



The Manor

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



Volume 28, Issue 3

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Nov. 2011

President's Message

The smell of wood smoke hovering in the air means that winter is on its way. That doesn't mean the museum will shut down. We have plans to get-together on the first Friday of each winter month, from November to April. See the First Fridays announcement below.

We have had a good year both in our museum programs in the sawing demonstrations and tours at the Joel Hill Sawmill. Looking back over the past summer, our spacious new meeting room in the south wing of the museum has worked out well. It is an ideal area for programs, board meetings, displays, etc. We added a new and exciting exhibit to complement our Native American dugout canoe on the first floor. It's a collection of projectile points, tools and other articles made mostly from flint. It is showcased in a beautiful large display. We need donations to help repay the general fund for moving, refinishing, and the setting-up of the display. We are about \$700.00 short of our goal. Thanks in advance.



Bob expounding—freely sharing his wisdom as always.

I would like to say how much I appreciate all the volunteers in the various aspects of EHS; the Calder Shop, the Car Show, museum workers, and the crew at the Hill Sawmill, and the many others who help so willingly. Good job, everyone! I wish you a great holiday season. Enjoy your family and friends.

Bob Wood

First Fridays debut at the Calder Cafe at the Calder House Museum on Nov. 4th. From 6 to 9 p.m. the "cafe" will feature camaraderie plus live and recorded music. Desserts, coffee, hot chocolate, or tea will be available for purchase. Performers are welcome to come in and pitch their tunes for about 15 minutes (or three songs.) Acoustic music only will be played. No amplifiers! Live music begins at 7:15 p.m. Winter comes early, and nights are long in Equinunk. Make First Fridays your habit! First Fridays are Dec. 2nd, Jan. 6th, Feb. 3rd, Mar. 2nd, and April 6th.

*(Ed. note: Don't forget to join your EHS friends and neighbors at the **Holiday Open House on Sunday, Dec. 4th at noon.** We will once again be graced by the music of Leana and J.R. Stanton. I'm putting in an early request for their beautiful rendition of "Mary, Did You Know?" Bring a snack to share with all **The Calder Gift Shop will open on Friday, Dec. 2nd and Sat., Dec 3rd at noon, for your gift shopping pleasure.**)*

The Bear's Nest

A Salvage expedition and narrative taken from field notes and the memory of Steve Woll.

This place is located in northwest Bergen County, NJ., near Bear Brook. It was once the home of prehistoric craftsmen, then the Boy Scouts and then the Girl Scouts. The property was later developed and now a Hilton Hotel stands there.

Woll began his exploration in the spring of 1971 after a friend told him about the place. He investigated five knolls, much of which was already disturbed area. His idea was to formulate a conclusion of the significance of the artifacts in prehistoric time. Glaciers had an effect, as well. He unearthed projectile points of several kinds and materials, a fragment of crescent-shaped blade, scrapers, polished stone, atlatl, bola stone, and 2 specimens of drills in the spring of 1971. He excavated the area through 1975, finding numerous artifacts which he catalogs in his book, "A Chip Off The Old Block".

While finishing up the excavation he was replacing what he had disturbed, (called re-claiming), when he noticed something different about Knoll Four, and began excavating this area. What he found was a sterile site with artifacts dating back to the Late Archaic Period, ca. 3,500 BC - 1,000 BC. These are the artifacts that we now have in our collection.

Carol Ann MacMaster

Artifacts from the Bear Mountain site excavation



EQUINUNK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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2011 – 2012

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	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.

EHS co-founder Ann Preston Vail found these artifacts in Stockport



Giving Thanks

As Thanksgiving rolls around again, and as we spend the requisite hours on the phone, making arrangements to host family and friends, or (better yet) to visit family members or friends, we are reminded of the wonderful people who make the Equinunk Historical Society a viable, living repository of history and friendship. Our hearts are full of gratitude all year through at the amazing contributions of time and money that our friends provide. We thank them profusely at every opportunity. Yet, it seems eminently appropriate to at least say thanks in writing in this publication.

We quake inside whenever we do this as it is so easy to skip over someone's generous spirit or open checkbook. It happened last year, and will undoubtedly happen again, now or in the future. But with the very best intentions, here is our current list of donors. We thank them with great appreciation and love.

