



103 S. 2nd St., Lewisburg, PA 17837
570-524-8666
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www.unioncopahistory.com

August 2022

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

Dear Society Members and Friends,

There's always something new to learn while engaging with our audiences during tours at the Dale-Engle-Walker House. Nothing beats seeing the eyes light up as our visitors laugh, share stories, and ask or answer questions.



Then there are the items in the Kantz Log Cabin. These are specifically for anyone at any age to hold in their hands. You can almost see the sparks fly as people make a tangible connection with things made and used 100 or 200 years ago. No "velvet ropes" or "Don't Touch!" signs there! Times such as these make me appreciate how hungry everyone is for homegrown history.

Until recently, though, many communities took for granted the services provided by history-related organizations. No one even knew how many of these organizations were promoting one aspect of history or another. But now we do.

The American Association for State and Local History (of which UCHS is a member) and the National Endowment for the Humanities recently announced the first survey ever completed of our nation's history-related organizations. Their findings were eye-opening. As the report's two authors remarked, "If there was any doubt that history organizations are necessary and wanted, it was dispelled in this research. Everywhere we looked, people had formed a history organization."

Did you realize that over 21,500 organizations promote history across this country? For comparison, do you know how many public libraries we have? Around 16,000. How many Starbucks? 15,000. McDonald's? 13,000. And "only" 4,600 Walmarts!

The report also noted how history organizations work with other groups to portray the best their communities have to offer. That's why it's always an honor and a privilege to serve this region as part of the wider public history community.

If you haven't been to the Dale-Engle-Walker House lately, we hope to see you soon!

Bruce

What's in the News, Union County?
1847-1848



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Did you ever wonder what daily life was like in the Susquehanna Valley 175 years ago? It was a world where time and space seemed to shrink as the telegraph made instantaneous communication across vast distances possible.

Railroads were bringing more people and goods into the region. And they moved at 30 miles an hour, five times faster than a canal boat!

The Society is offering its latest publication for sale: ***What's in the News, Union County? 1847-1848***. This 50-page booklet details how political, social, technological, and economic changes slowly affected this region. "We want to offer everyone a glimpse into that world by looking at newspaper articles and advertisements from the period," said Bruce Teeple, UCHS president. "You don't have to be from Union County to appreciate these stories. Some of them are funny, some are heartbreaking, but they all give the reader a chance to connect with the concerns and the humanity of the past."

Covering the years 1847 and 1848, this is the first in a projected series of booklets that show how the area responded to opportunities and moved forward. "We plan to do more of these in the future with each booklet covering a separate year. Eighteen forty-nine is already in the works," Teeple said.

Booklets are available for \$5 at the UCHS office, at the society's stands at New Berlin Day (August 27) and Christkindl (Dec 8-10), and online at www.unioncopahistory.com.

THE DALE-ENGLE-WALKER HISTORIC SITE

The Dale-Engle-Walker House will be open on **Sundays, August 21, September 4 and 25, and October 9**, with tours at 1:00 and 2:30 pm. Admission and tours are free although donations are gratefully accepted. Additions or changes will be posted on our website: www.unioncopahistory.com.

The Dales

The original limestone house was built by Ulster Scots immigrant Samuel Dale c.1793. Dale was born c.1741 in County Monaghan in the Ulster settlement of Ireland. The Dales had come from Scotland to northern Ireland when Scots Presbyterian Charles Dale, Samuel's grandfather, was given land in return for military service. The land then passed to Samuel Dale's father. Since the Presbyterian church supported free education for boys, Samuel Dale likely studied at a local Latin grammar school.



Samuel Dale immigrated from county Monaghan about 1766 or 1767 to Chester County, Pennsylvania, where there was an Ulster Scot Presbyterian community. There he met and married Ann Futhey, the daughter of Samuel and Ruth Steele Futhey. The Futheys and Steels had also immigrated from county Monaghan, Ulster.

In 1774, Dale first bought land along the Susquehanna River near present-day New Columbia. Residence there was interrupted by fighting among the settlers and the Native Americans and British.

In 1785 Samuel Dale bought 68 acres in Buffalo Twp., then an adjoining 303 acres in 1789 from James Fleming who had built a cabin on the site. In 1790, the Dale household included Samuel (49), Ann (40), Samuel F. (17), William (12), James (10), Ruth (20), Jane (12), Anne (7), Margaret, (4), Mary Ellen (2), one free person (unidentified), and one slave, Dinah, property of Ann Futhey Dale.

