

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

- FEB. 27** **THE PLACE I CALL HOME**
AN INTRODUCTION TO THE LOCAL HISTORY PROJECT ON NEPA'S UNDERGROUND RAILROAD
CATLIN HOUSE 2:00 P.M.
- MAR. 20** **WOMEN OF SCRANTON**
THE FAMOUS, NOT SO FAMOUS AND INFAMOUS
CATLIN HOUSE 2:00 P.M. (RESERVATIONS REQUESTED)
- APR. 2** **GENERAL SHERIDAN MONUMENT RE-DEDICATION**
PARADE KICK OFF: LINDEN STREET & PENN AVENUE 11:00 A.M.
DEDICATION CEREMONY: SPRUCE STREET & ADAMS AVENUE NOON
CIVIL WAR BALL: DETAILS TBA 8:00 P.M.
- April 13*
UNDERGROUND RR Houlihan-McLean Center 7:00 PM
- APR. 17** **THE LORD CREATED MEDICINES OUT OF THE EARTH**
CHRISTINE SCHAEFER PRESENTS AN 18TH CENTURY HERB LADY
CATLIN HOUSE 2:00 P.M.
- MAY 15** **SYNAGOGUE TOUR**
DEPART CATLIN HOUSE 9:00 A.M.
(REGISTRATION FORMS WILL BE MAILED SOON)

SAVE THE DATE: JUNE 19TH FOR THE HISTORIC HOUSE TOUR IN THE HILL

LACKAWANNA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
232 MONROE AVENUE
SCRANTON, PA 18510

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ORGANIZATION
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The Other Medal of Honor Story: Remembering Lt. Joseph R. Sarnoski

By Sgt. Daniel Glodek (Ret.)

The name Gino Merli is well known among the residents of Lackawanna County, his notoriety well founded. Winner of the Congressional Medal of Honor, this World War II hero displayed uncommon valor on the battlefields of Europe with the First Division, the Big Red One. Fighting alone near LaBruyere, Belgium on Sept. 4 and 5, 1944, Merli found himself under siege by a large group of determined German troops. He and his machine gun successfully held off the enemy as they persisted in their efforts to overrun his position.

Just as noteworthy is fellow WW II hero Lt. Joseph R. Sarnoski. Often named in conjunction with Pfc. Merli, Lt. Sarnoski was decorated for his bravery and valor. Sarnoski and his fellow crew gained renown as the Eager Beavers because of their reputation for taking on assignments and missions, regardless of their dangers and hazards.

One such assignment earned Sarnoski his fame but cost him his life. On June 16, 1943 he and his crewmates set out to photograph the Buka airstrip in Bouugencille, Soloman Islands. Edward Jablonski vividly describes their heroics in his 1965 book *Flying Fortress*. Their B-17, the Lucy, (named after pilot Captain (later Major) Jay Zeamer's mother Lucielle) was the sole intruder as it flew into harm's way, a sitting duck.

As the men photographed their targets, they were soon intercepted by a gaggle of vengeful enemy Zeroes. Before they knew what was happening, the Japanese attacked with a fanatical fury and determination, zooming in, seemingly in endless waves, and scoring crippling hits on their wounded fortress. From every gun position, .50 caliber machine guns bristled, creating an arc of defensive fire.

In the melee, five enemy fighters were shot

down out of a flight of twenty. Maj. Jay Zeamer, exhibiting the courage that the Eager Beavers were known for, jury-rigged a .50 caliber machine gun to the fuselage below the cockpit so that he too might have a shot during aerial combat. He was responsible for shooting down one of the five enemy fighters.

Still, the Zeroes persisted in their attacks like a swarm of incensed killer bees.

Lt. Sarnoski was positioned in the nose of the plane as the first attacker made a pass. Manning the heavy machine gun, the bombardier blew the attacker apart with a burst of accurate and deadly fire. As Sarnoski continued firing his weapon, a 20mm shell made its way into his compartment. The exploding projectile shattered the plexiglass nose, forcefully hurling him into the catwalk beneath the pilot's cockpit.

