



Pennsylvania Questers

*Birthplace of Questers
and a Nation*

Ps & Qs—The Pennsylvania Questers Newsletter

Fall Council Meeting and Luncheon

Submitted by Lois Bell

One hundred and twenty four PA Questers attended the Fall Council Meeting and Luncheon on September 25, 2018, at the William Penn Inn. There was a brief business meeting followed by the program "John Adams" as interpreted by Joe Doyle.

Since 2000, Joe Doyle has starred as John Adams in seven runs of the musical "1776." Doyle participates in July 4 celebrations in Washington, D.C. by reading grievances from The Declaration of Independence alongside other Founding Fathers.

John Adams was a principal proponent for American independence, an ambassador abroad during the American Revolution, our nation's first Vice President, and the second President of the United States and a Founding Father of our country.

Joe Doyle brings Adams' spirit to life discussing his defense of British troops who were tried for their role in the Boston Massacre, the reason behind the American Revolution, and his friendships and clashes with Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson. Doyle gave a mesmerizing performance and brought life to this fiercely independent and always honest Yankee patriot who spared nothing in his zeal for the American Revolution. He discussed his love for and reliance upon his wife, Abigail Adams. She was a forceful influence and, perhaps, our first feminist.



Past PA Quester Presidents



L. to r.: Lois Bell 2nd VP, John Adams (aka Joe Doyle), Ken Keiser President

Lois Bell, Second Vice President, arranged for this program.



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Dates to Remember: 2019–2020

**Monday, April 29, 2019
to Thursday, May 2, 2019**

Questers International Convention
Caesars, Windsor, Ontario, Canada

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Bess Bardens Society Luncheon
William Penn Inn

Wednesday, June 5, 2019

State Board Meeting and Luncheon
Doylestown Country Club

Monday, July 1, 2019

Deadline for *Fall P's & Q's* articles
Send articles and photos to
Kathleen Gable

Wednesday, September 4, 2019

State Board Meeting
Giant Food Store, Willow Grove, PA

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

Fall Council Meeting
William Penn Inn

Tuesday, October 8, 2019

Northeast Area Meeting
Pocono Mountains

Saturday, October 12, 2019

Western Area Meeting
Location TBD

Wednesday April 1, 2020

Questers Spring Conference
Presidential Caterers

Friday, May 1, 2020 to

Sunday May 3, 2020

Questers International Convention
Broomfield, Colorado

Submitting to the PA Questers Website— Christy Roach

When requesting an addition, correction, etc. on the website, please email me at Christy045@aol.com. and include "Quester Website" in the subject line.

Send an email attachment with JPEG formatted pictures, word processing document or PDF file.

If possible, be specific as to the page (CALENDAR, NEWS, MEMBER INFO, LINKS, etc.) for placement and/or the subpage.

President's Message



Ken Keiser

In 1944, Bess Bardens created what would become a strong International Organization. This year, 2019, we celebrate the 75th Anniversary of Questers. Over the years, Questers have donated millions of dollars to education, Historical Preservation and Restoration and to places, and objects of historical significance. To strengthen the wonderful achievements of the Questers organization, we must find creative ways to gain new members. We need to intensify our efforts in making the organization stronger for the future.

Now is the time for your chapter to select a Preservation and Restoration (P&R) project for 2020. The Guidelines and P&R Grant forms are located on the PA website. Any questions pertaining to your project can be directed to **Mary Jane Woll**, Grants Chair. Her name and phone number are listed in the *P's & Q's* under Officers and Chairs.

Our Website Editor continues to add new information along with upgrades to the PA website. **Christy Roach** is working on several sections, such as updating the Tribute Envelopes section, keeping the calendar current, posting Fall Council Registration and Spring Conference forms, along with putting the *P's and Q's* online. In addition, work is being done to improving the photo gallery section with current pictures and adding new items to the website. We urge you to visit the paquesters.org website and provide feedback to the website editor.

