



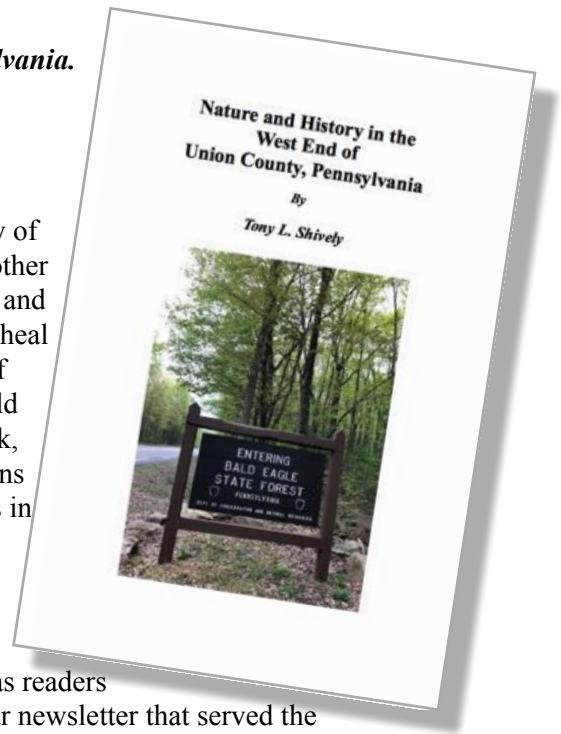
News! Fall 2019

103 S. 2nd St., Lewisburg, PA 17837
570-524-8666
info@unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org
www.unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org

"Exploring Union County's past to inform the present and future."

Nature and History in the West End of Union County, Pennsylvania.
Heritage 2020, Volume XXVII
By Tony L. Shively

The 2020 *Heritage* volume, due out in early November 2019, is authored by Tony Shively and will deal with nature and the history of land management in western Union County. The volume, among other things, describes the healing power of nature and the commitment and leadership of Raymond B. Winter, his colleagues, and the CCC to heal the scars left by the timber industry. Shively follows the process of designating Natural Areas and State Parks; he tells the story of Bald Eagle State Forest, Hairy John's State Park, Sand Bridge State Park, and the Hook Natural Area. He relates the stories surrounding Penns Creek and Wildlife Conservation Officers and follows the changes in the forest landscape. It is a history that might have been lost of an area that we often pass by on routes heading west. Extremely well researched, Tony Shively has provided the detailed history of human endeavors and nature in the West End based on his familiarity of the area and that of the people he interviewed. And as readers will discover, it is a celebration of *The Millmont Times*, the popular newsletter that served the West End for 15 years.



Reserve your copy of this remarkable *Heritage*.

Nature and History in the West End of Union County, Pennsylvania is free to UCHS members. Pre-orders will be accepted from members: send name and mailing address, and include \$5 for shipping if it is required. The non-member price of the book is \$22 (plus \$5 for shipping if required).

The Society's **2020 calendar** contains historic photos of people and places in Union County: a frozen Susquehanna River and a river canal house; New Berlin-Winfield railroad; Newberry's store; Evangelical Children's Orphanage; Women's Liberty Bell c. 1915; unusual covered bridge in White Deer; Mifflinburg Post Office staff; W. Milton grammar school class; and Devitt's camp. It also features a WWII paper drive at Heimbach's Lumber; an Honor Roll in Lewisburg; the Sept. 2, 1945 newspaper on the Japanese surrender; and the USS *Union* naval ship. Identify those in the back cover photos and be eligible to win a free calendar!



The calendar debuts at New Berlin Day, Saturday, August 24.

Beginning in September, the calendar can be purchased at the UCHS office, various local shops, and at branches of Susquehanna Community Bank and Mifflinburg Bank & Trust. Cost is only \$6. Mail and Email orders accepted; add \$3 postage.



