

Grove City Area Historical Society
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Museum and Gift Shoppe Hours
Tuesday-Saturday 11:00am - 3:00pm
724-458-1798

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



The Grove City Area Historical Society Newsletter

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

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Newsletter Editor

“THE WAY WE WERE” IS NOT THE WAY WE ARE AND IS NOT THE WAY WE WILL BE The State of the Historical Society

The Grove City Area Historical Society had its beginnings in the Bicentennial year of 1998. As people were thinking about the 200th anniversary of Grove City, they began to look around their attics and basements for Grove City memorabilia. When items were found, there was no place to donate them. Several people working with the Bicentennial Committee began thinking about the possibility of an historical society. In the fall of 1998 a public meeting was called to see if there was any community interest in forming a society to preserve the history of the Grove City Area. About 25 people came to that first meeting. From that group the Society got its first board of directors, first president, secretary and treasurer. Attorney Miff McBride drew up the Articles of Incorporation, and Richard McGill helped to draw up the papers for the nonprofit status. Suddenly we were a legal entity, and a nonprofit organization. Now, all we needed was “a home!” That “home” fell into our laps when The Travelers Hotel went up for sale and Grove City Borough gave us the funds to purchase the building. All this happened within the first year of the Grove City Area Historical Society

Were we prepared to cope with all that had happened? NO! However, a few people pitched in, worked, and kept the organization going and growing. Today we have over 350 members. Unfortunately, the same few people are still working to keep the organization functioning. The time has come to address the fact that we can no longer function with so few people. We must have more members step forward and become active in the organization. This is a community organization, not an organization of just a few people.

We have an excellent group of volunteers who open the society each day and run the Museum Shoppe. But, we still need more volunteers for this ongoing activity.

We need someone to volunteer to be our treasurer. All the records are computerized, and we have a CPA who is willing to help get someone started. We need volunteers to help with the accession committee and to help organize displays. Many interesting things have been donated to the society, but we need help to organize and put these items out for people to see and enjoy. Other areas that need help are the building committee, membership, events and activities, publicity, genealogy and library.

As you can see our needs are many. Please do not wait to be asked to do something. Please volunteer where you feel you could make the greatest contribution. If each member does a little bit, a lot will be accomplished.

The way we are is not the way we can continue to be. Each of us must do our fair share to help preserve the history of the Grove City Area. You may think a small commitment of time is not important, but it is. Each small commitment on the part of every member is the nucleus of any volunteer organization. To indicate your area of interest, please fill out the enclosed form and return.

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 501c3 organization. All membership contributions are tax deductible to the extent of the law. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

YOUR MEMBERSHIP ENSURES OUR SUCCESS

Presidents Corner
Dr. Tom Armour



A new year at GCAHS is underway. Again, I am serving as your president along with the other re-elected officers. I want to thank each of them for their help this past year. Skip Sample has joined the executive committee and will help us move forward with our mission. In addition we welcome our newly elected board members, Becky May and Don Beightol both representing Grove City, and Judy Hassler from Springfield Township. Retiring board members are, John Hummel (1999-2006), Barb Howard (1999-2006), and Ruth Hartly (2003-2006). Thank you for your help in establishing this organization.

At the close of last year, the Publication Committee brought us the attractive publication, "The Way We Were". This pictorial history has been well received by the membership and the community and has set the standard for future works. Special thanks to Nathan DePew, owner of Earth Sun Moon, and his page designer, Curt Hazlet, for their part in making this book a success. In addition we appreciate the high quality of work by Evangel Press and their sales representative, Darren Shaw.

As your president I will seek to guide the Society as we move forward to preserve the history heritage and artifacts of the Grove City Area. Being involved with the Accessions Committee, at times I view the Society as a big container which holds some of the heritage of the Grove City Area. The Society is more than a "box", but the "box" concept helps us focus on our mission. Within the "box" we seek to collect, preserve, and store glimpses of our past. After being cataloged the contents can be poured out so that our community, young and old, can appreciate and understand the way we were and have a feeling of belonging.

This "box" is a desirable part of our community. Since our beginning in 1999 many have worked hard to fill the many facets of this container. Now we need more of you to come forward to help. We need to have a dynamic group that continues to be excited about our mission. Our community has an interesting past and this is what we want to present in new displays in our Museum. We have received many unique items which we hope to display in a way that captures these great moments of our past. Our library and genealogy files are growing to the point that we need to make room for these expanding resources.

Finally, I want to tell you about the improved environment at the Society. A new furnace has been installed and the temperature is controlled for the remainder of the winter months. When summer comes air conditioning will be installed. When we open again on April 4, come experience the warmth and coolness as we work together to preserve our historical heritage.



We Have Heat!

As of February 28, Breese Heating and Cooling finished installing our new forced air furnace. Now the Society's first floor is warmer than the outside! The basement may be dark but the furnace does not care because it is warm down there too. Come summer the inside will be cooler than the outside. The whole system will please everyone. Come, spend a day.

