

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

- MAY 14-JUNE 14** **Anthracite Attic**
Tim Butler Photographic Exhibit at the Catlin House
- JUNE 12/13** **Dunmore Cemetery: Under the Lackawanna Moon**
Written and directed by Nancy Hasty and Cyndie Hasty Tickets: \$10
See page 4 for details.
- JUNE 4** **Taste of History: When You Wish Upon A Star**
7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Catlin House Tickets: \$30
- JUNE 17-19** **Petersburg Chronicles**
Written and directed by Paige Balitski, Diva Productions Tickets: \$10
See page 4 for details
- JULY 7** **Baseball Night**
7 p.m. Lackawanna County Stadium *details TBA*
- JULY 11** **Crystal Band**
7 p.m. An evening a music on the lawn of the Catlin House *details TBA*

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

LACKAWANNA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
232 MONROE AVENUE
SCRANTON, PA 18510

GEORGE CATLIN, BANKER & PHILANTHROPIST

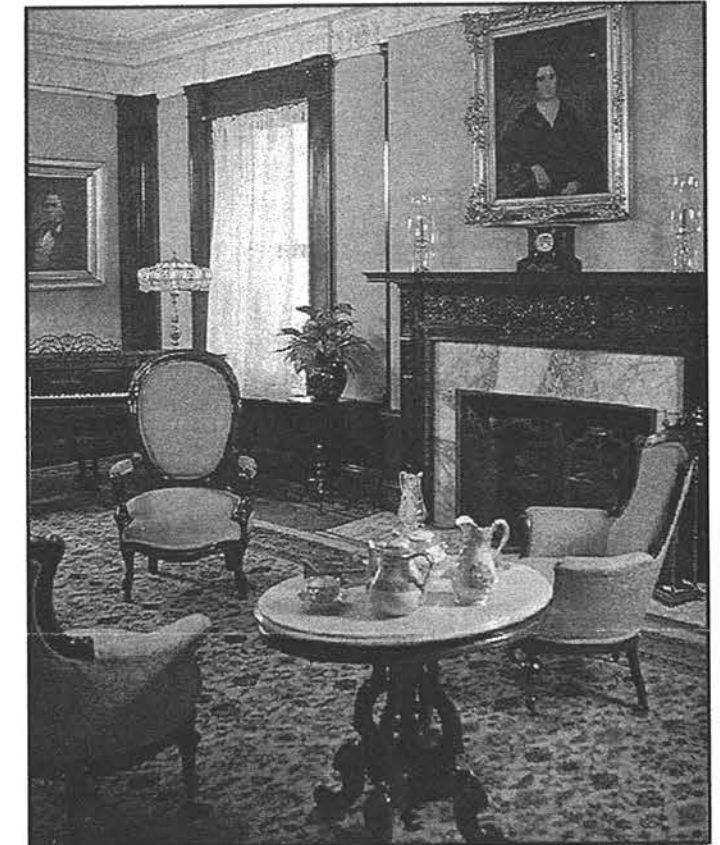
On April 21st, the Lackawanna Historical Society began a Docent Training Program to teach interested volunteers about our collections and the history of the Catlin House. Since it started, we have discovered that many of our members would like to know more about George Catlin.

Therefore, we have decided to re-print an article written by H.H.N III, that appeared in the Society's January-February, 1971 issue. We fondly remember Mr. Catlin and are pleased to carry on his wishes using his home as a cultural resource where the Society houses its collections, holds its programs, and continues to promote an interest in preserving Lackawanna County History.

For the January-February Bulletin, I looked up some of the history of George H. Catlin, a founder of the Third National Bank of Scranton in 1872 and a founder of the Lackawanna Historical Society in 1885. Since I knew very little about him, I assume that other members of the society may be in the same position and find it interesting to find out something about the man whose home we use as headquarters for our society.