General Donations, Annual Appeal, and in memory of loved ones:

Jthomas Bataille, Rick & Pat O'Dell, Dave Kosik, Rita Banuat, Wellington Lester, Mr.& Mrs. Samuel Knight, Robert & Jean Smith, Ann & Anthony Cirucci, Emma Varcoe, Linda Koons, Carole Meltzner, Barbara Leonard, Margaret Gartland, Emmett Dennis, Susan & Ben Baxt, Hugh Rocks, Richard Wood, Phyllis McCabe, Leonard Ornstein, Alice Walsh, Robert Kramer, Sylvia Gutowski, Sharon Dennis, Patricia Conklin, James Balakian, C.Perrin Ross, Eileen DePaola, Barbara Conley, Julia Baker, Gerald Brown, John Seccia, Brenda Ramme, John Styk, Mr. & Mrs. Granville Teeple, Charles & Dorothy Trummer, Rose Teeple Bellen, Elaine Hillier, Robert Walsh, Marty Wood, Thomas Hessmiller, Frank Seccia, Carol Ann MacMaster, Jane Varcoe, Margaret Snyder, Gould Orchard, Mrs. James Bihr, Patricia Wilson, Linda & Dan Wescott, Arthur Flynn, Mary Daly, Jennifer Rajoppi, Richard & Patricia Ferrazzano, Ellen Young, Rep. Sandra Major, Charles & Evelyn Ponall, Shirley Neubert, Ann O'Hara, Chuck & Andrea Heyn, Mahlon Dennis, Norma Axelrad, Marilyn Kneeland, Arthur & Heather Clay, John Singleterry, Gor don Houghtaling, Norma Goldstein, Marilyn Shaffer.

We extend a special thank you to those who volunteered in any way at the Calder House during the past year. Board Members Pat Wilson, Kathy Schrama, Fred Peckham, Bob Wood, Harold Butler, Art Flynn, Dick Stowe, Gardie Mueller, Carol Ann Macmaster; Fred Pfeifer, Chris & Blair Kobelin, Ken MacMaster, David & Melissa Haviland, Mimi Steffen, Beth Gleim, Natasha Tuttle, Shawn Dufton, Kathy Wood, Carol Butler, John & Sally Hunt, Kurt Mueller, Wendy Harrison, Marilyn Kneeland, Robert Kramer, Linda & Dan Wescott, C. Perrin Ross, Baylee Johnson, Shelby Keesler. Thanks also to everyone who helps in the Calder Gift Shop.

Bob already issued thanks to everyone on the Joel Hill Sawmill Crew, so we add our thanks too, not only to the crew but to all who help keep the Mill presentable and who supply refreshments for visitors. Heartfelt thanks to the Car Show Committee for their many hours of hard work, and to everyone who volunteers in any capacity.

Finally, an editorial comment: Thank you to Bob Wood for agreeing to stay on as president - yet again - to Carol Ann MacMaster for duty way beyond her appointed rounds; to Pat Wilson for putting together another year of programs, not an easy job; to all of the finance people who labor intensely and carefully to keep us financially stable; to Haviland Construction personnel, for patience and diligence, and for supporting all our volunteer efforts; to Harold and Blair who installed the kitchen, - and now you see why it's so hard to make certain that we have thanked everyone. But we certainly have tried! Let us know who we missed - *PLEASE!*

The Passing of Friends

Rose Funke

As sometimes happens, the loss of a friend is compounded by the loss of their spouse a short time later. We reported the death of Life Member, Joseph Funke, who passed away in July, 2011, in the last issue. This time we must tell of the sad loss of his wife, Rose Funke, on September 24th. A longtime columnist for The Wayne Independent, and friend to EHS, Rose and Joe were the donors of the magnificent parlor grand piano on the first floor of the museum.

June Keesler

Eleanor Keesler is mourning the loss of her much-loved sister-in-law June, her husband Reuben's sister. We sympathize with Eleanor for her loss.

Sandra Lee Axtell

Richard and Sandra Axtell were friends and supporters of EHS for many years. Well known for their frequent program, "Grandma's Attic", they often lent their expertise in antiques and collecting to area historical societies and other non-profit organizations. They were staunch members of the Deposit (NY) Historical Society. Sandra died unexpectedly on October 14, 2011.



Richard and Sandra doing what they did so well and so often; appraising treasures for EHS visitors and staff.

Andrew Schrier

Every loss is painful, but the pain of losing a child or grandchild can be the, most searing of all. Everyone connected with the Equinunk Historical Society felt deeply the sadness of the MacMaster family when Carol Ann's grandson, Andrew Schrier, died of injuries suffered in a motorcycle accident on September 16th. Andrew resided in Losi Banos, CA with his fiancée Gloria Diaz and their infant son, Alan Schrier.

