



The Manor

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



Volume 29, Issue 1

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May 2012

FIRST FRIDAYS IN EQUINUNK

First Fridays: Despite a few days of sloppy, mixed weather (snow, rain, and sleet), we had some terrific evenings, with attendance growing each month until the room was full, and we could offer standing room only. Pat Wilson dreamed it up; a few volunteers joined Pat in the planning; the performers gave it substance; and the residents of our small community of friends helped it become our own "reality show." In Pat's words, here are some excerpts from our story, slightly edited to fit:

January: "Another successful evening. The sky was clear and it wasn't bitterly cold. There were 30-35 people in attendance, and again there were some new faces. The decor included quilts from the Society's collection, a wintry notion that was appropriate and well received.

Len Deduke led off and I have asked him to be our regular 'opening act.' He always has some funny stories and good sing-along songs to set the tone for the evening

Three musicians performed, and a special feature of the evening were Peggy Cox and Marge Macey whose performance was accompanied by Peggy's talented youngest, Dan Cox. Dan was our third performer. He brought reggae to Equinunk when he performed two Bob Marley songs.

John Joyce played for the first time. We all enjoyed singing along on some of his selections. Everyone got at least two encores. For me, the musical highlight was when Peggy & Marge joined Dan to lead us in 'Auld Lang Syne' to close out 2011, and then we sailed into 'Age of Aquarius' to welcome in the new."

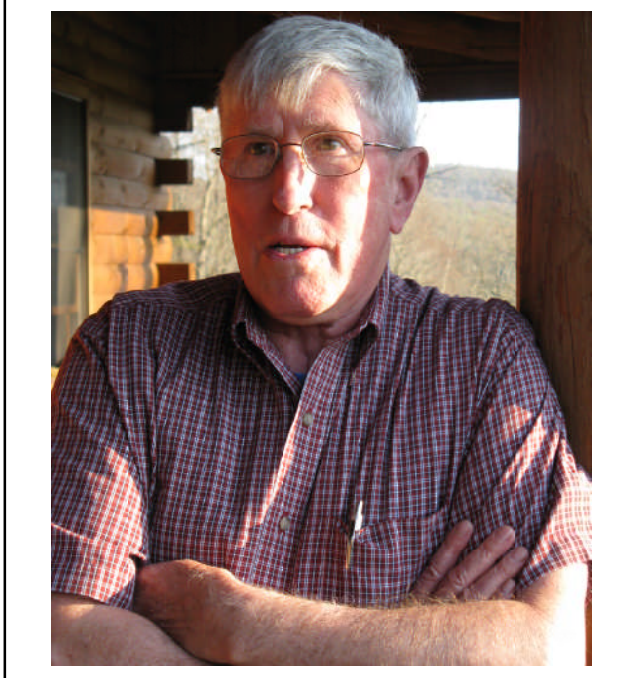
We deeply appreciate all of the performers who have graced us with their music. Thank you to *Dan Cox, Peggy Cox, Len Deduke, Donna Dubois, Della Fasceski, Barbara Gogan, Sally Hunt, John Joyce, Marge Macey, Carol Ann MacMaster, Ruth Seebeck, Amy Walter, Sandy Weaver, Pat Wilson and John, who gave us moving, tuneful examples of his faith.* We are blessed with talented, giving people. We're grateful to each.

March: Pat continues, "Len opened again with a joke and a set devoted to sailing songs. Sandy Weaver followed. For those who recall and love the folk song revival of the 60's, (as I do) she is a joy. She led an enthusiastic sing-along, to 'Blowing in the Wind'. Donna DuBois joined John Joyce on his first tune, a gospel song. The rest of his set was eclectic and included a Bruce Springsteen song.

Following a brief intermission, John accompanied Carol MacMaster, and then Peg Cox and her group (formerly known as Peg and the Pegettes but now the Silver Belles) marched in singing 'McNamara's Band' and continued with a St Patrick's Day tribute with several sing-alongs. Dan Cox played and sang some wonderful songs that were new to me. Then Peg and her group, accompanied by John, closed with a poignant sing-along, 'Danny Boy.'

