

111 College Ave. Grove City Pa 16127

The Grove City Area Historical Society Newsletter

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

Volume 17, Issue 2

July 2017

Walk with Us

The Historical Society has just completed a very interesting well-attended Spring Speaker Series. Thank you to our presenters (Lois Hamilton, Skip Sample and Don Cook) and to all who attended. As a follow-up to our last presentation by Don Cook on cemeteries, the Society is hosting a cemetery walking tour on Monday, July 17th (rain date July 18th) at 7:00 p.m. The tour will begin at the Old Presbyterian Cemetery on Greenwood Drive. Cemeteries have so many stories to tell. Several years ago, I took a walking tour of the historic cemeteries in Charleston, S.C. In addition to the many interesting stories the guide told of the deceased, he also told us this bit of folk lore: When we hear the saying “saved by the bell,” we tend to think it pertains to a boxing match, and when we hear the term “graveyard shift,” we think of people who work jobs during the night hours. According to the Charleston guide, these two terms originated many years ago from the occasions when people were mistakenly buried when they were still alive. To alleviate these mistakes, the gravediggers would tie strings to the fingers of persons being buried, bury them, and attach the strings to bells. If the bell jingled from the grave, they would dig up the person. Thus, the term “saved by the bell” originated. And, the workers who sat in the cemetery listening for the ringing of the bells were named the “graveyard shift.” Please mark your calendar to join us on July 17th for interesting stories from our Grove City cemeteries.

In closing, please take note of my enclosed letter describing phase one of the Grove City Area Historical Society’s “Preserve Our History” Fundraiser. I hope you will join me in making a very worthwhile contribution that will help with the preservation of two important pieces of Grove City’s history.



Kathy Jack

Horse Sense

Ever wonder where the phrase “Horse Sense” came from? The phrase came from a 19th century English romance novelist, Evelyn Malcom. This phrase was used to refer to a time mailman Hood Reynold’s horse saved him from a potentially deadly confrontation with a train engine. Here is the account of the event as it was given to me by Lillian Reeher.

A horse with a “lot of horse sense,” probably saved Reynolds from injury in a narrow escape, he recalled. While returning to the post office after dark one cold winter night, he was nearing the railroad crossing at Enterprise Road when a drifting engine sped down the tracks. He yanked the horse to the side of the road, finding barely enough room between the engine and the high bank of the cut at the railway. The good sense of the horse kept it from becoming frightened and attempting to run. Otherwise it might have been the end for both the horse and the rural mail carrier.

Read more about Hood Reynolds and his mail wagon on page 9

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World War One Pew Fine Arts Exhibit

The Gallery in the Pew Fine Arts Building at the Grove City College will soon be transformed into a street view of Broad Street during the time period of World War One. The College and our Historical Society are planning an exhibit that will be held in the gallery at the College around Veteran's Day in November. The exhibit will be depicting the Grove City College and the Grove City community during the time period surrounding World War One. It is our way to honor the Veterans of this war and the experiences that came with it.

During this time, the College and the Grove City residents came together to help prepare for a war that many knew would soon involve their community. The Grove City College even started a military program in 1916 to prepare the men who would all too soon go off to fight in the coming war.

The memory of World War One, which greatly impacted so many people in our community, is being lost to time. Help us to remember the Great World War and to honor those who lived through those difficult years. If you wish to add to the exhibit with copies of any family stories, photos, documents or items please contact the Grove City Area Historical Society by calling 724-458-1798, visiting the Historical Society, or by email: gcahs@zoominternet.net (please send a copy of email to HRWalczak@GCC.EDU). We would welcome your help in creating this wonderful exhibit and hope to see you there when it is open to the public in November.

Grove City College's Army Training Corps During World War One

By Cathy Coulter

In May of 1916 a bill to establish the Reserve Officers Training Corps in colleges was passed and the Grove City College tried to gain support for military training from the War Department. The college applied for a ROTC unit and that fall an inspection of the college facilities for the possible unit was completed by an officer from the War Department. Though the result of the inspection was favorable, the establishment of a unit was postponed until the following year.

