



MANSION NOTES

CENTRE FURNACE MANSION

NEWSLETTER OF THE CENTRE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Volume 44, Number 3

Summer 2022

Building and Opening The Farmers' High School, 1855-59

By Roger L. Williams

Every year, on February 22, Penn State faithfully celebrates Founders' Day. The anniversary marks the date in 1855 when Governor James Pollock signed the state legislature's charter establishing the Farmers' High School of Pennsylvania—a public institution designed to serve a statewide constituency and a new class of students, the sons of farmers, the “industrial class.”

But the better birthday might be September 12, 1855. That's when the newly formed Board of Trustees met in Harrisburg to select the site for this new experimental institution based on scientific agriculture. It's one thing to charter a college. It's quite another to figure out where it's going to be located.

After a six-month “competition” in which proposals from nine counties were offered—many but not all visited by the selection committee—the Trustees came to a decision. It wasn't preordained. Trustee Frederick Watts of Carlisle, Cumberland County, made the committee's final report. He then moved to adopt “the proposition of General James Irvin of Centre Furnace,” noting that the Centre County site would “best promote the interests of the institution.”

The selection committee's first site visit had, in fact, taken place at Centre Furnace. On June 26, 1855, they were greeted by an enthusiastic crowd of 150 people organized by the Centre County Agricultural Society and treated to a “sumptuous dinner” at Centre Furnace Mansion prepared by Mary Irvin Thompson, wife of ironmaster Moses Thompson and the sister of James Irvin.

A Contentious Trustees' Meeting

But the reception at Centre Furnace, in and of itself, wasn't enough to carry the day. The September 12 trustee meeting gave rise to intense debate, generating differing opinions as to where the school should be located. After Watts's initial motion for Centre County, Trustees James Gowen and Alfred Elwyn made substitute motions for the offers from Blair County and Franklin County, respectively. Watts then moved for postponement of the vote, recommending instead a new selection committee to further examine the sites and propose a final location. Watts's fair-handed motion was defeated, however. Another motion proposed to select the Allegheny County offer, but it too was defeated.

Finally, Watts's original motion to accept the Centre County offer was approved.

At the same meeting, Watts was elected as president of the Farmers' High School Board of Trustees, an office he would serve until 1874. Watts was eminently qualified: a prominent attorney and judge, a reporter for the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, a trustee of Dickinson College, president of the Cumberland Valley Railroad, but above all an agricultural reformer devoted to improving the political, economic, and social standing of Pennsylvania's farmers. Since 1851, Watts had served as founding president of the Pennsylvania State Agricultural Society but stepped down in 1855 to devote more time to the Farmers' High School.

And so, on September 12, 1855, the legal framework was put in place to locate the school on the 200-acre tract offered for free by General Irvin—a tract known today as Penn State's historic campus core. Now came the hard part: building this experimental school from scratch, and doing so amidst a growing chorus of critics. They complained of the

school's remote location, inaccessibility by rail, poor soil, and lack of running water. Watts, however, defended the site on its combination “of the most essential advantages of soil, surface, exposure, healthfulness, and centrality...”

One Step Backward, But More Steps Forward

The next step was to find a president. Watts and the trustees had someone in mind, the obvious choice, in fact. He was Charles Trego, professor of geology at the University of Pennsylvania and before that, a state representative. In that post, he promoted a bill authorizing the first geological survey of Pennsylvania, which he conducted and then wrote the 400-page tome *Geology of Pennsylvania*. Trego was an elected member of the American Philosophical Society and, of course, the state agricultural society. In short, he checked all the boxes.

But Trego turned down the Trustees' effort to hire him, which he characterized as a clumsy, disjointed process that he found insulting. He was also wary of the school's remote location, the meager salary offered, and the requirement that he live at the school. With Trego's refusal, the presidency of the Farmers' High School would go unfilled for nearly four years.



Old Main in 1859. The central figure is Frederick Watts's son, Class of 1862, and also named Frederick.

Photo courtesy of The Pennsylvania State University Archives.

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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.

☞ 2022 Board of Governors ☞

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 Johanna Sedgwick, *Marketing & Events Coordinator*

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.

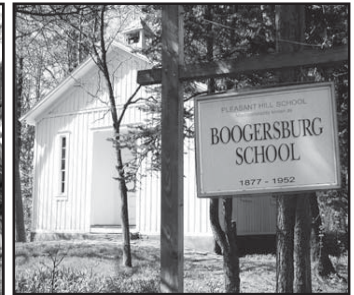
The Centre County Historical Society depends on financial contributions that help support our free public programs and educational opportunities for children, and provide necessary funds for the maintenance and operation of the Society's facilities and collections. Your membership and generosity are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



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



2022 Business Sponsors

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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 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Gardening at the Centre Furnace Mansion. All are welcome. As weather permits. Call 814-234-4779 for more information.

WED August 17, 5:00-7:00 p.m. Memories at the Gamble Mill: A Historic Landmark in Bellefonte, Pa. Book Signing and tours of the Gamble Mill by Matt Maris. RSVP required.

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

Save the Date

THUR October 6, Day of Caring. Volunteers welcome at the Mansion and Boogersburg School.

SUN October 23, 1:00 p.m.: Penn State Blue Band by Thomas E. Range II and Lewis Lazarow at Centre LifeLink EMS, 125 Puddintown Road, State College. RSVP required.

THUR-SUN December 1-4, Stocking Stuffer Magical Holiday Market at the Centre Furnace Mansion

Programs to See Again

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

Stay Connected

www.centrehistory.org

E-Mail: info@centrecountyhistory.org

Facebook: facebook.com/centrefurnace

Twitter: twitter.com/centrehistory

Instagram: instagram.com/centre.county.history

YouTube: <https://rb.gy/sfxzk7>

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



A County Divided

I am seldom surprised, but constantly amazed, at the complexities of Centre County history. In my efforts to learn more, I am increasingly impressed with the work of the late historian Douglas Macneal, who for many years wrote for and edited the CCHS's publication *Centre County Heritage*.

Given the sharp division of our national politics, I was intrigued with his article in the Fall 2007 edition, "A County Divided: Centre County's Civil War Agony," from which the narrative that follows was drawn.

On the eve of the Civil War, the county was divided ethnically. German settlers dominated the eastern end of the county south of the Nittany Mountains. The townships of Miles, Haines, Penn, Gregg, and Potter Townships were often described as "the German Townships." English and Scots-Irish settlers predominated to the north of Mount Nittany and into the Bald Eagle Valley.

