

Public History

By Lee Stout

When our Executive Director, Mary Sorensen called me and asked if I could speak with a student, I assumed it was a potential intern. We've had student interns working at the Society for years doing a variety of jobs ranging from processing collections to helping with exhibits and special communication projects.

But this was a student in history education who needed to talk with someone about public history for a course in the discipline and methods of history. When I met with her at the mansion, I quickly discovered she was local but not a Penn State student; she was enrolled in an online degree program at Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, Arizona.

She had a list of questions, but as interviews often do, we wandered into a broader conversation about public history work and job prospects outside of teaching history in the schools. By this point, however, you're probably wondering what is "public history?" It's an umbrella term (sometimes also called "applied history"), that covers caring for historical resources and presenting them to the public. It's what we do here at the Centre County Historical Society, the Centre Furnace Mansion, and the Boegersburg School.

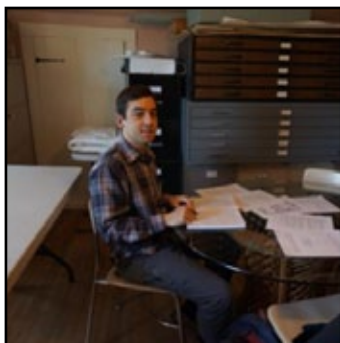
If you check the definition at the National Council for Public History website, you'll find the variety of jobs that fall under that umbrella: "historical consultants, museum professionals, government historians, archivists, oral historians, cultural resource managers, curators, film and media producers, historical interpreters, historic preservationists, policy advisers, local historians, and community activists."

Lumping all these diverse but related jobs together began in the 1970s, and today there are undergraduate and graduate programs throughout the country that claim this parentage. Penn State's primary offering is a Graduate Certificate in Heritage and Museum Practice, offered through the Harrisburg campus' American Studies program. Some fields have their own specialized graduate degree programs, like master of archival studies (M.A.S.) degrees offered mainly in library and information science schools and in some history departments.

Public history also attracts many people to it who are just naturally drawn to historical places and artifacts, as well as history in general. You don't need a graduate degree in history, archives, or museum curatorship to play an important role in this work. The Centre County Historical Society needs volunteers of all backgrounds who can help us care for our buildings and collections, and explain them to the public. Whether it's through crafting exhibits, being a docent and leading tours, creating our publications and social media, or helping to maintain our buildings, gardens, and collections of artifacts, documents and photos, we

can use your help. You too can be a worker in the public history vineyard.

The Historical Society is richer for the volunteers that share their time, interests and talent. If you would like more information about volunteering with the Historical Society, please contact Mary Sorensen at msorensen@centrehistory.org or call 814-234-4779.



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
info@centrecountyhistory.org

www.centrehistory.org
www.facebook.com/centrefurnace
www.twitter.com/centrehistory
www.instagram.com/centre.county.history

Centre County Historical Society

Office Hours:

Mon.-Fri., 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Research Requests & Archives Use:

By appointment.

Centre Furnace Mansion

Public Tours & Exhibits:

Sun./Wed./Fri. 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Group Tours: *By appointment.*

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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, and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This site includes the restored and furnished iron master'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 House.

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.

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

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

Programs are held at the Centre Furnace Mansion unless noted *.

March 4, SUN 2:00 p.m.

Uncovering the Iron Furnaces at Pennsylvania Furnace

By Robert Hazelton

March 16, FRI 7:00 p.m.

From Centre County: Through the Lens *

@ State College Framing Company and Gallery
See page 10 for details

March 25, SUN 2:00 p.m.

Evan Pugh's Penn State: America's Model Agricultural College *

By Roger L. Williams

@ Centre County/Penn State Visitor Center

April 15 - 17, SUN-TUE

PA Museums Statewide Conference *

@ The Match Factory in Bellefonte

May 8 - 9, TUE-WED

Centre Gives online fundraising event

May 12, SAT 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

23rd Annual Centre Furnace Mansion Plant Celebration

May 16 - 17, WED-THUR

Chester County Bus Tour *

See page 5 for details and registration form

June 8 - 9, FRI-SAT

The Old House Fair *

@ The Match Factory in Bellefonte

July 15, SUN 10:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

CCC Legacy Day *

@ Poe Valley State Park

Visit CentreHistory.org to check the CCHS event calendar and/or sign up for our e-letter to stay current on upcoming CCHS activities.



Spring card from the CCHS Cannon Collection. 2001.17.64

President's Corner



Following the Preview Party in December, I found myself reciting a modified version of the old children's rhyme: "This is the house that Jackie built." That evening, I had announced the creation of the Jacqueline J. Melander Society, and I had recapped Jackie's contributions to the CCHS. Her most visibly prominent achievement is the restored Iron master's Mansion where the party was held.

