

# The Warrior Run - Fort Freeland Heritage Society Newsletter

May, 2024

## President's Message

Happy Spring to all of you! We made it through another Pennsylvania winter and the society is excited for the future at the Historic Warrior Run Church!

First, I would like to personally invite each and everyone of you to come out and enjoy a fun Sunday at the church as we host our annual Strawberry Festival on June 9<sup>th</sup>. We will have homemade ice cream, pies, fresh cut strawberries as well as our famous Ham BBQ sandwiches on sale. We hope to see you all there.

We recently teamed up with Watsontown Historical Association to return the Watsontown High School Future Farmers of America Banner to the newly returned Warrior Run Chapter of the FFA. We were so excited to return the artifact to the group so they can display their legacy and heritage with pride. It truly is our mission to promote education of history and tradition of trades, and this group of students are doing just that. We wish the Warrior Run FFA the best of luck in their future and hope they thrive with success as they carry on their rich traditions!

We have lots of projects going on this spring as we make upgrades and updates to our facilities on the grounds. First and foremost, we have the church windows being restored by Owens Preservation Group. They are removing the windows and restoring them to their original with working weights and pulleys! Also, we are upgrading our water and plumbing at the service building to accommodate the expected growth as the Society pursues new fundraising endeavors in the future. We are replacing the toilets in the restrooms and doing our best to gussy up the old joint to provide only the "peachy comforts" to our guests as they enjoy the history and beauty of the historic church.

In closing I hope to see you all on June 9<sup>th</sup>, at the Strawberry Festival, rain or shine. I want to thank you all for your support in our mission, support of our cause and our group as a whole. I hope the spring warms you and that it brings you the best of things in 2024. More good things to come!

Have a great day, and a better tomorrow!

Landon Koch,  
Warrior Run-Fort Freeland Heritage Society, President



## STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

JUNE 9, 2024!!!  
11AM-4PM

HISTORIC WARRIOR RUN CHURCH  
41 WARRIOR LANE, WATSONTOWN, PA

### FREE ADMISSION!

ANTIQUE CAR SHOW  
HOMEMADE ICE-CREAM, HAM BBQ, STRAWBERRY  
DESSERTS, CHURCH TOURS AND MUCH MORE!

WARRIOR RUN-FORT FREELAND HERITAGE SOCIETY  
WWW.FREELANDFARM.ORG

PHOTO: GENE BOWEN/FFA FOR COUNCIL 931 BOSTON STAFF PHOTO ©



## Split Rail Fence -History – A Newsletter article follow-up

In our last newsletter we stated, “One year we had a volunteer demonstrate the hard task of rail splitting for demonstration of split Rail Fence.” That volunteer was Leon Golder.

The memory of that volunteer demonstrator came back when I received a phone call from Leon Golder. For a couple of years Leon demonstrated the split rail making skill. One year was a very hot Heritage Days weekend. At that time Leon was not like the young Abraham Lincoln when he made split rail fence. Leon was an outstanding demonstrator, sharing hard work and in-depth knowledge of fencing on early farms.

Leon Golder was a 1962 graduate of Warrior Run. For most of his life, along with his wife Sheri, they lived and worked near Corning, New York. They have been very active with the Corning Painted Post Historical Society. The organization has what is called Heritage Village and I encourage everyone to visit. The ground includes the restored Benjamin Patterson Inn. (Ben Patterson and his brother Robert were part of the relief force from Boone’s Fort, and both men survived the Battle of Fort Freeland.) Just learning Benjamin Patterson’s whole life story is worth a trip to Corning. There is also an old schoolhouse, a log cabin, and a blacksmith shop (which was created though the hard work of Leon) and much, much more.

In more recent years, fence making skills have been demonstrated by John Marr and Ed Rovenolt doing the post and rail type of wood fence. One drills three or four holes in the vertical posts used to hold the horizontal rails.

For many years, Sheri Golder demonstrated the flax-to-linen demonstration at our Heritage Days. These important skills were necessary to have cloth to make clothes in the early years. Leon and Sheri would travel from Elmira each day to volunteer at our Heritage Days event.

The flax demonstration, which includes spinning, has been continued with Abby Appleman and her mother, Frances Appleman. For many years Frances and her late husband, Wayne Appleman, promoted the society’s apprenticeship program which was designed to teach, practice and demonstrate early skills at Heritage Days. The program’s goals helped establish present day master of the skills of the colonial years.

There have been many volunteers like Leon and Sheri Golder over the years at our Heritage Days who have volunteered to help make our Heritage Days event very successful.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU EVERYONE

Written by Randy Watts

## DONATIONS FOR MAY 2024

The Warrior Run Fort Freeland Heritage Society would like to thank the Watsontown Centennial Lioness Lions Club for their generous donation. We also would like to thank all the people who donated through the Raise the Region program. All donations are very welcome toward the restoration of our Historic Warrior Run Church.