His grandmother was intensely proud of Andrew, who just graduated with a degree in nursing in February of this year. Two memorial services were held for Andrew, one in South Fallsburg, NY where he grew up, and another at the Equinunk United Methodist Church, on October 9th. Condolences may be sent to Ken and Carol Ann MacMaster, 1649 Pine Mill Rd., Equinunk, PA 18417.

Joel Hill Sawmill News

The Sawmill's long winter hiatus settled in this week after one last tour and demonstration. The crew welcomed a New York home-schoolers group from Deposit and Hancock. The saw gave one last go-round and tip of the blade to educate and entertain children who ranged in age from 1st to 6th graders. In all, there were approximately twenty well-behaved children with their adults. Crew chief Bob Wood described the children as raptly interested, right down to the youngest.

Before budgetary cuts became the norm, visits to the sawmill by classes of varying ages of children were commonplace. It wasn't at all unusual for two or more school busses to pull up and disgorge dozens of children for a sawmill visit. Things are quieter now, but there is hope that in the future the wonder of the working antique machinery will draw a whole new generation of eager learners. Call 570-224-6722 for information. Leave a message and we

*Addendum to the August issue of "The Manor":
The publication of the Equinunk Historical Society*

In the last issue of *The Manor*, (August, 2011), we gave an overview of the dedication of the new wing of the Calder House Museum and EHS headquarters, alternately called "the addition, the south wing, or the annex. Take your pick.

In that issue, we condensed the presentations of founders Robert Kramer and Gayle Warner. Space constraints prevented us from giving you charter member Eleanor Keesler's history of our widely known and respected publications, *ONCE UPON A MEMORY*, Vols. 1 & 2, & 3. You are in luck. Here's Eleanor (the abridged version.)

Pat Christian and Eleanor were introduced to the aspect of writing books by their mentor, Lucille Howell. Lucille compiled the family genealogy of the Knight family and encouraged them to record the history of their ancestors.

But first, Eleanor and Pat were asked to consider publishing "*THE WINDING DELAWARE*" written by Pierre de Nio which had been serialized in the Hancock Herald. "We jumped into this area fresh of mind and blind to the amount of work involved. It was a SUCCESS!" Proceeds from the sale of the book helped to pay for the purchase of the original Calder House building.

The women began to dig for stories from associates and residents of the area. And the stories came. Some were in rough writings, others from oral taped interviews. They looked into the huge resource of deeds, wills, and maps recorded in the County Courthouse. Pat was retired but Eleanor worked 9-5 in a position that allowed her the use of a copier. The materials piled up. When presented to *The Walton Reporter* for publication, they were advised that there was enough material for two books! This was a great delight. So Volumes 1 & 2 were born. We thought, 'Not bad for a first try.'

HOLT T'OTHER WAY came to us by purchase from the original author. It was another runaway success. *BUCKINGHAM TO BUCKINGHAM*, the story of Samuel Preston as surveyor for Henry Drinker and his subsequent building of Stockport became the next venture. Many letters from Preston to Drinker were obtained from the Historical Society of PA in Philadelphia. A trip to Bucks County, PA brought many pictures of Preston's youth. This included finding the grave of his father/Eleanor relates that she "lay flat on her 'tummy*" to take a picture of his grave, a field stone about one foot high, with P P roughly chiseled on its face. Ann Preston Vail edited what was deduced from the writings of her great-great-grandfather, and supplied artifacts owned by Sam to be photographed. She compiled many maps for the areas of Stockport to Harmony, on the Susquehanna.

In addition to the three volumes of *ONCE UPON A MEMORY*, Eleanor and Pat compiled a cookbook. *THE WINDING DELAWARE* and *HOLT T'OTHER WAY* have gone into their second printings. "Pat Christian left our midst in 2004 with many unwritten stories forming in her mind."

Eleanor remarks, "Well, now it is up to the present - you - How about another *MEMORY?*"... "The last venture was on floppy discs. Today I'm sure you would use a flash drive and submit your pictures to be placed at the end of chapters....."

So follow in our footsteps.

Eleanor Keesler

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

We are taking advantage of this space to wish all of our members, families, and friends, the warmest Thanksgiving wishes, and holiday blessings to all. Please remember to join us for the Holiday Open House, Dec. 4th, at noon. And be sure put all those First Fridays on your calendar. This is the very best way to stay in touch with one another throughout the winter ahead.