Jackie didn't exactly build the mansion. It was constructed over time, beginning as a primitive log cabin in the 18th century. By the mid-1860s, with Iron master Moses Thompson and his family in residence, the mansion had largely evolved into today's elegant Georgian-style home with Victorian touches.

In the 1970s, however, the Centre Furnace Mansion had fallen into disrepair. It was targeted as a potential tear-down to make way for the new Rt. 322 bypass.

A community effort was led to save what was once one of the grandest homes in the county, the heart of the county's first industrial enterprise, and the site of the document-signing that deeded surrounding lands to a school that would become Penn State.

Enter Jackie Melander. After the Centre Furnace Mansion was bequeathed to the Historical Society, she was one of the leaders of the successful restoration effort. Over her thirty-plus years as president of the CCHS, the interior of the mansion has been restored and furnished with period décor, much of it donated by the Thompson family. Jackie also oversaw the restoration of the mansion's exterior and landscaping of the period gardens. She instituted regularly scheduled tours, educational programs, and exhibits. Along the way, she reinvigorated county-wide preservation efforts and wrote extensively on local history and architecture. If anyone deserves her own society, it's Jackie.

The Jacqueline J. Melander Society is made up of individuals who have chosen to build on her foundation by remembering the CCHS in their estate planning. There are many ways to leave a planned gift—and we would be happy to discuss them with you—but the simplest means is to leave a bequest in your will. As a Melander Society member, you'll receive invitations to members-only events, and be acknowledged in publications. There are also tax benefits. No minimum amount is required to join. What initiates you into the society is a commitment to keep the CCHS a financially viable and culturally valuable institution for our community and our future. If you've already left a bequest, please let us know, so we can officially welcome you into the Melander Society.

As for the children's rhyme, its narrative technique is known as a "cumulative tale." It's not really about the house. It's about the people, things, and events that are interconnected by means of the house. We'd like to think of the Melander Society as a cumulative tale. Our version might go something like this:

These are the folks who saw the need
For future gifts that guaranteed
That funds were there
for roof repair
That sheltered collections
That shaped our perceptions
Of days of yore
And county lore
That sprang from the house that Jackie built.



~ Katie O'Toole

CCHS Programs & Events

Henszey-Pyle Author Series

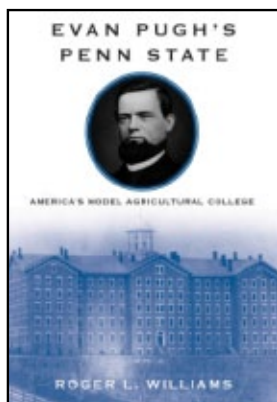
Evan Pugh's Penn State:

America's Model Agricultural College

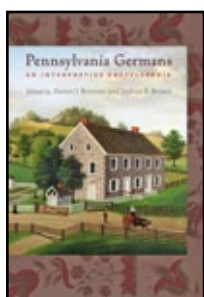
Presented by author Roger L. Williams

March 25, 2:00 p.m. @ Centre County/Penn State Visitor Center

Evan Pugh was the first president of the Pennsylvania State University, serving from 1859 until his death in 1864. During his tenure as president he molded the school into America's first scientifically based agricultural college. *Evan Pugh's Penn State* is based on William's new book of the same name and tells the compelling story of Pugh's advocacy and success on behalf of both Penn State and land grant colleges nationwide.



Roger Williams served as Associate Vice President and Executive Director of the Penn State Alumni Association and as Affiliate Associate Professor in Penn State's Higher Education Program. In addition to *Evan Pugh's Penn State*, Roger has also authored *The Origins of Federal Support for Higher Education: George W. Atherton and the Land-Grant College Movement*, both published by Penn State University Press. Williams is also on the Board of Governors of the Centre County Historical Society.



We would like to thank Simon J. Bronner for his excellent presentation in January: *The Past and Future of Pennsylvania German Studies—and Pennsylvania German Identity*, which attracted a full house at the Centre Furnace Mansion in January. Bronner discussed the modern understanding of the Pennsylvania German group—an understanding that has evolved

since nineteenth century historians and social scientists first sought to document what they believed to be a dying culture. He also examined the “new” Pennsylvania German Studies movement in the 21st century and its implications for the future of Pennsylvania German identity. His book titled *PA Germans, An Interpretive Encyclopedia* is available through Johns Hopkins Press: jhupbooks.press.jhu.edu.

