

Historical Happenings

The Newsletter of the Grove City Area Historical Society

www.grovecityhistoricalsociety.org

724-458-1798

gcahs@zoominternet.net

Volume 13 Issue 3

November 2013

Board of Directors

*Linda Bennett, President
Member-at-large*

*Gary Forsythe 1st VP
Grove City Borough*

*Linda Beatty, 2nd VP
Liberty Township*

*Georgia McIntire, Sec.
Pine Township*

*Tom Armour, Treas.
Member-at-large*

*Ed Carlson
Member-at-large*

*Jane Cleary
Member-at-large*

*Judy Hassler
Springfield Township*

*Laurie McCandless
Wolf Creek Township*

*Joseph Monteleone
Grove City Borough*

*Lillian Reeher
Member-at-large*

*Mary "Skip" Sample
Grove City Borough*



Our beautiful Christmas window display by Georgie and Jeff Hodge

Message from the President

I am writing this newsletter as I listen to Christmas music and my husband just said, "It's not even Thanksgiving yet!" That's okay, I am thinking ahead about our upcoming Christmas party at the Historical Society on Saturday December 14th from 2 to 4 p.m. It will be great to have everyone, including volunteers and members all together. I want to invite you all to stop in to visit, exchange ideas and celebrate another year of sharing Grove City history! This year has been an amazing experience for me and I have learned a lot about the people who help keep the Historical Society running. The Executive Officers and Board of Directors are very committed to the well being of this organization. Our dependable Volunteers do a lot of behind the scenes work involving cleaning and maintenance, clipping news articles, changing displays, accessioning new items into our collection, giving tours, assisting with family genealogies, changing our website, as well as upgrading our computer systems.

I have heard it said,

"We are all volunteers and we love it!" *Linda*



Meet Our Talented Members

Right: Olde Town Art Walk on Sept. 12th was very well attended, We were proud to host our own artist, **Lillian Reynolds Reher**, a storied expressionist. Her works in watercolor, mixed media and textiles with bead-work were amazing to the eye and her stories about them were wonderful!

Below: Our Sept. 9th seminar speaker was **Lynda Bortz**, quilt artist, who told us about how she organized a community effort to make the two 1998 Grove City Bicentennial quilts. She also shared her own creations and some antique quilts. Along with humorous quilting stories.



Below: Tom Burdick, owner of one of the oldest businesses on Broad Street, told us the rich history of his family business on Sept. 23rd. They were not only a clothing store but a bus station, a soda fountain and more. Lots of memories of Broad street were shared by the audience.



MEMBER CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

Each year we participate in the Grove City Downtown Christmas event by having an open house for our members. **This year it will be on December 14th from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.** Come enjoy refreshments as well as time to visit with our fellow Historical Society Members. This is one of the few times we all can come together at the same time.

Please bring a non perishable food item for the **Food Pantry**. We are participating in the Parade of Trees along with the stores on Broad St. The Rotary Club decorated the tree and a Hillview school classroom will also be collecting food to put under the tree. Prize money will be given to the tree with the most food donations and the class will win a pizza party. Please join us and help our less fortunate neighbors by bringing some food.

****Ed Carlson's two new books are now published and he plans to have a book signing at this event.****

Central Jersey Genealogical Club Newsletter credits Jane Cleary and Jean Brown of the Grove City Historical Society for their help with Walters family tree.

Jacob Walter – His Descendants, by Ed Walters, CJGC member

This is a follow-up to the article I wrote for the January 2013 CJGC newsletter. I had been to the DAR in Washington on a CJGC trip, and found records on my Revolutionary War patriot ancestor, Jacob Walter. I earned that my second cousin twice removed, Phyllis Iland Walter, “have compiled the Walter Family genealogy, which is ready for publication, being at the pre-sent pages

*** with the data called for on each individual or descendant of Jacob Walter, our Revolutionary War ancestor by his son John and his wife Maria Magdalend (Crispen) Walter. Of these eight binders of information there is one for each of John and Maria Magdalena Walters eight children which include nine, ten and even eleven generations.” This quotation is by Iland in a letter when she filed the records with the DAR, General Hugh Mercer Chapter, Mercer, PA in 1969.

My reaction to that was where are these eight binders, what could they possibly contain, and oh my gosh, six thousand pages? Thus began a series of internet searches for Iland, which led to email correspondence and telephone calls to Grove City Historical Society, Grove City, PA, and finally, road trips to Grove City in Western Pennsylvania. There, in May and again in June of this year, the interim storage location for these binders was located. While it had been Iland’s intent to turn over these binders to the Venango County Historical Society in Franklin, PA, an unfortunate incident occurred which led her to charge her surviving relatives to safeguard the binders. The incident involves her loaning a binder to a researcher, only to have that researcher leave for the West Coast without returning the binder. She passed away in 1995 at the age of 101. Her surviving relatives have wonderfully fulfilled her last request, have stored and safe-guarded them all these years. They are there and in excellent condition – as I have reviewed two of them – photographing each page of the binder relating to my ancestral line.