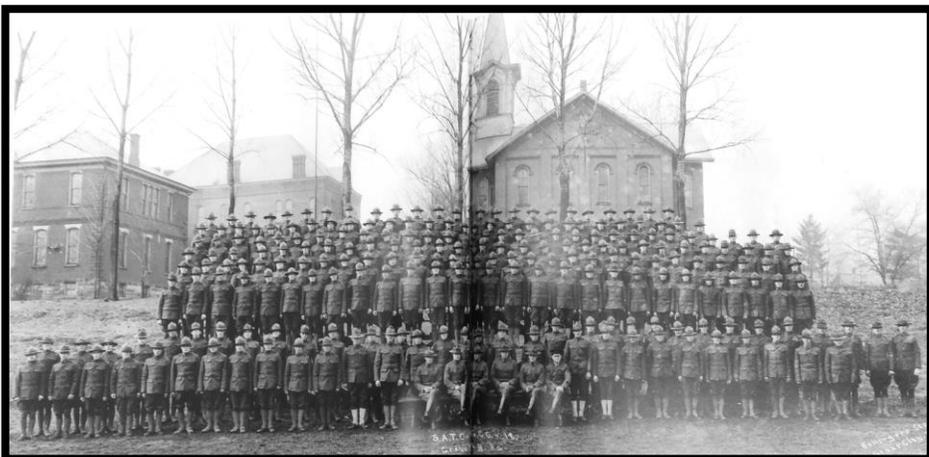
In the spring of 1917, when the time came to establish the requested unit, the United States was facing the entrance into the war. It was decided that the government could not provide the support for the ROTC unit at the Grove City College.

The college decided that the program was worthwhile and established a voluntary military training program. That fall the college made the program a compulsory one for all of the students. The college found and paid a competent officer to run the program. If students had entered into active duty while enrolled, they were given credit for the rest of their current semester and would be readmitted into the college after the war was over.

A member of the Board of Trustees donated the money needed for the college to obtain the necessary training rifles and that year the results of the military training of the students was a success. The next year, in the fall of 1918 the unit had 235 students enrolled in the Army Training Corps that the college was maintaining.

At the time of the signing of the armistice, the Army Training Corps was demobilized and the College once more contacted the War Department requesting a ROTC unit be established there.

The requested unit was finally organized in 1919. The school year of 1919-1920 saw the program as a requirement for all freshmen and sophomores and an option for the juniors and seniors. Those involved in the program received course credit towards a college degree.



1919 - The men who joined the Army Training Corps were given the rank of Private. Their expenses for food, clothes, and housing, as well as a pay of \$30, a month were provided by the federal government.

Photo from [Mercer County Pennsylvania Pictorial History 1800 - 2000](#), sponsored by the Mercer County Bicentennial Commission.

Wardle's / Bob's Bike Shop

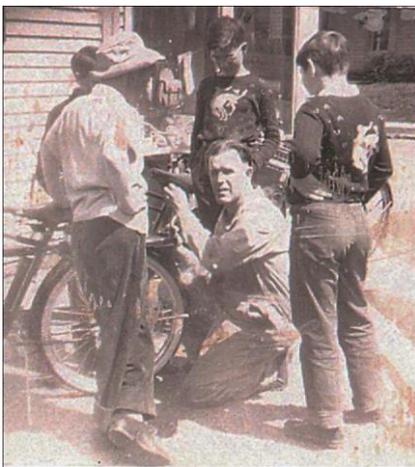
By Cathy Coulter

Wardle's was a well-known shop in Grove City's past. It created many warm memories for those who spent time there as children. Bob and Lois Wardle could not have imagined back in 1933 when they opened the bike shop that so many of us would still hold the business and the Wardle family close in our childhood memories.

