

# FULTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Fall 2011

## FALL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

To begin the annual Fulton Fall Folk Festival weekend, the Historical Society will hold our fall meeting on Thursday, October 13, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. in the Fulton County courtroom. Owners of historic long-rifles from Fulton County and neighboring counties are invited to bring their rifles for display and to describe the history and distinctive features of each long rifle. Most were custom made by hand in small workshops which have disappeared over the years. Invite friends to attend this free meeting.

## FOLK FESTIVAL EVENTS

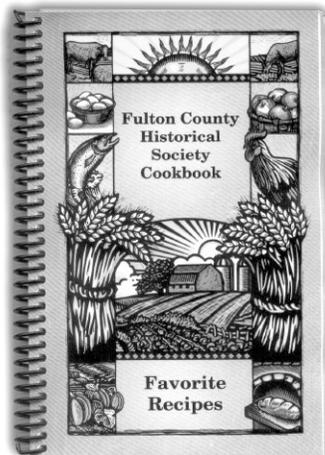
The Fulton House museum will be open free all weekend October 14-16 with special displays of memorabilia from the 125th anniversary of the Crystal Springs Camp Meeting, the 225th anniversary of the founding of McConnellsburg, and hundreds of recently donated postcards. Traditional beef-barley soup will be served from the log cabin kitchen along with other donated food items; please bring food donations to the cabin Friday morning or before. Pick up the official Folk Festival booklet for other activities around town.

## HOUSE TOUR

The 2011 tour on Saturday and Sunday afternoons, October 15-16, will showcase a home inside a renovated barn, a traditional PA covered bridge on private land, the original working equipment on the upstairs floors of the old Hunter Mill at Webster Mills, the inside of the newly renovated 1879 White Church at Union Cemetery, the McConnellsburg United Methodist sanctuary, and a brick farmhouse circa 1900. A \$10 ticket donation will benefit the Historical Society.

## FULTON COUNTY COOKBOOK

A new cookbook with 250 wonderful Fulton County recipes has been prepared by the Fulton County Historical Society as a fund-raiser to help cover renovation costs on the exterior of the 1851 Fulton County Jail building. You will be surprised at the variety of recipes, from snow ice cream to haymaker's switchel! The books just arrived and can be picked up locally for \$10, or ordered on our webpage or by mail with postage of \$2.50 for the first copy and 50 cents for each additional one. They will make great Christmas gifts and also benefit our jail project.



## FULTON COUNTY JAIL

The benefit auction held by the Historical Society on August 13 received many fine donations, resulting in total receipts of \$10,045 toward jail renovation costs. Additional cash donations of \$16,175 move our total past 40% of the \$62,000 cost. Cookbooks will put us well above 50% of our goal, but we still need numerous donations. If you feel the jail renovation will help preserve Fulton County history, please consider sending a tax-deductible contribution now to the Fulton County Historical Society, PO Box 115,

McConnellsburg, PA, 17233, for this purpose.

## NEW LIFE MEMBER

Michael F. Bard of Needmore received a life membership in the Fulton County Historical Society as a birthday gift from his father, Donald Bard. Mike is a Fulton County businessman who has an interest in local history. Happy Birthday, Michael!

## FULTON HOUSE TEA

The spring and autumn teas held in the Fulton House are really nice events. Summer Stiffler (717-485-4772) is busy preparing the next one for Saturday, October 1, at 11:30 a.m. with a menu of Zuppa Toscana (sausage/potato) soup, fall spinach apple salad and desserts to die for! Reservations are necessary (\$9 per adult, \$4.50 children) with proceeds benefiting the museum fund.

## 2012 CALENDARS

Local photographers submitted 50 of their best and most colorful Fulton County photos for a 2012 Fulton County calendar. Local businesses will have them available next month, or you may order one by mail from the Historical Society for \$5 pre-paid.

## DUES RENEWAL

We never want to lose friends, but if your mailing label shows 04-01-11 this will be your last newsletter. Please renew now! Your continuing support is appreciated.

by Glenn Cordell

## MINUTES FOR FCHS SUMMER MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The Fulton County Historical Society held its Summer Membership Meeting at the recently renovated Court House park in McConnellsburg, Pa., on July 9, 2011. Society president Dick Miller called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The meeting was being held at the Court House lawn to celebrate the 225th anniversary of the founding of McConnellsburg by Daniel McConnell in 1786.

The minutes for the April Banquet Meeting as printed in the Summer Newsletter were approved on a Robert Snyder, Sr. / Edie Coleman motion. Gene Leese gave the Treasurer's Report for the last two months since the report was published in the newsletter. The treasurer's report was accepted on a Wayne MacDonald/Bonnie Mellott Keefer motion. Pres. Miller directed attention to the sample brick application on the corner of the old jail adjacent to the court house. He stated work on the brick facing will begin as soon as the roof and window renovations are completed on the jail. The projected cost to the society

is expected to be \$70,000 with \$4,000 raised by donations so far. He introduced Joy Dasher, who stated the Fulton County Democratic Party is taking orders for ham sandwiches, and all monies raised will

(continued)



Redland Brick of Williamsport, MD, makes handmade brick in wood molds. Bricks for the Fulton County Jail might show thumb marks!

Fall 2011  
**NEWS**  
 Society  
 Historical  
 County  
 Fulton

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 Permit No. 6

*(Minutes continued)*

be donated to the FCHS for the jail restoration.

Miller announced the FCHS Cookbook will be ready for sale during the Fulton Fall Folk Festival in mid-October. He stated Fulton County Commissioner Bonnie Mellott Keefer is organizing a Silent Auction/Banquet to be held at the Hustontown Fire Hall on August 13. He solicited for donations for the auction, whose proceeds will be applied towards the society's obligation for the jail exterior facade. He asked attendees to vote for their favorite picture out of 50 on display for the 2012 calendar of Fulton County scenes. He announced that medallions commemorating the 225th anniversary of McConnellsburg are on sale for \$12 or \$20 in a boxed display case. Everyone who donates \$100 for the jail restoration will receive a medallion free of charge.

Pres. Miller introduced PA State Representative, the Honorable Dick Hess,

from Bedford. Rep. Hess presented a Citation from the PA House of Representatives honoring the founding of McConnellsburg and today's celebration. It will be displayed with honor in the Fulton House. Rep. Hess donated \$100 towards the jail restoration, and Miller presented him with a medallion.

Miller introduced the featured guest speaker, McConnellsburg native historian author John Nelson. Nelson has written numerous books detailing events of historical importance in and around McConnellsburg and Fulton County. Nelson was instrumental in the clean up of the Big Spring Cemetery south of McConnellsburg, where several victims of the Great Cove Massacre are buried. He also was able to get a state highway roadside marker for the site. Nelson gave a very interesting and informative talk detailing the entry of the first settlers around 1743 - 1748 into what was still Native American land at that time. He stated that when Daniel McConnell officially deeded land towards the

establishment of McConnellsburg in 1786, there had already been a settlement existing for at least 20 or more years. A block house near the spring behind Keystone Printing might have been erected earlier. Miller presented Nelson with a medallion.

The meeting was concluded with the singing of Happy Birthday to McConnellsburg. Miller thanked Loy Garber for supplying the sound system for the meeting. Refreshments of drinks, home baked cakes and ice cream were served at the courthouse steps.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Ken Keebaugh, secretary FCHS

**MEMBERSHIP DUES:**

\_\_\_ **\$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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