



The Manor

A Newsletter of The
Equinunk Historical Society
Calder House Museum
Calder Gift Shop
Joel Hill Sawmill



Volume 28, Issue 2
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Aug. 2011

President's Message

We are almost halfway through our summer program schedule with **Richard Axtell's "Grandma's Attic"** scheduled for July 30th, and **Art Appreciation Day** on the 31st of July. That is also the weekend of the Equinunk Volunteer Firemen's Barbecue. Hope you were able to attend all these events – **EVFC** makes the best chicken around!

I hope you have all come through the heat wave with no ill effects. Looking forward to seeing you at some of our programs, now that we can seat you in airy comfort.

Summer continues to be an extremely busy time around our place as well as at the Joel Hill Sawmill. Tours and **sawing demonstrations will be held on August 13th and 14th** from 11 a.m. 'til 3 p.m. We've added an additional open house day, Sunday the 14th, in response to public interest. We did this last year and it was well-received.

Our **Annual Meeting** will be held on August 20th starting at noon. Please plan to attend and help us make our quorum. It's so important for the Historical Society to be able to conduct its legally required business activities. Bring a small plate of something tasty to share. Please see the agenda on page 8.

In the evening, come hear **Steve Jacobi's annual concert** for the benefit of the sawmill, beginning at 8 p.m. at the Firehall. We thank Steve and **Fiddlin' Around** for their continuing support.

On August 27th, we will feature Tim Oset in a presentation on the **Leni-Lenape Native Americans**, early residents of this area. According to Wikipedia, Leni-Lenape means "The True People." Tim resides in the local area and is a volunteer with the National Park Service. He attends Sullivan County Community College. The program starts at 1 p.m. Museum doors open at noon. The unique **Calder Gift Shop** also opens at noon.

Bob Wood, President

(See the rest of Bob's message on page 6.)

Ed. Note: The excitement bubbling around the staid old Calder House has been contagious this spring. With so much going on, it's difficult to choose a lead story for this issue. June's calendar gave space to both the opening of the new addition, and the fabulous 12th Annual Car Show on the 25th!

In the weeks leading up to the June 11th dedication of the annex, Carol Ann MacMaster, president emeritus and zealous office manager, was spending so many hours in the building, she thought she might have to bring in a cot and just live there for a while. We're not sure Ken would have approved, however.

Both events went beautifully, despite Mother Nature's indecision on Car Show Day. And members of the Car Show Committee finally got some well-deserved rest the following week. Please find the dedication photos on pages 2-3, and excerpts from Charlie Bennett's excellent report on pages 4-5.

Dedication and Diligence

We did it! Patience and perseverance, dedication and diligence, and the overwhelming generosity of the community and of two special men, Thomas Seccia and Floyd Schnakenberg, brought to completion a much-needed addition to the Equinunk Historical Society. We don't know if Tom and Floyd actually knew each other, but we *can* know that if they'd met, they'd have liked one another. Both had incredible generosity of spirit. Their bequests started EHS down this long road.

On June 11th, the community, volunteers, staff, original members, architects, builders, media representatives, and legislators gathered to dedicate this brand new building that fits into its surroundings like a hand would fit into a kid glove. The addition looks to most as though it has always been in this place, yet the inside is crisp and new, ready to be filled with memories of the community's treasured past, preserved for present and future residents of Equinunk and nearby towns.

The crowd filled the meeting room, but was not squeezed inside. There was room to move and breathe! Refreshments were served from the small kitchen, and the handicap accessible bathroom was ready to serve. The elevator moved small groups downstairs to the beginnings of the new Canoe and Native American artifacts center. The audio system, gift of the Teeple family, let every speaker be heard. It was truly memorable.

We still have a long road to travel before the exhibit areas are filled with modern interactive museum displays, but the dreams of earlier visionaries have evolved into solid walls, floors, ceilings and doors in this 30th year of our history.