It is hard to believe today that Bob and Lois Wardle started the business with only \$300 and an inventory of 6 bikes. The idea of the bike shop all started because Bob had been working in a coal mine and they had a small bike rental business in the Memorial Park of Grove City. Bob was beginning to have some health problems when Lois suggested starting a bike shop.

The idea was born and with that \$300, in 1933, so was Bob's Bike Shop that would last 74 years.

The inside of the building looked far different when Wardle's started compared to when its doors were shut for the final time. In the beginning the first floor was divided in half. The left side was designated for the business and the right side was for the living quarters. The living room, kitchen, and dining room were located down stairs with the bedrooms upstairs. On the left as you walked in the door, you would find bikes lined up on an angle going backward toward the bike repair and cash register. At one time in the front of the bike shop you would find a cooler with pop and ice



cream for sale, as well as the bikes. Later, the shop was expanded into the living quarters on the first floor.

Bob Wardle passed away in 1980 and his wife continued the shop with the help of their daughter, Nancy. It was then that Lois incorporated crafting supplies into her inventory.

I myself remember the first time visiting there when I was young. The sense of wonder at all of the toys and craft items. I admired the wood floors and the display cases at the front on the left-hand side. When you entered the shop, you did not know what kind of small toys you might find hidden among the shelves. When I had my own children, I made sure I took them into Wardle's and shared with them a part of my childhood.

The First Garage in Grove City

By Cathy Coulter

Have you ever wondered how the first automobile garage got started in Grove City? The garage business has become so important in our lives, yet, it is a business we don't think of much until we need their service. In Grove City, the first garage was owned by Harry and Clarence Moon. They opened it in 1908 when there were fewer than four automobiles in the area. These men had taken notice of the up and coming trend in car ownership and wanted to be a part of it. Of course, at the time there was not much work needed for the automobiles. Most of their business came from the repair of general machinery for a few years. Then, eventually they needed to enlarge their business to the exclusive repair of the automobiles. The two men were still in the barrage business 40 years later.

Spring Seminars

A special thank you to our presenters Lois Hamilton, "Skip" Sample, and Don Cook. They did a wonderful job presenting their topics and they were enjoyed by everyone who attended. New Seminars are always being planned. If you have an idea for a program you might like to attend or to present, please contact me and I will see what we can do.

THE PARK VIEW RESTAURANT

By Laurie McCandless and Interview with Norma Jean Luckey

During the mid-1940s through the mid-60s, the Park View Restaurant was a happening eating establishment in Grove City. With Grove City Memorial Park right across the street, a seat by the window provided a great view of the park and the pond.

The Park View was the brain-child of Norman Humphrey, whose father owned the gas station next door (where Grove City Beverage is today). Prior to World War II, Norman ran the Isaly's store in downtown Grove City, and when duty called, he served in the Army Air Corps during the war. Afterward he went to Florida and ran a hotel. When he returned to Grove City where he had grown up, he purchased the property next to the gas station and built the restaurant in 1946. As a result of his Isaly's experience, he knew what he was doing.



This was a family business: Norman was the waiter, his Aunt Jessie baked, and his mother cooked. It is believed he was the first person in Pennsylvania to offer curbside service, and he hired college girls to serve the folks parked in their cars outside. At this time, Norman and his wife, the former Mildred Thompson, lived in the second-floor apartment of the gas station. The restaurant was so busy, that Norman was only getting about four hours of sleep each night, so after only 1½ years, he sold the business but retained ownership of the building.



Park View
Root Beer Glass

Norman then went to Grove City College on the GI Bill but continued to work part-time running a grocery store and driving school bus. Their daughter Norma Jean was born in 1949, and when she was two years old, her parents bought a yellow brick house on West Main Street. This house was later torn down to make way for a Western Auto store (next to the Dairy Queen). After Norman graduated, the family moved to Florida where he taught at Florida State University. His professional career took the family to Cleveland, and then back to Pennsylvania, where he taught at Penn State, and

then Clarion State College where he earned professor emeritus status. He also built a machine to pull pipes out of wells.