My gratitude to all the Pennsylvania Questers that I have had the opportunity to meet over the past ten months. It has been my pleasure to meet and spend time with so many dedicated Questers.

Ken Keiser

PA Questers State President

Vice President's Message



Lynn Davis

My responsibilities in helping Questers THRIVE and SURVIVE includes handling inquiries from the International and PA websites about joining, helping disbanding chapters combine with another chapter if desired, finding other chapters for those members, and providing disbanding paperwork, and organizing new Quester chapters. Benjamin Rush #1503 is the newest chapter, chartered five years ago. Aging concerns, keeping chapters' membership up, and finding officers were issues mentioned in the chapter surveys.

One of the solutions I propose is to ASK. ASK yourself how you became a Quester. My sense is that someone from your church, neighborhood, gym, or an organization to which you belonged, asked you. I encourage each of you to ASK someone this year to come to one of your chapter meetings, outings or speaker events. Many of you now live in a community (retirement, 55+, golf, vacation, etc.). There are at least 17 such communities in which Questers live. ASK about putting information about your chapter's meeting or Questers in general on the calendar, an announcement on the in-house TV channel, on a bulletin board, or in the club news bulletin. Present at an Orientation Day for new residents or plan a tea. If your chapter is full, ASK me and I will help you hold an informational meeting for anyone who might want to be a Quester and how to start a new chapter. Heritage Creek, a 55+ Community, had one chapter; now there are three.

Help your chapter SURVIVE by offering to share in leadership roles. www.questers1944.org has the list of officer duties that might be helpful in deciding what is comfortable for you. Simplify so your chapter will THRIVE AND SURVIVE to continue the enjoyment, the learning, and the opportunity to save history for the future.

Lynn Davis

1st Vice President

Bess Bardens Society News

Submitted by **Vickie Sierchio**

The Fall Luncheon of the Bess Bardens Society was held on Wednesday, October 24, 2018, at the William Penn Inn. President **June Medal** welcomed five former PA State Presidents and five new Bess Bardens members, among the 60+ attending. **Lynn Davis**, 1st VP and **Vickie Sierchio**, Chair PA Questers Membership Committee, led a discussion on ways to recruit new members, start chapters, and convince members to take chapter officer positions.

Treasurer, **Pam Lahr**, was pleased to announce that the Bess Bardens Society has given \$100 each to the International Quester Columbia University Scholarship Fund and the International Fellowship Fund at the University of Delaware/Winterthur.

Dr. Thomas J. Wieckowski was introduced as presenter of John Wanamaker—Merchant, Citizen and Politician (1838-1922). Tom is an author/lecturer and Vice President of the Old York Road Historical Society Board of Directors.

John Wanamaker, as a merchant, opened his first store in 1861: Oak Hill. In 1876, he purchased the abandoned railroad depot and converted it into a large store, John Wanamaker & Co., "The Grand Depot." He instituted the fixed price policy, first retail store to have electric lighting, first restaurant and first to implement a return policy. He provided health care, education and recreational facilities to his employees. The Wanamaker organ was purchased by Wanamaker in 1909 from the St. Louis World's Fair and was played for the first time on June 22, 1911. He purchased The Wanamaker Eagle in 1904 from the Louisiana Purchase Exposition.

As a citizen and politician, Wanamaker's great faith influenced his life. He established city missions and set up many churches and Sunday Schools. He invented political donations and supported Benjamin Harrison. He was appointed Postmaster General in 1889. He instituted corner mailboxes, parcel post, and introduced the first commemorative stamp.

The winners of the three William Penn Inn \$50 gift certificates were **Pauline Holt**, **Donna Zebley** and **Sandy Tucker**. The next Bess Bardens meeting is Tuesday, May 21, 2019, at the William Penn Inn.



Speaker Tom Wieckowski

State Grants and Fundraisers

Mary Jane Woll

All grants issued in 2018 should be completed or nearing completion at this time. Please send completed documentation to **BJ Ross**.

