



Historical Happenings

The Newsletter of the Grove City Area Historical Society

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Message from the President

Summer is winding down and it feels like fall today with the cooler than usual weather. It has been a very busy summer for us at the Historical Society as you will read about in this newsletter. My husband, Bruce says volunteering at the society is just like being involved in a club because everyone is so friendly. We can participate in many research or work projects, while sharing stories about Grove City and especially learning something new about the history of our community. We are always happy to have new volunteers join our "club".

Speaking of clubs, members of the former Grove City Elks Club gave us a couple of their very large wall plaques listing names of the past exalted rulers and building donors. We were able to hang them in the Community Organizations room. There is also one with the names of the deceased members. The bronze name plates have been removed from that plaque. We want to offer them to the families of the deceased Elks members. Please spread the word that we have these bronze name plates in a box in the library for the family of former Elk Club members to pick up.

Inside the Historical Society is the Museum Shoppe stocked with lots of gift items, local artist prints, and books by local authors. A new item is two parking tokens attached to a photo of a parking meter in front of the former Lee Theater. The tokens remind us of the time when Broad Street merchants gave them to their customers as a thank you for their business. Most children today would not know anything about a parking meter since we have not had them for many years. Willie Caldwell brought in an old parking meter he obtained from Grove City Borough and the tokens will work in the meter to set the timer. This will be great for the kids to try out!

The Accessions Committee consisting of Frank Hoffman and Monica Ondrusko recently have been joined by Heidi Adams and Laurie McCandless to keep up with the cataloging of all the wonderful, historic donated items. They are doing wonders with the Past Perfect-a state of the art online catalog of our collections long as the aging computers cooperate.

The Committee on Current Computer/Technology Needs is working on perceived needs for faster speed and increased memory for computers, possible wireless connection, faster printing capabilities for acquisitions, automatic anti-virus updating, and improved back-up capabilities for Past Perfect. Better computer equipment is going to be needed so all the valuable donated items we care about are safe and not lost!

P.S. This "Publisher" program is new to me. I hope it is readable! *Linda*

Top photo: Graham Baker, Bobby Steese and Michael Krystyak spend a summer day helping us install the new (to us) wood library shelving donated to the Historical Society by Slippery Rock University Bailey Library.

Lower photo: Jean Carlson enjoyed her ride on the new chairlift up the stairs to the second floor.



Heidi Adams took this photo of “The Prez “ Linda Multi-tasking at an online sales meeting.



A new addition to the Highland Band display is the authentic Indian Leopard Skin ca, 1955 as worn by the Bass Drummers in the Highland Regiments.

Read more about the band on page 5 and plan to come to hear their stories as well as their bagpipe music on Monday October 21st at 7 p.m.



LET'S TAKE A TOUR

313

MEDICAL ROOM

If you have not taken a tour of the Medical Room~~this is a must see at any time. Our Medical Room sign and all of the second floor room signs were donated to us by Wendell August.

When you stand at the doorway and start to walk into the room~~you will immediately see the Museum Case is in the center of the room with the Wheel Chair directly behind it. Please note, we do not have a door. We have **an open door policy!!! Welcome.**

So, in the door you go, turn left. You will see a complete wall of the history of the old Bashline Hospital. Then the next wall is the Bashline Hospital nurses wall, training home, etc., some history. Be sure and notice the Dorothy Moon picture holding an African child from Chad. She was a medical missionary to Africa for 38 years. Notice the wooden African frame design. Then next is the curtain and window. The two crutches are hanging on the wall in a very narrow area.

Next wall~~The built-in-shelves in the closet with no door, were built by Bruce Bennett and are simply gorgeous. They are the right size for our larger displays, such as the well made Charles Jones, M. D., outdoor metal sign which is very heavy; the two books propping up this sign belonged to the DeFrance Drug store pharmacist and both date back to 1894 ? They are priceless; the smaller medical bag (1920's) belongs to the physician from Wesley, PA; the William C. Menzies, M. D. very large medical bag was used to make house calls; and other things are on these shelves or will be, in the near future. Then, onward to the "stand to attention" Manikin~~ who was donated by volunteer, Rose Menzies.

