



# Pennsylvania Questers

*Birthplace of Questers  
and a Nation*

## Ps & Qs—The Pennsylvania Questers Newsletter

### President's Message



Natalie Macy

Welcome Friends! I hope you and your family are well and enjoyed some special summer adventures together! Thankfully, I was able to do some travel, and visit with my family. I also spent time with dear friends, and working in my gardens... As our Summer days are winding down, I hope you're thinking about Questers and have your calendars ready so you can start filling them in with important "Dates to Remember" for the year ahead!

Our Annual Fall Council Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 29, 2022, at the Wm. Penn Inn. Registration begins at 9:30 A.M. We ask that Presidents, or Program Chairs, please bring two copies of your Chapter's Program Book and a copy of your completed Chapter Program Survey. Looking ahead to 2023, our PA Spring Conference is scheduled for Wednesday, April 5, at Presidential Caterers. Registration and coffee will start at 8:30 A.M.

The 2023 Questers International Convention will be hosted by South Dakota, the beautiful, "Mount Rushmore State", on May 11–13 at the Sioux Falls Holiday Inn. Their Founder's Award Topic is: "Proud People of the Prairie." I hope you will consider joining me in learning more about the brave, adventurous pioneers that headed west to South Dakota and helped to build our growing Nation!

In closing, on behalf of your PA State Board, I would like to thank our recently retired Officers for their service to PA Questers: **Gail Cathey**, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, and **Viki Turner**, Corresponding Secretary. They both willingly did so much work, often behind the scenes, in order to help keep our organization running smoothly. A special thank you to Gail and Viki! Please also join us in welcoming **Pat Nickett** as your new 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, and **Phyllis Darrah**, as your new Corresponding Secretary. We are grateful for their willingness to step up and hold office! That said, please consider joining the Board if asked. I can tell you, first hand, that I'm blessed to be working together with amazing people! It's an awesome Team and we would love to have You join us! I look forward to another wonderful year of Questers fellowship with all of you! Let's make it great, together! Take good care, have fun, and be well!

Natalie

### "Remember When"

PA Quester's has started a new project called "Remember When." Several tables were set-up with an assortment of memorabilia from the past at the 2021 Fall Council and the 2022 Spring Conference. We are still looking for items: a Quester Cookbook, P's & Q's especially 2008 Spring, 2018 Fall, plus any issues earlier than 2001, to name a few. If you have any Quester souvenirs or mementos that you are willing to donate to keep the history of Questers alive, please contact **Phyllis Durr** ([pdurr@verizon.net](mailto:pdurr@verizon.net)) or **Pam Lahr** ([pel3290@gmail.com](mailto:pel3290@gmail.com)).

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### Dates to Remember: 2022–2023

**Thursday, November 3, 2022**  
Full Board Meeting—WG Giant\*\*  
2nd Floor: Coffee/Tea: 9:30 A.M.  
Meeting: 10:00 A.M.

**Wednesday, January 4, 2023**  
Executive Board Meeting  
10:00 A.M.—Zoom

**Wednesday, February 1, 2023**  
Deadline for Spring P's and Q's  
Send Articles to June Medal

**Thursday, March 2, 2023**  
\*\*Full Board Meeting  
WG Giant

**Tuesday, April 4, 2023**  
Spring Conference Set-Up 10:00 A.M.

**Wednesday, April 5, 2023**  
Spring Conference:  
8:00 A.M. Board Arrival,  
8:30 A.M. Registration & Coffee  
Presidential Caterers  
Norriton, PA

**May 11–13, 2023**  
Questers International  
Convention  
Holiday Inn, Sioux Falls,  
South Dakota

**Thursday, June 1, 2023**  
EOY Full Board Meeting  
& Luncheon  
9:30 A.M. Sign-in;  
10:00 A.M. Meeting  
Location: TBD

\*\* WG Giant=Willow Grove  
2nd Floor Conference Room  
315 York Rd., Willow Grove, PA  
19090  
215-784-1960