Norma Jean recalls a story her father often told: It was a rather slow and quiet Sunday afternoon when a limousine drove up. A lady and her driver came into the restaurant. Norman seated her near the window so she could look out at the park, and the driver sat at the counter. She had a piece of pie and after saying how delicious it was, she asked for a second piece. Before she left, she wrote down a family recipe of hers and gave it to Norman. After she left, Norman discovered this mystery lady was Mrs. H. J. Heinz!

Part 2 of The Park View Restaurant will be in the November Newsletter

Political Officials Visit Grove City

Grove City has been visited by notable people throughout its history. Three such men were Pennsylvania Governor Sydney Stuart, Pennsylvania Adjutant General Thomas J. Stewart and recently the Vice President of the United States, Michael Pence.

On November 6, 1908 Pennsylvania Governor Sydney Stuart came to GC for the Company M 16th Reg. N.G.P. Armory dedication. He arrived at 2 pm and was taken to the reviewing stand located at Pine and Broad Street.

Speeches were given. Immediately after the parade the dedicatory exercises and a grand ball were held in the armory.



Pennsylvania Governor Edwin Stuart, standing with other state dignitaries

On May 20, 2017, the Vice President of the United States became the highest-ranking official to speak at the Grove City College commencement. The College graduated 606 students and had over 6,000 people present for the graduation ceremony. Vice President Michael Pence shook each graduate's hand as they received their diplomas. His keynote speech may have lasted only 15 minutes but in the memories of those who were in attendance, it was a moment they will not soon forget.



*Vice President
Michael Pence*

The Beginning of Worship in and Around Grove City

By Rev. Bob McCreight

Historical beginnings are not often recorded. Even when they are, those recordings are sometimes unclear, or become lost altogether. All this is true regarding the beginning of worshipping communities (churches) in and around Grove City. Given what we know and what we can presume, what follows is the story of how the early settlers to this area brought their faith with them, and created a legacy of various religious expressions.

The westward migration of tens of thousands of European immigrants during the eighteenth century was stalled by the Revolutionary War. That war effectively removed the British and French presence in the Great Lakes region, but did not resolve the ongoing threat of Indian dangers. That would not come until the Battle of Fallen Timbers was fought about 20 miles SW of present-day Toledo, Ohio, in August, 1793. It would be two more years before the treaty would take effect, making it relatively safe to establish a home in western Pennsylvania and Ohio. The provision of land grants to men who fought in the Revolutionary War also stimulated settlement in our region.

Once the way was clear, there was no stopping the wave of mostly young families wanting to make their home here. It is remarkable how hungry they were to bring their Christian convictions with them into this new frontier. By far the largest numbers of those early settlers had recently come from Scotland and Northern Ireland, where several expressions of the Presbyterian Church were well-ingrained into their convictions. They came also with a fierce sense of independence and a strong commitment to engage in religious activities without any outside interference. That was a large part of the reason they left their European homes to come to this new nation.

Presbyterian ministers south and east of Pittsburgh were hoping and praying for missionaries to take the gospel onto the frontier for nearly two decades before this was possible in northwestern Pennsylvania. By the spring of 1797 missionaries like Revs. Samuel Tait, Elisha Macurdy, James Satterfield, Joseph Badger, Benjamin Boyd, and William Wylie were acting on that commission. Once a congregation began to come together a pastor would establish a long-term relationship with those folks but would usually continue to itinerate wherever several families might come together. In addition, he might need to farm or practice some other trade to provide for his own physical needs. Because of the expansiveness of the territory and the sparse number of people, expressions of faith frequently consisted of family bible readings and prayer. When families came together without a minister present someone might read a printed sermon and portions of the Westminster Confession of Faith - the hallmark of Presbyterians at that time. Singing psalms and hymns were also popular.

