



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

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www.unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org

June 2020

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

Dear Society Members and Friends

**What have you been doing during this health crisis?** Gardening? Knitting? Reading? Helping your neighbors? Playing video games? Streaming movies? It doesn't matter. We want to hear from you. Why?

Let's go back 100 years. Coal, steel and the railroads dominated the stock market. Newspaper editors viewed widespread deaths from diphtheria, typhoid and smallpox outbreaks as inevitable as the changing seasons. As horses and cars passed by on unpaved roads, they kicked up particles of dried manure dust that floated into your lungs and onto the food displayed in open sidewalk cases. Where are all these habits, attitudes and institutions now? Most of them are gone because our surroundings, behaviors, and technologies have changed. And many of those changes began as responses to adversity.

Members of earlier generations knew how to handle adversity. The best therapy in the world, they said, is to work. One neighbor constantly reminded me to "keep moving or you will rust fast." Another told me how her family survived during the Great Depression. "Our father left my mother, my two sisters and me, never to see him again. We didn't know we were poor because everyone was poor. Our biggest concern could have been fuel for heat and cooking, but one neighbor always came down the mountain and dropped off a wagon load of dead trees in our yard. We had to cut, split and stack the wood ourselves, but we never froze or starved. Good neighbors. That's how we survived."

History isn't just an idle exercise in hindsight, either memorizing disconnected trivia or surrounding ourselves with old stuff. If we don't share what we've learned from our experiences, it loses any meaning or relevance.

Now is a golden opportunity for everyone, regardless of age, to become part of Union County's history by sharing with the future how you've weathered this attack on our sense of community.

Keep a journal. Tell us how you spend your time while you're locked down. How has this pandemic changed your life? What has remained the same? Has this crisis given you a different perspective or a renewed appreciation? What are your concerns now? Monitor and note how you've rearranged your priorities.

We could then post your photos, artwork, film, poetry, journals, stories, or any other productions in an exhibit, perhaps entitled "Union County Survives!" By sharing your collective presents with posterity, we can ensure the future of both your community and your historical society.

Here's hoping you're all well and that we'll see each other on the other side of this health crisis.

*Bruce Teeple*

#### **OFFICERS & BOARD 2020**

Bruce Teeple, President  
Kathy Swope, VP  
Eli Reiff, Secretary  
Matt Wagner, Treasurer  
Phyllis Dyer  
Barb Franck  
Mary Kay Harper  
Louise Knight  
Mike Molesevich  
Jeff Reber  
Darren Rhyne



#### **Welcome new members**

David Bailey, Napierville, IL  
David Kinney, Stayton, OR  
Susan B. Rapp, Lewisburg, PA  
Mike Rote, Lewisburg, PA  
Sean & Cherry Will,  
Lewisburg, PA

#### **And New Life member**

Kathy Swope, Winfield, PA

#### **The society is grateful for donations from members**

Gale Duque,  
Mary Ellen Paulhamus,  
Nada Gray,  
Joanne Schrawder  
**and from our friend**  
Larry Bowersox



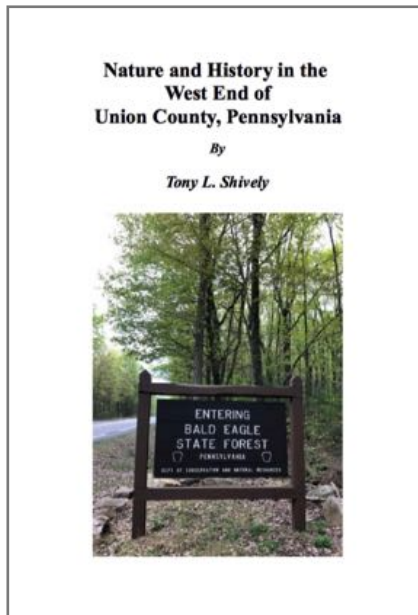
## UNION COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY PROGRAMS

As you know, society programs for the Spring and Summer were cancelled or postponed due to health restrictions associated with the Covid-19 virus, and the Governor's guidelines for community safety.

Please check the website [www.unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org) for updates.

Programs will be announced in the local newspapers, and posted on the Susquehanna River Valley Visitors Bureau website: [www.Visit Central PA.org](http://www.Visit Central PA.org). Check also the Union County Library website: [www.unioncountylibraries.org](http://www.unioncountylibraries.org).