This Ansonia China case shelf clock was donated by Dorothy P. McNeish of Grove City. According to Pine Knoll Clock Repair, this clock was manufactured in 1898 by the Ansonia Clock company in Derby, Connecticut. Ansonia was best known for its guilt and fancy clocks. The china case on this "La Vogue" model clock was manufactured by the Royal Bonn Company in Germany. A highly collectible China case clock with a perfect case is greatly sought after.



NEW BEAM



The floor in the back room kitchen area has a new support beam. The beam came as a gift from Montgomery Builders. Thank you JR for your "support". John Moon and his crew set it in place and added additional floor joist. Now this area of the building is secure.

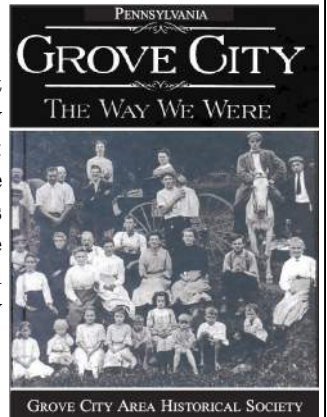
NEW DISPLAYS AT SOCIETY

We are excited to announce that on our opening April 4th, we will have out in our cases for your enjoyment, items that have never been displayed before. On the walls will be hung pictures that have not, up to now been shown. These items have been given to the Society by townspeople to be preserved and for the pleasure of the public. Come in and reminisce about the past years in Grove City. We look forward to seeing you!

The Way We Were

Don't forget to buy your copy of the Society's first publication, "The Way We Were". They are currently on sale at the following local stores and places: Burdicks, Nelson's Flowers, Costello's, The Coffee Grove, The Chamber, Hick's, The Library, Kocher's Flowers, Slovak Crafts, and Pine Knoll Clocks. The Society is open on Saturday from 1 - 3 PM until April 4 when it will be open 11 AM to 3 PM, Tuesday - Saturday.

Cost: \$29.99 plus \$1.80 tax . Over 600 sold to date!



UPDATES

Plans are well underway to invite the general public to our Seventh Annual Banquet to be held at the East Main Presbyterian Church on Saturday, April 29, 2006. The Keynote speaker for this popular event will be Mr. Terry Farren.

Georgie Hodge has decorated the display in the window and has donated funds to allow the Historical Society to participate in the Trade Show on March 4, 2006.

Anita DeMarco has added Frank Alessio's memory pages to the Historical Memory Album. The general public is invited to view the Album anytime after our opening date of Tuesday, April 4, 2006. The hours will be from 11:00 to 3:00 from Tuesday through Saturday.

The Museum Shoppe, under the leadership of Jane Neyman, has announced that Jean Brown will be treasurer of the Museum Shoppe. Stock has been reordered and this Committee is ready to sell their wares to the general public.

Marty St. John encourages all members of the community to become a member of the Historical Society. We cannot succeed without your support. Volunteers are needed in a variety of areas. Let us know your expertise and your willingness to volunteer your service to this valuable organization

THE 2006 ABSTRACT TEAM

The Abstract Team consists of volunteers who, on a daily basis, cut and paste photos and news releases of local births, deaths, first birthdays, engagements, weddings, athletic events, political and cultural activities, and local interest stories.

This volunteer team, under the leadership of Anita DeMarco, works at home and at the Historical Society building. The team members are:

- Lillian Millsop Birth Abstracts
- Bonnie Feightner Death Abstracts
- Theo Karfas First Birthdays
- Annabelle Hall Engagements and Weddings
- Becky Moore Athletic Events
- Nancy Price Transcribes to the computer

Our first meeting will be held at the Historical Society on Tuesday, March 14, 2006 at 1:00 p.m.

We need additional volunteer support to cover the numerous athletic events, the cultural and political events, and stories of local interest. Are you a volunteer who is able to work from your home and support this endeavor? Please contact Anita DeMarco at 724 458 9499 or email at ajde-marco@zoominternet.net.

From the Editor:

It's hard to believe that spring, and the new issue of the newsletter, is already upon us! Coming up too, is my baby girl's first birthday. It's hard to believe how fast a year can go by. This makes the preservation of history all the more important. So please, volunteer to help out and keep those donations coming in!

The next newsletter will come out at the end of June, so if you have anything you would like to contribute, please send it to me at sahvahn@zoominternet.net. I look forward to hearing from you!

New Web Design

Check out our new web site:
www.grovecityhistoricalsociety.org.

Debbie St John has redone our site. It has a new look and is up to date. Some areas are still under construction. We hope to publish this and the previous Newsletter on the site soon.

NEEDED:

We are in need of old Boy Scout, Girl Scout and Plaidette Uniforms. If you have anything to donate, please contact Darlene Shaner at 724-458-9209.

Also needed: Old R.L. Polk Directories. If you have any that you'd like to donate, please drop them at the Society.

Thank you!