It was suggested by volunteer, Mary Ann McClinton, that there should be storage space~~much needed all the time. Notice the beautiful red oak, brown stained overhead cabinets way above. These were purchased at Carter Lumber company~~route 19 out of Mercer north. They are genuine wood~~nothing but the best~~and were sold to the Historical Society for about 1/2 price. They were then delivered to the front door step, free of charge, personally by Janet Collins~~ Kitchen Sales Representative. These 4 cabinets were hung within a week by Raymond Abplanalp. Plus, he secured the 5 shelf book case where it is, so it would not tumble. He donated his talent, isn't this something? Take a good look. The cabinets blend right in perfect with the wood of the museum case and the rest of the furniture in the room.

The 5 shelf book case is directly below the cabinets and has lots of bed pans and urinals (very useful items). The first shelf has interesting medicine bottles. 21 of them were donated by volunteer, Joan Foster. These bottles are from Harve's Rexall Drug, Thrush, and Shira's drugstores. Other donations of bottles include De-France and others. Joan donated her bottles in 2005~~8 years ago. Don't worry Joan, we didn't forget you.

Over this 5 shelf tall book case if you are lost by now, will be a sign pointing toward City Hospital. In fact, the sign says in red and white City Hospital~~(arrow pointing to the right). Then the hanging BP/mercury/apparatus. Takes up 1/2 of the wall going up and down~~This ends this wall. Please note that the 5 and 3 shelf book cases were assembled from scratch by Bruce Bennett and Gary Forsythe. Assemble yourself fun things to do. Been there, done that. Very hard work. They are very heavy and are Select Cherry in color.

The next wall starts out with Dr. Menzies' picture; Dr. Smith's picture with the Family Healthcare personnel; and they are all above the 3 shelf book case. Currently, there is a wonderful wooden carved sign which says William Menzies, M. D. with two of his figurines he had in his office. There is Dr. Woodie Bashline's plaque

Continue on~~the 3 framed photos of City hospital. The first one is an original sketch by B. Charles Elliott, Jr. from the B. Charles Elliott, Jr. Collection.

Then the United Community Hospital~~2 items~~have to see them to believe it. There are two framed photos of Grove City Medical Center. The Public Relations/Marketing dept.~~Mona Philson, donated the one picture of the Grove City Medical Center~~frame is orange in color!!!

Please note all the beautiful frames of the pictures. Gary Forsythe was involved in hanging all of them. Jeffrey Bryer helped in the beginning. There were so many of them which needed to be hung at once. In fact, if not for Gary Forsythe, the Medical Room would not look as good as it does. He is very talented, giving and knows what to do. The Creative Framing place~~Jeff Lawrence, did almost all of the framing. The older pictures from 1998 were done by the Glass Studio~~both located here in Grove City.

There are 5 of the 24 pictures in this room from the B. Charles Elliott, Jr. Collection. He is one of Grove City's well known historians. The best in my opinion.

The material sitting on the two lower shelves of the 3 shelf book case will be moved to the library. It is just filled with "gossip" about the "good ole days". We are hoping to develop more on the Grove City Auxiliary, the United Community Hospital Volunteers and the Bashline Guild~~plus so many other things.

The Museum Case has a interesting history, starting with the "ole" Bashline Osteopathic Hospital. You could spend hours looking at all the unique instruments. Even Dr. O. O. Bashline's amputation ointment is still here. Gerry Orr helped to clean and arrange the display.

The Wheel Chair dates back to 1955 from City Hospital. It was thoroughly cleaned and its wheels oiled with WD-40 by volunteer, Mr. Robert Helfinstine. It simply glows now and its wheels are tied down. It was simply running all over the place. It has an iron backing across the top and all the glass framed pictures are hung high~~to keep from being broken~~by accident~~if suddenly it rolled and hit one of them.

So many people have given many suggestions, Mrs. Mary Sample, past president; Mrs. Linda Bennett, current President; and so many others~~too numerous to mention, and I know I have not listed everyone. Ideas and suggestions are sought all the time. Be sure to share them. It is our Medical Room.