OFFICERS & BOARD 2019

- Bruce Teeple, President
- Doug Hovey, Vice President
- Barb Franck, Secretary
- Jeff Reber Treasurer
- Phyllis Dyer
- Mary Kay Harper
- Louise Knight
- Mike Molesevich
- Eli Reiff
- Kathy Swope
- Jennifer Tull
- Matt Wagner



Welcome new members

- Terry Crook, Albany, OR
- Linda Wilkinson, Forest, VA
- Michael Brown, Lewisburg, PA
- Kelly Caudle, Winfield, PA

The society is grateful for donations from

- David & Anne Goehring,
- The Paul & Catherine Ernst Fund of Infaith Community Foundation,
- Jennifer Slear Aram
- and Shirley Swartz
- in memory of Donna Slear.

Thanks to our volunteers

- Glenda Sheaffer and Tom Greaves who staff the office on Fridays;
- Bruce Teeple and Louise Knight who conduct tours at the Dale-Engle-Walker House on Sundays;
- Ardith Wilkins, Matt Wagner, Tony Shively, and Phyllis Dyer who catalog items in the collection.

Are you interested in volunteering in the office on Fridays? Interested in doing geneology research, arranging displays, helping in archives, or other projects? Contact a board member or call / visit the office.

Dear Society Members and Friends,

French farmers and vintners use a term, *terroir*, to describe how changing levels of air, light, and moisture give unique characteristics and flavors to crops.

As local historians, we all work to nurture a cultural *terroir*, so to speak. It helps us understand our relationship with our environment, with each other, and with the stories we hear and repeat. We get to see and awaken others to the wonder and magic outside our doors. Every place, every object, and every decision - no matter how small or mundane - has a story to tell, a story that is an integral part of the surrounding terrain.

Sometimes we find those stories when we compare maps and photographs from different time periods. They're in the structures erected and in the changing use of materials. Other times, stories grow out of the questions we ask our neighbors, from the artifacts we retrieve and preserve, or from the ways we radically transform the landscape.

Whatever the case, we can learn how to shape this panorama and breathe life back into the characters who once inhabited our backyards.

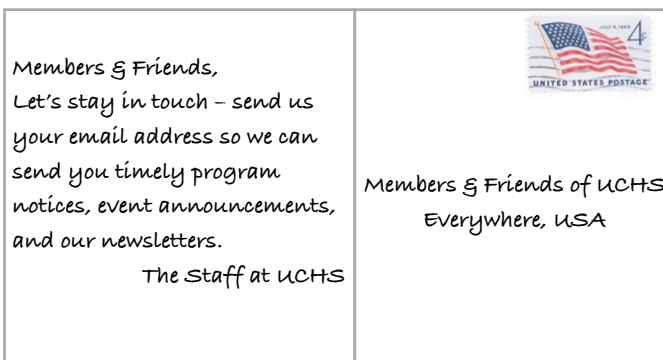
People are hungry for their history. Public historians are moving beyond misguided and distorted visions of the past. They know an institution's survival depends on presentations that focus on more than one or two periods or subjects. They no longer repeat inaccurate interpretations or tiresome morality tales. If we are to stake our claims to those yesterdays, that story must be broad-based, meaningful and relevant. It means offering something for everyone.

Raw data, such as names, dates, and places, help us see pieces of the big picture. The most rewarding activity, though, is when every generation fills in more blanks with new stories, connections, and insights.

To get reacquainted with the Dale-Engle-Walker House's story and its role in the evolution of the Susquehanna Valley, please consider stopping by for one of our Sunday tours. Just check the UCHS website for dates and times.

Hope to see you then!

Bruce Teeple



DALE-ENGLE-WALKER HOUSE TOURS & EXHIBIT

OPEN: Sundays, August 25, September 22, and October 20, 1 to 4 pm
1471 Strawbridge Road (off Route 192), Lewisburg, PA



The **Dale-Engle-Walker House** – witness to local, state and national history since its construction c.1793 – will be open for tours on Sundays: August 25, September 22, and October 20.

