

FULTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

January 2012

The Underground Railroad - A Journey To Hope

An educational and inspirational drama about the Underground Railroad for slaves traveling to freedom will be the main feature of the Historical Society's winter program on Saturday evening, January 14, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in the United Presbyterian sanctuary, 116 S. Second St. in McConnellsburg. Set in Pennsylvania prior to the Civil War, Roy and Janice Gearhart will bring to life stories of participants who gave hope to fugitive slaves. "Jacob" is a Methodist preacher, originally from Virginia, where he witnessed beatings, slave auctions and separation of families, before he, too, received threats and had to escape north. "Mary Matilda" is a helper on the Underground who works with her friend Martha to provide a safe station for the freedom seekers. They sew clothes and help conduct the fugitives on toward freedom. Mary Matilda and Jacob will share stories of escape and offer memorable music which slaves used to praise God and at the same time to express hope for a better life.

The program is free and open to the public, but an offering will be collected for the fee of the actors and their traveling costs. A winter snow could postpone the meeting until January 28, so contact Monica (daytime 717-485-4454) or Dick (evenings 717-485-3412) for verification if the roads seem bad.

This meeting will serve as an introduction for the 150th commemoration of the Civil War.



Museum volunteers Betty Daniels, Sonnie Stenger, Edie Coleman, Mary Ellen Ott, Ruth Reeder, Ida Strait, Louise Houck and Cherie Fix enjoyed a trip to the Omni Bedford Springs Resort, had lunch at the Jean Bonnet Tavern and visited the 1806 Old Log Church at Schellsburg in appreciation for their work.

Folk Festival Report

Dick Newman reported 55 people enjoyed the history and furnishings at Winegardner one-room school on our October festival weekend. Edie Coleman took in almost \$550 at the food stand and in gift sales

for the museum, before deducting costs. The house tour attracted 46 people with \$460 profit for the Society.

Volunteers at the Fulton House sold \$437 in Society books and prints. New

cookbook sales brought in \$1,050 with the profit to benefit the jail renovation. Two weeks before the Festival, Summer Stiffler decorated and held an outstanding fall tea in the Fulton House.

Life Member

Thomas H. Bard of Needmore is our newest life member.

This was a birthday gift from his parents, Donald and Phyllis Bard. Since 1976, the Historical Society has been honored with 251 life members!

Web Page

The Board of Directors authorized \$200 for better alphabetizing and easier searching of the cemetery file on our web page. Naomi Waite continues to add new obituaries and Bill Guyer is starting to scan these obits to be placed on the web page once we have a log-in feature.

A high school senior has offered to help with a listing of all Society library resources, which can also go on the web page. For local residents, Jamie Brambley is pleased to offer free access to all the census records and other genealogical helps on Heritage Quest to everyone, on the computers located in the Fulton County Library, including the Historical Society room.

Future Events

Amanda Daniels Neal offered her university research paper on the murder trial of John Forney of Knobsville in 1863-64 as the annual publication for all Society members with a 2012 or later expiration date. Amanda serves as the

executive assistant at the Army Heritage Center Foundation in Carlisle. This booklet will contain lots of local Civil War intrigue from Fulton County.

Your Board of Directors has started planning a major Civil War event for the second weekend of June 2014 to recognize the last Confederate encampment in the North in 1864, which took place on the edge of McConnellsburg following the burning of Chambersburg.

The Board met with an experienced reenactment leader who can set up Civil War period impressions in Living History villages
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Fulton County Historical Society Treasurer's Report Half Fiscal Year 2012

May 1, 2011 through Oct. 31, 2011

INCOME

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| General Donations | 140.05 |
| Jail Fundraiser (Donation/ Auction) | 26,802.16 |
| Cookbook sales (Jail Project Funds) | 3,662.57 |
| Sales (primarily books) | 2,743.50 |
| Dividends & interest (all acct.) | 2,572.29 |
| Advertising sales (2012 calendar) | 3,362.50 |
| Membership dues | 1,058.00 |
| Life Memberships | 500.00 |
| House Tour | 460.00 |
| Special events | 1,467.93 |
| Misc. revenue | 88.44 |
| Total Income | \$42,857.44 |

