

The Veiled Arts of Victorian Women: March 16 - August 31, 2014

By Olivia Perdew

From the nineteenth century kitchen to the formal dining room, food and the social customs surrounding its consumption were rapidly changing. With the advent of etiquette manuals, families across the United States were given access to a set of rules governing social interactions of the upper class in places like New York City and Philadelphia. In fact, historian John F. Kasson asserts that “fundamental to the popularity of manuals of etiquette was the conviction that proper manners and social respectability could be purchased and learned” (*Rudeness and Civility: Manners in Nineteenth-Century Urban America*). Families began to study thick books detailing the correct way to act in any social situation in both the public and private sphere, and the Thompson family of Centre Furnace Mansion would certainly have been a part of this trend. The formal dinners hosted at their home would have been controlled affairs, following the social fashions of the time, with several courses and more forks than anyone today would know what to do with.

Meanwhile, the food served at these dinners was changing as well. With new developments in food preservation,

“food...became increasingly important as a measure of class distinction” (Susan Williams, *Food in the United States, 1820s-1890*). The Victorian period was a time when Americans were experiencing significant changes in their diets and food rituals. Commercially produced canned goods began to enter the market and appear on pantry shelves, so that, by the latter part of

the nineteenth century, there was a wide variety of commercially canned vegetables, fruits, and meats available to consumers. Lettuce, a vegetable that is considered ordinary by today’s standards, was just beginning to appear on the dinner table in upper class households during this time period.

Women’s lives were arguably the most affected by the developments in food preservation during this time, and the importance of the rules of etiquette. This exhibition, *The Veiled Arts of Victorian Women*, seeks to explore the ways in which these two aspects of daily life influenced the

Victorian woman’s place in the middle class home as she strove to be the moral compass of her family, ensuring that they adhere to the rules of etiquette in any situation. See program and event details on page 4.



Canning jar collection from the Pasto Agricultural Museum of Penn State

Objects featured in this exhibition are from CCHS collections, and are generously lent by: Local collectors; the Ladies of Battery B, 3rd Pa. Vol., Light Artillery; and the Pasto Agricultural Museum of the Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences. This exhibit has been developed by Penn State Integrative Arts major Olivia Perdew and is a collaboration of CCHS, Richard Pencek, Diane and James Farr, Candace Dannaker, Richard Doyle, and Mary Sorensen. Photography coordinated by Fred Weber with Penn State College of Arts and Architecture. Graphic design by David Lembeck. Printing sponsored in part by Jaru Associates, Inc. Funding is provided by a grant from AAUW State College and the Karen Rugh-Richard Pencek Program Endowment for American Art and Culture at Penn State.

About the Centre County Historical Society

☛ Contact Us ☛

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Centre County Historical Society

Office Hours:

Mon.-Fri., 9:00am - 5:00 pm

Research Requests & Archives Use:

By appointment.

Centre Furnace Mansion

Public Tours, Exhibits, & Library Use:

Sun./Wed./Fri. 1:00-4:00pm

Group Tours: *By appointment.*

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Founded in 1904, the Centre County Historical Society (CCHS) is the oldest and largest history organization in the county, serving as the official historical society of Centre County. It is a community and volunteer based non-profit educational organization that works collaboratively with local, regional, county, and state organizations in helping to preserve and promote the area's historic, cultural, and natural resources.

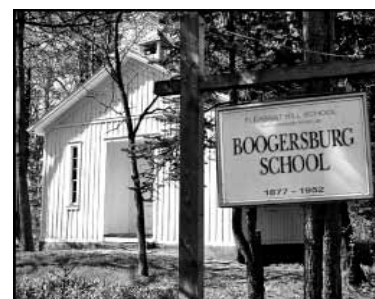
CCHS is headquartered in the Centre Furnace Mansion, a restored and furnished ironmaster's home listed in the National Register of Historic Places. This historic mansion and nearby iron furnace stack represent the 18th-century beginnings of the charcoal iron industry in this area, and the 19th-century beginnings of Penn State University, originally located on furnace lands. The site offers more than eight acres of landscaped grounds and gardens.

CCHS disseminates historical information about Centre County; offers programs and exhibits of historical and cultural interest for children and adults; marks and helps preserve and protect the Centre Furnace Mansion property and grounds, Boogersburg School, and other historical sites and landscapes in Centre County; maintains a collection of artifacts, books, manuscripts, maps and photographs; and publishes and promotes interest in historically significant publications relating to Centre County.

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, which is made possible through the G. Harold Keatley Fund.

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.



CCHS Programs & Events

February

Feb 23

Buttons of the Past Exhibit
by PA State Button Society Members
@ Centre Furnace Mansion
1pm - 4pm • Sun.

March

Mar 16 - Aug 31

Exhibit: Veiled Arts of Victorian Women
@ Centre Furnace Mansion
1pm - 4pm • Sun./Wed./Fri.

