron works. Patton became owner of thousands of acres in present-day Patton, College and Harris townships. As time went by, the two procured even more land in the area.

Operations Begin at Centre Furnace

Centre Furnace was an informal partnership between Samuel Miles, John Patton, and Samuel's son John Miles. The partnership never owned the land as a single legal entity; instead, the principals retained what they already owned.

Miles was an absentee partner, more or less, remaining in Philadelphia but making occasional visits. Patton came to the area in 1789 to build their furnace. He attracted a skilled workforce from eastern Pennsylvania, where many furnaces had shut down.

In 1791, Patton and his workmen built a cold blast furnace, which went into operation in May 1792. The "blast" was produced by two bellows pumped by a waterwheel powered by nearby Thompson's Run. Notably, Centre Furnace was the second furnace to operate in central Pennsylvania. The first was Bedford or Cromwell Furnace (1785) at present-day Orbisonia in Huntingdon County.

Centre Furnace functioned not only as an iron furnace, but also boasted a store, a sawmill, and land sales office for the 50 families of workmen who attended the operation in the 1790s.

Continued on page 10



Above: John Patton's headstone in Riverview Cemetery, Huntingdon.

Right: Ken Burton with the headstone found toppled over.



About the Centre County Historical Society

☞ Contact Us ☞

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

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

Research at the Centre Furnace Mansion:
 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 e-mailing info@centrecountyhistory.org.

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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.

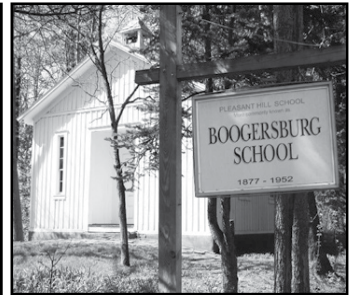
The Centre County Historical Society depends on financial contributions that help support our free public programs and educational opportunities for children, and provide necessary funds for the maintenance and operation of the Society's facilities and collections. Your membership and generosity are 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.

The Society may also be supported 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.

Upcoming Activities

Please note that reservations are needed for some programs by calling 814-234-2449.

Centre Furnace Mansion Tours:

Tours are available by appointment on Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.. Please call us at 814-234-4779 or visit CentreHistory.org/visit-us/visit for available dates and times.

THUR 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Weekly gardening at the Centre Furnace Mansion. All are welcome. As weather permits. Call 814-234-4779 for more information.

TUE May 10 - WED May 11: Centre Gives at CentreGives.org online fundraiser.

SAT May 14, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.: 27th Annual Plant Celebration & Garden Sale at the Centre Furnace Mansion.

SAT June 4, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.: Volunteer Fair at the Centre Furnace Mansion.

THUR June 9, 5:00 p.m.: CCHS Volunteer Reception at the Centre Furnace Mansion.

Save the Date

SUN July 31, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.: Legacy of the Civilian Conservation Corps at Poe Valley State Park

SUN September 11, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.: Boopersburg School Open House at the Boopersburg School, 1021 Fox Hill Rd.

Programs to See Again

See recordings of past CCHS talks on our YouTube channel at: <https://rb.gy/sfxzk7>.

Stay Connected

www.centrehistory.org

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If you are not receiving our electronic newsletter and would like to, please contact Johanna Sedgwick at: 814-234-4779 or jsedgwick@centrefurnace.org. You can also visit CentreHistory.org and click on the sign up link at the bottom of the page.

President's Corner

By Roger L. Williams

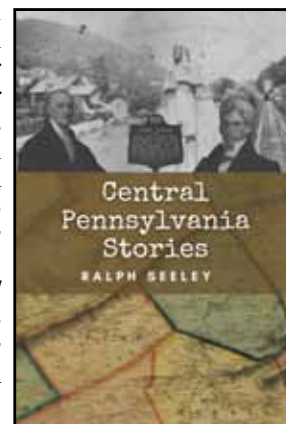


What do you do when you wake up one morning, look in the bathroom mirror, and see a 91-year-old man staring back at you?

If you're Ralph Seeley, an 18-year veteran of the CCHS Board of Governors, you keep doing what you've been doing for years—thinking, researching, and writing about local history and, more recently, new stories sparked by flights of imagination.

Ralph recently stepped down from Board and has been accorded emeritus status, so he'll continue to be a resource for the CCHS. His own story is as fascinating as the subjects he writes about, evident in the 15-page document—"Experiences in a Long Life"—he handed me when I visited his Bellefonte home earlier this month. An ardent outdoorsman, adviser to the Penn State Outing Club for many years, skier, hiker, explorer, builder of miles upon miles of trails in central Pennsylvania, Bell Labs engineer and later associate professor of engineering research in Penn State's Applied Research Laboratory, art lover and world traveler, widower of three wives, and historian. Along the way, he's won his fair share of awards: Penn State's Sy Barash Award for Human Service; The Pa. Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' Volunteer of the Year (1998); and the CCHS President's Award for Outstanding Service (2015).

Ralph came to the CCHS Board of Governors in 2004. What kept him there was the leadership of Executive Director Mary Sorensen, whom he greatly admires. What sparked his interest in local history was a 1997 article he wrote, "Halfmoon Township: The Experience of Settlement," for Centre County Heritage, edited by then-Governor Douglas Macneal, who was well known for his histories of Penn's Valley. That experience, coupled with Ralph's earlier retirement from Penn State and his familiarity with regional geography, led him to embark on serious historical writing: *Foot Trails of the Moshannon and Southern Elk State Forests*; *Great Buffalo Swamp: a Trail Guide and Historical Record for the Quehanna Plateau and the Moshannon State Forest*; *Native People and Their Paths in Central Pennsylvania*; and the newly published *Central Pennsylvania Stories*.



Central Pennsylvania Stories by Ralph Seeley now in the Museum Store

Ralph grew up near Ithaca, N.Y. At age 17, unable to get the scholarship he needed to afford Cornell, he wound up at Duke. His dad's brother was a faculty member at Duke who found him a scholarship and opened the doors to the university aspiring to become the Princeton of the South. Ralph's initial impression was shock at the way African Americans were treated—hired as menial laborers but segregated from everything else.

Ralph's stories flow like a never-ending stream. He notes that the aforesaid Doug Macneal was "a very good historian. He discovered the history of the Great Plains." The Great Plains were a 4,000-acre expanse of grassland—sans trees—in Penn's Valley, east and south of Centre Hall. The area was a great attraction to the early German settlers who moved in and began farming its rich limestone and dolomite soil, laced with iron. The Great Plains were the apple of James Potter's eye when in 1759 he stood at McBride's Gap on Nittany Mountain, looked down in awe, and proclaimed to his companion, "I have discovered an empire."

Now Ralph continues to think, dream, and write what he calls his "imagination stories." These are fictional or speculative narratives on whatever topics interest him. He has composed 82 such stories. Only a small portion is historical.