Linda Wescott, Ed.

Dedication Photographs by Don Kaszner



Office Manager Carol Ann MacMaster was in 'thanking mode'. The list was long - too long to include here. We will save it for another page, or another time... Carol Ann has earned our thanks too for all her work.

EQUINUNK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Board of Directors, Staff, and Volunteers

2010 - 2011

President	Robert Wood
1 st Vice President	Carol Ann MacMaster
2 nd Vice President	Gardie Mueller
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Recording Sec'y.	Pat Wilson
Treasurer	Cindy Rowe
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Calder Shop Coord.	Barbara Conley
Curator	Alice Pedone
Finance Committee	Donna Burrowes, Dawn Joyce,
	Marilyn Kneeland
Genealogy	Eleanor Keesler,
	Carol Ann MacMaster
Head Sawyer	Chuck Heyn
Heritage	Margaret Snyder
Hospitality	Sara Ornstein, Cynthia Jackson
Membership	Carol Ann MacMaster
Nominating/By-laws	Margaret Snyder
Photographer	Don Kaszner
Program Coord.	Pat Wilson
Publications	Christina Kobelin
Publicity	Carol Ann MacMaster, Linda Wescott
Saw Mill Com'tee	Robert Wood
"The Manor"	Linda Wescott, Editor
Proofreaders	Marilyn Kneeland, Robert Kramer,
	Carol Ann MacMaster
Honorary Directors:	Marjorie Anderson, Eleanor Keesler,
	Wellington Lester, Margaret Snyder,
	Ann Preston Vail

The Equinunk Historical Society newsletter is published seasonally, three times a year, and sent to all members. Additional copies are available through the office at the Museum. Material for publication is always welcome and sought after. Please e-mail or mail submissions to Linda Wescott, c/o EHS, P.O. Box 41, Equinunk, PA 18417.



Curator Alice Pedone and Barbara Houghtaling inspect the Lenape dugout canoe exhibit on the lower floor. Ms. Houghtaling's grant allowed the canoe to be removed to Carlisle for professional conserving.

Dedication Continues

Excerpts: Gayle Warner's remarks:

"My name is Gayle Warner. I'm one of the three original incorporators of the Equinunk Historical Society, along with Bob Wood and Bob Kramer. As we gather to celebrate the latest accomplishment of the Equinunk Historical Society, I'd like to take time to reflect on why this society has been so successful."

Gayle noted that 30 years ago the area was in turmoil because of the arrival of the National Park Service. Controversy arose between people born in the area and those newly arrived. Both groups wanted to preserve the unique atmosphere of Equinunk and its beautiful houses [but their approaches may have differed.] Bob Wood and Gayle decided to invite both groups to get together and discuss the history of the area. She went on to observe that Bob and Kathy Wood have devoted 'countless hours' and many resources to community action in their church and this society.

"Our success was based on respect for every person, native or newcomer". Anyone interested in history, antiques, fixing up an old barn, preserving architecture, finding Indian artifacts, learning self-sufficiency, and reading and writing history books was welcome. It didn't matter if one was 97 or 7, a history-related activity was developed, with appeal for all people.

She talked about finding and preserving the dugout canoe, and how she, her husband Russ, and Bob Wood moved the very water-logged item back to the Museum. The method of conserving it at that time was to "shoot it full of Elmer's glue." Gayle recited a litany of fun activities including homemade raft races on the Delaware, building a small log cabin, parades, raffles, and the popular ice cream socials.

"The Equinunk Historical Society has grown well through the years, changing according to the vision and hard work of those who were willing to put in the long hours that were necessary."

"I'd like to thank all of you who contributed your time and ideas: the Board of Directors, the society members, the employees, the volunteers, and most especially Carol MacMaster, without whose dedication, perseverance and hard work, the building of this new addition to the Museum could not have been accomplished." She also included Bob Kramer, saying that he has provided the financial guidance that made success possible.