Mar 23

History Talk: "Domesticity: Women's
'Work' in the Antebellum Northeast"
Speaker: Dr. Amy Greenberg
@ Centre Furnace Mansion
2pm • Sun.

April

Apr 13

History Talk: From Fingers to Forks,
A History of Dining Instruments
Speaker: Candace Dannaker
@ Centre Furnace Mansion
2pm • Sun.

Apr 27 - Nov 14

Exhibit: Rural Landscapes: By Farm-
land Preservation Artists of Central PA
@ Centre Furnace Mansion
1pm - 4pm • Sun./Wed./Fri.

May

May 6

'Centre Gives' Online Giving Event
@ www.centregives.org
Tues. (Times TBA)

May 10

19th Annual Plant Celebration
@ Centre Furnace Mansion
9am - 4pm • Sat.

May 18

History Talk: Victorian Tussie Mussies
and the Language of Flowers
Speaker: Allen Baney
@ Centre Furnace Mansion
2pm • Sun.

For details, see page 4, or visit:
www.centrehistory.org.

President's Corner

Telling Centre County's History Through Its Places and Spaces

Identifying, researching and preserving the county's rich architectural heritage has been going on for a long time, initially through individual efforts. But, beginning in recognition of the nation's Bicentennial in 1976, these efforts became more formalized and include these three examples:

Historic Registration Project of Centre County – Funded through the offices of the Centre County Commissioners and housed at the Centre County Library in Bellefonte, the Registration Project undertook the listing of both individual properties and historic districts throughout the county on the National Register of Historic Places. The process involved selecting rich architectural examples throughout Centre County, and then through careful research developing a narrative that carefully described them and provided justifications of their significance. While three properties (Curtin Village, Bellefonte's Gamble Mill, and the John Gray property in Patton Township) preceded the Registration Project's efforts, approximately 40 individual properties and districts were developed for National Register listing by the Project staff during their almost four year effort – a remarkable accomplishment.

National Register listings have continued in the county since that time with the latest property, the Pennsylvania Match Factory in Bellefonte, added in 2001, bringing the total count of individual properties and districts to 71. (Waiting in line is a nomination for the Penns/Brush Valley Rural Historic District that has been designated as eligible for listing.) A list of Centre County's National Register resources can be found on the CCHS website (www.CentreHistory.org) and also through the National Park Service (<http://nhrp.focus.nps.gov/>; search Centre County, PA properties). An excellent overview with photographs can be found in *Historic Buildings of Centre County* (Penn State Press, 1980), now out of print but available in area libraries, including CCHS.

Historic Sites Survey – This second initiative grew from the first. Also funded through the Centre County Commissioners' Office, the Centre Furnace Mansion served as the Sites Survey headquarters. This three-year project began in 1979 and involved a "windshield survey" of all properties in Centre County that were fifty years old or older. The descriptive survey form used for each property noted type: agricultural complex, individual house, commercial building, school, church, even structures like bridges; and identified construction materials, architectural style, current use, and approximate age. This extensive collection of materials, including photographs, is sorted by townships and boroughs, and is now housed in the CCHS archives.

Continued on page 8...

Upcoming CCHS Programs & Exhibits

Buttons of the Past

An Exhibit of Antique Clothing Buttons

February 23 | 1pm-4pm

Have you ever played in your mother's button tin? Ever admired the buttons on an outfit of clothing? Did you know that every Rail Road had uniform buttons just like the U.S. Military, some clothing brands, and manufacturing companies?

Learn more from members of the Pennsylvania State Buttons Society (PSBS) during an afternoon of fun and information on Sunday, February 23. A variety of buttons (over 500) will be displayed from 1:00-4:00 p.m. at the Mansion, with PSBS members available to answer your questions. Displayed buttons will consist of different materials, and specialty buttons will include: Rail Road, Realistic, Fabric, Buttons from Paris, Vegetable Ivory, Black glass, mother of pearl, and many more. See you there!

Thank you to Lynda DeBrasky, member of both CCHS & PSBS, for coordinating this program. The PSBS was formed in 1947; and there once was a local Nittany Button Club until it was dismantled in the 1980s.

"Domesticity: Women's 'Work' in the Antebellum Northeast"

March 23 | 2pm

For middle-class white women in the decades just before the Civil War, living up to new standards of morality, child-rearing, and household management was a full time job. Dr. Amy Greenberg will discuss the rise of a new ideal of domesticity in the 1830s, and its impact on women's lives, family relations, and the management and decor of family homes in the cities and newly created suburbs of the antebellum Northeast.

From Fingers to Forks: A History of Dining Instruments

April 13 | 2pm

This program will explore the special pieces and intricate designs of Victorian dining instruments. Both China and silver manufacturers during the period took every opportunity to increase their sales through marketing pieces such as asparagus servers, toast forks, and sugar sifters. Examples of these pieces will be available to see as Candace Dannaker shares her passion for the Victorian table!