But one historical episode that fascinates him is the placement and removal of the Standing Stone, a 14-foot narrow slate obelisk

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Director's Message

Spring is a season of renewal and awakening as the days lengthen and flower bulbs and blossoms burst open to ring in a brand new season. This is always abundantly evident at the Centre Furnace Mansion as the gardens light up with spring ephemerals and our Garden Committee and a cadre of service groups come back in force with fresh energy to prepare for the Plant Celebration and the garden season.

Spring for CCHS this year has also brought to fruition a few long awaited projects. Ralph Seeley's book *Central Pennsylvania Stories*, and *Aaronsburg to Zion* by Joan Brower and Cathy Horner. Soon they will be in the Mansion's museum store and in the hands of those who have awaited them!

Also new this year, and long anticipated, we look forward to the first installation of a new Centre County aviation exhibition at University Park Airport described on page 6.

And, of course, we look forward to all of the upcoming activities, including the Plant Celebration, CCC legacy Day and increased visitors as the weather warms. Many Centre County museums and historic sites are planning to open for tours and activities. See page 13 *Around the County* for a summer's worth of things to do!

The missions of organizations like CCHS would be impossible to realize without the passion and enthusiasm of volunteers who generously give of their time, talent and resources.

April is national Volunteer Month, dedicated to all who make nonprofit wheels turn. We extend our most sincere thanks to all who volunteer with the Historical Society. In June we will hold a reception to celebrate our CCHS Volunteers. A Volunteer Fair will also be held in June at the Centre Furnace Mansion to intrigue those who have an interest in volunteering with CCHS. Check for details on page 8-9.

We will see you soon!

~ Mary Sorensen



The Penn State Homcoming Committee and The Bridge Initiative April 2022 Day of Service

Upcoming Programs and Events

Centre Gives

May 10, 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. May 11



The Centre County Historical Society has participated in Centre Gives since its first year in 2012. We could not have imagined its impact at that time for CCHS and so many other area non-profits.

Donations that have come from the generosity of Centre Gives donors have helped us through lean and challenging times and we cannot begin to thank Centre Foundation and all of our donors who participate in this amazing giving event.

Your contributions to CCHS through Centre Gives provide critical funds that help support the many ongoing programs and activities that the Historical Society hosts and the historic treasures that it owns and maintains.

If you have attended talks or exhibitions, volunteered as a docent or gardened in the Mansions period inspired 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.

DETAILS: Beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 10, and ending at 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 11, the online giving event will last for 36 hours.

Your donation 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.

Make your donation between 3:00–4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 10, to help us compete for the Tea Time Power Hour Prize!

If you would like to make a donation by phone, we can help you! Call us at 234-4779 on May 10 and 11 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.

27th Annual Plant Celebration

Saturday, May 14, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Centre County Historical Society will hold its 27th Annual Plant Celebration at the Centre Furnace Mansion. Hosted by the CFM Gardeners, the sale will take place on Saturday, May 14, from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. rain or shine! We enthusiastically welcome the public for this annual CCHS tradition to celebrate the Mansion's gardens and all who keep them beautiful.

Plant Sale: Plants and garden-related items for sale by the CFM Gardeners and a number of returning and new vendors.

Book Sale: Gently used garden books and CCHS publications will be for sale in the Mansion Hearth Room.

Open House: Centre Furnace Mansion will be open for visitors to explore.

Ask a Master Gardener: Penn State Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners of Centre County will answer questions, identify and evaluate plant samples.

Art Exhibition: Garden theme artwork by artist Brenda Horner will be exhibited and for sale throughout the Mansion's first floor during the Plant Celebration and month of May.

Parking: Parking is available in the grass lot off E. College Avenue and in the parking lot off Porter Rd. Volunteer parking attendants will be available in the morning.

Read More at CentreHistory.org.



Above: Terrariums made by the CFM Gardeners for sale at the Plant Celebration.

Right: The 2021 Plant Celebration was likely our coldest Plant Celebration but that didn't stop us! Dress for the weather: The sale is held rain or shine!



2022 Participating Vendors

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

- Brenda Horner Artworks
- Centre Furnace Mansion Gardeners
- Common Ground Organic Farm
- Deb's Flower Farm
- Go Native Tree Farm
- Meadowsweet Native Plant Farm
- Note cards by Esther Del Rosso
- The Rock Garden
- Rose Franklin's Perennials
- Shuey's Market
- Wilson Farms

Local Plant Sales

May 7 - Lemont Village Association annual Plant Sale on the Village Green Details at lemontvillage.org.

May 7 - Central Pa Native Plant Festival, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the Boal Mansion, Boalsburg. Full details at pnativeplantsociety.org.

May 21 - Centre County Master Gardener Plant Sale, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Penn State Ag Progress Days site.

Legacy of the Civilian Conservation Corps: Company 1333 – Camp S-63, Poe Valley

Sunday, July 31, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

@ Poe Valley State Park

CCHS is pleased to partner with the Pennsylvania DCNR and William Marcum, local historian and research authority on the Poe Valley CCC Camp, to host a day-long program about the CCC.

An important part of this day will include time for attendees to share their personal stories with others. A collection of memorabilia will be on display for you to enjoy and you may bring any mementos that you wish to share. Attendees will also learn how events brought about the creation of the Civilian Conservation Corps program that included the construction of Poe Valley State Park. An original rare film featuring the Poe Valley Camp to will also be shown.

Enjoy a lunch inspired by authentic CCC menu boards. While there is no set cost for lunch, donations to help cover costs are appreciated.

The Foreman's Boys: The Story of Civilian Conservation Corps, Company 1333, Camp S-63, Poe Valley by William Marcum is available for sale on our website and at the Centre Furnace Mansion

For full details and to RSVP for lunch, visit CentreHistory.org or call 814-234-4779.

Upon Their Outstretched Wings

Exhibition Beginning May 15 at the University Park Airport

On February 2, 1925, Congress authorized the Postmaster General to contract for airmail service. The first commercial airmail flight in the United States occurred on 2/15/1925. From 1919 to 1927 Bellefonte was a major refueling stop for mail traveling from New York to Chicago. The initial stop on the first scheduled westbound airmail flight was made in Bellefonte by Pilot Leon D. Smith on December 18, 1918. This exhibit highlights the role Bellefonte and Centre County played in the infancy of this monumentally influential technological advancement.

Aviation, in general, and airmail history required pioneering efforts from “those daring young men and women in their flying machines.” This exhibit highlights some of those pioneers and their exploits.

We are looking forward to the first installation of Centre County Aviation exhibit displays to be installed at the University Park Airport in May. The first display will be installed in one of the existing display cases near the baggage area at the airport and will focus on the early air mail history in Bellefonte. Photographs, articles and objects, several from CCHS’s Sherman Lutz Collection, help tell this story with narrative text written by Katie O’Toole and Jackie Esposito. Sue Kellerman has researched early air mail articles in the *Democratic Watchman* online archives and she along with her team at Penn State University Libraries are working on the newspaper artifactual features.



