

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

- FRI. SEP 21 4:45 PM/5:30 PM **SCRANTON AFTER DARK**
Walking Tours and Rides on the Trolley of Terror
- SUN. SEP 23, 2:00 PM **BOOK SIGNING FOR HAUNTED SCRANTON**
By Tony Bernardi at the Catlin House
- THUR. SEP 27, 6:00 PM **LHS ANNUAL DINNER: A Roast and Toast of Bernie McGurl**
marking LRCA's 25th Anniversary at the Scranton Cultural Center
- FRI. OCT. 12, 6:00 PM **A GARDEN PARTY** in Honor of 100th Anniversary of the Catlin House
- WED. OCT. 17, 7:00 PM **LOCAL BASEBALL MYTHS AND LEGENDS: BABE RUTH IN NEPA**
Panel Discussion at University of Scranton's DeNaples Center, Room 405
- SUN. OCT. 21, 2:00 PM **BOOK SIGNING FOR IF YOU CAN PLAY SCRANTON**
By Nancy McDonald at the Catlin House
- SUN. NOV. 11, 2:00 PM **ONE CIGAR - ONE FAMILY - ONE HUNDRED YEARS!**
A History of Avanti Cigar Company by Dom Keating at the Catlin House
- FRI.-SUN. NOV 23-25 **MODEL TRAINS THROUGH THE AGES**
at Steamtown National Historic Site, details TBA
- THUR. DEC 6, 7:00 PM **MEMBERS-ONLY HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE** at the Catlin House
- FRI. DEC 7, 7:00 PM **HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE** at the Catlin House
- WED. JAN 16, 7:00 PM **ANTHRACITE LABOR WARS: WORKER-MANAGEMENT CONFLICT AT THE PENNSYLVANIA COAL COMPANY, 1902-1936**
Presented by Bob Wolensky & Bill Hastie as part of Mining History Week

LACKAWANNA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
232 MONROE AVENUE
SCRANTON, PA 18510

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Fall 2012

When Buffalo Bill's Wild West Played Scranton

By Dr. Willis M. Conover

Three cannon shots echoing through the city.
Ripped coats and crushed hats.
Closed schools.
Little boys running away from home.
Crowds along Lackawanna Avenue cheering a procession of South American Gauchos, Mexican vaqueros, Russian Cossacks, Western Cowboys, Irish Lancers, and Rough Riders.

An Indian village set up along Wyoming Avenue.
A buffalo hunt on Ash Street.

The cause of such noise, commotion, and excitement? The arrival of Buffalo Bill's Wild West in Scranton.

For three decades, in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Buffalo Bill's Wild West, one of the most successful outdoor traveling shows in American history, brought entertainment to thousands of people in the United States as well as Europe and Canada. To many Scranton residents, the show's arrival in their city highlighted the spring or summer seasons. William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody brought his troupe to the Lackawanna Valley several times in the 1884-1917 period.

A measure of the Wild West's popularity was the public response to the two performances of May 22, 1899, in the city. Billed as Buffalo Bill's Wild West and Congress of Rough Riders of the World, the show set an attendance record for Scranton. According to the *Scranton Tribune*, more than 28,000 people witnessed the two performances on that day, setting a record for attendance "under canvas." The show's Route-Book for the 1899 season summarized the May 22 shows in Scranton: "Weather cleared, and a bright, warm day brings out a large crowd, making it necessary to close the doors on the afternoon performance."

Scrantonians had been anticipating the show's

arrival for weeks, and excitement built when the huge entourage finally pulled into town on Sunday, May 21. Two trains of 50 or more cars arrived on the Jersey Central road at the Central Yards on West Lackawanna Avenue throughout the day and night. Some 500-600 workers then labored to set it all up on the Ash Street Grounds in Pine Brook, at the corner of Wyoming Avenue and Ash Street, near where Scranton Prep stands today. Crews set up seating for thousands, protected by canvas covers. The center of the performance area, measuring 168 feet by 369 feet, was open to the weather, but the show went on rain or shine.

By the afternoon of May 21, thousands of local residents had visited the grounds, mingling with many of the performers including "Indians in their wigwams." A new-born buffalo calf intrigued many.

Meanwhile, tickets for the Monday performances sold briskly at 50 cents for general admission and 25 cents for children under 9 for the two hour show.