Exhibit: Rural Landscapes

The Farmland Preservation Artists of Central Pa. Explore our Rural Heritage

April 27 - November 14

The Farmland Preservation Artists (FPA) of Central Pennsylvania is a group of 17 artists dedicated to promoting the appreciation and preservation of our area's farmland through the visual arts. The artists work in a variety of media: Acrylic, oil, watercolor, soft pastel, and photography. As one of the artists said, "The joy of experiencing the farm landscapes becomes magnified and continues long after the painting is done". The FPA artists aspire to awaken the community's awareness of that visual beauty before it is gone forever.

The FPA was formed in 2005 in partnership with the Art Alliance of Central Pennsylvania and the Centre County Farmland Trust. Several art shows, such as this one at the Centre Furnace Mansion, are held throughout the year. An equal percentage of the art sales go to the Art Alliance, the host venue, and the Farmland Trust. Owning a piece of original art not only supports the preservation of farms and the landscape, but creates a lasting memory of our heritage. For more information, visit: farmlandpreservationartists.org.

'Centre Gives' Online, May 6

Mark your calendars for the third annual "Centre Gives" online giving event, to be hosted by the Centre Foundation. Last year, of the \$550,000 raised for 82 local nonprofit organizations and the \$126,000 in matching funds and prizes, the Centre County Historical Society received \$13,811.67! This year, with your help, we hope to surpass **\$15,000!** So mark your calendars now: Centre Gives 2014 will begin on Tuesday, May 6th (times To Be Announced)! Give from wherever you may be: CentreGives.org.

Enterprise Holdings Foundation Grant

CHS has received a \$1,000.00 community grant from the Enterprise Holdings Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the company that operates the Enterprise Rent-A-Car, National Car Rental and Alamo Rent A Car. Enterprise founder Jack Taylor established the Foundation to give back to the communities where the company's customers and employees live and work. The grant, which was initiated by Enterprise employee and CCHS volunteer Joel Greene, will be used at the Centre Furnace Mansion to add much needed computer workstations to help us expand our volunteer capacity in the office and library.

We extend our sincerest gratitude to Enterprise Holdings Foundation for this generous grant and to Joel for his advocacy of CCHS!

Benner Commerce Park Archaeological Report Online

For those who may have missed the 2011 exhibit *Building on the Past: Bringing 19th Century Innovation to a 20th Century Industrial Park*, the exhibit panels are now available for viewing on our new website. Also, the complete Phase III Archaeological Report (544 pages), which was the basis for this exhibit and was prepared by Heberling Associates, Inc., is also available in its entirety. To view both PDF files, go to our home page, centrehistory.org, and from the Exhibits menu, choose "Past Exhibits." Or, follow this direct link: centrehistory.org/exhibits/building-on-the-past/

Volunteers: Save these dates!

FEB 12 - Docent Committee Meeting, 10am
FEB 20 - Garden Committee Meeting, 5:30pm
APR 16 - Volunteer Appreciation Reception, 4pm
MAY 10 - Plant Celebration, 9am-4pm



Boogersburg School Docent Training, January 15, 2014. Nancy Silverman, Susan Natter, Bonnie Abrams, Nancy Jacobson, Doyle Wilkerson, Gloria Nieweg, Linda Wallace, Carole Rose, Kristina Brownshire - Intern, and Sharon Childs - Boogersburg School Coordinator.

A Boogersburg School Ledger

by Sharon Childs

In 2001, Bob Struble and Susan Crary purchased the Boogersburg Schoolhouse from artist, Sybil Grucci, and restored the schoolhouse to its original form. As part of that restoration, Mr. Struble was able to secure an attendance and grade ledger for the schoolhouse from the State College Area School District. This historic, precious ledger contains school records dating from 1893-1900, and we thought you would enjoy the story of the school that flows from that ledger.

The Teachers. Five different teachers were employed at Boogersburg between 1893 and 1900, and each was at the schoolhouse for one to two years. While we know little about these teachers other than their names, you will see that several have surnames that were common in early Centre County: G.W. Ralston, Daniel Showalter, H.H. Hartswick, J.W. Blair, and Mabelle A. Norris. These teachers earned a monthly salary of \$30 with the exception of Mabelle A. Norris who was paid \$28 per month.

The Students. Depending on the year and even the time of the year, classroom enrollment varied from 15 to 28 students. Generally, there were more girls than boys, and the ages of the students ranged from five to nineteen years old. Today, when local school children come for history programs at the schoolhouse, each is given a name tag with the first and last name of a child from the ledger. Children are always surprised to learn that 'Harold Potter', along with many other Potters, attended the Boogersburg School.

The School Year. School began in mid to late September and ended in mid-April. In 1898, however, a measles outbreak forced an early closing on March 15. Children had time off from mid-December until December 26 for the Christmas holiday, but there were only two years when the schoolhouse was closed on New Year's Day.