German settlers felt they were held in ill regard by the English speakers, a rift so deep that in 1861 it prompted a movement by the German townships to secede from the county. The precipitating irritant? Proposed taxes to build a new county jail.

The Centre Hall newspaper *Der Bericher*, in favor of secession, editorialized: "In language, habits and interests, the two portions are widely dissimilar—they are English, we are German; they are miners, lumbermen, and iron manufacturers; we are purely an agricultural people... Let us depart in peace..."

Economically, the county's situation was the opposite of what might be expected. The industrial north was in trouble; the Panic of 1857 had nearly closed down the county's extensive iron industry, throwing many out of work. The agricultural south remained prosperous, enjoying high prices for the abundant wheat crops of Penns and Brush valleys.

Politically, the Germans were overwhelmingly Democratic, adherents of Jacksonian populism. In the industrial north, Whigs (the anti-Jacksonian party of internal improvements), Know-Nothings, and newly forming Republicans dominated. The northern townships and boroughs also dominated in population, 15,742 (or 58%), compared with the southern German townships, 11,228 (or 42%), according to the 1860 census.

In the 1860 election, Abraham Lincoln won Centre County by 537 votes. In 1864, he lost Centre County by 846 votes. How did that happen?

The 1860 election also was notable for propelling Bellefonte's Andrew Gregg Curtin (a Whig-turned-Republican) into the Pennsylvania governorship. Curtin would be a staunch supporter of Lincoln throughout the Civil War, but his stature alone was not enough to carry the county for Lincoln a second time.

The surrender of Fort Sumter in April 1861 sparked four years of hostilities. Within a week, Bellefonte's Fencibles and Eagle Guards and Milesburg's Curtin Guards marched off for a three-month enlistment. When their enlistments expired before the first major battle, Bull Run in July, they returned home and many re-enlisted in three-year companies. The county's first three-year company, the Centre Guards, marched off on June 6. Company after company was raised north of Nittany Mountain in the summer and fall of 1861. But south of the mountain, Macneal writes, "reaction to the war in the German townships lay swathed in silence." Despite the animating purpose of the war to "Preserve the Union," there was little enthusiasm for the cause among the German folk.

In its first year, the war went very badly for the North. In addition to battlefield defeats, nine-month enlistments were expiring. Sickness and desertions were taking their toll. In July 1862, anticipating a Confederate invasion of the North, Lincoln issued a call for 300,000 volunteers. On August 2, county leaders organized a war meeting

Continued on page 13

Director's Message

The last weeks of summer in Centre County will soon welcome the crisp mornings of autumn that signal sweater weather and harken the excitement of a new school year.

After two years, we were happy to welcome back elementary age students at the Mansion and the Boogersburg School for tours during the late spring, even if just a few. And we hope you will help us ring in the upcoming school year at the Boogersburg Open House on Sunday, September 11! See page 5 for details.

As the bustle of the school year gets underway, the plantings in the Centre Furnace Mansion begin their slow descent into winter. And our esteemed (and rather tired) Gardeners look forward to "planning season" after a warm and weedy year. First off is the Kitchen Garden that was all-but-sacrificed in the Mansion's construction phase.

Looking back 40 years, in the September 1982 issue of Mansion Notes, it was noted that "the terraced new garden area (near the Kitchen Garden) was accomplished through the efforts and under the efforts of Eagle Scout candidate Bill Patton, a Society Member. He was helped by six other Scouts. A garden committee was being formed to research and plant the new area." The Kitchen Garden area had been disturbed by the installation of the new sewer system before the Centre Furnace Mansion opened to the public. Plans for nineteenth century-inspired plantings in this area included a cutting garden with a mixture of herbs and flowers commonly used in the Victorian Era. Inspiration came from a publication of the American Association for State and Local History "Landscapes and Gardens for Historic Buildings" by Rudy J. Favretti and Joy Putman Favretti still relevant today and still in the CCHS Library along with several other wonderful period garden books to guide our way.

By next spring's Plant Celebration, our Kitchen Garden will begin to take shape. There are whispers about Thursday plant sales this fall – look for updates in our e-newsletter or in the events section of our home page at CentreHistory.org!

A note about the State College Area Connector project. We understand that the three routes being considered for this transportation project will be announced later in August. It was twenty years ago that the Penns/Brush Valley Rural Historic District was declared eligible for the National Register of Historic Places by the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office, a bureau within the PHMC. This occurred one year after CCHS began an extensive survey of Penns/Brush Valley to determine its qualifications. Please check the State College Connector page at CentreHistory.org/connector where you will find more information and links to related sites. We will update and add to this page.

~ Mary Sorensen

P.S. Another Mansion Notes on white paper... Our normal cream paper stock has fallen victim to capacity and demand issues straining the paper industry since the onset of the pandemic. Cream will return on a regular basis in due time!

Upcoming Programs and Events

Memories at the Gamble Mill: A Historic Landmark in Bellefonte, Pa.

Book Signing and Tours by Matt Maris

Wednesday, August 17, at the Gamble Mill in Bellefonte
RSVP Required.



Matt Maris with his new book.

Matt will take you on a tour through the Gamble Mill's fascinating history and the success story of its newest rehabilitation highlighted in his book. Half hour tours will be offered at 5:00, 5:45 and 6:30 p.m. with brief book signings after each tour. Tours are free, though RSVPs are needed, and they will start in The Speakeasy event space. Tours include climbing stairs. The Republic cocktail bar at

the Gamble Mill will be open for attendees to purchase beverages throughout the event.

Tour space is limited. RSVP for one of the tour times at CentreHistory.org or call 814-234-4779.

Copies of *Memories at the Gamble Mill: A Historic Landmark in Bellefonte, Pa.* may be purchased at the event or may be ordered online at CentreHistory.org when you RSVP.

Penn State Blue Band

By Thomas E. Range II and Lewis Lazarow

Sunday, October 23, 2:00 p.m. at Centre LifeLink EMS,
125 Puddintown Rd., State College.

RSVP required and may be made at CentreHistory.org or call 814-234-4779.