On the morning of the exhibition, a grand "Parade of Nations" from the grounds into downtown Scranton built further excitement, as if that was necessary. Three cannon shots alerted everybody that the parade was starting. The hundreds of Wild West performers and various animals, led by a Cowboy Band, entertained the people lining the route from Washington Avenue to Vine to Wyoming to Spruce to Penn to Lackawanna and back to Washington and to the Pine Brook grounds. According to the *Tribune*, "it seemed as if the whole city and the country roundabout turned out en masse to see the parade..."

The arrival, set up, and parade were all part of a detailed and practiced design by Cody, the internationally famous Indian fighter, scout, hunter, Pony Express rider, show man and entrepreneur. After spending several years touring with a smaller compa-

A Word from the President...

SHOUT IT OUT OR SING IT, the Catlin House is 100 years old! Our beautiful headquarters still stands proudly on the site where it was built a century ago. Upon the death of George Catlin, the house and his estate were left to the Lackawanna Historical Society in 1935. Subsequently, we took possession in 1942 after the death of his wife. Now in 2012, we celebrate the anniversary of the construction of the house designed by the prominent architect, Edward Langley. It takes much care, effort and financial commitment to maintain the Catlin House. Over time it has been the responsibility and challenge of many people who worked diligently to support the house we still have today. Many of our members and others have contributed to the Annual Fund for the Future campaign, as well as donating memorials honoring friends and loved ones.

As we look ahead, we are reminded of the current landscaping project coming to conclusion with our immediate neighbor, the University of Scranton. The open space concept achieved through their planning was supported by our board of directors, as having a positive effect on the property for which they are responsible. We are most appreciative of the contribution from the University regarding this project.

Furthermore, the board of directors has recently agreed to develop and run a capital campaign for the purpose of replacing and updating the electrical system in the Catlin House. This much needed work will also allow us to install an HVAC system and supplemental lighting to preserve and highlight the materials and artifacts in our collection. You can read more about this important campaign in our newsletter. I look forward with thanks for your participation and generous support.

In closing, I hope you will please join us in September for two great events--- the preview party and opening of Riverworks III on September 6th and 7th and the LHS Annual Dinner on September 27th.

Stay well and involved!
Michael Gilmartin

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	\$35	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$45	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 _____

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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, 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 lackawannahistory@gmail.com.

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.

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Alan Sweeney Award

On September 1, at the Railfest Opening Ceremonies at Steamtown National Historic Site, the Lackawanna Historical Society was delighted to present the 2012 Alan Sweeney Award *in recognition of unwavering dedication to the interpretation of local history to encourage embracing our heritage throughout the Lackawanna Valley* to John Hart, Jr., a native of Lackawanna County who has dedicated his time and talents to promoting local history. He was born in Carbondale and earned degrees in History and English from the University of Scranton before starting his journalism career with the *Scrantonian-Tribune* as a reporter and editor. John has served our local community as president of The Scranton Club, as a member of the Antique Auto Association of America, and of the Union League of Philadelphia. One of his greatest achievements was to bring Steamtown to Scranton and through his work with local business leaders and government officials he ensured that this premiere train collection would remain accessible to the public. It is due to his work and effort that Steamtown would go on to be established as a National Historic Site.

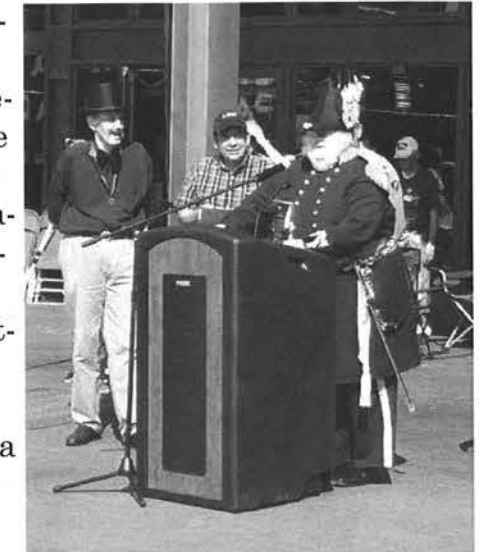
But it is not just his interest in Scranton's railroad history that makes John the perfect candidate for the Alan Sweeney Award, it is his enduring interests in all things historical, and his continued work to bring history to life! He is passionate about Living History, and believes that it is essential to educate the public, particularly young people, about our past. John is a member of several Civil War re-enactment groups including the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, the Delaney Delacy Guard of Scranton, and COUG (the Confederation of Union Generals), where he serves as a board member. As a member of COUG, he portrays General Winfield Scott, and makes appearances with the organization throughout the country.