Grant applications and guidelines are currently available on the PA Quester Website. All completed applications should be sent to **Mary Jane Woll**, Grant Chair, by January 1, 2020. Applications will be accepted at any time up until that date. No preliminary application is needed. Grants are awarded in April 2020. Please contact **Mary Jane Woll** if you have any questions.

Be sure to check out the Grants Section of the website for suggestions of possible grant recipients. Grants are a great way to fulfill our mission of restoration and preservation.

International Grant applications are due by November 15, 2019. Check the Quester International Website for details and applications.

Also, fundraiser request forms are on the PA Quester Website if you are planning a fundraiser that includes anyone outside your specific chapters. It's fun to search and a joy to find!

Submission to Ps & Qs

1. Please submit your article by the deadline via email, if possible. Please send articles as attachments. If you do not have access to email, please type article. When sending Chapter News via email, include "Ps & Qs" **and your chapter name in the subject line.**
2. Please send articles as Word document attachments. Email pictures as attachments (jpeg format), not in the body of the email. Include captions describing pictures regardless of how they are submitted.
3. Include your phone number in case we have a question.
4. If you have an idea for an article, please feel free to call.
5. We will also be very happy to receive "letters to the editor" with your questions and/or comments.

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The deadline for the Spring Issue is July 1.

Oops!

Steeplechasers #840 State Grant of \$1,000 to the Richard Wall House towards the purchase of reproduction 1760 era kitchen implements was not included in the recent listing of Quester State Grants for 2018.

Moland House #1423 Hosts Joint Program Featuring Clara Barton

Submitted by Elaine Shils, Photo Alan Shils

On Wednesday September 15, Moland House #1423 hosted a joint meeting. Approximately 75 women from Neshamini Creekers #1460, Marquis #1461 and the host chapter gathered in the Heritage Creek Ball-



L. to r.: Rosemarie Arnold, Clara Barton (aka Pat Jordan), Elaine Shils.

room. **Jan DeLuca**, Co-President, welcomed the women and turned the program over to **Rosemarie Arnold**, Co-Program Chair, who introduced the famous Clara Barton as portrayed by Pat Jordan.

Clara was a delightful presence in her Civil War dress. Clara, who was extremely shy, took us through her life as the youngest (and unexpected) of four children. Clara was basically raised by her siblings.

Clara's father instilled in her a sense of responsible citizenship—how can I serve—do what you can do. This shaped her life. She accomplished many significant feats, such as starting a school for the poor in New Jersey, finding a way around the military that did not permit women to be nurses, enabling Barton to bring various needed supplies to the battlefields, getting nurses into hospitals, building more hospitals, introducing cleanliness protocols, becoming involved with the International Red Cross and by establishing the American Red Cross, to name a few.

The women then enjoyed refreshments provided by Moland House #1423 and lingered to chat. A good day in the neighborhood!

Membership Committee

Submitted by Vickie Sierchio

The Membership Committee, representing different areas of Pennsylvania, generated ideas for recruiting new members especially by inviting guests to chapter meetings and tours. We felt that once guests enjoyed the activities of chapters, they would eventually become members, which proved true in several chapters.

The first task was to work with the 1st Vice President, to receive the Chapter President Surveys (a great 95% return!) and enter the data into a program. Now we have a display of chapter profiles on one easily read report for each PA Quester Area. The information was distributed to the Area Representatives and to the Board. This report is being used to understand the status of chapters and where to focus our membership efforts. During the Spring, we will pay special attention to the needs of chapters that are focusing on adding members, that want recruitment and fundraising ideas, and those chapters that have fewer than nine members.