Since its founding in 1899, the Blue Band has become a beloved part of the history and tradition of Pennsylvania State University. Respected by students and alumni, faculty and administrators, the Blue Band is one of the most visible representations of the dedication, pride, and honor in the hearts of all who are associated with "Dear Old State." From its humble beginnings as a six-member all-male drum and bugle corps to its current membership of over 300 instrumentalists, silks, and majorettes, the Blue Band has provided the soundtrack to the Penn State experience.



Members of the Cadet Band, the forerunner of the Blue Band, posed for a picture in 1904. Courtesy of Penn State University Archives

Copies of *Penn State Blue Band* will be available for purchase at the event or may be ordered online at CentreHistory.org when you RSVP.

The Penn State Blue Band talk is part of the Henszey-Pyle Distinguished Author Series and is underwritten by the Anne Hamilton Henszey-Pyle and Kenneth B. Pyle Educational Fund for Regional Heritage Preservation.

Boegersburg School Open House

Sunday, September 11, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

The school bell will be ringing at the historic Boegersburg One-Room School again on Sunday, September 11, starting at 1:00 p.m. to welcome children of all ages back to school!

Come any time in the afternoon from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m., learn about the school’s history, join in recess games, try your hand at “mental math” and even ring the school bell! You might even meet alumni of Boegersburg or hear stories from others who attended a one-room school as a student.

Boegersburg School was built in 1877 for Pat-ton Township children on land given to the Township by Centre Furnace ironmaster and farmer Moses Thompson.



Interior of the Boegersburg School



The school was in operation until 1952. Whether you attended Boegersburg or another one-room school, or are simply interested in early school life in a one room school setting, we hope you will join us!

This event is free and open to the public and is located at 1021 Fox Hill Road (corner of Fox Hill Rd. and Pleasant Hill Rd.), State College on the road to University Park Airport. Parking is available in the grassy lot beside the school along Pleasant Hill Rd.



Guests exploring the Centre County one-room school map at the 2019 Boegersburg open house

Stocking Stuffer Celebrating 20 years!

Friday, December 2 - Sunday December 4, 2022

Stocking Stuffer Sponsors & Supporters Needed



The Stocking Stuffer is the Historical Society’s largest fundraiser and is critical to providing 15% to 20% of CCHS’s annual budget. As this event has grown, sponsorship is even more important to provide an event of this scale. Join Mimi Barash

Coppersmith in supporting the Stocking Stuffer this year through being a sponsor or supporter. Supporting in this way will help offset expenses associated with the event and allocate a larger percentage of the profit to CCHS’s mission work.

Here are a few options:

- Stocking Supporter – @ \$50-100 – Your name [and logo if business] will go on the event website page and in the CCHS newsletter.
- Stocking Stuffer Room Sponsor @ \$200 – Supporter benefits plus your name/logo on a panel in a period room for the duration of the Stocking Stuffer as hundreds of guests stroll through.
- Event co-sponsor @ \$1,000 – Your name [and logo if business] will go in all promotion and paid advertising, and will be prominently displayed in a recognition poster on-site.
- Volunteer! We have over 200 time slots that we need to fill to set up, carry out and clean up during the Stocking Stuffer!

For information on contributing in any way to the 2022 Stocking Stuffer, please 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

Current CCHS members will once again have the opportunity to attend the Stocking Stuffer before it opens to the general public. Save the date for Thursday, December 1. Watch your mailbox in November for a postcard with the full details!



Scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/3Bx37ZH to become a Stocking Stuffer sponsor or supporter. Or call the CCHS office at 814-234-4779 for more information.

Plant Celebration Thank You



CFM Gardeners during the Plant Celebration

Thank you to all who contributed to this year's Plant Celebration! It was the most successful year since the Plant Celebration began 27 years ago. Proceeds from this sale help support the gardens and grounds of the Centre Furnace Mansion and Boogersburg School and we are ever grateful to all who help make it happen.

Special thanks go to the Centre Furnace Mansion Gardeners and chairs, Beverly Lipski and Katie Frieden, for all of their planning efforts and for enduring the cold days of potting plants this spring! I do remember snow on at least one of those days and it was cold and rainy on most! A great variety of nearly 1000 plants were potted for the sale, which is extraordinary.

And many thanks to all who helped during every aspect of planning and hosting this sale. We could not pull this off without numerous helping hands from our garden committee plant experts to assist shoppers, to check out, parking, open house and set-up/clean-up volunteers. We are also grateful to the vendors who bring a grand assortment of plants and garden related products.

On behalf of the Centre County Historical Society Board of Governors and the Centre Furnace Mansion Garden Committee, we extend our gratitude and wish you an abundant growing season!

With special thanks:

Joni Arrington
Lisa Bowman
Sandy Breon
Susan Bowser
Lucy Boyce
Mike Canich
Joyce Christini
Laura Contino
John Dillon
Jackie Dawar
Becky Dreese
Elizabeth Dutton
Michele Ebaugh
Susan Toby Evans
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Co-Chair

Carol & Lee
Gouty
Judy Heberling
Brenda Horner
Michael Husband
Chris Igo
Beverly Lipski-
Chair
Louis Mayer
Deb McManus
Jo Merrell
Ruth Merritt
Ann & George
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Penn State Extension Master Gardeners of Centre County

Aaronsburg to Zion!

The creation of *Aaronsburg to Zion: The Amazing Centre County Postcard Collection of Joan Hawbaker Brower* took authors Joan Brower and Cathy Horner on a pandemic journey ending in a nostalgic trip down Centre County's memory lane. In so doing they created an engaging teaching tool that captures the history of Centre County through a curated sampling of Joan's "amazing postcard collection."

Thank you to Joan and Cathy for providing a talk and book signing at the Centre Furnace Mansion in May and for their persistence and work in bringing this meaningful book to fruition!

We also thank **Belle Mercantile** and **Apple Hill Antiques** for offering these books at their retail shops



Joan Brower & Cathy Horner with the first shipment of books!

as a contribution to CCHS. And to **Eifrig Publishing** in Lemont for her professional guidance through the production and publishing process.

Special thanks to Tom Berner for writing a feature article in the July issue of State College Magazine about this special project.

Copies of *Aaronsburg to Zion* may be purchased online at CentreHistory.org by clicking the museum

store/shop tab or you can stop in at the Centre Furnace Mansion (it is helpful to give us a call first!) This book may also be purchased at Belle Mercantile in Bellefonte and Apple Hill Antiques in State College.