Airmail Pilot leaving Bellefonte airfield, postcard undated.
CCHS Places & Spaces Photo Collection 1998.PS.1901

We are grateful to our Supporting Sponsor:
Centre County Airport Authority

Special thanks to:
Penn State University Libraries Preservation Conservation and Digitization; Conservation Centre; Graphic Designer David Lembeck; American Philatelic Society; Daniel Hines Air Mail Archives

Exhibition Committee: Jacqueline Esposito, Suzanne Kellerman, Kathleen O’Toole, Mary Sorensen, Johanna Sedgwick

For more information, visit CentreHistory.org

Stocking Stuffer Turns 20! Save the date for the Stocking Stuffer Magical Holiday Market

Friday, December 2 - Sunday December 4, 2022



As we leave the snow season behind, we are already planning the 2022 Stocking Stuffer sale. After the challenges of the pandemic, we are excited to get an early start! We are looking forward to celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Stocking

Stuffer in December 2022 and wanted to make sure you have the sale dates on your calendar.

Stocking Stuffer Sponsors & Supporters Needed

The Stocking Stuffer is the Historical Society’s largest fundraiser providing 15% to 20% of CCHS’s annual budget. As this event has grown, sponsorship is critical to provide an event of this scale. We invite you to join Mimi Barash Coppersmith, a 7-year sponsor, as a supporting sponsor starting at \$1000, or as a Stocking Stuffer Supporter of \$50 or more. For more information about sponsorship opportunities and how to be a supporter, please contact Mary Sorensen.

This year our Member Preview Sale will be on Thursday, December 1. We will continue hosting authors for book signings and adding interesting merchandise for shoppers. For information about being a Stocking Stuffer Vendor, please contact Johanna Sedgwick.

Do you love shopping at the Stocking Stuffer? Consider volunteering! There are roles and times for every schedule. To inquire about volunteering contact Mary Sorensen.

For more information, contact:

Mary Sorensen: msorensen@centrefurnace.org

Johanna Sedgwick: jsedgwick@centrefurnace.org

Or call us at: 814-234-4779

Stocking Stuffer Co-Chairs:

Deb McManus: celtikick@aol.com

Becky Dreese: becky@thrivehrmanagement.com



Bellefonte and the Early Air Mail 1918-1927 second edition by Kathleen Wunderly is back in stock in the CCHS Museum Store. This book tells the story of Bellefonte’s role in the early days of the U.S. Airmail and is full of images and stories. Published by the American Philatelic Society, headquartered in Bellefonte.

CCHS Acquisitions

February - April 2022

2022.01 Deeds and documents related to Half Moon Township and associated maps.

Gift of William Sigel

2022.02 Two photos, Bellefonte High School class of 1921 and unidentified photo of a large group of men standing in front of the Centre County Courthouse.

Gift of Edward Mulfinger



*Bellefonte Class of 1921.
2022.02.01*

2022.03 Late 19th/early 20th century double globe lamp.

Gift of Lenna Neff

2022.04 1871 Record book of the United Brethren in Christ Bald Eagle Valley Circuit.

Gift of Eric and Kelly Porterfield

2022.05 1835 Jacquard coverlet woven by Emanuel Ettinger, Aaronsburg.

Gift of Nancy Rexford

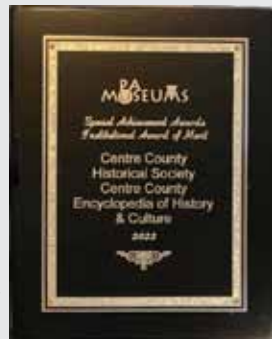
2022.06 19th century woodworking tools including a drill, lathe chisel, rasp, and block plane.

Gift of Richard Pencek in honor of the family of Kenneth Staub Jr.

The Centre County Encyclopedia of History & Culture Receives Award

The Centre County Historical Society is pleased to announce that it has received a PA Museums Special Achievement Awards, Institutional Award of Merit, for the **Centre County Encyclopedia of History & Culture**. Congratulations to co-editors Lee Stout and Ford Risley, Encyclopedia contributors and all who have made this project happen including web developer Graphics & Design and funding from the Happy Valley Adventure Bureau.

PA Museums is Pennsylvania's statewide museum association with 350 members across the Commonwealth. PA Museums' membership includes museums and historical organizations of many types and sizes. In addition to providing professional development opportunities for museum professionals, the organization also leads advocacy campaigns on behalf of the museum community.



A Boy and His Sled

by Judy Heberling

Some museum collections objects have great historical significance; some are physically interesting or beautiful, and some just make us happy. The Centre County Historical Society recently received a donation that makes everyone who sees it smile—a child's well-used wooden sled with his name and hometown painted on the top.

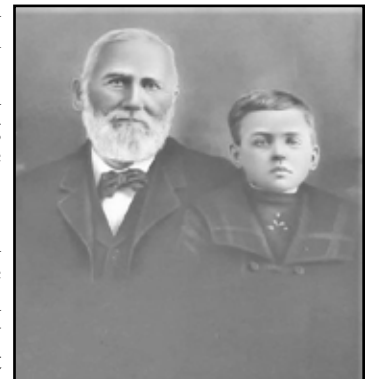
The child was Newton E. Hess, who was born in 1862 to Michael and Emeline Hess on the family farm just off Shingletown Road near the Harris-Ferguson Township line. The farm was "on the Branch," as the records described it, and Roaring Run, a Slab Cabin Run tributary, flows through the property. Newton's grandfather Samuel Hess established the farm in the early nineteenth century and passed it on to his son Michael, who farmed it until he retired. The farm, still known locally as the Hess Farm, has been the subject of a ClearWater Conservancy effort to obtain a conservation easement on more than 100 acres of it.



Child's wooden sled with "N.E. Hess, Shingletown, Centre Co. PA painted on it. 2021.23.01

As a young man Newton Hess left farming behind to become a businessman and banker in State College. He was vice president, then chairman of the board of the original First National Bank, president of Nittany Printing and Publishing Company, and president of the Centre Theatre Corporation, the owner of the local State Theatre. Hess was also famous in State College for his exploits as a big game hunter, an activity he pursued avidly after a visit to the 1893 Chicago World's Fair. In 1928 he finally realized his dream of bagging an Alaskan Kodiak bear, which he had stuffed and displayed with other big game trophies in his large house on West College Avenue.

Newton E. Hess died on May 27, 1944, in State College and was buried in Pine Hall Cemetery beside his wife Margaret McWilliams Hess. A Hess descendant, Lee Ann Hess Candor, generously donated the charming sled, a portrait of Michael and young Newton, and two family snapshots to the Centre County Historical Society in 2021.



Portrait of Michael Hess and his son Newton Hess. 2021.23.02

Gardener's Corner



Left to right: Jan Villastrigo, Ruth Merritt, Chris Igo, Judy Heberling, Ann Shallcross, Beverly Lipski, Carol Gouty, Katie Frieden

Thursday gardening days in the Centre Furnace Mansion gardens kicked off in mid-March this spring, and we have a good head start on plant offerings for the Plant Celebration in May!

With special thanks to the Centre Furnace Mansion Gardeners, and especially to weekly “regulars” this spring: co-chairs Beverly Lipski and Katie Frieden, Ruth Merritt, Judy Heberling, Jan Villastrigo, Sharon Phillips, Carol Gouty, Carol Phillips, Joyce Christini, and Chris Igo.

