

FULTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Spring 2006

Dinner Meeting

Members are invited to bring family and friends to the annual dinner meeting of the Fulton County Historical Society on Saturday evening, April 22, 2006, at 6:00 p.m. in the social room of the Needmore Bible Church. Women of the Fulton County Christian School will prepare and serve buffet style a meal featuring cole slaw, ham, fried chicken, scalloped potatoes, California-blend vegetables, applesauce, rolls, coffee/tea and a fine dessert selection.

President Dick Miller will conduct a short business meeting following the meal. Todd Alexander will offer a slate of nominees for new officers for 2006-07.

Maryann Riley of Mercersburg will talk to the group about the Underground Railroad with emphasis on local people, places and happenings. A choir of women from the Bethel AME Church will close the evening with several musical selections.

The church is located along Route 522 about 14 miles south of McConnellsburg and 8 miles north of Warfordsburg. Reservations with a check of \$12 per meal are due by April 15, either mailed to the Society or given to Monica Seville.

Library

Local members are aware of the new arrangement of materials in our Historical Society library and the excellent labeling done this winter by volunteer Linda Portanova. Our librarian Mary Black continues to update the cemetery file of names on our web page. We extend thanks and appreciation to these two volunteers for their many hours of work.

Jamie Brambley of the Fulton County Library has arranged a free trial of Heritage Quest for the entire month of April. If you've had trouble locating missing family members who "went west" generations ago, Heritage Quest will give you nationwide access to search names in every census from 1790 to 1930. You can search 20,000 family and local histories, Revolutionary War pension and bounty-land warrant applications, the Freedman's Bank of 1865-74 for African-Americans, and names of people in 1.6 million articles. On



At the Society's dinner meeting on April 22, 2006, a choir from the Bethel AME Church of Mercersburg will follow Maryann Riley's talk on the Underground Railroad.

April 1, go to www.trials.proquest.com/ptc?userid=1733888 and enter the password "welcome". Write to director@fultonhistory.org if you encounter any problems. The normal annual charge for access to this site is \$610 so we need to hear a good report from lots of members if you want this service to continue after April 30.

Hazel Brambley has a Fisher/Sellers (married 1892) family Bible which she would like to give to a family member. Her e-mail is gammia@pennswoods.net

Publications

The Society owes a large debt of appreciation to Frank Walch of Florida for his Civil War history of Fulton County's Company H, 158th Regiment, PA Infantry which is enclosed as your 2006 annual book. Frank places their tour of duty in the larger context of the

war but then continues with details of their individual family life and death. This is one of our more expensive publications but we can still sell copies for \$8 plus mailing. Order extra for your friends, and be sure to renew your own membership if necessary.

Reproduction of the 1873 Map of Fulton County was well received with 100 orders. The Board authorized keeping it in stock with half-size 24x26 copies at \$60 and full-size 48x50 copies at \$125 plus mailing. All publications are available in the "Store" on our web page www.fultonhistory.org and can be sent immediately if using PayPal.

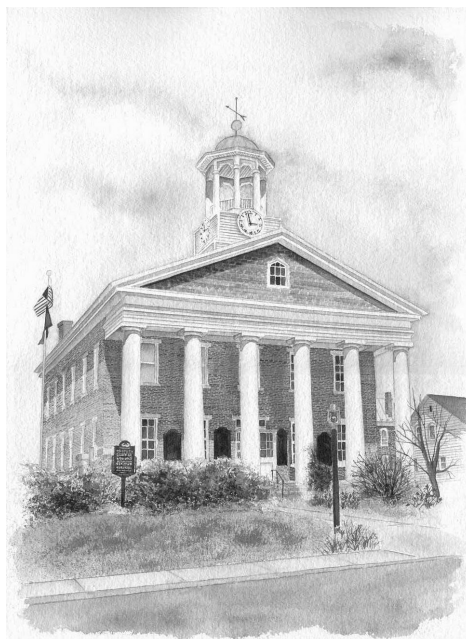
The Society had hoped to publish a book of recollections from local World War II veterans. Forbes Road teacher Brown Cutchall has many audio tapes of interviews conducted by his history class. We need a volunteer (perhaps a retired secretary who lives far from Fulton County) who could transcribe some of this information.