The Henszey-Pyle Author Series lectures are underwritten by the Anne Hamilton Henszey Pyle and Kenneth B. Pyle Educational Fund for Regional Heritage Preservation. The programs are free and open to the public.

Uncovering the Iron Furnaces at Pennsylvania Furnace

Presented by Bob Hazelton

March 4, 2:00 p.m. @ The Centre Furnace Mansion



Remains of the 1813 furnace stack at Pennsylvania Furnace

John Lyon began iron making at Pennsylvania Furnace around 1813. The operation continued as Lyon, Shorb, and Co. and ended as Tyrone Mining and Manufacturing in 1888.” The company held vast landholdings in both Ferguson Township and nearby Huntingdon County, with the stack located approximately on the county line. As with other iron making locations, the village of Pennsylvania Furnace grew up around the operation. While little remains of the stack area, the iron master's mansion serves as a prominent reminder of the importance of this industry to central Pennsylvania.

Currently, the iron making site includes the side-by-side remains of two charcoal iron furnaces, one dating back to 1813 and a later one that towers some 40 feet. And here is where this story begins

Bob will talk about the hands-on effort to rediscover the history of the ironworks that put Pennsylvania Furnace on the map and the challenges of preserving the iron making site. He will highlight the historical research that has uncovered documents, photos, and maps in his presentation.

23th Annual Plant Celebration

Saturday, May 12 - 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Mark your gardening calendars for the 23rd annual Centre Furnace Mansion Plant Celebration! We are looking forward to welcoming spring once again with plant and garden offerings from the Centre Furnace Mansion gardens and several local and regional growers. This sale features both native and non-native heirloom herbs, annuals, perennials, trees, and shrubs. The CFM Gardeners will have special garden related items for Mother's Day giving. Lunch savories and sweets will be for sale by Eden View Organics. Keep an eye on our website, CentreHistory.org or Facebook page for updates and a list of the 2018 vendors as they are confirmed.



Unraveling the Threads of History Receives State Award

Each year, PA Museums recognizes the special achievements of museums and historical organizations in Pennsylvania. This year, the CCHS Exhibition “Unraveling the Threads of History, Needlework Samplers from the 19th Century” will receive an institutional Achievement Award. This award recognizes “outstanding and innovative projects that have provided an exemplary contribution to the museum, public history, or cultural tourism field in Pennsylvania.” We congratulate our Exhibition Committee for receiving this well deserved honor!

The Awards ceremony and reception will be held at the Pennsylvania Military Museum in Boalsburg as part of this conference on **April 16, 2018 from 4:00-6:00 p.m.** To register for the awards ceremony/reception or any part of the conference, visit: PaMuseums.org/programs-services/ for more information and registration form.



Unraveling the threads of History exhibition committee members Ann Barton and Diane Farr.

Find Your Centre: Cultivating Community Connections

PA Museums Statewide Conference

April 15 - 17, @ The American Philatelic Society, Bellefonte

CCHS is pleased to help kick off the 2018 PA Museums Statewide Conference with a reception at the Centre Furnace Mansion on Sunday, April 15 with a welcome reception. There is an exciting lineup of program speakers on Monday/Tuesday for anyone who works with or advocates for museums and historic sites. For registration cost and information, see: PaMuseums.org/programs-services/



If you know of any students who may be interested, let them know they can take advantage of the sessions free of charge. They would only need to pay for the meals.

Chester County Bus Trip

Wednesday May 16 - Thursday May 17

The Centre County Historical Society is coordinating a bus tour through Centre For Travel to historic Chester County and would like to invite you to join us.

We would like to thank CCHS Board member Roger Williams, who will be joining us, for coordinating efforts for this tour. Roger's new book, *Evan Pugh's Penn State: America's Model Agricultural College* will be published by this time and his insights will give context to the tour of Evan Pugh's ancestral lands.

The tour includes:

- Round-trip deluxe coach transportation
- Accommodations and continental breakfast at the historic Hotel Warner
- Three-course lunch at the historic General Warren Inn
- Three-course lunch at the historic Octoraro Hotel
- Visit to Chester County Historical Society
- Walking tour of historic downtown West Chester
- Bus tour of Evan Pugh's ancestral lands
- Private tasting at Bog Turtle Brewery

\$300 per person double occupancy

\$398 per person single occupancy

Centre County Historical Society Tour Reservation Form

*Deadline: Registration to be submitted to
Centre For Travel by March 1.*

FULL NAME guest 1 (as it appears on ID)

FULL NAME guest 2 (as it appears on ID)

Emergency Contact Name

Emergency Contact Phone #'s home & cell

Pre-registration deposit of \$50 per person is due **March 1, 2018** and is fully refundable. Final payment is due April 1, 2018.

