



The Governor's Gossip

January – March 2008

Note from the New President

In 1957 Elias Spengler and a small group of determined individuals made a big commitment to our community and to the state of PA to save and restore the Wolf Academy. In the ensuing years, not only have we maintained their original vision of restoring the academy, but we have acquired three additional historic buildings and enlarged the size of our historic setting.

At times this has seemed like a monumental task. We have replaced roofs, stripped paint, patched walls, preserved original woodwork, repaired windows, removed debris, put in heating systems, and repointed stone, just to name a few projects. It's a testament to the quality of our volunteers, to all of you who have been here, to do whatever was needed, no matter how important or how trivial, that we have been able to do so much with so few people. I am grateful to all of you for your continued support of this fine organization.

Thanks must also go to the Ridge & Valley Unit, Herb Society of America for our beautiful garden and to the Nazareth Area Garden Club for the wonderful work that they do in planting and maintaining the perennial border along School Road.

As our farms and our neighborhoods are forever being changed, it is more important than ever to maintain our connection to the past. Our stewardship has helped to preserve the history and the culture of this rural area for all of our community.

We welcome all of our neighbors to join us in our efforts by attending our events or by volunteering your time.

Kathy Wilhelm



100 YEARS OF SCOUTING
Celebrating the Adventure ★ Continuing the Journey

Joseph Light of Scout Troop 43, Bath along with his father, Mike, explained a proposal to expand the academy patio to 11 and ½ feet both sides with a hedge border of English boxwood. This would include expand the existing patio the total width of the Academy. 25 troop members would be working on the project. Equipment would be rented. Exact costs are not known. Total funding will be by the scout. Bricks will be matched with 4 ½ bricks per square foot. The project is slated for April.

Board meeting Highlights

- ◆ An "Events Committee" has been formed to investigate new events at the site. The committee consists of Dave, Joann, Karen Hahn, and Barbara Haydt.
- ◆ A formal rental agreement for the Society's three buildings has been drafted and will be voted on soon.
- ◆ Comments made about the deterioration of the cedar shake roof of the Ralston McKeen House. Suggestions made to add metal under the deteriorated cedar shake to prevent water damage. Estimates are being sought.
- ◆ Three signs are necessary since each building has a postal address, they will be posted in the near future.



Ralston-McKeen House

RESTORATION PRESERVATION

The 2008 Restoration & Preservation Committee consists of Co-chair Dave Mowen & Dalton Semmel, Trish Mowen, Kathy Wilhelm, Carol Bear-Heckman, Eric Quimby, Bob Swan. The Committee has accomplished the following over the last months:

*SLATE ROOF ON THE ACADEMY
SHELVING INSTALLED IN CLOSET-MONOCACY BUILDING*

ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR UP-COMING

WORKDAYS

Ralston McKeen: front steps, window frames & sills,
interior door repair (Shela Fisher), lock on front doors

Academy: shutters, window and wood trim repair

Meetings for the committee will be held the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. Work days are scheduled at 9:00 am each Saturday following the monthly meeting, all are welcome.

THANK YOU – THANK YOU – THANK YOU

Lehigh Engineering – for printing the newsletter.

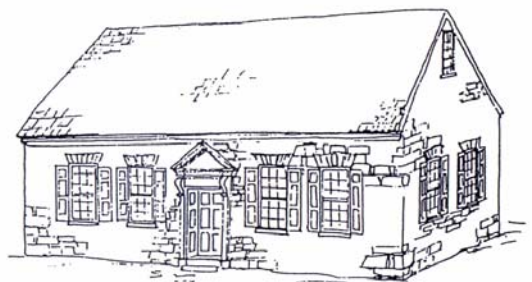
Christmas House Tour Volunteers, florist and home owners

The Governor's Gossip is a quarterly publication.

Darrin Heckman, Editor

Carol Bear-Heckman, Assistant Editor

Any member wishing to submit an article for the April – June newsletter must submit the information by the March 25th deadline. An e-mail submission is preferred. ddh1@ptd.net 610-760-0640



Wolf Academy

WISH LIST

The Society is in need of the following items to help our events function more efficiently.

*Old small wooden tables
Small 3 or 4 step ladder
Old wooden chairs . Plastic buckets
Brooms . sponge mops
elec. can opener . 40gl trash bags
50 cup or larger coffee maker . ice bucket
Christmas Ribbon*

If you are willing to donate any of the above items please contact the us at 610-837-9015.

Recipe Corner

CHEESE PIE

8 oz cream cheese
2 eggs creamed together
1 pt sour cream
1/2 c sugar
1/2 cup evaporated milk
1 heaping tsp. flour
Salt + nutmeg

Mix and pour in pie shell. Bake at 400 for 15 min.

Reduce to 350 and bake until firm (top browns and cracks).

