



# The Governor's Gossip

Summer 2011

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## **2011 Christmas House Tour**

The Gov. Wolf Historical Society will be celebrating the **31st Anniversary** of their annual house tour of historic homes, sites and landmarks on December 2 and 3. The GWHS campus will again offer crafters in all three buildings, a fresh wreath and swag sale, hearth cooking demonstrations and tastings, complimentary refreshments and more. The newly-created redware tile made by Mark Amey Pottery will again be available for purchase. All proceeds benefit the Society's restoration of its buildings. Private homes will be open to view for your enjoyment, some having their outbuildings open such as a barn, summer kitchen, etc. Area florists and designers will again delight you with their floral designs. All three GWHS buildings will be open along with the Siegfried Log Cabin in Bath and St. Peter's UCC in East Allen Township.



***A brief sampling of homes for this year's tour is listed below and are located within the charming village of Weaversville northwest into Moore Township.***

- ~ *This stone-front home hides its early past with logs underneath set on a lovely country property.*
- ~ *Caladaqua Farm is an Indian name for "the creek that runs behind". This is a 1750 gem with an 1860 brick addition. You'll want to move when you view this completely restored home with fabulous wine cellar and one of Hess's grand chandeliers!*
- ~ *An 1823 stone home built by Daniel Kleckner awaits your "ooohs and aaahs" after you examine all its rooms and antiques and located in a bucolic setting in the countryside of Moore Township.*
- ~ *Another stone home, 1790, is a part of a working farm set back on a long driveway with large trees. These proud homeowners know much of the history of their home to share with you.*
- ~ *Yet another stone and log home, the earliest section dating to 1760, will be featured. Original deeds will be on display.*

Watch for more information in the next 'Governor's Gossip' of additional homes and sites, ticket locations and date for ticket sales. You may also keep up to date on the GWHS web site, [govwolf.org](http://govwolf.org).

*We hope you will join us for another fun day!*

## **GWHS 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Antiques Show March 3 & 4**

The GWHS Park will be the setting for 30 quality antiques dealers coming from as far away as Vermont. Stands will be in all three of the historic buildings featuring historic room settings, hearth cooking & sampling, and informative speakers. New this year we will have several dealers in Col. Ralston's Store located in the rustic lower level of the Ralston-McKeen House. Also added to the show this year will be several outdoor vendors displaying antiques on Sunday only. The dates align again with the "Heart of the Valley" antique show at the Ice House in Bethlehem. Many attendees last year enjoyed an exciting day of antiques by visiting both shows, only 8 miles apart.



Jen & Allen George "The Daily Grind" in Bath will be back serving up delicious coffee, sandwiches & more in the Schoolhouse Café. Parking is free, admission is \$6.00 (or \$5.00 with this article). For additional information call antiques show co-chairs

Carol 610-390-0555 or Darrin 610-390-0720

If you have antiques you would like to sell, consider our members table at the antique show. If we accept your item to sell, you get 75% of the sales price and the GWHS gets 25%. Bring your items to the society Sat, Feb 27 at 9AM or call for an appointment. NO items will be accepted after that date.

## THANK YOU – THANK YOU – THANK YOU

*Jo Evans – for arranging and scheduling speakers and field trips.*

*Dave Mowen and the Capital Campaign Committee –*

*We appreciate your planning and time for  
the recent **Walking Purchase**.*

*Gene Allen and Mark Amey – Congratulations and  
thank you for your successful Art & Pottery Show.*

*Karen Hahn – for all her time and effort in bringing  
the PA Heartland Herb Society group to GWHS.*

*Daily Grind of Bath, Jennifer & Allen George – we  
always appreciate and enjoy your catering!*

*Lehigh Engineering – thank you to LE for printing the  
newsletter on a quarterly basis.*

### WISH LIST

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

*Drip less ivory or white, 8" or 10" taper candles*

*6' or 8' plastic banquet tables with folding legs*

*florist wire night light bulbs*

*kitchen exhaust fan, bisque color*

*Keep these items in mind for the Historical Society if you are  
willing to donate any of these items.*

**Thank you!**

### Museum Opening

*following is the current schedule for the Museum:*

The Museum will be Sept, Oct, and Nov on the 3rd  
Saturday from 1:00-3:00 P.M. in conjunction with the  
Bath Museum. **Submitted by Jackie Ellenberger**

### STUDENT BOARD MEMBER WANTED!

The Governor Wolf Historical Society is looking for an  
enthusiastic high school student to serve a one year term  
on the Board of Directors. If interested, please send a  
letter with your information and a 50 word or less state-  
ment of why you would like to serve to GWHS PO Box  
134 Bath PA 18014

*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 Winter newsletter  
must submit the information by the September 25, 2011 deadline.

An e-mail submission is preferred.

dheckman@lehighengineering.com

610-390-0720

## Garden Tour 2011

As you know our Annual Garden Tour took place on June 11, 2011. The  
gardens on display were unique; each having a special character of its  
own. The Governor Wolf Historical Society owes a special thank you  
to the garden owners who so graciously opened their gardens for our  
enjoyment. We also thank all the volunteers who helped to make this  
event possible.

*Karen Hahn, GT chair person*

## **Recipe Corner**

### **Raisin and Nut Cookies**

(from Jo Evans)

1 1/2 cup brown sugar

2 eggs

1 cup shortening

5 tablespoons hot water

1 teaspoon baking soda

1 teaspoon baking powder

3 cups flour

1 teaspoon vanilla

1 cup raisins

1 cup nuts

Mix ingredients. Drop by tea-  
spoons on greased cookie sheet. Bake at  
375 degrees for 10 to 12 minutes.