Area Representatives were recruited for two vacant positions: **Linda Hess** of Lamplighter #117 for the Bucks-Mont Area, and **Cheryl Snyder** of Conestoga #63 for the Valley Forge Area. We are actively seeking an Area Representative for the Lancaster Area; contact me if you are interested. Many thanks go out to all the Area Representatives who enthusiastically communicated with chapters and the Membership Chair about their events, concerns and progress of inviting guests and accepting new members. The Area Representatives are important because they are familiar with the chapters and circumstances in their areas. That helps the committee understand how/where to grow Questers. An Area Representative meeting is planned for late February 2019. Everyone is welcome to contact the Membership Committee Chair or any member to share ideas, to request more information, or our assistance.

In Memoriam

Irene Reiter
Ann's Choice #1479

Sue Olson
Damian House #754

Frances Zerbe
Spring House #1399

Diane Byers
Damian House #754

Shirley Preston
Whimsies #476

Bette Anne Alexander
Freedom Valley #395

Marie Edna Boyer
Salt Cellar #329

Lynn McCabe
Spring House #1399

Nancy Penniman
Heritage #1

Miriam Walter
Kit-Han-Ne #408

Northeast Area Conference—Monroe County Underground Railroad Hosted by Sullivan Trail #1138

Submitted by Susan Kratzinger

On October 9, 2018, Sullivan Trail #1138 hosted the Northeast Area Conference at Mountaintop Lodge in Pocono Pines. The Underground Railroad in Monroe County was the topic of a lecture presented by Amy Leiser, Executive Director of the Monroe County Historical Society. The Underground Railroad was a network of secret routes slaves used in the 19th century to escape to Free states. Amy traced the origin of the slaves from Africa to the United States. The first documented slaves were in the settlement of Jamestown, Virginia. A little-known fact was a provision in the Declaration of Independence written by Thomas Jefferson, a slave owner himself. It disparaged the ownership of human beings as slaves. This provision was removed at the request of the representatives from the Southern States.

Amy discussed a prominent resident of Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, Dr. Seyden Walton, who was an abolitionist and a Quaker who helped many slaves escape to freedom. Dr. Walton is buried in a small cemetery near Quaker Alley in Stroudsburg.

Those citizens who helped the Underground Railroad did so in silence. There were no trusting neighbors because of the bounties offered for the return of escaped slaves. Amy also dispelled two myths of the Railroad. First, there were no tracks or train cars. And, second, quilts were not utilized as maps to direct the escaping slaves to safe routes and homes.

Prior to the lecture, twenty members and five guests from the Quester State Board enjoyed brunch at the Mountaintop Lodge in Pocono Pines. A surprise and most welcome guest was a former member and president, **Freddie Kaltenthaler**. At the conclusion of the presentation, Sullivan Trail donated a check for \$1,151.82 to Amy to be used by the Historical Society for archival supplies.



Sullivan Trail Chapter members

Pennypack #1386, Franklin Rockers #1458, Quaker City #1300 with Carl LaVO

Submitted by Marge Eberz

In September, members of Pennypack #1386, Franklin Rockers #1458, and Quaker City #1300 met at the Giant Community Room in Willow Grove for their annual Joint Meeting. The program "Flight of the Yellow Bird" was presented by Carl LaVO, a photojournalist and former editor of *Bucks County Courier Times*.

His informative program gave us a history of aviation in Bucks County, beginning with the Yellow Seabird, which was an amphibious utility aircraft designed by Fleetwing Inc. in Bristol, PA in 1934. John Pitcairn founded the Pitcairn Aircraft Company and bought a field for his airplanes in Horsham PA. This later became the Willow Grove Naval Air Station. In Johnsville from 1943 until 1996, the NADC (Naval Air Development Center) was important in aviation, research and astronaut training. NADC was the home of the world's largest human centrifuge. It was here that monkeys were the first to test the G force of rocket take off. Later Gemini and Apollo astronauts along with X-15 pilots trained here.

This program was an enlightening glimpse into how important Bucks County has been in the development of aviation through the years.