Continued on page 7

Lt. Joseph R. Sarnoski

Born: January 30, 1915 in Simpson, PA

Family: One of 16 children born to immigrant parents from Poland and Austria; married to Marie Maddix

Education: attended local schools; graduated from Fell High School

Early interests: As a student, enjoyed playing his accordion, loved skiing and ice skating, and took a keen interest in riding his Indian motorcycle

Military career: After graduation from High School, joined the Army Air Corps
Rose through enlisted ranks until commissioned
Trained at Langley Field in Virginia
Assigned to the 43rd Bomb Group of the 5th Air Force in the Pacific; served as a bombardier aboard a B-17 Flying Fortress

A Letter from the President



Dear Members,

I hope that you and your family had a joyous holiday season. As President of the Society, I want to provide you with this short year end report for 2004.

Last year the Society served more than 3500 people through its tours, programs, research, and special events. Forty five volunteers dedicated over 1600 hours of service to the Society and more than 20 local partners worked with us to present many exciting events including the Doors of Scranton Poster with Marques Gallery,; the Petersburg Chronicles with Diva Productions and the East Scranton Business Association; and Dunmore Cemetery. Under the Lackawanna Moon with Nancy Hasty, the Past Players, and the Dunmore Cemetery Association.

Membership in the Society is at a record high of 557, the highest since the 1920's! Congratulations to our membership committee for their great work in recruiting new members and enticing former members to re-join.

The Building and Grounds Committee has also accomplished quite a good deal of work in 2004, despite some water problems in the basement. The basement is now under control, and we expect restoration work to continue this spring, including the installation of awnings and replacement of our screen doors. This work will be completed with funding support from Scranton OEDC office, for which we are most grateful.

The Collections Committee continues to maintain and add to our holdings. In 2004, we received fifty new donations, including the Scranton Lace Archives. These records are being organized by LHS volunteers with funding support from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. In addition, the Society has taken some very important steps to ensuring conservation of our collections. Last year, we engaged the Conservation Center in Philadelphia to conserve our organizational charter and a portrait photograph of George Catlin.

Lastly, I also want to express my appreciation to you, our dedicated members, for your continuing support. It is because of you that our organization succeeds!

Thank you,
Alan Sweeney

About Membership... 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 at 232 Monroe Avenue, Scranton, PA 18510

LACKAWANNA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

- | | | |
|---|-------|-----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student | \$10 | NAME _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | \$25 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family | \$35 | 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 2005-06

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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.

The Lackawanna Historical Society Journal is printed in Scranton, Pennsylvania. Entire contents copyrighted © 2005 by the Lackawanna Historical Society. Questions or comments can be addressed in writing directly to the Society.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

1892: 1 Mar: 14 inches of snow falls

1893: 4 Jan: College of St. Thomas Aquinas damaged \$10,000 by fire

8 Mar: New municipal building opens

16 Mar: Equal Suffragists convention of Pennsylvania meets

1894: 24 Feb: Post office moves to Federal Building on Washington Avenue

Feb. 27: Internal Revenue Service moved to the Federal Building

Feb. 28: Franklin breaker at Carbondale burned

1895 8 Feb: Snow drifts delay D. L. & W. trains from 6 to 8 hours; zero degree weather

19 Feb: Dime Bank property, Wyoming and Spruce, sold for \$55,000.

1896 13 Jan: The Superior court opened its first session in Scranton in the federal building

1897 9 Feb: Lackawanna registration shows that there are 42,715 voters in the county

15 Feb: Scranton Board of Trade held its first meeting in the new rooms in the Board of Trade building.

18 Feb: Scranton Lace sold to C.H. Welles, attorney for Creighton & Burch, NY

4 Mar: New law library opened in Lackawanna County courthouse

1899: 10 Mar: Explosion of gas at Lackawanna Iron and Steel Company's blast furnace; houses rocked for several blocks; 2 burn injuries reported

1902: 28 Feb: Regional flood suspends traffic on the Jersey Central, Delaware and Hudson, and Ontario and Western roads

1901: 31 Jan: Sauquoit silk mill girls go out on strike

1903: 2 Feb: Lackawanna company announces that it shipped nearly a million tons of coal during January

1904: 4 Feb: Thirty acres affected by cave in at Old Forge

16 Feb: Lackawanna paint shops on S. Wash. Ave. destroyed by fire

15 Mar: Carrie Nation visits Scranton and attracts little attention

1905: 11 Mar: Court refuses 95 liquor licenses

IT WAS A TEST!