A Request. Mr. Struble was able to secure this precious ledger from the State College Area School District, and it is the only one we have in our possession. One of our goals has been to acquire additional ledgers for Boogersburg, formerly known as Pleasant Hill School. If you would like to assist in this effort, please contact Sharon Childs.

To assist with the Boogersburg Ledger, to become involved as a docent, or for program information, please contact Sharon Childs: (814) 237-4779, or boogersburg@centrecountyhistory.org.

Collections Investigation

by Betsy Taylor

It has been a very long time since my doorbell rang and, upon opening it, found a cheery lady saying, “Avon calling!” While that era is past, in-person contact of a first time greeting was never in style in the Victorian age. In those days one first presented a “calling card” or, better still, a servant to deliver one! The visitor had to know which day the lady of the house had designated to receive visitors! Such was the social custom in the 1800s! And while records don’t include these details, I am sure the front parlor was dusted, fresh flowers placed and tea service polished, and the lady of the house was dressed in her finest apparel.

In “fine” households, one found a proper receptacle for calling cards. Some were silver in the form of a small basket or plate, some in the form of outstretched hands, and others simply took a unique shape designated by the owner. In the Centre Furnace Mansion’s main hallway, one can find a perfect example of a “unique” card receiver - a two-tiered, flat top piece resembling an artist’s palette, complete with suggested swirls of paint and a hole for the artist’s thumb. Made of silver and perched on easel-like supports, the lower tier holds a small, completed landscape. The cardholder, a gift of Phyllis and Allen Crabtree, was given during the Mansion’s restoration, and records indicate it originally came from the Katherine Kirk collection of Philipsburg. To this day it remains a repository for calling cards - some old representing different styles, and some recent additions made by visiting school children.

In browsing through Google, I also learned about the use and the language of calling cards. In the Victorian day, the card’s design, style, and color border could carry meaning to the receiver. If the top left corner of the card was folded, it meant the visitor had come in person. If no corners were folded, it meant a servant had delivered the card. The upper right corner folded indicated congratulations, while the lower expressed sympathy. And, of course, a card with a black border indicated the loss of a loved one. And the lady of the house could indicate a proper visiting day by having, for example, “Tuesdays” printed in the lower left.

The content of the engraving of both men’s and ladies’ cards was subject to the etiquette of the day. A woman’s card always indicated her status, so either Mrs. or Miss had to be part of her name. As for the man, his name might be preceded by a “Mr.” or “Rev.”, but other titles were not to be included unless they were titles for life!

For more “rules and regulations” of calling cards, I suggest “History and Other Thoughts: The Etiquette of Visiting Cards” - a blog which shares excerpts from the book *Etiquette* by Agnes H. Morton, published in 1892.

Governor Beaver’s China

by Bonnie Walter



Gov. Beaver’s china was made by Haviland & Co. - Limoges with peach/pink-beige border encircled by thin gold band accents.

Nothing exercises my imagination more than memories from my past. Picture a teenage girl sitting in English class at Bellefonte Area High School, looking out over a beautiful limestone farm house, and imagining one day living in that home. That was the Beaver Estate located on Bishop Street in Bellefonte. (The estate had once belonged to the 20th Pa. governor, James A. Beaver. He came to Bellefonte to practice law, then joined the military during the Civil War, served as governor from 1887-1891, and was acting president of the Pennsylvania State College from 1906-1908.)

At that moment in time, nothing had been built upon the adjacent property to the Beaver Estate, and it appeared more as a farm. About twenty years later (1980s), that Beaver Farm and its contents were placed on the market for sale, and an auction was held. “The dream” of owning that farm did not materialize. However, my son, who worked for that estate’s auctioneer, talked his dad into purchasing Gov. Beaver’s china for me as a present. I was thrilled to own the china that had been such a big part of history and my life growing up in Centre County.

Over time, I shared the china with family and friends, high school classmates, PSU Alumni, and most recently with an OLLI class. Although the china had been cherished for many years, I felt it was time for the set to come out of storage and return to a proper place in Centre County history.

I am deeply grateful that the Centre County Historical Society has accepted the Gov. Beaver china – it gives me great pleasure to gift them to the CCHS collections. And now the dishes are once again part of the history of Centre County, and their story can be shared with all the visitors of Centre Furnace Mansion.

Pieces of Gov. Beaver’s china are currently displayed on the dining room table of the Centre Furnace Mansion.

From the Archives: 2013 Research Requests in Review

by Cathy Horner

"Hi – Just can't thank you enough for this wonderful discovery! No one in our family has ever seen this marvelous photo!"

"Thank you very much for your research. They have been a very difficult family to search, but I am getting closer thanks to diligence and helpful historical societies like yours!"

The above quotes came from notes after fulfilling research requests last year. In 2013, we received well over one hundred requests for information. Many requests are for genealogical information. For this type of question, we do a general surname search of our database and the index of *Linn's History of Clinton and Centre Counties*. If we find any information, we certainly share it with the client. However in most cases, since genealogy is the focus of organizations like the Centre County Genealogical Society, the Family History Center of State College, and the PA Room of the Centre County Library, we refer genealogy requests to our friends at these wonderful Centre County resources.

