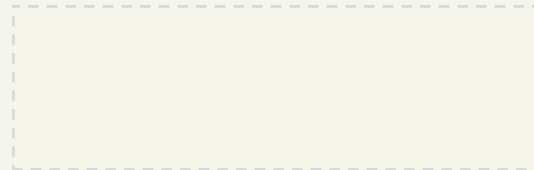




Forest County Historical Society
206 Elm Street
PO Box 546
Tionesta, PA 16353



Tuesday Talks at the Museum

Last year we initiated a lecture series on Wednesday evenings at the museum. There were an average of 12 to 20 people attending each week and a total of more than 150 people over the summer.

We considered this program a huge success and are going to bring it back this summer but on Tuesday evenings. They will be called "Tuesday Talks at the Museum".

These talks will be held at the Museum every Tuesday this summer from 7:00 – 8:00 pm. Each week we will host a different speaker to talk about a topic of interest here in Forest County. A list of speakers will be posted on Facebook, in The Forest Press, and on our website.

The Museum's Tuesday hours will be from 1:00 pm – 8:00 pm. Visitors may come early then attend the presentation from 7:00 – 7:30 pm. Speakers will talk with visitors from 7:30 – 8:00 pm, or you can poke around the nooks and crannies of the Robinson House.

For the price of a tour (\$5.00 for adults, \$3.00 for students 13 years and older and children under 12 are free as are members), you can come any Tuesday and tour the museum and learn about an area of concern to Forest County.

If you would be willing to share any knowledge and expertise you have, we invite you to be a speaker. Please email forestcountypahistory@gmail.com

ry@gmail.com and let Jake Knauff know what you would like to talk about and on which Tuesday you would like to present. We have a couple already confirmed spots but need many more.

We are looking forward to a series of interesting Forest County history talks this summer and invite you to join us for these interesting talks!

Commissioner Basil Huffman speaking at FCHS in 2019.



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FOREST FRAGMENTS

F O R E S T C O U N T Y H I S T O R I C A L S O C I E T Y

OFFICERS:

- May Alyce Knauff, President
- Janet Fennell, Vice President
- Ron Heasley, Secretary
- Toni Vrbonic, Treasurer

DIRECTORS:

- Mary Lee Lehman, Corresponding Sec.
- Jackie Kuhn
- Carol Barnett, Memorials
- Burke Beach, Buildings/Grounds
- Becky Pillsbury
- Mike Thompson

HISTORIANS:

- Leonard Nicklas
- Brian Hale

From the FCHS President

Our first newsletter of 2020 finds us making history as we write. 2020 will forever be remembered throughout the world as we are living through an unprecedented time because of the COVID-19 virus.

At the History Center we have been socially distanced from the public since our December event. But there has been much going on behind the scenes, as usual.

As you will see in the newsletter, projects have been ongoing in preparation for our opening on Memorial Day Weekend.

All events will be covered and up to date announce-

ments made on our website ForestCountyPAhistory.org. Please check it frequently.

We certainly hope we can have our Spring Dinner (date to be announced) and our Tea on May 19. Detailed information can be found in the newsletter.

We are in the process of getting our roof replaced this summer. We have had several grants, but it is a big project that still needs funding.

At the dinner, we will be signing up docents for the summer. We need committed volunteers to keep the museum going.

I want to remind everyone to send in their membership renewals, if you have not already done so. These funds along with annual funds donations, represent the major source of finances that enable the society to grow and continue to service the people of Forest County.

In addition to your financial support we also need your time. The members of the board put in many hours to support the mission of the organization. Please thank them when you see them and consider joining them.

Respectfully,
Mary Alyce Knauff,
President

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

Museum Opening Day
May 22, 2020

Spring Dinner
POSTPONED

Annual Tea Party
May 19, 2020

Spring Dinner Postponed

The Spring Dinner planned for late April has been postponed. Watch the Forest Press, the FCHS website and our Facebook page for announcement of a new date.

To ensure the safety of all, will wait until the coronavirus passes before rescheduling this event. We hope to see you there!