Construction of the Dale house began c.1793, with limestone quarried on the site. Samuel died Sept. 1804. His will specified his land be sold and profits divided between his wife and children; instead Ann and the executors sold their shares to James Dale, and Ann resided in the house until her death April

1835. James Dale (1780-1862), his wife Elizabeth Bell and their children, lived in the house until his death.



The property stayed in the Dale family until 1929, leased to a series of tenant farmers, including Ulysses Grant Chappell & Mary Ellen (Duck) Chappell and family pictured at left the property c.1907.

Samuel Dale (1741-1804): A Life and Estate in Union County provides details about Dale's life, and his extensive library, the architecture of the house, and slavery at the Dale property. Heritage Volume XXI. \$15

The Engles

The property was sold to Jacob and Maude Engle in 1929. The Engle family, Jacob (1899-1977) and Maude (1896-1987) and children Paul, Richard, Ruth, Anna, Mildred, George, Arthur, Grace, Nevin, and Jacob, operated a dairy farm from 1936 to 1944. In addition to dairy cows, they had horses, sheep, and pigs. There was an orchard with apple, pear and cherry trees; nut trees, berries, many wildflowers, Maude Engle's flower beds, and vegetable and herb garden. Improvements were made to the house, including wallpapering and painting. A wood stove in the kitchen was used for cooking and heating. Although the house had no running water or electricity, the milk house had pumped water. The original barn burned down in the 1930s. Another barn, moved to the site and erected on the old foundation, later collapsed in a snow storm; only the foundation remains today.



The Walkers

Ralph Charles "Charlie" and Rosemary "Rosie" Walker purchased the property in 1957. The Walkers installed running water, electricity, and modern heating in the house, and improved the cellar with a stone floor and rough-sawn walnut walls (made from the property's trees). Rosie, a master gardener, cultivated extensive flowerbeds around the house. The Walkers maintained the property as a working farm, with a local farmer planting and harvesting crops. They raised cattle, and trained and raised beagles, participating in the 4-H Leader Dog Program through Penn State, and providing guide dogs for the visually impaired. Charlie taught electrical engineering at Bucknell University and Rosie did volunteer work with Bucknell's international students



The Walkers were charter members of the local Audubon Society, the Merrill Linn Land & Waterways Conservancy, and the Union County Historical Society. The Walker property was placed in perpetual conservation easement, and their estate bequeathed the property to the Union County Historical Society.

Kantz Log Cabin

The cabin was built c.1789 as a frontier trading cabin on the Tuscarora Indian Path at Middlecreek in Kantz, Snyder County, Pennsylvania. It was restored by Kantz descendants in 1998 when it was moved to the Milne property in Lewisburg. Marcia Milne, a Kantz descendant, donated the cabin to the historical society; it was dismantled and reassembled at the Dale-Engle-Walker property in 2019. The log cabin exemplifies the kind of dwelling that was on the site before the limestone house was built.



The Dale-Engle-Walker property is available for family photographs, reunions, weddings, and receptions. For fees and policies, please contact the UCHS office at 570-524-8666 or info@unioncopahistory.com.

COLLECTION NEWS

The Archives and Collections 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 thank everyone who donated and gifted to the society. Your gifts and donations to the collection of materials held by the society supports its mission of enhancing the appreciation and visibility of Union County history.

We thank the following for donations and gifts accepted by the Committee:

Richard A. Sauers of Peyton, Colorado for donating a book by Donald G. Kunkle entitled “*The Birds of the Lewisburg Region*” (Bucknell, 1951); a book by Rev. Paul C. Jordan entitled “*A Journey to Christmas*” (Grinnell, IA, 1989); New Berlin Heritage Association programs for the town’s Heritage Day, volumes 1-8, 10-13 (1972-1979, 1981-1984); two cards and envelopes from local artist Judy Bertram; Packwood House Christmas card featuring a Bradley Shoemaker scene; two copies of an advertisement for a Cheryl Fallon art show at Packwood House, undated but in the period 2006-2012; Keeler’s University Bookstore imprint on a small book catalog, undated; Charles A. Smith drugstore imprint on an advertising card for Wampole’s Creo-Teppin; glass bottle from Smith’s drugstore; oversize advertising card for Pioneer Seed Corn; postcard for Pioneer Harvest Field Day, October 25, 1985, with Marlin R. Sauers signature; two Pioneer Seed Corn refrigerator magnets; Pioneer Seed Corn change purse; postcard from UCHS advertising May 17, 1990, meeting; reunion ribbon, Eighteenth Annual Reunion, 131st Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, Lewisburg, December 16, 1891; letter dated March 27, 1862, from David Lenhart to Machel Croll; letter and envelope dated May 7, 1862, William A. Reeser to David Lenhart; letter dated August 15, 1862, Hannah Croll to David Lenhart; letter and envelope dated January 13, 1864, to David Lenhart; letter dated April 17, 1864 from David Lenhart to his mother (David Lenhart was in Company E, 51st Pennsylvania, killed at Petersburg, June 17, 1864); carte-de-visite of Lieutenant Bech C. Ammon, Company E, 53rd Pennsylvania; and Oath of Identity for Captain William R. Foster, Company E, 51st Pennsylvania.