Last year John was appointed chairman of

Scranton's Civil War Sesqui-centennial celebration, and he worked closely with the Lackawanna Historical Society to present a Meet-the-Generals event at Nay Aug Park and a concert by the Philadelphia Brigade Band on Courthouse Square. His work continued

this past June with another Meet-the-Generals event at Steamtown, as the conclusion to a Civil War train ride from Carbondale to Scranton with special guest President Abraham Lincoln, portrayed by Jim Getty. He also organized a division for this year's St. Patrick's Parade which included a large contingent of generals from COUG, as well as President Lincoln.

In addition to these living history activities, John is an avid collector of toy soldiers, one of the many interests he shared with his close friend Alan Sweeney.



John Hart accepts the award as past recipients S. Robert Powell, Dom Keating and Norm Barrett look on.

Don't Miss ...
...the many exciting events listed on the back page calendar including the October 17 **Local Baseball Myth and Legends** a panel presentation on Babe Ruth in NEPA relating some of his barnstorming adventures!

Community Calendar



Archbald Borough Historical Society Remembers Civil War Draft Riots

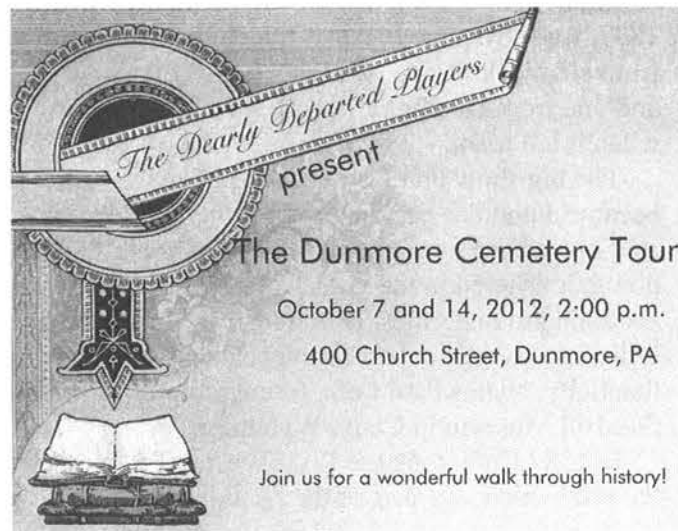
Archbald Borough Historical Society will host a commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Archbald Civil War Draft Riots on Saturday, October 13, 2012. The day will include a poster board and essay contest, patriotic music performed by the Valley View Chorus at 1:30 pm, and the presentation of the play, "The Death of an Innocent Man" by Margo Azzarelli at 3:00 pm. The play tells the story of Patrick Gilmartin, an Archbald resident who was killed during the riots. For more information call (570)347-6582.

Iron Furnaces on Exhibit

On September 7, the Hope Horn Gallery at The University of Scranton, in partnership with the Lackawanna Historical Society and Anthracite Heritage Museum, opened *The Lackawanna Iron Furnaces of Scranton, Pennsylvania: History, Art, Heritage*. While the chronological and technological developments of the Lackawanna Iron Furnaces have been well-documented, little has been written about the furnaces' representation in art. Among the works on loan to the exhibition from the Lackawanna Historical Society Collection, McKinney and Bonwill's large-scale *Map of the Borough of Scranton (1857)*; George Clough's oil paintings of the *Lackawanna Valley* and *Lackawanna Iron Furnaces (1859)*; and Thomas H. Johnson's albumen photographs from the *Lackawanna Iron and Coal Company* series (c. 1863); offer insights into relationships between the nineteenth-century city of Scranton and operations at the iron furnaces themselves. The exhibit will run through November 16, 2012, and special events are scheduled in conjunction with it to celebrate historical

sites and structures associated with the furnaces. On Saturday, September 8, 2012, the Anthracite Heritage Museum conducted a *Family Fun Day* at the Scranton Iron Furnaces site on Cedar Avenue, including a living history presentation by the Azzarelli family. On Friday, October 5, 2012, from 6 pm to 9 pm, the Hope Horn Gallery presents *Celebrating the Scranton Iron Furnaces: A Concert with Cabinet* with a nighttime illumination of the Scranton Iron Furnaces by Robert Balitsky, Diva Theater, as well as hayrides by Brookvalley Farms and tours of the Scranton Estate.