~~Dr. Betty Jo White. August 2013~~

***WolfCreek Legacy* TO BE AVAILABLE ONCE AGAIN**

WolfCreek Legacy 1 and II is a history of the Scots-Irish in our area, written by Lillian Reynolds Reeher, in the early 1980s while she was a writer for the Allied News. Lillian spent hours upon hours interviewing local folks who were in their 80s and 90s in order to write about life along Wolf Creek in an earlier time. Because the folks were descendants of generations who were native to the area, *Legacy* is the sole record of our area, written in the tradition of oral history.

Grove City Highland Band Display

The committee to Preserve the History of the Grove City Highland Band has made significant progress with its display and artifact collection at the Grove City Area Historical Society's downtown headquarters.

Organized February 11, 2011, the committee comprised of six former Highland Band members: Lawrence Bubeck, George Ketler, James McClelland, Rolfe Reynolds, David Thompson and Ross Williams. These former bandsmen's collective histories span the last forty years of the "Pipe Band" which operated from 1948 to 1998, and through their efforts the story of this unique marching band that represented Grove City internationally will now become permanent through the Grove City Historical Society.

Now on display at Society Headquarters are two elaborately uniformed mannequins, Pipe Major and Drum Major, in regimental full dress in the Stewart of Atholl tartan of the GCHB. Also on display, the original, restored drum from 1948, as well as three museum-quality binders containing a rich and colorful history, all documented with times and places, and now-identified band members for Historical Society visitors to review. These materials, photos, documents and uniform items have been graciously furnished by former bandsmen or their families, or in some cases purchase by the committee. The response to a public request for displayable items or archival records has been heartening.

More than a dozen families from Chicago to Maine have responded and helped with articles and records. More seems to be forthcoming and will add to the display! Several dozen more photographs and articles have arrived as well as recently discovered complete business records from the 1960s to the last engagement in 1998.

Additionally, there are bagpipes, other types of drums (unique to bagpipe bands), uniform accoutrements, published music and teaching items for bagpipe and drum students of the day, soon to be displayed in cases graciously provided by the Historical Society.

During the Grove City Highland Band's long history many thousands of people witnessed its colorful doublets, plaides, swinging kilts, and flashing drumsticks, and thrilled to the skirling pipes with "the sound that can never fade away"! A visit to our Society Headquarters display will recall those memories for all time.

By James McClelland

Wolf creek legacy: Books one and two

Name: _____ eMail: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

I would like to be a Patron: _____ \$400 donation for 4 books
_____ \$300 donation for 3 books
_____ \$200 donation for 2 books
_____ \$100 donation for 1 book

I would like to make a \$100 memorial donation: _____
(in memory of: _____)

*Please make checks payable to: Grove City Area Historical Society.
Forms can be mailed to headquarters at: Grove Area City Historical Society,
PO Box 764, Grove City, PA 16127*

**AN EXCERPT FROM OUR
FACEBOOK PAGE**



Remembering the Youth Center

Located off Broad St. at the end of Majestic Alley beside Wolf Creek where Steigerwald's is located today. Notice the footbridge that connected downtown to the Cooper Bessemer parking lot.

Inez Some fun times there!

Kathy My Brother graduated in "51" and I remember going there with my Mom and Dad to pick him up. Mr. Vogan always let me in so I could have a dance with my big brother.

Bruce I remember my high school band, Mother Courage played one of our first gigs there around 1967! We also played at the armory building a couple years later which was the "new" youth center.

Judy Wow! I remember I couldn't wait to be old enough to go!

Ginny Soooooo many memories there. They were good years. Thanx for posting this.

Jean Home away from home..1960-1964.

Lucy Even the out of town kids loved it. Great photo.