Mail reservation form to:

Centre For Travel
1600 University Drive, State College, PA 16801
814-238-4987

Thank you for the 2017 Stocking Stuffer!



In 2002, Honey Jaffe had an idea to have a special winter antique sale to benefit the Historical Society and its efforts to maintain the Centre Furnace Mansion. Honey led her committee forward. Fifteen years later, what Honey started has evolved into a signature event with a dedicated cast of volunteers, generous local businesses and contributors, artists, antique dealers, crafters and vendors that have made the annual Stocking Stuffer Antiques, Art and fine Craft Sale the Society's largest fundraiser. It attracted 898 shoppers in December!

On behalf of CCHS, we gratefully thank our sponsors, **Mimi Barash Coppersmith and David Horner** for providing funding for supplies and advertising necessary for the event to grow.

Great thanks also to current Stocking Stuffer co-coordinators Cathy Horner, Deb McManus, Becky Dreese and Katie Frieden who graciously contribute their leadership to ensure that all goes smoothly.

Our most sincere thanks go out to all who contributed to the 2017 Stocking Stuffer to help make it the most successful one yet. We could not have done this without the generosity of so many. From the planning and event efforts from decking the halls to hosting a wonderful sale, it couldn't have gone more smoothly! We are humbled and grateful for everyone's dedication, hard work and good cheer that provide the foundation of what has made the Stocking Stuffer a community holiday tradition.

A special debt of gratitude this year to floral designers **Avant Garden, Daniel Vaughn Designs and Woodring's Floral Gardens** for their professional contributions. Their beautifully designed arrangements go far to create the wonderfully festive holiday atmosphere that has become a signature of this event since 2007.

With great appreciation to the contributors and donors listed below.

SPONSORS

**Mimi Barash Coppersmith
David Horner & Associates, Inc.**

RECEPTION DONORS

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Tait Farm Foods
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The Tavern
The Field Burger & Tap at Toftrees
Trader Joe's
Way Fruit Farm
Weis Markets
Ye Olde College Diner

STOCKING STUFFER SUPPORTERS

Businesses & Organizations

Home Depot
Lowes
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Barclay Mountain Co.
Blue Mountain Quality Resources
Penn State Alpha Phi Omega
Penn State Circle K

Individuals

Pam & Chris Calkins
William Jaffe
Carol & Steven Gentry
Peter & Elizabeth Cole
Centre Furnace Mansion Docents
Centre Furnace Mansion Gardeners
Judy Heberling & Michael Husband
David Lembeck
Helen Manfull
Bonnie Walter

Antiques and Treasures Donations

Giselle Ahnert
James Blick
Lynda DeBrasky
Jan Donaldson
Elizabeth Dutton
Casey Goodall
Connie Hayes



CCHS AND COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

Committee Co-coordinators

Cathy Horner
Deb McManus
Becky Dreese
Katie Frieden

Committee Members:

Jill Aller
Joni Arrington
Susan Bowser
Pam Calkins
Karen Hazel
Kimberly Humber
Beverly Lipski
Ann Moellenbrock
Lynn Royse
Linda Wallace
Linda Witmer
Betsy Taylor

Stocking Stuffer Volunteers and

Cookies:

John Arrington
Lisa Bowman
Lucy Boyce
Fran Budris
Ellery Capshaw
Connie Cousins
Joyce Christini
Alexa Cusack
Ed DeBrasky
Edna Dombrowsky
Vicky Droll
Elizabeth Dutton
Susan Toby Evans
Hope Falk
Diane Farr
Linda Forrest
Marshall & Jim Garrett
Rita Graef

Judy Heberling
Jeanne Homan
Michael Husband
Jerry Jackson
Lynn Jaffe
Gina Kapustik
Nick Kilmer
Natalia Kovalchuk
Keith Kyle
Annie Lesieutre
Beverly Lipski
Bethany Marshall
Linda Marshall
Emily McKenzie
Judy Meder
Jo Merrell
Ruth Merritt
Gloria Nieweg
Alison Norris
Fran Nufer
Charlie & Joe O'Neal
Katie O'Toole
Olivia Perdew
Carol Phillips
Sharon Phillips
Deborah Raykovitz
Robi Schmiedlen
Joy Schon
Ralph Seeley
Leslie Shelleman
Christopher Sorensen
Peter Sorensen
Vicki Spadaccio
Judy Speedy
Dee Stout
Lee Stout
Aishwarya Tadikonda
Suzanne Thompson
Floyd Todd
Cynthia Dawso Van Druff
Bonnie Walter
Donna Weldon-Shaak
Nancy Wolf

CCHS Volunteer Appreciation Reception:

Tuesday, April 26, 5:00 p.m.