Our last issue included the following news item from 1905:

8 November – Franklin D. Roosevelt sweeps the Presidential race. In Lackawanna County, Republicans elect the entire ticket by an overwhelming majority.

This was a test to see how carefully our members read the newsletter. We received six telephone calls explaining that Franklin D. Roosevelt was *not* elected President in 1904 and that his cousin, Theodore Roosevelt, was the man who swept the Presidential race that year. Thanks to those of you who are paying attention. We hope that you will continue to keep a close eye on our work!

The Lackawanna Historical Society

Fund For the Future

Contributions

received between

November 3, 2004 and January 12, 2005

Breaker Boys (and Girls):

James Butler
Lester & Jeanne Davis
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Ermolovich
(in honor of Leo Walsh)
Mr. & Mrs. James Horger
Andrew Kaul IV
Andrew Kohut & Family
Morris MacGregor, Jr.
John McCormick
Connie & Hanna Mulherin
Eugene Monick
Melissa Raught Dahlenburg
Nancy D. Stahler
Mr. & Mrs. Jacob Wentland
Ron & Judy Yazinski
Marian Yevics

Silk Throwers:

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Patricia A. Donohoe
Frank X.J. Homer, Ph.D.
Linda Kehrl Lynett
James & Ann Mackrell
Mary Jane Memolo
Frank Milani, M.D.
James A. Noone
The Oppenheim Family

Iron Puddlers:

Eckersley & Ostrowski, LLP
Richard J. Leonori
Alyn and Judy Scheatzle
Deirdre Taylor

Engineers:

Sam's Club Foundation

A UNIQUE WAY TO SUPPORT THE LHS....

In the past year, *Gemma's Back Door Café* was a great supporter of the LHS. The Society received contributions from several of their special theme nights. To continue this support, Gemma's invites LHS members to participate at any of their upcoming theme nights. Mention that you are an LHS member, and they will donate a portion of your meal price to the Society. Don't miss this delicious opportunity!



Upcoming Gemma's Theme Nights:

Cajun Night

Tuesday, February 8th

Valentine's Day

Special Menu

Monday, February 14th

St. Patrick's Day

Special Menu

Thursday, March 17th

Scranton Dines

**Recipes from the Overbrook Town Shop
...and other local favorites**
Wednesday, March 30th

FOR RESERVATIONS CALL:

(570) 346-8373

Windsor Chair Raffle

The Society is pleased to announce the winners of the December Holiday Open House raffle. First prize, the Windsor rocker, went to Bob Savakinus. The second prize Magnavox DVD Player went to Joyce Hatala. The third prize \$25 Olive Garden gift certificate went to Elizabeth Horlacher. The Holiday Basket winner was Pat Stewart.



Andersonville Committee to Mark Anniversary

The Andersonville Committee of Gettysburg Camp #112 invites you to the 100th Anniversary of the dedication of the Pennsylvania Monument at Andersonville, Georgia on December 7, 2005.

According to the National Park Service in Georgia, approximately 4,825 were imprisoned at Andersonville, representing close to 200 regiments from Pennsylvania alone. Of these, about 1,835 of "those who wore the blue" perished in the prison.

The anniversary has been reserved through the National Park Service. A March of Honor will take place from Providence Spring to the stockade, and will continue on to the Pennsylvania Monument. The Color Guard, Gettysburg Blues, will lead the March.

At the Monument, a ceremony will be conducted in observance of all the Pennsylvanians who were imprisoned at Andersonville during the Civil War.

The Andersonville Committee hopes to have as many participants as possible to join in the events and to carry small Pennsylvania state flags with numbers representing each of the regiments.

Anyone interested in taking the bus from Gettysburg is asked to check the Committee's website for program details and other information. Please check the website for on-going plans: www.paatandersonville.com or www.gettysburgcamp112.org.

Scranton to Host Mining History Conference

The city of Scranton will get an opportunity to show off its rich heritage when it plays host to the upcoming Mining History Conference, June 16 through 19, 2005. The Mining History Association will make the most of our region's historic resources and convenient location. Planned events include visits to Steamtown National Historic Park, the Electric Trolley Museum, the Lackawanna Coal Mine tour at McDade Park, and the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Center in Mayfield.