The Lackawanna Iron Furnaces of Scranton, Pennsylvania: History, Art, Heritage and its related programming have been supported by a Lackawanna County Arts and Culture Grant, a program of the Lackawanna County Commissioners and the Lackawanna County Council on Arts, Culture, and Education. Additional support has been provided by the Lackawanna Heritage Valley. The Hope Horn Gallery at the University of Scranton also receives state arts funding support through a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. All events are free of charge, and the public is invited to attend.



New Home for Scranton Lace Collection

This summer, the Lackawanna Historical Society joined forces with the Waverly Community House (The Comm) to develop an archives storage facility at its site to interpret the organization's history and also to provide a more permanent storage for the LHS collection of Scranton Lace Archives. For the last few years the Society had stored the collection at Avanti Cigar Company through cooperation with Dominic Keating. Special thanks to Maria Wilson, Comm Director for her effort and interest in organizing the project. Thanks also to Pat Tobin and his colleagues at the Marine League Museum who helped move the records, and to Comm Intern Hayley Lenahan, LHS Curator Ella Rayburn, LHS volunteers Ed Osman, Nick Petula and Carl Sedelnick for all they did to make the transition a smooth one.

In the Catlin House...

We Are Concerned About the Artifacts

By Ella S. Rayburn

Unless people are familiar with museum management, be it history, art, industry or other specialties, they do not tend to think about continuing education or the proper care of the objects in the museums, some are archives and some are artifacts.

During the past couple of years and as recently as this past June, the historical society has availed itself of conservation services and educational seminars offered by CCAHA. The long, formal name is The Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts, better known as CCAHA, generally said in a mumble rather than clearly enunciated. According to their website, www.ccaha.org, CCAHA is one of the largest non-profit conservation centers in the country. Lucky for us, it is on 22nd Street in Philadelphia, an excellent excuse for a daytrip to Philly.

Non-profits must provide educational programs, which the CCAHA staff present at a very reasonable cost. Recently several LHS associates attended a seminar held at the Albright Memorial Library about archives management and cataloging. It was a little under six hours; therefore, a snapshot of the topic. The presentations are tightly organized in order to cover a lot of information efficiently. Future topics will include disaster planning, museum policies for good governance, fundraising, and other related discussions.

In the Philadelphia studio, skilled, professional conservators clean, repair and stabilize works of art and artifacts on paper and related materials of parchment and papyrus. LHS has used CCAHA for several past projects.

One project we had them work on was the original charter establishing the Lackawanna Institute of History and Science, March 1886 with all the signatures. It is ink on parchment, written on both sides and was found about twelve years ago in terrible condition. The document, of outstanding significance to the society, had suffered non-reversible damage due to the unfortunate choice to store it framed, trapped under glass in the damp basement near the outside wall. The lower quarter was moldy and the ink had run. There is no way to either replace the missing inked-in text or completely remove the ugly greenish-blue stain caused by the mold. The two-sided document was cleaned, stabilized and put into a tight sealed chamber allowing for viewing on either side.

Although we have had several documents treated, the next



NEW MEMBERS

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one of great interest bears the original signatures of both President Abraham Lincoln and Secretary of State William Seward. Both men signed a proclamation appointing Douglas Jay as assistant postmaster of Scranton on July 16, 1861. This was the period before the civil service act when even minor government functionary positions were appointed by the President, most assuredly patronage was involved at some level before reaching the President and Secretary. Douglas Jay moved to Scranton in 1847 from Belvidere, New Jersey to work as a clerk for George Scranton, who he knew in Belvidere. He worked at the post office after the presidential appointment, joined the army just as the Civil War was ending, went back to the post office, then became a bookkeeper at the Lackawanna Iron and Coal Company until retirement at age 60 in 1890. Jay is buried in Dunmore's Forest Hills Cemetery.

This document was glued onto a piece of acidic heavy poster board some time ago probably for the family to put in a frame. The poster board was curling inward, taking the document with it causing dimensional change. Although a good 3/16ths of an inch thick, the poster board was very brittle. If carelessly handled on the edge, the board snapped leaving a void the size of the holder's finger. The brush strokes of the glue were leaching through the paper. It was more than time to have the piece stabilized. It is amazing what paper conservators can do. As much of the board as possible was sliced off then the remainder was soaked loosening the glue. The document was washed and the missing voids filled in with Japanese tissue and wheat paste. The conservators placed the document in a sealed environment. We can frame it but for now flat storage is preferable.