Excerpts: Bob Kramer's Remarks

Bob congratulated the Society for accomplishing a long-time goal in building the addition. He thanked the many individuals who contributed to the project's funding, and expressed gratitude to the estates of Thomas Seccia and Floyd Schnakenberg. The families of both major donors were in the audience to help celebrate.

Bob commented that perhaps Thomas read the EHS publication on planned giving opportunities compiled in 1999 by Marilyn Kneeland, and observed that perhaps it's time to reprint the publication incorporating new tax changes, and encouraging future donors.

Bob offered a comparison in funding between the purchase of the Equinunk Manor House and funding for the new addition. Owner Christine Hessberger offered to sell the house for \$17,500 in May, 1983. A request for financial support was issued by the early directors of the Society; Bob Wood, Pat Christian, Eleanor Keesler, Wellington Lester, Audrey Price, Ruth Price, Gayle Warner, Kathy Wood, and himself. The effort raised \$7,500.00. A private loan was made to the group in the amount of \$10,000 in June. A letter went out to membership and friends requesting donations to help eliminate the mortgage in July. \$8,644.00 was raised by August of that same year. The mortgage was paid in full in about five years. Early furniture consisted of a folding table and a few chairs. By contrast, approximately \$300,000 was designated for the cost of the addition from the Seccia and Schnakenberg bequests. This included expenditures for the legally required elevator.

Bob closed his remarks by recognizing and thanking past members of the Board of Directors. He reminded everyone that Pat Christian who passed away in recent years, contributed a great deal of time and financial support to EHS.

Ed. Note: Pat and Eleanor Keesler co-authored several volumes of the history of northern Wayne County. The books, currently available in the Museum, are entertaining and valuable reading..



Representative Sandra Majors offers her congratulations.

The 12th Annual Car Show is History!

Free car wash!! Along with the free admission, we provided not one, but two showers this year, our first really rainy day in 12 years. The heavens opened while a few of the cars were still arriving, and we rinsed them off once again as they left the field about 2:30 in the afternoon. In spite of the rain, few of the 101 hardy souls who registered and braved the weather left early. The vendors did well, and the food tent was really, really busy. The music, again ably provided by “Big Z”, kept playing even during the downpours, (like the band on the Titanic,) but everyone said they had a good time.

We sincerely appreciate our volunteers and committee members who work hard during the year to provide that “good time” experience for show car folks and spectators alike. Thanks to Charlie and Marilyn Bennett, Robert Kramer, Richard Gill, Barbara Gogan, Art Flynn, Carol Ann MacMaster, Suzanne, Nicole, Natasha and Nikalas Tuttle, Linda and Dan Wescott, Robert Wood, Richard Stowe, Shawn Dufton, Harold Butler, Richard Ramme, Lynn Snyder, John Snyder, John Zona, Blair and Chris Kobelin, John Fletcher, John Schror, Dan and Debbie Crosby, Kevin and Arlene Delaney, David Haviland, Ed Wood, Leanna Stanton, Nancy Sterck, Marilyn Kneeland, Mary Hazen, Helen Schuman, Janie Gehrig, Cindy Rowe, Barbara Teeple, Donna Burrowes, Steve and Carolyn Flynn, Len and Vince Caputi, Bob Peer, and all the children. If I have inadvertently left anyone out, I am profoundly sorry.

We again express our deep indebtedness to our wonderful sponsors, Dirlam, Narrowsburg, Pittston Lumber, Tom Galloway Body Shop, Equinunk, Gilson Automotive, Honesdale, LaBar Computer Services, Waymart, Roche’s GMC & Roche’s Garage, Callicoon, Wally Young, General Contractor, Equinunk, and Wayne County Ready Mix, Honesdale, and to our dedicated patrons, at all levels of giving: Diamond*Gold, Diamond, Platinum, Gold, and Silver, who support the Car Show, year in and year out.