The Huber Breaker site in Ashley, the Avondale Colliery Grounds in Plymouth Township, and Eckley Miners Village are among the planned sites. In addition, metal mining enthusiasts will travel to the New Jersey Zinc Mining District, touring both the Sterling Hill Mining Museum and the Franklin Mineral Museum. We will keep you updated as planning continues.

Volunteer Corner



This month's spotlight falls on Julie Esty. Many of you may know her as Theresa Zimmer. But this local history enthusiast's passion for the past goes much further. As a living historian, Julie spreads her knowledge of local history, the Civil War era in particular, to area groups of all ages.

Happiest when she dons period clothing and steps into another era, Julie is drawn to her work for reasons she doesn't fully understand. "You do it for whatever reason, and you don't know why," she says. "Somebody else takes over. I don't know where it comes from. It just starts. It's like a freight train."

Her craft took hold some eight years ago when she put on Civil War era clothing and visited her daughter Megan's preschool class. Her program went well, word got around, and a new phase of life was born.

Armed with relics from the past and an ever growing knowledge of local history, this dedicated woman brings her message to young and old. "I want people to understand life back then," she says. "I just want to get in there and get across the message: this is what life was like."

In her experience, our local history is sorely ne-

glected. "It's not the teachers' fault," she is careful to point out. It's just that local history is not part of the curriculum, and so generations grow up not knowing their past.

"I've stood in classrooms and told kids that there were men from Scranton who were in the Civil War, and they're shocked. To them, the war is distant, not a part of life in Scranton."

To make history more real to her audiences, Julie takes clothes, period magazines and school books, toys - two suitcases full. Some of it she purchased inexpensively on e-bay. "Everything I have, the kids can touch," she says.

They do touch. And take notice. "When I take out a toy, all the kids will want to play with it," she says. "And they *do* suddenly have attention spans."

Her audience is not limited to school children, and her presentation changes depending on the age group. "I've had pre-school and kindergarten kids make butter," she says, "and on President's Day, I've had them give the presidents a bath by washing pennies with my secret recipe cleaner."

Older people are interested in mourning practices, and they are eager to share their own memories. With them, Julie finds that she learns as much as she teaches.

And that is the real passion: sharing the knowledge and memories that keep our history alive.

New Members

Student

Kevin Byrne, Scranton

Individual

Walter Avery, Jermyn
Bernice Colangelo, Dunmore
Joseph Donovan, Moosic
Martin Dwyer, Scranton
Karen Gilat, Scranton
Jim Kelly, Scranton
Robert E. McCarthy, Clarks Summit
Pat Notartomas, Dalton
James Pugliese, Kingston
Geraldine Rogers, Clarks Summit
Joseph Rominski, Tunkhannock
Joseph Rudnicki, Camp Hill
Robert M. Savakinus, Hudson
Mary Lou Sealey, Scranton
Helen Smetana, Dalton
Sally A. Spudis, Eynon



Family

Dr. Barbara and John Androski, Clarks Summit
M/M Dominick Azzarelli, Scranton
M/M Joseph Doyle, Clarks Summit
M/M Tim Holmes, Scranton
M/M David Jones, Allentown
Atty. Tim and Lexie Kelly, Clarks Summit
Atty. and Mrs. Sean McDonough, Scranton
M/M Thomas Simpson, Olyphant
M/M Ray Sulger, Scranton

Contributing

M/M John Hennemuth, Waverly
Rabbi Joseph and Linda Mendelsohn, Scranton

Silver

PDQ Print Center, Scranton

Reminder!

2005 membership renewals will be due March 1, 2005.

What's New at the Catlin House

The Place I Call Home

An Introduction to the Local History Project on NEPA's Underground Railroad

On February 27th at 2 p.m., the Lackawanna Historical Society will present a lecture by Kim Glemboski, Colleen Carter and Jane Mallonee from the Center for Anti-Slavery Studies (CASS).

