

FULTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

January 2007

January Meeting to Spotlight the Historical Society Library

Invite your friends to the winter meeting of the Fulton County Historical Society to be held Thursday evening, January 25, 2007, at 7:30 p.m. in the Fulton County Library, 227 North First Street, McConnellsburg. If local schools close that afternoon for bad weather, our meeting will automatically be moved to the following Tuesday, January 30. Phone President Dick Miller at 717 485-3412 with any questions.

One of Fulton County's best-known researchers, Bill Turner, will be in the Society's library room from 7:00-7:30 p.m. Bill will show you what materials are available, answer short questions, and point you in the right direction to begin researching your family history or local events. Look at the remarkable organization of shelf materials and labeling done this past year by volunteer Linda Portanova. The room is small but if you know what is available, you are welcome to come back any day of the week to search at your leisure.

Our evening program will be held downstairs in the library community room where President Dick Miller will open with a short business meeting at 7:30. Featured speakers will be Bob Hewitt and Jim Snyder from the Blair County Genealogical Society. They will show a 15-minute video about their society and its library which has one of the best collections in Pennsylvania. They have equipment to print their own publications and will bring representative samples to show and sell. Light refreshments will close the meeting.

Note: Our local library is a true activity center. Weight Watchers occupy the community room until 7:30 on Thursdays; if we meet on Tuesday, Yoga is held there until 7:30 so browse the library facilities upstairs until time for the meeting to begin.

Heritage Quest Resources Now Free to Library Members

Thanks to efforts of Fulton County Library Director Jamie Brambley suing grant funds from the Alexander Stewart M.D. Foundation, a free year of access to Heritage Quest

is now available to anyone holding a Fulton County Library card. Jamie invites local members to apply for a free library card; out-of-state members are eligible to join the library but will be asked to donate \$15 for a 3-year library card. You can link to the library web page through our own www.fultonhistory.org or go directly to www.fclspa.org/fulton/home.htm and click on the Heritage Quest logo. Use your library card number to log-in on the Heritage Quest site. This will open a wealth of information for you, all of which is searchable by surname. Use the cold winter evenings to expand your knowledge of your family heritage lines anywhere in the USA.

Library card applications will be available at our January 25 meeting, or anytime at the library, or by request from Jamie at jbrambley@fclspa.org or jbrambley@pa.net. If you use Norton firewall, she can give you directions to allow access to Heritage Quest. The library telephone number is 717 485-5327.

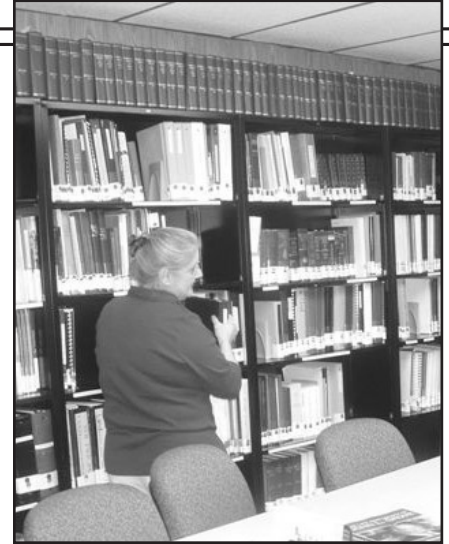
Historical Society Members

Our sympathy to families of members who died in 2006 including life members Bernard Barton, Hollis Mellott and Thelma Wible.

In October we gained new life member Michael J. McMeins Sr. of Roselle, Ill. Michael visited Fulton County three times in 2006 to "nurture my senses" in the rural area where his ancestors lived. He submitted a 20-page journal with his observations on Fulton County. (Read it on our webpage.) Ancestor John McMeins signed the 1750 Great Cove petition, was appointed the first constable for Ayr Township in 1754, and operated a grist mill south of Webster Mills until 1771. Another local ancestor was Covenanter elder James Willson, ordained here in 1753 by Rev. Cuthbertson. Both the McMeins and Willson families were survivors of the 1755 Great Cove massacre.