A new item in limited quantity is a watercolor print of the historic Fulton County Courthouse by Kathleen Howell. These will make fine gifts at \$30 for a print or \$10 for a pack of notecards and will be available locally or on our web page.

Life Member

We welcome Mary Weyant of Penn, PA, as a new life member in January 2006. Mary would like to attend Society meetings if they could be held in an afternoon since the distance is too far for her to drive after an evening meeting.

At a Board meeting in March, Directors authorized the inclusion of ten (10) past Society books of member's choice as an appreciation gift for all new life members.





The Winegardner School in Taylor Township closed in 1955. Teacher Lois Madden purchased it at auction on August 19, 1955, from Taylor Township School District, restored the interior and maintained it.



After Miss Madden's death on April 10, 2003, the Fulton County Historical Society received the building with .17 acre through her will. The renovations currently being made are possible through a 2004 bequest from the Kay Beach estate.

Winegardner School

Extensive renovations have taken place to the exterior of the Winegardner one-room schoolhouse. A new metal roof in an antique bronze color was installed over new furring strips. Wood siding on the gable end above the porch roof was replaced to match the other siding. A sill log was replaced and the stone foundation was repaired. A mahogany porch floor and stairs of treated lumber were installed. As temperatures allow, the exterior will be painted a mist gray similar to an earlier color found under the present white paint, with a trim color to blend with the roof. This work was made possible by a generous donation from the family of the late Kay Beach.

By Glenn Cordell, Administrator

MINUTES

Dick Miller called to order the January 24, 2006, meeting of the Fulton County Historical Society at 7:00 p.m. in Fulton Theater. One hundred twenty individuals attended the meeting. Minutes from the previous meeting were approved. Treasurer Dan Swain read the treasurer's report which was approved. He acknowledged Jane MacDonald's efforts as treasurer and thanked Jolinda Wilson for her

assistance in setting up the Society's accounting on Quick Books.

Dick Miller announced the Society's annual dinner meeting to be held at Cito United Methodist Church [sic-not available] on April 22, 2006. The Mercersburg Historical Society has extended an invitation to their March 18 dinner which will include a performance by the Altoona Civil War Band, with tickets to cost \$17.50. Dick made several announcements regarding the availability of prints, maps, publications, as well as memberships in the Historical Society.

Individuals from the audience

were invited to speak about their memories of attending Fulton Theater, with four people offering comments. The remainder of the evening was spent viewing four vintage film selections by Larry Springer: a Looney Tunes comic, a preview of a John Wayne movie, a Three Stooges short film, and the feature presentation of Roy Rogers and Dale Evans in "Don't Fence Me In." The meeting was adjourned before 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheila Scamardella,
Acting Secretary



Film buff Larry Springer used two projectors for a nostalgic Saturday night at the movies in Fulton Theater where members enjoyed the 1940s feature film "Don't Fence Me In" starring Roy Rogers.

PO Box 115, McConnellsburg, PA 17233
Non-Profit 501(c)(3) organization #23-7453773

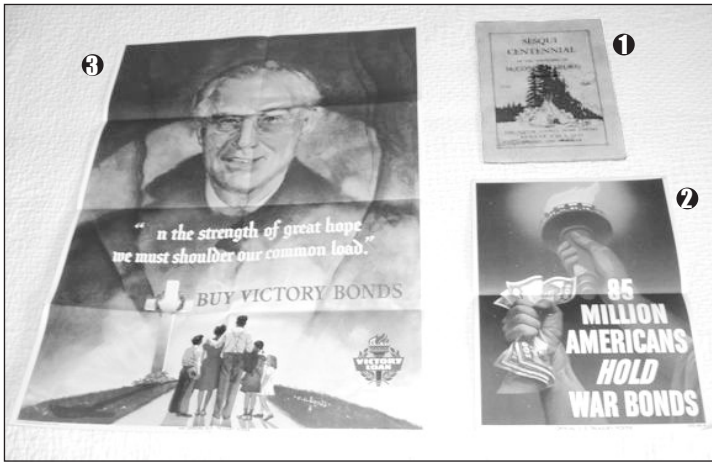
E-mail: director@fultonhistory.org
Web page: www.fultonhistory.org

2005-06 OFFICERS:

