

# FULTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Summer/Fall 2021 • Winter/Spring 2022

## Historical Society's Annual Membership Dinner Meeting set

The Historical Society's Annual Membership Dinner will be held on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 PM at the Hustontown Fire Hall. The featured speaker is David Fremming who is the Curator of the George Washington House in Winchester, VA. Tickets for the turkey and ham dinner are \$15 per person, and reservations can be made with Bonnie Keefer at 717-485-3496 or Monica Seville at 717-485-4454. Deadline for reservations is April 18<sup>th</sup>. Please join us for an interesting evening with fine food and excellent company.

## Officer elections to be held

FCHS officer elections for the 2022-23 year will be held in conjunction with the Annual Membership Meeting on Saturday, April 30, 2022. (See announcement on Dinner/Meeting above)

President Eddie Sharpe will call for the election of: President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, and two Board Members. A board member acting for the nomination committee will introduce a slate of candidates, and call for additional nominations from the floor. The membership at large can also make nominations by mail if so desired. (See nomination form on last page)

## Society to honor Mike Crampton

The Fulton County Historical Society will honor Mike Crampton as Historian of the Year at the annual meeting. Mike Crampton, who passed away recently has served on the society board for many years as vice-president and as a board member.

But, his big project was the Frontier Barn Quilt Trail of Fulton County which he was a driving force behind. Mike, who was employed in McConnellsburg made time for many visitors to the county who stopped in for Barn Quilt booklets and suggestions on driving tours to see the over 200



*Photo from Cover of FCHS booklet: What may be the first Barn Quilt in Fulton County is the "Acorn Acres" on the end of The Acorn Barn. Mike and Linda Crampton who were very active in the development of the Frontier Barn Quilt Trail did not have their barn quilt on the trail because it was not visible from a public roadway.*

barn quilts that could be viewed.

Join us on Saturday, April 30 to honor Mike's contributions to Fulton County and the society.



## Thanks, Summer 2021 Greeters

In order to have the Fulton House and the Museum Annex open weekends during the summer, many volunteers were needed to be greeters and guides. Greeters worked in three-hour shifts, with some staying the entire day.

Our sincere thanks to the following individuals who gave time during the summer: Dixie Bivens, Faye, Keith and Jim Butts, Gloria Clingerman, Mike Crampton, Faye Elvey, Cindy Glessner and the Fulton County Quilt Club, Anne Gobin, Shirley Gordon, Johnny Greathead, Jim Hedges, Carolyn Hollenshead, Donna House, Gloria Hurney, George Inslee, Bonnie Keefer, Ed Leisinger, Joan McCulloh, George Mentzer, Kathleen O'Connor, Helen Overly, Ruth Reeder, Kelly Sheeder and daughter, Sylvia Smith, JoAnne Stansfield, Sonnie Stenger and Andrew Washabaugh.

Pictured is Keith Butts being presented with the "Best Greeter Award" by Tom Duffey.

## Museum Committee Report

The Historical Society's Museum Committee had a very busy year setting up new displays, inventorying items, keeping the doors open on weekends, and holding special events.

Six new displays were unveiled in time for the 2021  
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*The new gunsmith display in the Museum Annex.*

summer opening. The Harris Hotel Garage facade featured advertising and items from many of the over twenty new car dealers spread across the county from the early days of the automobile. Wayne MacDonald, George Inslee, and Allen Kelso spearheaded this project, with Inslee doing hours of research searching old newspapers for stories and advertisements. John Nelson and Ken Keebaugh took charge of showcasing the society's Civil War collection in the newly constructed Comerer Store facade.

With Jan Fraker guiding the layout and provisioning a gunsmith shop display, the society's rifles were moved to the annex. Fraker came in on many weekends to demonstrate the gunsmithing arts. In addition, a bank interior was built to depict the early days of banking in Fulton County. Furniture and equipment from the First National Bank were organized by the Duffey family, John, Tom and Stacy. Memorabilia from the Fulton County Banks was also added.

The County courthouse and the Hunter Mill display were moved to permanent homes, both depicting interiors of these institutions. Young Andrew Washabaugh set up a display on local and national politics while teen Carter Reed donated items he had discovered while metal detecting.

Throughout the summer on Fridays, the Fulton County Quilt Club worked on a quilt at the entrance of the museum, giving visitors a look into the art of hand quilting.