Cathy Metzger



## Warrior Run-Fort Freeland Heritage Society

The Warrior Run-Fort Freeland Heritage Society wants all volunteers and visitors to know that the Board incorporated a Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Access Policy as part of the organization in 2022. Training video links are periodically added to [www.freelandfarm.org](http://www.freelandfarm.org) to keep the information up-to-date. As a volunteer, everyone is valued and respected as part of the Society.

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The Warrior Run-Fort Freeland Heritage Society seeks to provide enhanced opportunities and stewardship for all board members, volunteers, students, and visitors that are engaged to learning about preservation, conservation and presentation of the history and heritage of the Warrior Run and surrounding areas.

Prior to Pennsylvania’s inception into the United States of America, the state has been regionally divided by cultural groups in regards to ethnicity, race, socio-economics, place, and gender identity. Within the geography of these regions, Pennsylvania’s diversity is a vast landscape that is regionally viewed independently.

Our commitment is to accommodate the needs, challenges, opportunities of the varied communities and populations represented throughout Pennsylvania. The Warrior Run-Fort Freeland Heritage Society will foster the best practices and processes for initiatives reaching a diverse range of Pennsylvanians who engage with volunteers and visitors. The Society is committed to practicing ongoing initiatives to address the specifics of diversity and inclusion.

The goal of the Warrior Run-Fort Freeland Heritage Society is to be sensitive to diverse groups of people from varied backgrounds, providing a welcoming atmosphere to all visitors which will be exposed to an inclusive view of history. All board members, volunteers, students, interns, and partners will be valued, respected, and seen as an imperative part of the operation, with historical collections promoting diversity, equity, inclusion and access in providing a genuine representation of history of the local Warrior Run area.

The Warrior Run-Fort Freeland Heritage Society board members and volunteers will act in accordance with the ethics, standards, and best practices to support an experience of diversity, equity, inclusion, and access. Training will be consistent and an ongoing process to effecting change. Diversity can signify different ideas in different areas, but without limitations to race, color, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation or identity, religion, nationality, age, economic class, educational level, language, physical mobility and ability, geography, and marital and parental status.

Melissa Kilgus  
WRFFHS, Vice President

## George C. Youngman

George C. Youngman, Cashier of the Turbotville National Bank of Turbotville, Northumberland County, Pennsylvania. George C. Youngman, of Turbotville, Pennsylvania, has for many years been actively interested in Group 4 Pennsylvania Bankers Association activities. He has also taken an active part in local progressive enterprises.

George C. Youngman was born at Hazleton, Pennsylvania, on March 26, 1873, the son of John C. Youngman and Jennie Grier Youngman. John C. Youngman, during the Civil War, served in the Union Army for four years, being for a part of his service on the staffs of General Ambrose Everett Burnside and General Hartranft, and was mustered out of the service with the rank of Brevet Major-General. All members of the John C. Youngman family have belonged to the Presbyterian Church.

After passing through the grammar schools of Wilson, Kansas, George C. Youngman completed his education at a business college in Peoria, Illinois. This was followed by a varied business career, culminating in his acceptance of the cashiership at the Turbotville National Bank, March 1, 1911, where he has remained to the date this article was written (unsure of date article was written). The Turbotville National Bank was chartered on August 1, 1910, with a capital of \$25,000. Through the years, the bank has consistently developed its services to the community and kept pace with Turbotville's development until at present its deposits total more than \$600,000, while capital, surplus and undivided profits have grown to approximately \$75,000. A.E. Weaver was the first president of the institution and Joseph W. Milnor, the first cashier, while the present officers include Colvin W. Derr as president, Myron B. Savidge and S.N. Williamson, vice-presidents, and George C. Youngman, cashier. Mr. Youngman is a member of the Masonic Order, Free and Accepted Masons, Lodge No. 516, Danville, Pennsylvania, and of the Williamsport Consistory, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite. He belonged to Milton Lodge Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

George C. Youngman was married in 1914, at Turbotville Pennsylvania, to Catherine Gearhart, the daughter of E.S. Gearhart, a lawyer established at Danville, Pennsylvania. Ella Gearhart was the mother of Catherine. Mr. and Mrs. Youngman became the parents of a daughter, Jane Ellen, who was born on February 26, 1916, and after attending the public and high schools of Turbotville, her native community, entered Bucknell University, graduating from that institution in 1936, with her degree of Bachelor of Arts. Miss Youngman resided in Turbotville, keeping house for her father.