As the nation is in the midst of the Civil War sesquicentennial, we will exhibit this document as part of a future Civil War display.

Society Loses Devoted Trustee, Volunteer, and Dear Friend



On June 5th, the Society lost one of its most valued trustees and a beloved friend, Kathleen Keating. Kathy served on the board since 1983. Over the years she was a vital part of our organization giving her time to assist with Long Range Planning, Membership, Collections, annual drives, and most recently as Assistant Treasurer. Kathy supported the organization and rarely missed a meeting of the board or her committees. She also participated in many of our programs and special events. While we were deeply saddened by this loss, we are relieved that she is no longer suffering. She will be greatly missed.

MEMORIALS

In Memory of Kathy Keating

Mr. and Mrs. Irwin Adler, Scranton
 Mary and Joe Barrett, Dunmore
 Dr. and Mrs. Edward G. Boehm, Jr., La Plume
 Florence G. Brown, Scranton
 Charles A. Connell Jr., Basking Ridge NJ
 Frances E. Crowley, Avalon, NJ
 Judith A. DeSarro, Clarks Summit
 Arlene Devereaux O'Hara, Scranton
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 Lackawanna and Wyoming Valley
 Railway Historical Society, Scranton
 Leonard Family, Tobyhanna

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Theodore Roosevelt's Rough Riders, and groups of Hawaiians, Filipinos, and Samoans. Tom Isbell, who claimed to be the first Rough Rider to fire a shot in the famous charge up San Juan Hill, was a featured performer, bearing scars from eight bullets which struck him during the fight. A Tribune review noted that the storming of San Juan Hill, with actual participants, was the "most picturesque and thrilling number" on the program. The writer pointed out that this was the first opportunity Scranton had to show its appreciation for the heroes of the war.

The Wild West's performance in Scranton in 1901 featured vignettes from the Boxer Rebellion (1899-1901) in China including the capture of Peking and the Battle of Tien-Tsin. With each new season, Cody adapted the program to meet current interests while maintaining the proven staple of Western features.

Local press coverage in communities where the show played gave some sense of the excitement it generated. In 1901, a Tribune headline reported that "Clothes Torn at Buffalo Bill Ticket Wagon." The rush to buy tickets to the shows was so great that coats were torn and ladies' hats crushed by the crowds pushing toward the ticket sellers. The paper also reported that thousands were turned away and that the crowds for the performances were "enormous." The 1899 record-setting crowds had been well-behaved. Col. Cody sent his congratulations to Mayor Moir on the excellent manner in which the Scranton police had handled such large crowds. Not a single accident or case of picking pockets or the like was reported, according to the newspaper.

Another measure of the excitement of the shows' appearance in Scranton could be seen in reports of children running away from home to join the troupe. In 1897, five boys, aged 10 to 14, including a 12-year-old from Hemlock Street, two boys from Capouse Avenue, and one from Dunmore, ran off to follow the show when it left town.

The big show that Cody began in Omaha in 1883 became a popular pastime, earning favorable reviews as it played across the country beginning in 1884. In so doing, it ushered in the golden age of outdoor shows, according to historians. Buffalo Bill's "fame and credibility as a westerner lent star appeal and an aura of authenticity," notes Paul Fees, former curator of the Buffalo Bill Museum in Cody, Wyoming.

In 1887 Cody took the Wild West to Europe, where the production was part of the American exhibition at

Queen Victoria's Jubilee in London. The show would make regular tours in Europe until 1906.

By the second decade of the 20th century, the show had run its course as the public turned its attention to current news headlines and to other forms of entertainment such as motion pictures. The performances in Scranton in May of 1916 still drew thousands, and a writer for the Scranton Times offered an opinion: "It was the same Wild West exhibition that has been shown here for years and will probably continue to show..." However, in that same edition of the *Times* was a large advertisement announcing the Scranton opening of the controversial, pioneering motion picture, "The Birth of a Nation" at the Majestic Theatre. The transition was taking place with the old and the new in town at the same time.