As more settlers planted roots in this region congregations began to form (and sometimes disband) and those itinerant pastors became more localized. Here is where printed records would be especially helpful. Formal organization did not happen until several years after people were gathering informally, and choosing a name for that gathering was never the first thing those people did. Not infrequently the same "congregation" might have different names over time. For instance, two early churches were located in present-day New Bedford and near New Wilmington and were served by the same pastor. Either or perhaps both churches together were called "Hopewell," "Forks of the Big Beaver," "Mahoning," "Beaverton," "McIntosh," "Neshannock," and "Shenango."

Look for Part 2 "When Does a Church Begin?" in the November 2017 Newsletter.

October is Family History Month

By Cathy Coulter

There are many ways in which you and your family can celebrate family history during October. You can start your family tree. Visit the Historical Society, take a tour of our museum and see if you can find memories among our treasures to share with your children and grandchildren. We can also help you with your family tree. Having a reunion or simply getting together with your extended family is a fun way to celebrate family history. Creating a family history journal filled with stories that have been handed down over the years or by adding special stories of your own family would be a wonderful way of sharing your history with future generations. How about visiting the past with your children by taking a trip to the places that are significant to your family history? Some of those places might be old family homes, places where special family events have taken place or cemeteries where your ancestors are buried. There are many more ways to share and enjoy Family History Month. Find one for you and your family and have fun in October with your family!

The Historical Society will be celebrating Family History Month with a seminar on Monday, Oct. 23, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. by Laurie McCandless. She will share her roots in Hickory Township and Grove City. Come and share the history of this family and learn about Hickory Township and Grove City through her family.

Summer Reading



Summer has arrived and many find reading a pleasant pastime during the summer. The Historical Society Museum Shoppe has books available that might interest you. Our collection of books for sale range from books on Grove City's history and genealogy to books written by local authors. We have 2 new books coming to our Gift Shoppe this summer which are featured below. Two other books that we have available are *Wolf Creek Legacy*, written by our own volunteer, Lillian Reynolds Reeher (\$25.00) and *Grandma Left the Light On*, written by the *Grove City Area Historical Society* (25.00).

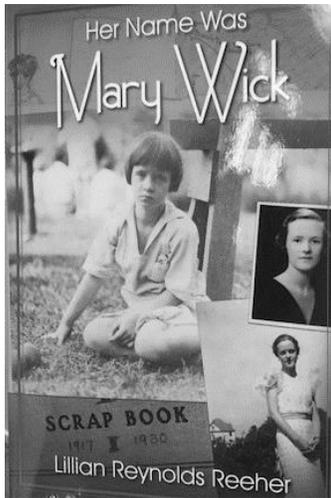


You can buy both *Wolf Creek Legacy* and *Grandma Left the Light On* for only \$35.00!

You can visit our Museum Shoppe and purchase our publications during our normal business hours, on our website: www.grovecityhistoricalsociety.org or by phone: 724-458-1798

Her Name Was Mary Wick

by Lillian Reynolds Reeher



Her Name Was Mary Wick is a new book by Lillian Reynolds Reeher. Some years ago, at an antiques mart, Lillian bought a set of scrapbooks and a box of medical illustrations, and later decided to write a book about the interesting woman who kept the scrapbooks and drew the illustrations. Now this 208-page book with illustrations is available at the Grove City Area Historical Society. All monies from the sale of the book go to benefit the Society. Here is an excerpt from the book.

“Nestled within the worn covers of five scrapbook albums, we find Mary Wick. Early photographs show her as a serious, bespectacled, bob-haired little girl. That’s pretty much how she appeared in later photos, oh, taller, but still slim and serious. She was born into a well-seated Youngstown family, one with a history of scholars and achievement. So why did she not just evolve into a rather serious socialite? And what led her to become a medical illustrator? The albums hold the clues. She was encouraged by her father, Jim Wick, who exposed her to the arts and travel. Attention to detail packs her scrapbooks, from childhood through college. By the time, she graduated from Chaney High School, outside influences had been affecting her, as they would at Mount Holyoke and Johns Hopkins. The goal of Mount Holyoke had always been to produce strong women, who were not afraid to take a stand on issues, particularly those that would affect other females. So, when Mary graduated with the Class of ’37, the year Dr. Mary Emma Woolley ended her 36-years as president, the year Mount Holyoke broke with tradition and hired a male president, of course Mary was affected.