## 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.

June Medal  
856 Geranium Drive  
Warrington, PA 18976  
215 343 7484  
medaljune@gmail.com

**The deadline for the Spring Issue  
is February 1, 2023.**

## In Memoriam

**Margaret Rudolph**  
Brittany Belles #1405

**Jocelyn Lamb**  
Fairwold #1316

**Betsy Miller**  
Pennsbury #550

**Sarah Jane Lobb**  
Rittenhouse #252

**Jean Wilford**  
Springhouse #1399

**Marilyn McCarron**  
Peaceable Kingdom #1440

## Still Looking for Ideas for a Speaker or an Outing?

Here are some suggestions sent in last year from several chapters. Also, the "Blue Book" has been revised and made "user friendly" with trips listed by PA counties. New is a list of historical restaurants in the county. This book is always a work in progress. It is list on the web site for your convenience.

### Tours:

- Bucks County Civil War Museum, 32 N. Broad Street, Doylestown  
civilwarmuseumdoylestown@gmail.com or 215-822-1562, Donations appreciated
- James A. Michener Art Center, 138 So. Pine St, Doylestown, 215-340-9800 ext. 124.

### Changing exhibits

- The National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, 654 Ferry Road, Doylestown, 215-345-0600. Donations appreciated
  - Fonthill Castle, 130 E Swamp Rd, Doylestown, 215-348-6098. At Christmas time many of the rooms are decorated with trees—all different
  - Malmark Bellcraftsmen, 5712 Easton Road, Plumsteadville, 215-766-7200 or info@malmark.com. See how hand bells are made.
  - Moland House, 641 Old York Rd, Warwick, 215-918-1754 or molandhouse77@gmail.com Donations appreciated. One of Washington's Headquarters
  - Continental Tavern, 2 N. Main Street, Yardley, 215-493-919. Slide show & Lunch with talk about the Underground Railroad & ghosts in the attic
  - Rosenbah Museum and Library, 2008-2010 Delancey Place, Philadelphia, 215-732-1600
  - George Spangler Farm & Field Hospital, 488 Blacksmith Shop Rd, Gettysburg, 877-874-2478. Field Hospital stands as the best surviving example of a corps-level field hospital used during the Battle of Gettysburg.
  - Fort Loudoun—1756 British Fort, 1720 North Brooklyn Rd., Fort Loudon, Franklin County. president@fortloudounpa.com or 717-372-5945
  - Stoneleigh Garden and the Haas House Tour, 1829 County Line Rd, Villanova, ekauffman@natlands.org
  - Arch Street Friends Meeting House, 320 Arch St, Philadelphia, 215-413-1804. A meetinghouse of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers).
  - Worcester Historical Museum, 2011 Valley Rd., Lansdale. info@worcesterhistorical.org New exhibits. Fee-\$10
- ### Speakers, Videos and Virtual Tours
- Candace Perry, Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center, 105 Seminary St, Pennsburg, 215-679-3103. Program: "Ladies of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century PA, Dutch Literature & Illustration"
  - Jennifer Green, Chester County History Center, 225 N. High St., West Chester, 610-692-4800, Program: "Breadbasket of the World: Mill at Anselma", Fee-\$100
  - Field Trip—Anselma Mill, 1730 Conestoga Rd, Chester Springs, operations@anselmamill.org or 610-692-4800.
  - Melissa San, Program: "Women Artist of the Delaware Valley 1850-1950", Fee \$150. In home or zoom, mandquest@michener-artmuseum.org
  - Jim Rubillo, 728 Norristown Rd, Lower Gwynedd, jrubillo@verizon.net. Programs: "The Great Fort Washington Train Wreck" and/or "1918 Influenza Pandemic in Philadelphia", Fee-\$50 donated to the Old York Rd Historical Society in his name.
  - Virtual Talk, Museum of American Revolution, 101 S. Third St, Philadelphia, 267-579-3623 or groups@amrevmuseum.org, Program: "Revolution Women", Fee-\$125
  - Barbara Nemerck, banemecek@comcast.net, Program: All kinds of Glass from the 1800's and 1900's plus a slide show and her personal items to show. Bring you own item and she will tell you about it. Fee-\$25