Weekends have been busy with spring service groups to help with picking up sticks, weeding and mulching. We thank the following groups for their good work!

JustServe
Penn State Circle K
Penn State Homecoming Committee
Penn State: The Bridge Initiative

We welcome extra hands in the gardens on Thursdays! If you think you may be interested, contact Mary Sorensen at msorensen@centrefurnace.org or call 814-234-4779 for more information or to be added on the gardeners' email list.

Garden/Service Day Wish List

Thank you for considering wish list items.

Shop vac
6' Ladder
Roof for the gazebo!
Bottled water for service days
Garden gloves for volunteer groups
Gently used garden books for Plant Celebration.

Contact Mary Sorensen at 814-234-4779 or email msorensen@centrefurnace.org for additional information!

Docents Corner

Tours are picking up this spring as visitors are getting out and about more. Thank you to docents: Steve and Carol Gentry, Lou Mayer, Gloria Nieweg, Lynn Royse, Bonnie Walter, Linda Witmer who have been leading regular tours at the Centre Furnace Mansion over the past quarter! Public tours are critical to CCHS's mission and we are fortunate to have dedicated docents.

We are heartened to see that area elementary and high school classes are beginning to schedule tours again and extend our thanks to Lynn Royse, Linda Witmer and Gloria Nieweg who will be leading school tours later in May. We need volunteers who are interested in learning to be a docent or greeter for our regular tours or school tours. To learn more, contact Mary Sorensen at msorensen@centrefurnace.org.



Lynn Royse and Gloria Nieweg prepare for a school tour, 2017

Volunteer Appreciation Reception

Tuesday, June 9, 5:00 p.m.

@ The Centre Furnace Mansion

As an expression of our appreciation, CCHS is hosting a reception on **Tuesday, June 9, at 5:00 p.m.** to celebrate all of you who have contributed your time and talent to CCHS. Please RSVP by e-mailing Johanna at jsedgwick@centrefurnace.org or call us at 814-234-4779.



Volunteer reception held in June 2019

Volunteer Fair and Open House - We need you!

Saturday, June 4, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

The Centre County Historical Society is a community of dedicated colleagues from a variety of professions and interests, most of whom are volunteers. With a number of initiatives and activities, the need for volunteer participation is critically important and continues to grow.

Whether your interest is local history, guiding tours, gardening, event planning, office projects, collections, writing, handy projects, educational programming, marketing or event planning, we need your help!

In an effort to reach out to the public and showcase volunteerism at the Historical Society, we will be holding a volunteer fair and open house on Saturday, June 4 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. The fair will be set up in “stations” and there will be staff and volunteers available to talk about the various roles and the opportunities that are available to anyone interested in CCHS. We encourage our members to attend this special event and enjoy an afternoon visit to the Centre Furnace Mansion. Persons interested in volunteering will be given information at the volunteer fair about how to get involved in their areas of interest. Training will be provided!

Contact Mary Sorensen at msorensen@centrefurnace.org for further information

Volunteer Opportunities

Collections/Archives and Office: There are a number of tasks that are helpful to have extra hands for including data entry, proofreading, historical research for public inquiries, scanning and help with cleaning and polishing silver.

Programming and Events: Duties range from assisting on planning committees to staffing in-person activities for a number of activities including the Boogersburg Open House, CCC Legacy Day, Historic Preservation Awards, Plant Celebration, Stocking Stuffer as well as exhibitions, public talks and various other receptions and activities.

Docent Committee: Docent tours are held at both the Centre Furnace Mansion and Boogersburg School. At the Mansion, public tours are held regularly on Sunday, Monday and Wednesday throughout the year. School tours are held at both the Mansion and School. Docents are needed for both of these roles.



Garden Committee: Our Gardeners are busy year-round with weekly gardening times, service groups and decorating the outside of the Mansion for Stocking Stuffer.

Service Group Leadership: Extra hands are helpful to guide service groups at the Centre Furnace Mansion or Boogersburg School with landscape, painting and organizing projects. Service days are scheduled throughout the year to address tasks as needed.



Logan Sedgwick from Boy Scout troop 34, completed community service hours at the Boogersburg School.

Property: Assist with handy projects: exterior/interior minor maintenance, painting and carpentry projects.



Sue Kellerman and Jackie Esposito planning the airport exhibit.



JustServe Sisters helping with book inventory



Docents making ornaments for Stocking Stuffer



Stocking Stuffer volunteers Linda Witmer and Karen Hazel welcome members/volunteers Barbara & Chenzie Grignano.

John Patton

Continued from front page

In many ways, it resembled a self-contained, self-sufficient manorial village.

The management of the original Centre Furnace operation is another story altogether. Suffice it to say that transporting the raw product of the furnace – pig iron – to distant markets in Pittsburgh and Baltimore posed great difficulty. The problem was solved somewhat by the construction of nearby forges to process Centre Furnace iron—Benner’s Rock Forge, Harmony Forge (1795), Bellefonte Forge (1795); Spring Creek Forge (1795) and Hall’s Forge (1797). Attracting and retaining skilled labor was a continual problem. Blacks composed a small part of the labor force—two or three enslaved, another paid for his work. Finances were challenging as well, as some of the forges could not afford to pay for what it cost Centre Furnace to produce the pig iron. The decline of the original Centre Furnace was now under way. In 1798, Miles bought out Patton’s interest in the operation.

Patton remained in the area, building a cabin on his vast holdings near the intersection of present-day West Branch Road and Shingletown Road in Harris Township. He died in 1804. According to his wish, he was buried on his lands, on the portion that later became the Samuel B. Wasson farm. Miles died shortly thereafter, in 1805. He passed on the ownership of Centre Furnace to his sons, under whose management production declined quickly. Centre Furnace went out of blast in 1809 and remained idle until 1826, when it took on its second life.

Back from the Dead

Now let’s flip the calendar ahead to 1938, shortly before World War II, when the John Patton story takes a most unusual turn.

“Take Body From Grave, Face Arrest” screamed the headline from the Tyrone Daily Herald on October 31, 1938. “A descendant of General John Patton, Staff Officer under George Washington during the Revolutionary war, charged the Veterans of Foreign Wars post in Huntingdon with the illegal removal of the General’s body from its grave.”

Apparently, a certain Miss Hilda Patton Thompson of Centre Furnace named the commander of the post, Paul Haag, and member Edward Harpster of Franklinville as leaders of a party she saw “disinterring the body last Sunday without permission of the descendants or of the courts.” The legal counsel for Miss Thompson said “the veterans had planned to rebury the body beside the grave of his second wife in Huntingdon at Armistice Day services.” The veterans identified the “well-preserved body through a sword presented to the general by the first troop of Philadelphia, which he organized.” Upon his death in 1804, he was “buried in a little plot on the [present day] Samuel Wasson farm,” near Shingletown.

Then came the zinger: “Sheriff Harry W. Keller said he would go to Huntingdon to return the body and take Haag and Harpster into custody.”