We look forward to seeing you all soon.



### *Nature and History in the West End of Union County, Pennsylvania. Heritage 2020, Volume XXVII*

By Tony L. Shively

In this latest volume in the Historical Society's *Heritage* series, you will read about land management in western Union County, the healing power of nature, Raymond B. Winter, his colleagues, and the Civilian Conservation Corps; Hairy John's State Park, Sand Bridge State Park, and Bald Eagle State Forest; Sammy Osenbaugh, and wardens Miles Reeder and Art Snyder; and much more.

*Nature and History in the West End of Union County, Pennsylvania* is FREE to UCHS members who have renewed for 2020. If you have not received your copy, contact us to request (free) shipping: email to [info@unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org) or call 570-524-8666.

If you would like an additional copy for friends or family, please inquire. Member price is \$20 plus \$5 shipping.



## NOMINATIONS TO THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD

The Nominations Subcommittee recommends the following for the September 2020 election for the Board of Directors. According to the UCHS bylaws, UCHS shall send ballots to members with the newsletter in August, so that members may vote for board candidates. The election will take place at the September UCHS meeting – date and place to be announced.

New board member: **Susan (Borden) Rapp** was born and raised in Lewisburg, graduating from Lewisburg High School in 1973 and Bucknell University in 1977. She and her husband, Bob, moved to Colorado, then to Wellsboro, and back to the Lewisburg area in 1983. After teaching in New Jersey, Colorado, and Pennsylvania, Susan taught Social Studies at Lewisburg High School from 1987-2017. Bob Rapp worked as a project manager in Bucknell's Facilities Dept. for nineteen years. Their three children, a son and two daughters, graduated from Lewisburg High School; two from Susquehanna University and one from Bucknell. Susan and Bob retired in 2017. He remains an active volunteer at Camp Karoondinha and at their church, where Susan also serves on the Board of Deacons and two other committees. Susan says she is fortunate to be caring for her 91 year old mother and 4 year old grandson!

Running for another term on the board are current members **Phyllis Dyer** of Winfield and **Matt Wagner** of Mifflinburg. Running to rejoin the board is **Lonnie Hill** of Lewisburg.

**The Union County Historical Society office is temporarily closed to visitors.**

The county courthouse also has limited access for researchers at this time, due to Covid-19 precautions. Please call or email ahead of any visit so we can advise you on the current situation.

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

- 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 \$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.unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org](http://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:**

*Melchior Smith – What Were His Origins.* Researched and donated by Donald Alfred Schnure.  
*Record of the Ruhl Family 1741-1924.* Compiled by Israel Ruhl 1924. Donated by Janet Richey.  
*Black Family of Northumberland, Union, Clarion, and Venango Counties, PA.*

Researched and donated by Dave Black, [dkblack@aol.com](mailto:dkblack@aol.com).

Keefer Family Association newsletters.

*The Chronicle, Volume XXXI*, Spring 2020, “Rev. Peter Gordon Gould,” Journal of the Historical Society of the Susquehanna Conference of the United Methodist Church.



## Recent Genealogy Searches and Their Researchers

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

ROW, Levi b. c.1823 and Amelia DUCK (Snyder County): Cheryl Foote. 1824 Rita NE, Albuquerque, NM 87106; [crfoote@aol.com](mailto:crfoote@aol.com).

KRICK, J.W. d. 1946, ENGLEHART, Bertha d. 1954: Helen Poole, 100 Rivergreen St., Cary, NC 27518

RANCK, Leonard (Lemuel) Lewis and Emeline Minnick m.1972: Ferra Sandlin Kinnison, [fkinnison@att.net](mailto:fkinnison@att.net)

BECK, Isaac, gunsmith: Denny Donharl, 6844 St. Anne Dr., Fayetteville, PA 17222; [djdonharl@pa.net](mailto:djdonharl@pa.net)

NAUGLE, John Philip and Elizabeth KEPLER: John K. Naugle, [deckermt1877@gmail.com](mailto:deckermt1877@gmail.com)

WETZEL, Jonathan, Philip, John Henry, gunsmiths: Harry Nowak, 1619 S. Valley Forge Rd., Lansdale, PA 19446; [hnowak@verizon.net](mailto:hnowak@verizon.net)