(from Alma Webb's Recipe Box)

Antique and Garden Show Moved to 2009

We regret to inform you there will not be an Antique and Garden Show this spring at the Governor Wolf Park. We now realize that 4 ½ months was not sufficient time to organize a 2-day show of this magnitude. The volunteer staff of the Governor Wolf Historical Society prides themselves in quality – a job well done, lasting relationships with people, and events that are meaningful and memorable.

So with those standards in mind we are starting NOW to plan our Antique and Garden Show for spring 2009. We hope to incorporate:

- 25 antique dealers in our historic buildings*
- 10-20 garden vendors outside on the grounds and under tent*
- old schoolhouse café featuring a local caterer*
- a 2-day show (Sat, Sun) with reasonable rents and admission fees*
- coordinating our show with the Ice House Show in Bethlehem*
- vintage fashion show on Sat afternoon*
- speakers and demonstrations on Sun afternoon*
- free porter service for setup and breakdown*
- Friday or Saturday setup with complementary coffee and baked goods*
- show card with original artwork*
- program booklet listing all vendors*

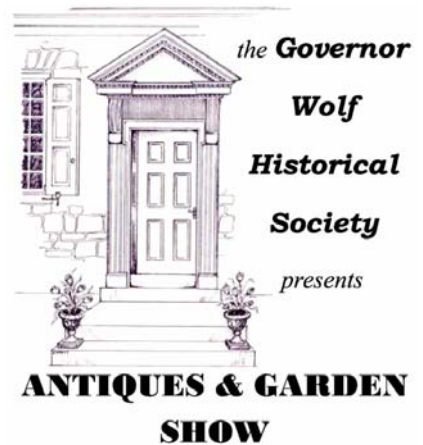
Additional ideas:

- Period room settings in the finished rooms of the Ralston McKeen House*
- Rebate/reward for the vendor with the most show cards turned in at the gate*

The quality and number of responses that we received from potential antique dealers for 2008 has convinced us more than ever that we are on the right track. We hope this show will become a tradition for many years.

Antique Show Committee:

Carol Bear-Heckman	Darrin Heckman	Jo Evans	Jan Semmel	Dalton Semmel
Marie Dorney	Barbara Schwarz	Elaine King	Kathy Wilhelm (Pres. GWHS)	



GOVERNOR WOLF HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

You can help preserve our community's rich cultural heritage by becoming a member of the Governor Wolf Historical Society! Please return the following application below with a check payable to: Governor Wolf Historical Society. If family, please include all names. Mail to: Governor Wolf Historical Society, P.O. Box 134, Bath PA 18014.

NAME _____

 ADDRESS _____

 CITY _____
 STATE _____ ZIP _____
 PHONE _____
 E-MAIL _____

INDIVIDUAL \$10.00 FAMILY \$20.00 BUSINESS \$30.00
 STUDENT \$5.00 RESTORATION \$50.00

LANDSCAPE FUND – LAND ACQUISITION

The Society needs your help to implement the major improvements planned for the GWHS Park.

Please make your tax deductible check payable to: Governor Wolf Historical Society. Mail to: Governor Wolf Historical Society, P.O. Box 134, Bath PA 18014.

NAME _____

 ADDRESS _____

 CITY _____
 STATE _____ ZIP _____
 PHONE _____
 E-MAIL _____
 AMOUNT \$ _____

GWHS Annual Bus Trip

Saturday, May 17, 2008

Pennsbury Manor, Morrisville, PA
Hortulus Farm Nursery & Gardens, Wrightstown, PA
Dinner at The Springtown Inn, Springtown, PA



Another fun bus trip is planned and hopefully you have a ticket! We will be traveling on an Elite mini bus (a restroom is on board).

We will depart the GW campus promptly at 8 a.m.
(the bus will arrive at 7:45 a.m.)

10:00 a.m. - We will arrive at *Pennsbury Manor*, country estate of

William Penn - America's foremost Quaker, founder of Pennsylvania, statesman and diplomat. We will receive a guided walking tour (1 1/2 hours) of buildings and garden. Most areas are handicapped accessible. A new Visitor's Center is open and Gift Shop.

11:30 a.m. - Bring your lunch for the picnic area at *Pennsbury Manor*, relax or shop in the Gift Shop,

12:30 p.m. **Depart for Hortulus Farm Nursery & Gardens.**

1:00 p.m. - **Arrive at Hortulus.** Again, we will have a guided walking tour (2 hours) of this beautiful, privately-owned nursery, pond and gardens. Hortulus is not handicapped-friendly, however, benches are convenient along the tour route. **3:30 p.m.** - **Depart Hortulus Farm Nursery & Gardens.**

4:30 p.m. - **Arrive at Springtown Inn for dinner.** You may select from meat, fish or chicken selections and will include rolls, salad, entree, vegetable, starch and a non-alcoholic beverage. Springtown Inn is a wonderful, restored Bucks County stagecoach stop.

