

# FULTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

January 2008



## Tom and Huck Will Entertain Us

Mark Twain's classic story "Tom Sawyer" will be dramatized by actors from Maranatha Productions of Lancaster at the winter meeting of the Fulton County Historical Society. President Dick Miller will open with a short business session at 7:00 p.m. Saturday evening, January 12, 2008, in the Fulton Theater meeting room of F&M Trust in downtown McConnellsburg. "Tom Sawyer" will entertain children as well as adults as portions of this memorable classic are brought to life.

Both Tom and Huck are two fun-loving orphan boys who are always looking for adventure in Hannibal, Missouri, along the Mississippi River. They both would rather go fishing than go to school and do whatever they can to fool Tom's Aunt Polly. However, when she catches Tom playing hooky from school, she makes Tom whitewash the whole fence - or does he?

Throughout the drama, Huck and Tom interact with the audience and enlist audience members to take on roles to complete the cast. All of this adds up to an hour of great fun. Erik Nelson is currently seen nationally as the host of "Dirt Bike Television" and will appear later this year in a feature movie about John Wesley. Dathan Glick, an actor with Maranatha for several years, has played Bob Cratchit and Jacob Marley in "A Christmas Carol."

Members, friends and school classes are welcome to this family program. Light refreshments will be served and an offering will be received to cover the production costs. In case of bad weather, check with program chairperson Monica Seville 485-4675 or Society president Dick Miller at 485-3412.

## Fulton Fall Folk Festival Report

The Historical Society seemed to have a record number of visitors through the Fulton House during the Fulton Fall Folk Festival. There were many positive comments about the new arrangement in the museum rooms and the decorative touches provided inside and out by Butterfly Gardens and Summer Thyme Floral. The Country Christian music group sang in the rain on Friday while Herb Brambley and Cedar Creek had more pleasant weather for their Saturday program but both groups were greatly appreciated. Barb Gothie had more participants at her genealogy workshop than anticipated and ran out of handout materials.

The soup sale directed by Edie Coleman in the log kitchen was welcomed back by many who remembered it as a favorite event in the past. Eighty-five people enjoyed visiting four private homes opened for the House Tour and found favorite features to remember from each home. These two events earned over \$1,000 for the Society treasury. Folk musician Bruce Young invited people present at the courthouse on Saturday evening to join with him in some of the informal folk songs he presented

under sponsorship of the Pennsylvania Humanities Council.

The guest register at Winegardner one-room school was signed by 125 visitors during the Festival weekend. The original classroom water cooler, teacher's chair and a donated student desk were on display.

## Christmas Events

During the "Christmas in McConnellsburg" weekend of November 30 and December 1, hot mulled cider and gingersnaps were served in the log cabin as guests browsed maps, prints and publications for Christmas gifts. The cabin and downstairs museum rooms were open and decorated for Christmas, with two fresh trees donated by Butterfly Gardens. Summer Thyme Floral donated new bows for all the exterior window swags and interior sills and mantels, and Morton's Attic loaned Homer Laughlin china, cookie cutters, etc. We value the support of our community businesses!

## Generous Donations

Donors contributed more than half toward the purchase price of the writing-arm ladder-back rocking chair made in Fulton County for Primitive Baptist Elder Joseph Correll. The chair is believed to date to about 1862 when Correll was elected church moderator. Directors authorized paying the remaining balance and the chair is now part of your Society's permanent collection in the Fulton House.

The year-end letter of appeal resulted in monetary contributions by mid-December from 15 donors totaling nearly \$2,000. This will allow the Society to begin removing the hard portland mortar liberally smeared on interior joints, followed by cleaning of the old stone walls. Local volunteers are invited to help. The work will proceed as funds are received for repointing, heating, electrical service, etc. When finished, the room could be rented as a source of income to cover building maintenance costs without using annual dues from non-local members.

## New Life Members

Brian D. Clevenger of Coast-to-Coast Transporter in McConnellsburg joined the Fulton County Historical Society on December 5 as a new life member. Ron Rose, well-known family genealogist living in North Carolina, changed his annual membership to life on December 12. Life membership funds are invested in an endowment to keep the Historical Society on good footing for future years.

## Looking Ahead to 2008

In the 1960s, teacher Ray Hess mimeographed a history of the Dublin Mills area in northern Fulton County. He had a long-time interest in the families, their homes and farms, and events from the past. Dr. Robert Barnes of Hollidaysburg transferred the mimeographed pages and photos to computer disc and offered it to the Historical Society for possible publication. With permission from the Hess family, this will be printed as the Society's 2008 annual book. All members whose dues are paid through April 2008 will receive a copy in the next mailing.

A new membership list will also be enclosed with the spring mailing. Family researchers like to connect with others interested in their line who might share information. Send your research names and current e-mail address to [director@fultonhistory.org](mailto:director@fultonhistory.org) if you want it included. Since people change e-mail addresses fairly often, old addresses will not be printed unless you confirm they are still valid.

by Glenn Cordell, Administrator

January 2008  
**NEWS**  
 Society  
 Historical  
 County  
 Fulton

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*Fulton County Historical Society, Inc.*



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**Minutes**

The fall meeting of the Fulton County Historical Society was held at 7:00 p.m. in the Courtroom of the Fulton County Courthouse on Saturday, October 20, 2007. Directors present were Dick Miller, Dan Swain, Dave Scamardella, Monica Seville and Ken Keebaugh. Total attendance was 56.

Minutes of the previous meeting as printed in the last newsletter was approved on a Bonnie Keefer/Brian Tucker motion. Dan Swain gave a treasurer's report for the period May 1 through October 20 with highlights as follows: Earned income: \$1,561.22 sales of books, maps, prints and other publications; \$1,100 membership dues; \$250 life membership; \$132.42 interest, mailing, service fees and miscellaneous for a total of \$3,043.64 in earned income plus \$3,445 in special contributions and donations. Expenses for the period included: \$1,870.77 for postage, printing,

supplies and subscriptions; \$2,917.60 for rent and mowing; \$1,088 for insurance, advertising and miscellaneous; \$991 for accounting and legal fees; \$200 for website maintenance; \$515.60 for travel, conference and meeting expenses. The treasurer's report was accepted on a Wayne MacDonald/Stanley Kerlin motion.

A local chair has been offered to the Fulton County Historical Society for \$600. Basement restrooms in the Fulton House have been upgraded following three floods. Donations of \$2,500 covered new fixtures and ceiling tile including installation and painting. Another \$1,000 is needed to repair steps and build a privacy booth in the men's room.

President Miller introduced Bruce Young from State College, PA, as the featured speaker and entertainer. Speaker fees were covered by the PA Humanities Council and the PA Historical and Museum Commission.

Mr. Young earned a BA from Penn State University in 1974 and teaches at Lycoming. His program "PA Mountain Voices" singalong stems from the work of PA Folklorist Henry Shoemaker in the late 1800s. Mr. Shoemaker penned the wording for 4,000 PA Roadside Markers. He wrote two books on Folklore of PA published in 1931. Mr. Young researched music for the lyrics with a grant from the PA Museum and got information from the Library of Congress.

*Kenneth W. 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.

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

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