@ The Centre Furnace Mansion

CCHS is counting its blessings this April, National Volunteer Month - over 70 times. That is the number of volunteers who lean in with some regularity at the Mansion and the Boogersburg School. Take that number times three and you have a better idea of how many community and student volunteers turn out to help us out with multiple projects throughout the year. It goes without saying that the Historical Society could not host events and fundraisers, have regular public tours hours, host elementary school and other group tours, care for our historic properties and collections, keep up beautiful gardens, offer history programs, respond to research requests, create exhibitions, or carry out a variety of other activities without many generous helping hands.

As an expression of our appreciation, CCHS is hosting a reception on **Tuesday, April 26 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.



Save The Date

2018 Old House Fair

June 8 - 9 @ The American Philatelic Society, Bellefonte

Two days of workshops just for owners of old houses and commercial buildings and anyone interested in or involved in historic preservation. Find more details at CentreHistory.org/OHF.



Legacy Day of the Civilian Conservation Corps

July 15, 10:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. @ Poe Valley State Park, pavilion near the beach

Learn how events brought about the creation of the Civilian Conservation Corps program that included the construction of Poe Valley State Park and about life in a CCC camp.

Docent Corner

Thank you to Mansion Docents and Greeters for volunteering extra time during vacations and extra activities! There have been notably more busy days during our regular tours at the Mansion, and having a greeter on hand to welcome guests has become increasingly important.

A special thanks to Betsy Taylor, Steve and Carol Gentry, Linda Wallace, Lynn Royse, Linda Witmer, Gloria Nieweg, Elizabeth Dutton, Kay Sengle, Lou Mayer, Edna Dombrowsky, Nancy Wolf, Bonnie Walter, Karen Hazel, Joy Schon, and Deb Raykovitz for their contribution to Mansion tours.

For information about volunteering to lead public tours at the Mansion through being a docent or greeter, please contact Mary Sorensen at msorensen@centrefurnace.org or call at 814-234-4779.

Docent Meeting Dates

Friday, April 6 10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, July 31 1:30 p.m.
Friday, October 19 10:00 a.m.

Docent meetings are held in the
Centre Furnace Mansion Hearth Room.

Boogersburg School

Teachers from around the area are starting to schedule their spring school tours at the Schoolhouse. Last year alone, nearly 700 visitors put down their smart phones and went back in time to attend class at Boogersburg School. While these visitors largely represent 2nd and 4th graders from the State College Area School District, home school, scout and adult groups also attend throughout the warmer months.

Tours at the School are a fun and rich way to share this history and are free to the public. This is a gift that is only possible because of the dedication of our volunteer Boogersburg School Docents: Bonnie Abrams (Miss Ralston), Linda Forrest (Miss Webb), Nancy Jacobson (Miss Jay), Gloria Nieweg (Miss Lotz), Doyle Wilkerson (Miss Lee), and Linda Witmer (Miss Webster). We could not do this without them and are truly grateful for their contribution.

We are in critical need of finding additional volunteer "school mistresses or masters" who are interested in sharing their time and talent to help us keep this living history experience available for groups. If contributing in this way sounds intriguing, please contact Olivia Perdew, Boogersburg School Docent Coordinator for more information: info@centrecountyhistory.org or call CCHS at 814-234-4779.

Gardeners Corner

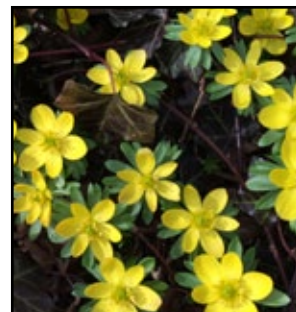
We know that spring is around the corner when there is talk at the Mansion about the spring Plant Celebration, gardener meetings, Thursday gardening days and keeping watch for the first Snow Drop to bloom. I believe the groundhog has prolonged this show for a short time, but probably not for six weeks. Soon, all of the lovely bulbs, most donated by CFM Gardeners, will start peeking through. Spring is a splendid time to look forward to at the Mansion!

Gardens Coordinator Beverly Lipski and Mary Sorensen have been updating information and collecting newer photos that will be added to the gardens section of the CCHS website. The original gardens section was added in 2006, and while small edits have taken place over the years, this will be a more noticeable update. The link to this site is centrehistory.org/gardens. We will let you know when it is up via our e-letter by the beginning of March.

Getting involved in the efforts to beautify and maintain the Mansion's period-inspired gardens is easy and a meaningful way to contribute to keeping this historic site looking its best. For information about participating in gardening at the Mansion, please contact Mary Sorensen: msorensen@centrefurnace.org or 814-234-4779.

