



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

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- May Alyce Knauff, President
- Bernadette Holzer, Vice President
- Ron Heasley, Secretary
- Toni Vrboncic, Treasurer

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

HISTORIANS:

- Leonard Nicklas
- Brian Hale

From the FCHS President

September is here and I think docents, as well as the community, will look forward to cooler and clearer days ahead.

We have had a good summer season at the museum. It appears people are back moving around, and many find our museum interesting. As of this writing (during our last full week of being open) we have had 181 visitors for tours and 223 visitors for our Tuesday Talks, for a total of 404 people using the museum this season.

I would like to thank all our docents and volunteers for their service. Whether it was a one-time or ongoing

commitment, our volunteers work together to create a source of pride for our community. Thank you all.

I do have to give a special shout-out to Becky Pillsbury for her landscaping with the flowers around the house. Becky has spent much time "in the dirt" this year and we have received many compliments from visitors.

Our display this year celebrates 160 years since the Civil War, featuring information about the role Forest County played in this war. We will continue this theme in our fall dinner program (see article below).

We have some big plans for next season. We hope to paint, create some new signage, and maybe even get a wheelchair ramp built for the lumber camp exhibit.

As we enter our Fall season, we will only be open on Fridays and Saturdays, but still plan to have some seasonal events and hope to see you there. Please keep in touch via the website:

www.forestcountypahistory.org

*Respectfully,
Mary Alyce Knauff
President*

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

Marienville Oktoberfest
Sept. 24-26

FCHS Fall Dinner
October 21

Trick-or-Treat at FCHS
(to be announced)

FCHS Fall Dinner will be held October 21st

The FCHS Fall Dinner will be held Thursday, October 21st, at St. Anthony's Church in Tionesta. Doors will open at 5:30 and dinner will be served at 6:00.

Ryan (Burke) Beach will be the guest speaker, assisted by Rodney Daum. They will have a display of Civil War small arms, ammunition, and uniform parts

and talk about the weapons that were issued to each soldier. He will also discuss the range of rifled muskets compared to that of smooth bore muskets, the various types of bullets used, and different loading methods.

The reservation form is on page 3. Please be sure we receive it by Oct. 8th!

Tuesday Talks...What we learned in 2021:

Peggy Butler kicked off this year's Tuesday Talks on May 25 with a **presentation on the state insect, the firefly**. Peggy and her husband Ken have chaired the PA Firefly Festival for the past 9 years to celebrate rare synchronous fireflies found here in Forest County.

Peggy was followed by **Georgene Searfoss**, author of *Longings of the Heart*.

On June 8, **Hilary Jebitsch** from The Lumber Heritage Region of Pennsylvania discussed her research **on diversity within our region's lumber history**.

The next speaker was **Robert Pringle**, author of several fictional books that take place in Forest County. Robert shared his **research and study of the Nebraska area** that he used to write his books.

On June 22, **Steve Sorenson**, an award-winning outdoor writer whose column "The Everyday Hunter" currently appears in the *Jamestown Gazette* and the *Forest Press*, presented "**Pennsylvania - Home to Coyotes for more than 80 years.**"



Peggy Butler,
PA Firefly Festival

"A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin, and culture is like a tree without roots."

~ Marcus Garvey

On June 29, **Mary Alyce Knauff** gave a presentation on the **Robinson family and the house** they built, which is now the home of our county's History Museum.

The following Tuesday, **Brian Hale** spoke about the **Purinton Pottery Factory**, which used to be located in Tionesta. It later became the Evenflo-Crater factory. The History Center has many pieces produced by both Purinton and Evenflo.



On July 23, **Kevin Carter** discussed the **restoration of the Marienville Railroad station**.

On July 30, **Terry Janosik**, President at Townline Lumber and Excavation, showed **videos of some historic spots in Forest County**.

Doris Bisker England joined us the following week. She is the author of *In the Forest*. Doris drew a record crowd of people wanting to hear about **life in the past**. Her daughter Diane joined her and read some excerpts from her book.

On August 10, **Matt Savinda** from the Pa Game Commission gave a very animated talk about **owls found in Pennsylvania**, including identifying the sounds they make.

The following week, **Amanda Hetrick**, Superintendent of Forest Area Schools, presented **American Folk Songs**. Amanda was accompanied by Elisha Pospisil on the guitar.