EXPENSE:

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Jail exterior (1st payment) | 20,665.00 |
| Supplies | 855.82 |
| Office equipment | 200.00 |
| Postage expenses | 255.38 |
| Printing and copying | 385.00 |
| Website | 50.00 |
| Items for resale | 5,427.07 |
| Rent / occupancy expenses | 783.72 |
| Big Spring Mowing | 335.00 |
| Program expense (meals) | 1,223.75 |
| Insurance | 714.00 |
| Advertising expense | 412.40 |
| Fix asset purchases | 2,910.00 |
| Misc. expense | 228.56 |
| Total Expense | \$34,445.70 |

NET INCOME

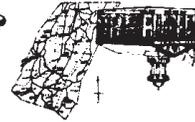
\$8,411.74

Vernon E. (Gene) Leese, Treasurer

NOTES: The above figures do not include a second payment (due Dec. 2011) for printing of the cookbooks -- \$3,215.97. The charge for printing the 2012 Calendars -- \$3,990.00. Also, members should note that the society will make two more payments to Redland Brick in the spring of 2012 for the Jail Project. The above is just 33% of the total cost due them.

January 2012
NEWS
Society
Historical
County
Fulton

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
MCCONNELLSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17233
BOX 115
*Fulton County
Historical Society, Inc.*



Non Profit Org.
Standard Mail
U.S. Postage
PAID
McConnellsburg, PA
Permit No. 6

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and bring several hundred costumed soldiers, some horses, a few cannon with ammunition, etc. Their web site is www.alhes.com

With a budget of \$3-5,000, the Board needs a committee of local persons willing to help with planning details. Contact the Society now to offer to serve on this committee.

The upcoming spring meeting is the time to honor a historian of the year and to elect new officers. Our bylaws prevent Dick Miller from accepting an additional term as president so this is an important leadership opening. Members are encouraged to submit nominations or to volunteer for consideration. Glenn Cordell will also terminate in April as administrative assistant to the Board. These are unpaid positions although a small annual stipend is available for leadership responsibilities.

Visit the Society's web page to purchase cookbooks, the 225th anniversary medallion, the postcard book and numerous sale items. Also you are encouraged to donate to the jail fund, which will use your tax-deductible gift

as a benefit in our local community.

We wish each of you a happy and healthy year in 2012.

by *Glenn Cordell*

Minutes For FCHS Fall Meeting

The Fall General Membership Meeting of the Fulton County Historical Society was held on October 13, 2011, in the Court Room of the Fulton County Courthouse in McConnellsburg, PA. Society President Dick Miller called a brief business meeting to order at 7:00 PM. There were 85 people in attendance.

The minutes of the Summer meeting, as printed in the FCHS Newsletter, were approved on a Edie Coleman / Wayne MacDonald motion. Gene Leese gave a Treasurer's Report showing a balance of \$4,497 to the good.

Donations of \$26,610 have been received to date and the first installment of \$20,665 has been paid to Redland Brick for the Fulton County Jail exterior renovation. The

Treasurer's Report was accepted on a Donald Bard / Ron Mitchell motion. Miller announced Thomas Bard of Needmore, PA, as a new life member. Miller displayed wooden nickels from 1961, Bicentennial tokens from 1976, medallions from 2011, and cookbooks for sale as fund raisers for the jail project.

Approximately 25 long rifles made by local gunsmiths were on display. The current gun owners had an open forum discussion for the main focus of the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Ken Keebaugh, Secretary, FCHS

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 Phone (717) 485-3172
Non-Profit 501(c)(3) organization #23-7453773 Web page: www.fultonhistory.org

2011-12 OFFICERS:

Richard A. Miller, President
Monica Seville, Vice President
Ken Keebaugh, Secretary
Gene Leese, Treasurer 2012

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Ruth G. Reeder 2014
John Mentzer 2014
Edith Coleman 2013
Dick Newman 2013
Linda Garber 2012
Summer Stiffler 2012