

PROGRAMS & EVENTS

- SEPT. 10** *MUSIC IN THE MORGAN MANNER*
JOHN MCKEOWN, KING'S COLLEGE
CATLIN HOUSE, 2 P.M.
- 24** *MEMBERS-ONLY TOUR OF THE OLD WOOLWORTH HOUSE*
PAUL MANSOUR, THE LACKAWANNA INSTITUTE
520 JEFFERSON AVENUE, 2 P.M.
- OCT. 1-8** *SCRANTON HERITAGE CELEBRATION WEEK*
DETAILS TO BE ANNOUNCED
- 22** *DUNMORE CEMETERY TOUR*
DUNMORE CEMETERY, 2 P.M.
- 27-30** *AMERICAN LABOR CELEBRATION WEEKEND*
DETAILS TO BE ANNOUNCED
- NOV. 19** *BECOMING AN ARTIST: JOHN WILLARD RAUGHT*
JOSEPHINE DUNN, PHD, UNIVERSITY OF SCRANTON
CATLIN HOUSE, 2 P.M.

ANNUAL MEMBERS-ONLY HOLIDAY PARTY WILL BE ON DECEMBER 7TH, AND THE OPEN HOUSE IS SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 8TH.



Farewell to an old neighbor..

In May, the University of Scranton razed the Wyoming House at Madison Avenue and Mulberry Street. As a tribute to this local landmark, the Society offers this short review of the building's long and interesting history:

A search of Scranton City Directories found listings at 802 Mulberry Street as early as

1873 when the property was the home of Henry C. Doud, a Scranton insurance agent. Mr. Doud died in 1889 but his widow Elizabeth continued to reside at the home until 1890.

By 1895 the address is listed as the home of Kate Price, widow of Col. John A. Price who died in 1892. Col.

Price, president and founder of the Scranton Stove Works, was a well known resident of Scranton. He was noted as a popular public speaker and, incidentally, was the first president of the Lackawanna Institute of History and Science (today known as the Lackawanna Historical Society). Before

the death of her husband, Mrs. Price lived with him in a home on Jefferson Avenue. She stayed at the Mulberry Street address for a very short time. By 1900, it is listed as the home of a well known local physician and surgeon, Lowell M. Gates. The Gates

continued on page 7

Please call the Society at 344-3841.

In assisting with the project,

If you are interested

at the Catlin House,

an Educational Garden

is planning

The Lackawanna Historical Society



Gardeners Wanted

Volunteer

LACKAWANNA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
232 MONROE AVENUE
SCRANTON, PA 18510

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT #56
SCRANTON, PA



...a letter from your President

Dear Members,
 The summer is finally here and many new developments are taking place at the Catlin House. The most important function is our Roof Restoration Project. The estimated cost of this project is \$270,000. As you know we have been conducting small fundraising events over the past few years and are now in a position to call on you, our dedicated members, to make a pledge towards this project. A volunteer will be contacting you for support soon. Please remember the Society could not exist without the kind and generous support of its members.

In June we hosted a very successful "Once in a Lifetime Train Ride" on the Lehigh Valley's #353 business car and because of its popularity, we have decided to plan another one for the fall. Details will be announced in September. Some of the other exciting projects at the Catlin House include a possible grant to develop an educational garden at the Catlin House, the joint project with Lackawanna County and the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority to restore the Soldiers and Sailor's Monument, and the new Catlin House curriculum guide, prepared with assistance from the NEJV #19 and the LHVA. In addition, the new publication on Lackawanna County, cosponsored by the Society and the Scranton Chamber of Commerce, will be released later this summer.

In our last newsletter, the article on Nay Aug Park drew many responses from the community who wanted to share their fond memories of this city treasure. One particularly interesting recollection is published in this issue for you to enjoy. As Society President, I wish to thank all of our members for their continued interest in preserving local history. We truly appreciate your support.

Enjoy your summer!
 Alan Sweeney
 President

About Membership...

The Lackawanna Historical Society currently has 524 members. If you know anyone who is interested in the Society, please invite them to join. Membership privileges include unlimited access to the Society library, 10% discount in our bookstore, advance notice and invitations to all Society activities, special members-only programs and the quarterly newsletter.