### **Wreath and Swag making Sessions**

Wreath making will take place this  
year on Monday, Tuesday and  
Wednesday (Wed., if needed),  
November 28, 29 and 30. The time is  
9 a.m. to 9 p.m. with a break for lunch and dinner. Please  
bring along a pair of gloves and clippers if you have them.  
Last year, our source of Douglas fir trees was exhausted and  
we are vigorously seeking donations of Douglas fir trees  
**and** branches. Also, we appreciate any unusual greens if  
you have any available.

Please call Karen Hahn, 610-262-2346 with donations or  
questions.

*Join in the fun and help us with this important fund-raiser.  
Thank you.*



# The 'Walking Purchase' Open-House Event

by David Mowen

On July 31<sup>st</sup>, Society Members welcomed both New and Familiar Friends to the enlarged 'Historical Park' setting, on Jacksonville and School Roads, in East Allen Township.

This event was to celebrate the purchase of the enlarged 'green-space vista to the South of the Parks' original boundaries. This land (otherwise subject to development) is now preserved by the society's decision to insure that it remain as it always was - - - to better present this Historical site and its heritage in a more original setting.

Society Members led tours, in small groups, of the grounds and the various Restoration Projects. The casual nature of the tours promoted many interesting and informative discussions. There were those visitors who were part of the history, here, and had attended the Monocacy School (to see it again for the first time). There were recollections of earlier uses of the Ralston McKeen House as housing Sunday school classes. The tour first took in the vista of the newly purchased field to the South, and then entered the Gov. Wolf Academy Building (the first purchase of the society). Ken Vliet was on hand to discuss the Academy history and restoration details. From there, our tour moved on to the formal 'Herb & Pleasure Garden', where Trish explained its design, gift, and maintenance, by and from, the Ridge-and-Valley Herb Guild. From the garden, we were welcomed into the Ralston McKeen House by Ann Power, who has the Ralston / McKeen family histories, well researched. From the 'main' section of the house, we moved to what is now called, "The Kitchen wing". Here Kathy explained the architectural processes of research and documentation necessary, by Ben Walbert, Restoration Architect, to authentically manage the restoration of that portion of the house to its original, single-story state. This major project will result in an example of colonial life housekeeping, and facility for *hearth cooking* in the *walk-in* fireplace. School children should find this a wonderful reference as to how their GG Grand Parents lived. From the Ralston McKeen, we walked across to one of the two rooms that were added years ago to the original single room Monocacy School. Here, Jackie explained the development and vast improvement in the way our Museum will present Items, Illustrations and documentation. She is designing a venue that will sweep you through time, and make long ago lives seem more connected with our present. From the museum, we entered the Society Meeting room of the old school, where Jo Evans displayed the photo records of past Events, Restorations, and celebrations, such as this. Jo was a wealth of information and made those photos come alive. And the last stage of the tour (my kind of event) was the Hot Dogs and refreshments. Many friendships were created, and old ones rekindled. A good time was had by all!



## 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

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## **CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS**



**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. Office phone 610-837-9015**

'follow us on **Facebook**' and become a fan!



Governor Wolf Historical Society  
6600 Jacksonville Road  
P.O. Box 134  
Bath, PA 18014  
www.govwolf.org  
return service requested

- Sept. 13 Monthly Society meeting, 7 p.m.,  
speaker will be Sheldon Endy, "Circus Trains"  
Sept. 17 Work Day 9 a.m.—Monocacy Museum open, 1-3 p.m.  
Sept. 28 Gene Allen Painting Classes, 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26 Gene Allen Painting Classes, 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Oct. 8 Trip to Cresco, PA  
Oct. 11 Monthly Society meeting, 7 p.m., Speaker will be  
Jeff Donat, "Local Historical Mills"  
Oct. 15 Work Day 9 a.m.—Monocacy Museum open, 1-3 p.m.  
Nov. 2 Gene Allen Painting Classes, 6:30-8:30 p.m. (this is the  
last class with a make-up class for Nov. 9)  
Nov. 8 Monthly Society meeting, 7:00 p.m.  
Nov. 12 Work Day 9 a.m.  
Nov. 19 Monocacy Museum open, 1-3 p.m.  
Nov. 28, 29, 30 Fresh wreath / swag making, Monocacy School, 9 a.m.—9 p.m.  
Dec. 2 31<sup>st</sup> Christmas House Tour & Reception, 6-10 p.m.  
Dec. 3 31<sup>st</sup> Christmas House Tour, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Dec. 13 Monthly Society meeting, 7:00 p.m.  
Jan. 10 Monthly Society meeting, 7:00 p.m.  
Feb. 14 Monthly Society meeting, 7:00 p.m.  
Mar. 3 & 4 **Annual Antiques Show**

### **The 2011 Governor Wolf Historical Society Officers**

President	Jan Semmel	610-262-1103
Vice President	Robert Swan	610-837-6544
Treasurer	Dalton Semmel	610-262-1103
Recording Secretary	Julie Swan	610-838-8923
Corresponding Secretary	Jackie Ellenberger	610-764-1083

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### **RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW**

If the upper right hand corner of your mailing label is not 2011, please renew your membership.