BRADY, Armstrong Fisher d. 1876 and Lydia Wagenhurst, and Lida Gudykunst; Bradys in Gregg Twp.: Patrick Larkin, [padthaipat@yahoo.com](mailto:padthaipat@yahoo.com)

MOORE, Col. James: Rick Sauers, [rsauers@ptd.net](mailto:rsauers@ptd.net)

VAUGHN, Isaac E. (b. 1862), Wm Vaughn and Susan ZECHMAN/ Nevel: Bob Vaughan, [rvaughan93@gmail.com](mailto:rvaughan93@gmail.com)

MOLL, Henry: Daryl Schooler, 1896 300th St., Hiawatha, KS 66434; [schoolerrd@gmail.com](mailto:schoolerrd@gmail.com)

HAUTZ/Houtz, Baltzer: Teri Grey, 87 Squanto Drive, Chatham, MA 02633; [greymatterdna@gmail.com](mailto:greymatterdna@gmail.com)

STEININGER, Jacob: Alicia Blackman, 526 Shoreline Rd. Carrolton, VA 23314; [aablackman@gmail.com](mailto:aablackman@gmail.com)

LINCOLN, Richard VanBuskirk: Steven Winegardner, The Lincoln Group of Washington, DC; [Stevenstvn9@aol.com](mailto:Stevenstvn9@aol.com)

DERMODY, James and Ellen, Thomas and Charlotte Conor, White Deer 1850-60s, James Dermody and children immigrated to Australia: Kaye Schreuders; [corry.schreuders@bigpond.com](mailto:corry.schreuders@bigpond.com)



## COLLECTION NEWS by Tony Shively

The Archives and Collections Committee obtains and maintains items promoting and fulfilling the Society's educational mission. The Committee would like to thank everyone who donated and gifted to the society since January of this year. 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.

Many thanks to:

**Alvin Schaut** of Plainfield, WI, for donating an early postcard view of Market Street in Lewisburg. **Kathryn McQuown** of Cogan Station for donating numerous circa 1890-1921 wedding invitations, graduation initiations, commencement invitations, and funeral announcements. The commencement and graduation invitations include the high schools of Mifflinburg and Lewisburg, Bucknell University, as well as grammar schools located in Cowan and Buffalo Cross Roads. Surnames include Simonton, Shriner, Spigelmeyer, Chambers, Morrow, Smith, Whitley, Kleckner, Clapman, Steans, Shoemaker, Bower, and others.

**Agnes Rathfon** of Lewisburg for donating several dozen circa 1940 photographs of servicemen in uniform. These men were processed through the Selective Service office in Mifflinburg during WWII.

**Helen Poole** of Cary, NC for donating a Republican Poll-Book from West Buffalo Township during the Campaign of 1896, a Watcher's Certificate issued to J. W. Krick for the November 1897 election, and an Official Ballot for the Saturday March 11, 1899 Republican Primary.

**Ardith Wilkins** of Allenwood donated a change purse and a key ring with advertising for Waltman's Auto in White Deer; key ring with advertisement for Cleveland Bros of White Deer; paper wrapped sugar cube from The Basket restaurant in Allenwood; key ring with advertisement for West Milton State Bank; a deck of Mack playing cards from Susquehanna Motors in West Milton; a Mack (Truck) Zippo lighter with advertising for Susquehanna Motors of West Milton; color photos from 1972 Susquehanna River flooding along Leiser Road as well as various locations in White Deer (including the railroad trestle); black and white group photo at UB Church in White Deer c. 1900 (with names); a soft cover book entitled *Children of the River* by Rose Stoltzfus Huyard; 1992 Photo Directory from Faith United Methodist Church of White Deer; and Union County dog tags from 1976-1997.

**Rick Sauers** of Peyton, Colorado for donating a book *History of Charity Lodge 144 of Lewisburg, Pennsylvania* (1816-1966) pertaining to the 150th anniversary of the Free and Accepted Masons of Lewisburg.

**Nelson E. Clements** of Levittown, PA for donating a copy of his recently published book entitled *Susquehanna Valley Area Council 1917-1974*, a history of the Boy Scout Councils of Union, Northumberland, and Snyder counties.

**Thomas B. Myers** of Chambersburg for donating five color photographs showing various areas in Lewisburg during the Flood of 1972.

