

FULTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Fall 2012

Major Website Upgrade Announced

Thanks to the generosity of Life Member Michael McMeins of Illinois, the Society has been able to upgrade our website to have members-only content. If you have Internet

access, you may login using the username and password listed below. While the amount of members-only content is still small, we plan to continually add to the content going forward. One major addition that is currently being worked on is scans of all obituaries in the Society's collection. Another benefit to the new setup is that members who choose to will be able to pay for their membership renewal online (more information about this feature will be available in the Spring newsletter at annual renewal time). Also, new members will be able to join the Society directly through the website. One final change of note: We have upgraded our Shopping Cart for our online store. It now has a better look and is easier to use.

Username: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Password: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

If you wish, you may change your username and password after you log in. Please store your username and password in a safe place.

Society Sponsored Events During the Fulton Fall Folk Festival

•FALL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

To begin the annual Fulton Fall Folk Festival weekend, the Historical Society will hold our fall meeting on Thursday, October 18, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. in the courtroom at the Fulton County Courthouse. Bob Windenmuth will present a Power Point Presentation entitled "The Lay of the Land" showing how the land was when settlers first arrived. Invite friends to attend this free meeting.

•FOLK FESTIVAL EVENTS

The Fulton House museum will be open free all weekend October 19-21 with special displays to include a large exhibit of Girl Scout artifacts and a large collection of paintings and artwork by Elmer Carpenter, a late resident of Crystal Springs.

The Girl Scouts are celebrating their 100th Anniversary of being founded in 1912 by Juliette Low. Long time Girl Scout leader, Marie Shimer, has shared a large and interesting display of memorabilia. Included are handbooks, project books, uniforms and caps from Brownies through adults, camping photos, activity books, badges, patches, pins, and posters of world-wide uniforms. The Falus Rock Council in Johnstown has also provided uniforms and books.

Elmer Carpenter was born in West Virginia in 1910 into a Seventh Day Baptist family. He died in 2005 at the age of 95. He led an interesting and varied life. In his early years he worked

in the steel mills, was a postal worker, and served in the U.S. Navy. He attended Salem College and West Virginia University. He was caregiver for the love of his life and mother of his seven children through twenty years of Alzheimers.

He began dairy farming at Crystal Springs in 1950. His vocational passion was dairy cattle, and he developed a top producing Red herd in the 60s by crossbreeding numerous dairy breeds. He was a charter member of the Red & White Dairy Cattle Association (RWDCA) and played a major role in the development of the Association.

His second love was painting, and many of his paintings are in the homes of Red breeders or former Red breeders. He was talented, and many of his paintings were donated and sold to benefit the RWDCA.

On display in the Fulton House are 26 oil paintings of snow scenes, churches, farm scenes with Red cattle, portraits, rural scenes and a variety of other genre.

•FULTON HOUSE SALES FOR SOCIETY

Traditional beef-barley soup will be served in the large meeting room of the Fulton House along with other donated food items Friday & Saturday, Oct. 19 & 20, 11:00 am to 2:00 p.m.; please bring food donations to the cabin Friday morning or before.

Also, the complete line of society produced booklets, available prints, jail fundraiser cookbooks and DVDs, and numerous gift items will be available.

•WINEGARDNER SCHOOLHOUSE OPEN

As in past years, the restored one-room school known as the Winegardner School will be open free to the public at 409 South Madden Road, Hustontown, both Saturday and Sunday, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Pick up the official Folk Festival booklet for other activities around town.

Fulton County Research

The Historical Society wants to document craftsmen of the 19th century who made furniture and other items for local households. Some names of workmen are the Bender Brothers and Stoners of McConnellsburg, Will Truax and Joel Palmer of Belfast Township, R. F. Stunkard of Taylor Township, Bancroft Woodcock of Wells Township, Elijah Barton of Brush Creek Township and others. Any family information, old photographs and especially pictures of signed pieces are wanted. The owners may remain anonymous, if desired. Contact the Society at P.O. Box 115, McConnellsburg, PA 17233, email to director@fultonhistory.org or phone (717) 485-3172. Information received by November 30 may be included in a Society publication.

New Life Member

On September 18, 2012, Patricia A. Horton of McConnellsburg, PA, joined the society with a life membership.

