



Warrior Run Fort Freeland Heritage Society Newsletter

February 2020

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North McEwensville Area

Most of this area is in Delaware Township. It is from the bridge north to the farm now owned by Jay Heater. Often people wonder as they drive through this area of approximately 1/4 mile, if they only knew what had been there over the years.

The old bridge sat at a right angle to the creek and was built of steel. Rev. Paul Dershem, told me this many years ago. The road ran across the field to the small hill and a right turn would take you North on Susquehanna Trail.

A pond was located just North of the present Rail Road Crossing. In 1852, two small children drowned in this pond (*see below).

In 1886, the rail road was built, with a small RR Station located on the right turn that was mentioned earlier. The train would drop off the mail at the station. Someone from the post office would get the mail and take it to the post office. The road had a walking trail that was very muddy at different times of the year. The townspeople built a wooden sidewalk and maintained it by donations, festivals and volunteer help.

Jacob Stitzel had a house, blacksmith shop, tannery and other buildings in this area. The "Great Road" as it was called was built between the "Y" north of Milton to Muncy in 1921. The station was then moved to the new railroad crossing. It is said that George Wesner moved and used it as a chicken pen after it was no longer needed.

After the new road was completed, J.K. Watson built a filling station and house at the new crossing. Two large above ground fuel tanks were installed in the area of his old coal yard. Fuel would be shipped in on rail and transferred over.

The next owner was E.D. Fairchild; he built cabins in front of the steep bank beside the Stitzel Cemetery located to the west of the crossing. There are some people in the area who still remember these cabins.

After Fairchild's death, William Stitzel bought the property. He ran a gas station and candy store. Herman Stamm was the next owner. He added a car garage with apartment above. Mr. Sones owned the property after Mr. Stamm, and had Sones Sunoco. When the second pipeline went in, the shed located around where the first Railroad Crossing was got torn down. It was owned by Glen Shuman. Glen ended up with the property until the buildings and land were sold. Jay Heater is now the owner. I can remember when Amos Gray lived behind the row of machinery that Jay Heater had stored west of the railroad tracks.

As you can see, a lot of activity went on along that quarter mile on Susquehanna Trail. This article was written by "The Brickmaker" with the help from a notebook of LaRue Yost, a great historian from McEwensville.

*On April 21, 1852, reported in "The Muncy Luminary Archives," the bodies of two infants were found in Delaware Township Northumberland County - one in a large pond of water near Stitzel's tan yard with a rope around its neck and the other under or near a pile of stones, in an open field within a mile of the former place. No names were given.



Jane Koch, President
9235 St. Route 44

Watsonstown, PA 17777

E-mail ejkoch@windstream.net

(570) 538-1756

OR info@freelandfarm.org

Cake and Pie Pans for Sale

The Society is selling cake and pie pans with the Warrior Run Church on the lids. If you would like to purchase them, contact:

Cathy Metzger **570-713-4816**

Prices are as follows:

- 9 x 13 Non-stick pan & cranberry lid \$40.00
- 9 x 9 Traditional pan & green lid \$32.00
- 9" Pie pan & blue lid \$30.00



RAISE THE REGION 2020 EVENT

The First Community Foundation Partnership of Pennsylvania is excited to announce Raise The Region 2020. The Warrior Run Fort Freeland Heritage Society has registered for this event. It is a 30 hour event beginning Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. till Thursday, March 12, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. Raise The Region is to help the communities of Columbia, Lycoming, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder and Union counties support local nonprofit organizations fundraising. If someone wishes to donate go to the following link. (www.raisetheregion.org) All donations are tax deductible and will help make your favorite nonprofits mission possible. We appreciate your support as always.

Cathy Metzger
Treasurer



It is so easy to give to Raise The Region online and more importantly, your donations get matched. The amount of money we get above donations given are dependent on the event, but it is more than the donations themselves. So, please thoughtfully consider giving this year and every year. Any amount is helpful and welcome.

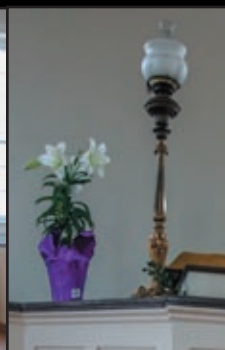
Easter Sunrise Service



Please join us on Sunday, April 12, 2020, at 7:00 a.m. for our Easter Sunrise Service at the Historic Warrior Run Church, 41 Warrior Lane, Watsonstown, PA, 17777 (Intersection of 8th Street Drive and Susquehanna Trail). This service is presented by the Watsonstown Presbyterian Church and offerings benefit the maintenance of this property.



For more information contact 570-538-1756 .



Donations need for Mower and Ice Cream Freezer

The WRRFFHS finds they need your help with donations to help purchase a new mower to keep up with the lawn maintenance at our church. The old one has done it's job for many years and needs to retire. Also, we need to purchase a new ice cream freezer to make all the ice cream for the Strawberry Festival. Any donation would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for any help you can give our society.