Please plan to stop by and learn how this property's history reflected the economic, agricultural and political evolution of our region, state and nation. The house is named for its builder Scots-Irish immigrant Samuel Dale; farmers Jacob and Maude Engle and their family; and Charlie and Rosemary Walker. New to the site is a c. 1789 log cabin – restoration in progress – similar to the cabin originally behind the Dale-Engle-Walker House house.

Admission is free; donations are gratefully accepted.

Pennsylvania House Furniture Company Exhibit

In 1887, Horace Cawley, of Millmont and later Lewisburg, established the Lewisburg Furniture Company in Lewisburg Borough. The company was an instant success. A fire closed the assembly line but several local merchants helped reopen the factory in 1891. Under the direction of the next owner, Josiah Partridge, with Hawley as manager, the Lewisburg Chair and Furniture Company expanded. At its peak, the company made an average of 5600 chairs per week. The Great Depression caused the business to close in 1931. The factory reopened in 1933, and under Robert Parker, and his son T. Gregory Parker, the company became a household name with national brand recognition, producing quality chairs and cabinetry.

In the early 2000s, the company succumbed to competition from low-cost imports, a take-over and subsequent sale of the “brand.” Despite local and state efforts, the factory in Lewisburg was closed and the buildings were demolished.

The exhibit can be seen at the Dale-Engle-Walker house on Sundays, Aug. 25, Sept. 22, and Oct. 20.



AT THE UCHS OFFICE

Banking Exhibit

features local bank notes, advertising items, many different coin banks, bank bags, and ledger.

The Bowersox Collection

is housed in a new bookcase at the office. Recently cataloged books include files on Bowersox/ Bauersachs in Snyder, Mifflin and Clarion counties, Parkersburg, WV; US Military, Revolutionary War to Afghanistan/ Iraq Bowersox/ Bauersachs records; misc. death, marriage and probate papers.



UNION COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY PROGRAMS

Pennsylvania German “Pow-wow”

By Bruce Teeple

Saturday, September 7, 2019, 12 noon - 2 p.m.

at the Public Library for Union County, 255 Reitz Boulevard, Lewisburg, PA 17837

We often associate the term 'pow-wow' today with Native American congregations. Pennsylvania Germans, however, adopted the term to describe centuries-old folk beliefs invoking what they believed were higher (and sometimes darker) powers.

Historian Bruce Teeple will explain how these practices were not just considered as a way to control everyday life; they also reflected frontier realities and uncertainties.

The program is free and open to the public.

To insure there is adequate seating, please call the library at 570-523-1172 to reserve your place.

Annual John B. Deans Dinner Program

“Medal of Honor Winner 1st Lt. Dwite Schaffner’s Assault on St. Hubert’s Pavilion, Argonne Forest, 26 - 29 September 1918: German, French, and American Perspectives”

By David Del Testa

Friday, November 1, 2019 at 6 pm

at the Bull Run Tap House, 605 Market St., Lewisburg

Presenter **David Del Testa** is Associate Professor of History at Bucknell University. He teaches Modern European and Southeast Asian History and leads the “Bucknellians in World War I Project.”

On 26 September 1918, 1st Lt. Dwite Schaffner, Bucknell Class of 1915, led K Company of the 306th Infantry Regiment, 77th. Division. They advanced from the village of Lachalade at the southern edge of France’s Argonne Forest toward the Regiment’s objective, the Barricade Glade, only five miles away. No one could have anticipated the incredible and bloody struggle that Schaffner and the soldiers under his command would face over the next 48 hours. The struggle culminated in brutal hand-to-hand combat at a small bluff deep in the forest known as St. Hubert’s Glade, a mile short of the main objective. We know that Schaffner received the Medal of Honor for his conspicuous bravery and leadership at St. Hubert’s, but the details of that day are few and hidden by time.

As part of the “Bucknellians in World War I Project”, Prof. David Del Testa will present three perspectives – American, German, and French – to show what happened to K Company and their opponents, the 122nd Landwehr Regiment. In so doing, he will try to clarify some of the stories about that day that have grown and endured since then.

