

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

June through October:

Downtown Walking Tours every Saturday at 11 am

(Tour begins at main entrance to Lackawanna College at Washington Avenue and Vine Street)

SUN., SEPT. 12, 2 PM HISTORY OF NURSING IN LACKAWANNA COUNTY
A panel presentation by Sue Petula, PhD., RN., Lois Kretch, BS, MS, and Ann Griffiths, RN at the Catlin House

TUES., SEPT 21, 6 PM ANNUAL DINNER SAVE THE DATE!
With a lecture on Raymond Hood by Tony Robins at the Cultural Center Ballroom (Details TBA)

FRI., OCT. 15, 1 PM TOUR OF GERTRUDE HAWK
Pre-registration required by calling (570) 344-3841

Plus on the first three weekends in October

Scranton After Dark paranormal walking tours return.

(October 2,3,9,10,16, & an exciting reveal on the 17th, Details TBA)

SUN., NOV. 7, 2 PM CIVIL WAR COLLECTING
A lecture by Frank Mrocza at the Catlin House

THURS. & FRI. DEC. 9 & 10, 7 PM HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE
at the Catlin House, (Details TBA)

LACKAWANNA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
232 MONROE AVENUE
SCRANTON, PA 18510

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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



Volume 40, No. 3

ISSN 0895-1802

Summer 2010

100 Years of Change

By Dennis and Sharleen Martin



Imagine living in Lackawanna County a century ago. What type of work would you have done? What would your home life have been like? What would you have done in your leisure time? A look at the United States Census figures for that year, the microfilm copies of *The Scranton Times*, and artifacts from the Lackawanna Historical Society collection provide a window into those interesting days that were so different from today and yet so similar.

More than 250,000 people lived in Lackawanna County with about half within the city of Scranton. This made the Lackawanna area the 38th most populous area in the country and Scranton the third largest city in Pennsylvania. Of the roughly 50,000 men and 50,000 women of age 10 and above in Scranton, 80% of the men and 24% of the women were employed with an additional 15% of each group in school. Running a household was still a very time-consuming occupation

but housewives were not counted in the working population.

If you lived in Lackawanna County, there was a 70% chance that either you or at least one of your parents had been born in Europe. The most numerous ethnic group were the Irish with 23% of the population. The Germans were second at 16%. The Welsh at 12% and the English at 8% were counted separately. A further 16% came from what was then the Russian Empire.

Mining provided work to 31% of the male population with an additional 31% in manufacturing. Manufacturing provided 41% of the jobs for working women

(Scranton's principle industry was silk manufacturing) while 25% of working women were domestics and 10% professional. With 85% of the children of 6 to 14 years of age in school, child labor was declining but still present.

The Mohican Company at Lackawanna and Washington were advertising Fresh Killed Chickens at 22 cents per pound and prime rib roasts at 12.5 cents. Eggs were 30 cents per dozen while coffee was 3 pounds for 50 cents. Epstein's at 423 Lackawanna Avenue, in their semi-annual clean-up sale, advertised suits for \$10 and coats at \$3.95 (children's coats at \$1.95). Goldsmith's Bazaar sold Nemo corsets for \$5.

At the beginning of the year, Maude Fulton played in "The Candy Shop" at the Lyceum. The Academy was reopening at the same time for vaudeville with 5 and 10 cent seats for matinees and 10 and 15 cent seats for evenings. Motion pictures were "interspersed with the vaudeville but only new and novel subjects will be

A Word from the President...

Dear Friends,

At this time of the year we often tend to think of relaxation and taking a few days off from busy schedules. It is my hope that the many dedicated and hard-working volunteers who donated their time to the Lackawanna historical society will take advantage of some "down time". They truly deserve it.

As you read through this newsletter and previous issues, you know first hand that the activities and programs offered by the Society are many and varied. While some events are for members only, most accommodate the interest of the general public. This would not happen without the enthusiastic and dedicated support of our volunteers and trustees.

Among the many projects that are the result of volunteer effort we offer special events, educational programs, speakers, exhibits, tours, sponsorships, research, an on-going collection and our historic home in the city of Scranton.

I am continually impressed by the number of consistently active and willing people who support the mission of the Lackawanna Historical Society. All of this volunteer work supports the goal to collect, preserve and promote the history of Lackawanna County.