Deborah Owens and the Milton Historical Society for donating paper items relative to Grove’s Store in West Milton; M. D. Grove (Coal) in Lewisburg; and Candle Corner Gift Shoppe in West Milton.

Joseph Cesa of South Williamsport for donating a signed and numbered limited edition color print of the Delta Place Railroad Station north of Lewisburg. (This donation came into the society possession, courtesy of Tom Rich of Lewisburg).

Carol Brann of Lewisburg for donating a *Philadelphia Inquirer* newspaper article from the January 5, 1992, edition relative to Victorian Lewisburg.

Megan Weikel of Gettysburg for donating a small trowel memento from the groundbreaking ceremony for construction of the Central Counties Bank at the Plaza 15 complex on March 9, 1981.

Kurt J. Weist of Harrisburg for donating a copy of the 1972 Flood booklet published by the Milton Standard, and a copy of Bucknell World from 1972.



Delta Place Railroad Station

COLLECTION continued

Jeannette Lasansky of Lewisburg for donating a mug made at Penns Creek Pottery to commemorate Union County's Bicentennial 1813-2013; a heavy redware decorated plate made by Joanne Longacre commemorating the American Revolution Bicentennial in 1976; and three 1776-1976 Union County Bicentennial Commission pottery items made by William Lasansky, including a gray glazed crock with lid, a gazed stoneware mug, and a butter crock with tan and gray glaze and cobalt decorations.

James Mathias of Lewisburg for donating an extensive collection of memorabilia, photographs, and information relating to the JPM Corporation.

Marion Lois Huffines of Lewisburg for donating the book *Songs of the Kiwanis*; several dozen oversize black and white negatives featuring numerous buildings and business in downtown Lewisburg and surrounding area as well as several negatives from the logging era on the Susquehanna River.

Mary Lee (Guyer) Beuerle of Town & Country, MO for donating a framed Union County Common School (grammar school) diploma from 1931; a White Deer Township Bicentennial plate from 1976; a poem written by J. H. Harnish about the Public Schools of Gregg Township; and a copy of a November 8, 1961, letter from J. A. Harnish about not running for re-election to the Gregg Township School Board. (These items were from the estate of Irene Gundykunst Harnish Guyer of Allenwood).

Elaine Wintjen of Lewisburg for donating a November 2021 Union County Voter's Guide, and campaign material from Lisa Clark (Lewisburg Area School Board); Brian Kerstetter campaigning for the position of Judge of Union/Snyder counties; and a flyer promoting the Union County Democratic Candidates.

Karen Nace of Granbury, Texas for donating a Union County Public School diploma; 87th annual (1937) Commencement program from Bucknell University; a Bucknell University 50th Reunion book from the Class of 1940; and two Bucknell University *L'Agenda* yearbooks, 1937 and 1939.

Connie Snyder of Laurel, Maryland for donating forty-five photographs of men, women, and children that were taken at the Slear photo studio in Mifflinburg, and a copy of an article published in a 1946 *Mifflinburg Telegraph* about the sale of the Slear Studio in Mifflinburg.

Randy Hackenbug of Boiling Springs, PA for donating numerous items that belonged to Paul Libby (former Laurelton resident) while serving in the U.S. Navy during WWII.

Beth A. Vincent of West Milton for donating a 1911 Commencement program from the Kelly School District; and four St. John's Lutheran Church reports for the years 1917, 1923, 1924, 1925.

Karen Frome of St. Louis, Missouri for donating two vintage photographs taken at the Slear Studio in Mifflinburg.

Tom Horvath of Bridgewater, New Jersey for donating a copy of "The Big House" publication issued during the National Correction Officer's week in May 1991.