L. to r.: Ken Keiser, President, PA Questers; Carl LaVO, Speaker; Bob Hurford, President, Franklin Rockers #1458; Karen Kearns, President, Pennypack #1386

Steeplechasers #840 Presents Grant to Richard Wall House

Submitted by Mary Ann Bowman

The Historic Richard Wall House in Elkins Park receives a \$2,000 donation that will go toward purchasing reproduction 1760 era kitchen implements. The grant came evenly from the Steeplechasers and PA State Questers. The fireplace hearth equipment will allow the docents to demonstrate colonial cooking to tour groups.



Pictured are, from left: Jack Washington Administrator of the Richard Wall House, Mary Washington Cheltenham Historical Commission member; Brian Hinson Cheltenham Parks and Recreation Director; Meryl Rose Steeplechasers past president; Jill Kyle, Steeplechasers grant committee chairwoman; and Marda Craig, Steeplechasers first vice president.

Pilgrim #237 Visits Mill Grove—Home of John James Audubon

Submitted by Gail Cathey

Pilgrim #237 visited Mill Grove, the first home in the United States of John James (originally Jean Rabin) Audubon, the French painter and naturalist. Mill Grove is located in Lower Providence Township, Montgomery County, PA.

Audubon was born in 1785 in what is now Haiti. He was the illegitimate son of a French merchant sea captain and a servant. At the age of four he was taken to France. In part to avoid conscription in Napoleon's army in 1803, he was sent to America to live at the family-owned estate, Mill Grove. There he hunted, fished, studied and drew birds.

The conservation group, The National Audubon Society, was named in honor of Audubon many years after his death. His paintings and writings have inspired conservationists but the irony many do not realize is that Audubon shot and killed most of the birds and other animals he painted. That is the way he obtained a stationary "model" to paint in the days before photography. The guides at Mill Grove tell you he expressed concern later in life about the diminished numbers of birds he was seeing

Pilgrim #237 members were given an escorted tour of the home and also had the opportunity to walk the grounds. The recreated bedroom of Audubon's is seen with the nature specimens he would have brought inside and surrounded himself with; this is based on descriptions of the room from that time. The rest of the building is given over to exhibits and a small museum store. The house museum was reopened in 2017 after a two year renovation. A brand new visitor's center building is opening sometime in 2019.

Mill Grove was acquired in 1951 by Montgomery County. In February, 2004, the National Audubon Society, through a public-private partnership with Montgomery County, assumed management of the site. It is maintained as a museum and bird sanctuary. It is designated as a historic place on the National Register. While at Mill Grove Pilgrim #237 learned about Audubon's master work "Birds of America." It is felt that no modern bird painter has equaled Audubon's achievements.



Pilgrim outside of Mill Grove

Conestoga #63—First Troop Philadelphia City Cavalry: “For These We Strive”

Submitted by Robin Koslo-Stahl

On November 17, 1774, barely three weeks after it had been the scene of the First Continental Congress of the United Colonies, Carpenter’s Hall was host to a smaller, but equally auspicious gathering; 28 of the city’s leading citizens, sensitive to the cause of the colonists, met to discuss forming a volunteer, ‘light horse’ cavalry to serve the city and Congress should hostilities break out. So opens the story of the First Troop Philadelphia City Cavalry.

The oldest mounted military unit in continuous service in the United States Armed Forces is still active today; the mission is similar to the role it played in Washington’s Continental Army. Conestoga #63, eager to learn the details of this early troop and to see the collections of historical artifacts, had the distinctive opportunity to tour a slice of history, arranged by Conestoga members, **Peggy Rogers** and **Linda Hawley**. In the Troop’s present home at the city’s Armory, Conestoga listened to Keith Rogers, Trooper, present the historical significance of the troop and its impressive collection. Among uniforms, weapons, portraits, china, books, standards and more, the most astonishing item was the original Troop Standard, the Markoe Standard, which is the earliest surviving instance of 13 stripes on an American banner and one of the very few original Revolutionary battle standards to survive until present day.