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Presidents Message



We are now officially into spring and out of the winter that wasn't. If we lumped all of our winter weather together, we probably had a one week total here in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Not many are complaining!

A real bright spot over the winter was the First Friday meeting each month at the Calder Cafe. It was people sharing their talents to the enjoyment of all.

Spring clean-up and the work of building the new viewing deck has begun at the Joel Hill Sawmill. We have decided to use locust planks for the decking because it is a native tree and a long-lasting lumber. Head Sawyer Chuck Heyn has been able to find a local supply of locust and we plan to saw the logs at the mill. We also got some extra saw logs for demonstrations, thanks to Jim and Elaine Wells. We are replacing the belt that runs the edger with a new wider belt, to make it more efficient and reduce slippage. Check out the Sawmill Schedule in our Program Guide on page 5 of this issue of the newsletter.

This is the one hundred and fiftieth year anniversary of the Civil War (1861 – 1865). Our program theme this year will commemorate that

EQUINUNK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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2011 - 2012

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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.

era of American history. A highlight will be an encampment by Civil War Re-enactors on the Equinunk United Methodist Church grounds on September 29th.

The Annual Car Show will again be held at the usual location on Pine Mill Road, a mile south of the Calder Museum. Save the 23rd of June and come take part in what has become a popular feature of our schedule. Admission is free for this family-friendly day. Be a visitor, a vendor, or an exhibitor. Check out our new website, (www.equinunkhistory.org), the program schedule in this newsletter, local publications, or call us at 570-224-6722. See you at the show!

Bob Wood

FIRST FRIDAYS, (cont.)

The crowd grows each month, though April attendance was down because it was also Good Friday, and many were attending church services. The programs have been so happily received, we have decided to extend to May 4th. To be continued.....



Pat Wilson, on the right, with Alice Pedone, museum Curator, in the new kitchen. It was Pat's bright idea to provide a space for residents to gather throughout the dark winter months. And thus First Fridays were born.



Len Deduke regales the crowd with cheery songs, and stories. Len soon became the popular opening act for the evening, with wife Mary serving as his sounding board and foil.

We wish we had room for all the First Friday pictures. We don't like to leave any of our performers out, but not all performers were photographed and not all pictures were clear enough. We hope that our talented friends will understand and continue to share their art with us.



Accompanied by talented guitarist Danny Cox (below), regulars Peggy Cox and The Silver Belles amused the crowd with their funny antics and poignant melodies. Peggy, Della Fasceski, Marge Macey, and Ruth Seebeck came up with seasonally appropriate entertainment and as a result, are quite in demand now on the nursing home circuit. A 'fascinator' (the extraordinary chapeau made popular at the recent royal wedding in England) in Equinunk? Ruth assures us her Easter bonnet is many years old.)



Audience approval!

The Passing of Friends

All the residents of Equinunk and miles beyond were badly shaken this last week of April, 2012, when it was learned that a wonderful lady, Madelyn Houghtaling, died as a result of injuries sustained in a horrific accident in Charlotte, NC. Madelyn and her devoted husband of many decades, Gordon, were traveling back to their home from the South when their vehicle was hit by another. Badly injured, both Gordon and Madelyn were taken to a Charlotte hospital where after alternately rallying and slipping, she was lost to her family and friends. At this writing, Gordon continues to fight for his recovery. Madelyn's niece Sally Hunt has compiled a moving tribute to her aunt, which will bring you a picture of Madelyn, painted in words, by those who knew her and loved her.

Our Aunt Madelyn Houghtaling

My earliest memory of Aunt Madelyn was her sitting with me and cutting out paper dolls. To a little girl, that was very special. As time went on, I began to see and notice so many other things about Aunt Madelyn that made her special. She was such a hard worker. For several years Aunt Madelyn worked as the head floor lady of Honesdale's Katz's Underwear Factory. I also worked there with her for a brief time, and saw just why she held that position of being "head lady." Aunt Madelyn once told me, "There are lots of different ways that people work. Some work very fast to get a lot done, but the job done isn't very well. Some work at a slower but steady pace and always do a good job. And some work harder at getting out of work than if they'd just do it."

