

# FULTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Winter 2014

## Winter Meeting Topic set

Fulton County Historical Society will hold its Winter General Membership Meeting on Friday, January 31, 2014, at 7:00 p.m., at the McConnellsburg United Presbyterian Church, 116 South Second Street, McConnellsburg, PA. The program for the evening will be a presentation by Steve M. French, author of *Imboden's Brigade During the Gettysburg Campaign*. This meeting is open to the public.

Mr. French is a retired history teacher who spent 14 years researching Imboden's role during this campaign, going over newspaper accounts, diaries, memoirs and traveling the roads that Imboden's men traversed as they went from Virginia into Pennsylvania. He has also authored the book *Rebel Chronicles: Raiders, Scouts and Train Robbers of the Upper Potomac*, the monograph, "The Jones-Imboden Raid on the B&O Railroad at Rowlesburg, Virginia," and edited *Four Years Along the Tiltance, the Civil War Diary of Elisha Manor*.

John Daniel Imboden, a native of Staunton, Virginia, taught school at the Virginia Institute for the Education of the Deaf, Dumb and Blind as well as practicing law in his home town before the war. Mr. French's book describes the initial orders from General Lee for Imboden to destroy bridges and rail tracks along the B&O Railroad and then to advance into Maryland and Pennsylvania to secure supplies. While Imboden's Brigade was rarely involved in the heart of Lee's movement into Pennsylvania, it played an important role in its assigned task of disrupting the Federal forces. One of the chapters is devoted to the events that transpired in McConnellsburg, PA, during June 28 and 29, 1863. Imboden's most significant contribution to the campaign, however, was the order by General Lee to guard the train of wounded Confederate soldiers in the retreat from Gettysburg, PA. Prevented from crossing the Potomac River due to high waters, Imboden organized a defense using wagoners and walking wounded, throwing back an attack by Union cavalry and artillery.

To find experts and information about Imboden's efforts, French contacted historical societies along Imboden's route from what is now Moorefield, W.Va., to McConnellsburg, Pa. Among those he called were family members of World War II Gen. George S. Patton, as Patton's stepgrandfather, Col. George Hugh Smith, served under Imboden. He also obtained information from local historians Samuel Buterbaugh, Glenn Cordell and John Nelson.

We will welcome Steve French to Fulton County.

Fulton County Heritage Days, June 14-15, 2014, will commemorate Imboden's Brigade's incursion into Fulton County and the Last Confederate Bivouac above the Mason-Dixon Line, along with various living history and reenactment events.

## Society to sponsor Fulton County Heritage Days event

The Fulton County Historical Society, along with the Fulton County Chamber of Commerce and Tourism, are teaming up to sponsor a local reenactment event to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Last Confederate Bivouac North

of the Mason-Dixon Line. They have formed Fulton County Heritage Days to organize and run the event.

In July 1864, after the burning of Chambersburg, about 2,600 Confederate troops camped for the night near McConnellsburg. This event was recognized as the final encampment in the North by Confederates, with the erection of a marker south of town in 1930.

A two-day reenactment open to the public by admission is being planned for Saturday and Sunday, June 14 & 15, 2014. The event will be on a farm south of town along US 522, which is most-likely along the route the soldiers took the morning after the encampment. Events planned for the two days include living history displays, lectures, cannon fire, a battle each day, a dance on Saturday evening, and much more. Also, a rededication of the Civil War Dead monument will take place in McConnellsburg on Saturday. The main service will be at the Courthouse at 5 p.m.

These events will be held in conjunction with the Chamber-sponsored Strawberry Festival, which will be Friday and Saturday at the Courthouse Square in town.

The Fulton County Heritage Days (FCHD) committee can be reached through the Chamber Office at (717) 485-4064 for more information. FCHD is planning at least two pre-event flyers for which they are seeking advertising. Payment would be to Fulton County Heritage Days. Contact the Chamber for specifics.

Any donations for FCHD should be routed through Fulton County Historical Society, which would make the donation tax deductible, since FCHS is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Be sure to state on your check that the funds are to be used for Fulton County Heritage Days, and the society will forward the donation to FCHD and return a receipt to you for your tax records (receipts required for \$250 or more).

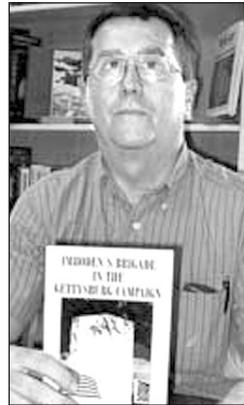
## Fulton County Obituaries Scanned and on Web Page

One of the largest projects of the Fulton County Historical Society Library has been the recording of all tombstones in every cemetery throughout Fulton County. This was completed several years ago, and the listing is available for all researchers on the Society's web page. They total almost 24,000 names.

The names were filed alphabetically on old computer file cards at the Society's library. Starting in the late 1970s, as obituaries were published in our local newspaper, they were cut and pasted on the cards. Society librarian Naomi Waite has searched for earlier obits in scrapbooks saved by the late Floyd Sipes, in copies from historian Jim Boor, from Hazel Harr's collection, from Bill Turner, and from local family descendants.