In 1996, a small group of involved citizens formed the CASS in Montrose with the simple intent to save a church in danger of being lost to time, and to preserve Susquehanna County's Underground Railroad history. The efforts of that small band have grown, and CASS now owns and is in the process of preserving three relevant historic sites. They have also embarked on an ambitious project to research and interpret Northeastern Pennsylvania's Underground Railroad History.

The presentation will focus on the work of CASS and their project to provide an historically accurate account of the Underground Railroad movement in this region. Going on the assumption that truth is often stranger and far more interesting than fiction, the project will help to update our understanding of what the Underground Railroad was and what it was not.

Northeastern Pennsylvania's role in the national Abolition Movement and the Underground Railroad has often been underplayed, if not downright inaccurately represented. The region has historically been portrayed as having no Underground Railroad activity when, in reality, this area was a hotbed of Anti-Slavery activity.

The presenters will briefly examine why this myth exists and what is being done to correct some of our revisionist history. They will also lay out the plan that CASS and its educational partner, Keystone College, have to relate our region's very important role on the national stage of the Underground Railroad movement.

The program has been funded in part by the Pennsylvania Humanities Council and by the National Endowment of the Humanities, who have included "The Place I Call Home" in their prestigious "We The People" Initiative.

The Lord Created Medicines out of the Earth

On April 17th at 2 p.m., the Society will present Christine Schaefer as an 18th Century Herb Lady. Christine, an LHS member and experienced genealogist, will take us through a typical day in the life of a 18th century family. She will tell the story of Mary Foster Yarns, her great-great-great grandmother, based on her research of family lore and her father's memories of Mary and her healing herbs. Please mark your calendar and plan to join us as we... *step back in Time with an 18th century pioneer from Northeastern Pennsylvania.*

Past Players To Celebrate Women's History Month

You're invited to spend an afternoon with Sarah Rice, Mary Meyers Peck, and others when the Historical Society's Past Players brings *Women of Scranton: The Famous, Not So Famous, and Infamous* to life on March 20th at the Catlin House. You'll get a glimpse into the life of Jenny Lewis Evans, the woman behind Lewis and Riley shoe store, and Ellen J. Watres, a woman known more as the wife of Colonel Watres than as the inventor she was. The intriguing 19th century physician and clairvoyant Fannie Sanborn plays a special role in the presentation.

Other guests of the evening include Sarah Ripple, Marie Wainwright, Mary Brooks Pickens, and Harriet Hollister Watres. Together with some of the men and children who were relevant to their lives, they promise to entertain us while enriching our awareness of several periods of Scranton's history.

The brainchild of Bridget Conlogue, the program is truly a collaborative effort of the Past Players. Each of the actresses involved in the program has researched the woman she will portray, and has developed the scene that brings her to life.

Those of you who know the work of this group won't want to miss their latest work. Those of you who have yet to experience history through these actors will want to mark this program on your calendars. For reservations call 344-3841.

Continued from page 1

With great pain and effort, the brave lieutenant crawled back to his battle station, uttering what may have been his last words: "I'm all right, don't worry about me."

The battle raged on for some forty minutes, the B-17 absorbing considerable damage, including a severed oxygen system that forced the pilot to dive to a more breathable atmosphere. An extensive portion of the fortress was shot up with most of the crew, including Zeamer, who eventually passed out because of a loss of blood, his legs wounded and one arm broken.

All but two of the crew members were wounded with varying degrees of severity. The lucky ones who came out unscathed were "Pudge" Pugh, the tail gunner, along with William Kendrick, the photographer. The B-17 was seriously crippled and was in a bit of trouble. Though hurt themselves, the flight engineer and the co-pilot teamed up to keep the plane in the air. Near death from severe stomach wounds, Sarnoski managed to shoot down another enemy plane.

As Jablonski relates in his book at this point, "there were no brakes, no flap control, no radio, no compass and no pilots." The Beavers were in a world of hurt. Close to three hours into the flight back to their home base, Zeamer regained consciousness and helped to steer the Lucy back home. Although landing in the wrong wind direction, the lumbering bomber was set down safely. The mapping mission was successful, providing vital intelligence for future military operations.

Lt. Sarnoski unselfishly sacrificed his life for his fellow crewmen, for the survival of his aircraft, and for the successful completion of their mission. The other men, whether wounded or unscathed, displayed a collective act of profound heroism that was a deeply ingrained characteristic of the American fighting man.