A BIG thank-you to the following firms who contributed door prizes and gifts-in-kind: A & A Auto, Auta Buy Magazine, B & R Variety, Baer’s Sports, Border Water Outfitters, Corvette America, Cox’s General Store, Dave’s Super Duper, Day’s Bakery, D.G. Nicholas – Car Quest, Duragloss, Edelbrock, E.J. Schwarz, Inc., Elegante Restaurant, Art Flynn, Frank Miller Placemat Advertising, Gold Eagle, Haggerty Insurance, Hillborn Fuel Injection, Hinman Mills, Homefront, Hoosier Racing Tires, Jasper Engines & Transmissions, K & N Engineering, Lectric Limited, Little Italy, LMC Truck, Mack Trucks, Mac’s Antique Auto Parts, Marino’s Outdoor World, Meguiars, Mothers Polish, Mustangs Unlimited, Painless Performance, Parts Plus, Pet Central, Priceville Creamery, Pocono Raceway, PocoNotes, Ram Clutches, The Red Schoolhouse, Riteway Auto, St. Clair Graphics, Schumacher Electric, Simoniz Polish, Stoner Solutions, Tucker Auto, West Coast Corvette, Wist Lumber.

Quotes From Charlie Bennett

Did you happen to catch Charlie Bennett’s terrific write-up in the local papers? If not, here he is. We’ll try not to duplicate Carol’s report above.

Despite three previous days of rain and two sudden downpours, EHS’s 12th Annual Car Show remained in high gear for the entire day on Saturday, June 25th. More than 100 cars were on display and for the second year running, the visitors’ parking area was filled to overflowing. The already saturated field turned into a mini-Woodstock type mudslide at the entrance, providing added entertainment for the spectators but not so much for the car owners. The sun [later] obligingly returned and dried everyone off. (Ed. note: Charlie also thanked everyone who worked so hard to make the show a success, but space limitations preclude repeating them here.)

Car Show continued

Taking the People's Choice Award for favorite car was Joe Arnone from Lake Ariel, with his 1966 Pontiac GTO. Muscle cars remain very popular and Joe's red GTO was a deserving choice.



People's Choice Award winner Joe Arnone with his 1966 Pontiac GTO. The bright red Pontiac was the clear choice for the award. Congratulations, Joe.

A Special Recognition Award went to Paul Hambke of Carbondale for his very rare and well-restored 1958 Studebaker pickup truck. The second award went to Don Pender of Honesdale for another rare car, a 1965 Plymouth Barracuda.

Raffle prizewinners were Kris Karcher, Jennie Barnes and Paul Hanstine. The lucky 50/50 winner was Diane Mitarotonda of Equinunk, whose car (unluckily) refused to start at the end of the day.

Charlie next thanked our very special sponsors, as listed in Carol's report. He adds, "A special thanks to Mel Freilich and Caren Raphael for graciously hosting our event on their property,. Thanks also to Lenny and Alison Caputi and Jim Balakian for providing visitor parking space on their adjoining properties."

Thus ended a great day, Charlie's press release, and another memorable Car Show. If you'd like to be part of this fun event next year, contact Carol Ann at the Equinunk Historical Society: 570-224-6722. Be an exhibitor, a volunteer, and even better, join the Car Show Committee. And a good time will be had by all.



Paul Hambke of Carbondale took a Special Recognition award for his rare and impressively restored 1958 Studebaker pickup.



Don Pender took a second Special Recognition award for his beautiful 1965 Plymouth Barracuda.



