

# The Clifford Township Historical Society Newsletter

Volume Number 2

Issue 1

Date: February 2010

It is with great pride and satisfaction that we send you this year's annual newsletter. It has been a year full of accomplishments, change, fun and awards!

**Hoover School Project:** Our renovation work on the Hoover school is all but completed. Installing the original Clifford School flagpole and an historical road sign plus purchasing a teacher's desk, ink wells, and more display cases are needed to complete the project. The Open House in October was a great success. Alumni stories added to our already interesting library of remembrances. Many visitors had the same reaction upon entering the school. They walked through the foyer doors, stood motionless, and absorbed the feeling of actually being in this childhood place. They said, "Oh, the memories this brings back! Thank you so much for all the work you've done on our old school!" Our reply is, "This project was our pleasure!!" The Hoover School will be open to the public May through October from 1 to 4 PM, the third Sunday of each month. A free brochure will be printed soon listing all the volunteers and contributors who helped make the renovation of the Hoover School a reality.

**Chautauqua 2009:** Our Civil War based Chautauqua presentation, in collaboration with the Clifford Volunteer firemen during their July picnic, was well received. Grant funding has supported our Chautauqua initiative. Those grants were severely cut in the state budget so plans for an annual Chautauqua event are on hold for now.



**Local History Book:** Our most important endeavor for 2010 is a brand new history book written by Patricia Peltz, coauthor of the Clifford Twp. bicentennial book. Her new book, "The Beechwood Settlers", will cover the Eastern Susquehanna Partnership Area of Herrick, Ararat, and Thompson townships, Union Dale and Thompson Boroughs, plus other surrounding areas. The book will go on sale during summer events of this, the bicentennial year of Susquehanna County.



Interior of the newly renovated Hoover School

**Meeting Format Changed:** The biggest change proposed for 2010 will be the format of our meetings. We will have three public meetings this summer. Meetings will include enjoyable historical programs on a variety of interesting topics and will be advertised in local media, and also by professional email by Hill View Inc., host of the cliffordpa.com website. These emails are funded by a Visitor Bureau Room Tax Grant. Our directors will hold executive meetings as needed.

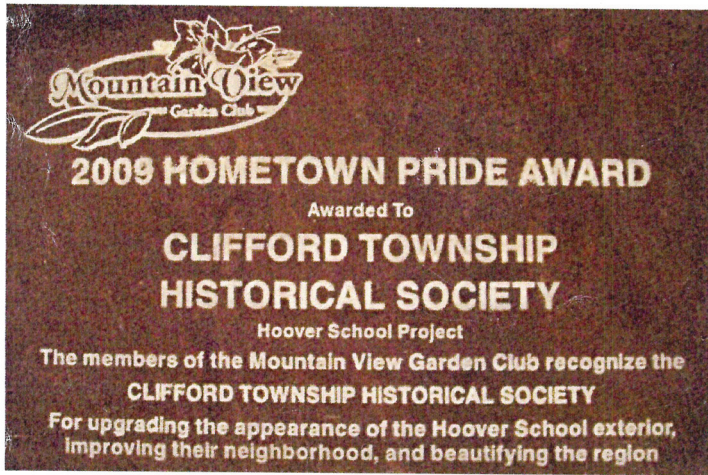
**Elkdale Cemetery:** Society members and workers from the community gave the cemetery a bit of a face lift last spring. Brush and trees were cut along the road and around grave stones and the grass was mowed several times. We have applied to the PA Humanities Council's Commonwealth Speakers Program to have Ken Ely demonstrate stone wall rebuilding at Elkdale Cemetery in August. We hope to re-lay the entire stone wall that surrounds the cemetery.





**Historical Calendar:** With the theme of stone walls in mind, our full color 2011 calendar will highlight pictures of stonewalls and stone structures in the Clifford Township area. Full color is very expensive so we hope you will support this project by purchasing the 2011 calendar. Our 2010 calendar "Women at Work" is still available, along with all our other products, at cliffordpa.com (click on the word "merchandise") or at Clifford Supply on Main Street in Clifford.

**Awards and Recognitions:** Our society was thrilled to receive another honorable mention award from the PA Federation of Museums and Historical Organization. This Special Achievement Award was for the efforts extended by society members and participants of the Chautauqua Weekend 2008. Also, the local Mountain View Garden Club presented the society with their Hometown Pride Award for the Hoover School project.



**Historical Collections Grant:** Two experts from the Lackawanna Historical Society came to Clifford under a technical assistance grant from the PA Historical and

Museum Commission to present a seminar on collections management. Representatives from four other area historical societies also shared in this information. One recommendation of the presenters was to use the township building as a display area for some of our society's artifacts. Our township supervisors enthusiastically granted permission for this endeavor, so the first project for 2010 will be to frame and display local history items on the hallway walls in time for the primary elections in May.

**Roadside Help:** We will continue to pick up litter along State Route 2014 from Route 106 to just beyond the Hoover School. We pick up the road sides in early spring and mid-autumn. If you would like to join the "Garbage Gang" please contact Kim Bostjancic at Clifford Supply. We could use help!

We hope you are proud to be a part of our active historical society. As always, we are open to your suggestions, donations and contributions of historical items. The membership form below can be used to send us your 911 address. We are always looking to grow our membership base so please feel free to share this membership form with a friend. Thank you for your interest and continued support!!

Sandra Wilmot, President -- for the Directors and Officers of the Clifford Twp Historical Society

Kim Bostjancic, Board Chairman

Mary Hoehing, Treasurer

Marvis Searle, Secretary

Directors: Carol Gargan, Fred Lyon, John Swetter, Patricia Peltz, Laurence Wilson

.....  
**CTHS 2010 MEMBERSHIP Clifford Township Historical Society, Inc.**

Levels: Individual \$10 Family \$25 Lifetime \$100

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS (NEW 911) \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail to :  
 CTHS  
 c/o Marvis Searle  
 PO Box 8, Clifford PA 18413  
 email: bandbsearle@echoes.net