For his defensive actions aboard the Lucy, Lt. Sarnoski was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, the Air Medal, the Silver Star, and the Purple Heart.

Sharing the laurels was Zeamer, also the recipient of the nation's highest military award, along with some other related medals. The rest of the men were each presented with a Distinguished Flying

Cross and a Purple Heart.

P.F.C. Gino Merli was decorated with the Medal of Honor on the White House lawn in Washington D.C. by President Harry S. Truman on June 15, 1945.

Major Jay Zeamer was presented with the Medal of Honor on January 16, 1944 at the Pentagon.

Sarnoski's wife of a year, Marie Maddix, and his mother Josephine, under the provisions of G.O. 85, on December 17, 1943, accepted his posthumous Medal of Honor in Richmond, VA.

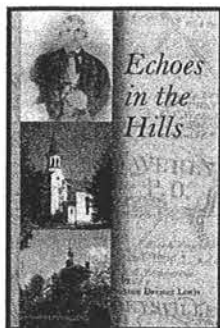
In the post-war period, national magazines and local newspapers featured stories about Sarnoski and the Eager Beavers. Memorials were erected in his name in Carbondale, Scranton, and in Richmond, VA. A local state park was named in honor of Lt. Sarnoski and P.F.C. Gino Merli.

For his final resting place, Lt. Joseph R. Sarnoski was interred in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, in Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii. The cemetery rests on the site of the "Punchbowl" which lies in the middle of Puowaina Crater, an extinct volcano. His grave is five away from that of Ernie Pyle, famed war correspondent of World War II. Eventually, the Lucy made its last flight -- to Arizona and to its ultimate fate -- probably in some obscure scrap yard.

Although he sadly admits some disappointment in not having acquired even a small piece of the plane as a lasting reminder and souvenir of the day his brother died, Fran Sarnoski (who later served in the Korean War) has fond and clear memories of his older brother Joseph. Today, the Medal occupies a distinct place of honor in the home of the youngest member of the family. He takes great pride in his big brother's contribution during World War II.

Post Script: For their separate and independent acts of heroism on that fateful mission, both Zeamer and Sarnoski were awarded the Medal of Honor, the only instance where two members of the same crew were so honored on the same mission.

Sgt. Glodek is a regular contributor to our newsletter. We welcome articles of local historical interest from our members. If you would like to submit an article, please send us a typed copy of your story.



NEW IN THE BOOKSTORE

Echoes in the Hills

Anne Davison Lewis*

University of Scranton Press, \$25 plus tax

Reviewed by Cheryl Kashuba

"The story of the First Baptist Church of Abington in Waverly, Pennsylvania, is the story, first, of an ordinary man rather like the patriarch Abraham, who with his family departed from his place of birth and arrived at a new home where he thought his God directed him to be ... This is the story of people of like faith coming together to create a small church within a small community – a church through which they could serve their God and, through Him, serve each other."

So begins Anne Davison Lewis' *Echoes in the Hills*. The ordinary man was John Miller, a Connecticut native who, in the early months of 1802, joined a small handful of settlers in the area known as Abington Woods, and later took on the leadership of the tiny new congregation that would become a vital part of a growing and changing community.

A highly-readable narrative, *Echoes* is the history not only of a church but of the community it served from its humble beginnings to its 200th anniversary in 2002. This local author's account sets the church in historic context, populating a well-known area with the known and lesser-known men and women of its past and present, offering insight into their daily lives, and detailing their noteworthy undertakings.

Each of the chronologically-arranged chapters, 44 in all, details the development of the church, its many good works, and its relationship to the people of Waverly and the surrounding area. Committed to serving the needs of its community, the church started Keystone Academy (now Keystone College), the only secondary school between Scranton and Binghamton at its founding in 1869. A chapter on the Underground Railroad emphasizes the church's commitment to freeing our nation from the "great and growing evil" of slavery. Together the book's chapters weave the pattern of a growing and changing community of religiously and ethnically diverse citizens.

Well documented and indexed, the 357 page volume includes black and white photographs, some historic maps, and facsimiles of church minutes, a brochure and other documents. Filled with historic names and facts, this enjoyable book proves to be a good read and a rich resource for anyone interested in the history of our area and its people.