About a year ago, the Society purchased a scanner to convert photocopies into searchable PDF files. With significant volunteer help from local LDS missionaries, most of these obituaries are now on the Society's web page for members to access from your home. Names which have obituaries are underlined in the list. To read the obit, you first need to login with a member password sent to you last year by our webmaster. Your computer should then allow you to enlarge

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and print any obit.

We anticipate having all obituaries scanned by late spring. If you notice a mismatch or have others to add, send an email to [director@fultonhistory.org](mailto:director@fultonhistory.org) and Debbie Reed will direct it to the appropriate person.

## Bus Tour of Interesting Locations in Winchester, Virginia

The Fulton County Historical Society's spring bus tour has been set for Friday, April 25, 2014, and will travel south to Winchester, Virginia.

The itinerary will include: The Visitor's Center in Winchester with a Step-on Guide; Museum of the Shenandoah Valley and Gardens; Lunch at Brewbaker's Restaurant; Patsy Cline House; and Abram's Delight. (See Bus Tour insert for more details.)

Join this tour for a cost of \$75.00 per person (Fulton County Historical Society Members \$70.00). Cost includes chartered bus, lunch, taxes and all fees and gratuities.

Registration and payment must be received by April 18. Last fall's tour filled up early. Please send registration and payment to:

Linda Mellon  
923 Dolly Terrace  
LaVale, MD. 21502

For more information, call (301) 707-7053 or email [ljmellon@gmail.com](mailto:ljmellon@gmail.com)

Make checks payable to: Fulton County Historical Society

## FCHS Board of Directors announces dues increase for April 2014

The society's individual membership rate is to increase in April 2014 to \$20 per year, up from the present \$15 rate. Members should note the expiration date on the address panel of this mailing's envelope, and remit payment for any number of future years they desire now at the current rate of \$15. Send payment to: FCHS, PO Box 115, McConnellsburg, PA 17233, and note in the memo line that the check is for dues. Dues can also be paid online at the society's website using Pay-Pal. Go to [www.fultonhistory.org](http://www.fultonhistory.org)

## Tea to benefit Fulton House museum

The much anticipated Spring Tea will be held at the Fulton House on Saturday, April 12, at 11:30 a.m. for a donation of \$9 for adults and \$4.50 for children under 12, to benefit the Fulton House museum. Reservations can be made for the tea by calling Edie at (814) 735-3039 or Ruth at (717) 485- 4496.

## Museum planning 2014 exhibit

The Fulton County Historical Society Museum in the Fulton House is currently planning the 2014 summer displays. Curator Edie Coleman says that the display will be "anything and everything Civil War."

Local artist Brian Tucker is loaning some of his personal artwork for a display. Brian has worked with the Historical

Society to produce their series of prints which have been a very successful fundraiser over the years. The originals for these prints will also be part of the Tucker display.

So, if you have items to loan for the period of this exhibition, June 2014 through October 2014, please call Edie Coleman at (814) 735-3039 for more information. Items for the displays will have to be at the Fulton House by May 16th. Items will be photographed and labeled before the display opens in June.

## New Life Member Welcomed

On Dec 20, 2013, **Colleen (Bard) Duggan** of Washington, NH, was given the gift of a life membership (#263) by her parents, Diana (Trueax) Bard and Forrest Bard, and her sister, Alana Archangelo. Colleen frequents our library and the Fulton County Courthouse to research her family. Family names include Bard and Trueax.

**CORRECTION: #259, Carolyn J. Moseby** of Wells Tannery, Pa. was added to the Life Membership rolls of the society on April 12, 2013, but her name was misspelled.

The Life Membership Endowment of the society, now with 263 members, totals \$38,150.

## Friends of Tonoloway announces Civil War Vol. III and IV

John Mentzer, author and compiler of the Friends of Tonoloway series, *Fulton County Veterans of the Civil War*, asks for information that may be included in Volumes III and IV.

Since this project started many people have come forth with photographs, family histories and records of ancestors from the county who were in the Civil War. Volume I and Volume II with names Abbott thru Lake have already been published, and Volume III with names from Laley into the R's is planned for summer of 2014. From the R's through Zimmerman and some special indexes will follow as Volume IV. Information about veterans in the earlier volumes will also be used in an errata chapter of information received too late for the pertinent volumes. If you are willing to share, please contact John Mentzer at (717) 328-9279 or [mentzer30@embarqmail.com](mailto:mentzer30@embarqmail.com).

Volume I and Volume II are each available for \$26.00 plus \$4.00 S&H.

Other Friends of Tonoloway publications available are: *Tonoloway, If Its Walls Could Talk*- 140 pages and 90 photos. Church history, its role in the Revolutionary and Civil War periods and stories of the Union soldiers and civilians whose signatures are on the church walls. \$25.00 plus \$3.50 S&H.

*Mellotts of Fulton County*- 48 pages, 41 photos. Papers presented at the Tonoloway Baptist Church-1994. \$5.00 plus \$1.00 S&H.

*Truax Impact on Fulton County*- 36 pages, 39 photos. Papers presented at the Tonoloway Baptist Church-1998. \$5.00 plus \$1.00 S&H.

Contact Marlin Douglas [dougmar2@comcast.net](mailto:dougmar2@comcast.net) or (717) 263-9860.

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**Non-Profit 501(c)(3) organization #23-7453773 Web page: [www.fultonhistory.org](http://www.fultonhistory.org)**

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