Aaronsburg to Zion was commissioned by Joan Brower to benefit the Centre County Historical Society.

Grants

The Centre County Historical Society is grateful for the grant support it receives to carry out important work. With special thanks this quarter to:

- The Centre County Commissioners and Happy Valley Adventure Bureau, 2022 Tourism Grant
- Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission,



Pennsylvania
Historical & Museum
Commission

CCC Legacy Day

CCC Legacy Day was held on July 31 at Poe Valley State Park. Guests enjoyed unusually nice weather, good food, and CCC-themed music and programming throughout the day where they learned about the history of the CCC and life in Company 1333 – Camp S-63, Poe Valley. Bill and Mary Marcum began hosting this event almost 40 years ago to honor veterans who served during in the CCC during The Great Depression.

At Poe Valley, the “CCC Boys” did everything from constructing a dam that would harness a 27-acre lake to removing unwanted vegetation. Most of this difficult work was done by hand.

Bill said that the first reunion was held in 1983. “That meal was a disaster. We were sitting out in the hot sun, the meal was BBQ chicken (I was not aware of how many complaints one can get about BBQ chicken until that day.) The preparer of the meal grossly under-estimated when to start the chicken on the grills and we ate about 1 hour late and we failed to have garbage containers in place. The only salvation came in the way of beverages; my brother worked for the Coca-Cola Company and he provided free beverages to the masses (it was a life saver.) Even though the meal went frightfully bad, the day was a smashing success as we had veterans attending from far and wide.”



Bill Marcum with WWII and CCC Veteran (at Whipple Dam) Alfred Maddas who will soon be 100 years old.



Meal time at the first Poe Valley CCC reunion in 1983. Photo courtesy of Bill Marcum

We extend our gratitude for a Special Award presented to the CCC Legacy Day Team by the Pennsylvania DCNR for outstanding dedication and performance! It has been our honor to collaborate on this meaningful program since 2014.

Many thanks to those who generously contributed programming including Folk singer and songwriter Van Wagner; Forest District Manager for Tioga State Forest Jim Hyland; Retired Greenwood Furnace State Park Environmental Education Specialist Paul Fagley; and Forest Program Specialist, PA DCNR Tom Hanes to make the 2022 CCC Legacy Day a great success.

Many, many thanks to our sponsors and partners for their contributions to make this day possible: Bill and Mary Marcum, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Poe Valley State Park Manager Joshua Bruce and Environmental Interpretive Technician Kylie Orndorf, Mid-State Roofing and Coating, Inc., JB Gibbons Construction, Millheim Small Engine and Millheim Hotel. And enthusiastic cheers to Ed DeBrasky and Peter Sorensen for volunteering during the event.

Day of Caring

Preserving Historic Treasures One Day at a Time
Thursday, October 6, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Centre County United Way
Day of Caring
powered by PNC

The 28th Annual United Way Day of Caring is around the corner and we are looking forward to welcoming volunteers for a productive day at the Centre Furnace Mansion and Boogersburg School!

The Day of Caring is the largest day of service that CCHS annually hosts. We have welcomed as many as 150 at the Mansion and 30 at the School over the years. It cannot be overstated how critical this service day has been for CCHS for over two decades in its efforts to maintain the Mansion and School. We could not do this without the many volunteers, organizations and business who turn out to contribute and help us with projects ranging from landscape and garden work to painting, organizing and clean-up work.

We rely on our CCHS Volunteers and Members to help lead groups, plan and volunteer for the Day of Caring.

How can you help?

- If you can garden, do handy projects, paint, lead a volunteer project or can roll up your sleeves and dig in where needed, we can use the extra hands! We will provide information on specific projects.
- Assist with preparation the day ahead (set up registration tent and project areas) or help clean up at the end of the day when all of those who have been hard at it all day are ready for a break!
- Contribute garden tools like leaf and garden rakes, shovels, loppers, mulch forks, and hand tools. Also helpful are paint rollers and trays, vinyl gloves, buckets and microfiber cloths. These items are used frequently for service days through the year.
- Not able to attend, but would like to help? You can help through the contribution of a gift cards for groceries or for any home/hardware store for supplies and lunch and snacks for our volunteers.

Interested in volunteering or contributing? Contact Mary Sorensen at 814-234-4779 or msorensen@centrefurnace.org for more information.



1998 – Volunteers working on painting shutters when we still had the garage! Do you recognize anyone?

Gardeners Corner

Late spring and summer in the Gardens at Centre Furnace Mansion have been especially busy and productive, and a debt of gratitude is owed to those on the Centre Furnace Garden Committee. It started with another record-setting Plant Celebration after the weeks-long work of potting, labeling and attempting to get ahead of a relentless succession of weeds. Special thanks to those of you who have been helping with the weekly and warm work of weeding and shepherding service groups this summer: Beverly Lipski, Katie Frieden, Judy Heberling, Chris Igo, Jo Merrell, Jan Villastrigo, Joyce Christini, Ruth Merritt, Sharon Phillips, Marty Warner and Carol Gouty.

Gardening continues to take place on Thursday mornings from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. or until it becomes too warm. If you or someone you know would be interested in volunteering in the gardens at the mansion, we could certainly use more hands!

For more information about how to get involved, contact Mary Sorensen at msorensen@centrefurnace.org or call 814-234-4779.

Thank you to our Service Volunteers since April!

Clockwise from right:

The Delta Program at State College Area School District
 JustServe Elders
 St. Joseph's Preparatory School, Philadelphia
 JustServe Sisters



From left: Jo Merrell, Sister Quigley, Sister Glover, Katie Frieden, Jan Villastrigo, Sharon Phillips, Chris Igo, Joyce Christini, Judy Heberling, and Beverly Lipski.



Docents Corner

With the uptick in visitation at the Centre Furnace Mansion, and the re-introduction of elementary school and other group tours at the Mansion and Boogersburg School, we extend many thanks to our CCHS Docents who have been an exponential help this spring and summer!

Special thanks to Lynn Royse, Linda Witmer, Gloria Nieweg, Bonnie Walter, Karen Hazel, Steve and Carol Gentry, and Elizabeth Dutton for all of their help in the past few months.

The Mansion is open for tours on Sunday, Wednesday and Fridays from 1:00-4:00 p.m. by appointment or by chance! If you have a small group and would like a tour beyond these times, please give us a call at 814-234-4779 or email Johanna Sedgwick at jsedgwick@centrefurnace.org



Left: Gloria Nieweg at the Boogersburg School.