John Shedlock of Millmont for donating a CD containing hundreds of color photographs of the former Laurelton State School and Hospital taken in September 2021.

Marian Jarrett of New Columbia for donating two Lewisburg – Union County posters; a 1999 Mifflinburg Bank calendar; Handbook for Trial Jurors (booklet); *Great Documents of America* (book); *The United Nations* (book); Rural Routes of Union County (brochure); Priestly House (brochure); *Pennsylvania Trail of History* (book); *Quaint Idioms and Expressions of PA Germans* (book); 175th Anniversary of the First Lutheran Church (booklet); Covered Bridges of Perry County (booklet); *Pennsylvania History* (book); Flags of the United States (booklet); The House that Quality Built (calendar); Lewisburg, Pennsylvania 1937 (DVD); 59 (8" x 10") black and white photographs of historical views of people and places in Union County; A Walk Down Market Street; 13 Union County Historical calendars (different years); and *The Story of a County* 1963 (book).

COLLECTION continued

The society has also made the following purchases through eBay: a match holder advertising I. V. Musser of Lewisburg; a tin business card with advertising for P. F. Dieffenderfer (Tin Work); 1944 Lewisburg Furniture Co. calendar; four 1892 photographs showing exterior and interior views of the Mifflinburg Buggy Company; metal Tri County Distributors coaster; heavy cardstock containing the Mifflinburg Fire Alarm Systems & Emergency telephone numbers; White Deer Mills envelope; envelope with Devitt Home Rural Station postmark; George Proctor advertising card (1878); S. Silvermann trade card; Dry Valley Milling Company corn meal bag; copy of photograph of Lewisburg Boy Scout Troop 14 from 1945; ballpoint pen advertising O. R. Laney Store in Mifflinburg; and real photo postcard views of the Mayflower Motel (south of Lewisburg), Costine's Amazing Chimpanzees (Lewisburg), and Hidden Valley Camping Resort (Mifflinburg).

We thank the Susquehanna Community Bank of West Milton for their financial donation to the Union County Historical Society in exchange for the use of a photograph that can be seen on the wall in the lobby of the bank.

ERRATA The North Ward School on N. 2nd Street in Lewisburg (featured in the Winter newsletter with the school bell recently donated to the UCHS collection) was built in 1855 and continued to serve Lewisburg students in kindergarten through fifth grade until 1984 (not 1964).

GENEALOGY: Recent Searches and Their Researchers

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

HARTMAN, Elizabeth 1807-1853 + George KLECKNER 1797-1874 Mifflinburg. Elizabeth: John Hartman 1779-1850 + Regina Baer 1780-1847, Luzerne Co. George: Solomon Kleckner 1765-1837 + Anna Barbara Huber 1773-1843. Seeking confirmation of family lines. Sent will for Anna Barbara Kleckner filed 1849, Letters of Admin. for Solomon Kleckner filed 1837, various deeds, and other informaton. Debbi Riley, 401 East Schantz Ave., Dayton, OH 45409; riley0213@gmail.com

COLLINS, Charles 1824-1907 + Mary 1830-1917; Lizzie Collins 1858-1885 + Wm M. Hafer; Mary Ellen Collins 1860-1908 + Joseph Molloy; James Collins 1865-1928; Maggie E. Collins 1868-1882; St. Joseph's Catholic Cemetery, Milton, PA. Charles Collins, N 3rd St., Lewisburg, Patrick Collins, S. 8th St., Lewisburg. Provided residence and cemetery info. Mary Clarke, bookbum.clarke@gmail.com

ARNER, John A., of West Milton. Served as Associate Judge c.1952. Seeking information on judgeship. Tom Hess. ucpemerg@ptd.net.

ROCKEY: Seeking maiden names for Margaret Rockey, died 9 June 1848, West Buffalo, wife of George Rockey, died 2 Oct 1855, miller in West Buffalo; Elizabeth Loher/Lohr, no dates, prob. mid-1800s (relation to George Rockey?); Elizabeth Rockey, died 29 Dec 1841, Buffalo Twp., wife of John Rockey, died 20 Apr 1842, Buffalo Twp. Union County. Karl Held of Liverpool, UK; pakaheld@gmail.com

BROBST / HOFFMAN, John Jacob Brobst (10/15/1759 Albany PA – 8/19/1834 in Union Twp. PA), son John Brobst (8/10/1820 Union Co. PA – 7/6/1893 Akron, OH). Margaret Hoffman (c.1882 PA – 11/18/1898 Akron, OH), wife of John Brobst. Father is William Hoffman (born c.1793), mother Sarah. [Prep. work done by office, researcher visited UCHS and courthouse offices for records] Christine Brobst Barnes; barnes8700@me.com.