Aunt Madelyn was a giver of gifts. She told me once that she was taught to sew at a young age by my grandmother, Bertie Lind, who was the leader for a young girls' Christian youth group here in Equinunk. Through the years Aunt Madelyn continued to sew and presented hand sewn gifts of sweatshirts to pajamas at Christmas time. She would always bring little gifts to the hostess of family dinners along with her dish to pass and had a way of finding that little personal thing that you would always treasure. Perhaps the thing I enjoyed the most was her gift of that puckery little girl smile of hers that could light up the room.

Some years back, a few Equinunk ladies decided to form a club. You know the saying, girls need girls. We often meet to enjoy the simple pleasures of crafting, eating, chatting, and celebrating birthdays together. Our members are Aunt Madelyn, Gardie Mueller, Dotti Bialek, Dawn Joyce, and I. We took on the name of Crafty Glitter Girls, mostly because Aunt Madelyn loved glitter and anything that sparkled. She gave so much to all of us. We are so thankful to have these dear memories of her with us and we'll always cherish them.

Dawn Joyce wrote the following about our Aunt Madelyn: "This is very hard as there is so much to say. But on the fun side I will miss her wit and the lessons she taught me. Things didn't mean anything to her, but friendship and family were most important. She was always thinking of us. Who else has their Christmas shopping done in August! I will now have to eat twice as much dessert, namely chocolate, when the glitter girls get together, as we shared our love of sweets, better to have them than dinner! Madelyn blessed all of us with her love and friendship and she will live forever in us."

Gardie Mueller gave these thoughts....."Madelyn preferred clothes in any bright color, as long as they were red. She knew all about sewing and sewing machines. Who will help me thread the ancient Serger??? We will always miss her so much at birthday celebrations and such, but she will live on in our hearts forever through the fondest of memories and we will continue to celebrate her life."

Dotti Bialek's words to share with you:"Worldly 'treasures' come in all shapes and sizes; some sparkle & shine visibly while others shine in one's heart & soul. Madelyn was a treasured friend whose glitter radiated from her kind & loving heart. To say she will be missed is such an understatement ~ but I know her presence will be felt on gentle breezes and glimpsed in every speck of glitter I see for the rest of my earthly life."

What better way to close than with Dawn's found quote.....

"They are not dead who live in lives they leave behind. In those whom they have blessed they live again".

Notice: Due to information received from the County Treasurer's office about recent amendments made in the Small Games of Chance Act (Act 2), the Equinunk Historical Society Car Show will no longer offer 50-50 or raffle tickets. We regret having to make this decision and hope patrons and spectators will understand and add a bit more to the collection jars on the day of the show to make up for lost revenue from these two items. This ruling does not affect the Door Prizes, which will still be handed out to car show participants as always.

The Passing of Friends continued . The winter months always bring us notice of friends who have left us, and sometimes, news of friends who have come to stay with us a while. **Jerry Brown**, our new Webmaster is a blessing in that latter category. Please see news of what he has been working on at the end of these notes.

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of long-time EHS member, former Director and good friend **Joan K. Gleim**, who passed away Sunday, April 8th, 2012. Born in Passaic, NJ, she married William P. Gleim in 1957. Joan and William owned and operated the Fox Bowling Center for many years. Her son Bill and daughter-in-law Beth reside in Equinunk. Beth is also closely associated with EHS, handling the Society's printing needs through St. Clair Graphics in Honesdale. Joan is survived by her husband William, four children, Cathy, Peggy, Ruth and Bill and seven grandchildren.

From *The River Reporter*, we learned that Life Member **Milda Sebris** died on November 18, 2011, at 100 years of age.

The Wayne Independent published a story about Milda on the occasion of her 100th birthday. The article told how she "overcame a great deal in her history of living. She survived the Russians when they invaded northeastern Europe, and escaped from Germany during World War II." She endured heartache and considerable tragedy in her life, yet continued to enjoy nature and her life in Damascus. *The Wayne Independent* continues, "Wayne County has many people like Milda, outstanding citizens who see many milestones in their lives and who've witnessed the best of times and the worst of times this county has to offer". The Equinunk Historical Society salutes Milda Sebris.