New Officers Elected

Late last fall, the Board of the Forest County Historical Society elected its new officers. They are:

Mary Alice (Jake) Knauff, President
Janet Fennell, Vice President
Toni Vrbonic, Treasurer
Ron Heasley, Secretary

Women’s Right to Vote in Forest County

2020 marks one hundred years since Congress passed the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote. Brian Hale, FCHS Historian gave us the following information:

During President Woodrow Wilson’s second term as President, the movement for women’s right to vote increased. The proposal was brought before the United States House of Representatives on May 21, 1919 where it was voted and accepted.

The House of representatives approved the proposal on June 14, 1919. This, the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution, was ratified on August 18, 1920. The 19th Amendment states the following: “The right of citizens of the United States vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex. Congress shall have the power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.”

With the ratification of the 19th Amendment, women were allowed, for the first time in United States history, to vote for the President of the United States. The following article was addressed to the Women Voters of Forest County six days prior to that election on November 2, 1920.



Tionesta women on parade, circa 1918.

This photo shows Forest County women marching south on Elm Street in Tionesta Borough to support the right for women to vote. Nell (Davis) Curtis is leading the ladies on the left side of the photo. June (Herman) Carringer is on the right wearing the black hat.

The Forest
Republican
(October 27,
1920)

“Call to
Republican
Women”



To the Women Voters of Forest County:

Some 811 women in Forest County will have the privilege of casting their votes on November 2 for Presidential and other candidates for State and national offices. This is the finest group of voters ever added to an electorate – the mothers, wives, daughters of the men who governed this country for over a hundred years.

You represent their homes, the home influence, the home atmosphere, all that is best and finest in the lives of your men folks.

You come to the polls with clean hands and clean slates. It is your duty to come every one of you. It is your duty to join a party and help that party carry out the policies that you believe best for your country, your State, your city or town. The government of the United States, the best in the world, is based on the party.

The great majority of you will vote the Republican ticket. Don’t think because you are a majority your vote is not needed. It is needed and

asked for. The men want it, your fellow women want it, the party wants it. Forest County with its 811 new voters should roll up one of the greatest Republican majorities ever known, one worthy the example in Maine.

Let the country know overwhelmingly that the women want Republicanism – that they are tired of Democracy. Think twice before you split your ticket. Get the party you want into power. Then, if you are not satisfied with the management of that party or any portion of it, clean house. Don’t attempt to clean house before you have possession of the house and so lose control of it.

The Republican Women’s County Committee has been organized to urge every woman in the county to join the Republican organization, to cast a straight Republican ballot on November 2 and in addition, to interest her undecided neighbor to do the same.

Anna M. Allgood, Chairman
Ida Bortz, Vice President
Republican Women’s County Committee

2020 Membership Form

FCHS Membership entitles you to free access to the Forest County History Museum for a year and a free subscription to “Forest Fragments”, our quarterly newsletter.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-Mail: _____ Phone: _____

Number of Memberships: ____ x \$15.00 each \$_____ Membership(s) Total
\$_____ Donation
\$_____ Total enclosed

Make Checks payable to: FCHS

Mail with this form to: Forest County Historical Society, PO Box 546, Tionesta, PA 16353

Join or Renew for 2020

We continue to accept memberships for 2020. Many thanks for those that have already paid their membership dues for 2020. We appreciate your support!.

Save the Date: May Tea Party

This year’s Tea Party fundraiser is planned for May 19th at the History Museum. More information will be available soon. Watch our website events calendar and Facebook for details!



Notable Women in Forest County

In 2020, the Forest County Historical Society is looking to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the passing of the 19th Amendment. We know women from Forest County were active in this cause, as we have pictures from a parade in 1918 showing women dressed appropriately and carrying a banner promoting their right to vote.

We would like to compile

some records and place on display information and artifacts about notable women from Forest County. We need some help with this project as women have been noticeably left out of the record books. If you know of any women, alive or passed on, you think are notable for their contributions to Forest County, please tell us who they are and as much as you can about them. You can

email your thoughts and information to forestcountypahistory@gmail.com.

