

FULTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Spring 2008

Join us for Dinner on April 19

The McConnellsburg Fire Company Auxiliary will serve their traditional ham and turkey banquet dinner to members and friends of the Fulton County Historical Society at 6:00 p.m. Saturday evening, April 19, 2008, at the fire hall.

Reservations with payment (see form) need to be received by April 10. Tickets will not be issued but program chairperson Monica Seville will check off paid names at the door. All are invited.

President Dick Miller will conduct the annual spring business meeting with a report of past activities. The Historian of the Year award will be presented to a very active person in your Society. The all-important election of new officers will follow - you may send nominations using the form on the back.

Pennsylvania Folk Songs

At 7:30 p.m. Pennsylvania Partners in the Arts will sponsor a music program bringing the Folkemer Family Band of Gettysburg to Fulton County for a community presentation in the McConnellsburg Fire Hall. This event, with special funding through the Council for the Arts, is free and open to the public. We'd like a very good turnout as the Folkemer Band performs a variety of folk songs collected in Pennsylvania. Themes will include the farm, the forest, family relationships, courtship and marriage, and "crime doesn't pay!"

Audience members will be invited to sing along, play a singing game, and contribute some of their own riddles and anecdotes during this evening of living tradition passed down by everyday people from small towns and rural Pennsylvania.

The Folkemer Family Band are multi-instrumentalists as well as singers and active tradition bearers. They bring together rich vocal harmonies with accompaniment by concertina, penny whistle, low whistle, guitar, bodhran, dulcimer, keyboard and acoustic bass. The family also performs together as members of other folk music and choral groups, and teaches on the staff of the Greenwood Furnace Folk Gathering.

Dr. Stephen Folkemer has served as music director at Gettysburg Lutheran Theological Seminary since 1979. Rev. Beth Folkemer is doing extensive research on material in the Samuel Bayard folk song collection. Joel, who majored in human communication at Shippensburg University, is now a seminary student. Meg is studying vocal performance at McGill University in Quebec. Nathan, a senior at Gettysburg High School, has taken leading roles in the yearly musical.

No reservations are needed for the 7:30 p.m. music program. Please invite others of all ages for this special event.

FUN FOR ALL AGES
Come and
SING ALONG
with Us ...

THE FOLKEMER FAMILY BAND

Bring your songs, stories, and oral traditions to share with us as the Fulton County Historical Society and PA Partners in the Arts invites you to PARTICIPATE in an evening of FREE Fun, Fellowship and Music. With songs collected in Pennsylvania Featuring:

- Farm and Forest
- Family Relationships
- Courtship and Marriage
- "Crime doesn't Pay"
- Plus a Demonstration of Singing Games

Don't Forget to Bring The Kids!!!!

Sat. April 19, 2008
at 7:30 pm. in the
McConnellsburg Fire Hall, McConnellsburg, PA.
DINNER WILL BE SERVED AT 6:00 PM
CONTACT: Dick Miller, President, 717-485-3412

early bird BONUS
All you can eat
HAM & TURKEY DINNER
will be served by the
FIRE COMPANY AUXILIARY
at 6:00 PM

\$12.00 - Adult
\$6.00 - Ages 6 thru 12
Free - 5 and under
must be ordered with payment by
April 16th. to the
Historical Society at Box 115,
McConnellsburg, PA, 17233

FULTON COUNTY
Historical
Society

Importance of Volunteers

Your Board of Directors recently discussed whether to begin a payroll with deductions for one paid staff member or to continue operating with volunteers. There are many advantages to having people with different talents willing to direct one specific activity rather than one person responsible for too many tasks. The Historical Society would be strengthened and remain active as key persons move on. An annual stipend not over \$600 per person meets IRS guidelines, is easily handled and would give some reimbursement for your efforts.

Starting with the committees listed in the Society bylaws, the Board will propose job descriptions for your approval at the April 19 meeting. Positions under discussion include Librarian, Museum curator, Publications including a museum catalog, Program, Grant writing, Web page design and maintenance, Fulton House manager, Winegardner School manager, Fund raising (can be broken into House Tour, Strawberry Festival, Christmas, etc), Society president for leadership and direction, Society treasurer for banking and state reports, Society secretary for correspondence and membership maintenance, Administrator for general scheduling.

While the stipend goes to the person who provides leadership in an area, the Society would still depend on volunteer helpers, with a goal of involving younger persons. Some tasks might be combined and other areas can be considered. Feel free to share your thoughts to director@fultonhistory.org or to step forward for one of the positions.

New Book included with Membership

Enclosed is Volume 29 in the Society's annual publication series for members. Written by the late Ray Hess, this book features one of our smaller communities in Fulton County but contains connections to many local families. Extra copies will be available for \$5 at various places in the county or may be ordered by mail or on the Society's web page with \$1.50 extra for postage.

An updated membership list is enclosed including family surnames or queries which may help genealogists share data. If your name is not on the list, check your mailing label to be sure your dues are current through April 2008. We miss you when your membership expires!