Right: Lynn Royse giving a tour in front of the furnace stack.

A meeting for CCHS Docents has been scheduled for Thursday, September 15, at 1:00 p.m. at the Centre Furnace Mansion.

Property Update

Work has continued and is now completed on the front staircase and porch of the Centre Furnace Mansion. Repairs included replacement of the treads and stringers and painting the porch and porch floor. We are now looking forward to scheduling the next phase of restoration that will encompass restoration of the windows, shutters, doors, side porch and brick exterior of the Mansion. We will continue to update on the scheduling for this project as the contractor's proposal and commitment solidifies..



Front porch stairs of the Centre Furnace Mansion



There are a number of new entries in the Centre County Encyclopedia of History & Culture since our Spring *Mansion Notes!* Thank you to the following authors for their articles:

- AAUW Book Sale by Jackie Esposito
- Ag Hill by Lee Stout
- American Philatelic Society by Ford Risley
- Bear Meadows by Ben Cramer
- Bellefonte Airmail Fields by Nick Malizia
- Foster Sayers by Ford Risley
- Frederick Watts by Roger Williams
- Garfield Thompson Water Tunnel by Ishaan Anavkar
- Gene Wettstone by Jeff Rice
- Harmony Forge by Ishaan Anavkar
- Nittany Valley Symphony by Marinique Rolle
- Pattee and Paterno Libraries by Lee Stout
- Schlow Library by Sally Heffentreyer
- Scotia by Bob Hazelton
- St. John's Church of Christ by Ford Risley
- Whitewater Canoeing & Kayaking by Jon Nelson

Volunteer Appreciation Reception

CCHS Volunteers gathered in June for the first time since 2019 to celebrate all the good work being done with CCHS, the Centre Furnace Mansion and the Boogersburg School. We cannot thank CCHS Volunteers enough for their dedication and contributing to the success of the Centre County Historical Society.

In June we also held a volunteer fair and would like to welcome to our docent ranks: Jude Larkin, Melissa Gundrum, Richard Hayes, and Pat Mutzeck. Also welcome to Kyra Quinn who will be helping out with office and archive projects, and Elena Schiano who is helping with collections projects.

For information about volunteering, please contact Mary Sorensen at msorensen@centrefurnace.org or call 814-234-4779.



2022 volunteer appreciation reception.attendees

All in the (Iron) Family

By Robert Hazelton



Pennsylvania Furnace Mansion built by John Lyon in 1834

Two of the early prominent ironmasters in the area were John Patton of Centre Furnace and John Lyon of Pennsylvania Furnace. But they never met. John Patton died in 1804 when John Lyon was only 22 and working for his uncle in a Cumberland County law office.

Lyon moved to Harrisburg and became well known in the capital's legal and social circles. In 1808, he married Jane Maclay, daughter of the late Hon. William Maclay, 1737-1804. In 1788, Maclay joined fellow Pennsylvanian Robert Morris to become one of the first two U.S. Senators. Previously, Maclay had served in the militia to fight for American independence. After learning the trade of surveying, and helping to award tracts of land to veterans of the Revolution, Maclay himself secured a tract just west of present-day Centre Hall. It was on this tract that John and Jane Maclay Lyon would later take up residence. One might speculate that living in Centre County—the leading iron industry county west of the Susquehanna—likely influenced John Lyon's future in the business of iron.

Lyon teamed up with a close friend from Cumberland County, Jacob Haldeman, who had a background in the iron industry. They formed a partnership that included a Harrisburg lawyer, William Wallace, who coincidentally had married Eleanor Maclay—another daughter of Sen. William Maclay.

In 1813, the partnership of Lyon, Haldeman and Wallace bought land from William Patton, the son of the late Centre Furnace ironmaster John Patton. William was an ironmaster in his own right, having been part owner of Tussey Furnace in present-day Pine Grove Mills. The land the Lyon partnership bought from William Patton was rich in iron ore on the Centre/Huntingdon County line and gave rise to Pennsylvania Furnace.

As for John Lyon's family life: His first wife, Jane Maclay Lyon, died in 1809 after giving birth to their only son. Lyon would go on to marry Ann "Nancy" Patton, daughter of John Patton and sister to William Patton. Ann died in 1817 and Lyon would marry his third wife, Margaret Stewart, in 1820. Their son, George Lyon, would carry on as ironmaster at Pennsylvania Furnace after his father's death in 1868.

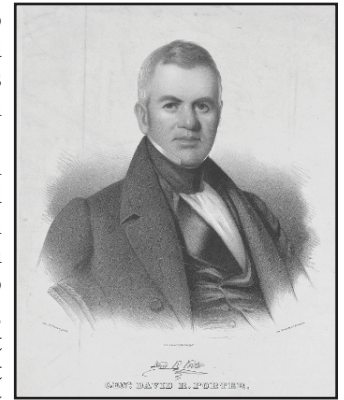
John Lyon became a very wealthy man. He built a grand limestone mansion, with 28 rooms, that still stands

at 356 Marengo Road, about seven miles west of Pine Grove Mills. His empire eventually stretched across Western Pennsylvania to a rolling mill in Pittsburgh.

As for William Patton: His involvement in the iron industry went far beyond being the ironmaster at Tussey Furnace and land agent for Pennsylvania Furnace. Tussey Furnace began operating in 1810 and needed a forge for its pig iron. To meet that need, William, in partnership with Edward B. Roach, constructed a forge that same year along Spruce Creek where Colerain is now located.

About three years later, that same partnership built a second forge downstream from the first. The two forges were called "Upper Sligo" and "Lower Sligo"—a tribute, no doubt, to the Irish town in which John Patton was born in 1745.

In 1814, the two Sligo forges were sold to Edward B. Patton, William's brother, who was in partnership with David R. Porter, the Huntingdonian who later was elected as Pennsylvania's ninth governor, serving from 1839 to 1845. The Sligo forges failed in 1819, and, with yet a third forge that had been established at Colerain, were acquired by a partnership involving John Lyon. The three together were named Colerain Forge.



David R. Porter

John Patton and John Lyon never met, but they were inextricably intertwined as part of the same Centre County "Iron Family."