The program will follow a dinner buffet with beef burgers, grilled chicken, pulled pork with BBQ sauce, macaroni & cheese, house chips, garden salad, beverages and dessert. A cash bar will be available. Awards for contributions by individuals or groups for historic preservation and service will be presented. Society publications, including the 2020 calendar, will be available for purchase at the dinner.

Local members will receive reservation forms for the dinner/program in the mail. If others are interested in attending, please contact the Society at 570-524-8666 or info@unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org.

Information on tours and programs is posted on our website: www.unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org.

Programs are supported by a Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission grant, and by your membership.

Union County Historical Society welcomes members and visitors Monday through Friday, 8:30 - 4:30
Office/library is located in the county courthouse, 103 S. 2nd Street, Lewisburg.
Members: FREE use of library resources. Non-members: donation of \$5/day. Assistance is available.

Research services are available for those who can not come to the office. Please email first.

- Fees:**
- General genealogical search (one family) – \$50 includes copying up to 20 pages of documents. Extensive searches requiring additional time /fees can be arranged.
 - Search for will, letters of administration, or orphans court record – \$5 plus 50¢/copied page
 - Obituary search and copy (must know year and approximate month of death) – \$5 per person
 - Deed searches are negotiated on an individual basis. Please inquire.

See www.unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org / Research Resources for documents list and more.

Donations of Union County family histories (printed or digital) are accepted for the society's library. Please email to make arrangements.

Added to the library:

Wertman Lines; Newsletter of the Wertman Family Association, June 2019 issue

Keefer Family Association Newsletter, latest issues.

A Chronology of Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania 1700-1967, compiled by William Marion Schnure.

Newspapers on microfilm: *The Union Times* August 28, 1821 – June 11, 1830; *Union Telegraph* April 24, 1827 – July 13, 1832; *Union Hickory* Feb 17, 1829 – Sept 29, 1829; *Lewisburg Democrat* Jan 1, 1853 – Dec 27, 1854; *The Union Argus* July 31, 1855 – Oct 11, 1860; *The Selinsgrove Times* August 22, 1873 – Nov 12, 1891; *West Milton Guide* Nov 22, 1894 (one day only); *Lewisburg Saturday News* June 4, 1887 – Oct 13, 1883. Donated by Rick Sauers.



Recent Genealogy Searches and Their Researchers

If you have information to share, please contact UCHS or the researcher (address and/or email below)

ZIMMERMAN and KLINE: Sue Fairchild, suefairchild74@gmail.com

PAULING: Karen Nace, 9200 Mitchell Bend Ct., Granbury, TX 76048; kenace@sbcglobal.net

HATE: Ned M. Hate, nmhatesjob@gmail.com

SMITH: Doug & Sandi Keach, Germantown, MD; dgkeach@aol.com

MOLL, Wm and Elizabeth Ely: Deb Current; shoopsma1@yahoo.com

ANESCAVAGE, Della: John Avenoso; Ja2002@hotmail.com

YODER, David, NEW COLUMBIA: Chris Yoder, Saugatuck, MI: cyoder@tds.net

MYERS, Samuel & Catherine Struble; Peter Struble & Marg't: Tray Glatz; tracysroots@gmail.com

GRUBB, Jacob H. & Hannah Robinson: Karen Durst; karenleedurst@gmail.com

MOLL, Conrad, MOLL, David & Sarah Hildebrand: Scott Moll, 7827 Academy St., Fabius, NY 13063; smoll@tactair.com

FILLMAN, SCHWENK, KLINE: Rita Abair of Tempe, AZ; ritaabair@gmail.com

GOODLANDER, Christian: Terry & Nancy Goodlander, 17540 Rogers Rd., New Waverly, TX 77359; terrygoodlander@yahoo.com

UNION TOWNSHIP: Mary Herman, PO Box 1272, Mayer, AZ 86333; maherman26@earthlink.net