Following the tour, we had a catered lunch and enjoyed a Question and Answer session with our presenter. For Questers seeking more information, please visit the First Troop website, www.firsttroop.com.

CHAPTER NEWS



Pennypack #1386 Boileau Farmstead Grant

Submitted by Jerry Eberz

Pennypack #1386 received a State Grant to restore a German door at the Boileau Farmstead. The photo opposite indicates the culmination of the project.



Photo at right: L. to r.: Marge Eberz, Mike Kearns, Karen Kearns, Ken Keiser, Ruth Keiser

Round Meadow Run #126 Visits Meadowbrook Farm

Submitted by Kathy Baker

For those of you who love gardening, Meadowbrook Farm most likely has been an attraction you've visited. But even for those without a green thumb, you cannot help but be amazed and impressed walking through the paths of Meadowbrook Farm.

The home and property was a gift from Alice Herkness' parents upon her marriage to J. Liddon Pennock, Jr. Liddon Pennock began creating his gardens in 1936, and they have been enjoyed by visitors to Meadowbrook Farm for more than 80 years. Our group was fortunate to have a tour guide who described the history of the English style home in detail, and a gardener who was expert at describing plants and shrubs, some of which are one-of-a-kind. Liddon's gardens were carefully planned to create garden rooms on the terraces.

Lodwarrick #344 Celebrates 50th Anniversary

Submitted by Pamela Wentling, Historian

Lodwarrick #344 celebrated their 50th Year Anniversary at a luncheon October 27, 2018 at the Palm Lutheran Church in Palmyra, Pennsylvania. For this special anniversary, we were honored to have past presidents and past members as guests at the event. The chapter's commitment to the community emphasizes historical education and preservation and restoration. In 1968, Lordwarrick #344 (Pennsylvania Dutch for apple butter) was formed by twelve members living in Dauphin, Lebanon, and Berks Counties. Over the years, members' historical interests have been explored through field trips, study papers, guest speakers, and personal collections.

The chapter continues to support local libraries and historical organizations with two annual fundraisers – an auction featuring handmade crafts and food items, along with treasured antique pieces and a pecan sale.

Pennsylvania Quester Grants have made possible projects including restoration of the smokehouse door and construction of a Squirrel Tail Oven at the Alexander Schaeffer Farm, restoration of a cellar door at the Gamberling-Rex House, conservation of Capt. William B. Ilba's Civil War uniform, and a 1870 forty one inch bass drum from the Schaefferstown Town Band, both on display at Brendle Museum.

The gardener actually followed our little group, sensing that our Quester gardeners had burning questions about the unusual specimens along our path. Meadowbrook Farm remains a growing center for the Philadelphia Flower Show. Liddon Pennock was a prominent individual in horticultural design in the Delaware Valley. When he retired from his florist business, he devoted his time to creating a retail greenhouse at Meadowbrook Farm.

Upon his death, Liddon bequeathed Meadowbrook Farm to the Philadelphia Horticultural Society. During our tour, we realized that the plants we were admiring would not be found in the businesses many of us frequent. So, the tour ends at the garden shop, where visitors can enjoy an inviting lounge area, can have additional questions answered by knowledgeable friendly staff, and, of course, can purchase one of the garden treasures. Our tour of Meadowbrook Farm was truly an education and a delight.



L. to r.: Sharon Workman-Smith, Joanne Balliet, Sandra Hamilton, Carole Bowman-Katzman, Jane Henning, Jessica Creter, JoAnn Durbin, Ruby Pannoni, Pam Wentling



Garden fountain

Falling Spring #1435 Restores Cross at Emmanuel Chapel

Submitted by Marilyn Ramdat and Nancy Rood

Falling Spring #1435 embarked on their P & R project of restoring a damaged cast-stone cross at the historic Emmanuel Chapel on the grounds of the Penn State Mont Alto campus when unexpected events occurred during the progress of that endeavor.

