

Grove City Area Historical Society
111 College Avenue
P.O. Box 764
Grove City, PA 16127



Museum and Gift Shoppe Hours
Tuesday-Saturday 11:00am - 3:00pm
724-458-1798

Website:
www.grovecityhistoricalsociety.org
Email: gcahs@zoominternet.net

NON-PROFIT
BULK RATE
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
GROVE CITY, PA.
PERMIT NO. 764



The Grove City Area Historical Society Newsletter

www.grovecityhistoricalsociety.org 724-458-1798 gcahs@zoominternet.net

Volume 5, Issue 3 December 2005

Board of Directors

- Tom Armour, President*
Member-at-large
- Marty St. John, 1st VP*
Member-at-large
- Frank Hoffman, 2nd VP*
Member-at-large
- Virginia Filer, Treas.*
Member-at-large
- Georgia McIntire, Sec.*
Pine Township
- Barbara Howard*
Springfield Township
- Anita DeMarco*
Member-at-large
- Ruth Hartley*
Grove City Borough
- Nannie Jean Hay*
Member-at-large
- Georgie Hodge*
Grove City Borough
- John Hummel*
Grove City Borough
- Dean Kildoo*
Liberty Township
- Harry Lutton*
Member-at-large
- Mary Kay Mattocks*
Member-at-large
- Jane Neyman*
Wolf Creek Township
- Lillian Reeher*
Member-at-large
- Mary Sample*
Grove City Borough
- Debbie St. John*
Newsletter Editor

NEW BOOK!
THE GROVE CITY AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY IS PROUD TO PRESENT
PENNSYLVANIA
GROVE CITY
THE WAY WE WERE

- A visual heritage in hardback you will be proud to own.
- Fond memories of our community in the "Good Old Days"
- In looking back, ordinary life becomes extraordinary.
- More about what you read in
Wolf Creek Legacy
by Lillian Reynolds Reeher
"Hemlock Trails"
by Ed Carlson
- Facts you didn't know...
 - Location of 32 underground coal mines
 - Location of one room schools
 - Ordinances dates
 Compiled by Don Beightol
- This 8" x 10 1/2" hardback book contains more than 138 pages and 260 pictures from our past printed in sepia-tone. Most have never been published or have been rarely seen.

The Publications Committee of the Grove City Area Historical Society is extremely proud to announce the arrival of its first book, Grove City, The Way We Were. The pride is justifiable for many reasons. First of all, the material within the pages is excitingly fresh. So many fascinating photographs have been contributed

Secondly, the presentation is quite elegant: The hardback volume with attractive dust cover includes 144 pages of duo-tone photos on heavy, coated stock. Readers will be entranced by images and text, maps and inspirational quotes that will elevate local happenings to global significance. Page designer Curt Hazlett of Grove City's own Earth Sun Moon Trading Company has added his own special touch to bring the volume to a unique level of artistry.

Adding to the volume's importance are two maps designed by committee member Donald Beightol. One shows the location of area mines; the other of one-room schools. Ed and Jean Carlson have contributed much information about the area's agricultural beginnings. Willie Caldwell has researched local volunteers. John Hummel has shared his extensive knowledge of the area as well as sharing photo scanning responsibilities with Tom Armour. Lillian Reynolds Reeher has written and edited the text. Although each committee member has exhibited unique areas of interest, synergy of the members has been outstanding, says Reeher, committee chair. Their efforts have been turned over to a skilled printer, Evangel Press, Nappanee, Indiana.

A Grove City timeline and thorough index complete the appeal of this significant volume, one that every Grove City citizen, past and present, will feel proud to add to his or her library. The Committee is exceedingly proud of the culmination of 18 months of intensive labor and research. We think you will be proud too, as soon as you see it.

It's all within the pages of The Way We Were: Karl Bubeck welcoming you, Valentine and Margaret Cunningham founding a community, Isaly's skyscraper ice cream comes, the Youth Center, all those youth who volunteered for wars, Cooper Bessemer, the Five and Ten, the Plaidettes, well... perhaps your very own youth. We're just breathless thinking about it and know you will be too when you visit the GCAHS and pick up your copy beginning on December 6, 2005.

Make Checks Payable To: Grove City Area Historical Society

To join or renew your membership, please send your payment along with your name, address, phone number and email address to the Grove City Area Historical Society.

