

The Clifford Township Historical Society Newsletter

Volume 10

Issue 1

cliffordtownshiphistoricalsociety.org

January 2018

It hardly seems possible that twelve years have passed since the founding of the Clifford Township Historical Society in December 2005. The township bicentennial in the summer of 2006 awoke in many of us a deep seated interest in the history of our area. The historical society workers have enjoyed all the hours they have spent nurturing that interest in many ways. Our major renovation projects will continue in 2018.

The major project of renovating the Yarns Cider Mill at the Suraci Farm is progressing slowly but surely. The entire exterior grounds and mill structure are now totally renovated, with just some interior electrical work to be completed. The original pressing equipment will be worked on this year.

The 1800s Boomer and Boschert screw press will certainly be a spectacle to see when power is put to the belts, pulleys, drive chains and all the moving parts that operate this enormous press.

Actual pressing of cider may have to be done on smaller scale presses for cleanliness and because of the quantity of apples needed to operate the large press.

On September 10, 2017, a large and very interested crowd of visitors from near and far enjoyed the open house held at the cider mill. Tours were given to explain the operation of the press. A wall of pictures was on display highlighting the past and all the improvements that have been done at the mill.

The winners of our 50/50 raffle fundraiser were drawn at the open house. Our most sincere thank you to everyone who supported our efforts by purchasing a ticket and especially to the three raffle winners who donated their winnings back to the Society, which added greatly to the success of this fundraiser. We now can match our grants funded by Pennsylvania Department of Recreation and Conservation of the Endless Mountains Heritage Region so we can spend our time working on our projects without additional time and effort for fundraising. Thank you so much!



Linda Parlanti, Ruth Knighton,
Gloria Suraci, Sandy Wilmot

Docent Mark Wilmot

The Agricultural Museum has become a very popular attraction. It is located at the Clifford Firemen's Picnic Grounds and is open free to the public during the three evenings of their picnic, this year, July 26, 27 and 28. Hands-on tools of yesteryear are fun for reminiscing and for understanding the effort of a self sufficient farm based life before Walmart!

Upgrades completed to the Clifford Baptist Church last year in preparation for their 200th anniversary have made the tour there better than ever.

The Baptist Church, the Museum of Local History and the Hoover School will be open the third Sunday each month, May thru October, 1 to 4 pm. The Museum of Local History will also be open on election days 9 am to 7 pm.

The Childrens Garden will see signage added to explain all play areas based on local history. The Native American longhouse needs to be completed as well as the early pioneer log cabin and barn. The pencil fence continues its amazing growth in length. Each pencil holds the name of a volunteer (all ages) and donors whose efforts have made the Childrens Garden come to life. Although the Garden is not yet completed, children have already enjoyed the coal mine, music mountain, dinosaur nest, doors of history, the outdoor blackboard, Tigger's bouncing place, photo butterflies and the Native American teepee, along with snacks of apples, blackberries, cherry tomatoes and other vegetables, all growing in the Garden. The gates of the Garden are always open so bring your young adventurers to play and grow their imaginations while learning about local history.

Items from former school students have been added to the Hoover School on a continuing basis. Two outhouses, one for boys and one for girls, have been donated by Shirley Granger and Carol Krupovich, representing Hoover School alumni from the Wallace and Lavriha families. The school will get a face lift with a new paint job in the spring.



Native American Longhouse



Pencil Fence



Vintage Photos Display

"A person without knowledge of the past is like a tree without roots."



Volunteers are always welcome and greatly needed. Information on becoming a member or a volunteer is available by contacting one of our directors:
 Sandy Wilmot 570-679-2723;
 Pat Peltz peltz@nep.net;
 Shirley Granger shirleyg@nep.net;
 Linda Parlanti lparanti@nep.net;
 Ruth Knighton jrknight@nep.net;
 Fred Lyon flyon@nep.net.

Membership Dues categories:
 Individual \$10
 Family \$25
 Lifetime \$100
 Corporate \$250

Payable to:
 CTHS
 P.O. Box 161
 Clifford PA 18413



Native American Teepee

The Society is trying to keep up with modern technology. We now have a Clifford Township Historical Society app that we established with funding from the Susquehanna County Room Tax grant program through the Endless Mountains Visitors Bureau. The app includes maps with directions to all of our venues.

Thank you for your continued support!

CTHS app....

<https://arcg.is/1XqSj>