Here are a few of the interesting questions and projects we provided research help with this past year:

How did Tussey Mountain get its name? Tussey Mountain was named after pioneers that came here from Huntingdon County. Originally was Tussey's Mountain.

Why is Blue Ball Road in Walker Township named so? Sue Hannegan of Centre County Planning & Community Development shared this: A 75 year old resident of that road recalled a story from 60 years ago, that the name derived from small pieces of iron ore that fell off of wagons transporting ore to the Lewistown furnaces. The iron ore was mined from pits on the Sand Ridge between Mingoville and Hublersburg. When the sun hit these ore bits, it looked blue...hence the name.

In July, we provided information for a graduate student working on a Master thesis in New Media. He sought historic photographs of Allen Street in State College. During Arts Festival, he walked around with a costume covered in QR codes. When visitors scanned the QR codes with their smart phones, they saw an historic photo of the spot where the student was standing.

Another summer request was assisting an Eagle Scout working on a signage project for Walnut Springs Park (previously Thompson and Centre Furnace Lands).

The best part about helping with research requests is that you never know where that next email or phone call will lead you and what you will discover along the way.

As with any historical research, we welcome our readers' input and any information you may have.

Thank you!

We at CCHS extend our deepest appreciation for all who volunteer their time and contribute in so many different ways. Below we recognize individuals and organizations for their extra support in the fourth quarter of 2013:

Business Donations: Colonial Press, Enterprise Holdings Foundation, Jerry Jackson, Team Blue Car Wash, Jay Yoder-Cabinet Maker.

Collections & Library: Betty Arnold, Cliff Bastuscheck, Monty Christiansen, Judy Heberling, Cathy Horner, Tammi Puskar, Vinnie Scanlon, Johanna Sedgwick, Judy Speedy, Betsy Taylor.

Docents: Deb Raykovitz, Lynn Royse, and Linda Witmer have been working on updating our school tour to more closely coordinate with the curriculum needs of the State College Area School District. A special thanks as well to **Learning Enrichment Teachers** Nancy Tamminga, Diane Reed, Amy Wagner, and Mary Beth Hoffman for helping with this effort as we enter into the 2014 school tour season.

Gardens: Carol Phillips, Garden shed shelf donation.

Program Speakers: Pennsylvania State Button Society Members & Lynda DeBrasky, Dr. Amy Greenberg, Candace Dannaker, Farmland Preservation Artists.

Property: Jim Broyles, Ed DeBrasky.

Special Events: 2013 Stocking Stuffer Antiques, Art and Fine Crafts Sale contributors: Please see pages 8-9.

Students & Interns: Kristina Brownshire, Julie Gomboc-Turyan, Olivia Perdew.

Best Wishes, Megan

Megan Orient, CCHS's program coordinator, website maestro, and Jack of all Trades, is leaving CCHS at the end of January. Megan will begin researching, writing, and developing an exhibit about grist mills in southwestern Pennsylvania for her completion of a certificate in Historic Preservation through Bucks County Community College.

We extend our sincere gratitude to Megan with an enthusiastic thank you for all she has accomplished for CCHS, and send our best wishes to her in this journey. We will miss you, and look forward to seeing you occasionally in a volunteer role!

President's Message cont'd.

Places and Spaces Project – In addition to these two efforts, the CCHS has been undertaking additional preservation initiatives. The purpose of the Places and Spaces project was to assemble a collection of older images of Centre County's built landscape. Funded through a preservation grant from the PA Historical and Museum Commission in 1998, CCHS worked collaboratively with local museums, township officials and particularly with individuals who knew about, and in some cases had their own collections to share. Three Society representatives, with Carolyn Smith serving as the photographer, traveled to communities throughout the county to make slide copies of local, and in some cases, rare images. Often, additional information was provided by lenders of the photographs. Participating museums included the Philipsburg Historical Foundation, Penns Valley Museum in Aaronsburg, Boalsburg Heritage Museum, Snow Shoe Lions David House, and the Milesburg Historical Society. Photographs were copied at those museums and from private collectors and collections in Howard, Stormstown, Port Matilda, Unionville, Bellefonte and State College. Over 2,000 historic images in slide form were added to the CCHS collection and have been used for research, exhibits and the website.

Helping to Tell the Story.

Monty Christiansen, a Penn State emeritus professor of parks and recreation management, has been coming to the mansion weekly over the last 18 months, to digitize the more than 2,000 Places & Spaces slides to make them more accessible. Enthusiastic thanks go to Monty for taking on and completing this large and significant project at the close of 2013.

Next Monty will be assisting with the Historic Sites Survey collection. Having this material available in a searchable, digital form, so that specific information can be found easily rather than looking at paper copies page-by-page, will be a remarkable improvement. Being able to quickly determine how many log houses are in the county and where they are located, or identifying the locations of one-room school houses, or being able to learn approximate dates of stone and brick houses and their locations will be another remarkable way in which to learn more about Centre County in a contextual way.

