

The Grove City Area Historical Society Newsletter

www.grovecityhistoricalsociety.org

724-458-1798

gcchs@zoominternet.net

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TENTH ANNUAL BANQUET

The Grove City Area Historical Society held its tenth annual banquet on April 18, 2009 in Fellowship Hall of East Main Presbyterian Church. There were 72 people in attendance to hear Lillian Reeher, back by popular demand, discuss a person's heritage and the importance each heritage has in shaping who we are. Lillian is an interesting speaker who can weave art, history, and current events into a subject that is both thoughtful and entertaining.



During the evening Jane Neyman, Becky May and Linda Beatty were recognized for their years of service as both volunteers and directors. Our special volunteers were also recognized for their dedication to the society. Gary Forsythe, as head of the building, does an excellent job of organizing the renovations and seeing that everything is functioning properly. Maryann McClinton is in charge of organizing and storing the clothing, Jane Neyman is in charge of the Museum Shoppe. Marty St.

John handles membership, and Jean Brown is the treasurer for the Museum Shoppe. Of course, Tom Armour takes care of the money and applies for our grants. Georgia McIntire is the secretary for the society, Anita DeMarco organizes our volunteers, and last, but certainly not least, Frank Hoffman takes care of the accessions that come into the society. All these people work quietly so that the organization functions without anyone realizing that behind the scenes there is a lot of work being done.

A special "thank you" was given to Ed Carlson for his year of service as our immediate past president.

Pastor Bill Hoffman was our special guest and offered the blessing before the dinner that was catered, as it has been for the last five years, by Cameron Catering. We are fortunate to be able to hold our dinners at East main Presbyterian. The facility is beautiful and easily accessible for everyone.

Next year's banquet is already scheduled for April 17, 2010, at Fellowship Hall of East Main Presbyterian Church. Dr. Jewell, President of Grove city College, will be our featured speaker.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

In the last newsletter I discussed the Society's finances. We still have a major shortfall; however, we have had some help. Pine Township gave an annual donation of \$2,000 which we greatly appreciated. We are planning to have a Sidewalk Sale on August 7th and 8th. We are hoping that everyone will donate at least one nice item for us to sell. **(NO CLOTHING PLEASE)** We also need many volunteers to be inside the building and to work at the sale. Please contact me as to when you are willing to work.



We are fortunate to have the support of several entities. State Senator Bob Robins has made it possible for us to receive a \$25,000 grant to refurbish the second floor. We have completed 3 rooms so far this year, and now we are working on 5 others. Once these rooms are completed we will begin to use them for both displays and storage.

We requested money from The Grove City Foundation and were very pleased to receive \$1500. The members of the Foundation prefer to have their money used for a specific project rather than go into general operating expenses. Much as we needed the money for operating expenses, we decided to put the money to a specific use. There is an electrical issue in the basement that we decided to address. The electrical service box gets wet from water coming into the building from the alley. While this is not a fire or safety concern, it does cause the box to deteriorate. We are going to move the electric box, clean and seal the wall, then the Borough is going to coat the outside of the building when they work on streets later this summer. Hopefully this will solve the water/electric problem.

The Society is functioning smoothly thanks to the work of the volunteers and the committee chairs. When you visit the society you do not realize all the work that is going on behind the scenes because it is so peaceful and so full of the local memorabilia to enjoy. This would not be the case if it were not for a group of dedicated individuals. To them we are very grateful. We hope you will come and visit the Society to learn about the hammered aluminum of our area and just relax and enjoy some quiet time.

ITEMS DONATED FOR THE SIDEWALK SALE CAN BE BROUGHT TO THE HEADQUARTERS FROM 12:00 – 3:00 TUESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY OR CALL A BOARD MEMBER FOR PICKUP. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY CALL ME AT 724-458-8413. YOU MAY ALSO SIGN UP TO HELP AT THE HEADQUARTERS. THERE WILL BE A SIGNUP SHEET AT THE FRONT DESK.

Skip Sample

SIDEWALK SALE – AUGUST 7TH AND 8TH

The Grove City Area Historical Society is planning a sidewalk sale during the Olde Town celebration in August. We are asking each member to donate a few items to be sold. We are also requesting that the things are nice so that they will attract buyers. We do not want clothing.

The historical society will be selling duplicate items that have been donated. Some of the things we are planning to sell are Natale Rossi Christmas Plates, high school and college year books, plus an assortment of items that are not of historical significance to Grove City.

As you may recall, we discussed in the last newsletter that we have a significant financial shortfall. We are hoping to make up part of that amount through the proceeds of this sale.

Items may be brought to the society anytime that it is open or you may call one of the board members to pick up the things. You may price the items or someone at the society will price them. We look forward to participation from most of the members. We will also need people to work the days of the sale. So, please let us know when you can help.

Let's make this a fun and profitable event. (This is also an opportunity to do some late summer house-cleaning!)

HELP WANTED

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO CATELOGUE COLLECTIONS THAT ARE DONATED TO THE SOCIETY. IF A GROUP OF ITEMS IS DONATED, IT IS ACCESSIONED AS A LOT. WE NEED SOMEONE WHO IS WILLING TO SIT DOWN AND LIST EACH ITEM WITHIN THAT GROUP. IT COULD BE DONE AT THE HEADQUARTERS AND YOUR LEISURE.