Attached is a membership form you can use to renew your membership or give to a friend or neighbor who is interested in joining. Please return it to the Lackawanna Historical Society, 232 Monroe Avenue Scranton, PA 18510

LACKAWANNA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

<input type="checkbox"/> Student	\$10	NAME	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$22		
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$30	ADDRESS	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Contributing	\$75		
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining	\$150		
<input type="checkbox"/> Silver Corporate	\$250	TELEPHONE	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Gold Corporate	\$500		

The Lackawanna Historical Society 2000-01

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The Lackawanna Historical Society is a 501(C) (3) non-profit organization which is dedicated to keeping vital the history of Lackawanna County. It is supported in part by the Catlin Memorial Trust, Lackawanna County, the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission and membership dues.

The Lackawanna Historical Society Journal is published by the Lackawanna Historical Society, 232 Monroe Avenue, Scranton, PA 18510 Tel. (570) 344-3841.

Members of the Society receive this publication. Membership contributions are \$22 and up for individuals, \$30 for Families, and \$125 for organizations. Special Silver and Gold Corporate memberships are available.

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Farewell to Neighbor (continued from page 1)

family lived in the house until 1922 when Dr. Gates sold it to the Scranton Conservatory of Music and moved to 1119 Mulberry Street.

The Scranton Conservatory of Music boasted that its new headquarters was a splendid building compared to their original headquarters at 604 Linden Street. Conservatory Director, Professor J. Alfred Pennington said that the colonial home was the perfect environment for an art-study setting. In an August 27, 1923 clipping from the Society's music scrapbook collection of Dr. D. E. Jones, the new 19-room headquarters was described in detail. The first floor housed the conservatory office, a reception room, two studios, a sheet music supply room, waiting room for students, an office supply room and a cloak room with checking system. An addition was added to the first floor for the new recital hall or auditorium accommodating



Professor J. Alfred Pennington, Director of the Scranton Conservatory of Music

250 people. The second floor included additional student waiting and reading rooms, four teaching rooms for classes and private instruction, and a sheet music supply room. The Conservatory remained at this building for almost

twenty years, under the loving direction of Professor Pennington, who died in 1938 and his wife, Luella. The Conservatory closed in 1942 after the death of Mrs. Pennington. Interestingly, it was in February of that year that the building gained much attention when its basement became the site of the city's first bomb shelter.

On September 6, 1942 an announcement was made that Scranton's musical Mecca was up for sale. Howard Snowdon purchased the building and by 1949 he was operating it as the second site of the Snowdon Funeral Home. Howard Snowdon is remembered as a prominent city mortician and former Scranton mayor. His first public post was as city Treasurer in 1938. He left that position in

1941 to run for mayor. He was elected mayor and served for one term from 1942 to 1946. Howard Snowdon Jr., an active partner in Snowdon Funeral Homes Inc., took over the business and continued it with several other family

members after his father's death in 1960. He continued to operate the Mulberry Street home until 1966.

City's First Bomb Shelter was located at the site of the Scranton Conservatory of Music in 1942

In 1968, the property became the Jefferson Town House. This popular restaurant and catering business was operated by Beverly and Sidney Itzkowitz and was a popular social spot in the city for much of the seventies. It closed in 1980. In 1982 the building was purchased by the University of Scranton and named the Wyoming House. The name was chosen because at that time the University was naming new buildings after Pennsylvania Counties. The Wyoming House was used by the University for 18 years as a student residence. It was razed this year to make space for one of four new University buildings which will also be used for student housing.

Taste of History A Great Success

Thanks to all who came out in support of the Lackawanna Historical Society's Second Annual Taste of History, a fund raiser for the restoration of the Catlin House Roof. This year we raised over \$6000 and almost doubled attendance with a final count of 273 people. Special thanks is due to Fleet Pennsylvania Services for sponsoring the event by supplying funds for the cost of the event including tent rental. Thanks also to our honorary chairpersons, Alyn and Judy Scheatzle. Their assistance in promoting this event was exceptional. We extend our sincere appreciation to everyone who assisted in the project.



Guests enjoy Second Annual Taste of History at the Catlin House

Local Bank Note Exhibit at Catlin House

This summer, a small exhibit on local bank notes will be on display at the Catlin House through September. The exhibit details the history of national currency and shows some early examples of bank notes from banks in Lackawanna County. The display was put together by Society member and local collector, Jack Chipak.