Patton’s grave site was not hard to find. A “mound of stone” marked the grave, which was visited periodically by the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. But the “mound of stone” was no small memorial and the disinterment no easy task: On October 23, the VFW delegation had to remove 60 tons of rock—120,000 pounds—before they reached the casket. And they were hardly a rogue band of ghouls, as the Tyrone newspaper intimated.



The field at the top of the ridge between the barn on left and outbuilding on right is the site of the original Patton grave.

The delegation of Standing Stone Post #1745, Veterans of Foreign Wars, in Huntingdon, had received permission from a Patton descendant, Alexander A. Anderson, and the grave site property owner, Samuel Wasson. In fact, Wasson had granted permission six months earlier, on May 2, 1938, to the VFW post “to remove the body of Colonel John Patton from grave located on my property,” with the proviso that the VFW reimburse him for any damage that might be done during the removal.

A Legal Battle Ensues

The controversial disinterment and legal battle had all the makings of a great news story. On November 2, the Associated Press reported that the Huntingdon VFW had secured a preliminary injunction from Huntingdon County Court to prevent interference with the planned reburial service.

In their appeal for injunction, the VFW argued that the removal and planned reburial had been authorized by the aforesaid Alexander Anderson, the great-grandson of John Patton and a Huntingdon resident, and farm owner Samuel Wasson. The intent was to rebury Patton beside the grave of his second wife, Jane Bartholomew Davis Patton, in Riverview Cemetery, Huntingdon. The VFW stated that Patton’s original grave had been “permitted to lapse into a ‘profane’ condition in a cornfield where it was covered with stones and debris.” One of the VFW members, Edward Harpster, had complained that groundhogs had been digging up Patton’s bones.

As for Centre County Sheriff Harry Keller, the Associated Press reported, “he had attempted to serve a warrant on leaders of the post but was unable to locate them and later gave up the attempt when he learned the injunction had been obtained.”

On November 7, Huntingdon County Judge Chester D. Fetterhooft ruled for a continuance of the preliminary injunction, thus allowing the planned reburial to take place. Apparently, despite the protests of Hilda Thompson and Joseph Patton of Centre County, the court accepted the VFW’s argument that great-grandson Alexander Anderson was “next in kin,” and that his wish should take precedence.

A Ceremonious Reburial on Armistice Day

Meanwhile, Patton’s remains had been taken to the Huntingdon Armory on October 29. On November 10, the day before Armistice Day, a group of Huntingdon leaders witnessed the placing of Patton’s remains with what re-

mained of his sword and scabbard in a new metal or oaken coffin (accounts vary), which was then sealed shut. The 16 witnesses included John H. Biddle, banker, civic leader, and publisher of the Huntingdon *Daily News*, along with E. Blair Shore, *Daily News* editor, and Chester E. Baker, VFW Senior Vice Commander. That evening, the coffin lay in state with a National Guard honor guard at the Huntingdon Armory.

According to an article in *VFW Magazine* (November 1978), Baker was chair of the committee that made several trips to the Wasson farm before the disinterment. Also on the committee was Ray Sharp, a VFW member who had experience in removing human remains from road construction projects.

As for the mound of stones, it was huge. Current Wasson Farm owner Ron Wasson recalls it as being perhaps 40 feet long, 30 feet wide, and five feet high, on high ground offering spectacular long views of Tussey Mountain and the valley below. In the 1970s, the stone pile was bulldozed into the tree line at the northern border of the farm and is no longer visible as such. The burial site is now planted with sunflowers to attract bees that pollinate Ron's pumpkin field.

The disinterment was done under Sharp's supervision. When the final stones were pushed away, Sharp discovered the outlines of the grave. Baker recalled that "When his probe showed the grave bottom was only inches away, he (Sharp) took over himself. He removed the remaining soil with a tablespoon and camels' hair brushes.

"There before our eyes was the old bleached skeleton. The wooden box the body had been buried in had crumbled to black dust and a curved streak of red dust was all that remained of his saber"—which one account said had been jewel-encrusted.

In any event, at 11:00 on the morning of Armistice Day, the funeral cortege left the Armory and went to the Courthouse. There a memorial service was held with music and religious services and an address by Major Henry N. Bassler, D.D., of Harrisburg. Baker recalled the event as having drawn the largest crowd ever seen in Huntingdon County to that time. A horse-drawn caisson, followed by a large horse blanketed in mourning and a parade of military and civilian units, proceeded to the cemetery where John Patton was laid to rest beside the grave of his wife.

Unfortunately, no painting or image of John Patton survives him; at least nothing can be found. But an archives account described him thus: "Colonel Patton was six feet in height, of noble appearance and carriage, his hair red and eyes hazel. He had a fine address, and a very polished manner."

Together Again in Eternal Rest

So why Huntingdon as John Patton's final resting place? One answer is that there was a direct military connection between Patton and Huntingdon County: as major general, he had commanded its militia for many years, a relationship not lost on the Huntingdon VFW post. The other is the wish of Alexander Anderson to finally unite his great-grandparents. After John's death, Jane Patton moved to Huntingdon and died there, on May 1, 1832.

A Philadelphia native, Jane married John in 1777. Jane of course moved with him to Centre Furnace in 1789. According to 1798 tax records, Jane presided over a log house and a log kitchen at Centre Furnace, the vestige of which is the current Hearth Room of Centre Furnace Mansion. And according to the memoirs of Charles Maurice de Talleyrand, Centre Furnace was a center of civility in the wilderness.

Talleyrand knew civility. He was a French statesman

and diplomat who held high office during the French Revolution, later under Napoleon, and then after the restoration of the Bourbon monarchy, with King Louis-Philippe. He visited Pennsylvania from 1794-96, at the time of his exile, and engaged in some land speculation. In fact, he spent the winter of 1795 with "John Patton of Centre Furnace."

At any rate, sometime after John Patton's death in 1804, Jane removed herself to Huntingdon, presumably to be close to her two adult daughters who resided there.

John and Jane had 12 children altogether. Those who survived childhood lived in various central Pennsylvania towns – Lewistown, Bellefonte, Curwensville — and Huntingdon especially. Two of their children are buried in Riverview Cemetery, Huntingdon, but not literally beside their parents. They are Ellen Patton Dorsey (first husband) McMurtrie (second husband), born in 1787 and dying in 1838; and Jane Patton Anderson, who married Alexander A. Anderson and whose line produced their eponymously named grandson Alexander (1854-1942) who gave permission for the reburial in 1938.

And so ends the story of the exhumation and reburial of John Patton—Revolutionary War colonel and staff officer to George Washington, major general of Pennsylvania militia, co-founder and builder of Centre Furnace and owner of vast tracts of Centre County land. Separated by death for 134 years, he and Jane have been reunited for 84 years under a single headstone in Riverview Cemetery, in the "ancient borough" of Huntingdon, as historian Nancy Shedd dubbed the town.