On August 24, FCHS Board member **Leonard Nicklas** taught us about **trivia facts from around Forest County** with an emphasis on the Marienville clubs.

The last speaker for the summer was **Jim Brunner**, a writer for the Forest Press, who spoke on **"The wonders of your own back yard."**



Matt Savinda,
PA Game Commission



2021 Fall Dinner Reservation Form

**Reservations
Due October 8th!**

Tuesday, October 21, 2021, at St. Anthony's Church, Tionesta

Registration & Social Time: 5:30 pm • Seated Dinner: 6:00 pm • Program: 7:00 pm

Name(s): _____

E-Mail: _____ Phone: _____

Menu: Stuffed pork chops, mashed potatoes, green beans, tossed salad, rolls, coffee, tea or punch and homemade pie.

Number of Dinners: ____ x \$15.00 each

\$_____ Dinner Total

\$_____ Donation

Make Checks payable to: FCHS

\$_____ Total enclosed

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

Join or Renew for 2022!

We will be sending out membership renewal reminders soon. You may also renew online with your credit card by visiting our website.

We appreciate your support!



**Haslett Completes
Multi-Year Internship
at FCHS Museum**

Upcoming Improvements

Our efforts to maintain and improve the Museum are ongoing with the following projects planned for the coming year:

- A new sign for the front yard of the History Museum will sit closer to Elm Street to better inform passers-by of the presence of our museum. It will also allow us to advertise our special events and display the bell from the Starr School.
- The exterior of the Museum will be painted in June of 2022. Borderline Painting of Marienville, owned by Mary Meredith, has been awarded the job.
- Tentative plans for an access ramp on our lumber camp exhibit will improve access to this building.

Aimee Haslett of Tionesta began her internship at the History Museum in the summer of 2018, right after she graduated from high school. She is on-track to graduate from Clarion University this December and will begin her graduate study in speech pathology at Clarion in January 2022.

During her four summers working with the Forest County Historical Society, Aimee completed a number of projects. These included creation of a scavenger hunt for kids and several PowerPoint presentations to display in the museum. These include presentations on the artifacts on the second floor of the museum, the basement, and the lumber camp. The digital presentations allow people with mobility issues to see these artifacts without navigating the stairs. Aimee also spent countless hours updating our accession records.

Best wishes, Aimee, and thank you for all your hard work!



Forest County Historical Society

206 Elm Street

PO Box 546

Tionesta, PA 16353



Recent Accessions to the Collection

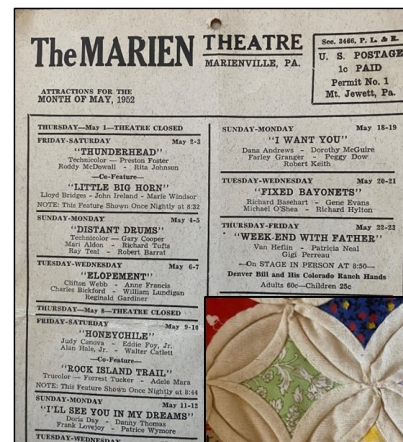
The Historical Society has a goal to preserve and protect Forest County memorabilia for our future generations, and it seems we have received quite a number of donations this year! FCHS continues to strive to organize these items and provide access to them. Many of our records have been digitized, allowing us to more easily locate and understand what we have.

We also face storage challenges; we must be able to store items properly for their protection. The Board is currently looking at the attic, trying to organize it and consider how to best preserve items stored there.

We realize that, in order to properly preserve our accessions, we cannot accept everything offered to us. If

you have an item to donate, please see one of our docents or board members. We will ask you to fill out a form with information about the item and its significance. Our Curating Committee then determines if we are able to accept the item for display or storage. Once accepted, items donated become the property of the Forest County Historical Society to use as the Board of Directors deems appropriate.

Finally, if you are the type who likes to dig for treasure, please let one of our Board members know. When the weather improves, Leonard Nicklas plans to go back up in the Museum's attic to continue discovery of what treasures we hold. He would love some help!



Cathedral Window Quilt
Full, Cotton, Muslin, Clothing remnants
Completed in 1981 by Emily
Mehoffrey Daubenspeck (2015) age 65
Gifted to Carol D. Davis
Design shared by Nora J.
Daubenspeck, acquired from
Jan Graziano, fellow teacher
Made 2 Full Quilts, 4 Shams,
6 accent pillows, 2 Small Wall
hangings