Russ Morgan Story to be presented in Fall

On September 10, 2000, at 2 p.m. the Society will present a lecture by King's College professor John McKeown entitled, *Music in the Morgan Manner: The Life Story of Russ Morgan*. By the 1930's Morgan, a native of Scranton, was well known in the music world and hosted the popular radio program, "Music in the Morgan Manner." Professor McKeown's program will focus on the big band legend's career and will include recordings of his music.

New Members

Student

Renee Kowalchik Lancaster

Individual

Nancy Cawley Scranton
 Jonathon Corbett Havertown
 John Dean Scranton
 Chris DiMatteo Clarks Summit
 Joseph L. Dorsey, MD Walpole, MA
 Carol Guzzi Moscow
 Regina Lavetsky Scranton
 Maura Lynott Bergan Dunmore
 Marjorie Matusko-Fitzgerald Oxford, CT
 Francis Moran Archbald
 Ann Nicoletti Lake Ariel
 Richard Nicholson Scranton
 Kenneth Norton Scranton
 Ronald Norton Olyphant
 Helen Obidinski Scranton
 Phyllis Votano Passero Scranton
 Meredith Reese Scranton
 Charles Rusinko Scranton
 Robert Santoni Jermyn
 Joseph Sevitski Scranton
 Larry Sherman Scranton
 Dale Thomas Jermyn
 Robert Tomaine Jermyn
 Barbara Turock Dickson City
 Liana J. Walsh Dalton

Family

Ronald Allegrucci Dunmore
 Mr. & Mrs. Frank Esposito Scranton
 Mr./Mrs. Donald Goodall Scranton
 Mr./Mrs. Donald Lodwick Waverly
 Christine Macheska Providence, RI
 Dr./Mrs. Frank Milani Clarks Green
 Michael Thomas Exeter
 Mr./Mrs. John Walker Scranton
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Contributing

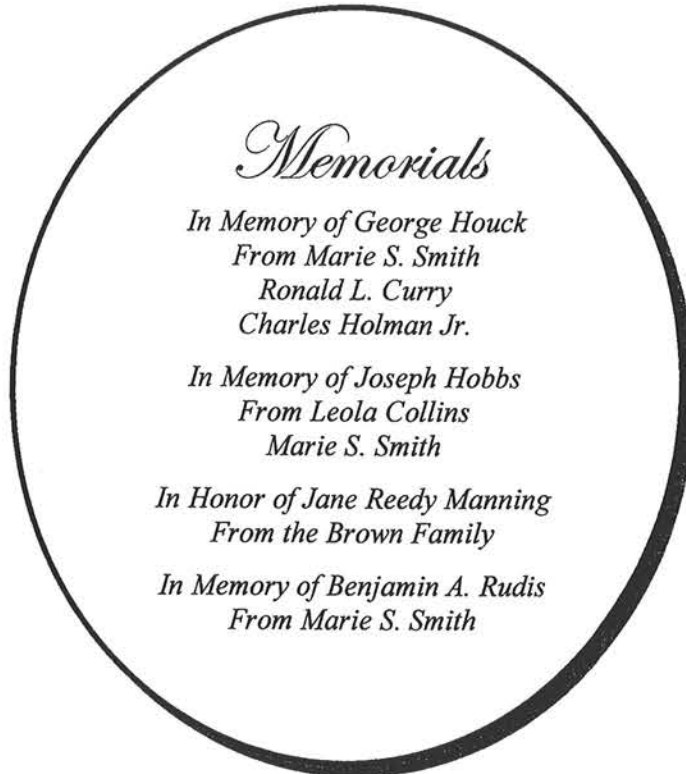
Mr./Mrs. Chris Doherty Scranton

Silver Corporate

General Services Administration Scranton

REMINDER:

2000 Membership Renewals were due in March.



Memorials

*In Memory of George Houck
 From Marie S. Smith
 Ronald L. Curry
 Charles Holman Jr.*

*In Memory of Joseph Hobbs
 From Leola Collins
 Marie S. Smith*

*In Honor of Jane Reedy Manning
 From the Brown Family*

*In Memory of Benjamin A. Rudis
 From Marie S. Smith*

SOS UPDATE



SAVE AMERICA'S
 TREASURES
 OFFICIAL PROJECT

Mitchell Monument Named American Treasure

The John Mitchell Monument on Courthouse Square has been designated an official project of Save America's Treasures, a public-private partnership between the White House Millennium Council and the National Trust for Historic Preservation, dedicated to the preservation of our nation's irreplaceable historic and cultural treasures for future generations. Local unions spearheaded by John Monahan and Julie Esty of the Teamsters Local raised the monies to restore the nationally recognized monument. The restoration was completed in October, 1999. The Society applauds everyone involved for their efforts on this project.