We value the support of all our members. If your address label shows an expiration date of 04-01-06, it is time to renew for another year. A new membership list along with the 2007 annual book will be included in the next mailing. We wish you each a happy and healthy 2007.

Glenn Cordell, Administrator



Linda Portanova color-coded books by category in the Historical Society library so visitors can easily return them to their proper place.

Minutes

President Dick Miller called the fall meeting of the Fulton County Historical Society to order at 7:00 p.m. Friday evening, October 20, 2006, in the Fulton Theater, McConnellsburg. A good crowd was in attendance.

A financial report for May 1 through October 10, 2006, was submitted by treasurer Dan Swain. Highlights included a bequest of \$5,040.03 from the late Merrill Kerlin, \$2,520.95 in publication sales, \$675 from membership dues plus \$500 in life memberships, and \$669.81 from a silent auction of donated items. Major expenses included \$7,027.46 to BFM Architects, \$1,150 for Big Spring Graveyard and Winegardner School maintenance, \$657 for insurance, \$600 to Fulton County Library, \$600 for administrative cost, \$524 for advertising and \$300 for accounting fees. Expenses exceeded income by \$6,565.48. Restricted assets show \$17,855.70 remaining in the Beach bequest for Winegardner School. The treasurer's report was accepted on a John Mentzer motion.

Michael McMeins was present from the Chicago area and was introduced as a new life member. President Miller introduced officers and Board members present and announced the Board had invited John Greenfieldt to fill the vacancy of Dr. Merrill Arnold who resigned to accept employment in the Forbes Road School

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January 2007

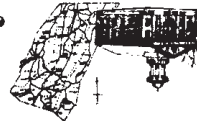
NEWS

Fulton
County
Historical
Society

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*Fulton County
Historical Society, Inc.*



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(Minutes continued)

District. Dr. and Mrs. Greenfieldt own the home of our town founder, Daniel McConnell.

A moment of silence was observed for a friend of the Fulton County Historical Society, Merrill Kerlin who passed away in April 2006 at age 84 after serving as District Attorney, State Legislator, World War II bombardier and long-time member of the Historical Society. Mr. Kerlin bequeathed \$5,000 to the Society. A Resolution of Respect was prepared and read by President Miller, with copies presented to his widow Elizabeth, son Stanley and daughter Suzanne.

President Miller announced the hours and activities for Society events during the Fulton Fall Folk Festival. Linda Garber and Joe Erwin prepared a museum display of World War II

memorabilia. The WWII era crazy quilt with names of supporters will continue to be available for a \$10 contribution. Reproduction of the 1873 Fulton County wall map has been printed on heavier paper in 44" x 48" size and in 24" x 26" size with copies selling for \$125 and \$60 respectively.

Former Fulton Theater usher John Mentzer spoke of the Lodge electric generator before the town had electricity. Theater tickets were 12 cents for kids and 36 cents for adults, with candy available for 1-5 cents. Attendance might reach 300-400 an evening and the theater could become quite aromatic after local farmers arrived from work.

Hagerstown film collector Larry Springer presented a lively evening program. Included were "Trick or Treat" with Donald Duck, "Tit For Tat" featuring Laurel and Hardy,

previews for the original 1931 version of "Frankenstein" and the 1942 sequel "Ghost of Frankenstein", followed by Gene Autry's feature film "Melody Ranch" released in 1940 and the first Autry film to play in major theaters around the country.

Monica Seville served popcorn and soda. A good time was had by all. The meeting adjourned about 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ken Keebaugh, Secretary

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL:

___ **\$15 Individual/Family**

___ **\$250 Individual Life**

Send your name, address, e-mail and family interest names to the Society address below along with your check, or renew on www.fultonhistory.org with PayPal.

PO Box 115, McConnellsburg, PA 17233
Non-Profit 501(c)(3) organization #23-7453773

E-mail: director@fultonhistory.org
Web page: www.fultonhistory.org

2006-07 OFFICERS:

Richard A. Miller, President
Monica Seville, Vice President
Ken Keebaugh, Secretary
Dan Swain, Treasurer 2009

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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