GREEN, Thomas: Judy Brill, jbrill32@comcast.net; Heidi Bowersox, crazycatheidi@gmail.com

DERR, Ludwig, his siblings: Holly Hanson, Venice FL; holly711@yahoo.com

HUNTINGTON, Simon 1813-1870, Abraham Huntington; Gabriel, John and William Huntington: Jim Whitaker j.whitaker3@verizon.net

COONEY family: Rebecca Huss-Keeler; rebhuss@comcast.net



COLLECTION NEWS by Tony Shively

The Archives and Museum Committee of the Union County Historical Society fosters the collection of Union County manuscripts, ephemera, local advertising, and decorative arts through gift and purchase.

The Committee would like to acknowledge the following individuals for recent donations:

Dianne Mitchell of Staten Island, NY (a descendant of the Ruhl family of Union County) for donating a c. 1812 sword that was passed down to her from her father, Harry W. Mitchell, and through her grandfather, Samuel F. Mitchell.

Vaughn Shirk of State College for donating five campaign posters from the early 1900's relative to William C. McConnell, Dr. E. A. Gerberich, William E. Housel, and Charles H. Bernhart.

Kurt Weist of Harrisburg for donating a collection of papers, including deeds and other papers relative to the Van Gundy family of the Lewisburg area as well as papers and correspondence from Mrs. Lewis Theiss who gathered and collected the Van Gundy information.

Blanche Wagner of Milton for donating a WWII envelope, letter, and photograph mailed to Mrs. E. R. Dauberman of Lewisburg from her son who was then stationed in New Orleans.

Linda Basom of Lewisburg for donating printing blocks that contain views of the interior and exterior, choir members, and other church activities pertaining to Saint Paul's EUB Church of Lewisburg, as well as Boy Scout Troop 5 of Lewisburg.

Peter Gardner of Mifflinburg for donating a large collection of materials, catalogs, books and other items relative to collecting milk bottles. Included in the collection are bound volumes of "The Milk Route" from 1983-2010.

Theo Christ Artifacts Donated



Mark Tedrow, of Buena Vista, Virginia, shows Lois Huffines items he is donating to the UCHS collection that once belonged to Civil War surgeon Theo Christ. The artifacts are extraordinary!

Included are a ceremonial sword case (made of cloth) with Christ's name inked on it, a leather holster which would have held a small pistol, a pocket knife, bullet pouch, and a framed picture of Christ. Most interesting were bullet fragments, preserved in framed displays, that Christ had dug out of wounded soldiers with notes in his handwriting about where the bullets had struck and what damage they caused.

Tedrow suggested an interesting research project would be to determine if Christ's diary, that the society has in its collection, mentions soldiers who were wounded with the bullets that Christ saved. Fascinating stuff.

A future exhibit will feature these and other Civil War items from the society collection.

Theo Christ was born April 21, 1830 in Lewisburg and attended the Lewisburg Academy. He earned a medical degree in 1860 at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. Christ enlisted in the US Union Army in 1861, and rose to the rank of surgeon-in-chief in the Second Division, Ninth Army Corps. He worked as a physician in Lewisburg; Chester, Delaware County; and Lemont, Centre County, PA where he died in 1910.

Theodore Sterner Christ: Civil War Surgeon from Union County by Kenn Reagle is UCHS Heritage Volume XVII, available from the society for \$10 (plus \$3 for shipping).

NOMINATIONS TO THE BOARD

Please return the enclosed ballot by August 30 (by mail or Email). All members in good standing may vote.

Mike Molesevich moved to Lewisburg in 1979 from Mount Carmel, PA. He earned a BS in Environmental Science from Juniata College, and MS in Energy/Environmental Policy from Bucknell University. Mike was elected to Lewisburg Borough Council in 1990 and Mayor of Lewisburg in 1994; he returned to the borough council in 2008. He worked at JPM Company and then SEDA-COG before establishing his energy and environmental consulting business in 1987 where he continues to provide a wide range of energy and environmental services in central PA.