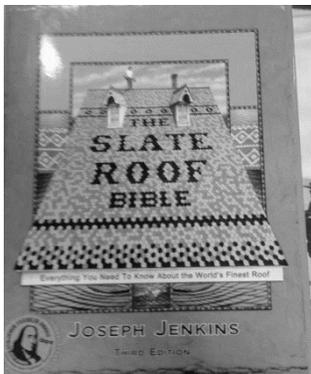
Within her scrapbooks, Mary Wick quietly detailed her way through a Depression, two World Wars, a top-of-the-line Ivy League women’s school, and an evolving society to become, who she was to begin with, a serious, bespectacled and stately, Mary Wick.”

The Slate Roof Bible: Everything You Need to Know About the World’s Finest Roof

By Joseph Jenkins

A third edition of *The Slate Roof Bible, Everything you Need to Know about the World’s Finest Roof* by Joseph Jenkins has been revised and updated. It has been recognized as a finalist in the 19th annual Foreword Indies Book of the Year Awards in the category of Architecture.

The Slate Roof Bible is about the slate industry, its history and how to properly work with slate. Mr. Jenkins has included in the book history, techniques, tips, and personal anecdotes on how to work with slate. The information comes from his 47 plus years of experience in the industry and is the ultimate slate roofing book.



“Preserve Our History” Fundraiser

Dear Historical Society Member,

The historical articles displayed and stored at the Historical Society are very important to us and, in many cases, irreplaceable. Preservation of these artifacts and the maintenance of our Historical Society building can often times become costly. Since our financial income is generated solely from membership dues and donations, we do not have the necessary funds available to complete two projects that require our attention this year. These projects are the restoration and placement of the Grove City antique mail wagon and the preservation of the Giesmann Photograph Collection. As you may recall, our last newsletter contained information on both projects.

The antique mail wagon was donated to the Historical Society several years ago by Board Member Lillian Reynolds Reeher’s cousin, Robert Reynolds. Their grandfather, R. Hood Reynolds, delivered mail from the wagon, beginning in 1917, to residents in the Grove City area. This old mail wagon may be the last of its kind in the entire state, making it a very valuable and worthwhile restoration project. Grove City College is currently storing it for us. We have plans to place the restored mail wagon in one of our basement rooms at the Historical Society, which, we hope, will encourage an increase in visitors to the Historical Society. In addition to the restoration costs, preparing the room for the mail wagon display will require an additional expense.

The Giesmann Photograph Collection is comprised of 55 large boxes of photographs and negatives that we acquired several years ago. The photos were largely taken by the late Carl Giesmann in Grove City and cover several decades from 1950 to 1981. The Heinz History Center in Pittsburgh informed us that the collection was priceless, offering a wonderful “snapshot” of the people in our community. Currently, these invaluable photographs and negatives are being contained in old cardboard boxes that are quickly deteriorating from handling and moisture. It is urgent that we purchase new moisture-resistant, sturdy boxes to replace the old boxes before the Collection becomes permanently damaged.

Phase One goal is to raise \$5,000. Please help us “preserve our history” by making a donation for these important projects. You can do this by completing the attached form and returning it, along with your gift, to the Grove City Area Historical Society, 111 College Avenue, Grove City, PA 16127.