Richard A. Miller, President
J. Scott Alexander, Vice President
Ken Keebaugh, Secretary
Dan Swain, Treasurer 2006

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Merrill Arnold 2008
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Monica Seville 2006



**Secret Silent Auction to benefit the
FULTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Closing deadline 7:00 p.m. April 22, 2006**

The late Walter Reed Sloan (1888-1974) was a driving force in creating the original Fulton County Historical Society in the late 1920s and was a respected local historian. The present Historical Society was reorganized in preparation for the US Bicentennial of 1976 and received many valuable artifacts which had been under his care. Recently his family donated more books and papers to the Historical Society library, some of which are duplicates. The Board of Directors wishes to share the following items with members and friends by way of a “secret silent auction” to be operated as follows:

Anyone wishing to own one or more of the items below is asked to indicate the highest amount they would give for it. This is not a bidding auction. We will hold mail responses unopened and accept all offers until the beginning of the Society dinner on April 22. At the business session following the meal, President Dick Miller will open all envelopes and announce the highest offer. Since these items were donated at no cost, the Society can offer a tax-deductible receipt for the most generous offer. Funds will be used to further the mission of the Historical Society.

#1. A mint unsold copy of the 44-page “Sesqui-centennial of the Founding of McConnellsburg 1786-1936.” Following the history articles and program are many local advertisements including inside cover ads for Hotel Harris and Mellott Hotel from 70 years ago. Mr. Sloan served on the committee and wrote the first chapter on “Early Fulton County History.”

#2. During World War II, Walter Sloan was Fulton County chairman for selling war bonds. A 10”x14” poster dated 1945 shows the Statue of Liberty’s arm with torch held high. This original poster was filed away 60 years ago and is as perfect as any you will find today. An identical one sold on eBay for \$51. The Society is keeping two perfect copies for our permanent collection.

#3. Also from the Sloan family is this large 18”x26” victory bond poster which is folded exactly as sent from the U.S. Government Printing Office in 1945. The entire top half has a head-and-shoulders portrait of President Franklin Roosevelt. At the bottom, a family of five faces a brighter future. FDR died in April 1945 so this poster would have had a strong emotional impact in every community throughout the country. This mint poster has no tape, pin marks, tears or water stains. The Society has two additional copies for our permanent collection.

#4. “Return to Safety – Fort Littleton 1756” is limited edition print #63/500 by local artist Brian Tucker and long out of print. The scene is from early April 1756 after a two-

hour battle with Indian forces led by Shingas. Each side lost about 20 men on Sideling Hill. The recently-finished Forbes Road passes in front of the fort. (Note: Frames are included with all prints for local pickup, but only the print will be mailed at Society expense.)

#5. “Running the Line – 1766” was a popular limited edition print by Brian Tucker which sold out quickly. While Mason and Dixon placed stones with an M (Maryland) and P (Pennsylvania) every mile, they are shown here setting a “crown stone” at mile 125 in Fulton County in April 1766. This white limestone marker showing the coat of arms of the Proprietors was brought from England and remains today in its original position. The surveyors found Fulton County’s terrain too mountainous to continue hauling these stones and abandoned them after reaching mile 132. (All prints are on 16”x20” paper but this one has an image area of 12”x18”.)

#6. “The Delegate from Tonoloway – 1776” is a limited edition print by Brian Tucker which shows Rev. Joseph Powell (1734-1804) leaving the Tonoloway settlement of Fulton County in early July 1776 as our delegate to a state constitutional convention in Philadelphia. Benjamin Franklin served as convention president when the session opened on Monday, July 15. The log building is representative of the earlier Tonoloway meetinghouse which a Baptist history published in 1770 states was 22 feet by 18. (All prints have a descriptive narrative about the scene.)

To support the mission of the Fulton County Historical Society, I will donate the following amount for the item described above:

#1 _____ #2 _____ #3 _____ #4 _____ #5 _____ #6 _____

Verify name of item: _____

Date (in case of tie, we will use the earliest date): _____

Name, address and contact number: _____

Return this to the Fulton County Historical Society, Box 115, McConnellsburg, PA 17233. If you write “Auction” in the lower corner, your envelope will NOT be opened until 7:00 p.m. April 22, 2006. Address questions or a request for better photographs to director@fultonhistory.org Your support is very much appreciated!