Presented by Leon Hagenbuch

## United Way's Day of Action

On April 26<sup>th</sup>, four employees of the Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit volunteered for the United Way's Day of Action. These volunteers helped clean at The Historic Warrior Run Church site.

We applaud the United Way and these volunteers for all their help. We are grateful and thankful to them for their help.

Jane Koch

## Warrior Run Church Facelift

The WRFFHS has some exciting work currently being done at the Historic Warrior Run Church! After securing most of the money needed from two grants, we are able to have all the church windows, and the two sets of front doors restored. Owens Preservation is making repairs, plus repainting and adding new glaze to all the window panes. The window weights will also be in working order which will make it much easier to open them in addition to installing period hardware for security. The doors will be repainted with period hardware being installed. Donations would be greatly appreciated to make up for what the grants did not cover. We are still actively applying for grants to paint the interior church walls and pews.

Come to the annual Strawberry Festival to see the restoration work!

Melissa Kilgus  
WRFFHS, Vice President



## Newsletter Articles

Please email articles and photos to be included in the newsletter to [kyhouser@windstream.net](mailto:kyhouser@windstream.net). You can simply write the information in an email or copy and paste from another document. The best format is a Word or an Open Office document. PDF files don't work well with the newsletter format. We want you to be a part of our newsletter, so don't be shy. Help us to make our newsletter very

Warrior Run Fort Freeland Heritage Society  
Board Meetings - 2024

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Place</u>
May 13	6:00 p. m.	Hower-Slote House
June 10	6:00 p. m.	Hower-Slote House
July 8	6:00 p. m.	Hower-Slote House
August 12	6:00 p. m.	Hower-Slote House
September 9	6:00 p. m.	Hower-Slote House
October 14	6:00 p. m.	Delaware Township Building
November 11	6:00 p. m.	Delaware Township Building
December 9	6:00 p. m.	Delaware Township Building

Calendar of Events - 2024

June 9 (Second Sun)	Strawberry Festival	11:00 a. m.	Warrior Run Church
October 5-6	Heritage Days		Hower-Slote Grounds
	Board Meeting not to immediately follow Heritage Days		
November 11	Membersjip Meeting	7:00 p. m.	Delaware Twnshp Bld
	Election / Regular Board Meeting		
December 14 (Second Sat)	Candlelite Service	7:00 p. m.	Warrior Run Church



## *Warrior Run Fort Freeland Heritage Society*

### Board of Directors

(Terms run from January 1 to December 31)

#### 2022-2024

Steve Moser  
Melissa Kilgus  
Peggy Gelnett  
Randy Watts  
Al Reeves

#### 2023-2025

Leon Hagenbuch  
Jane Koch  
Sue Eppenbach  
Doug Ertel  
June Moser

#### 2024-2026

Landon Koch  
Cathy Metzger  
Daniel Phillips  
Heidi Eppenbach  
Ethan Whitmoyer

(Student Members)

### Officers

President - Landon Koch (570-428-4588)  
Vice President - Melissa Kilgus (570-538-5593)  
Secretary - Heidi Eppenbach (570-568-1870)  
Assistant Secretary - Sue Eppenbach (570-568-1870)  
Treasurer - Cathy Metzger (570-713-4816)  
Assistant Treasurer - Al Reeves (570-538-1928)  
Membership (appointed) - Cathy Metzger (570-713-4816)  
Audit/Finance - Scott Pawling (570-538-9582), Melissa Kilgus (570-538-5593)  
Nominating Committee - Heidi Eppenbach, Doug Ertel, Ethan Whitmoyer  
Historian - Leon Hagenbuch / Randy Watts  
Newsletter - Karen Houser (570-538-2557)

### Committee Leaders

Church - Jane Koch (570-538-1756), Landon Koch (570-538-4588), Doug Ertel (570-538-5711)  
Church Grounds - Daniel Phillips (570-713-4816), Leon Hagenbuch (570-490-8279), Randy Watts (570-437-4048)  
Weddings - Traci Pawling (570-490-9895)  
Strawberry Festival - Cathy Metzger (570-713-4816), Daniel Phillips (570-713-4816)  
Heritage Days - Committee  
Candlelight Service - Al Reeves (570-538-1928)  
House/Property - Leon Hagenbuch (570-490-8279), Steve Moser (570-649-5124), Rich Nornhold (570-538-9733)

### 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*	Sue Eppenbach

\* 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@freelandfarm.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  
2575 Turbot Avenue  
Watson town PA 17777

[cmetzger507@gmail.com](mailto:cmetzger507@gmail.com) 570-713-4816  
(make checks payable to WR/FFHS)