

# FULTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Fall 2008

## Kidnapped victim will share her personal story

As high school student Peggy Ann Bradnick got off the school bus near Shade Gap on Wednesday afternoon, May 11, 1966, she was kidnapped by a former mental patient known locally as Bicycle Pete. For a full week, they wandered through the mountains to various hiding places while over 1,000 searchers combed the area looking for Peggy Ann. An FBI agent lost his life before the kidnapper was killed near Fort Littleton. The story drew national attention on evening news including Walter Cronkite's report on "Mysterious Masked Mountain Man". A movie made for TV "Cry in the Wild: The Taking of Peggy Ann", a book "Deadly Pursuit", and a country folk song "Eight Days at Shady Gap" were later written about this event.

Peggy Ann Bradnick Jackson will recount the details of her week-long ordeal on Thursday evening, October 16, 2008, during the fall meeting of the Fulton County Historical Society to be held in the McConnellsburg High School auditorium at 7:00 p.m. An open-mike period will allow local search personnel and others to share their memories. Many prayers were offered that week for her safety. Jamie Greathead of the *Fulton County News* sold his Polaroid photo of Peggy Ann's release to United Press International, where it won second prize in the UPI news photo contest for May 1966. The \$200 cash award was a fine encouragement to this local teenager photographer.

This will be the opening program for the Fulton Fall Folk Festival weekend with the auditorium seating over 600 people. Invite your friends to attend. A freewill offering will cover rental, publicity and other costs.

## Other Festival events

The Fulton County Chamber of Commerce has a full schedule of weekend activities planned for October 17-19 with events detailed in the Festival booklet. Historical Society activities include our annual House Tour, a free museum display of tools and furniture by brothers Luther and Michael Black, a display case of loaned teapots, a \$10 workshop on genealogy with Barb Gothie (register with [iecoleman@pennswoods.net](mailto:iecoleman@pennswoods.net)), a food stand with homemade beef barley soup and scones, and a Friday noon concert by the Country Cousins. Winegardner School will be open for a free visit. Be sure to pick up a Festival booklet or view the Society's ad with schedule and hours on our webpage [www.fultonhistory.org](http://www.fultonhistory.org)

## Raffle for farmhouse stay

Raffle tickets are enclosed for a 2-night stay in a newly restored Fulton County tenant farmhouse near

McConnellsburg. This would be perfect for anyone living some distance from Fulton County who would like to spend a few days here doing family research or just spending some relaxing time as a family, during hunting season, a snowy weekend or a Christmas or spring getaway. Mail your tickets back to arrive by October 18; if you send

a donation for more than \$10 we will fill out additional tickets and enter them for you. Tickets will be available locally at various businesses. Maybe you will be the lucky winner!

## New Life members

On June 27, 2008, Travis L. Kendall, district attorney in McConnellsburg, changed his annual membership to Life. Travis is a direct descendant of colonial settler Margaret Kendall, who is remembered as the first white woman to die a natural death in our valley. Local heritage doesn't get much stronger than that!

On July 4, 2008, Shiloh Sipe of Arlington, VA, (e-mail: [sipesrose@hotmail.com](mailto:sipesrose@hotmail.com)) sent a donation of \$250 for a new life membership in the Fulton County Historical Society. She lists her family interests as Sipes, Deshong, Mellott - the three big ones for Fulton County. A local folk story is that these names are the ones frogs croak each night along Licking Creek!

## Upcoming books

Quilts, coverlets and counterpanes which have been donated to the Fulton County Historical Society museum have been photographed and will be featured in the next Society publication. If you've thought about donating a family quilt to the museum, now would be a good time to do it. Depending on space and printing costs, we might show a few privately owned quilts, especially if made locally before 1900. If you have a story and photo, send them soon.

Genealogists value the first-hand information on baptisms, marriages and deaths entered in local church books. The first church to be built in McConnellsburg was St. Paul Lutheran. We now have two large notebooks of photocopied church records beginning in 1804, including a transcript of some pages written in German script. If a volunteer would have 100 or so hours this winter to enter this data on computer for printing, we can mail the photocopies to your home where you can work at your own pace. See our previous books on Presbyterian and Primitive Baptist church records as samples.

## Civil War at Tonoloway

When wallpaper was removed from the walls of historic Tonoloway Primitive Baptist Church, a number of signatures were found written on the plaster. During the winter of 1861-62, the building served as a Union hospital for wounded soldiers. John Mentzer has identified and written a 140-page book with 90 illustrations based on his research of these signatures. Proceeds from the sale

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of the book will benefit the continued maintenance of the building. The book is available in McConnellsburg for \$25 but mail orders of \$28 payable to "Friends of Tonoloway" may be sent to Marlin Douglas, 215 Meadow Lane, Chambersburg, PA 17201. The church will be open from 1:00-5:00 p.m. on October 17-18 to view the signatures. John's e-mail is jomentzer@embarqmail.com or phone (717) 328-9279.

by Glenn Cordell, Volunteer

### Minutes

President Dick Newman called the summer membership meeting of the Fulton County Historical Society to order at 7:00 p.m. on July 24, 2008, in the Fulton Theater, McConnellsburg, PA.