PLEASE LET FRANK HOFFMAN OR SKIP SAMPLE KNOW IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN WORKING ON THIS TYPE OF PROJECT

DAY OF CARING

April 25th was a very busy day in Grove City. This was the Day of Caring, an event organized by the United Way to help people and organizations in any way possible. The historical society asked for help! We needed “stuff” moved, we needed painting done, we needed cleaning done – we had lots of needs. We were greatly surprised and pleased with the help that we received. We were paired up with Sherwin Williams Paint and Decorating Store. Dustin Noel, the manager, contacted us and said he would bring workers as well as supply all the paint and painting supplies. What a wonderful offer!



The day before the Day of Caring Dustin came with some friends to prepare for the work day. They cleaned and moved things so that when the workers arrived, everything was ready to go! Nine A.M. Saturday arrived and so did 6 young men from Grove City College, plus 6 friends of Dustin's. We had the woodwork in 3 rooms painted, we had the floors in 3 rooms painted, we had the entrance to the Society painted, and part of the side of the building. When noon came, we could not believe all that had been accomplished.



It was fun to watch the different groups working throughout the town. This is the type of day that makes Grove City such a nice place to live. We thank the United Way and Sherwin Williams for the help and support we received.

COLORING CONTEST WINNERS

The Grove City Area Historical Society wishes to announce the winners of the coloring contest held at the recent Trade Show at Grove City College.

In the 3 – 5 age group, the winner was Laural St. John.

In the 6 – 7 age group, the winner was Marshall Pierce.

In the 8 – 9 age group, the winner was Hunter Pauchfenton.

In the 8 – 9 age group, Lennon Pierce received a second place.

In the 10 – 11 age group, there was a tie for first place. Winners were Tessa Semple and Samuel Whittaker

In the 10 – 11 category, Khendra Pauchfenton won second place.

The participants received an “Amazing” Certificate, a coloring book and a ribbon. The society wishes to thank all participants.

Pictured: 1st place, 3 - 5 age group - Laural St. John with Skip Sample and 1st place, 10 - 11 age group -Tessa Semple with Anita DeMarco



GRANDMA LEFT THE LIGHT ON

Grandma Left the Light On will go to the printers late this summer or early fall. We are again asking for your help to finance the printing of the book. Included in this newsletter is the patron form. Members may also preorder the book at a discount price. The book will, hopefully, be ready for the Christmas Season.

**“ATTENTION GROVE CITY AREA ARTISTS”
SUMMER ART CONTEST**

The Grove City Area Historical Society, in connection with our 10th Anniversary, wish to strengthen our Historical Museum’s collection of art work done by local artists. We are fortunate to already house paintings by Maude Winder, Margaret Williams, Charles Elliott, Lois Hamilton and Reverend William Bovard. We would love to add some new contemporary artists’ work to our collection. To do this we are sponsoring a summer art contest.

We will offer token contest awards (ribbons to the first three places in each category) and a monetary award to the first three places for overall “Best of Show” winners (\$50, \$25 and \$10).

We hope that your entry will become the property of the Grove City Area Historical Society to be displayed in our Museum and/or to be digitally copied on: placemats, T shirts, note cards, publicity, etc. to benefit the Society. The artist’s name will be included in each usage. Our accession sheets will give you the opportunity to give us your desire: to lend us the picture(s) for 1 year, display only, or on permanent loan and how you permit your picture(s) to be used by the GCAHS.

Our theme is “Green Grove City.” Our community is noted for its scenic landscape, both natural and man made. Artists might consider basing their work on scenic spots found in: Grove City Memorial Park, Hunter Farm, Wolf Creek, home or municipal building landscapes, streetscapes, playgrounds, or athletic fields. Art work may include people or animals, making use of our green areas. All works must have been done in the last 12 months.

We will have 7 categories plus an additional special category sponsored by Olde Town Grove City. This category must emphasize the Broad Street Area. It may picture people or groups enjoying and making use of the renovation work completed thus far. The same rules apply to ownership and use of entries in Section 8. The art work becomes the property and use of the Olde Town Group. The Section 8 group will be awarded special prizes by Olde Town Grove City.

We will divide the art work into 7 categories: 1. Oil, 2. Water color, 3. Pen and Ink or Pencil, 4. Photography, 5. Acrylic, 6. Clay, and 7. Mixed Media. All entries will be due by August 4th at the Grove City Area Historical Society the day before The Olde Town American Festival (the former Grove City Street Fair) August 5 - 8. They will be displayed in the Museum and judged by a panel of artists.

*****We reserve the right to reject any or all works of art*****

FALL SEMINARS

Last fall the Historical Society had a series of seminars that were very well received. We are going to have seminars again. This year, however, we are only going to have 4. They will be every other week beginning on September 14th.

Cathy Youngo, retired historian for Wendell August Forge, will discuss the history of the Forge and the impact the Forge had on the hammered aluminum industry.