We plan to create a display including an open book that one could look through and read about some of the notable women we have or have had in our county.

Thank you for your help to uncover and identify some notable women from Forest County!



Pigeon Coloring Book Being Developed

The FCHS has set education as a primary goal. We received a grant from the Conservation Board to help with the production of a coloring book that educates children about local history and the museum itself.

The book will feature a character based on the now extinct passenger pigeon on each page to guide children through different displays at the museum.

The book will tell the story of Forest County and some of the people most influential in creating our county. They will be available for purchase this summer at the museum.

Introducing: “Pixon Pennesta”



FCHS held a contest to name our pigeon character with elementary students from both East Forest and West Forest participating. Every student who participated in the contest received a free ticket to visit the museum.

Why a Passenger Pigeon? There is a village in Forest County called Pigeon, near Marienville in the north-east area of the county, named because of the Passenger Pigeons that used to roost there in huge numbers.

Wikipedia tells us: The Passenger Pigeon looks a little bit different than pigeons we see today. It weighed about the same as a can of pop (12oz) and stood 16 inches tall. It had a blueish gray neck and head and the upper mantle was bright bronze, violet or golden-green. The tail feathers had white outer edges with blackish spots that were dis-

played in flight. The wings were very long and pointed. This bird used to be found all over North America, but mostly in the Eastern part around the Great Lakes.

The Passenger Pigeon migrated in enormous flocks, constantly searching for food, shelter and breeding grounds. At one time, there were at least 3 billion of these birds and it may have been the most numerous species of bird on earth. They flew very fast – up to 62 miles per hour. The noise a flock made was deafening and could be heard from miles away. When they landed, they often crowded so close together on a tree that they would break the branches.

This bird is believed to have played a significant role in the composition of the forests of eastern North America. White Oaks once grew so plentifully because their seeds germinated in the fall, so they were not eaten by the pigeons. However, Red Oaks produced acorns in the spring, which the Passenger Pigeons ate. Once the Passenger Pigeon population dwindled, the Red Oaks started to grow, so we now have many Red Oaks in the Eastern U.S.

Passenger Pigeons were an important source of food

for both Native Americans and the early European settlers. Among game birds, they were second only to the turkey. They were so easy to shoot, that many people did not consider them game birds. Hunters usually waited until they passed over and then just aimed their guns upward and would bring down many pigeons.

By the mid-1800s railroads came along and people were able to ship masses of pigeons to restaurants in cities across the country. Also, the telegraph could tell people where the flocks were. So many pigeons were killed that they became extinct. The last living passenger pigeon died in 1912.

We are proud to announce the winning name is: *Pixon Pennesta*. Pixon was submitted by Alison McLaughlin of West Forest and Pennesta was submitted by Jayden Colvin of East Forest. These two students will receive a twenty-dollar bill and a quarter collection. Congratulations to the winners and thank you to all students who participated.

The Forest County Historical Society is proud to acknowledge the history of Forest County through following the passenger pigeon.

Roof Replacement Update

Rowan Rose, Director, Forest County Economic Development has been able to reallocate over \$12,000 to assist us with our roof replacement.

With \$10,000 from the Proper Fund we already have grants and donations over \$15,000. This will get us most of the funding to do the roof replacement this year. We will also be seeking funds to replace the gutters.

If you have made a donation to this project, thank you! If you are interested in making a donation, you may do so through our website at <https://forestcountypahistory.org/join-donate/> or you may mail a check payable to: FCHS, PO Box 546, Tionesta, PA 16353. Please note on the check that it is for the Roof Project. Thank you!

Interactive Display Installed at History Museum

A new interactive display at the Museum will feature information on Cyrus Blood, the founder of Marienville and Forest County, as well as Lt. John Range, the founder of Tionesta.

Navigation buttons on the touch screen will allow visitors to choose the Blood or Range family and then navigate to information within each presentation, including

photos and family trees in the genealogy section.

The presentations were created by Aimee Haslet as part of her internship at the History Museum last summer.

We will be adding presentations throughout the summer, starting with a presentation on the artifacts on the second floor of the Museum for those that are not comfortable with the stairs.