Making museum collections useful and useable, without harming original collections is now possible in this digital age. But it would not be possible without the efforts of people like Monty. We offer an enthusiastic tip of the Society's hat to Monty Christiansen.

~ Jackie Melander

Stocking Stuffer Sale A Success!

Thank you for a successful 2013 Stocking Stuffer! The winter weather did not stop over 70 volunteers, 40 businesses and organizations, 60 antique dealers, artists and crafters, and nearly 600 shoppers from participating in the festivities.

Having finished its 11th year, the Stocking Stuffer Antiques, Art and fine Craft Sale remains the Centre County Historical Society's largest annual fundraiser. Our annual fundraisers, loyal membership, business and individual supporters, and the thousands of volunteer hours generously given each year are critical components to our operation. Your support helps to keep CCHS history programming and initiatives alive at the Centre Furnace Mansion, Boogersburg Schoolhouse and beyond.

It is with our most sincere gratitude that we thank all of you who have contributed to the Stocking Stuffer through generous donations, time and special skills. It is the spirit that has made the Stocking Stuffer Antiques, Art & Fine Craft Sale a community tradition that gets better every year.

Our special thanks to the Stocking Stuffer Committee for the multitude of hours, meticulous organization, and many generous contributions to ensure the success of the event. We certainly could not do it without you.

Thank you again! And be sure to visit our website and Facebook Page to see many event photographs!

Committee

Jill Aller
Susan Bowser
Katie Frieden
Cathy Horner
Honey Jaffe
Deb McManus
Megan Orient
Johanna Sedgwick
Mary Sorensen

Susan Bowser
Fran Budris
Tannis Bugaj
Pam Calkins
Monty Christiansen
Joyce Christini
Laura Contino
Ed DeBrasky
Marion & Winnie Deppen
Edna Dombrowsky
Bob Donaldson
Elizabeth Dutton
Susan Toby Evans
Diane Farr
Katie Frieden
Jordyn Gardner, APO
Marshall Garrett
Joel Greene
Steve & Carol Gentry
Annie Harvey
Bob Hazelton
Judy Heald
Judy Heberling
Cathy Horner
Mike Husband
Tina Hyduke
Chris Igo
Bill & Honey Jaffe
Lynn Jaffe

Floral Designers

Avant Garden
Daniel Vaughn Designs
Woodring's Floral Gardens
Centre Furnace Gardeners

Bakers & Volunteers

Joyce Adgate
Jill Aller
Alpha Phi Omega (APO)
Nolan Amos, APO
Carol Anderson
Joni Arrington
Davies Bahr
Allen & Katie Baney
Cliff Bastuscheck
Jackie Beijen-Lukens
Gail Biddle



Bakers & Volunteers Cont'd.

Alex Kubiak, APO
Beverly Lipski
Gloria Long
Deb McManus
Jackie Melander
Jo Merrell
Ruth Merritt
Fran Mihalek
Lauren Milideo
Ann & George Moellenbrock
Gloria Nieweg
Martha Orland
Katie O'Toole
Olivia Perdew
Tammi Puskar
Deb Raykovitz
Beth Ricker
Ford Risley
Lynn Royse
Paul & Vinnie Scanlon
Janice Schaub
Johanna Sedgwick
Ralph Seeley
Lauren Shutika
Christopher Sorensen
Peter Sorensen
Vicki Spadaccio
Judy Speedy
Lee & Dee Stout
Marsha Ann Tate
Betsy Taylor
Suzann Tedesco
Suzanne Thompson
Linda Wallace
Bonnie Walter
Linda Witmer

Participants:

Aaronsburg Antiques
Mary Addis
Aunt Tillie's Kitchen

Avánt Garden
Marie Bianco
Boalsburg Heritage Museum
Bulger - Teresa Timmerman
C S Stangel Pottery
Pam Calkins
Caroline's Crystals
Cindy Hiles Herbal Products
Contempo Jewelry
Cooke Tavern Soups
Maryanne Dabney
"Deck the Halls"
Winnie & Marion Deppen
Sherry Dersheimer
Diane Maurer Hand Marbled Art
Connie DiNunzio
Bob Eisenbraun
Elizabeth Hay Jewelry Designs
Flotsam & Jetson
Gaffron's Sunrise Bakery
Gatesburg Village Art
Rosemary Gido / Evelyn Landon
Judy Glasgow
Glitterbones Handmade
Going LOCAL!
Stephanie Gush
Irish Hollow Patchwork
Jerry Jackson
Jacquee's Bijoux
Jen Barger Photography
Junipurr
Knittings & Paintings by Lena
Knitty Kittie
Liz Lasher Glassworks
LizaJane Botanicals
Mae's Jewels
Marianne Fyda's Studio
Mindfully Made Studios
Ann & George Moellenbrock
William Moyer
Nancy Noll
Paper Filigree Art

