The Clifford Township Historical Society Newsletter

Volume Number 17 February 2025

Last year's newsletter recapped all the projects that have been completed since the formation of the society in 2006. All our former newsletters are available to read on our website - clifford township historical society.org under archives.

Our motto has been the little organization that does big things! Our new motto is NO MORE MAJOR PROJECTS!!! Having accomplished the renovation of the Hoover School and the Yarns Cider Mill while creating the Museum of Local History, the Agricultural Museum and the Children's Garden, now our future goal is to maintain these five locations and keep our society successfully operating for many years to come. Our bylaws state the society should have 8 directors who can also serve as officers - president, vice president, secretary and treasurer of the society. At present there are only 5 directors, four of whom range from 75 to 86 years old, and all dealing with medical problems from many decades of living!! This year our most important goal is to have a full board of directors. If you are interested in the stories and information about our forefathers and would like to be part of the activities of the society, please consider volunteering as a director. The directors hold a one year term of office and attend meetings as needed to vote on financial and other operating decisions. If you would consider volunteering please contact Sandra Wilmot 570- 960 -2723 or Debbie Hameza 570-510-6360.

The call for additional help in last year's newsletter resulted in several new volunteers willing to help the society. Their talents include computer graphics, including power point abilities, bookkeeping skills, museum design and layout, painting, carpentry and general maintenance work at all our locations. Their willingness to share their abilities to help the society operate is most appreciated.

Just Sold Auctions in downtown Clifford continues to sell any items donated to the historical society free of charge to support the Children's Garden. For more information contact Bridgette Wylie 570-815-2410

Some small-scale improvements that are on the to do list include adding fossils to the Glacier area, annual painting needed at the Children's Garden, finding one more wooden shutter for the Hoover School to match the three already on the school and rearranging items inside the Agricultural museum to make room for more donations. Students in the Mountain View Art Club are working on a mural to be added to the back side of the dinsaur mural in Children's Garden. We look forward to pressing apples in late September and early October at the Yarns Cider Mill. Some repair work still needs to be done at the mill caused by the severe flooding last September.

The largest improvement that is in the planning stages is constructing suitable quality display areas for the additional amazing Native American items that have been donated for our local history museum. Last fall Frank Gassib brought us his impressive collection of quarry artifacts found at his property in Uniondale. They are from the Paleo-Indian era 10,000 to

14000 years ago.

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Three years ago we designed the canoe

area of the museum to properly display wonderful Native American objects donated by Jeanne Katz, given to her by her grandmothe, Lucy Gibson. Lucy was a full blooded Muscogee Creek native of Oklahoma. While visiting The Tree of Life Sanctuary

on Jeanne's West Clifford property, Lucy asked Jeanne to promise to have the artifacts she had given Jeanne to one day be in a museum to honor the ancestors of this land. Jeanne is so grateful that our Museum of Local History has made it possible to fulfill that promise to her grandmother! Here are some photos of recent donations.

Ceremonial drums



Important pieces of Native American artwork





Collage of the Harmonic Conversion



The Harmonic Conversion was an international Weekend of Peace April 17,1987 at Jeanne Katz's property attended by over 300 visitors to pray for peace.

We are very proud of the Native American section of our museum. Many knowledgeable visitors have been very impressed with the scope, quality and information in our museum. We know you will be too!!

Again this year the Hoover School, Local History Museum and the historic Baptist Church are open for tours the third Sunday of each month May thru October. 1 to 4 pm All are ADA accessible and free of charge. Our popular Children's Garden located adjacent to the beautiful Clifford Community Park is open to the public 24/7 free of charge.

Our Agricultural Museum is open during the Clifford Township Volunteer Firemen's Picnic held Thursday, Friday and Saturday evening the last full week of July. Young folks have a great time using the hands-on tools in the museum, shelling and grinding corn, grinding bones and learning to using the weaving loom. The historical society has also supported our well known Station18 firemen for many years by arranging to have Kevin Treat create his chainsaw carved wooden sculptures the three nights of their picnic. The carvings are sold at auction Saturday evening of the picnic to benefit the fire company.

We hope you will come to visit all our locations and activities that are interesting and impressive for all ages.

If you would like to support the historical society with a donation, volunteer time, or become a member please complete the form below and mail it to Clifford Township Historical Society PO Box 161 Clifford Pa 18413
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NAME:
CONTACT INFO:
I would like to support the efforts with a donation- any size donation is gratefully accepted!!
I would like to volunteer
I would like to join the society
Individual \$10 Family \$25 Lifetime \$100 Corporate \$250