Thank you again,
Michael Gilmartin

NOTE OF THANKS:

We are very grateful to everyone who contributed their time and talents at our most recent events including our exceptional partners who planned the Civil War Ball & Victorian Tea; the wonderful individuals who volunteered for, and played, *You Live Here, You Should Know This!*; everyone who participated in this year's Places of Worship tour; all of our dear friends who joined us at the Celebrity Bartending event in Alan Sweeney's honor at Bistocchi's and all of our terrific friends who worked with us on the *Arts on Fire* industrial arts fair.

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	EMAIL _____

The Lackawanna Historical Society 2010-11

OFFICERS	
Michael Gilmartin	President
Richard Bovard	1 st Vice President
Donald Frederickson, Jr., Esq.	2 nd Vice President
Douglas Forrer, CPA	Treasurer
Kathleen Keating	Assistant Treasurer
William Conlogue	Secretary

TRUSTEES
 Laurie Cadden
 Joseph F. Cimini, Esq.
 Mark Cruciani
 Thomas Horlacher, AIA
 Richard Leonori, AIA
 Linda Lynett
 Mary Jane Memolo
 Arlene Devereaux O'Hara
 Dalida O'Malley
 Ella S. Rayburn
 Elaine Shepard

EMERITUS
 Leola Collins
 Paul H. Price Esq.

STAFF
 Mary Ann Moran Savakinus
 Executive Director
 Ann Marie O'Hara Office Manager
 Mary Ann Gavern Assistant
 Olivia Bernardi Computer Assistant
 Brian Clark Newsletter Editor
 James and Gay Clifford Caretakers

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. Address questions to Mary Ann Moran-Savakinus at maryann@lackawannahistory.org.

Members of the Society receive this publication. Membership contributions are \$25 and up for Individuals, \$35 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 © 2010 by the Lackawanna Historical Society.

TRUSTEE JOHN COSGROVE RESIGNS

At its March Meeting, the Lackawanna Historical Society Board of Trustees regretfully accepted the resignation of Trustee John Cosgrove. Mr. Cosgrove felt that he could not currently serve as an active trustee due to other major commitments with statewide non-profits. He will continue to support the Society as a member and participate in programs and events. We are grateful to John for his service and appreciate his continued interest and involvement.

Annual Dinner slated for September 21st

LHS will host its 2010 Annual Dinner on Tuesday, Sept. 21st, at the Scranton Cultural Center's ballroom with guest speaker Tony Robins. Mr. Robins, who has been guiding walking tours of New York City's wonders of steel and stone for 25 years, is a founding member and past Vice President of The Art Deco Society of New York, where he created the Society's original tour program in 1981. He has lectured in the United States and abroad on New York history and architecture to audiences ranging from high school students to senior citizen groups and is a noted expert on Architect Raymond Hood. Raymond Hood designed Scranton's Masonic Temple, the current home to the Scranton Cultural Center. In honor of the 80th anniversary of its construction, Mr. Robins will discuss Hoods' work on the Cultural Center design as well as some of his other masterpieces including New York City's Rockefeller Center. To learn more about Tony Robins visit: www.pipeline.com/~trob/Before.htm and be sure to SAVE THE DATE and plan to join us.

Become a sponsor... If you would like to support the LHS Annual Dinner through placing an advertisement in our program we welcome your patronage. If you know of any other businesses or organizations that may be interested, please help us spread the word. Ads prices and sizes are listed below and artwork can be sent to the LHS or emailed to lackawannahistory@gmail.org.

- \$35 patron listing (one line)
- \$50 quarter page or business card (2.5"x 3/75")
- \$75 half page (5"x 3.75")
- \$150 full page (5"x 8")
- \$250 front inside, back inside or back cover (5"x 8")

We appreciate your support.

COMING SOON...

Don't miss the soon-to-be-released publication from Tribute Publishers, *Industrial Pioneers: Scranton, Pennsylvania and the Transformation of America, 1840-1902* by Scranton native Patrick Brown. The Society is delighted to be a collaborator on the publication and very appreciative to John Cosgrove for suggesting our involvement and to Bill Conlogue for chairing our publications committee. Watch for details about its release in the near future.

Saying Thanks to the LHVA

Since 1991, when it was established and named the first State Heritage Park in Pennsylvania, the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority (LHVA) has assisted and partnered with the Society on hundreds of projects. Because of its support we have been able to plan and implement truly ground breaking programs such as the 2002 Centennial Commemoration of the Great Anthracite Strike; the Heritage Explorer train excursions that began in the 1990s; the ongoing Ambassadors' Tours which offers local residents an opportunity to explore and learn about cultural sites that are located in "their own back yards," and this past Spring's local history quiz show, *You Live Here, You Should Know This!*.