In the binder of John Walter, 4th child of Patriot Jacob Walter, I found that Iland has traced each child through the generations. I found her record of my father (Loyal), and my grandfather (Herman, my Great grandfather (Darlington), my 2nd great grandfather (John Crispen), my 3rd great grandfather (Peter), and finally to John. Each record has the wife of the marriage and the children of that marriage. Most of all, she recorded me, my wife, and our three children. My wife and I are members of the 8th generation.

This work would not have been possible were it not for the kind and generous help I received from Jane Scot Cleary and Sara Jean Brown, members of the Grove City Historical Society. Jane continuously interconnected with me by email and with Iland’s cousin, Paul M. Gilmore, both by telephone and visitation, setting up meeting dates and times. Jane and Sara provided timely assistance during the photographic recording sessions to insure the rapid and complete documentation of Iland’s work. My son-in-law, Joseph Munder, provided and set up the camera equipment and photographed the first binder loaned to us by Paul. Most of all, I am grateful to Paul and his wife Lois, for showing trust in me and allowing me the opportunity to visit their home, to see and record Iland’s work, which was and is an outstanding labor of love. Somewhere along the generation line an “s” got added to the family name. It apparently happened between the generation of John Crispen and the generation of Darlington because their gravestones show the different spellings. My theory is that the name change was not intentional but simply happened, as shown in the picture I have of Darlington’s blacksmith business that reads “Walters Smith Shoeing Shop.” The binders will eventually reside with the Venango County Historical Society.



AN EXCERPT FROM OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

Look what Marjorie Hummel gave us!

A photo of the Twin Kiss, formerly located at 1313 West Main Street.

The Main Street Diner is now located at this site.

Remembering the Twin Kiss

Linda This was a popular “cruzin” place during the 1960s in Grove City.

Veronica I loved the Twin Kiss!!! Fun times, good food!! Lots of great cruising memories with wonderful friends.

Stacy Pizza burgers were the best!

Cindy Loved the frosty mugs of root beer.

Sherri I loved that place!

Lori it was the best for sure...

Donna My first job was working here.

Inez So many memories! Happy Ones!

Kim I wish we still had the Twin Kiss . Good Food

Caroline I loved the twisted vanilla & chocolate cones of bliss!

Anne Root Beer Floats were the best...lots of memories

Patti This was a great place!!

Evelyn My brother stopped here almost every time he drove past it. Loved their banana splits.

1,176 People saw this post

SPECIAL THANK YOU

This is a special thank you to everyone who directly and indirectly helped me in “setting up” the Historical Society Medical Room within the six past months - ending Thursday October 24, 2013.

I may have been the “organizer” of such, but it was the Lord under his direct guidance, who had been the guiding and providing force for all of us—all of the time. People unknown to me, just suddenly appeared at the right time to provide much needed assistance thru out the entire working endeavor. They all had special talents and freely gave of their time and knowledge to help complete this project. All suggestions were greatly appreciated.

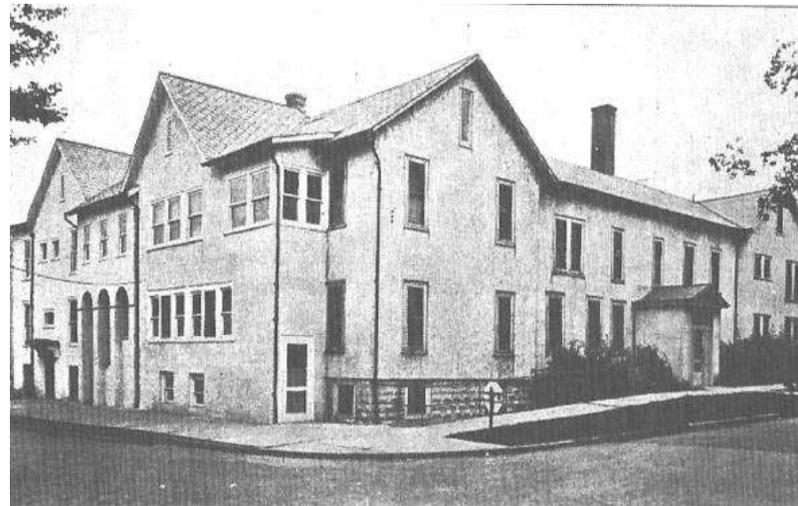
Assistance included but was not limited to: taking out of the boxes and placing inside the large display case numerous artifacts, books and instruments, which had been collected for over 40 years; hanging of the overhead cabinets; assembling four book cases for shelf item displays; moving of all the contents of the numerous boxes sitting on the floor of the room into appropriate areas; the hanging of 28 pictures and one bronze plaque; and numerous other things—all to fit in one small room. Wow.