Mike had an early introduction to environmental issues and industrial history related to anthracite mining when living in Mount Carmel, and lectures on environmental issues at local universities, seminars and conferences. He has restored three historic homes in Lewisburg and currently lives in a three-story log home built in 1789. His other interests are birding, gardening, outdoor activities, and music.

Mike will complete a two-year position.

Bruce Teeple is a writer, speaker and local historian. A graduate of Penn State in History and Political Science, he served for nineteen years as curator of the Aaronsburg Historical Museum. He edited and co-authored *Glimpses of the Past* (1994) and *In Schadde vun Rundkopp* (1999). In 2010, UCHS published his chapter, "Post-Abolition Slavery in Pennsylvania (And How They Got Away With It)." He has also contributed to the *Small Museums Toolkit* and to *Zen and the Art of Local History*, both published by Rowman and Littlefield.

Since 2004, Bruce has served as a judge for the National History Day in Pennsylvania competition. He serves on the Small Museums Committee of the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH), and he has reviewed grant proposals for both the Institute for Museum and Library Services and the History Channel. He presents a variety of local history programs before school, scout and social groups. He teaches adult education classes through Penn State's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, and he coordinates over 150 volunteers for Penn State's annual Native American Pow-wow.

Bruce was elected to the UCHS board in 2015 and is running for a three-year term.

Mary Kay Harper brings to the Union County Historical Society board her experience as executive director of Montgomery History for over 20 years. Montgomery History, Rockville, Maryland, is a historical society, research library, county archives, and genealogical society with three museums in historical buildings. Mary Kay has also served on boards of small museums and professional organizations such as the Small Museums Association and AASLH in the Washington, DC area. Her many active roles in the history field have convinced her that historical societies are important for all county residents in conveying a sense of place that is so important in forging a strong community that engages all.

Mary Kay has lived in Lewisburg since 2016 and previously served on the UCHS board. She returns to the board this year.

Darren Rhyne has a BS in Mechanical Engineering with a Minor in History from North Carolina State University, and a MS in International Relations with National Security Concentration from Troy University. Darren spent 20 years on active duty in the Air Force, 1992-2012, where he rose to the rank of Major. He worked primarily in space technology programs and as an Intelligence Support Officer in England with an Air Force Special Operations Group. He deployed to Kabul, Afghanistan, as the Chief of Local Acquisitions from Feb. 2010 – Feb. 2011. He has been an instructor for the Defense Acquisition University at Fort Belvoir, VA, since late 2008, both on active duty and now as a DoD civilian.

Darren and his wife Tammy (Kulp) have three children and two grandchildren. They live on a 27-acre farmette just outside New Berlin with sheep, goats, llamas, miniature horses and donkeys, chickens, geese, and ducks. Darren has studied military history, especially World War II, and is fascinated by Union County history. He is a member of the Union County West End Fair Association and serves on the board of the Mifflinburg Buggy Museum. He traced the Rhyne family of North Carolina, where he was born, back to York, PA, where his ancestors immigrated from a French-German border village in the late 1700s.

Rhyne will fill a three-year term on the board.

Union County Historical Society

Union County Courthouse

103 South Second Street

Lewisburg, PA 17837

Return Service Requested

Membership in the Union County Historical Society supports programs, the research library, and the growth of our collections. Membership helps maintain the 1793 Dale-Engle-Walker House, which offers tours, exhibits, and programs. The Union County Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations. Membership is tax deductible as allowed by law. In addition to membership, we gratefully accept donations promoting UCHS's mission. Volunteers are welcome. **Member benefits** include newsletters, a discount on society publications, free use of our extensive reference library, and access to on-line resources.

New, renewing, and gift memberships: please mail this form to:
Union County Historical Society, 103 S. 2nd St., Lewisburg, PA 17837

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Membership level:

Lifetime (individual) \$500

Annual: Patron \$150 Contributor \$100 Supporter \$50 Individual \$35 Student (K-12) \$10

Please visit www.unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org for events, articles, resource list, and more.