As the damaged cross was being excavated for restoration, a barely-legible plaque and a rusted-out tin container were found; ashes of human remains spilled out. Through many hours of research that ensued, the identity of the remains were determined to belong to T. Edgar Boy and his mother Eleanor Caine Boy. T. Edgar had been living in the South Mountain Sanatorium, a short distance from the Chapel, for tuberculosis treatment. His cremated remains had been buried under the cross in 1930. Some ten years later, his mother was also interred at the cross, beside her son.

The unexpected discovery of cremated remains became the catalyst for additional research, led by Falling Spring, with help from local historians, historical societies, and the Episcopal Church. The research uncovered important artifacts once housed in Emmanuel Chapel. The researchers were able to retrieve a Holy Bible, dated 1853, which is thought to have been used by Abolitionist John Brown at the Chapel. The culmination of the P & R project was the dedication of the restored cross on May 25, 2018. At the ceremony, research findings were shared including a history of the Chapel, the cross, and a true-life account of T. Edgar Boy.

A ceremony highlight was the return of Chapel artifacts, gifted by the Episcopal Diocese of Central Pennsylvania. A plaque was placed at the cross to memorialize the two souls whose remains continued to be buried there.



Falling Spring at Cross Dedication at Emmanuel Chapel.

**Fonhill #254 and Lingohocken #495
Each Receive Grant for Restoration of Mercer Museum Paintings**

Submitted by Donna Zebley

Fonhill #254 and Lingohocken #495 each applied for and each received separate State Grants for the Mercer Museum to refurbish two paintings by Thomas Otter (1832-1890) portraying the Camp of the 104th Pennsylvania Regiment, encamped on Meridian Hill just outside of Washington, D.C. in the winter of 1862. The 104th formed part of a division of the Union Army, commanded at the time by Brig. Gen. Silas Casey

The conservation of these paintings was in communication with the 150th anniversary of the erection of the monument to the 104th in front of the court house in Doylestown.



L. to r.: Ann Russell, Jean Clark, Vicki Szilagyi, Mary Van Pelt Donna Zebley.

CHAPTER NEWS



Neill Hartley as Sherlock Holmes.

Neshamini Creekers #1460 Host a Joint Program with a Visit from Sherlock Holmes

Submitted by Anne Marie Grim;

Photo by Arlene Tuber

It wasn't a dark and stormy night, but rather a Monday in November when the three Heritage Creek Quester chapters gathered at The Marq for a joint meeting hosted by the Neshamini Creekers. Actor Neill Hartley presented his one-man show, Sherlock Holmes and the Speckled Band.

With minimal props, realistic voices, changes of facial expressions and posture, Hartley moved artfully while assuming the identity and mannerisms of each character who appeared in the Arthur Conan Doyle short story, The Adventures of the Speckled Band

His tweed coat with attached cape, deerstalker hat, and Calabash pipe completed the appearance of a very credible Sherlock Homes. As he dramatically acted the story, he recounted the clues that he, as master detective Holmes, had used to unravel the solution of this puzzling murder mystery.

After the story was over, Neill Hartley shared some interesting biographical information about the very famous author, Arthur Conan Doyle, whose life had many interesting twists and turns. He studied medicine and practiced for a while before committing to his first love, writing. One of his former teachers, Dr. Joseph Bell, who was well known as a master of observation, logic, deduction, and diagnosis became a model for the personal-ity traits that made Sherlock Holmes such a gifted detective.

Militia Hill #5 Visits Three Wonderful Places in Chester County

Submitted by Carol Berardelli

Within the last few months, Militia Hill had the opportunity to visit three sites in Chester County, two in Phoenixville, PA, and one in Malvern, PA.