6:30 p.m. - **Depart for GWHS campus.** **7:00 p.m.** - **Approximate time of return.**

The cost will be \$80.00 per person for current GWHS members; \$90.00 for non-members. The price includes your bus ticket, fee for museum and gardens, dinner and all tax and gratuities for the day.

Reservation deadline is Saturday,

May 3, 2008, 9:00 p.m. If you are mailing a reservation, please mail at least 3 days prior to Saturday, May 3.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Number of reservations, \$80 for current members: _____

\$90 per guests and non-members _____

You may call Jan P. Semmel to reserve, 610-262-1103, or send your reservation:

Check (only) payable to Governor Wolf Historical Society; amount of check \$ _____

Mail to : Mrs. Jan P. Semmel, 5567 Roosevelt St., Whitehall, PA 18052

Note: please check the status of your membership on your mailing label of this newsletter.

Current membership is noted by the year 2008. Thank you

Governor Wolf Historical Society
Christmas House Tour 2007
Judging Results of Floral Designs

The Ridge & Valley Unit of the Herb Society of America decorated the Ralston-McKeen House at the Historical Society Park. The designers garnered second place for the Most Appropriate to Period of House Exterior and the same for the interior of the house. They also won second place for the Best Use of Fresh Plant Material Exterior and third place for the Best Use of Fresh Plant Material Interior.

The FFA Chapter of the Bethlehem Vo-Tech School won third place for the Most Appropriate Exterior at the Siegfried Log Cabin and a third for the Best Use of Fresh Plant Material Exterior. The cabin is owned by the Borough of Bath.

The home of Tom & Sandy Fetco on Monocacy Drive in Bath was decorated by Nazareth Floral Designs in Nazareth. The designer won the award for the Best Use of Fresh Plant Material on the exterior of the dwelling.

Village Flowers in Palmerton provided the decorations for the home of Jim & Laura Harvey in Howersville. Best Use of Fresh Plant Material Interior was awarded for the Victorian style designs in the living room.

Lynn's Florist & Gift Shop in Nazareth won a first for the Best Use of Artificial Plant Material Interior at the home of David & Nancy George in Walnutport.

Precious Petals Florist in Whitehall won a second place for Best Use of Artificial Plant Material Interior at the home of Derek & Toni Korpics in Walnutport. The designer also received a third for the Best Use of Artificial Plant Material Exterior.

The Nazareth Area Garden Club decorated the Victorian home of Scott & Danielle Young-Rutzmoser in Kreidersville. The club won a first for the Most Appropriate to the Period of the House Exterior, another first for the Most Appropriate to the Period of the House Interior, a second for the Best Use of Artificial Material Exterior, and The Judges' Choice Award for the lavish decorations at the entrance of the home.

Moose & Bug Florist of Bethlehem won The Best Use of Artificial Plant Material Exterior for the outdoor decorations at the home of Rich & Rosalee Webster in Northampton. A second place for The Best Use of Fresh Plant Material Interior and a third place for the Most Appropriate to the House Interior were also awarded to this designer. The designers also won the Judge's Choice Award for the dining room decorations.



THE FOLLOWING ARE RESULTS FROM THE
2007 CHRISTMAS HOUSE TOUR SURVEY

SURVEY SAYS...

Always enjoy *Highlight of my year*
Just beautiful *Good map to follow*
Wonderful decorations *A tradition with the family*
Love seeing old houses
I didn't know what I was missing
Appreciate the SLOW signs

IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2008!!



Siegfried Log Cabin

The Governor Wolf Historical Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of local history through education as well as the preservation and restoration of historically significant structures.

Society meetings are held every Second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM on the campus, and are open for all to attend.



Governor Wolf Historical Society
P.O. Box 134
Bath, PA 18014
www.governorwolfhistoricalsociety.org
610-837-9015

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- February 12 Monthly Society meeting 7:00 PM
Ken Vliet speaks on - *'Antique Tools'*
- February 16 Work Day @ Society 9:00 PM
- March 11 Monthly Society meeting 7:00 PM
- March 15 Work Day @ Society 9:00 PM
- April 8 Monthly Society meeting 7:00 PM
- April 12 Work Day @ Society 9:00 PM
- May 2 Annual Dinner Society meeting 6:30 PM
Musical entertainment by *"Straw Hats"*

The 2008 Governor Wolf Historical Society Officers

President	Kathy Wilhelm	610-837-9049
Vice President	Jan Semmel	610-262-1103
Treasurer	Bruce Swan	610-838-8923
Recording Secretary	Julie Swan	610-838-8923
Corresponding Secretary	Jo Evans	610-266-0510

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RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW

If the upper right hand corner of your mailing label is not 2008, please renew your membership.