**CFM Gardeners Meeting
at the Centre Furnace Mansion
Thursday, February 22 @ 5:00 p.m.**

Soon the Winter Aconite, *Eranthus hyemalis*, will be following up the earliest blooms of the Snow Drops, *Galanthus nivalis*. Of the over 200 types of perennials, shrubs, herbs and plantings at the Mansion, Winter Aconite may be the most asked about because of their bright yellow welcome into Spring.



Winter Aconite



Noo Noo

It is with sadness that we say goodbye to Noo Noo, who over 10 years ago, easily became the Mansion Gardens mascot. She charmed crowds during work days, dissuaded groundhogs in the gardens as part of her "volunteer" time and will certainly be missed. Thank you to Katie and Rob Frieden for sharing Noo Noo with us over the years.

Collections and Exhibition Notes

One of the focuses of the next Mansion Notes, already in the works for April, will be on CCHS collections work along with exhibitions that are currently in the works.

Our many thanks go to the Frame Factory of State College and owner William Ebken for donating conservation framing for a recent acquisition, and to Jim and Diane Farr for donating a custom painted frame for this piece. The fraktur baptismal certificate is for Anna Margaretha Willemann, born December 9, 1822, in Haines Township.

We are also thankful to have received new Thompson family artifacts from Benjamin Henszey, great grandson of Elizabeth McFarlane Thompson Hamilton. A beautiful oil painting of Elizabeth and her daughter Anne is now on display in the Mansion's ladies parlor.



Painting of Elizabeth and Anne hangs in the ladies parlor.

CCHS has been the recipient of numerous generous collections gifts over the past year, and our next issue will have a full listing and stories about some of these treasures.

Work is underway, thanks to donations from the Thompson family, to renovate the cabinet in the Mansion's period kitchen to make way for smaller focused exhibitions of objects, both borrowed and from the CCHS Collections. This space and the Hearth Room display area will be used to rotate smaller exhibitions more frequently.

A larger exhibition about the life and adventures of Sherman Lutz is in the works. A late spring or summer opening date will soon be chosen.

More to come in the next issue!

Centre Gives Online Giving Event

Tuesday, May 8- Wednesday, May 9

This coming May marks the 7th year for Centre Gives annual online giving event, generously hosted by Centre Foundation. Last year, 77 friends and supporters coupled with Centre Foundation's matching funds, brought in \$11,540.00 in donations. We cannot express how much this fundraiser has meant to CCHS by providing critical dollars for ongoing maintenance and repairs at the Centre Furnace Mansion and Boogersburg School.

We extend our sincere gratitude to all who have contributed to CCHS via Centre Gives. It is an amazing opportunity to have your donation dollars go even further. We hope you will consider support of CCHS this coming May 8-9. Details will follow by postcard and email!

Centre County Trivia

By Pam Calkins

Can you correctly answer these questions about Centre County people and places?

1. In 1896 the Borough of State College came into being and passed its first ordinance. What was it?
2. As a child this gentleman remembered Moses Thompson because his own grandfather was a caretaker at the Centre Furnace Mansion. Eventually this young man opened a barbershop in State College, was a founder of the Alpha Fire Company, the Grace Lutheran Church, and the Chamber of Commerce. Also known as the Duke of Allen Street, he saw the town and university grow from 600 to 50,000. He passed in 1965 at the age of 92. Who was this dapper chap also known for his tie pins and silver handled canes?
3. Two brothers, who had been residents of Bellefonte, served as governors of California and Pennsylvania at the same time. Who were they?
4. Like a phoenix rising from the ashes, this restaurant opened after a 1924 New Year's Eve fire burned 15 businesses and offices to the ground and forced the relocation of the site's previous tenant. "We'll meet you there" today if you'd like!
5. As the story goes, she was President Atherton's secretary (1882-1906) and Lady Principal supervising all female students at Penn State College. In an effort to "prank" her, several students rigged up two resident skeletons. A human skeleton known as Ole John was situated atop a mule skeleton and both were lowered into place in Schwab Auditorium during a prayer of the campus church service. Disappointment reigned when this undeterred woman never batted an eye. Later this woman had a residence hall named in her honor. Who was she?

Answers on page 10.

Wish List

Thank you for considering wish list items.

- Garden tools - mulch forks, rakes, hand tools. Tools can certainly be gently used!
- Metal shelving for collections storage (\$75.00/shelf)
- Archival storage boxes are needed for some of the new acquisitions received in 2017. Special document and object boxes are needed and range in price from \$15.00 to \$50.00
- Tools - cordless drill, drill bits, a variety of large and small pliers
- Conservation and digitization of 18 film reels from the Sherm Lutz Collection.