**John Poss** of Gastonia, NC, for donating an envelope addressed to Lewisburg Attorney A. A. Leiser.

**Jeannette Lasansky** of Lewisburg for donating a 2019 mini calendar from A+ Office Supply in Mifflinburg, and pens advertising Union County businesses MePush, the Natural Food & Garden Store, and Chatham's Vacuums.

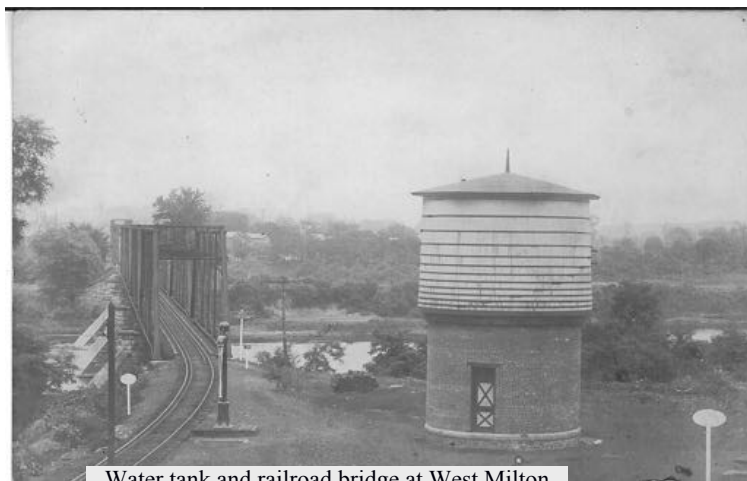
**Delores Beard** of Turnersville, NY, for donating numerous circa 1940's photographs taken at the Lewisburg Orphanage showing employees working on the grounds as well as some of the young boys housed at the orphanage.

An anonymous donation of a real photo postcard by U. H. Eisenhower from 1909 showing a view of Main Street in Hartleton.



The following purchases were made by the archives committee since January 1, 2020:

Trade card from D. W. Wendel, Manager of The Excelsior Orchestra; postcard with advertising for E. E. McKissick, dealer in fruit trees, spray pumps and chemicals located in Hartleton; postcard with advertising from Mr. & Mrs. D. H. Anderson, Buffalo Roads, PA; postcard view of the Joyce Kilmer CCC Camp off Route 45 west of the Laurelton State Village; leather postcard with advertising for the Lewisburg High School; three Caulkins Photo postcard views of Hairy John's State Park; Mifflinburg Hardware Company ashtray; large poster advertising C. A. Bogar Shoe Store in Mifflinburg; poster from 1928 Chicken & Noodle Supper at Clemens' Hall in New Columbia; a soft cover book, *The History of the Buffalo Valley / Union County Amish 1836-1894*, by Ben Riehl; 1890/1891 catalogue of Central Pennsylvania College in New Berlin; large photograph of Federal Jury from the January 1935 Term at Lewisburg; 1894 view of the exterior of the Halfpenny Woolen Mill in Lewisburg; real photo postcards of the Bucknell Laboratory, White Deer RR Station, Allenwood RR Station, three female students holding Union Seminary (or Central Pennsylvania College) pennant at New Berlin, dining hall at Central Oak Heights, Eyer Barn in Winfield, Evangelical church in Winfield, Dry Valley Church, West Milton RR Station, Chautauqua Tent Meeting at Mifflinburg, Wolfland Park, Wolfland Lake, two street views and the M. E. Church in the Village of Millmont, residence in Laurelton and a view of the Laurelton Lutheran Church, Cottage No. 3 at Laurelton State Village, Water tank and railroad bridge over the Susquehanna River at West Milton, and a View of Main Street Allenwood;



other postcards include a colorized scene of Chestnut Street in Mifflinburg, Lewisburg Auto Supply Store, and a generic postcard from Laurelton, and a large color view of the inside of Rock Oak Country Kitchen near Hartleton.

**Advice from our archivists:**  
Don't forget to label your photos. Identify people, places, and dates with a pencil, not a pen. Future generations will thank you!

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 with 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: <input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime (per person) \$800 Annual: <input type="checkbox"/> Business \$250 <input type="checkbox"/> Friend \$150 <input type="checkbox"/> Member \$45 <input type="checkbox"/> Student (K-12) \$10
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Please visit [www.unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org) for events, articles, resource list, and more.

