

The Clifford Township Historical Society Newsletter

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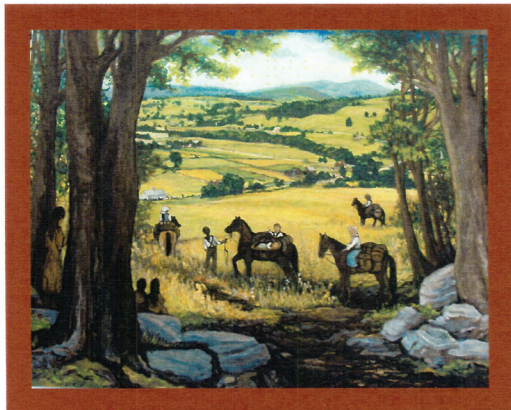
New Signs: A grant from the Endless Mountains Visitors Bureau through the Susquehanna County room tax grant program helped our Historical Society have road signs made to advertise the Local History Museum, the Dugout Canoe and Mural Display, and the restored one-room Hoover School. The new museum signs are installed along Route 6 on Finch Hill and at West Clifford. The signs for the Hoover School were also completed and will be installed in spring 2013.



Our website cliffordpa.com and the Wanderlist that promotes our events are also funded by the grant. To sign up for the Wanderlist, contact steve@hillview.com.

Our Museum: A second room in the Clifford Community Center has been leased from Township Supervisors in order for the Historical Society to add displays to its expanding Local History Museum. Displays on such subjects as the Civil War, with the soldiers from the Clifford area who participated in that conflict, the Spanish-American War, and other military exhibits are planned. Also, displays on the history of medicine, early children's games, and ethnic exhibits are all in the works. Any ideas and recommendations are welcome. Contact Sandy 679-2723 or Pat at peltz@nep.net.

Paintings: Some of our talented local artists are lending their skills to produce paintings with local themes that will hang in the hallways at the Clifford Community Center. A grant from the Bradford County Arts Council partially paid for the paintings.



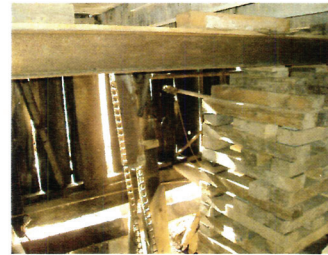
This painting by Michelle Jaconia McLain depicts the settlement of Clifford by the Adam and Eleanor Miller family in 1799.

Cider Mill: Work began last fall on the restoration of the former Yarns Cider Mill, our most ambitious project to date. With the labor of six volunteers and three days of backhoe and bulldozer work donated by Ray Swingle and Gary Sparks, the project got off to a great start.



Kevin Cobb of House Jackers then installed two 28-foot

I beams which were jacked and cribbed to straighten the structure and lift the press equipment back into its original position.



The next steps will include foundation work, building new exterior walls and then restoring the equipment to operating condition.

William Yarns



The cider mill, which is located on Route 2014 near the Hoover School, was operated by Perry Yarns, and later by his son William, through the mid-1900s. Remnants of the race are still visible upstream from the mill where water was dammed and diverted to power the mill press.

Apples and cider were important to the pioneer settlers and each fall horse-drawn wagons loaded with bushels of apples wound their way along dusty country roads to the local cider mill where the apples were pressed to extract the juice for cider.



Mural Artist
Michelle Jaconia McLain

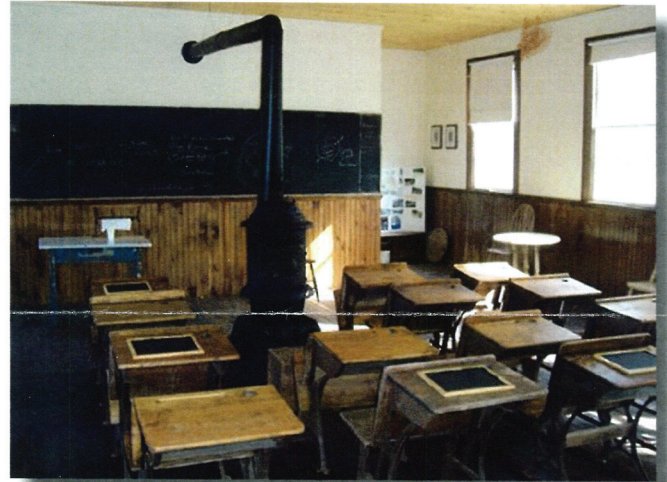
The Dugout Canoe and Mural Display and Museum of Local History are located in the Clifford Community Center. All displays and exhibits are open to the public the 3rd Sunday each month from 1 to 4 pm and also each election day. Admission is free.

Firemen's Picnic: If you attend the Clifford Firemen's Picnic, be sure to stop by our new space next to the pizza stand. The larger area allows us to display more artifacts and vintage photos. Last year, we enjoyed a steady stream of visitors to our displays which included the Elk Mountain firetower alidade, early fire company equipment and lots of early photos of Clifford area schools, mills, farms, as well as family portraits and genealogy.

Sale of Jelly, Jam and Apple Butter: These preserves are our only fundraiser this year. They are for sale at Clifford Supply and Country Hearth Antiques (next to the post office) in Clifford. This is a great fundraiser, but the renovation of the Cider Mill will require tens of thousands of dollars for matching grants. Any donation is gratefully accepted. Donations are also tax deductible.

One-Room Hoover School

Feedback from people who have toured the school and museum has been very positive. Our Society volunteers enjoy talking with visitors, hearing more local stories and having the opportunity to record these stories for future generations.



The restored one-room Hoover School is open to visitors the third Sunday each month May through October from 1 to 4 pm. Admission is free.

Clifford Township Historical Society 2013 Membership

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

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Mail to:

CTHS
P. O. Box 161
Clifford PA 18413