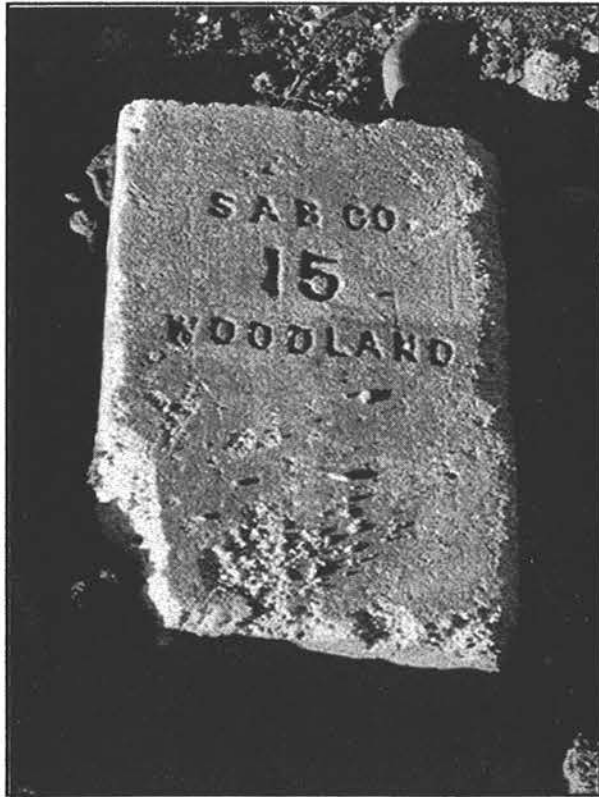
George Catlin was born in Shoreham, Vt., on Aug. 26, 1845, son of Lynde Catlin and Amelia Harriet Moore, daughter of Samuel Moore. Lynde Catlin died Feb. 27, 1899, surviving his wife, who died Oct. 10, 1872, in her fiftieth year. Lynde Catlin was born Aug. 19, 1813.

George Catlin died at his home, June 8, 1935, a few months short of his 90th birthday. His education began in Newton Academy, Shoreham, continued at Vermont Episcopal Academy and at Phillips Andover Academy and he graduated at Union College, Schenectady in 1866 with the degree of LL.B. He received the degree of MA at Lafayette College in 1867, following which, he was admitted to the New York state bar at Albany and became a



Catlin House Living Room

member of the New York City law firm of Pope, Thompson and Catlin, 17 Nassau St. In the same year which saw him enter a law firm, he married Mary Woodrow Archbald, daughter of James Archbald, Sr., on Sept. 4, 1867. The couple made their home in New York City until 1870, when, for reasons unknown to us, they moved to Scranton and made their home with the Archbalds. Catlin, after moving here, gave up the practice of law and devoted his energies to financial matters. In 1872 he proposed the establishment of new national bank in Scranton and was an organizer and director of the Third National Bank, which, for some years, he served as vice president. He remained as a director until the day of his



Tell us what you think...

In April the Society was contacted by a concerned citizen who discovered this marker in Dickson City near the site of the new golf course. He asked if we could determine its meaning but so far no information has been discovered. If you have any ideas on what this marker represents, please contact us to share your information.

Many thanks to members Jim Michaels of Clarks Summit and Francis Ruane from Meza, Arizona for answering our last call for help in identifying the photograph of Bellevue. Mr. Michaels actually walked the railroad tracks behind Railroad Avenue and did identify the exact spot from which the photograph was taken. Watch for it to appear in an upcoming Then and Now section of the Scranton Times.

GENEALOGY FAIR 2004

Looking for Work: Tracing Our Ancestors through their Occupations

Saturday, July 10, 2004, 9 am—4 pm (Registration begins at 8:30)

Wallenpaupack Area North Intermediate School, Hawley, PA

Moderator: Richard O. Eldred, Wayne County Historian

PROGRAM SPEAKERS:

Please note that, in addition to speakers, listed there will be workshops.

A Touch of Glass:

Walter B. Barbe, PhD; Chairman of the Board, Dorflinger-Suydam Wildlife Sanctuary; publisher; author: "History of Wayne County Pennsylvania, 1798-1998" and "History of the Glass Industry in Wayne County"

Workin' on the Railroad: Susan Bennett-Dyson, Susquehanna County Historical Society

Participating historical/genealogical societies include: Equinunk Historical Society; Genealogical Research Society of NEPA; Lackawanna Historical Society; Minisink Valley Historical Society; Susquehanna County Historical Society; Tusten Historical Society; Wallenpaupack Historical Society; Wayne County Historical Society. Tickets available from any of these societies or use *the registration form on page 7.*

FOR MORE INFORMATION,

CONTACT GLORIA MCCULLOUGH AT WCHSPA@PTD.NET OR (570) 253-3240.