*Homeschoolers tour the Museum Annex.*

At the Fulton House a display on old family Bibles and a map display were located in the lower rooms, while upstairs the work of the museum committee continued. Over two hundred new items were received and inventoried by Edie Coleman and Tom Duffey. Carolyn Hollenshead then had the task of entering them on a computer program designed to record and track items. Ruth Reeder continued to organize the vast photography library owned by the society.

At this printing the committee reports that nearly 3,000 items and documents, and 2,000 photos have been catalogued by Ruth, Carolyn, Edie and Tom.

The committee hosted 33 home schooled students for tours as well as giving several private tours. Although attendance was down from preCovid times, nearly \$4,000 was collected from memberships, book sales and donations while the museum was open this past summer.

All in all, a very busy year for the Museum Committee.

## **Spring Tea Set at Museum Annex Event Center for May 7**

A Special Spring Tea honoring mothers will be held in the Event Center at the rear of the Museum Annex, 211 Lincoln Way East, McConnellsburg, PA, on Saturday, May 7, 2022 at 11:30 am. Prices are \$10 adults; \$5.00 children. Reservations can be made by calling Edie Coleman at 814-735-3039. Your donation will be collected at the door.

Bring your Mother; bring your daughter!

## **Society plans new exhibits in 2022**

The society has new space for three more store fronts this summer: A barbershop, a 1920's era kitchen and a space to be determined. Items that we're looking for to display in these spaces include a barber chair, barber tools, and mirror for the barber shop; and an ice box, Hoosier cabinet, cupboard, table, enamel dishpan, and a counter top water pump for the kitchen. Anyone who would be willing to loan or donate such items should contact Edie Coleman at 814-735-3039.

## **Historical Society Updating Records**

We are currently in the process of updating our membership files to capture as many email addresses as possible. You should have received a card in the mail requesting updates for addresses and phone numbers, as well as email addresses. If you have not yet responded to that request, please do so. Utilizing email to correspond with our members helps us reach you with information in a more timely manner and helps keep the cost down for the Society. We have also set up a new email address for the Society just for membership related issues. Please use [membership@fultonhistory.org](mailto:membership@fultonhistory.org) whenever you have a membership question, or to provide us with updated information on your membership.

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## New Life Members Welcomed

Our latest life members joining are:

- **Jason Sharpe** (#306) of Harrisonville, PA, joined in March 2021.
- **Sue Powell** (#307) of Artemas, PA, joined in March.
- **Thomas A. Duffey** (#308) of McConnellsburg, PA, joined in April.
- **Brian L. Culler** (#309) of McConnellsburg, PA, joined in June.
- **Colin McPeak** (#310) of Needmore, PA, joined in July.
- **Charles R. Wade** (#311) of Stuart, Florida, joined in July.
- **Shirley M. Gordon** (#312) of Needmore, PA, joined in July.
- **Faye Butts** (#313) and...
- **James Butts** (#314) and...
- **Darron Butts** (#315) and...
- **Keith Butts** (#316) all of McConnellsburg became new life members in September 2021.

• **Beverly Wisner** (#317) of McConnellsburg became a life member in February 2022. She has held a long-standing annual membership which she converted to a life membership.

• **Robert C. Snyder II** (#318) of McConnellsburg became a life member in February 2022. Another long-standing annual membership being converted to a life membership.

The Life Membership Endowment of the society, now with 318 members, totals \$51,900.

## Society publishes two new volumes in ongoing series

The society published, in 2021, a booklet researched and written by John H. Nelson entitled "Fulton County, PA in the War of 1812" as Volume 40 of its ongoing series. John notes in the introduction, "When the War of 1812 broke out, Fulton County, PA, was not yet formed; the land belonged to Bedford County. That being stated, a number of men who lived in this area enlisted in the cause; one company positively came from what is now Fulton and another may have had its roots here. Other men served in other units and some enlisted in Maryland companies."

This slim 26 page booklet tells of the service of over 50 men who served in various units from the area. Society members received this booklet by mail during the fall of 2021.

The society's 2022 publication, also researched and written by John H. Nelson, is included with this newsletter. Entitled "Launched Into Eternity, Murder Within and Without Fulton County, PA" - This 80 page booklet details over 70 tragic deaths from 1822 to recent times with most of the information condensed from the pages of Fulton County newspapers, and other publications near and far.

John writes in his introduction, that this booklet is a

"... compilation of all murder cases in Fulton County, also murder cases by people who once resided in the county, but the homicide occurred elsewhere, and murder cases of people who were not from the county, but the incident happened here. Several of those charged with murder were acquitted; their stories are included. In one case, it was not murder after all, in another the evidence did not show murder but another crime, and in several others, what was thought to be murder were suicides."