Paperplanet/Enchantedplanet

James Pass
Peaceful Pleasures
Richard Pencek
PocketBOOKS
Second Season Mittens
The Silvered Santa
Sofia's Design
Tee's Creations
Ties to Nature
Valleypurl
Victorian Enterprises
Village Eatinghouse
~ Specialty Foods
Gail J. Weiser
Woodrings Floral Gardens

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Zola New World Bistro

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Charissa Woolcock
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95.3FM 3WZ / Cable Channel 4
B94.5FM & WOWY 97.1FM
Centre County Report
/ PSU ComMedia
Centre Daily Times
State College Magazine





On-Going

First Sundays

Free Reception & Children's Art Class
@ Bellefonte Art Museum
1-4pm | bellefontemuseum.org

Every Tuesday

Line Dancing in the Schoolhouse
@ Rock Hill School House, Linden Hall
7pm | rockhillschoolatlindenhall.blogspot.com

Now – Mar 7

Exhibit: Exploring Research Collections
@ Special Collections Library, PSU
8-6pm M-Th / 8-5pm Fri / 1-4pm Sun
dontcallusdusty.blogspot.com/2014/01/exploring-research-collections-special.html

Now – Mar 15

Chocolate Easter Egg Project & Sale
@ Milesburg Post Office (after 3/15)
Order by 3/15. Call Sandy 355-5670.
Volunteers - call Virginia 355-7697.

Now – Mar 30

Exhibit: Interpreting Poetry
@ Bellefonte Art Museum
1:00-4:30pm Th-Sat
bellefontemuseum.org

Now - Mar 31

Art: Preserving the Past for the Future
@ Village of Penn State
10am-4pm, Th-Sun
farmlandpreservationartists.org

Now – May 4

Art Exhibition: British Watercolors
@ Palmer Museum of Art, PSU
10am-4:30pm Tu-Sat, 12-4pm Sun
palmermuseum.psu.edu

Feb 21 – Apr 20

National Association of Women Artists
125th Anniversary Exhibition
@ Robeson Gallery, PSU
12-6pm T-Th / 12-4pm F-Sun
studentaffairs.psu.edu/hub/artgalleries/robeson.shtml

Mid-Mar – Mid-Dec

Museum Visitor Hours
@ Pasto Agricultural Museum
10am-2pm Tu & Th, & by appt
agsci.psu.edu/pasto

February

Feb 7

For the Love of Art & Chocolate
@ Ramada Conference & Golf Hotel
7:00-9:30pm | clearwaterconservancy.org

Feb 8

Concert "Bach in the Round"
@ Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
7:30pm | centreorchestra.org

Feb 8 & 22

Café Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre
@ Duffy's Tavern | scctonline.org

Feb 15 / Mar 15 / Apr 19

Special Saturday Hours
@ Centre Co. Library-PA Room, Bellefonte
10am-2pm | centrecountylibrary.org

Feb 16 / Mar 30

State College Municipal Band Concerts
@ State College Area High School | 3pm
crpr.org/agency/MuniBand/band-intro.html

Feb 22

Concert: Land of Hope & Glory
@ Eisenhower Auditorium
7:30pm | nvs.org

Feb 23 / Mar 23 / May 18

Sunday Afternoon Concerts
@ Centre County Library, Bellefonte
2:30pm
bellefontearts.org/library_concerts.htm

Feb 26

Free Presentation: Invasive Plants
@ Foxdale Village Auditorium
7:00-8:30pm | panativeplantsociety.org

March

Mar 1

"Marsh Medley" Kids' Concert
@ Millbrook Marsh Nature Center
3:30pm | crpr.org/sp-events/specials.html

Mar 9

Penn's Woods Charter Day
@ PA Military Museum
12-4pm | pamilmuseum.org

Mar 15 / Apr 5 / Apr 26

"Genealogy 101 – Plus" Series
@ Centre County Library, Bellefonte
9am-2pm | centrecountygenealogy.org
RSVP: jwheald@gmail.com | 422-8657

April

Apr 4

Arts Crawl
@ Palmer Museum of Art
4:30-9:00 pm | palmermuseum.psu.edu

Apr 6 - May 25

Exhibit: The Art of Adornment
@ Bellefonte Art Museum
1:00-4:30pm Th-Sat
bellefontemuseum.org

Apr 13

Earth Day Birthday Celebration
@ Millbrook Marsh Nature Center
2pm-5pm. Free event & free parking!
crpr.org/sp-events/specials.html

Apr 13

Blue/White Weekend Spring Open House
@ Pasto Agricultural Museum
1-4pm | agsci.psu.edu/pasto

Apr 26

Kids' Day: Dress Up and Discover!
@ PA Military Museum
10am-3pm | pamilmuseum.org

May 10

65th Anniversary Gala Concert of the
State College Choral Society
@ Pasquerilla Spiritual Center
7pm | scchoralsociety.org

Coming In May...