Cathy Metzger
Treasurer



Warrior Run Fort Freeland Heritage Society Spring Banquet

Country Cupboard Lewisburg
April 28, 2020
6:00 P.M.
Dinner Buffet (includes drink)
Price \$20.00 Each

Please contact Cathy Metzger for Reservations
Phone (570)713-4816 or email cmetzger507@gmail.com

Reservations are to be made by April 14, 2020
No late reservations will be accepted

****Reservations Must Be Paid in Advance/No Refunds



Attention WRRFFHS members:

The society is trying to find ways to save money to keep up with maintenance at the house and church. We find ourselves with some extra expenses and thought if you have a computer and have an email address we could send your newsletter by email rather than regular mail since the postage keeps going up all the time. If you have your newsletter sent by email you can also see it in color rather than black and white which much nicer. If you would like it sent by email please email me and I will take care of it. cmetzger507@gmail.com.

Thanks
Cathy Metzger

Newsletter Articles

Please email articles to be included in the newsletter to kyhouser@windstream.net. You can simply write the report in the email or copy and paste from another document. The best format is a Word document or an Open Office document. PDF files cannot be used in the producing of the newsletter.. 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 Y. Houser

Warrior Run Fort Freeland Heritage Society

Board Meetings - 2020

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Place</u>
January 13	7:00 p. m.	HS Faculty Lounge
February 10	7:00 p. m.	HS Faculty Lounge
March 9	7:00 p. m.	HS Faculty Lounge
April 13	7:00 p. m.	HS Faculty Lounge
May 11	7:00 p. m.	HS Faculty Lounge
June 8	7:00 p. m.	WR Church
July 13	7:00 p. m.	WR Church
August 10	7:00 p. m.	WR Church
September 14	7:00 p. m.	Hower-Slote House
October 12	7:00 p. m.	HS Faculty Lounge
November 9	7:00 p. m.	HS Faculty Lounge
December 14	7:00 p. m.	HS Faculty Lounge

Calendar of Events - 2020

April 28	Spring Dinner (last Tues. in April)	6:00 p.m.	Country Cupboard
June 14	Strawberry Festival (second Sunday in June)	11:00 a.m.	WR Church
August 9	Annual Picnic (second Sunday in August)	4:00 p.m.	WR Church
October 3-4	Heritage Days (Board meeting will not immediately follow Heritage Days)		Hower-Slote Grounds
November 9	Membership Meeting Election/Regular Board Mtg.	7:00 p. m.	HS Library
December 12	Candlelite Service (second Sat. in Dec.)	7:00 p. m.	WR Church



Warrior Run Fort Freeland Heritage Society Donations for Winter 2019

John & Jackie Varner
Turbotville Lions Club

Warrior Run Fort Freeland Heritage Society

Board of Directors

(Terms run from January 1 to December 31)

2018 - 2020

Traci Pawling
Ruth Webb
Scott Pawling
Cathy Metzger
Landon Koch
Wayne Greiner

2019-2021

Steve Moser
Melissa Kilgus
Peggy Gelnett
Randy Watts
Al Reeves

2020-2022

Leon Hagenbuch
Jane Koch
Sue Eppanbach
Doug Ertel
June Moser

(Student Members)

Maris Kilgus / Ethan Whitmoyer

Officers

President - Jane Koch (570-538-1756)

Vice President - Leon Hagenbuch (570-490-8279)

Secretary - Melissa Kilgus (570- 538-5593)

Treasurer - Cathy Metzger (570-713-4816)

Assistant Treasurer - Al Reeves (570-538-1928)

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

Audit/Finance - Scott Pawling, Melissa Kilgus (570- 538-5593)

Nominating Committee - Randy Watts, Steve Moser (570-437-4048)

Historian - Vacant

Newsletter - Karen Houser (570-538-2557)

Committee Leadership

Church -Jane Koch, Landon Koch, Doug Ertel (570-538-1756)

Church Grounds - Mark Keithan (570-538-5610)

Weddings - Traci Pawling (570-490-9895)

Strawberry Festival - Wayne Greiner (570-604-7451)

Heritage Days - Betsy Watts, Jane Koch

Candlelight Service - Al Reeves

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

Honorary Board Members

Janet Hause *

Jane Shuman *

Betty Miller *

Virginia Hartman *

Donna Meyer

Ruth Moser *

Preston Webb *

Mike Slease *

Hall Williams *

Bob Franks

Rich Nornhold

Alfred Reeves

Ruth Webb

* denotes deceased member

Bringing our history to

Place
Stamp
Here

*Warrior Run
Fort Freeland
Heritage Society*

*P. O. Box 26
Turbotville PA 17772*

E-mail: info@wrffhs.org

*Check us out on the web!
www.freelandfarm.org*

KEEP your membership current

****Note your membership status on the mailing label ****

Membership is key to our group's mission. It's an important step towards funding our projects and goals. Your membership allows you to receive four annual newsletters which inform you of the calendar of events, our organization's achievements and ways to become an active member.

Please register me/us as:

- LIFE MEMBER (\$200 per person in one payment)
 CONTRIBUTING MEMBER (\$20.00 per adult person per year)
 STUDENT MEMBER (\$1.00 per year – having student status)
 SUSTAINING MEMBER (\$50.00 or more per year as a special support member)

Name (s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email address: _____

To update your WR/FFHS membership status, please mail this form with the proper amount to:

Cathy Metzger

PO Box 176

Dewart PA 17730

cmetzger507@gmail.com 570-713-4816

(make checks payable to WR/FFHS)