*Our apologies for misspelling Anne Davison Lewis' name in the Summer 2004 issue of the LHS Journal's cover article, "The Little Favorite" as Anna Davidson Lewis.

CIVIL WAR BALL

SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 2ND

On April 2nd, the LHS and Sons of the Union Veterans, Delaney and DeLacey Guard, Scranton will sponsor the re-dedication of the recently restored Phil Sheridan Monument and celebration with the 28th PA Regimental Band.

The band was formed in 1991 by Ken and Bruce Cavender, who have assembled a 14 member cornet saxhorn brass band to honor the memory of the 28th PA Regimental Brass Band. They perform a wide variety of 19th century band concert, parade and field music with period instruments, authentic musical scores and period uniforms for the public's edification and education. It is their overall intention to revive the "town band" not only through its living history but also through public performances throughout the state.

At 11:00 a.m., a parade including the band, Civil War re-enactment groups, and local dignitaries will proceed from the GAR building at Penn Avenue and Linden Street to Lackawanna Avenue to the corner of Adams Avenue and Spruce Street for the formal re-dedication of the General Phil Sheridan Monument at Noon. The festivities will continue with a Civil War Ball that evening at 8:00 p.m. Invitations will be coming soon!

SYNAGOGUE TOUR

On May 15, 2005 the Lackawanna Historical Society will join forces with the Holocaust Research Center to present a tour of local synagogues. The tour will visit four temples in the morning, include a boxed lunch at the Catlin House, and conclude with a presentation by Albert Barry and a viewing of his film *The Lost Wooden Synagogues of Eastern Europe*. Registration forms will be mailed soon, so mark your calendar and plan to join us for this wonderful opportunity to learn more about the Jewish community in Lackawanna County.



MEMBERS OF LHS MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE
AND VOLUNTEER SALES GROUP
MICHELE MCDADE, LEOLA COLLINS, EILEEN POCIUS, MARY ALICE
DOYLE AND CHAIR ELLIE AXFORD AT THE HOLIDAY EMPORIUM

LHS Membership Committee finds fun and profit at the Holiday Emporium

In December, the Lackawanna Historical Society's Membership Committee staffed a sales table at the Voluntary Action Center's Holiday Emporium at Lackawanna College.

The volunteer sales group enjoyed the event and each other's company, and were pleased to report a profit of over \$900.

Among the items sold were the recently reprinted *Overbrook Town Shop* cookbook, the ever popular *Wish You Were Here* postcard book, and the *Miles of Mules* picture book. They also signed on several new members!



Student Volunteers Assist with Festival of Trees

Thanks to the students of Amy Strassman's class at Solomon Middle School for volunteering their time and talents to decorate the Society's tree for the Festival of Trees in December. The students chose the theme *Sweet Dreams of Christmas* and decorated the tree with peppermints, butterscotch drops, candy canes, jelly rings and a variety of fruit flavored candy and brightly colored lights. Robert Savakinus, Luzerne County Intermediate Unit 18's Transition Specialist, coordinated the program that included a holiday luncheon for the students at Alfredo's Pizza.

Memorial Donations

From Alan Sweeney:

In Memory of Nancy Angeli

In Memory of Alice Mellow

In Memory of William Pentecost

From Laurie Cadden Foley:

In Memory of Barbara Sottile

In Memory of Margaret A. Cawley

Election of Officers

Elections of Officers of the Lackawanna Historical Society's Board of Trustees was conducted at the December 2nd Members-Only Open House. Congratulations to the following elected Trustees listed below.

OFFICERS:

Alan Sweeney, President
Richard Bovard, 1st Vice President
Eileen Pocius, 2nd Vice President
Douglas Forrer, Treasurer
Mark Cruciani, Assistant Treasurer
Arlene Devereaux O'Hara, Secretary

CLASS OF 2007:

Joseph Cimini, Esq.
Mark Cruciani
Laureen Cadden Foley
Douglas Forrer
Mary Jane Memolo*
Elaine Shepard

**Mary Jane Memolo will fill a vacancy left by Barbara Mears.*

In addition to the nominees listed above, Michael Gilmartin was elected fill a slot vacated by Mark Fournier.