The Wild West played Scranton one more time, in May of 1917. But the leader of the troupe was missing; Cody had died earlier in the year in Denver. The Scranton Times sensed the difference when it reported: "Whether it was the cold weather or the lack of 'pep' is hard to tell, but the big crowds did not seem to enjoy the wild west performance... as in previous years. There was something lacking..." Perhaps it was because Buffalo Bill was gone, new entertainment options had emerged, and the First World War was on the horizon.

But many could look back fondly to the excitement of Cody's creation. In 1899, Buffalo Bill's Wild West had covered over 11,000 miles in 200 days, giving 341 performances in 132 cities and towns in the United States, including Scranton. The images presented by Cody forged a vision of the West and American historical events in the minds of a generation of Americans and Europeans. Thousands of residents of the Lackawanna Valley were part of the experience and excitement when Buffalo Bill's Wild West played Scranton.

Dr. Conover's article includes carefully researched end notes and citations. Contact the Catlin House at (570) 344-3841 if you're interested in learning more or reviewing these notes.



Buffalo Bill

ny and presenting dramatic scenes from Western life and history in theatres across the country, he decided to develop a much larger production. He sensed that Americans would pay to see real elements of the old West presented live with great drama and excitement in their hometowns. Thus was born his Wild West. The show made its debut in Omaha, Nebraska in 1883.

For the first dozen years or so, Cody scheduled Wild West performances over several days in larger cities such as New York and Chicago. Profits, however, were disappointing, so in 1895, the decision was made to play smaller communities, moving the show almost daily from town to town. In that year, there were 131 presentations in 190 days, including a May 11 stop in Scranton.

Using pioneering press pageantry and poster advertising techniques, the Wild West's promoters usually heralded the show's arrival in a community weeks in advance in hopes of building ticket sales. For the 1899 Scranton performance, about six weeks ahead of the arrival date, large lithograph posters featuring the show's attractions were plastered on the walls of city buildings or on wooden fences. They were hard to miss with their colorful and dramatic designs showing Indians, cowboys, horses and other show features, along with Buffalo Bill. One Scranton poster consisted of some 108 large sheets.

In addition, a steady stream of news releases were written and delivered to local newspapers to highlight the show's content. Often the stories would emphasize the educational value of the presentation, something that could not be matched in the classroom. ("It Is To Educate" was the headline for a story on May 9, 1899 in the Tribune. The presentation "entertains while instructing.") In Scranton, school principals could use their discretion on this "circus day" to cancel classes so their students could attend.

Other stories would promote the appearance of some 600 "bucking mustangs" or "vaqueros from Mexico, Gauchos from South America, Arabs from the North African desert, and Cossacks from the steppes of Russia." Of course the appearance of Buffalo Bill, "a true soldier and brave man," as the leader of this spectacular troupe was promoted. An advertisement in the Tribune on July 20, 1897 promised that the show would be the same as the one given at the Columbian World's Fair in Chicago in 1893, with additions.

These press agents certainly built up the spectacular nature of the show, but, as Robert Carter noted in his

book on Cody, "the show itself was honest, true to its period, and free from all faking." And that is the way Buffalo Bill wanted it. The official reference was to Buffalo Bill's Wild West; the word "show" was not used because it seemed to suggest something not authentic and purely for entertainment. Always, Cody insisted on using real Indians or cowboys or soldiers in the presentations.

One of the "advance" people sent to Scranton generated local interest. She was Mayme Jester, Col. Cody's niece. She came to Scranton as a press agent to help promote the scheduled show. *The Tribune* noted that it was rather "novel" to have a woman perform such duties. As part of the publicity effort, Miss Jester used a brightly painted wagon dubbed "Last of the Great Scouts" in honor of her uncle. Its appearance on Scranton streets drew great attention.

The usual show program, as performed in Scranton in July 1897, began with the 36-man Cowboy Band, playing the National Anthem. Then various groups entered the arena including Indians, German Uhlans, and Irish Lancers, all on horseback. This was followed by a drill from the U.S. artillery. Annie Oakley, "Little Miss Sure Shot," would show her sharpshooting skills by breaking glass balls tossed into the air. This was followed by a horse race and then a Pony Express demonstration. A staple of the show was a re-enactment of an Indian attack on an emigrant wagon train. This was followed by Arabian horsemen demonstrating riding skills. Another marksman, Johnny Baker would show his skills. Mexican riders would perform their lasso rope tricks. German Uhlans and Irish Lancers would appear again on horseback, followed by cowboy riding demonstrations. Another staple, an attack on the Deadwood stage coach, thrilled the crowd. Indians and cowboys then conducted a buffalo hunt featuring six live bison. Then came the attack on a settler's cabin in which Buffalo Bill himself rode to the rescue. The program ended with the Grand Salute and the parade of all the riders, gaining great cheers from the crowds.