Note: The various historical documents present their "facts" but they don't always agree. Perhaps the most glaring conflict is the Pennsylvania Furnace Historical Marker sign along Rt. 45 which states that the operation there started in 1810 and not 1813 as stated above. But there is more historical documentation that supports 1813. Accuracy in history is always the goal.

Board News



Congratulations to CCHS Board of Governors member Becky Dreese for being chosen as one of the "50 to Follow" Women in Business in PA Business Central's Women in Business publication! Becky started Thrive HR Management in 2021 to support companies that do not have a full time internal Human Resources position or who need guidance on HR issues.

The Porter Road Connection

By Robert Hazelton

Porter Road runs north-south through the middle of Centre Furnace, with the Mansion on one side and the iron furnace stack on the other. It was named after David Rittenhouse Porter, the ninth governor of Pennsylvania who served from 1839 to 1845.

But there is more to the story that connects him to our Centre Furnace heritage—a connection that whoever named the road may not have known.



Intersection of Porter Road and East College Avenue.

Born in 1788, Porter grew up in Norristown, Pa. He studied law, and when his father died in 1813, he moved to Huntingdon to work with a relative, apparently in a law office. Not satisfied, he found another venture, that of working for the Dorseys at Barree Forge, a few miles west of Huntingdon along the Little Juniata River.

Porter began as a clerk but worked his way up to manager. There, at Barree Forge, the connection was made between Porter and Edward Patton—a son of Centre Furnace ironmaster John Patton.

Meanwhile, William Patton, the brother to Edward Patton, formed a partnership with Edward

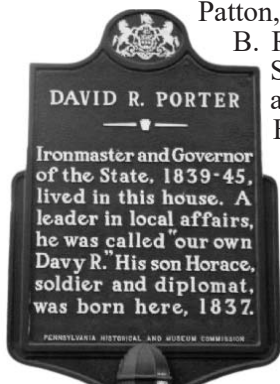
B. Roach and built two forges along Spruce Creek in an area now known as Colerain Forge. Later Porter and Edward Patton bought the two forges from his brother's partnership. Porter and Edward Patton bought the two forges from the partnership involving Edward's brother, William. But it failed a few years later in 1819.

Another forge at Colerain, at the time, was operated by William McDermitt (or McDermett).

In 1820, Porter married one of McDermitt's daughters, Josephine. Moving to Huntingdon, Porter dove into the political arena, his career eventually resulting in his election as Governor of Pennsylvania. A Jacksonian Democrat, Governor Porter was a champion, incongruously enough, for improving the Commonwealth's roads and canals to aid commerce—typically a Whig Party priority.

But Porter never abandoned his interest in iron and, after serving as governor, was said to have established an iron furnace in the Harrisburg area. His only child, Horace Porter, served as U.S. Ambassador to France, 1897-1905.

David Porter died in 1867 at age 79, but his name will carry on as the road to Centre Furnace, a road he helped to pave in his lifetime. How fitting.



*2022.09 Oil on canvas portrait of Nancy "Rachel" Newell Hunter
Gift of Nancy Foye Cox*

From the Collections

CHS recently received the portrait of Nancy "Rachel" Newell Hunter (1804-1837), daughter of James Newell (1756-1828) and the wife of Robert Hunter (1793-1884). James Newell was the first manager of Centre Furnace from its first blast in 1792 under Colonel John Patton, who was the resident ironmaster at the time. Newell went on to Milesburg Furnace in 1804 where he worked for John Dunlap.

The portrait is c. 1830s and oil on canvas. While unsigned, it is attributed to itinerant artist Jacob Eichholtz (1776-1842) of Lancaster, Pa.

Rachel was married in 1821 and died at age 33 on October 31, 1837, after the birth of her last child in July. Rachel is buried in Spring Creek Cemetery, State College.

Wish List

Thank you for considering wish list items.

- Shop vac
- White 10' pop-up tents
- 6' Ladder
- Garden gloves for volunteer groups

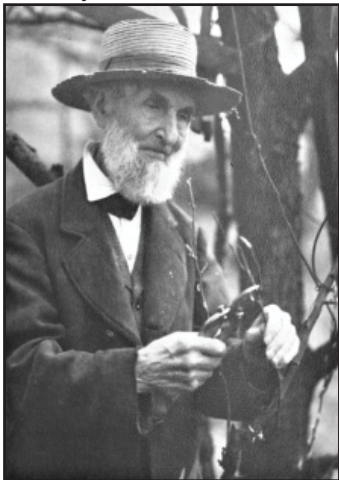
Contact Mary Sorensen at 814-234-4779 or email msorensen@centre-furnace.org for additional information!

Farmers' High School

Continued from cover page

Nevertheless, Watts and the trustees forged ahead. At their January 4, 1856, meeting, in Harrisburg, they appointed a committee to request a \$50,000 appropriation from the legislature. (The enabling legislation for the school did not offer any financial support.) The board also approved “the plan of the College as presented by H.N. McAllister and

of the plan of the Barn presented by Frederick Watts.” Needing a knowledgeable agriculturalist to supervise operations, they hired William Waring, a Centre County nurseryman, teacher, farmer, and expert in fruit growing, to lay out the plan, clear the farm plots, and otherwise improve the grounds. (Long after his death, Waring gained fame as the grandfather of Fred Waring, the nationally eminent choral director of Fred Waring and the Pennsylvanians.) Finally, the trustees accepted the offer of James Irvin for an additional 200 acres, to be rented at first and later purchased for \$12,000.



William G. Waring (1816-1906), hired in 1856 as general superintendent of the Farmers' High School.

Photo courtesy of The Pennsylvania State University Archives.

Construction Gets Under Way

In May 1856, Watts contracted with the Carlisle firm of Turner and Natcher to construct the main building—then called the “College Building”—for \$55,000. Watts was a Carlisle resident, knew the firm’s owners, and was able to hire them quickly. Another contractor was brought in to build Watts’s large barn—the first building to be completed on the campus, in late 1856. An expert in farm and barn design, Watts located his barn on the site of present-day Carnegie Building. Other facilities such as corn cribs, wagon sheds, cisterns, a farmhouse and the like got under way as well.

Construction on the College Building began on June



Campus Barn of Watts's design, built in 1856 on the site of the present-day Carnegie Building. It was moved to West Campus in 1889 and was burned to the ground in 1891.

Photo courtesy of The Pennsylvania State University Archives.