EHS member **Alton D. Quinn** passed away on December 12, 2011 at Bethany Village. Alton served in the U.S. Army from 1944 to 1948 in the 3rd Army Division. He formerly resided in Ocala, FL with his wife Doris, who passed away in 2008.

A chemist for Brown and Williamson Tobacco Co. and later for International Flavors and Fragrances, he moved to our area where he founded and ran the River Hill Sawmill in Abrahamsville. In 1981 he moved to Indonesia where he worked for Bentoul until retiring to Florida. Alton was an accomplished wood worker, and was also interested in wool spinning and hand weaving, an activity he shared with Doris. He was very active with EHS, and did a great deal of work around the museum. When a coffee pot plugged in on the second floor shot sparks, Alton went to work to fix the problem. According to historian Eleanor Keesler, Alton, working with Reuben Keesler, rewired the second and third floors of the old building. Our sympathies to daughters Marlene and Denise and their families.

New Website

Have you visited the new website, equinunkhistory.org yet? Jerry Brown, our new WebMaster has created a site for us that will absolutely WOW you! He has adapted reams of details about EHS, information that will have the greatest impact, and formulated it all into a cohesive whole that will delight your imagination. Equinunk comes to life on our new website! Let us know what you think. What would YOU like to see included?

The Name Game

We have placed a new photo album on our website called "*The Name Game: Do you Know Who This Is?*" Many of us have family photos of unidentified individuals from time long past. Each year our collective memory and ability to identify these people grows dimmer. Please help us identify the individuals in these photos so that they will not be forgotten. Enjoy these photos and if you can identify anyone, send an email to Jerry at webmaster@EquinunkHistory.org Also, if you have some photos of your ancestors from Wayne or the adjacent counties that you cannot identify and would like to have added to this album, submit scanned digital images of them to the webmaster.

EQUINUNK HISTORICAL SOCIETY
PROGRAM SCHEDULE - 2012 - THE CIVIL WAR
Programs begin at 1 p.m. unless specified otherwise. Doors open at noon.

- 5/26/12 **Memorial Day Program** - The Calder Museum reopens with a traditional program honoring military veterans. This year we have chosen to honor all Civil War soldiers. The program will be followed by EHS's popular annual ***Ice Cream Social***
- 6/2/12 **Ann O'Hara** of Wayne County Historical Society presents "***Wayne County in the Civil War***"
- 6/9/12 **Sherman Wooden**, president of the Center for Anti-Slavery Studies and author of "*The Place I call Home*" will present "***Underground Railroad***".
- 6/16/12 **Weapons of the Civil War** - Program presenter, Deposit resident **John O'Connor**, is an avid historian and long-time collector of weapons of all kinds. He is the owner of Crane's Restaurant, a popular Deposit establishment.
- 6/23/12 **13th ANNUAL CAR SHOW!** 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- 6/30/12 **Barbara Davis Dexter** will sign copies of her new book, "***Around Damascus Township***". A native of Milanville, she is president of the Damascus Township Historical Soc.
- 7/7/12 Annual EHS **Children's program** - Let Us Entertain Them!
- 7/14/12 The **Joel Hill Sawmill** will open for the season. Demonstrating the power of water; you can watch the antique water-powered saw mill operate, and tour the old mill. Fascinating for all ages. Hours: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m both days. Call for directions.
- 7/15/12
- 7/21/12 EHS will be represented at the **Zane Grey Museum Festival** in Lackawaxen.
- 7/29/12 **ART APPRECIATION DAY** - Celebrating the art of **Anna Torres**.
(Sunday) Enjoy the **Equinunk Fire Company Barbecue** "just down the road."
- 8/11/12 The **Joel Hill Sawmill** will again open for your viewing pleasure. Please see program information for 7/14 and 15. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. both days.
- 8/18/12 Equinunk Historical Society's **Annual Meeting** starts at noon.
Steve Jacobi and ***Fiddlin' Around*** present their **annual concert** for the benefit of the Joel Hill Sawmill. 8 p.m. at the Equinunk Fire Hall.
- 8/25/12 EHS Director **Dick Stowe** will read from the "***Lafayette Lord***" Civil War diary.
- 9/15/12 **Ken Parks** will present "***Music of the Civil War***". (More information on page 7)
- 9/29/12 **Civil War Encampment** on the grounds of the Equinunk United Methodist Church under the direction of Dennis Burnitt. (More information on page 7)
- 10/6/12 Final **Joel Hill Sawmill** demonstration for 2012. See description above.
- 12/7, 8 & 9 Equinunk Historical Society's **Holiday week end** and **Calder Shop Sale**. The museum and Calder Shop are open noon to 4 p.m all three days. Sunday's **Open House** features music and your special holiday treats. Please bring some to share.