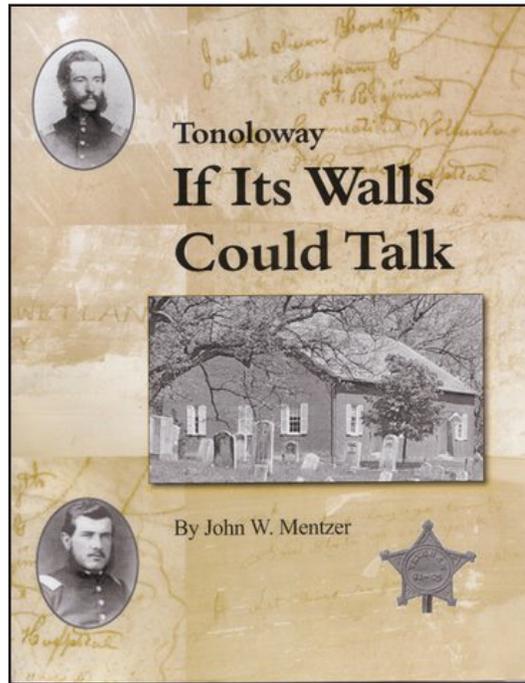
The minutes of the annual spring membership meeting were approved as published in the quarterly mailing. Treasurer Dan Swain presented a financial report from April 19, 2008, to July 24, 2008.

President Newman reported Ken Keebaugh built and installed shutters on the Winegardner one-room school in Taylor Township. Edie Coleman reported she has five volunteers to keep open the museum in the Fulton House. The 30th annual Society publication will be on quilts, with possibly color photos.

A volunteer is needed to translate and type the church record book from the Lutheran Church in Fulton County.

Glenn Cordell reported on the Directors' request for committee leadership at maximum reimbursement of \$599 per year. He announced he will retire as executive administrator. A motion by Lyle Duffey and Wayne MacDonald passed, authorizing the Board to try for one year using paid committee leaders.

Ron Mitchell presented a proposal that the Fulton County Historical Society webpage include



information on local churches past and present. John Mentzer reported a book will be available in August 2008 on the Tonoloway Primitive Baptist Church restoration, including inscriptions on walls and pews from when it was used as a Civil War hospital.

Monica Seville introduced the featured speaker, Steve French. His book was the result of 14 years of research on Civil War activities in southcentral PA including the skirmish in McConnellsburg.

The next meeting will be October 16, 2008, at McConnellsburg High School auditorium with guest speaker Peggy Ann Bradnick Jackson.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kenneth W. Keebaugh, Secretary

**Note:** The Historical Society library room may need to close temporarily during the expansion of the public library. Please contact Mary Black gwblack1@embarqmail.com or look for an announcement on the Society web page before making a special trip here.

## Fulton County Historical Society Treasurers Report April 19 - July 24, 2008

Income:	
Contributions	\$349.12
1873 Map sales	226.42
Books	1,041.34
Shipping & handling income	6.50
Discounts received	1.02
Membership dues	750.00
Life membership dues	250.00
Dividends & interest (loss)	(3,342.68)
Other investments (loss)	(775.23)
Misc. revenue	20.00
Special events - S'berry festival	245.00
Total Income (loss)	(1,228.51)

Expense:	
Supplies	\$155.66
Postage and box rental	38.96
Printing and copying	1,986.28
Website	200.00
Rent - library	600.00
Mowing	400.00
Building maintenance	594.64
Meals - Annual banquet	568.00
Conference expense	15.00
Advertising expense	200.00
Service charge	6.00
Electronic transaction fees	2.34
Total Expense	\$4,766.88

Net Income (loss) (\$5,995.39)

Dan Swain, Treasurer

### 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  
Non-Profit 501(c)(3) organization #23-7453773

E-mail: [director@fultonhistory.org](mailto:director@fultonhistory.org)  
Web page: [www.fultonhistory.org](http://www.fultonhistory.org)

### 2008-09 OFFICERS:

Dick Newman, President  
Monica Seville, Vice President  
Ken Keebaugh, Secretary  
Dan Swain, Treasurer

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Ruth C. Reeder 2011  
John Mentzer 2011  
Edith Coleman 2010  
Richard A. Miller 2010  
Linda Garber 2009  
Dr. Joe Erwin 2009

### COMMITTEES:

LIBRARY – Mary Black  
WINEGARDNER – Dick Newman  
NOMINATIONS – open  
GRANT WRITING – open

MUSEUM – Edie Coleman  
PROGRAM – Monica Seville  
HOUSE TOUR – Monica Schall  
FULTON HOUSE – open

PUBLICATIONS – Gene Leese  
MEMBERSHIP - open  
WEB PAGE – Dan Swain  
FUND RAISING - open