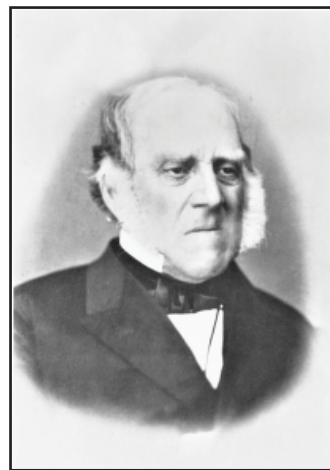
24, 1856, with brick makers and excavators doing the preliminary work. Workmen laid the first stones of the foundation on August 18, 1856—166 years ago this month. The limestone was quarried from a pit at the southeastern corner of the present-day Old Main lawn, near the intersection of the Health and Human Development Mall, College Avenue, and Pugh Street. Today, a small stone marker sits atop the site.

Things progressed quickly. Watts’s annual report of 1857 noted that the “walls of the west wing are up three storeys and are plainly but very substantially built of superior, gray lime stone. They are four feet thick at the base, and are founded entirely upon solid rock.” The wing, when finished, was to contain a suite of rooms for a private residence on the first and second floors, four recitation rooms on the first floor and two on the second, a “society hall” on the third floor, five storerooms, and sixty-nine dormitory rooms. The hope was to have the wing completed and ready for occupancy by November 1858.

Meanwhile, the effort to secure a state appropriation had come to fruition. On May 20, 1857, the legislature granted \$25,000 free and clear and promised an additional \$25,000 if an equal amount could be raised through a private subscription campaign. This was the first appropriation in the institution’s history; the second would not arrive until 1861.

The Celebratory Spirit of September 1857

The high-water mark of those early years came in September 1857, as construction continued apace, roads



Frederick Watts at about age 50.

Photo courtesy of The Pennsylvania State University Archives.

leading to the school were laid out, and petitions for a mail route to the school were submitted. The trustees met at the school, in Watts’s barn, for their annual election. It was a celebratory evening.

In what thereafter would be called his “Barn Speech of 1857,” Watts characterized the new education offered by the Farmers’ High School as the lever that would lift the farming community into parity with the more powerful industrial and mercantile sectors of the Commonwealth. Although the state was industrializing quickly,

its wealth in the 1850s was still generated largely by agriculture. The farming community, Watts believed, had received nothing in return for their contributions, having been ignored by the state’s power brokers for far too long.

The power of the great agricultural body, Watts said, could be increased only through education. “Education will impart influence,” he noted, but it had to be the right kind of education, a new form combining science, art, and labor. The Farmers’ High School “is intended to supply this great social, political, moral and economic want, and while it improves the agricultural mind, and trains the hands, it will do both at less expenses than the purely literary training can be obtained for.”

Watts and his colleagues did not envision a modest enterprise. Despite the school’s name—intended to assuage

Farmers' High School

Continued from page 12

farmers suspicious of “literary” colleges that would take their sons off the farm and turn them into idle gentlemen disdainful of manual labor—the institution was designed to be a college from the start. It would offer baccalaureate degrees through a rigorous, science-based, four-year curriculum.

“Our school is founded on a scale that will afford complete instruction, equal to that of our leading colleges, for should not the education of Farmers’ sons be superior, rather than less than equal to that of any other class?” Watts asserted.

Economic Depression Descends

September 1857 was notable for another reason, this one ominous, foreshadowing tougher times ahead. The Panic of 1857, a national financial crisis, began that same month. It crippled the nation’s economy and severely impacted Pennsylvania’s iron industry. Centre County was one of the leading iron producers in the state. Local banks soon found themselves in trouble and many workmen lost their jobs. The crisis also crippled the trustees’ efforts to raise the \$25,000 needed to match the state’s promise of an additional \$25,000.

Despite the depression, Watts’s report of January 19, 1858, waxed optimistic. He reminded legislators that the institution had built itself thus far with \$45,000—\$10,000 from the state agricultural society, \$10,000 from the citizens of Centre and Huntingdon counties from the original subscription campaign, and \$25,000 in state appropriation. He projected that the College Building would be completed during the coming summer—“two hundred and thirty-three feet in front and five stories high, with wings at either end.” He noted the prospects for more money: \$5,000 from the estate of Elliott Cresson, \$25,000 from individual subscriptions to match and release the \$25,000 the legislature had promised. As things turned out, only the \$5,000 bequest would come to fruition.

The trustees did not meet again until June 1858, and by then things were in disarray. The pressing issue was a threatened halt to the completion of the College Building. Watts’s building and business committee reported the “embarrassment” of Turner and Natcher, the Carlisle construction company, that “they may fail” from finishing the project. Bills for materials and supplies were overdue and liens upon the building were looming large. Turner and Natcher had severely underestimated the cost of the building. It would take twice as much as their original contract of \$55,000. Three weeks later, on July 7, 1858, work stopped entirely.

By this time, the five stories were substantially completed, but still much work remained. The trustees were now committed to readying the building for occupancy by the coming winter. With the help of architect C.B. Callahan, directing construction for the remainder of the project, they completed the task on time.

Preparing to Open for Instruction

The sense of urgency was on display when Watts and the trustees convened in Harrisburg on December 8, 1858. They resolved to recruit students and open the school for instruction on February 16, 1859. With the west wing now completed, the trustees authorized the business and build-

ing committee to hire faculty, buy furniture, and otherwise do everything necessary to get the school into operation.

The trustees set sixteen years as the minimal age for the students, all of them male. They wanted to begin the inaugural academic year with 100 Pennsylvania students, each to be recommended by their county agricultural societies; students applying from counties where no such society existed would be judged for admission by a special committee of trustees. With hopes of generating \$10,000 in operating income that first year, the trustees set tuition at \$100, which included room and board. Following the agricultural calendar, the academic year would begin in February and end ten months later, in mid-December, with no vacations in between.

The trustees also refined the criteria for admission, requiring “a good knowledge of reading, writing, geography, arithmetic, and grammar.” Those with grounding in natural philosophy, geometry, and algebra would be given extra consideration. In addition, students needed to present evidence of “good moral character and industrious habits.” Students would be required to perform three hours of labor daily, on the farm, in the shops, and around the College Building.

“A new light is about to break upon the agricultural community,” Watts wrote in his annual report in early 1859. “The institution will afford a place where their sons may be educated to a fitness for a high position in any of the walks of life; as well to enable them to conduct the operations of the farm with the aid of scientific attainment.”