Grandpa was a Draft Dodger: Joe Bryer, President, Genealogical Research Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania

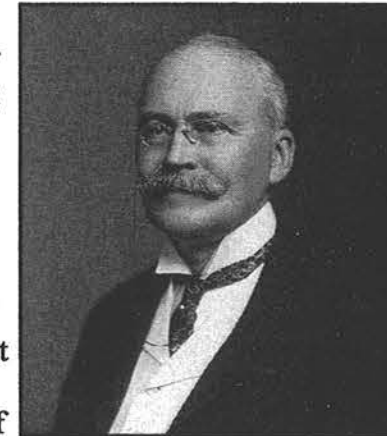
No Experience Necessary: Gloria Romanauskas McCullough, Research Librarian, Wayne County Historical Society

Silent Cities: Peter Osborne, Director, Minisink Valley Historical Society

Life upon the Wicked Stage: Ken Parks, noted singer, actor and genealogist

Continued from page 1

death serving for 63 years as a director, perhaps a record for the United States. He was also a director of the Scranton Savings Bank, later the Dime Bank; was a director of the Scranton Street Railway Co., the Erie and Wyoming Valley R.R., of the Crown Point Iron Co. and at various times of other business enterprises.



George Catlin, 1845-1935

Mary Archbald Catlin died in 1902 and on January 10, 1904, he was remarried to Helen Walsh of Carbondale, Pa. Neither marriage was fruitful. Mr. Catlin died at his home after a short illness on June 8, 1935, at 2:15 and was buried from his home at 11:30 on June 10. Rev. Peter K. Emmons, pastor of the Westminster Presbyterian Church officiated.

In his will, probated on June 12, it was directed, among other things, that on the death of his wife, their home built in 1912, was to be given to the Lackawanna Historical Society together with the "furniture, furnishings, books, paintings, bronzes, bric-a-brac and other works of art there in" in trust for the benefit of the people of Scranton and to be known permanently as the George H. Catlin Memorial.

The Historical Society was directed to keep the building open at such reasonable time and under such reasonable regulations

as it "may from time to time prescribe for visit and enjoyment of the people of Scranton."

In order to support and maintain the building, Mr. Catlin also directed that a fund of \$50,000 in securities was to be set up and held in trust by The Third National Bank of Scranton, Pa. The income of the money, according to the will, was to be used for such things as taxes, if any, insurance, repairs or salaries and if a balance existed, might be used

for acquisition of additional objects of art.

The will was dated Sept. 8, 1930, and the codicil relating to the gift of his home was dated Nov. 8, 1934.

A clause in the codicil states "It is my hope and expectation that the Lackawanna Historical Society and my trustee shall work in close harmony in the administration of the George H. Catlin Memorial and the George H. Catlin Memorial Fund" and provides that, in case of disagreement, the matter shall be decided by the Orphans Court. The Historical Society was given a year in which to accept or reject the gift and it was formally accepted on Dec. 3, 1935, by L. A. Watres, president, and attested by J. Fletcher Weyburn, secretary.

Mr. Catlin named his widow and the Third National Bank as executors and directed that various colleges were to receive income from his estate after the death of Mrs. Catlin.

Mr. Catlin's widow, Mrs. Helen

Walsh Catlin, died April 15, 1942, at the home of her sister, Mrs. A.F. Swartz, Carbondale, at which time, the provisions of the will respecting the gift of 232 Monroe Ave. and a memorial fund for maintenance came into effect. J. Curtis Platt, president of the Lackawanna Historical Society at the time, began the work of appointing committees to make arrangements for supervising the property. An undated clipping gives an editorial opinion as follows: "The gift of the late George Catlin to the Lackawanna Historical Society has been appreciated. In leaving his beautiful home on Monroe Avenue to the organization he has so long supported with enthusiasm, Mr. Catlin rounded up many years of generous contributions in an appropriate manner. The Lackawanna Historical Society, which was organized many years ago through the efforts of Col. Price

Continued on page 5

New Members

Individual

Sheila Dellasala, Scranton
Muriel Fischer, Scranton
Rich Goodall, Moscow
Bill Hallstead, Cantonment, FL
Jeff Kiefer, Clarks Summit
Thomas J. Mielczarek, Madison Twp.
Eileen Reagan, Scranton
Arthur J. Savokinas, Hughestown
Suzanne M. Thomas, Scranton
Rosalie Warner, Clarks Green

Family

Nancy C. Bruce, Cleveland, OH
DePietro Family, Peckville
David J. Lavelle, Scranton

REMINDER!

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS WERE DUE ON MARCH 1, 2004