For many readers it will be an interesting review of many cases that they remember; as well as insights into times and events from many years ago that are nearly forgotten.

Extra copies of these two most recent books, and most of the other 39 booklets in the series, and other publications by the society are available through the society website: [fultonhistory.org](http://fultonhistory.org); as well at the society museums.

## Minutes of the Spring Membership Meeting

(Editors Note: The following are the minutes for the Annual Spring Membership Meeting which in normal times would have been a dinner meeting with a program following a meal, but because of the Covid-19 pandemic the meeting was held outdoors for safety concerns. Even so the turnout from the society members was large enough to constitute a quorum under the bylaws, and so the election of officers proceeded. The meeting was combined with an April Board of Directors meeting, which the minutes reflect in several places. Minutes follow:)

### Fulton County Historical Society, Meeting Minutes, April 25, 2021

I. Call to order: President Mark Sheffield called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

II. Attendance: All directors were in attendance.

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting:

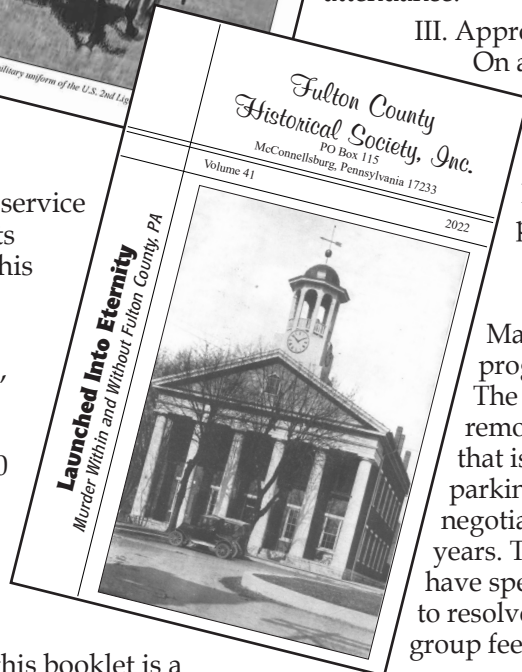
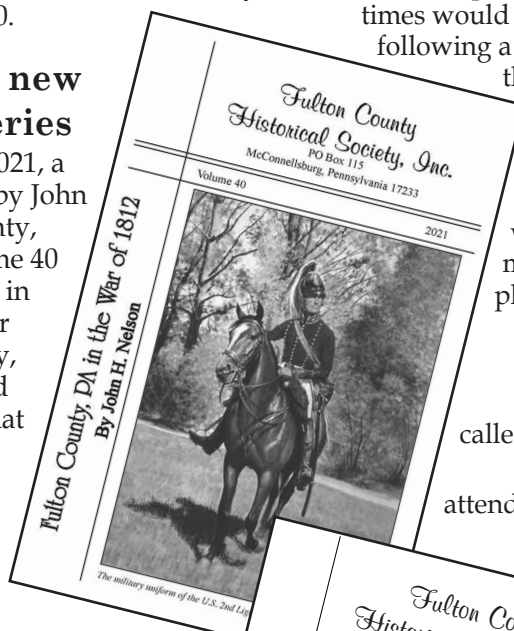
On a Bonnie Mellott-Keefe/Doug Brown motion, the minutes from the March meeting were approved.

IV. Approval of Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report was provided in the Spring newsletter.

V. Old Business

i) Ft. Coombs Monument:

Mark reported that there has been no progress with the Ft. Coombs marker. The landowner who had the monument removed offered us a piece of ground that is a drainage ditch and has no parking. He has not made any effort to negotiate in good faith with us for two years. The feeling of the group was that we have spent enough time and money trying to resolve a problem we did not create. The group feels it is time to press criminal charges



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and seek civil restitution. Mark will direct our attorney to do so.

VI. New Business

i) Election of Officers: Gene presented the slate of officers for election for 2021. They are Ed Sharpe, President; Mark Sheffield, Vice President; Lisa Johnston, Secretary; Linda Mellon, 3-year term as director; Bonnie Mellott-Keefer, 3-year term as director. On a Gene Leese/Tom Duffey motion, the slate was approved.

ii) Ed made some brief announcements about his vision for next year then on a Linda Mellon/Mark Sheffield motion adjourned the meeting at 2:34 p.m.

iii) The next meeting will be on Thursday, May 20 at 5:30 p.m. in the Chamber office.

iv) Minutes submitted by: Lisa Johnston

### Facebook Pages

• <https://www.facebook.com/fultonhistory.org>

Go to the above Facebook page for upcoming events and photo galleries.