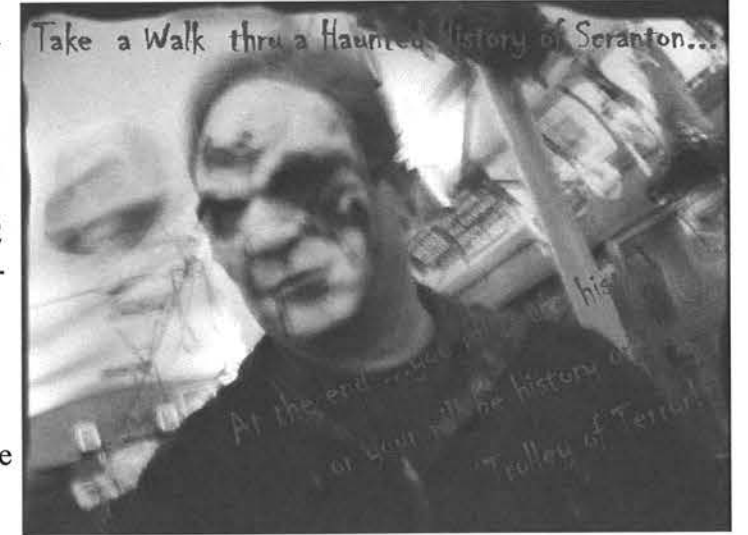
As the years went on, Cody added features such as the German, Irish, and Arab performers (the Congress of Rough Riders of the World) making the show more international in scope while retaining its historic roots of highlighting the American West.

Playing off the headlines from the Spanish-American War of 1898 in the Pacific and Caribbean areas, the 1899 show included the usual Wild West themes but added a troop of Cuban cavalry, authentic

Trolley of Terror - Featuring Zombies

This year's edition of *Scranton After Dark*, presented in conjunction with the Electric City Trolley Museum and the Scranton After Dark Paranormal Team, includes a candlelight walking tour through downtown Scranton's tragic and macabre past as well as the *Trolley of Terror*. Tours are scheduled for Friday, September 21 at 4:45 pm or 5:30 pm. Cost is \$22 for members and \$25 for non-members. Visit our website www.lackawannahistory.org or call 570-344-3841 for details and to reserve your place.

Scranton will be invaded by a zombie horde the same weekend, and some may find their way into the walk and trolley tours. Get more information about the zombie infestation and how to protect yourself at www.infectscranton.com.



About Your Town - Dickson City

Society member Daniel J. Glodek profiled two Lackawanna County natives who answered the call of the armed forces in "Stars Fell on Dickson City." We're proud to publish an excerpt of his article here. Visit the Society library to read the full article.

From big cities to small towns, hamlets and farms, men and women were motivated and inspired to join the armed forces where many of them had a meteoric rise to higher positions. Dickson City, Pennsylvania, like scores of other communities, has answered the call for its men and women to bear arms in defense of their country.

Like many before them, two neighborhood boys were priming themselves for their future professions. Michael Terry and Frank Wiercinski shared many things in common. They played and attended the same parochial school together, shared high family values, a strong religious faith, and proud ethnic principles.

The two youngsters played war games in their back yards, in their neighborhoods, or on any available space they could find. Whether they were influenced by G.I. Joe, Combat, John Wayne, or some other compelling factor, their deeply rooted and persistent drum beat and appeal of the military was deeply ingrained in their hearts and souls.

Send the Society a piece about your town or neighborhood, and we'll be happy to include it in a future issue as we relate and preserve the vital history of Lackawanna County. Our next issue features the history of East Mountain by Donna Adler.



Members of the Capital Campaign Committee met at the Tripp House to begin raising funds for a much needed electrical upgrade at the Catlin House. Committee members included (seated l to r) Larry Hickernell, Richard Leonori, Joseph Pascoe and Micheal Gilmartin. (standing l to r) Ray Pich, Dalida O'Malley, Mary Ann Savakinus, Laurie Cadden, and Jim Rodway.