Gary Forsythe will discuss the Cooper Bessemer industry in Grove City. We are asking Cooper Bessemer retirees to come and participate in the program. This will be an opportunity to reminisce and share stories. Audience participation will be encouraged.

James “Patch” McCullough and Lawrence Bubeck will discuss the Highland Band. “Patch” was the drummer for the band, and Lawrence was one of the pipers.

Skip Sample will do a virtual walking tour of Grove City homes. During the Bicentennial Celebration the Women’s Club put out a brochure on the homes that had historical significance in the town. Skip will use that as the basis for her talk.

The programs, which are free and open to the public, will begin on September 14th with Cathy Youngo. Gary Forsythe will do the Cooper Bessemer on September 28th. “Patch” and Lawrence will be on October 12th, and Skip will do the house tour on October 26th. This is our tentative schedule. As the time gets closer, these talks may be rearranged, however, the topics will stay the same. We will keep you posted on exact programs as the time gets closer. We hope you will mark your calendars now so that you will be able to attend.

UNIFORM POLICY

Every historical society has a problem with having too many of one item donated. One such item is military uniforms. World War I uniforms are hard to come by. However, there are many uniforms available from World War II and subsequent wars. The problem we, and other similar societies have, is what to do with two or more identical uniforms.

After a discussion with Bill Philson of the Mercer County Historical Society, this is the policy we have decided to adopt: **THE GROVE CITY AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY WILL ACCEPT ALL MILITARY UNIFORMS. IF THERE IS A DUPLICATION OF UNIFORMS, THE ONE THAT IS IN BETTER CONDITION WILL BE RETAINED. THE OTHER WILL BE OFFERED TO A COLLECTOR OF MILITARY MEMORABILIA. PICTURES WILL BE TAKEN OF ALL UNIFORMS. THE PICTURES, ALONG WITH ANY STORIES, WILL BE RETAINED.**

This will be explained to donors at the time of a donation and they must understand and agree to these terms.



VINTAGE CLOTHING VOLUNTEERS

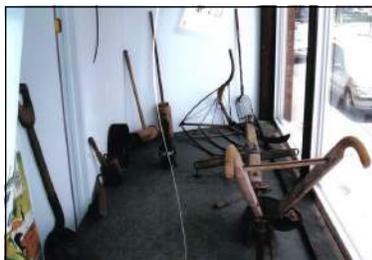
Vintage clothing is a large part of any historical society. Our organization is no exception. "Old clothing" however must be carefully treated. Fabric deteriorates over time, thus the reason for the care and concern. We are fortunate to have Nanette McClelland and Maryann McClinton as our clothing committee. Maryann has been working with the clothing for a couple years. She has recently been joined by Nanette. Together they are giving the vintage clothing the care and attention it requires to survive for another generation to enjoy



Our Historical society has been given a 1920's bedroom set from the estate of Mary DeGregory Graziani. She died in September, 2008.

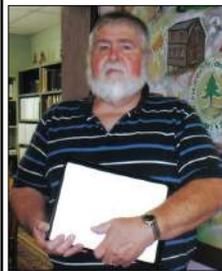
When her son Roger Graziani was in Grove City from California last fall to handle her belongings, he came to the society with some Catholic Church history and photos to donate and we learned he was willing to donate the Bedroom set. It has enabled us to furnish a hotel room like one that was in the old Travelers Hotel. He also donated Mary's Wedding gown and a kitchen bowl with realistic ceramic eggs that had been Mary's.

Many thanks to Roger for his generous donation.



Most recent window display by Norman Turner

EDWARD CARLSON - PAST PRESIDENT



The year 2008 was a banner year for the Grove City Area Historical Society. The reason for this was that we had an enthusiastic president who was full of ideas. The headquarters was made available to more people because of Ed's many ideas. We had 12 seminars in the fall that were interesting and brought in between 25 and 30 people each week. We had an antiques seminar that was very well received and was a wonderful money maker for the society. Ed's enthusiasm and his ideas have continued into this year when he made arrangements for us to give out 500 blue spruce seedlings to commemorate our 10th anniversary – we want to "Keep the Grove in Grove City!" We had a coloring contest for children, and we will be having a local artist's show in August.

Along with being the president last year, Ed has continued to work with the book committee to finish writing the next book, Grandma Left the Light On, which will be published by the society later this year.

Members like Ed make our society a vital part of the Grove City Area Community.

Grove City Area Historical Society

111 College Avenue
 P.O. Box 764
 Grove City, PA 16127
 724-458-1798

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Museum and Gift Shoppe Hours
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Website:
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 Email: gcahs@zoominternet.net

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.
 Make Checks Payable To: Grove City Area Historical Society
 Founding and Life Memberships are payable over 3 years.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES:		DONATIONS:
Founding	\$1,000.00	\$
Life	\$500.00	
Corporate	\$50.00	
Family	\$40.00	
Individual	\$20.00	
Student / Senior	\$10.00	

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!**

PLEASE CIRCLE: new member renewal change of address

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ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

EMAIL _____

YOUR MEMBERSHIP ENSURES OUR SUCCESS