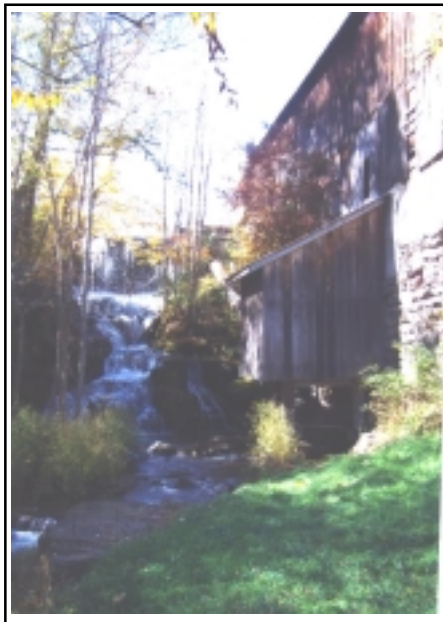
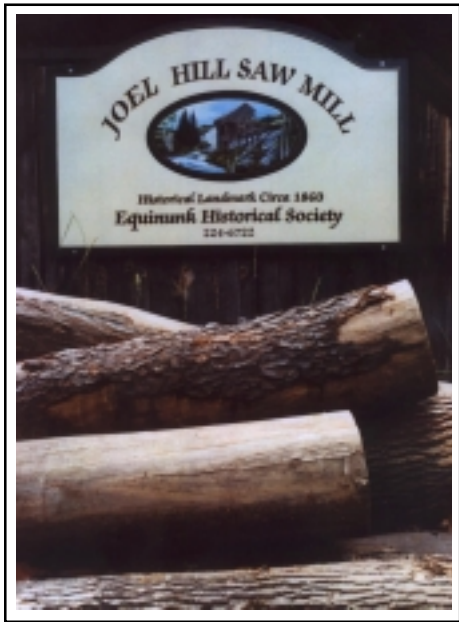
Looking Ahead

Already working on next year's slate of programs, focussing on the time period leading up to the Civil War, Program Chair Pat Wilson asks if you have any related materials to lend the Equinunk Historical Society, (i.e. letters, documents, uniforms, weapons, etc.) or do you have any information to share from your family records that could help us frame a program? Please contact Pat at 570-224-0223.

The Sawmill Comes to Life Again

The opening weekend for the Joel Hill Sawmill was a great success. More than 100 people enjoyed the tour and the sawing demonstration on July 10th and 11th. A lot has been accomplished at the mill this spring. The stone wall on the lower level was removed and rebuilt in preparation for a viewing deck. The stanchion on the lumber track was finished, and the wood treated to preserve it from the effects of the weather. The group stacked the cut lumber to allow it to air dry and performed everyday maintenance to keep the mill running smoothly. Chuck Heyn and the whole mill crew have done a lot of hard work and are a great group to work with. The Mill will be open again on August 13th and 14th. We added the extra Sunday last year and it proved to be so popular, we scheduled it again for this season.

Bring your family and friends for a visit and plan to stop in at the Calder House Museum to see the interior of the new addition. The Calder Gift Shop is open on Saturdays and Sundays in July and August, from 1 to 4 p.m., and at other times by appointment. Call 570-224-6722 for information. And remember, new volunteers are always welcome. *Bob Wood, Sawmill Committee*



Work at the Sawmill is ongoing. A variety of tasks will keep you busy and entertained. But there's not a prettier place to work in all of Wayne County! Photos by Bob Wood and Chuck Trummer.



A Friend Passes

Joseph (Joe) Funke of Lake Como, husband of popular former Wayne Independent columnist Rose Funke, died on July 22nd. He was a retired NASA engineer who worked on the Apollo Program. Joe, with his wife Rose, was an active member of the Equinunk Historical Society.

They were the proud owners of a very large, strikingly beautiful pianoforte which Rose purchased in 1942. In a story in *The Wayne Independent*, she called it her “first independent purchase” though she later learned that her parents contributed toward the purchase unbeknownst to her. Several years ago, the couple donated the 161-year-old instrument to EHS where it resides in the old parlor of the Calder House Museum and is, most likely, the first item one notices upon entering the Museum. In the article Rose said of the much-loved instrument, “I was thinking to give it to the Smithsonian Institute” but she decided that it should reside in a more accessible location. A history-rich piece, it pre-dates the Civil War.