SOCIETY CELEBRATES OUTDOOR SCULPTURE WEEK County Takes Lead in Soldiers and Sailors Restoration

July 2nd through July 8th marked Outdoor Sculpture Week in Lackawanna County. The project created by Save Outdoor Sculpture, SOS!, along with Heritage Preservation and the Smithsonian's American Art Museum, was organized nationally to honor the beauty, significance, and diversity of the country's collection of public sculpture and to encourage its preservation. In Lackawanna County several events took place to create awareness of the project including the Society's Courthouse Square walking tours and a special announcement by the Lackawanna County Commissioners that the county planned to take the lead in the restoration of the Soldiers and Sailors Monument. Pictured are Back row: Joe Long, Commissioner Joe Corcoran, Howard Wolfe, and Phil Jones. Second row: Alan Sweeney, Commissioner Robert Cordaro, and Frank Tyson. Front row: Commissioner Randy Castellani, John Cosgrove, Mayor Connors, Gino Merli, and Julie Esty.



Happenings at the Catlin House



In October the Society will host a curriculum day at the Catlin House to introduce its new Curriculum Guide to area educators. The Guide, completed in May, is an aid to be used in the classroom by teachers who plan a tour of the Catlin House. It contains over 100 pages of suggested activities to be done in the classroom before and after visiting the Catlin House as well as activities that can be used at the site.

With funding assistance from the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority and the Northeastern Edu-

cational Intermediate Unit #19, the Society commissioned four local teachers, Judy Sweeney, Ellen Strauskulage, Julie Farr and Lynn Rinaldi to create activities focusing on the Society's collections. The Guide is designed for teachers of elementary, middle, and high school students and offers an opportunity to teach various subjects through the integration of history and the arts. Specifically the Guide uses the first-floor exhibits at the Catlin House to demonstrate life at the turn-of-the-century and interpret local cultural resources.

The Society is very excited about the Curriculum Guide and hopes

that it will encourage more school group visits to the Catlin House.

In addition to the four teachers who worked on the guide, we would like to express our appreciation to Catherine Richmond Cullen, NEIU Curriculum Specialist who assisted the Society in planning the guide; Eileen Pocius, Chair of the Society's Education Committee, who coordinated activities in planning the guide, and Valerie Wolff who handled the design and layout of the guide.

The curriculum guide is available at the Catlin House and can be purchased for \$10.00.

LHS and LHVA complete Courthouse Square Walking Tour Brochure



In June, the Society completed a walking tour brochure on Lackawanna County's Courthouse Square with funding sup-

port from the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority and the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

The brochure includes a map of the square and offers a short history of Lackawanna County's founding.

Visitors can use the brochure to learn more about the construction of the Courthouse and some of the surrounding buildings.

It also highlights several of the monuments located on the square

and their importance in representing the ethnic diversity of our region.

Brochures will be distributed throughout the County and can be obtained at the Catlin House. In addition, the Society offers Courthouse Square tours throughout the Summer and guided

group tours can be arranged by calling the Catlin House.

*Don't miss the Society's Summer
 Courthouse Square Walking Tours
 Saturdays at 11:00 a.m.
 Registration: 10:45 a.m.
 at the Columbus Monument.*

Volunteer Corner

Volunteer of the Year

Congratulations to LHS Volunteer of the Year, Bridget Conlogue. Bridget was honored at the Society's annual dinner for her service and dedication to the Society since 1996. Since that time, Bridget has been an active volunteer serving on the Fashion Sub-Committee of the Collections Committee and assisting the Society at various special events. Bridget, who has a great interest and knowledge of historic costume, has been instrumental in organizing our fashion collection and implementing new exhibits showcasing pieces from this collection. We thank Bridget for her support and continued interest in the Society.

New Faces at the Catlin House

Welcome to new volunteers Bill Conlogue and Terry Carey. Bill, an English professor at Marywood University has been volunteering since May, conducting research of our files in response to the many inquiries that we receive. Terry began volunteering in June and is also working as a researcher in our library.

Collections

The Society's Collection Committee continues to work diligently at organizing the Society's vast collections. This year, Collections Chair, Ella S. Rayburn took advantage of an opportunity to invite a Society member to assist the committee with some exhibit work.