In addition LHVA has continued to provide excellent opportunities for LHS and all of our community partners to collaborate on projects and share information at its monthly roundtable meetings, which began in 2002. Most recently we joined forces with our community partners of the roundtable to support the Anthracite Heritage Museum at the very successful *Arts on Fire* industrial arts fair at the Scranton Iron Furnaces. LHVA has also supported the Society's continuing preservation efforts, from the complex archival venture to digitize our 7,000-plus-image photograph collection to major bricks and mortar projects like the exterior restoration of the Catlin House, our beloved headquarters.

In 2000, LHVA was designated as a National Heritage Area (NHA) by the U.S. Congress in recognition of the region's unique contribution to the American experience. But now that designation is in danger of not being re-authorized when it expires in 2012. Therefore we are asking all of our members to "say thank you" to LHVA by sending a letter or a short note to:

Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority
538 Spruce Street, Suite 516
Scranton, PA 18503

Your handwritten letter will be added to a collection of letters to support LHVA's reauthorization as an NHA!

Community Calendar



LHS & THE ANTHRACITE HERITAGE MUSEUM
HAVE JOINED FORCES FOR A *SUMMER SOJOURN*
TO LANCASTER, PA ON SAT., SEPTEMBER 25, 2010

CREATED BY CANTERBURY TOURS, THE TRIP INCLUDES
TRANSPORTATION, DRIVER GRATUITY, PROFESSIONAL
STEP-ON GUIDE SERVICE PLUS:

- ◆ the Cornwall Iron Furnace, a National Historic Landmark
- ◆ Lunch at the Stolzhus Farm Restaurant, a Pennsylvania Dutch family farm
- ◆ the Ephrata Cloister, founded in 1732 by German settlers
- ◆ the Landis Valley Museum, a 100+ acre living history farm that preserves over 200 years of Pennsylvania German culture.

Dinner is on your own at an authentic, southern-style barbeque
JoBoy's Brew Pub and Authentic Barbeque, featuring
hand-crafted beers and down-home barbeque. Mmmmm!

The cost is \$90 per person and reservations can be made
through the Anthracite Heritage Museum (570) 963-4804

Clifford Township Volunteer Fire Company.

PICNIC

July 22, 23, and 24

Thursday July 22nd Firemen's Parade 7:00 PM
Music by "Prime Time"

Friday July 23rd GIGANTIC FIREWORKS 10:30 PM
Music by "Candlefish"

Saturday July 24th CHICKEN BAR-B-QUE 05:00 PM
Music by "Mark Sillaman and Friends"

Good Food - Live Entertainment - Clams - Games
Kiddie Rides & Carnival Concessions

Come ride the train from Rocky Glen
Route 106 Clifford, PA www.cliffordfire.com

Pages & Places Book Festival: Saturday October 2 / Downtown Scranton

Pages & Places will bring to downtown Scranton 15 nationally and internationally recognized panelists—writers who explore the terrains of history, policy, science, media, and literature—who will convene five panels in five of downtown Scranton's most vital and impressive architectural structures. This year's festival is organized around questions concerning the dearth of access to world literature, responses to human death and catastrophe, how trends in neuroscience are already transforming culture and policy, how robust argumentation has shaped civic life, and the contributions of gendered viewpoints in documenting our lives.

The Lackawanna Historical Society is partnering with Pages & Places to provide tours of Courthouse Square and historical buildings throughout Scranton's downtown. The tours will be part of an expanded Book Expo on Courthouse Square, including a new Kid's Fest, and will take place throughout the day.

For more information, a full schedule of events, and to purchase tickets go to www.pagesandplaces.org.

Taylor Historical Society July meeting:

*American Revolutionary
program & wreath
laying service at the
grave of Parley Hughes*

July 11, 1 PM
at the 1848 church
in the cemetery
on Main Avenue,
in Taylor.

Open to the public
Call for details: 562-1225



If you enjoyed the Society's April program,
The Victorian Lady Undressed,
then you won't want to miss this!