Author's note: I am indebted to CCHS Vice President Bob Hazelton for suggesting this story, based on some information he had come across. In researching and writing the article, I relied heavily on *The Centre Furnace Story: A Return to Our Roots*, originally prepared by Sylvester K. Stevens in 1927 and greatly revised and expanded by Philip S. Klein in 1985. I also relied on a brief article on Jane Davis Patton written by Jackie Melander, president emerita of the Centre County Historical Society. Jo Chesworth's article "The Furnace That Forged Our Town" from the March 1971 *Town&Gown* provided an excellent overview of the early years and beyond. The *VFW Magazine* of November 1978 was especially insightful for the recollected detail of the disinterment and reburial process that I had not been able to find elsewhere. I am especially grateful for the newspaper and genealogical research conducted by curator, historian, and CCHS volunteer Dr. Judith Heberling, recipient of the CCHS's 2021 President's Award.

On March 25, I drove to Riverview Cemetery in search of the Patton headstone. Established in 1767, the cemetery is hilly and expansive, covering 100-plus acres. Driving around, glancing at headstones without success, I happened upon the cemetery's maintenance crew, Buck Rupert and Chuck Bowman, who eagerly drove me around for an hour or so, to no avail. I then went to the Huntingdon County Historical Society, where Executive Director Margaret Skrivseth provided gracious assistance, but could find no record of the Patton grave. We did, however, stumble upon a letter the Historical Society sent in 1971 to an inquirer, noting that the Patton grave was located in the southeast corner of the old cemetery beside a wild cherry tree. At the Historical Society that day was Ken Burton, doing some electrical work, but also highly knowledgeable about the cemetery. He said he thought he knew where the grave

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John Patton

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was. We drove back to the cemetery, looked around a bit, and Ken soon found the Patton headstone—but lying face down, apparently tipped over by vandals. No wonder we couldn't spot it! Buck Rupert soon arrived at the scene and made arrangements to have the stone righted properly with straps and machinery. He called me at 2:30 that same afternoon to tell me the stone was back in position and cleaned off. Thanks are due these wonderful Huntingdonians who dropped what they were doing to help.

Later that day, I had an appointment to visit Ron and

Candy Wasson, the fifth generation owners (with the sixth in waiting) of the Wasson Farm. Their property is the same farm purchased by the aforesaid Samuel B. Wasson, Ron's great-great grandfather, in 1922. They graciously showed me their beautiful stone and wood home, greatly expanded over the years, with the original hearth room built on the site of John Patton's cabin. Candy brought forth deeds, documents, and articles attesting to the history of the farm, which is marking its 100th year of family ownership this year, with a centennial celebration planned for the summer. It is a working farm, with a variety of crops planted each year, seven milk cows, and the popular Wasson Farm Store, which features homemade ice cream that Ron can never make enough of. They interrupted their day to tell me their farm's fascinating history, which perhaps is the subject for a story yet to come. Ron took me on his John Deere tractor to the Patton burial site, which offers one of the most stunning views of our beautiful state that I have ever seen. I am indebted to the Wassons for their kindness, generosity, and keen interest in preserving the history of their farmstead.

In sum, March 25 was a most invigorating, satisfying day as I rediscovered John Patton's two graves—with more than a little help from my new friends and the guiding spirit of John Patton hovering over me - or so it seemed.



Ron Wasson standing on the site of the original Patton grave.

President's Corner

Continued from page 3

erected near the confluence of the Standing Stone Creek and Juniata River at Huntingdon. It was placed there as a boundary marker, Ralph believes, by Cayuga Indians and later carted away (c. 1754) as whites began to move into the region. It has never been found. If the Standing Stone were a boundary marker, I asked, why weren't there others like it?

"Good question," Ralph said. Who knows? But Ralph is fixated on the subject. I just know there's a riveting imagination story in the offing

Mansion Restoration Activities

Spring weather has made outdoor activities difficult to schedule, but we were able to move forward with having the Mansion's front staircase repaired between the many snow and rain days!

Thanks to Veronesi Building & Remodeling, Inc. for doing a beautiful job with repairs on the front porch and staircase. With mahogany treads, risers and trim, the staircase is built to last for decades to come. The next step is painting, which will take place this spring, by Homewrights Construction. Looking back at historic photographs, we learned that the steps had been treated a few different ways. In recent years, the treads and risers had both been painted the light trim color. The decision was made to paint the risers in response to its historic applications, and from a practical maintenance standpoint, to oil the treads.

Planning is also underway for Mansion Restoration Phase 2 activities, including painting the Mansion and restoring its 47 windows and 11 doors. While contractors continue to have staffing issues, we will need to be patient for this phase, but will share plans when they are more formalized.

We thank our Property Committee Chair, Alan Popovich, for continued guidance with the ongoing planning and repairs on the Mansion and Boogersburg School.



Mansion Staircase Paint Plan by Alan Popovich, AIA

In Memoriam: Remembering Friends

William "Bill" Jaffe

Bill and his late wife, Honey, were long-time CCHS life members and active supporters and philanthropists to the CCHS, Penn State, and many community organizations throughout the Centre Region.

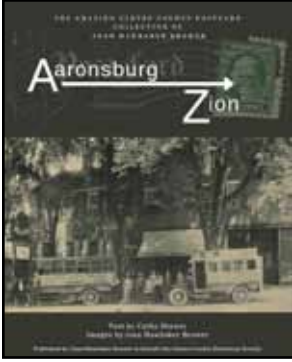
In fact, it was Honey Jaffe's initiative that founded the CCHS's popular Stocking Stuffer event at Centre Furnace Mansion.

A native of Philipsburg Centre County, Bill was a graduate of Penn State (1960) and the University of Illinois (1962). For 21 years, he was vice president and principal of Towers Perrin, one of the world's largest management consultant firms, and since 1995 was an independent management consultant as owner of the Jaffe Group in State College.

Mark Lafer

Mark Lafer and his wife, Theresa, have been long time CCHS members and friends. The Lafers have been active in local government initiatives and active community volunteers.

Museum Store Updates



After years in the making, *Aaronsburg to Zion, The Amazing Centre County Postcard Collection of Joan Hawbaker Brower* is on its way at this writing! Our sincerest gratitude to CCHS Life Member Joan Hawbaker Brower for underwriting and making this special publication a benefit for the Centre County Historical Society.

And many more thanks to Joan and her co-author and long time CCHS Member Cathy Horner for making the history of communities in every corner of Centre County come to life through the postcards in Joan's truly amazing collections.

As noted in the President's Corner, *Central Pennsylvania Stories* by Ralph Seeley has just been published. Ralph describes the obvious features of Centre County and asks, "But what do we know of its history? Here we present short stories that provide vignettes of life in the past, stories that will awaken the reader to some understanding of how Centre County came to be."

These books, and more are available online at CentreHistory.org or by stopping by the Centre Furnace Mansion.



