

# Warrior Run Fort Freeland Heritage Society Newsletter

Spring 2015

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## The President's Thoughts

### WATTS UP?

Throughout my life I have been goal-oriented. Goals require vision, planning, direction, guidance, support, WORK, and some luck. An occasional review of an organization's established founding goals is good. Our organization has stayed on its founding course and remains a strong organization today.

The Society's goals, when founded in 1978, were stated in the first newsletter by the president, Faye Williams, as follows:

1. To educate about the significant features of this area's heritage.
2. To preserve our local heritage so it remains into the future.

For 35 years, we have done much to achieve these goals, and have remained a strong organization. Our present vision and plans are to continue meeting these founding goals. As changes occur, we face new challenges.

We have a good, working board of directors. We have a fine membership who must stay connected and be supportive and active where and when possible. Together, we can accomplish much in 2015.

Your membership is important to us. Membership contributions meet about 20% of our operating expenses. Please check your membership status by looking at the newsletter's address label to see if your dues are paid for 2015. If not, please forward membership dues to Cathy Metzger. Also, invite others to attend our events and become members.

This newsletter contains a calendar of events for the year. Keep this handy or mark your personal calendar so you don't miss anything. You can also make copies and post in locations so others can consider attending. Our events are open to everyone.

You should be aware of the present status of the Historic Warrior Run Church. The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission is relinquishing its ownership and financial responsibility. The society is taking steps to become the new owners. Your board has visions of increased activity for this historic property. Jane Koch will be heading up an active and functioning church committee in which you may have interest. Contact her at 570 538-1756 to get on the call list for the planning sessions for the year and helping with the future work at the church.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at our dinner on April 28, the annual Strawberry Festival in June, our August picnic at the Church, and, of course, at Heritage Days!

*Randy Watts, President*

192 Gearhart Rd, Turbotville PA 17772

E-mail [randallwatts@verizon.net](mailto:randallwatts@verizon.net)

(570) 437-4048 (Home)

OR [freelandfarm.org](http://freelandfarm.org)

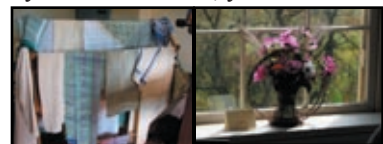




### Newsletter Articles

Please email articles to be included in the newsletter to [kyhouser@windstream.net](mailto:kyhouser@windstream.net). You can simply write the report in the email or copy and paste from another document. Most formats are acceptable. If you have a photo you want to share, you can send that to me, as well. Thank you for all the information you send making our newsletter very interesting and informative.

*Karen Houser*







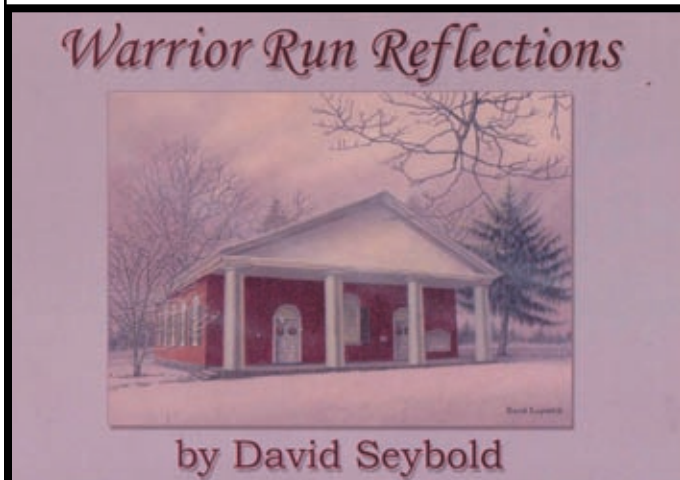
### *“Warrior Run Reflections” by David Seybold*

Art Print Raffle

The Warrior Run Fort Freeland Heritage Society announces a Benefit Raffle. Lewisburg artist, David Seybold, has donated a limited edition, publisher's proof, professionally framed “Warrior Run Reflections” print.

Tickets will be sold through Sunday October 4, 2015, during the Annual Heritage Days at the Hower – Slote House (held behind the Warrior Run High School). Tickets are \$5.00 each and the drawing and winning ticket holder will be announced on Sunday October 4, 2015, at 4: 00 p.m. on the Heritage Days Grounds. The Print will be on display at the Warrior Run Church during the Annual Strawberry Festival, held at the Warrior Run Church Sunday, June 14, 2015, as well as other events. Also, sales will begin at the WRFFHS Membership Dinner held at the Turbotville Community Hall - Tuesday April 28, 2015, at 6:00p.m.

All sales benefit the Warrior Run Fort Freeland Heritage Society's maintenance of the Hower – Slote House and Historic Warrior Run Church. For more information please call 570-538-1756 - email [info@freelandfarm.org](mailto:info@freelandfarm.org). or contact any board member.