The Schuylkill River Heritage Center was a fascinating experience showcasing the unusual and beautiful architecture of an iron foundry building, part of the Phoenix Iron and Steel Company from 1882 and also its contributions to a product that made Phoenixville famous, the Phoenix Column. The contributions of the foundry and the history of the Schuylkill and its influence on the industries of Montgomery and Chester Counties are displayed with interactive exhibits. All are very well done in a beautiful setting. We received an excellent lecture from Barbara Cohen, president of the Heritage Center.

Nearby, the Historical Society of Phoenixville has an extensive permanent exhibit of majolica pottery made in the city in the late 1800's. Majolica is an Italian tin glazed pottery dating from the Renaissance period. For the Victorian revival, the Chester County pottery company, begun in 1867 by the owners of the Iron Company, later began making their version of majolica. They used local clay and called it Etruscan after a type of pottery made by the ancient Italian civilization of the same name. The majolica pottery production in Phoenixville flourished from 1882, making many beautiful patterns which are on display at the Society. These two sites

were easily visited together in a morning. There are many great restaurants in this revitalized city for lunch afterwards.

On another outing, in Malvern, we toured Historic Sugartown, a restored village with origins in the early 19th century. We learned about the development of "Shugart's Town" and toured several preserved buildings on the site, including the charming General Store restored to its 1880's appearance. Sugartown became a stopover for freight drivers and eventually a very active community. Also of special interest are the Carriage Museum with sleighs, carriages, a Conestoga wagon and even a hearse, and the Bindery with 2500 bookbinding tools. We had a delicious box lunch in the Carriage Museum to end our visit.



Militia Hill at the Schuylkill River Heritage Center

**Pennsylvania State Organization of The Questers
Pennsylvania State Executive Board and International Officers for 2018-2019**

PRESIDENT

Kenton Keiser
Pennypack #1386
president@paquesters.org

TREASURER

Marie Schneider
Steeplechasers #840
treasurer@paquesters.org

INCOMING

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IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Phyllis Durr
Neshamini Creekers #1460

State Committee Chairs 2018-2019

Bess Bardens Society

June Medal
Featherbed Hill #501

Membership

Vickie Sierchio
Fairwold #1316

P's & Q's Editor

Kathleen Gable
Marquis #1461

Fundraising

Jean Johnson
Pilgrim #237

Nominating Committee

Phyllis Durr—Chair
Neshamini Creekers #1460

Tribute Envelopes

Donna Conville
Country Collectors #1024
(effective June 1, 2019)

Historian

Marge Eberz
Rittenhouse #252

Opportunity

Linda D. Hawley
Conestoga #63

Website Editor

Christy Roach
Glen-Wynne #331

Hospitality

Roseanne Russo
Museum Pieces #1413
And

P & R Grants

Mary Jane Woll
Marquis #1461

Pam Lahr
Fonthill #254

Area Representatives 2018-2019

Abington and Glenside Area

Marie Schneider
Steeplechasers #840

Newtown Area

Margarita Pintimalli
Peaceable Kingdom #1440

Warminster, Warrington, Warwick Area

Roseanne Russo
Museum Pieces #1413

Bucks-Mont Area

Linda Hess
Lampighter #117

Northeast Area

Marianne Hajduk
Sullivan Trail #1138

Western Area

N. Sue Bowser
Kit-Han-Ne #408

Central-Lancaster Area

Bonnie L. Eckhart
Lancaster Red Rose #1460

Springhouse Area

Gail Cathey
Pilgrim #237

Whitemarsh Area

Gertrude Roman
Como #81

Doylestown Area

Karen Goeckler
Glen-Wynne #331

Valley Forge Area

Cheryl Snyder
Conestoga #63

PA Questers Web Site:
www.PAQuesters.org

International Quester Web Site:
<http://www.questers1944.org>

Our Mission

The Quester Mission is to educate by research and study of antiques; to promote education in the fields of historic preservation and restoration of artifacts; to donate funds for the preservation and restoration of artifacts, existing memorials, historic buildings, and landmarks; to support The Quester International.