Historian **Eleanor Keesler** has made a quite extraordinary recovery from recent hip surgery. She was back to work at the sewer authority in Manchester a couple of weeks after her operation. Eleanor continues to amaze everyone with her remarkable recuperative powers.

Wendy of Wendy’s Village Barn Restaurant in Equinunk is closing her doors on Sunday, July 31st. We can’t let Wendy leave us without reminding everyone what a good friend she has been to the Equinunk Historical Society. Her spaghetti dinners for the benefit of the EHS Building Fund drew crowds of eager eaters, and brightened up the winter months. Thanks, Wendy for favors too numerous to count. Good luck from all your friends!

According to Floyd...Important north/south Rte. 90 became Rte. 191 because Pres. Eisenhower wanted “90” for an interstate highway.

Missing Out on Thanking You

Regretfully, the usual summer column of fervent thanks for all of your donations, monetary and material, all of your volunteer efforts, and all of your many, many contributions to the Equinunk Historical Society could not be pulled together in time for this issue. There has just been too much happening of late! Please look for the compilation in the next issue.

You know how we always say, “If your contribution was not included in this thank-you, please let us know?” We have learned of a good example that reinforces the wisdom of this request. Finance Committee member, Donna Burrowes, gave EHS a substantial but unacknowledged donation two seasons ago (!) that we’ve just recently uncovered. Donna, we are so sorry you were “skipped”. Friends, *please* tell us when we’ve fallen down on the job. We need to be able to say “Thank You!” (Donna emphatically did NOT want us to say anything in *The Manor*, but we have to let her know how important she is to us and how much we value her help.)

Hugh and Tannis McCammon have sold their Stockport home and moved to North Carolina. Hugh was curator for the Calder House Museum for a stretch a few years ago and both were active in the community. They will be sorely missed by all of their friends.

Program Coordinator, **Pat Wilson**, has declared September 24th “**Apple Day**” in celebration of – what else? Apples! The annual Children’s Program at EHS will include games, literature, and foods that relate to – APPLES!

Best wishes to historian **Wellington and Helen Lester** – they celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary on June 12th.



EQUINUNK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 41
EQUINUNK, PA 18417

MEMBERSHIP INFO:

Dues - per year:

Individual	\$15.00
Family	25.00
Junior	2.00
Lifetime	125.00
Corporate	50.00

EQUINUNK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

31st Annual Meeting at Noon, August 20, 2011

Agenda

1. Call to order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Welcome and introduction of Board members
4. Report of Nominating Committee
5. Minutes of 2010 Annual Meeting – Patricia Wilson, Secretary
6. President's Report – Robert Wood, President
7. Treasurer's Report & Proposed Budget – Cindy Rowe, Treasurer
8. Office Manager's Report – Carol Ann MacMaster, Office Manager
9. Curator's Report – Alice Pedone, Curator
10. Committee Reports:
 - A. Car Show
 - B. Calder Shop
 - C. Building & Grounds
 - D. Membership
 - E. Hospitality
 - F. Publicity
 - G. Programs
 - H. Publications
 - I. Genealogy
 - J. Newsletter
 - K. Joel Hill Sawmill
 - L. Auditor
11. Presentations : Departing Board Members
12. Members comments and suggestions
13. Adjourn

Immediately following adjournment, the Board of Directors will meet for reorganization.



*In commemoration of
the Celebration and
Dedication of the new
addition to the Museum
and Calder House
June 11, 2011*

*Thank you for your
continued support and
dedication to the
preservation of history.
Without the tireless
efforts of
volunteers & generous
donations and support
of our benefactors and
members, the voices and
lessons of the past
would be lost forever.
We hope that the
generations to come
will be enriched by the
history which has
been lovingly and
painstakingly preserved
within these walls.*

Commemorative Bookmark