### *What's Happening at the Church!*

Wow! The Cemetery looks amazing. It has been opened up by the removal of about 10 diseased and damaged trees. Last summer a large tree fell across the service building and alerted the Society of much needed tree work. After discussions with the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission, 10 trees were removed and several were trimmed. This was a very tedious job as many of the trees had the tombstones within their trunks, and it was also a difficult process because of the location inside the walls. Of course, we wanted to keep as many as possible, and we did. We were pleasantly surprised that this service did not disrupt the cemetery as we were anticipating. It has opened up the area deterring the moisture and moss from deteriorating the stone wall and tombstones. We, ourselves, have much work to finish. We saved the wood to use for Heritage Days and there are piles to be prepared for the fires and cooking as well as moving it all over to the Hower-Slote House site.

More to the story: As many of you have read in the local newspaper, The Standard Journal, The Warrior Run Church was posted for 30 days by the PHMC for a RFI (Request for Interest). This is a process of due diligence as they are looking for an entity to assume possession of the property and still keep it available for public use as an historic site. The Warrior Run Fort Freeland Heritage Society responded to this RFI and response is positive. We will advise more as we receive information concerning this. We feel this is an important historical site for this area and want to see it preserved for future generations, knowing at the same time the expense and maintenance will be huge. The local people, townships and municipalities should be proud of this historical site, as many of our ancestors stood right there. This area was at one time the frontier of Pennsylvania and many patriots that defended the early settlers did so from this area.

*Jane Koch*



### *What was the Society doing in the spring of the year?*

**35 years ago (1980)** - Request for a grant was turned down so the members took a leap of faith and the decision was made to raise funds and begin restoration work on the Hower-Slote House.

**30 years ago (1985)** - Larch trees, in memory of four deceased society members, were planted at the Warrior Run Church.

**25 years ago (1990)** - Church parking lot was established and the book of tombstone rubbings was completed thanks to Merle Phillips who helped us obtain a grant.

**20 years ago (1995)** - Roger Swartz held assemblies on local history at Milton and Warrior Run high schools.

**15 years ago (2000)** - Heritage Days was included on a National Geographic Society Geo Tourism map of historic places of interest.

**5 years ago (2010)** - Bob Franks received word that we will be hosting the Civil War Road Show in 2011, as it travels throughout the Commonwealth.





**WRRFHS**  
**Spring Banquet**

**At the Turbotville Community Hall**  
**6:00 p.m. Tuesday April 28<sup>th</sup> 2015**  
**\$14.00 per person**

**Menu**

**ROASTED CHICKEN W/FILLING & GRAVY,  
 BAKED HAM, MASHED POTATOES,  
 PICKLED CABBAGE, BAKED CORN, GLAZED CARROTS,  
 CAKE & ICE CREAM**

**Please Call Cathy Metzger for Reservations**

**570-713-4816**

**Reservations Requested by April 12<sup>th</sup> 2015**

***\*\*\* Reservations must be paid in advance, no refund \*\*\****



**WARRIOR RUN FORT FREELAND HERITAGE SOCIETY**  
**DONATIONS FOR SPRING 2015**

Watsonstown American Legion  
 Penny Kurtz (Donated two beautiful feed bags)

**ATTENTION MEMBERS**

Here we are beginning a new year with our first newsletter for 2015. It has been a long, cold winter and I'm sure we are all ready for some warm weather. I hope you all had a good winter and look forward to getting out and seeing people you don't see all winter. We will soon have our spring banquet and I hope to see you all there.

I am asking once again to check the date on the label of this newsletter which shows the year of membership. If you have forgotten to renew your membership, please renew for 2015 to bring you up to date. If you no longer wish to be a member of the society, please notify me to remove you from the membership listing. Postage costs are increasing and we cannot continue to mail newsletters to people who do not wish to be a member. Also, please take note on the membership form that my address and email have changed.

Have a great spring and I look forward to seeing all of you.

**Cathy Metzger**  
**Membership Secretary**

2151 Main St PO Box 176  
 Dewart PA 17730

Cell Phone: (570)713-4816

Email: [cemetzger02@windstream.net](mailto:cemetzger02@windstream.net)



## *Warrior Run Fort Run Fort Freeland Heritage Society*

### *Calendar of Events - 2015*

Spring Church Cleaning and Grounds Clean-up, Saturday, April 4, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Warrior Run Church

Easter Sunrise Service - Sunday, April 5, 7:00 a.m.

Historic Warrior Run Church

Service by Watsontown Presbyterian Church

Spring Dinner - Tuesday, April 28, 6:00 p.m.