Candace I spent many a Fri night here!!! It's where I learned to dance!!

~~~~~  
**Save the Dates!**

**Olde Town Autumn Art Walk, Thursday September 12<sup>th</sup> 4 – 8 p.m.**

**Olde Town Home for the Holidays Saturday November 16<sup>th</sup> 1-4 pm**

**Member Christmas Open House Saturday December 14<sup>th</sup>**

**Grove City Area Historical Society  
Monthly Financial Summary**

|                                 | 2013                    |                         | 2012                    |                         |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
|                                 | June                    | Year to date            | June                    | Year to date            |
| <b>Beginning Balance</b>        | \$ 19,077.39            | \$ 22,698.85            | \$ 11,687.44            | \$ 13,439.93            |
| <b>Receipts</b>                 | \$ 1,144.17             | \$ 8,463.62             | \$ 5,644.47             | \$ 11,386.74            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                    | <b>\$ 20,221.56</b>     | <b>\$ 31,162.47</b>     | <b>\$ 17,331.91</b>     | <b>\$ 24,826.67</b>     |
| <b>Expenditures</b>             |                         |                         |                         |                         |
| I Facility                      | \$ 684.48               | \$ 6,482.60             | \$ 97.20                | \$ 5,406.47             |
| II Operations                   | \$ 303.70               | \$ 2,266.59             | \$ 681.27               | \$ 1,787.76             |
| III Services                    | \$ -                    | \$ 489.90               | \$ -                    | \$ 1,079.00             |
| IV Events                       | \$ -                    | \$ 90.00                | \$ 530.00               | \$ 530.00               |
| V. Designated Funds Transferred | \$ -                    | \$ 2,600.00             | \$ -                    | \$ -                    |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                    | <b>\$ 988.18</b>        | <b>\$ 11,929.09</b>     | <b>\$ 1,308.47</b>      | <b>\$ 8,803.23</b>      |
| <br><b>Checkbook Balance</b>    | <br><b>\$ 19,233.38</b> | <br><b>\$ 19,233.38</b> | <br><b>\$ 16,023.44</b> | <br><b>\$ 16,023.44</b> |
| <br><b>Designated Funds</b>     |                         |                         |                         |                         |
| 1. Endowment                    | \$                      |                         |                         |                         |
| 2. Executive Director           | \$ 600.00               |                         |                         |                         |
| 3. Arthur Armour Fund           | \$ -                    |                         |                         |                         |
| 4. Publication Fund             | \$ 2,500.00             |                         |                         |                         |
| 5. Elevator Fund                | \$                      |                         |                         |                         |
| 6. Other (2)                    | \$ -                    |                         |                         |                         |
|                                 | \$ -                    |                         |                         |                         |
|                                 | \$ -                    |                         |                         |                         |
|                                 | \$ -                    |                         |                         |                         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                    | <b>\$ 3,100.00</b>      |                         |                         |                         |
| <b>Net available funds</b>      | <b>\$ 16,133.38</b>     |                         |                         |                         |

NOTE: Net Available Funds=Checkbook Balance - Total Designated Funds

7/29/2013

## Don't miss this year's Seminar lineup!

**September 9<sup>th</sup>** at 7 p.m. Lynda Bortz, a talented quilting artist, will tell us about the two 1998 Grove City Bicentennial Quilts and how she organized this wonderful group effort. She will show some antique quilts as well as some of her own creations.

**September 23<sup>rd</sup>** at 7p.m. Tom Burdick, owner of one of the oldest businesses on Broad Street will give us the rich history of "Burdicks". This store has been in several locations and was not only a clothing store but a bus station, soda fountain and more.

**October 7<sup>th</sup>** at 7 p.m. Mary Skip Sample's talk is entitled "Passion, Pride and Pathology in Possessions". Come and see what your friends collect and how they live with their collections.

**October 21<sup>st</sup>** at 7 p.m. members of the Committee to Preserve the History of the Grove City Highland Band will share their history that spans the last forty years of the "Pipe Band" which operated from 1948 to 1998. Through their efforts the story of this unique marching band that represented Grove City internationally has a permanent home in the Grove City

# Grove City Area Historical Society

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Tuesday-Saturday 12:00PM - 3:00PM

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Email: [gcahs@zoominternet.net](mailto: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.  
Founding and Life Memberships are payable over 3 years.

Make Checks Payable To: Grove City Area Historical Society

## DONATIONS:

|            |                  |
|------------|------------------|
| \$         | _____            |
| \$10.00    | Student / Senior |
| \$20.00    | Individual       |
| \$40.00    | Family           |
| \$50.00    | Corporate        |
| \$500.00   | Life             |
| \$1,000.00 | Founding         |

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!**

**MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES:** Founding new member renewal change of address

**PLEASE CIRCLE:** new member renewal change of address

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**YOUR MEMBERSHIP ENSURES OUR SUCCESS**