Historic Notes

Combining a love of American history with an extensive background in musical theatre, Ken Parks formed Historic Notes, a performance-lecture group dedicated to presenting the popular songs of America through a combination of performance and historic narrative, in 2003.

The scope of Historic Notes ranges from American vocal music of the Colonial Era to the emergence of Tin Pan Alley in the early 20th century. Historic Notes seeks to provide a glimpse into the past through the music of bygone days.

As a performer, he appeared in leading roles in such musicals as 'Kiss Me, Kate,' 'Seven Brides for Seven Brothers,' 'The Unsinkable Molly Brown,' 'Shenandoah,' and many more in theatres across the country. He appeared with Tony Award winners Robert Goulet in 'South Pacific', and George Grizzard in 'Sullivan & Gilbert,' and had the pleasure of starring opposite Tony nominee Marin Mazzie in 'South Pacific' and Grammy winner Debby Boone in 'The Sound of Music.'

An avid genealogist, Ken is currently vice president of the Parke Society, an organization dedicated to researching all Park/e/s lineages in the United States and Canada, and administers the Park/e/s DNA project. Combining his acting and genealogical worlds, Ken is currently researching the original 112 founding members of Actors' Equity Association as part of the stage union's centennial celebrations in 2013.

Civil War Encampment

Arguably Equinunk's first Civil War Encampment in 150 years, the re-enactment will take place on Sept. 29th from noon to 4 p.m. The program will be somewhat dependent upon weather and how many re-enactors will be able to attend.

If a goodly number of volunteers can join us, and the weather is favorable, we will use the big field adjacent to the Methodist Church in the village. If the group is small, we will be at the museum. This group represents the 143rd New York State Volunteer Infantry from Sullivan County, New York. They recreate a civil war encampment with tents, equipment, and weapons while wearing appropriate uniforms. Members discuss and explain what we are seeing. They are very proud of one of their Civil War members, Thomas Collins, who won the Medal of Honor.

In the July, August, and September, 2011 issue of the Wayne County Historical Society newsletter, Ann O'Hara and Gloria McCullough published a story about Manchester Township. From that article: "*Manchester Township's finest hour came during the Civil War, when it sent the highest proportion of its population of any township in Pennsylvania as volunteers.121 went to war, with only 100 returning, many of those maimed or crippled. In addition, many others volunteered in New York State.*"

Three Cheers For.....

Historian **Eleanor Keesler** who came through another total knee replacement with her usual calm strength. This operation, more complicated than the other knee replacement she recently endured, involved removing some of the hardware implanted when she was struck by a car and seriously injured several years ago. Eleanor is back to working and driving though barely a month after her surgery.

Tony Seccia had a health setback late last year which required him to recuperate with his family in New York. Tony is back in his home, living among his friends in Equinunk, where he is determined to be. 98th birthday coming up! Tony, you are an inspiration to us all!

EQUINUNK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 41
EQUINUNK, PA 18417

MEMBERSHIP INFO:	
<i>Dues - per year:</i>	
Individual	\$15.00
Family	25.00
Junior	2.00
Lifetime	125.00
Corporate	50.00

.....
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Make a donation to ensure the success of this year's
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