A grassroots effort is being made to have PA state death certificates 1906-1957 placed on the internet for easy access by family historians. See the webpage: <http://users.rcn.com/timarg/PaHR-Access.htm>. and add your support.

Other Books of Interest

Bill Turner, last year's Historian of the Year, continues to spend untold hours helping genealogists. He has just printed 50 transcribed copies of the 1910 Fulton County census showing names, ages, occupations, etc for everyone living here.

(continued)

Mary Black and Genny Stafford helped with proofreading. With 286 pages including index, copies may be picked up at the Fulton County Library for \$22.50 or ordered from Bill (see membership list for contact numbers) with \$5 extra for mailing.

Dr. William R. Smith, retired professor from Shippensburg University and a member of our Society for many years, wrote a book primarily for his grandchildren titled "Memories of Home." It is a recollection of events and experiences growing up in Buck Valley, Union Township, during the Great Depression and World War II era. Amazon and Barnes & Noble web sites carry his 224 page softbound book for \$13.95

At one of our early Society meetings, Dr. Smith gave a presentation on early lighting devices. He has fond memories of Clarence Bender bringing in a turnip - frontier families might hollow out a potato or turnip, fill with whatever grease was available, add a twisted rag for wick and make a lamp! Bill's second book is titled "My Lighting Collection, from Pine Knots to LED Lights" and may be ordered on the above web sites for \$15.95. Both books have been donated to our library.

The Bedford County Historical Society, 242 E. John St, Bedford, PA 15522 has reprinted on 22" x 26" paper the 1818 Whiteside Map of Bedford County which includes our area also. They will send us a display copy with all names transcribed and indexed. Ordering information will be on their web page.

by Glenn Cordell, Administrator

Minutes

The winter meeting of the Fulton County Historical Society was held in the Fulton Theater, McConnellsburg, on Saturday, January 13, 2008. President Dick Miller called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. There were 180 in attendance. Southern Fulton English teacher, Justin Sholes, had 11 students in attendance.

Minutes of the fall meeting as printed in the last newsletter were approved on a Lyle Duffey-Mike Klinepeter motion. Dan Swain gave a treasurer's report with the following highlights: Income - \$4,420 for Chimney Room renovation; \$2,792 for book, print, map sales; \$1,805 for membership dues; \$750 for life memberships; \$850 for House Tour donations; \$422 for FFFF food stand. Expenses - \$2,306 for supplies; \$3,718 for rent; \$670 for insurance; \$1,100 for mowing; \$976 for non personnel; \$228 for travel; \$200 for web page; \$264 for conventions; \$205 for advertising; \$600 for Elder Correll chair purchase. Balances: \$3,463 checking account; \$92.69 PayPal; \$3,804.56 money market; \$24,044.38 Winegardner school; \$150,473 endowment/investments. The treasurer's report was accepted on a Ron Mitchell-Wayne MacDonald motion.

President Miller acknowledged and thanked Board members and administrator Glenn Cordell for their teamwork over the past three years. Donors contributed \$2,745 for restroom renovation while expenses totaled \$3,500. Norma



Tom & Huck watch "the very bad man" (Aaron Ott) attack the good Doc Robinson (H. Lyle Duffey).

(Mrs. Gary) Long custom made and donated curtains for the restroom windows. The basement walls under the cabin need sandblasting and regrouting. The log kitchen needs electrical and heating upgrades so it can be rented for income. Fulton House exterior lights will be installed as soon as possible.

The adjacent 1.2 acre grove beside Winegardner School was deeded to the Society. Local attorney Carlton Walker donated her time not charging for legal fees. The school needs donations of desks, books and a stove. Ken Keebaugh will make shutters.

Some photos from the collection of C.B. Chubb, former McConnellsburg teacher and photographer, were on display for identification. Sports photos will be loaned to the alumni association museum in the old McConnellsburg High School.

Lois Neidlemyer of Maranatha Productions from Lancaster, PA, introduced the evening entertainment - a two-man audience participation presentation of Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn. Donations taken in for the group totaled \$421.

Respectfully submitted,
Kenneth W. Keebaugh, Secretary

For **2008-09 officers**, I nominate ...

for President - _____;

for Vice President - _____;

for Secretary - _____;

for Director to 2011 - _____;

for Director to 2011 - _____.

Continuing officers appear at the bottom of this page.

Please reserve _____ adult meals @\$12 and _____ children's meals @\$6 for April 19; make your enclosed check payable to the Fulton County Historical Society.

Renew my membership at _____ \$15 annual or _____ \$250 individual life.

Deadline for meal reservations and nominations is April 10, 2008. Thank you for your support!

PO Box 115, McConnellsburg, PA 17233 E-mail: director@fultonhistory.org Phone (717) 485-3172
Non-Profit 501(c)(3) organization #23-7453773 Web page: www.fultonhistory.org

2007-08 OFFICERS:

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Edith Coleman 2010
Dick Newman 2010
Joe Erwin 2009
Linda Garber 2009
John Greenfieldt 2008
Dave Scamardella 2008