*Victorian Tea and Fashion Show
Fashions from Victorian Era
to Early 20th Century*

Sunday July 25, 1 PM
at the Colonnade

401 Jefferson Avenue, Scranton, PA
Sponsored by Queen Victoria's Court

Cost: \$30 per person

To benefit the American Cancer Society

For more information or to register call:
Margaret Messana at (570) 587-5264

On July 22nd, Don't miss Warren Watkins' presentation, *The History of the Abingtons* on July 22nd
at the Abington Community Library, 1200 West Grove Street, Clarks Summit PA at 7 PM call 587-3440 for details.

In the Catlin House...

In Memoriam

The LHS lost a great friend on April 23, 2010, when Trustee Emeritus Ed Miller passed away at 90 years of age. Ed was a noted expert on the history of the Lackawanna and Wyoming Valley Railroad, the Laurel Line. His interest could be traced to 1937 when he first started taking photographs of local electric railways and railroads.

He first became involved with the Society in 1982 when he presented an illustrated lecture on the history of the Laurel Line. One year later, in 1983, he was elected to the Society's Board of Trustees and actively served for 14 years. Through the years Ed continued to offer public presentations and was always happy to share his extensive collection of local railroad photography.

He donated several copies of his work to the Society and provided images and film footage for publications such as Henwood and Munde's *The Laurel Line* and for the video *Anthracite Traction* which offers rare scenes of the Laurel Line in operation. Most recently Ed's work was featured in the *Rocky Glen Park* documentary, in which he was also interviewed.

In 1997 Ed retired as an LHS Trustee and was unanimously elected as a Trustee Emeritus. Although Ed could not continue his once active role in Society programs, he continued to offer support through his membership and by keeping in touch with a telephone every so often to just say hi and share a story about the *Laurel Line*.

Welcome Olivia Bernardi

Olivia, a Lackawanna County native joined the LHS in February as the new part-time assistant to the director. Olivia holds an associate degree in Printing/Photography from Luzerne County Community College. Olivia may not have a degree in history, but in her 18 years of work experience she has accumulated many different skills that will complement the needs of the LHS.

Olivia's interest in history started as a small child when listening to her mother's and grandmother's stories of her family's past. Influenced by her father's strong interest in history and living in our historical area, Olivia is always looking for ways to learn more about the history around her.

Among her most memorable experiences, as a young woman, was traveling to Nebraska to attend an archeology dig and education seminar. Whether she is uncovering history from earth or paper, Olivia loves discovering it.

NEW MEMBERS

Silver Corporate

Edventures Consulting Inc., Mountain Top

Family

Lynne and Jim Brown, Malvern
Raymond J. Graham, Palham, NH
The Houdini Museum, Scranton
Mr. and Mrs. John Parsons, Simpson
Patricia H. Rosetti, Scranton
Bob and Laura Santoski, Scranton

Contributing

Joseph DeFazio, Jr., Moosic
Ronald S. Wendell, DDC, Scranton

Individual

Theodore D. Austin, Roaring Brook Twp.
Mary F. Barna, Archbald
Dan Corby, Scranton
Alice Goodall, Scranton
Virginia J. Goodrich, Dickson City
Kathleen Lamm, Alexandria, VA
Lawrence Michael Ludwig, Clarks Summit
Chris McWilliams, Fredericksburg, VA
Gail Morgan, Scranton
James Petrone, Sloatsburg, NY
Joseph E. Ross, Scranton
Richard Sedlisky, New York, N.Y.
Michael J. Telesky, Cresco

Student

Martina Barna, Archbald
Monica W. Goetz, River Forest, IL
Maggie McLane, Scranton

LHS Volunteer Completes Yellowwood Program

Congratulations to LHS student volunteer Sarah Hahn who graduated from the Yellowwood program on June 10th. Sarah volunteered for the Society as part of her work for this alternative learning program of the Scranton School District and she did great work in assisting our staff for many of our Fall and Spring programs.

We wish her much success in her future endeavors



The Lackawanna Historical Society
is pleased to announce the return of

Scranton After Dark!!

paranormal walking tours of downtown Scranton.

This year we hope to add new sites and provide more tours with an exciting "reveal" on the final night at a location yet to be determined. In order to accommodate as many participants as possible, we are also inviting interested members to join us as tour guides this year. The tours will take place during the first three weekends in October and anyone who would like to volunteer as a tour guide should call the Society before August 6th in order to register for training.

Call 344-3841 if you are interested.

Additional tour details will be announced in the near future.