Cultural & Natural Heritage Events

Pipe Organ Recital, Sunday, May 1 @ 3:00 p.m., St. John's United Church of Christ, Boalsburg

The Boalsburg Heritage Museum is sponsoring an organ recital for the two hundred year celebration of the St. John's United Church of Christ church in Boalsburg. The 1868 Durner pipe organ is the oldest pipe organ in the county. A reception will be held at the Boalsburg Heritage Museum following the concert. boalsburgheritagemuseum.org

Victorian Style, Sunday, May 1 @ 2:00 p.m., Eagle Iron Works and Curtin Village

The Victorians knew how to dress. Come learn about Victorian fashions and even try on period pieces. It's a great event for anyone interested in fashion, history, reenactment groups and even volunteering at the Eagle Iron Works and Curtin Village. Donations accepted for this free event. curtinville.com

PHMC Virtual Collections Showcase - Health and Medical Devices, Wednesday, May 11 @ 7:00 p.m.

Museum professionals from five PHMC sites will be presenting and discussing objects from their collections that relate to the shared topic. Each site will have 5 minutes to make the case as to why their object best embodies the theme, ending with a chance for the audience to vote for their favorite. Register at pamilmuseum.org/events

Milesburg Museum & Community Yard Sale, Friday - Saturday, May 13-14, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

The Museum will be accepting donations of good useable items for resale. Drop off dates at the Museum are May 6 and 7, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. milesburg.org

Remembering Family, Monday, May 30 @ 10:00 a.m., Advent Church, Milesburg

The Stauffer Family Band will play traditional music, hymns, and popular songs and will lead participants in a sing-along followed by a social hour. AdventHistoricalSociety.org

Memorial Day Celebration at the Columbus Chapel & Boal Mansion Museum, Monday, May 30

Enjoy live music, Civil War re-enactors, living history demos, great food, craft vendors, and special museum tours. boalmuseum.com

Lemont Village Association: Concerts on the Village Green Friday evenings June 3 – September 30 @ 7:30 p.m.

Songs from Parlor and Pew, Sunday, July 17, @ 2:00 p.m., Advent Church, Milesburg

A concert of popular songs and hymns from the 19th and 20th centuries that trace our musical heritage from the founding of the Advent Church in 1849. This lively production, with sing-along participation, will be followed by a social hour. AdventHistoricalSociety.org

History Pub at Big Spring Spirits, Monthly on the Second Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m., Bellefonte

History Pub is presented by Big Spring Spirits and Local Historia. It brings you engaging monthly discussions of the past each month. RSVP required. localhistoria.com/history-pub

Bellefonte Sunday Afternoon Chamber Music Series, Select Sundays @ 2:30 p.m.

Sponsored by the Bellefonte Historical & Cultural Association and held at the Trinity United Methodist Church, 128 West Howard St. This music series has been presented since 1981. bellefontarts.org

Bellefonte Art Museum

Friday - Sunday, 12:00 - 4:30 p.m. bellefontemuseum.org

Lions David House Heritage Museum, Snow Shoe

Through November, Wednesdays 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m., Saturdays 10:00 a.m. - Noon. david-house-museum.org

Milesburg Museum & Historical Society

Through October, Wednesdays 1:00 - 3:00, Sundays by Appointment. Every Wednesday you are invited to stop in to share old photos. Photos will be scanned and originals returned.

Boalsburg Heritage Museum

Through November, Saturday afternoon tours by appointment. Current exhibit: *Historic Outbuildings and Forgotten Customs* boalsburgheritagemuseum@gmail.com

Columbus Chapel and Boal Mansion Museum

Tours by appointment. 814-466-6210 or jonrowell.boalmansion@gmail.com

Penns Valley Area Historical Museum, Aaronsburg

Museum open Saturdays through October 1:00-4:00 p.m. pennsvalleymuseum.org

CCHS Membership Exceeds 800

As of April 15, the 2022 CCHS membership campaign has enrolled 804 new, renewing, and life members—the highest total in many years. We are grateful beyond words for your interest and enthusiasm in being a part of the CCHS family! We will work to ensure that membership continues to grow over the remainder of 2022.

New Members

Bob Ashley
 Scott & Sandy Balboni
 Kevin Barron
 David and Randi Blauth
 Ingrid & Gordon Blood
 Sherrie Borden
 Blannie & Cathy Bowen
 Barry Bram & Laura Perry
 Gary Brandeis
 Etta Buchwald
 Kathy & Rod Burnham
 Bob Cameron
 Elisa Campbell
 Richard Campbell
 Robert Campbell
 Lee Ann & James Candor
 Drs. Joseph H. & Christy A. Clapper
 Kristine Clark

Catherine Cohan
 Stephen M. Copley & Judith A. Todd Copley
 Martha Cox
 Robert Van Druff & Cynthia Dawso Van Druff
 John & Donna Diercks
 Stephen Engroff & Diane Ray
 Todd & Julia Erdley
 Robert & Marcy Fenza
 Michael Fitzgerald
 Heidi Nicholas & Bruce Fleischer
 Tom & Tamra Fountaine
 Lydia Fox
 Bob & Ellen Frederick
 Luther Gette & Thomas Gette
 John E. & Joan D. Grant
 Robert & Ann Graves
 Bill & Ann Gray
 Cari Gustafson
 James Hackman & Alan Finnecey

Katharina Halperin
 Robert & Linda Hendrickson
 Charles Hosler
 Jeffrey Hughes
 Marilyn D. Jenkins
 Karen Johnson
 Ben & Christa Johnston
 Alfred Jones, Jr.
 Nalini Krishnakutty
 Thom & Rose Kupchinsky
 Bob & Janice Lindsay
 Randy S. & Linda A. Lowe
 Sue & Ken Lower
 Timothy & Janet Magner
 Deborah Marron & Michael Rosenberg
 Andrea Mastro
 Martin & Lee McGann
 Garry McShea
 Dan & Gail Miller
 Douglas Miller

George & Janet Mitchell
 Randall & Alice Montgomery
 Betty Lou Moyer
 Teresa Mull
 Jon Nelson
 Edward & Relda Newlin
 Megan Orient
 Wayne Osgood
 Phil & Rose Park
 Steven Putterman
 Lizette Reed
 Bruce Richter
 Ann Rigo
 Ed & Patricia Rogusky
 William Rusk
 Seda Sahakian
 Linda Salandra
 Susan Scheetz
 James & Brucie Serene
 Paul & Nancy Silvis
 Nancy Slagle

Robert Spangler
 Kim & Susie Steiner
 Donnan Stoicovy
 Michael & Tonya Talone
 JoLaine Teyssier
 Lorraine Y. Teyssier
 Anonymous
 Scott Thompson
 Nancy & Wade Vanlandingham
 Ron & Candy Wasson
 John & Maureen Wellesko
 Susan Wheeler & Derek Elsworth
 Ilene White
 Elizabeth Wilson
 Lois & Richard Wolfe
 Mr. & Mrs. William Yahner
 Ruth L. Yeaton