Boalsburg's Civil War commemorative events, marking the 150th anniversary year of three village ladies decorating graves of fallen relatives and village soldiers.

May 3

History Talk & Guided Walk, Boalsburg
"A War, Three Women, and a Tradition"
@ St. John's United Church of Christ
2-4pm | boalsburgheritagemuseum.org

May 26

150th Memorial Day Open House
@ Boalsburg Heritage Museum
10am-4pm | boalsburgheritagemuseum.org
Tours • Hearth cooking exhibit • Music • Iron kettle soup • Beehive oven-baked pretzels • Blacksmith demonstrations @ Twp bldg

May 26

Memorial Day Ceremony
@ Boalsburg Cemetery | 6pm

A Volunteer Extraordinaire

by Betsy Taylor

All of our CCHS volunteer docents are knowledgeable, friendly, and full of stories to share as well as being equipped to answer the many questions from our visitors. But when it comes to a lifetime of love for Pennsylvania history, few can equal our Betty Shields!

In the early 2000s, Betty moved to Lemont from Sewickley, PA, her home of 50 years, to be near her son, Daniel. When she met his father Daniel Leet Shields, a Sewickley native, she knew she had met the man she would marry! After living in a variety of towns in both Canada and the United States, through moves created by Leet's steel business connections, it was inevitable that they would finally settle in Sewickley in the old Shields homestead. Built in 1853, and owned by family members for 150 years, it was a wonderful home for Betty, an ardent lover of history and antiques.

As Betty says, she was born in Kansas like Dorothy, but Sewickley was her Oz! In an era when few women worked, Betty originally co-owned a marvelous, top-of-the-line children's merchandise shop in Pittsburgh. But after marrying, moving, and settling in Sewickley, she pursued her study of plants and trees, and became quite an expert in native trees. A sought after speaker, she eventually became a member of the Western PA. Conservatory, and even got paid for her speaking! A fine writer, her speaking eventually segued into writing a nature column for *The Sewickley Herald*. All that talent and no pay! So, on a life-changing day, Betty, mindful of Samuel Johnson's quote "No man but a blockhead ever wrote except for money", garnered up all her nerve and asked *The Sewickley Herald* Editor for a paying assignment. "Be careful what you wish for"! Betty became the Society Editor! And within a few years became the Editor of the entire paper! And, in 2003, as Editor Emeritus, Betty produced *The Sewickley Herald's* 100th anniversary special issue. Retirement is not a word in Betty's vocabulary!

While Sewickley had magnificent old homes, and played an important role in Pennsylvania history, it wasn't until 1973 that a move begun by Betty and her husband's cousin, Frederick Way, resulted in the formation of the Sewickley Historical Society. Meeting first in local homes, and driven by the need for a celebration of Sewickley's bi-centennial in 1976, Betty served over the years twice as President of the Society.

Eventually, when the local post office moved, the Society moved into the building and had a permanent home. Does it surprise you that Betty left *The Sewickley Herald* to become the Executive Director? The move



This private portrait of Betty Shields, titled "Morning Glory", was painted by George Stephen Gaadt. Presented to Betty in spring 2013 for her work as founder of the Sewickley Valley Historical Society, it now hangs at the SVHS headquarters at 200 Broad Street, Sewickley, Pa.

allowed space for a museum component and the shared space with the Sewickley Arts Society, further enhancing the opportunities for monthly programs, art shows, etc. Today the Sewickley Valley Historical Society encompasses 11 communities, 9 boroughs, and 2 townships! Like the trees that Betty first wrote about in her nature columns, big things grow from little acorns!

This past spring Betty returned to the Sewickley Historical Society where she was surprised by a lovely celebration in her honor and the permanent hanging of her portrait (pictured above). What a tribute to a woman of incredible vision! Betty is, indeed, a "woman for all seasons!" And we are all proud to be a part of her new life here in Centre County. Look for Betty next time you visit Centre Furnace Mansion! If you are visiting on a day she is a docent, you'll be in for a treat!

Intern Corner

PSU Integrative Arts Major, Olivia Perdew, continues to orchestrate the upcoming *The Veiled Arts of Victorian Women* exhibition and subsequent programming this semester and will be graduating from Penn State this spring. Olivia has been involved with CCHS in the area of exhibits through internships and independents studies since her sophomore year. We would like to enthusiastically share that Olivia has been accepted into the Museum Studies graduate program at the University of Leicester in the UK.

Kristina Brownshire, also a senior at Penn State majoring in Integrative Arts, will be using her photography skills, interest in museums, and skills with design software to work with CCHS to design and update a variety of docent materials, construct a new virtual tour of the Centre Furnace Mansion. She will also be involved as a docent-in-training and will assist with a variety of office projects.



CENTRE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Membership

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Your membership and gifts support all aspects of the 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; *Centre County Heritage* - the Society's annual journal; advance notice of programs; discounted special event admission rates, and a 10% discount on all CCHS publications.

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.

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