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

CCHS Membership

Your membership in CCHS provides the crucial foundation for the Society. CCHS activities and efforts to maintain its historic sites are funded by membership, donations, planned giving, grants, business sponsorship and numerous generous in-kind donations.

If you haven't had a chance to renew, or if you would like to join CCHS as a new or returning member, there is a remittance envelope enclosed for your convenience that includes membership options. You may also use the form on the back page of this newsletter. CCHS's annual membership period is from January through December. For renewing members, your renewal date is on the front of the newsletter - please let us know of any corrections.

Mansion Notes is available electronically in full color and can be e-mailed to you if you would rather get the newsletter electronically. If you would like to save paper and receive Mansion Notes by email, please contact Johanna at jsedgwick@centrefurnace.org or 814-234-4779.

Many of you spend time away during the cold winter months. CCHS postcards and newsletters are unable to be forwarded by the Post Office. To help cut down on the costs of returned mail, simply give us a call at 814-234-4779 and let us know what dates you will be out of the area so that we may stop and resume communications efficiently.

Family History Conference



Featuring

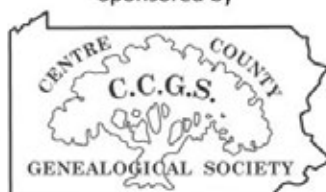
Judy G. Russell
The Legal Genealogist

Saturday, May 19, 2018
Foxdale Village Auditorium
State College, PA

9:30 am – 4:00 pm

Four lectures on topics including Pennsylvania court records, genealogical evidence and proof, women and the law, and finding your family story.

Sponsored by



- | | |
|--|---|
| • What was Gramps doing in Court? | • Which record should I believe? |
| • No birth certificates back then; when was he born? | • What was Grandma Smith's maiden name? |
| • What town were they from, in the Old Country? | • Why did he need a license for THAT? |

For complete details and to register for the conference, please visit
centrecountygenealogy.org

From Centre County: Through the Lens

Friday, March 16, 5:30 - 8:00 p.m.

@ The State College Framing Company and Gallery

The State College Framing Company and Gallery is hosting an exhibit & sale to benefit CCHS that will feature local photographers, several of whom have generously contributed to CCHS through their photography. Contributions from photographers like Frederic Weber and R. Thomas Berner have made every difference in many of our exhibition materials and other publications.

Join us at the exhibit to view a variety of photographs while sipping local wines from Mount Nittany Vineyard & Winery and enjoying tasty hors d'oeuvres by local caterer, Paul's Provisions. 10% of the proceeds from opening night sales will go to the Centre County Historical Society.

State College Framing Company and Gallery is a local business that gives back to the community through hosting events like this one that highlight local artists and businesses and that benefit local non-profit organizations.

The exhibit/sale will be held at the State College Framing Company and Gallery: 160 Rolling Ridge Drive, State College in Hills Plaza, 814-234-7336, framingstatecollege.com.



Apple peeler.
Photographed by
Frederic Weber.

Inclement Weather Reminder



CCHS follows the closings and delayed openings of State College Area School District. But, our first concern is that of the safety of our visitors and volunteers. The CCHS office/Centre Furnace Mansion may also close if the sidewalks or parking lot are deemed unsafe for visitors and volunteers. Please check our website, CentreHistory.org, or Facebook page first, or call the CCHS office, 814-234-4779, before traveling to the Mansion during snowy/icy weather, or the possibility of. The weather and road conditions can vary drastically in the region.

Trivia Answers

1. The ordinance prohibited the carefree roaming of pigs.
2. George T. Graham
3. John Bigler was governor of California and his brother William the governor of Pennsylvania in the same year.
4. The Corner Room
5. Miss Harriet McElwain



Cultural & Natural Heritage Events

Please visit the organization's website for complete details.

Underground Railroad - A Journey to Freedom

Through 2018

FRI-SUN 12:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Bellefonte Art Museum, Bellefonte

www.bellefontemuseum.org

Field to Front: Nittany Lions at War, 1917-1919

Through April 2018

TUE-SAT 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

SUN 12:00 - 4:00 p.m.

PSU All Sports Museum

www.gopsusports.com/museum

The First Decade at the Museum: Portraits & Posters

Through February 25, 2018

FRI-SUN 12:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Bellefonte Art Museum, Bellefonte

www.bellefontemuseum.org

Friends' Lecture Series:

Drafted into the Korean War

Sunday, March 4, 2018

2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

PA Military Museum, Boalsburg

www.pamilmuseum.org

150th Anniversary of President Lincoln's Funeral Procession & CWRT Dinner Meeting

Central PA Civil War Round Table

TUE, March 6, 2018

6:00 p.m.