Sincerely,
Kathy Jack, President

“Preserve Our History” Fundraiser

Name _____ Address _____
Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

I have enclosed my gift of ___ \$5.00 ___ \$10.00 ___ \$25.00 ___ \$100 ___ Other

Volunteers can assist you at the Historical Society in getting started with some of the following electronic resources:

Mercer County Cemetery Inscriptions

computer index of names for individuals in Mercer County cemeteries is the place to begin. Once you find the correct name, you will be directed to one of 16 volumes, for maps and more information

Ancestry.com

one of the world’s best electronic resources for researching family history. The GCAHS has a subscription to Ancestry’s United States records, as well as international records

Historical Land Record Index

for searching Mercer County historical land records

Grove City Historical Society’s Database of Archives

also, known as “Past Perfect”. Ask a volunteer to assist you in searching this catalog, to learn more about what is contained in the building

Visitors may use the Society’s computer, Black and White Printing - *20 cents* a page, non-members - *50 cents*)

Resources continued:

In our Library, we have the following printed resources available to help you with your research:

Family Histories

Newspaper Clippings File

Local Histories

Grove City: The Way We Were, Grove City Area Historical Society, 2005

Grandma Left the Light On, GCAHS, 2009 (Grove City architecture)

Grove City, Postcard History Series. Arcadia, 2004

Mercer County Memories, Pediment Publishing, 2004

Reflections of Our Past: Celebrating 200 Years of Grove City, PA, Grove City Bicentennial Committee, 1998

Combination Atlas of the County of Mercer and the State of Pennsylvania from Actual Surveys and Official Records, G.M. Hopkins Co., 1873. Many maps, sketches, biographies. Indexed (1975 online version available through Ancestry.com).

History of Mercer County, PA: Its Past and Present including its Aboriginal History; its Early Settlement and Development...Neighborhood and Family Histories; Portraits..., Brown, Runk & Co., 1888 - separate index.

Twentieth Century History of Mercer County Pennsylvania, Vols.1-2, John G. White, Lewis Publishing, 1909- traces history from 1800. Also, online (searchable by keyword),

City Directories - sporadic years from 1909 - present; mainly for Grove City

Grove City College and Grove City High School yearbooks

Books by local Authors

Revolutionary Veterans

By Chris Guarnieri

Founded in 1798, Grove City did not send any soldier to the Revolutionary War, but that doesn't mean the area that was to become Grove City didn't welcome veterans and their families. Our young country was in financial arrears by the end of the Revolutionary War and had few funds to compensate the soldiers. Land grants substituted for pay, so many veterans took advantage of land allotments in the "wilderness" of Western Pennsylvania.

One such recipient was Andrew Rose. Born circa 1754 in Philadelphia, he was the son of John Rose who fled England (to Holland) to escape religious persecution. From Holland, John emigrated to New York and then moved to the Monmouth area of New Jersey. Andrew moved west into Pennsylvania to Durham, Bucks Co., where he married Hannah Chapman in 1774. Shortly thereafter, he swore the Oath of Allegiance in Bucks Co. and made shot and shells for the Continental Army (source: DAR genealogical services). According to Lorena Montgomery's History, Andrew participated in the battle of Monmouth, which took place near his father's home.

Between 1796-97 Andrew took his growing family to Western Pennsylvania, settling on what is now Cranberry Road. He owned land between Gaspar and George Junior Roads. The farmstead remained in the Rose family for most of the 20th century until it was sold to developers to create Cranberry Village. The family cemetery remains on the property.

Andrew and Hannah Chapman Rose had eight children:

Ephraim who married a Miss Quillen

Jacob who married Rebecca Clark

Andrew who married a Miss Wood

James who married Martha McKinley (*Grandparents of President William McKinley.*)

Chapman who married another Miss Quillen

Mary who married James McKinley

Elizabeth who married David Mitchill

With memories of Memorial Day still fresh in our minds, it is good to know Grove City has always welcomed Veterans.

Do You Need a Location to Hold an Event or Meeting?

The Historical Society would like to let you know that our building is available for you to use for events and meetings. If you are interested in using our building please visit the Historical Society or call 724-458-1789.

Rural Mail Carrier Hood Reynolds

By Cathy Coulter

In 1917, The Grove City Post Office was located in the Odd Fellows Building and the Postmaster was W.W. Van Mean. James "Jim" Christie was the mail carrier for the Rural Route 16 out of Grove City (north of Grove City) and he became ill at the end of December of that year and was unable to deliver the mail for his route. With the mail beginning to pile up, someone was needed to step in and deliver the mail.