All of you are very unique with special gifts. Thank you.

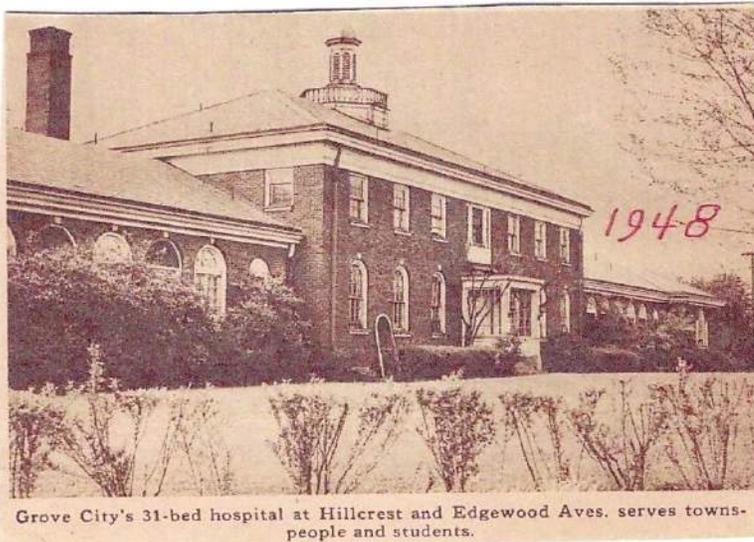
Dr. Betty Jo White. October 24, 2013



United Community Hospital N. Broad & Cranberry Rd.



Bashline-Rossman Hospital and Clinic at W. Pine and Center St.



**Visit the Historical Society to see
the wonderful displays of our
medical history.**



The Grove City Area Historical Society
 Will be closing for the year on December 14th

 We will re-open on April 15, 2014

Museum Shoppe
 Don't forget to buy the perfect Christmas gift for friends and family at the Historical Society Museum Shoppe. There is something for everybody!
 Fleece sweatshirts, Grove City history books, magnets, art prints of Grove City scenes, and note cards designed by local artists.
 If you need something mailed to you, email your request to:
 gcahs@zoominternet.net.

Looking forward to a *Wolf Creek Legacy* book signing party Spring of 2014
 Reserve your copy of the Historical Society's latest book today!

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*

Memorial Donations to the Historical Society

Memorial donations are a wonderful way to honor a loved one or friend. You may specify what area of the Historical Society you would like to see your contribution be used. These suggestions are not limited and you may have a more meaningful preference for meeting the needs of the Society.

The **Endowment Fund** is an investment we have with the Community Foundation. It is designated for future needs such as a possible paid director position. Your contribution would help this fund grow.

\$3,400 is needed for a **Stair Lift** to the basement. This will be a great asset to the future display areas, a classroom and an aluminum workshop in the lower level. It is our goal to establish this area in 2014.

Your donation can be earmarked for **Preservation Supplies** such as acid free boxes to safely preserve antique clothing as well as papers and scrap books. These items are quite expensive.

We will send notification of your memorial contribution to the deceased family telling them of your preference for meeting the needs of the Grove City Historical Society.

Send your memorial donation to P.O. Box 764, Grove City, PA 16127

In Memory of:

Address of person to be notified:

Your name and address:

Your specification of how you want your contribution to be used:

FALL ACTIVITIES

Attendance at our four evening seminars totaled 111.

After their classroom instruction by Skip Sample, 103 Middle School students came for a tour of the Historical Society .

15 Institute for Learning in Retirement members enjoyed a catered lunch and History of Aprons program by Linda. Bennett.

Hosting the evening Olde Town Art Walk brought 80 visitors to the Society.

29 Grove City College students visited to get ideas for their Audio Production Interviews and their Documentary Stories.

6 Grove City College students, via the college Archive Department, began volunteering to continue scanning the Ketler Collection in our publication room during this school year.

The Home for the Holidays Olde Town event brought 46 people to our facility on Saturday Nov. 16th.

Grove City Area Historical Society

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

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



Museum and Gift Shoppe Hours
Tuesday-Saturday 12:00PM - 3:00PM

Website:
www.grovecityhistoricalsociety.org
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.
Founding and Life Memberships are payable over 3 years.

Make Checks Payable To: Grove City Area Historical Society

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

DONATIONS:

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY, STATE, ZIP _____
TELEPHONE _____
EMAIL _____
PLEASE CIRCLE: new member renewal change of address

YOUR MEMBERSHIP ENSURES OUR SUCCESS