Turbotville Community Hall Program after meal Reservations: Call Cathy at 570 713-4816

Annual Strawberry Festival - Sunday, June 14, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Historic Warrior Run Church

Hymn Sing, 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Warrior Run Church

Annual Picnic - Sunday, August 9, 4:00 p.m.

Historic Warrior Run Church

34th Heritage Days - October 3&4, Saturday, 9:00-5:00; Sunday, 11:00-5:00

Hower-Slote House grounds and Warrior Run Church

Heritage Days Worship Service - Sunday, October 4, 9:00 a.m.

Historic Warrior Run Church

Fall Membership Meeting - Tuesday, November 24, 7:00 p.m.

Warrior Run High School Library

Includes election of officers

Annual Christmas Candlelight Service - Saturday, December 12, 7:00 p.m.

Historic Warrior Run Church

Board meeting 2nd Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m. Warrior Run High School Faculty Lounge

Warrior Run Church - May, June, July, August

### *The Gatherings*

Think about the “group gatherings” in your life - family time, co-workers, church activities, sports teams, band, clubs, etc. Time together is valuable for cohesion of a group. In the “good old days” there were gatherings such as quilting bees, corn husking parties, and square dances, besides the frequent family get-to-togethers. Although most of us no longer participate in many of these, our Heritage Society holds several “gatherings” each year. Please save this list and join us!

### *Spring Banquet - April 28, 2015*

Besides a great meal, this year’s banquet will include several items of interest that you won’t want to miss.

1. Apprentice/Master Program - several artisans/craftsmen have finished their service requirements to move to the next level.
2. At this year’s banquet, will the Society will remember and honor Mike Slease.
3. “Tell Me the Rest of the Story” - At last year’s banquet, Rick Wolfe briefly mentioned the story of counterfeiters in Turbotville. Those present wanted to hear more so Rick will be back this year with the full story.



## *Warrior Run Fort Freeland Heritage Society*

### *Board of Directors*

(Terms run from January 1 to December 31)

#### 2013-2015

Steve Moser  
Melissa Kilgus  
Peggy Gelnett  
Randy Watts  
Al Reeves

#### 2014-2016

Leon Hagenbuch  
Jane Koch  
Bradd Mertz  
Doug Ertel  
Sue Whitmoyer

#### 2015-2017

Traci Pawling  
Ruth Webb  
Scott Pawling  
Cathy Metzger  
Landon Koch

(Student Member)

Kyle Whitmoyer

### *Officers - 2015*

President - Randy Watts (570-437-4048)

Vice President - Leon Hagenbuch (570-490-4555)

Treasurer - Cathy Metzger (570-713-4816)

Assistant Treasurer - Al Reeves (570-538-1423)

Recording Secretary - Melissa Kilgus (570- 538-5593)

Membership (appointed) - Cathy Metzger (570-713-4816)

Historian - Leon Hagenbuch (570-490-4555)

Newsletter - Karen Houser (570-538-2557)

### *Committee Leadership*

Church - Jane Koch, Landon Koch, Doug Ertel

Weddings - Traci Pawling

Strawberry Festival - Wayne Greiner

Heritage Days - Betsy Watts, Jane Koch

Candlelight Service - Al Reeves

House/Property - Leon Hagenbuch, Steve Moser, Rich Nornhold

### *Honorary Board Members*

Janet Hause \*

Betty Miller \*

Donna Meyer

Preston Webb \*

Hall Williams \*

Jane Shuman \*

Virginia Hartman \*

Ruth Moser \*

Mike Slease \*

Bob Franks

\* denotes deceased member

CHECK THE YEAR ON YOUR CARD AND MAKE SURE YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS CURRENT

Bringing our history to life....

Place  
Stamp  
Here

*Warrior Run  
Fort Freeland  
Heritage Society*

*P. O. Box 26  
Turbotville PA 17772*

*E-mail: [info@wrffhs.org](mailto:info@wrffhs.org)*

*Check us out on the web!  
[www.freelandfarm.org](http://www.freelandfarm.org)*

*Keeping your membership current*

It is the membership in any organization that enables it to attain its mission. For more than 20 years, membership has enabled the society to fund its many projects and achieve many goals. All members receive the society's newsletters and special discounts on publications and sale items.

*Membership Form*

Please register me/us as a:

- ☐ LIFE MEMBER (\$200.00 per person in one payment)  
☐ CONTRIBUTING MEMBER (\$20.00 per person per year)  
☐ STUDENT MEMBER ((\$1.00 per student per year)  
☐ SUSTAINING MEMBER (\$50.00 or more per year)

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this with proper amount for your desired membership status to:

Cathy Metzger  
2151 Main St PO Box 176  
Dewart PA 17730

[cemetzger02@windstream.net](mailto:cemetzger02@windstream.net)

570-713-4816

(make checks payable to WR/FFHS)