Dave Westphal, a long-standing member, recently completed an upgrade to the Civil War display on the second floor of the Catlin house. The section titled, "The Development of Ammunition, 1861-1865" explains the progression of military ammunition from paper cartridges to the metal cased rim fire rounds. Mr. Westphal prepared the text, utilized some bullet examples from the Society's collection, and donated cartridges where needed.

As part of the project, historic items donated by the Hitchcock family in the 1930's were rearranged to provide an associative context. Col. Frederick Hitchcock served the 132nd regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers during the Civil War. Text of Hitchcock's biography and a history of the regiment was added. On display are Hitchcock's saddle bags, pistol, and portion of the regimental flag as well as a commemorative sword presented to him in 1884. Above the case is a pastel image of Hitchcock in uniform with his horse, Don. Don was from a farm near Scranton.

The Westphal's involvement began when they noticed and commented that the ammunition exhibit could be improved. Thanks to Dave and

his wife for their assistance with this project. All it takes is an idea and the ability to follow through!

ALCO Centennial Celebration

May 26, 2001 will mark the official centennial of the American Locomotive Company. The company was formed as a result of the merger of ten locomotive companies including Scranton's Dickson Locomotive Works. The centennial celebration will be held in Schenectady, NY, home of ALCO headquarters. Society members who can provide information or wish to donate or loan an artifact to the Centennial Committee should contact the Catlin House.

Docent Training Program Completed at the Catlin House

In March the Society conducted a month long Docent training program to train new tour guides at the Catlin House. Seven new guides attended six two-hour sessions to learn about the Society's collections and interpret its exhibits. Welcome to new tour guides: Gail Greer, Linda Kirias, Alison Rosen, Clementine Fasbender, Marion Dunleavy, Jason Amico, Phyllis Passero and congratulations on completing the program. Our new guides are anxious to share what they have learned so call the Catlin House and schedule a tour!

Clean Up Day Thanks



Clean Up Day crew: Ann Marie O'Hara, Mary Ann Gavem, Ella Rayburn, Ed Kuchinski, Clem Fasbender, Doug Forrer, Arlene Devereaux O'Hara, Alan Sweeney, George Strasburger, Mary Ann Moran, and Ellie Axford

Thanks to all the wonderful volunteers who came out to support the Society's annual Clean Up Day during City Pride Week in Scranton on April 26th.

New at the Society's Book Store

Lincoln, The Northeastern Pennsylvania Connection

by Aileen Freeman \$14.95
More than 312 pages of interesting reading includes information on names such as Dimmick, Fellows, Wilmont, and Fell. If you like local history this book has a good pitch. Politics at its finest as early as 1832. Recommended for a behind the curtain look at 19th Century national politics.



Susquehanna Frontier: Northeastern Pennsylvania During the Revolutionary War,

Wilkes University Press, 1977
by James R. Williamson and Linda A. Fassler \$8.00

This interesting book deals with the regions history prior to its industrialization, covering the years leading up to, during and after the American Revolution and the important role this area played in the War of Independence

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

Local author and Society member Nicholas E. Petula has reprinted several of his publications which are once again available for sale at the Catlin House.

- ◇ *Brewed in Scranton* \$12.00
- ◇ *A History of Scranton Professional Baseball 1865-1953* \$11.00
- ◇ *Pioneer Neighborhood A history of Park Place and Bull's Head Scranton, Pennsylvania* \$25.00
- ◇ *Scranton Once Upon A Time* \$15.00

An interesting reply ...from the collection of Nancy Mess

In May, Alan Sweeney received many interesting responses to his article on Nay Aug Park which appeared in our last newsletter. One of particular interest came to us from Society member Nancy Mess. Nancy sent an article from the July 20, 1907 Scranton Times entitled, "Historical Tube in Museum Walls."

The article described an unusual ceremony at which Dr. Isaiah Everhart and a select group of guests embedded a brass tube in the solid masonry of the walls of the then almost completed Everhart Museum. The tube was an interesting time capsule detailing the planning and construction of the

Everhart Museum. Items included in the capsule were the resolution of acceptance of the museum by city council, a list of architects and contractors, daily newspapers, a history of Scranton prepared by E. Merrifield, stamps, a button of the GAR, an American Flag, and a photograph of Dr. Everhart.

Only the guests who attended the Midnight ceremony knew the location of the time capsule, to ensure that it would remain there permanently "so long as the structure stands, never to be removed except the building be destroyed by the elements." Thanks to Nancy Mess for this information.