Renewing Members

Jan Ablove Donahue & Bill Donahue
 Elliot & Bonnie Abrams
 Ellis & Lynne Abramson
 Kent & Mary Addis
 Joyce Adgate
 Jill Aller & Robert DeVoss
 Carolyn Anderson
 Joel & Carol Anderson
 Anonymous
 Patricia Antolosky
 Betty Arnold
 William Asbury
 Dan & Wendy Azzara
 Roger Balmer & Kathy Johnson
 Rich & Kathy Barrickman
 Keith Barry
 Ann Barton
 Jane Baum
 Henrietta Baylor
 Kirk Behrer
 David & Ruth Bell
 R. Thomas & Paulette Berner
 Michael & Deborah Bezilla
 Frederick Bisbee
 Anita Genger & Eric Boeldt
 Ned & Inga Book
 Ian Boswell
 John & Marolyn Boswell
 Steve Bowman
 Bryce & Betsy Boyer
 Joshua & Michelle Bram
 Nancy Burch Brassington
 Scott & Gisela Bresler
 Gloria Briggs
 David & Virginia Brown
 Jane & Dennis Brown
 Charles Brown, Jr.
 Richard Bryant
 O. Richard Bundy Jr. & Christine Bundy
 O. Richard Bundy III
 Pam & Chris Calkins
 Jim & Ellen Campbell
 V. Star Campbell
 Mike & Katherine Canich
 Dr. Fred Carlin & Robin Stevens
 Robert & Marge Carline
 Dr. Richard Carlson & Lori Forlizzi
 Nancy Chiswick & Art Patterson
 Joyce Christini
 Paul Clifford

Ronald T. & Hope Coder
 David & Lisa Coggins
 Ted & Carla Conklin
 Ann Copeland
 Lee & Joan Coraor
 Anne Cornell & Tom Houseknech
 Barbara & John Coylet
 Tom Daubert & Nancy Crane
 Ruth Daugherty
 Evelyn & Thomas Davidowski
 Edward DeBrasky
 Louis & Patricia Delattre
 Rich DiMarcello
 Connie & John DiNunzio
 Michael Dooris
 Rebekah Dreese
 Vicky Droll
 Marty Duff
 Marti Franklin Duffy
 James & Gay Dunne
 Mary Dupuis
 Mary Eagleton
 Nancy Eaton
 Michele & Walter Ebaugh
 Jodi Eisenhooth
 Margaret Ekdahl
 Jacqueline Esposito
 Carl Evensen
 Benjamin Fehl
 Jacob Fehl
 Renate Ferree
 Melanie Fink
 Joe Fiocchetta
 Pat Fisher
 Rod & Casey Fletcher
 Thomas & Christina Foley
 Linda Francis
 Jeffrey Frazier
 Ron & Susan Friedman
 Ed Galus
 Eleanor Gardner
 Roger Geiger
 Joe & Nan Geise
 Louis & Judy Geschwindner
 Luther Gette & Thomas Gette
 David Glossner
 Judith Goetz
 Dennis & Marilyn Gouran
 Carol & Lee Gouty
 Mary Alice Graetzer
 John & Carol Graham
 Margaret & David Gray
 Karen Feldbaum & Debra Greenleaf
 Dianne Gregg
 Joseph Griffin
 Barbara & Chenzie Grignano
 Melody Grubb

Anonymous
 Cynthia & Tom Hall
 Falene Hamilton
 Marian Hammond
 Melissa Hancock
 Elizabeth Hanley
 Sue Hannegan
 Larry Harpster
 Mary & George Harrigan
 Peggy & William Hartman
 Dan & Suzie Hawbaker
 Karen & Don Hazel
 Robert & Janice Hazelton
 Judy Heberling & Mike Husband
 Louise Heberling
 Sally Heffentreyer
 Dennis Heitzmann
 Richard G. Held
 Evonne Henninger
 Sara Willoughby-Herb
 Lynn & Julianne Herman
 Beverly Hickey
 Chris Hickey
 Anne Hoag
 Anonymous
 Win & Pat Hock
 Deryck Holdsworth & Sue Friedman
 Elwood Homan
 Lam & Lina Hood
 John & Jackie Hook
 Thomas Horner
 Cathy & Dave Horner
 Justin Houser
 Kathleen & Sam Hume
 Mary Hunter
 Tina Hydeuke
 Gina & John Ikenberry
 Randy & Mary Ellen Iles
 Jack & Karen Infield
 Rebecca Inlow
 Jerry Jackson
 Nancy & Allen Jacobson
 Lynn Jaffe
 Emilie Jansma
 Albert & Ellen Jarrett
 George & Ann Johnstone
 Avis & Alfred Jones
 Dick Jones
 William & Barbara Jones
 Mrs. H. Bryce Jordan
 Allen Joslyn
 Linda & Teh-Hui Kao
 Warren & Jeanne Kearns
 Caryl Kehoe
 Joe Keiser
 Sue Kellerman

Bruce Kendall & Caroline Ruwight
 Larry & Patti Kenney
 Lisa Kerns
 Richard & Joy Killian
 Neil & Joan Kimerer
 Walter King
 Berton & Mary Kisner
 R. Tom & Ginny Kline
 Norman & Pam Knaub
 Thomas & Pheobe Knepley
 Keith Koch
 Harry Kropp & Ed Legutko
 June Krumrine
 Bob Langton
 Kirk & Sandy Larter
 Gerald & Esther Lauchle
 Douglas Leathers
 Carolyn & Stan Lembeck
 George & Annie Lesieutre
 Christine & Benson Lichtig
 Waneta Lingenfelter
 Beverly & John Lipski
 Lawrence Lokman & Rhonda Seaton
 Kenneth & Sue Lower
 Cuyler Luck
 Helen Manfull
 Anonymous
 Matthew Maris
 William & Alice Markle
 Linda Marshall
 Ken Martin
 Albert & Sharon Matyasovsky
 Louis & Susan Mayer
 Stanley Mayers, Jr.
 Pamela & Dean McCloskey
 Robert & Diane McLaughlin
 Deb McManus
 John & Jodi Mentzell
 Jo Merrell & Floyd Todd
 Ruth & Jonathan Merritt
 Anne & John Messner
 Deborah Meszaros
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Thank You to Spring Speakers

We are grateful to Kevin Hagopian for contributing a talk: *From Pastime to Premiere: The History of Movie Theaters in Centre County* in February as part of our new Encyclopedia Live Talk Series. And many thanks to Dr. Mary Stuckey for providing a talk as part of the Henszey-Pyle Distinguished Author Series: *Deplorable: The Worst Presidential Campaigns from Jefferson to Trump*.

Both talks are now available on the CCHS YouTube channel.



Thank You

We 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:

Penny Eifrig, Eifrig Publishing for going above and beyond with professional assistance with recently published books.

David Lembeck, for generously contributing graphic design work.

Emily Kostenecki who continues to work with us on property documentation work.

JustServe Elders and Sisters for their dedicated service in the gardens and grounds and wherever needed.

Blake Teitelbaum and LVTech for contribution of tech support.

CCHS Intern Ishaan Anavkar, Penn State Jr. majoring in History and Sociology, for his article in the Centre County Encyclopedia about Harmony Forge this spring.

CCHS Intern Priscilla Mariani finished her capstone project with New York University through developing a guide document about moving archival materials for small institutions created while working with CCHS Archives planning. Having completed her Masters in Archives & Public History at NYU, she is now an Access Services Librarian at Harvard Library.



Priscilla Mariani



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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.

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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:

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