About Your Town

Moosic, once a part of Lackawanna Township, officially became a borough in 1899 and took its name from the great herds of moose that once roamed the Lackawanna Valley. Its first settler was Dr. Joseph Sprague, who lived on Main Street from 1771 through 1784. An early significant establishment was the Moosic Powder Mills because black powder was important for blasting through rock and coal. An important recreation area in Moosic's first 100 years was Rocky Glen Park, which was opened in 1886. The Laurel Line established a station at the park in the early 1900's and during the 1920's and 1950's, the park flourished the management of Ben Sterling. In the 1970's Rocky Glen Park became "Ghost Town In the Glen." In 1987, the park closed forever and now only a sign with the park's name remains along Rocky Glen Road in Moosic. - Josh Felter

The Society invites you to submit a short piece about your town's or neighborhood's history for a future newsletter or share some photographs. LHS volunteer Donna Adler is currently working on documenting Scranton's East Mountain neighborhood and would be most interested in obtaining images of that area for the LHS Collection.

1910 (continued from page 1)

shown and not too many of them." The Poli also showed vaudeville with Annie Abbot, the Little Georgia Magnet. "She can lift ten men, but ten men can't lift her." Also on the bill were Galletti's Monkeys and the Latoy Brothers, comedy acrobats. Halley's Comet made a visit that year.

Leisure activities did not involve the automobile, which was still a rich man's luxury. Henry Ford would not start mass producing cars at a more reasonable price for a few more years. Indeed, the Ford Motor Company still did not exist. Public transportation was plentiful. People walked when possible and used the trolley for longer distances. Inter-urbans such as the Laurel Line would take you to Rocky Glen or to Wilkes-Barre while the Northern Electric would take you to Northern Electric Park in Clarks Summit or to Lake Winola. A short steam railroad ride away was Lake Ladore near Waymart, a popular place for company picnics. Nay Aug Park was an excellent destination easily served by the trolley. Even if you did not cross the bridge to Luna Park, Lake Lincoln had been created as the first public pool in Scranton the year before. There were picnic pavilions, a band stand, and scenic views of the gorge.

For many people, social activities were centered on the churches. If there was not already a church representing new arrivals, they started their own church. Several "national" churches of the same religion might be within walking distance of each other, each with services specialized to the ethnicity of its members. The

early settlers already had active churches that continued to serve their members for worship and community. Revival meetings were popular and the Christian Scientists were already planning to build The First Church of Christ, Scientist, which today houses the Children's Library. The Albright Library was well established at this time as were both Scranton High and Scranton Tech.

Work was dangerous with accidents being reported in almost everyday's paper. Hahnemann Hospital was one of several that served the community. It would later merge with the West Side Hospital to form the Community Medical Center. Moses Taylor and Mercy Hospitals were also active as was the State Hospital on Penn Avenue. Nursing was one of the few professions open to women as well as teaching although when a woman married she had to leave the teaching profession.

By 1920 much had changed. Henry Ford made the automobile more common. The Influenza epidemic and World War I were shocks to the naïve optimism of 1910. The Casey Brothers built their famous hotel in 1910, which became their major concern when Prohibition in 1920 closed their wholesale spirits and brewery operations.

A new exhibit at the Catlin House pays tribute to the world of 100 years ago. Called *circa 1910*, it offers a snapshot of the two decades between 1900 and 1920 with an emphasis on the first part of that time. Scranton then as Scranton now was a vibrant community and a good place for people to raise families.



SEATED: JACK JORDAN, CATHERINE CULLEN, JACK MCGUIGAN & DOM KEATING
MIDDLE ROW: HOST RYAN LECKEY, CYNTHIA CERMINARO, MARY ANN MORAN SAVAKINUS, KATHLEEN MYERS, ANGELA PARRY, SHAWN MURPHY, MORGANN HODUCK, MATT WILLIAMS, HOST JOHN WEBSTER, & SARAH HOSIE.
BACK ROW: TOM KENNEDY, BILL GERSHEY, JORDAN PANEK, JAMIE NICOLOSI & CHRIS OSSONT

Event Recap

Congratulations to the winning team of *You Live Here, You Should Know This!* The Society's local history game show took place on April 30th and May 1st at the Scranton Cultural Center with 24 local personalities playing as contestants.

The winning team consisted of Jack Jordan, Catherine Cullen, Jack McGuigan and Dominic Keating. The game was created and planned by local high students from Valley View and Riverside with guidance from their teachers and staff of the NEIU 19. We are grateful to everyone who participated and cannot wait to do it again next year!

Watch for televised episodes of each game this summer on Electric City TV.