# FULTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

January 2010

## **Native Indians Liked Fulton County**

Gene Niswander of St. Thomas, an authority on American Indian culture in Pennsylvania, will speak to Fulton County Historical Society members and friends on Saturday evening, January 16, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. in the Fulton Theater meeting room of F&M Trust on North Second St, McConnellsburg.

Niswander will describe what the Indian tribes did in our area, how they lived, why they liked our mountains and streams, the location of the largest rock quarry for arrowheads in all of the eastern seaboard, and how to hunt for arrowheads today. Guests are invited to bring to the meeting their own local Indian artifacts for a free evaluation.

A friend of the late Clarence Bender, Niswander's interest in local Indian lore goes back more than 40 years. He publishes a newsletter of Indian history for Franklin County and surrounding areas and will bring a selection of his publications to the meeting.

The program is free and open to the public with a donation box to cover costs. Light refreshments will be served. Contact Monica Seville 717-485-4454 (daytime) or Dick Miller 717-485-3412 (evenings) in case of weather cancellation.

## Fall Folk Festival Report

Weather for the 2009 Fulton Fall Folk Festival weekend was really nasty and festival crowds were much smaller than normal but the Fulton House museum and the log kitchen

food stand both had excellent attendance with combined sales over \$800. Our thanks to all the volunteers and to the Garden Club and Butterfly Gardens for providing lovely fall decorations.

About 50 guests participated in the annual House Tour of 4 homes and 2 churches with both hosts and guests reporting an enjoyable visit. Any



local members willing to help with a 2010 House Tour are encouraged to contact Monica Schall (717-485-4554) now with ideas for possible homes next year.

Due to your strong participation in the Historical Society's raffle, Society members won 4 of the 5 prizes. Bruce Mentzer of Maryland won the B&B stay at Crampton Manor, Darlene Truax of Needmore won the round-barn painting, Geraldine Dorman of Delaware won the holiday postcards, Valerie Taylor of Virginia won the folk art cheese box, and one of our newest members, Mark Ashley of Minnesota, won the 1936 Sesquicentennial book. The proceeds were \$1,609. Thanks to all donors and contributors!

#### **New Life Members**

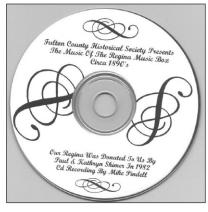
On October 4, 2009, Lorrie Nelson of Hagerstown received a life membership gift from her mother-in-law, Esther Nelson, who has been a longtime supporter of the Fulton County Historical Society. Lorrie's husband, Charles Nelson, was a life member until his death. We appreciate the interest and support of the Nelson family.

On October 8, 2009, Sharon Bain Smith of Jefferson City,

MO, changed her regular membership to life. Sharon sent photos of Wallace Bain, born 1849 in Fort Littleton, and his wife Florence Cowan, born 1850 in Fort Loudon; their son, Charles Ira Bain, was her grandfather. Her early Bain ancestors were Masons (members of the Lodge of Odd Fellows) in Fulton County; she asks if the Lodge records exist here from the 1800s? Her email is ccmc5j@mchsi.com

# **Recent News**

Mike Pindell and Summer Stiffler combined their talents and recorded a music CD of tunes played on the Historical Society's Regina Music Box which was donated to the museum in 1982 by Mrs. Paul Shimer. The 1890-era music box was exchanged by a local family for a radio during the Great Depression at Mr. Shimer's store in McConnellsburg. The CD is available for \$10 at Summer Thyme Floral,



110 Lincoln Way West, McConnellsburg, or for \$12 by mail from the Historical Society.

Museum curator Edie Coleman with her family members and volunteers decorated and staffed the log kitchen for the Christmas in McConnellsburg weekend. She received many positive comments in addition to \$336 in sales and donations. The Society is looking for a local year-round renter for the log cabin to provide income and make daily museum tours possible.

Historical Society president Dick Miller received personal honor when his restored 1916 Chevrolet was judged a Jr. National Grand Champion in 2009. Dick is especially proud that the car has been in Fulton County for its entire life. The late George "Bud" Grissinger purchased it in 1936 from an old barn on a Duvall farm near Crystal Springs.



Finally, you will want to renew your membership for 2010. Dues remain the same as they have been for the past number of years. The 2010 book of early Lutheran Church records will be included in the next mailing as a free bonus to all current members.

We wish each of you a happy and healthy New Year. By Glenn Cordell

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

McCONNELLSBURG, PENUSYLVANIA 17233 BOX 115

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January 2010 DOCIETY

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#### Minutes

The Fall General Membership Meeting of the Fulton County Historical Society was held on Thursday, October 15, 2009 at the United Presbyterian Church in McConnellsburg, PA, with 55 members and guests present. President Dick Miller called a brief business meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Minutes of the Summer Meeting were approved as published in the Fulton County News. Gene Leese gave a brief Treasurer's Report. President Miller announced upcoming FCHS events for the Fulton Fall Folk Festival.

# **Library Hours**

New hours in 2010 will be Monday 12-5; Tuesday 9-8; Wednesday 9-5; Thursday 9-8; Friday 9-5; Saturday 9-4.

Free Heritage Quest online will no longer be available.

Miller introduced Karl Reisner from the Mercersburg Academy, featured guest lecturer on President James Buchanan. Donations of \$125 were collected. Wayne MacDonald was recognized for receiving the Antique Automobile Club of America Senior Award for the 1925 Dodge Brothers tow truck he restored. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

> Respectfully submitted, Kenneth W. Keebaugh Secretary, FCHS

# MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL:

\$15 Individual/Family

\$250 Individual Life

Send your name, address, e-mail and family interest names to the Society address below along with your check.

# **Fulton County Historical Society** Treasurers Report 10/15/09

July 11 to October 15, 2009

Receipts Dues \$695.00 Life Member \$500.00 Books & other sales \$946.75 \$998.96 Investment div. & int. Special Events (raffle tickets) \$1,282.00 Misc. \$25.76 **Total Receipts** \$4,448.47

Disbursements: \$386.85 Supplies Postage & Box Rent \$142.10 Printing & Copying \$375.00 Website \$200.00 Occupancy expenses \$1,295.70 Insurance \$678.00 Advertising & fundraising \$255.00 \$175.37 Misc. **Total Disbursements** \$3,508.02

Net Gain for Ouarter \$940.45 Gene Leese, Treasurer

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

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2009-10 OFFICERS:

Richard A. Miller, President Monica Seville, Vice President Ken Keebaugh, Secretary Gene Leese, Treasurer 2009

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Linda Garber 2012 Summer Stiffler 2012 Ruth C. Reeder 2011

John Mentzer 2011 Edith Coleman 2010 Dick Newman 2010