And so on February 16, 1859, with 69 students present, four faculty members but no president, a building one-third complete in an improbable location, but with well-defined purpose and lofty ambition, the Farmers’ High School of Pennsylvania opened its doors and went to work.

A County Divided

Continued from page 3

in Bellefonte, drafting resolutions that softened support for the abolition of slavery in an effort to mollify the German townships and generate recruitment in Millheim, Rebersburg, and Aaronsburg. With the promise that the German recruits could select their own officers, the seventh company of the new “Centre County Regiment”—the 148th Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers—was formed, joining with its six fellow companies. James A. Beaver, a prominent young Bellefonte attorney serving as an officer in another regiment, was selected to lead the 148th.

Shortly thereafter, things changed dramatically. The Union repelled the Confederate invasion of the North at Antietam in September. The semblance of victory gave Lincoln the platform he needed to issue the Emancipation Proclamation, which would take effect on January 1, 1863, freeing all slaves in those states in rebellion. In March 1863, Congress passed the Conscription Act, which authorized the government to draft all males between 20 and 45 into military service. Both acts transformed the character of the war, with reverberations deep into Centre County. That story will be continued in the next issue of *Mansion Notes*.

Elwood's Birthday



Celebrating 100 years young, Elwood Homan is a walking archive of local history. Elwood was born in Pennsylvania Furnace at the Bucher Ayres Farm placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980 and continues to reside there today. Several of us at the Historical Society have had the pleasure of visiting with Elwood and taking in his fascinating memories of Centre County starting from the early 20th century. Some have been preserved by CCHS in oral histories over the years.

In Memoriam: Remembering Friends

Mike Albright was a familiar face at the State College Woodring's Floral Gardens, having worked there for more than 50 years. A long time CCHS Supporter of the Stocking Stuffer holiday decorating efforts, we will miss his kindness and community spirit. Our thoughts are with Mike's family and friends, and especially, Mike's wife Diane.



Mike Albright at the 2018 Historic Preservation Awards



Centre Gives Thank You

Thank you to 122 generous donors in 2022 for contributing \$11,165 to the Centre County Historical Society and many thanks to Centre Foundation for hosting Centre Gives!

We are thankful for the incredible generosity given to the Centre County Historical Society during Centre Gives. Your donations through Centre Gives help us to continue the mission work of CCHS.

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Cultural & Natural Heritage Events

**Come Home to Curtin - Fundraising Reunion
Saturday, August 13, noon - 5:00 p.m.**

Curtin family members and descendants of workers are expected to attend. In addition to storytelling and sharing of family artifacts, the “Come Home to Curtin” reunion fundraiser includes a workshop on genealogy research, old-time games for adults and children, tours on the hour, a bake sale, a bring-your-own food picnic under the pavilion and a photo pop-up with a Curtin family-owned excursion wagon, which is returning to its Curtin Village home in time for this event.
curtinville.com, or email curtinville@gmail.com

**Philipsburg’s Second Annual Founders’ Day
Saturday, September 17, noon - 3:00 p.m.**

This marks the 225th anniversary of Philipsburg’s founding, and the event will be extra special as it will be the official unveiling of the Simler House which has been meticulously retrofitted to look exactly as it would have when the Simlers made it their residence circa 1820. The day will include tours, re-enactors, arts and crafter vendors, local food and drink, fun, frivolity, community, and plenty of history!
www.facebook.com/PhilipsburgHistoricalFoundation

Boalsburg Heritage Museum

The Museum is open for tours every **Saturday, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.** and by appointment. Visitors can see the House Museum featuring the current exhibit entitled “Historical Outbuildings and Forgotten Customs,” the Summer Kitchen with an open hearth fireplace, wagons and carriages in the Barn, and the Light House where electricity was first generated in the area.
boalsburgheritagemuseum@gmail.com

**Lemont Village Association: Concerts on the Village Green
Friday evenings August 12 – September 30 @ 7:30 p.m.**

Concerts are free, but a basket for donations for Granary renovations is available. Bring a picnic, listen to the music and enjoy ice cream served by Scout Troop 367. Full details and schedule at www.lemontvillage.org/related/concerts-on-the-village-green

**Family History Coffee Chat via Zoom
Monday, August 22, noon**

Join the Centre County Library and Historical Museum for a virtual family history chat focusing on researching Centre County ancestors. Share challenges that you have, new discoveries, or just drop in and listen. Register online at <https://www.centrecountylibrary.org/historicalmuseum>.



Enthusiastic cheers for CCHS member and gardener Mike Canich who is finishing an amazing cross-country bike trek that began in May!

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:

- Jean Slear – Stocking Stuffer Supporter
- Raymon Masters – for contributing a map drawer cabinet for the archives.
- Elena Schiano – Assisting with collections display documentation
- Barbara Miller – Library gift of *Minutes of the Baptist Conference on the Baldeagle and 1821-1825* and *Minutes of the Conference of the Baptiste Church of Milesborough 1825*
- Tom Yahner - for preparing a study of potential effects of the State College Connector Project on Cedar Run Valley in Linden Hall and Oak Hall.

Membership

Thank you to our new and renewing members for your support of the Centre County Historical Society.

Memberships received April 15 - August 1, 2022.

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| New Members: | Chris & Lianne Groshel |
| Margaret Adam | Richard Hayes |
| Frank Archibald | Elinor Lewis |
| Melissa Brower | Cynthia Lorenzo |
| Patsy Cullen | Reed Miller |
| Bill & Barbara Dewey | James Shortle |
| Ronald Dotts | Andrea Weston |
| Jenni Evans & Bruce Lord | Nathan Williams |
| Wayne & Lenore Foster | Tom Yahner |
| John & Marilyn Furry | |

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Renewing Members: | Irene & Kenneth Harpster |
| Sven & Carmen Bilén | Joe Humphreys |
| Tannis & Steve Bugaj | John Nichols |
| Philip Crabtree | Carol & Chuck Phillips |
| John & Janet Dillon | Lynda Powell |
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Centre Furnace Mansion, Summer 2022



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 CENTRE FURNACE MANSION
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron | | \$250 |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Steward | | \$1000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ironmaster | | \$1500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Additional Gift | \$ _____ | |

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

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

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

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

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

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