Founding and Life Memberships are payable over 3 years.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES:

Founding	\$1,000.00
Life	\$500.00
Corporate	\$250.00
Family	\$40.00
Individual	\$20.00
Student / Senior	\$10.00

DONATIONS: \$ _____

PLEASE CIRCLE: new member renewal change of address

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

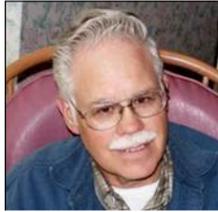
EMAIL _____

GCAHS is a tax exempt charitable 501(c)3 organization. All membership contributions are tax deductible to the extent of the law. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

YOUR MEMBERSHIP ENSURES OUR SUCCESS

President's Corner

Another year of Society activity is rapidly coming to a close. Again I want to thank the many volunteers and members who gave of their time this past year. The success of all our activities depends on your dedication. Every day we were open, one or two of you have open, manned, and closed the store. Our activities have included a genealogical conference, expansion of our genealogical library, several interesting window displays, accessioning over 140 historical gifts (most containing multiple items), clean up days, a second place float in the Street Fair parade. In addition, our publication, "The Way We Were" is at the binders and will be in your hands the first week of December! **Help us promote this unique presentation of our heritage. Try to sell one or two copies to a friend.**



During the winter months, when activities at the Society decrease, we need to focus on long range planning. Several challenges face us. Before significant expansion of facilities can take place, a more stable temperature control system needs to be in place. We need to develop a plan for the use of the upstairs. Our accessions need to be displayed effectively. The list goes on and on! If you have interest in this planning call me. Together, we can come up with a plan that will enable us to better preserve our local heritage.

Dr Thomas Armour
President

Open House

The Grove City Downtown Open House was held on November 20, 2005 and the Historical Society was open from noon to 4pm. There were more than 125 visitors that day including Christmas carolers from the Methodist Church. Volunteers Jean Brown, Annabelle Hall, Ruth Hartley, Phyllis Myers and Darlene Shaner staffed the event. Refreshments were served and the Society made a contribution to the Chamber of Commerce for one of the prizes.



We were very proud to have a window honoring our military men and women this Veterans Day and also to honor three soldiers from Mercer County who gave the ultimate sacrifice. They were: Sgt. Shawn Graham, Grove City; Spec. Douglas E. Kashmer, Sharon; and Sgt. Michael M. Marzand, Greenville. In the window were uniforms and memorabilia from WWI, WWII, Korea and Vietnam. Joel Bigley is a collector of military memorabilia and we thank him very much for sharing his collection with the community.



My name is Kelly Anderson and I started my first semester at Grove City College this fall. As a freshman majoring in History, I wanted to get a head start on my career - I hope to go into museum studies after graduating, and it is often a competitive field. With the help of some of my professors, I was pointed in the direction of the Grove City Area Historical Society, and I am very pleased to be here. I hope to help out as long as I'm able during my four years at GCC. Over the summer, I would also like to work at Drake's Well Museum in my hometown of Titusville and gain even more experience.



During the Day of Caring, five college students arrived to help move many of our accessions from the first floor to the upstairs. They also helped us sort out some of the items we received. We thank them for their efforts!

Eighth Grade History Class

Recently 200 eighth graders from the Grove City Area Middle School completed a unit on the history of Grove City. As a part of the unit, Mary Sample, a director of the GCAHS, spent two days with the students. The first day she talked about the history of the town using as examples the historical significance of many of the houses. She also traced the development of industry in the community. Interesting stories were shared about mining and dairy business as well as the development of the Bessemer Gas Engine Company.



The second day, the students were given a tour of the historical society headquarters. The importance of the historical society was discussed. The students were given a background on the founding of the society, told stories of the "spirits" in the building and given the opportunity to look at the many displays. Of particular interest was the large hammered aluminum display in the front window.

The students completed their unit by visiting the Presbyterian Cemetery on Greenwood Drive where most of the founding fathers are buried. They were instructed to find the name of a person who was buried there and then write a story incorporating that person into it.

I Love A Parade!



On August 3rd our Society joined in the Grove City Community Day Parade with a float and we were second place winners. Members and friends were dressed

in period clothing. Those helping to decorate the float were Evelyn Grabigel, Darlene Shaner and Marty St. John. Dressed in period clothing were Tom Armour, Virginia Filer, Joan Kilgore, Darlene Shaner, Georgia McIntire, Stephanie Reppart, Morgan Wasser, Amanda Meier, Ed and Jean Carlson and grandson Cody Ross, Steven and Sharee Warner, Marsha Cummings and her 3 daughters Logan, Lindsey and Jessalyn. We were grateful to David Beatty for donating the use of his flatbed and driving his old John Deere tractor.

From the Editor:

Just a reminder to all that the Society Building will be closed for the winter starting on December 17, so get in and get your last minute Christmas gifts at the Museum Shoppe now.

We will try to have the next newsletter out in March, so if you have anything that you think would make a nice addition to these pages, please email it to the society or drop it off at the headquarters. Thanks! Happy Holidays to All!

New Accessions



There is a new feature at the Historical Society. A display case in the front room has been designated for recent accessions. Items in the case will change monthly. Currently on display is an oil can and signal lantern from the old railroad station in Grove City. Thanks to Ray Stewart of Grove City for donating these items.

From the Board: At the November meeting of the Board, the purchase and installation of a forced air furnace and air conditioner for the Society building was approved. This new system will heat and cool the main floor. Work will begin in February and March. By June, the air conditioning unit will be added. Breese Heating and Cooling will be doing the project. We can all look forward to a warmer and cooler environment in the coming year. In another action, the board approved the repair of the rotten beam in the basement. This should be completed by January. John Moon will be doing this work for us.