On the 25th of December, the Postmaster contacted Hood Reynolds asking if he would be able to become the substitute mail carrier. Though he had no experience working for the postal service, he agreed to help out. Reynolds soon learned how to do the job with the help from Postmaster Van Mean, Grover Bower (a postal employee) and other rural carriers.

Five months later Reynolds, along with several others (Ernest Hassel, Robert Elder, "Shorty" McFeaters, and a man from Mercer), took the examination for the postal service. Reynolds was offered the job out of Grove City Post office and was given Route 14. He delivered the mail on this route for about 10 years before requesting to be transferred to Route 16 in June 1928, when James Christie retired.

His mail route was 28 miles long at first, covering McCoytown through Enterprise, past Galloway School, through a small corner of Butler County and several miles into Venango County. Later a post official completed an inspection of the route and shortened it by 2 miles.

Reynolds was paid \$100.00 each month for delivering the mail, but was given no equipment allowance until World War II. He was required to have three horses ready so he could do his job. He drove a horse and buggy that first winter to deliver the mail and then bought a closed mail wagon. In 1919, he bought his first car which was a 1916 Model T Ford.

The mail wagon in this article has been donated to the Historical Society by Board Member Lillian Reynolds Reeher's cousin, Robert Reynolds. Hood Reynolds was their grandfather. He retired from the U.S. Post Office in Grove City after working for 31 years as a rural letter carrier. He died on March 9, 1981 after only two weeks of illness at the age of 98. Hood was the son of George Findley and Mary Hood Reynolds and had been born on September 1, 1882 in Huff, Indiana County. He and his wife, the former Edna Martha Bobbitt, had four sons and four daughters.

Do You have any interesting stories of Grove City or its residents that you would like to share in our newsletter? If so please send me a brief description and your contact information. You can contact me, Cathy Coulter:

By mail: 111 College Ave, P.O. Box 764, Grove City, Pa. 16127,

By email: cathycoulter1@yahoo.com.

By Phone: Historical Society Phone number of 724-458-1798.

YOUR MEMBERSHIP ENSURES OUR SUCCESS

NAME _____ TELEPHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PLEASE CIRCLE: new member renewal change of address

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES:

Founding \$1,000.00 Life \$500.00 Corporate \$50.00 Family \$40.00

Individual \$20.00 Student / Senior \$10.00 Donations: \$ _____

- Yes, I would like to volunteer. Please contact me about what opportunities are available

Founding and Life Memberships are payable over 3 years.

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, Box 764, Grove City, PA 16127

Make Checks Payable to: Grove City Area Historical Society

Grove City Area Historical Society
Cathy Coulter, Newsletter Editor
cathycoulter1@yahoo.com
111 College Ave
P.O. Box 764
Grove City, Pa. 16127

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

Museum and Gift Shoppe Hours
Tuesday – Saturday 12:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Our first day of the year is April 11th
Our last day for this year is Dec.9th
724-458-1798

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

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Upcoming Seminars and Events

July 17, 7:00 p.m. Cemetery Walking Tour. Meet at the Old Presbyterian Cemetery on Greenwood Drive (rain date: Tuesday, July 18th)

August 14th 6:00 p.m. Old Fashioned Pot luck picnic at Memorial Park in the Keystone Pavilion. Bring a dish to share and table service. Drinks will be provided.

October 4th Deadline for November newsletter articles

Sept. 25, Monday, 6:30 p.m. - The Heart at the Start of My Art (Tales of a Storied Expressionist) presented by Lillian Reynolds Reher.

Oct. 9, Monday, 6:30 p.m. - The Rhona Disaster - a World War II Tragedy with Grove City Ties - Mary Jo Palmer describes the ship's disaster and loss of lives that was kept a guarded government secret for many years.

Oct. 23, Monday, 6:30 p.m. - Celebrate Family History Month as Laurie McCandless shares her roots in Hickory Township and Grove City.

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