Patricia has deep roots in Fulton County, being the daughter of the late John and Lelia Culler. John Culler was well known in the county as an auctioneer and for serving as county commissioner.

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Tour members stretch their legs at the Witherspoon Bridge, which is open to traffic, but it is located in a rural area of Franklin County which receives little.

FCHS Sponsors Bus Tours of Varied Sites

The Fulton County Historical Society-sponsored tour of Franklin County on August 30th was immensely enjoyed by all. For several, the Witherspoon Covered Bridge and the stone arch bridge nearby over the Hayes Ford was the most enjoyable stop. A beautiful idyllic area, close to a main highway but not well known or visited, this stop elicited many favorable comments.

The Cordell flower gardens were beautiful at this time of year, and while many had visited them before, the return trip was certainly rewarding. By the time the group had visited the Capitol Theater, had lunch, and visited the Old Jail, the John Brown house in Chambersburg, and Letterkenny Chapel, all were ready to return home.

Several of those who went on the tour have already signed up for the tour of southern Fulton County and Hancock area which is the next planned Historical Society tour.

Scenic & Historic Bus Tour Planned

The Fulton County Historical Society will sponsor another historic/scenic bus tour this fall.

The tour, the second planned for the society, will be on Friday, October 19, 2012, the Friday of Fulton Fall Folk Festival weekend, and will include McConnellsburg and points south and west. (See complete details on insert provided.)

The tour is being offered at \$70.00 per person (Fulton County Historical Society Members \$65.00) Cost includes chartered bus, lunch, and all fees and gratuities.

For more information call 328-9279 or email mentzer30@embarqmail.com

Please send registration and payment form by October 11 to: John Mentzer, 6740 Irvine Drive, Mercersburg, PA 17236. Make checks payable to: Fulton County Historical Society

Report on the 1851 Fulton County Jail Fundraiser

The benefit auction held by the Historical Society on July 28, 2012, received many fine donations, resulting in total receipts of \$3,665 toward jail renovation costs.

Additional cash donations received since the start of the fiscal year on May 1, including donations received at the auction and since the auction, are \$2,570.

Other fundraising projects: Cookbooks--\$321.; DVDs--\$230.; Profit from the August 30 bus tour--\$380.

Total funds raised and dedicated to the 1851 Jail Project for this fiscal year to date: \$7,166.

When added to the income from last year's fundraisers, \$30,836., the society has approximately \$38,000. raised thus far. This represents a little over 60% of the \$62,000 cost for the project. Work on the jail porch is now underway. The exterior brick facade is ready to install but must wait until spring, since the bricks must "cure" when there is no danger of frost.

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.

Civil War Road Show at Fairgrounds

The Civil War Road Show Traveling Museum was at the Fulton County Fairgrounds during fair week from August 12-18, 2012. The Pennsylvania Museum Commission's educational display was enclosed in a pop-out trailer "18 wheeler" and had reproduction artifacts, pictures and interactive multimedia displays highlighting Pennsylvania's role in the Civil War. Local collectors also showcased their own prized authentic Civil War relics. Local re-enactors also appeared in period uniforms and clothing. There was a recording booth for visitors to videotape stories of their ancestors' involvement in the conflict. FCHS volunteers served as tour guides; our pertinent publications were on display for sale under our tent. Fulton County was fortunate to get this museum visit, as funding for future years is in doubt.

The Minutes For Fulton County Historical Society Summer Membership Meeting

The Summer Membership Meeting of the Fulton County Historical Society was held on July 28, 2012 at the American Legion in McConnellsburg, PA - prior to the Save the Jail Auction.

Vice-President Dick Miller called a brief business meeting to order after the meal was served.

The minutes for the Spring Meeting, as printed in the Summer Membership Mailer, with the addition of Naomi Waite in the list of President's Award recipients at the Annual Banquet, were approved on a Bob Snyder/Ruth Reeder motion.

Gene Leese gave the Treasurer's Report. The report was approved on a John Mentzer/Monica Seville motion.

Miller introduced the Auctioneer, Fulton County native Ronnie Zimmerman.

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.

PO Box 115, McConnellsburg, PA 17233

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

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Phone (717) 485-3172

Web page: www.fultonhistory.org

2012-13 OFFICERS:

Linda Garber, President
Richard A. Miller, Vice President
Ken Keebaugh, Secretary
Gene Leese, Treasurer 2012

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