UNION STAR newspaper issues October through December 1850: [These are not in UCHS library nor at Bucknell – notify researcher where the papers might be available]. Robert Churchill, Professor of History, University of Hartford; churchill@hartford.edu.

The Society Office / Library is open to fully vaccinated visitors. Masks are requested.
Please call or email ahead of any visit so we can advise you on the current office hours.

Research services are provided by our staff. Please email your research questions.

- Fees:
- General genealogical search (one family) – \$50 includes copying up to 20 pages of documents.
 - Search for wills, letters of administration, or orphans court record – \$5 plus \$1/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.unioncopahistory.com / Research Resources for document list and more.

Donations of Union County family histories (print or digital) are accepted for the library.

UCHS BOARD and OFFICERS 2022

Bill Brobst, Phyllis Dyer (*Treasurer*), Barb Franck, Mike Molesevich,
Susan Rapp, Darren Rhyne, Christine Sperling, Kathy Swope (*Vice President*),
Bruce Teeple (*President*), and Matt Wagner (*Secretary*)

Nominations to the Union County Historical Society Board of Directors

According to the UCHS bylaws, UCHS shall send ballots to members with the newsletter in August. Members shall vote in August for board candidates. Ballots are due back to the UCHS office by August 30. Please mail to UCHS, 203 N. 2nd St., Lewisburg, PA 17837. Or email to info@unioncopahistory.com

The Nominations Committee recommends the following be elected to serve three-year terms on the UCHS board of directors. The election will take place at the UCHS board meeting in September.

* **Bill Brobst** to fill an unexpired term on the board until the end of 2022, and be elected to serve January 2023 to December 2025. Bill Brobst, retired city and regional planner from Bloomsburg, has an interest in history and American architecture, has taught Bucknell BILL courses on history and the built environment of Union County, and recently been giving tours at the Dale-Engle-Walker House.

* **Christine Sperling** to fill an unexpired term on the board until the end of 2022, and be elected to join the board, serving January 2023 to December 2025. Christine Sperling of Lewisburg is Professor Emeritus of Bloomsburg University Art and Art History Department. She served as chair of the Fetherston Foundation / Packwood House Museum.

* **Darren Rhyne** of Mifflinburg be elected to continue to serve January 2023 to December 2025.

* **Bruce Teeple** of Aaronsburg be elected to continue to serve January 2023 to December 2025.

Continuing on the board are:

Phyllis Dyer, Susan Rapp, Matt Wagner (each up for re-election next year), and Barb Franck, Mike Molesevich and Kathy Swope (up for re-election the following year).



Union County Historical Society Board 2023 BALLOT

Please mail to UCHS, 103 S. 2nd St., Lewisburg, PA 17837. Or email to info@unioncopahistory.com.

The Nomination Committee has selected the following to serve three-year terms on the UCHS board:

Bill Brobst, new to the board

Christine Sperling, new to the board

Darren Rhyne, continuing on the board

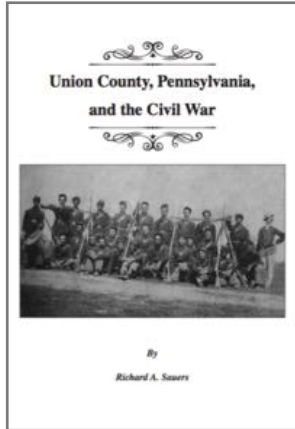
Bruce Teeple, continuing on the board

I (_____ your name _____) vote _____ (“yes’ or “no’, or leave blank) to vote on these nominations.

Union County Historical Society

Union County Courthouse
103 S. 2nd Street
Lewisburg, PA 17837

Return Service Requested



Union County, Pennsylvania, and the Civil War
FREE to members who have renewed for 2022.
Available at the UCHS office or by mail.

Membership in the Union County Historical Society supports programs, the research library, the growth of our collections, and the 1793 Dale-Engle-Walker House. The Union County Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations. Membership is tax deductible as allowed by law. **Member benefits** include newsletters, a discount on society publications, free use of our reference library, 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 _____

_____Lifetime Membership (per person) \$800

Annually: ___Business \$250 ___Friend \$150 ___Family \$80 ___Individual \$45 ___Student (K-12) \$10

Please visit **www.unioncopahistory.com** for events, articles, resource list, and more.