Mt. Nittany United Methodist Church, State College

Charter Day

SUN, March 11, 2018

12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

PA Military Museum, Boalsburg

www.pamilmuseum.org

Genealogy Coaching

SAT, March 17, 2018

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

PA Room at the Centre County Library

Historical Museum, Bellefonte

www.centrecountylibrary.org

Thank you!

Our thanks to all who have contributed funding, materials, time and talent in the past quarter. Your contributions are meaningful to CCHS in so many ways. Below we recognize businesses and individuals for their extra time and support during winter of 2017/18.

Business Contributions: The Frame Factory of State College and William Ebken, Blue Mountain Quality Resources, Mike Clitherow, David Lembeck

CCHS Presenters: Speakers - Dr. Gary Cross, Consumed Nostalgia: Memory in the Age of Fast Capitalism and Dr. Simon Bronner, The Past and Future of Pennsylvania German Studies-and Pennsylvania German Identity

Collections: Betsy Taylor, Judy Heberling, Monty Christiansen, Vinnie Scanlon, Judy Speedy, Sue Kellerman, Claire Gray, Pam Calkins, Beberly Lipski

Collections Funding: Elizabeth Dutton, Jim and Diane Farr, Steven and Carol Gentry, Betsy Taylor, Pamela and Daniel Thompson, Jerry and Mina Somerville Thompson, Judith Thompson

CFM Docent Committee: Thank you to for extra hours spent on additional, and busy, winter tours and for crafting and supplies for the Stocking Stuffer. Special thanks to Lynn Royse, Linda Witmer and Gloria Nieweg for handling winter school tours and Linda Wallace for arranging the volunteer and docent educational outings around Centre County. A special thank you to Jackie Melander and Lee Stout for providing educational programs for CCHS docent meetings.

Gardens: Thank you to CFM Gardens Co-Coordinator Beverly Lipski and Katie Frieden, and the CFM Garden Committee for their extra time spent decorating the Mansion during Stocking Stuffer.

Interns and Student Volunteers:

Priscilla Mariani for her continued volunteerism and research through a Penn State independent study.

Penn State Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service

Research: Justin Houser, Cathy Horner, Dick Pencek

Stocking Stuffer: See Page 6

Wish List Contributions: Helen Manfull

Remembering Walter Swoope

Preserving and sharing historic and cultural heritage has been the mission of many, but few have done it with greater energy and conviction than Walter Swoope. Philipsburg was his town. He believed in it and quietly supported it in virtually every way possible. His historic preservation efforts were impressive: the rescue and restoring of the Lorraine house on Centre Street launched his efforts. He was a principal in the restoration of the Rowland Theatre, the Philipsburg Hotel, the Finburg Building and others; he was an advocate in establishing National Register recognition for individual buildings and for the Philipsburg Historic District. He knew the history and knew the records and shared his extensive knowledge with great generosity. Questions about Philipsburg's past could be directed to Walter with the assurance that he would quickly supply an answer and advice on how to learn more.

Enticing Walter out of Philipsburg was not easy. He often would decline saying, "I don't really like leaving my zip code." Philipsburg with its 16866 zip code has lost a generous and dedicated friend, and so have his many friends in the Centre County Historical Society.

~ Jackie Melander



CENTRE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
CENTRE FURNACE MANSION
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State College, PA 16801

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Membership

New members welcome anytime.



Your membership and gifts support all aspects of the Centre County Historical Society's operations in our mission to "help people understand, experience, appreciate and preserve Centre County's cultural and natural heritage." Membership benefits include: *Mansion Notes* - the Society's quarterly newsletter; advance notice of programs; discounted special event admission rates, and a 10% discount on all CCHS publications. The 10% discount applies online as well with code MEMBERS10.

Thank you to all of our new and continuing members. We hope you value your membership in the Centre County Historical Society as much as we value your support and participation. We invite you to return your membership renewal, if you have not yet renewed for this year. Make checks payable to CCHS and send to 1001 E. College Avenue, State College, PA 16801.

You may also join or donate online at www.centrehistory.org.

☐ New Member ☐ Renewal

☐ Gift Membership to: _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email(s) _____

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$35
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$50
<input type="checkbox"/> Friend	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$250
<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor	\$500
<input type="checkbox"/> Steward	\$1000
<input type="checkbox"/> Ironmaster	\$1500
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional Gift	\$ _____

☐ I wish to help cut down on mailing costs and help the environment. Please send my newsletters via e-mail!

☐ I would like my membership / donation to remain anonymous.