Terrance Powderly Inducted

Recently, the Society was notified that the Public Affairs Office of the Department of Labor had inducted Terrance V. Powderly into the Labor Hall of Fame in Washington, D.C. He was the 23rd person inducted to the Hall at the Department of Labor



T.V. Powderly 1849-1924

building. Terrance Powderly, born in 1849 in Carbon-dale, Luzerne County, (now Lackawanna) organized hundreds of thousands of laborers in

the Knights of Labor by the 1880's. He worked on the railroad and was also a machinist before joining the Knights in 1876. He was elected General Master Workman, and assumed leadership of 700,000 by the 1880's. After being fired because of his union activities, he moved to Scranton where he served as mayor for three terms.

A self educated man, Powderly entered the legal profession in 1894. As leader of the Knights of Labor, Powderly is credited with opening the organization to women, African Americans, and Latin Americans at a time when equal opportunity was unheard of. He left labor because he was against strikes, but he had made many friends in political and religious circles and was appointed Commissioner General of Immigration under President William McKinley. Under Theodore Roosevelt, Powderly was appointed Chief of Immigration Bureau's Division of Information and Naturalization. He finished his career as Commissioner of Conciliation in the Department of Labor but remained in Washington until his death on June 24, 1924. He is buried in Rock Creek Cemetery, Washington, D.C.

SCRANTON POST OFFICE LACKAWANNA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
THE FOLLOWING LIST OF THE OFFICIAL POST MASTERS OF SCRANTON IS PROVIDED BY
CURRENT POSTMASTER, TIMOTHY B. PRIMERANO

NAME	TITLE	DATE APPOINTED
JOHN W. MOORE	POSTMASTER	01/12/1850
JOHN W. MOORE	POSTMASTER	01/23/1851
JOEL AMSDEN	POSTMASTER	01/27/1853
BENJAMIN H. THROOP	POSTMASTER	05/06/1853
LATON S. FULLER	POSTMASTER	06/05/1857
DOUGLAS H. JAY	POSTMASTER	04/22/1861
A. HAMPTON COURSEN	POSTMASTER	03/08/1864
WILLIAM H. PIER	POSTMASTER	11/16/1866
JAMES S. SLOCUM	POSTMASTER	04/15/1869
JOSEPH A. SCRANTON	POSTMASTER	03/19/1874
EDWARD C. FULLER	POSTMASTER	05/05/1881
DANIEL W. CONNOLLY	POSTMASTER	05/02/1885
DAVID M. JONES	POSTMASTER	03/29/1889
FRANK M. VANDLING	POSTMASTER	05/18/1893
EZRA H. RIPPLE	POSTMASTER	06/23/1897
JOHN E. BARRETT	POSTMASTER	01/10/1911
JOHN J. DURKIN	POSTMASTER	02/13/1915
MILTON W. LOWRY	ACTING POSTMASTER	04/24/1922
MILTON W. LOWRY	POSTMASTER	08/23/1922
EZRA H. RIPPLE, JR.	POSTMASTER	01/11/1930
JOSEPH F. CONRAD	ACTING POSTMASTER	01/15/1934
JOSEPH F. CONRAD	POSTMASTER	06/06/1934
BERNARD J. HARDING	ACTING POSTMASTER	12/31/1954
BERNARD J. HARDING	POSTMASTER	07/28/1955
THOMAS R. QUINN	POSTMASTER	01/04/1971
WILLIAM J. NELLIS	OFFICER-IN-CHARGE	01/16/1981
GUS ECKERL	OFFICER-IN-CHARGE	01/30/1981
WILLIAM J. NELLIS	POSTMASTER	05/02/1981
SUZANNE F. MEDVIDOVICH	OFFICER-IN-CHARGE	01/20/1986
RONALD J. GONZALEZ	OFFICER-IN-CHARGE	05/09/1986
JOSEPH P. RUDDY	POSTMASTER	09/27/1986
DONALD H. ABER	OFFICER-IN-CHARGE	08/20/1990
TIMOTHY PRIMERANO	POSTMASTER	04/06/1991

(ORIGINALLY ESTABLISHED AS SCRANTONIA IN LUZERNE COUNTY, THE NAME WAS CHANGED TO SCRANTON ON JANUARY 23, 1851. LACKAWANNA COUNTY WAS INCORPORATED IN 1878.)