• <https://www.facebook.com/frontierbarnquilttrail>

Go to the above Facebook page for photos and more info on the Barn Quilt Trail in Fulton County.

### Websites

• <https://www.fultonhistory.org>

The above website is the main site for FCHS with genealogy research information and sales pages for many items.

• <https://fultonhistorymuseum.org>

The above website contains photo galleries and more information.

For **2022-23 officers**, I nominate ...

for President to 2023 - \_\_\_\_\_ ;

for Vice President to 2023 - \_\_\_\_\_ ;

for Secretary to 2023 - \_\_\_\_\_ ;

for Treasurer to 2025 - \_\_\_\_\_ ;

for Director to 2025 - \_\_\_\_\_ ;

for Director to 2025 - \_\_\_\_\_ ;

Current officers appear at the bottom of this page.

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ adult meals @\$15 and \_\_\_\_\_ children's meals @\$7.50 for Saturday, April 30; make your enclosed check payable to the Fulton County Historical Society.

Renew my membership at \_\_\_\_\_ \$20 annual dues or \_\_\_\_\_ \$250 individual life.

The **DEADLINE** for meal reservations and nominations is April 18, 2022. Thank you for your support!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Fulton County Historical Society Treasurer's Report	
Income/Expense for the 2020/2021 Fiscal Year (May 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021)	
<u>Income:</u>	
Donations (general)	\$4,448.87
Donations (Huston Family Cem.)	1,100.00
Donations - GC Murphy bldg.	19,388.67
Agency (government) grants	13,500.00
PA Sales Tax discounts earned	2.57
Books, prints & other sales	1,977.23
Shipping & Handling	70.00
Dues	4,365.00
Life membership dues	3,000.00
Investment div. & int.	7,265.24
Special Events (bus tours, etc.)	2,347.03
Rent - GC Murphy bldg & apts	23,528.00
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$80,992.61</b>
<u>Expenses:</u>	
Special assistance (individuals)	\$2,995.00
Legal & professional fees	3,384.92
Supplies	717.55
Office Equipment	1,072.72
Telephone & telecommunications	942.67
Electronic Transaction Fees	119.85
Mailing fees, Postage & Box Rent	309.89
Equip rental & maintenance	150.37
Printing & Copying	1,604.33
Website	520.00
Rent & other occupancy	1,505.82
Building Maint. (other than GCM)	135.00
GC Murphy expenses - all	44,515.22
Travel and meeting expenses (bus tours, tea parties & quarterly meetings)	100.00
Insurance	1,470.20
Membership dues	145.87
Advertising expenses	340.00
Business expense (misc.)	218.81
<b>Total Business Expenses</b>	<b>\$60,248.22</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>\$20,744.39</b>
Unrealized gain (investment acc'ts)	40,295.22
Fixed Asset Purchase - Museum	-125.00
<b>Net Gain for fiscal year</b>	<b>\$60,914.61</b>
<i>Gene Leese, Treasurer</i>	
Fulton County Historical Society Treasurer's Report	
Account Balances at the end of the 2020/2021 Fiscal Year (April 30, 2021)	
Fulton County Checking	\$23,569.74
PayPal Account	1,408.94
Life Member Endowment	49,400.00
Main Investment Acct.	120,033.58
Investment Money Market	21,871.09
Winegardner Invest. Acct.	42,426.54
Fulton Co. Hist. Library	2,381.74
Museum Account	2,862.57
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<b>\$263,954.20</b>
<i>Gene Leese, Treasurer</i>	

PO Box 115, McConnellsburg, PA 17233 E-mail: [director@fultonhistory.org](mailto:director@fultonhistory.org)  
Non-Profit 501(c)(3) organization #23-7453773 Web page: [www.fultonhistory.org](http://www.fultonhistory.org)

#### 2021-22 OFFICERS:

Eddie Sharpe, President  
Mark Sheffield, Vice President  
Lisa Johnston, Secretary  
Gene Leese, Treasurer 2022

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Jan Fraker 2022  
Open 2022  
Larry Knepper 2023  
Carolyn Hollenshead 2023  
Bonnie Mellott Keefer 2024  
John Nelson 2024