A Catlin Centennial



On October 12, the Lackawanna Historical Society will kick off its 2012 Capital Campaign to raise funds for much needed electrical upgrades and a new HVAC system at the Catlin House. This year marks the 100th anniversary of the Catlin House and is the perfect time to begin looking at its preservation for another 100 years. To ensure a successful campaign, co-chairs Ray Pilch and Laurie Cadden are completing the final details, and

we hope that our members will respond positively. We also encourage all members to help us spread the word by encouraging neighbors and friends to support this important endeavor. Let everyone know how valuable the Society is to preserving our rich heritage and how important the Catlin House is as our official headquarters. In addition to the co-chairs we are grateful to the following individuals who have agreed to help with this endeavor:

Steering Committee:

- Tom and Eileen Griffiths
- Mike Washo
- Ann and Malcolm MacGregor
- Jim Rodway
- Joseph Pascoe

Division Chairs

- Tom Horlacher
- Richard Leonori
- Catherine Cullen, PhD.
- Larry Hickernell
- Vincent O'Bell
- Arlene Devereaux O'Hara
- Dalida O'Malley

We appreciate your support and hope to see everyone on October 12th!

Save the Date

The Lackawanna Historical Society
presents

**A Garden Party
at the Catlin House**

with Champagne and Dessert

October 12, 2012

6 pm to 8 pm

\$25

Join us as we mark the
100th anniversary of the Catlin House!

In Appreciation

Downtown Walking Tours were conducted this summer by LHS volunteers Guy McGinnis, Leni Piasky, Joann Kavulich and Juliana Piccini. Tours were offered three Saturdays each month and on First Fridays. We were very grateful to these individuals and all of the LHS Volunteers who do so much to help the Society present interesting programs and events that promote local history.

From the Files:

LHS Volunteer Researcher Lois Kretch recently discovered this clipping in one of our vertical files while going through some items about Hyde Park. She thought it would be an interesting piece to share with our members and suggested we include it in our newsletter.

SCRANTON'S STREETS - A LOOK AT THEIR NAMES

Did you ever wonder how some of Scranton's streets got their names? Do you realize that some of the street names we are familiar with today were once known by another name? Did you ever hear of Sassafra Street? Why is there a South Webster and a South Irving but no South Harrison even though Harrison Avenue directly meets its South Scranton counterpart, Crown Avenue?

Becoming curious over such matters and hoping to find answers I did a little research at the Scranton Public Library and the Lackawanna Historical Society to seek out old maps and any related material. I found a few answers to my questions, learned some curious facts previously unknown to me and developed some new questions. Many of the questions remain unanswered and if any reader has any information or comments on this matter we would appreciate hearing from you.

One of the main reasons for re-naming streets is obvious enough. When the Borough of Scranton (originally named Harrison) joined Providence and Hyde Park to form the City of Scranton in 1866 it became necessary to rename several streets because of duplication. Hill Section avenues that were named after United States Presidents became confused with similarly named streets and avenues in Hyde Park. Apparently a "give and take" compromise was worked out with the Hill Section retaining the early Presidents - Washington through Quincy (for John Quincy Adams) and Hyde Park keeping many of the later Presidents beginning with Jackson. The Hill lost Lincoln, Grant and Jackson while Hyde Park gave up Washington, Adams, Jefferson, Madison and Monroe. Here is a list of the old names and the new (present) names of these streets:

OLD	NEW	SECTION	OLD	NEW	SECTION
Washington St.	Lafayette St.	Hyde Park	Jackson Ave.	Taylor Ave.	Hill Section
Adams St.	Price St.	" "	Harrison Ave.	Lincoln Ave.	Hyde Park
Jefferson Ave.	Garfield Ave.	" "	Lincoln Ave.	Harrison Ave.	Hill Section
Madison Ave.	Sumner Ave.	" "	Grant Ave.	Wheeler Ave.	Hill Section
Monroe Ave.	Everett Ave.	" "			

Wheeler and Colfax Avenues were named after Vice Presidents. Arthur Avenue was named after President Arthur who started out as a Vice President. The next avenue above Arthur - laid out but never developed because Nay Aug Park came into existence - would have been Cleveland Avenue followed by Hendricks Avenue. An old map shows these streets as running parallel to Arthur Avenue from Linden Street north, but of course they never actually existed. Later Cleveland Street came into being in what was known as Snook's Addition to Scranton and it now runs off Route 307 towards Lake Scranton. Cleveland was honored by a street but Vice President Hendricks never had a Scranton street named for him.

Gordon Reeser (To be Continued)

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