## Fonthill #254

### Our Programs

*Submitted by Joan Frame*

Covid stole our hopes to meet in January and February, but fortunately March has been the charm for the Fonthill ladies. We were off to the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia. Many had been there in the past so nine enjoyed this magnificent edifice. We all agreed that the Egyptian Room was the most impressive. An imposing statue of Ben Franklin graced the room where weddings are held. It truly was time well spent, and we highly recommend this tour. We traveled back to Warrington to meet up with the rest of our chapter to have lunch and our meeting at Select Pizza (which we also recommend—we had a private room and separate checks).

April was the Spring Conference where many of our ladies were busy helping **Karen Zegel** with the Treasure Table, **Jo Page** with the "Remember When" exhibit and **Pam Lahr** with the Registration Table. Our Grant Chair, **Carolyn Miller**, received the \$1000 PA Matching Grant to purchase rugs for Fonthill Castle. A great day was had by all!

**Ginny Riedley** hosted our chapter for lunch and our May meeting. **Karen Young**, Program Chair, presented **Barbara Nemecek** with a most interesting program about all kinds of glass from the 1800's and 1900's plus a slide show. Barbara is available if other chapters are looking for a good in-home program and you can have a "Show & Tell" at the same time. She can be reached at [banemecek@comcast.net](mailto:banemecek@comcast.net).

Our June meeting was held at **Joan Lott's** home where we had lunch and our chapter meeting. We then traveled to The Ben Soloway Studio in Bedminster. David Leopold, the curator and nephew of Ben Soloway gave a wonderful talk about Ben, his wife Rae and their life in Bedminster and previously in New York. We were surrounded by his paintings, his charcoal theater art of the performers and his sculptures all set in his studio which is nicely preserved as it was 50 years ago. All fifteen ladies agreed that this was a very enjoyable tour.



*Fonthill Questers visit Ben Soloway Studio*

## Installation of Officers



*Rosemary McPherson, Questers International President, installing Natalie Macy as Pennsylvania State President and Pat Nickett as 1st Vice President.*

## QUESTER NEWS

## Militia Hill #5

### Sailors' Valentines

*Submitted by Carol Berardelli*

This past winter our Militia Hill Questers chapter was treated to a wonderful presentation on a most beautiful and unusual craft! Jerri Briton who has designed and created many Sailor's Valentines brought several of her pieces for us to admire and examine. She explained the exacting process of making one and gave us many interesting details on how she obtains the materials and how she came to be involved in this fascinating art form.

A Sailor's Valentine is a type of shell craft which most likely originated in the Caribbean from 1830 to 1890. It is believed that the women of Barbados fashioned them, and they were sold to sailors to bring home to their loved ones. Small and tiny shells of many colors and variety were glued to a background and formed exquisite and symmetrical designs, sometimes with a message in the center. The boxes in which the designs were placed were usually octagonal and hinged. Antique valentine boxes, although quite expensive, are available to purchase as well as those crafted by contemporary artisans, also pricey! Many Sailors' Valentines, both old and new can be found in Nantucket, Massachusetts.

**John Craig's Tavern**  
**Pleasantville Church**  
*Submitted by Patricia Vizza*

On May 10, John Craig's Tavern Questers were fortunate to have a tour of the Pleasantville United Church of Christ, located on Limekiln Pike in Chalfont, PA. Our tour guide was Fran Jones, who has been a member of this church for her entire life. Her family has been members for generations. It was originally called Pleasant Valley, then Pleasant Village, finally becoming the Pleasantville Church. It began in the 1840's-50's with a group of several friends who met in a grove to worship together. When the weather was inclement, they met in a nearby barn. They used a traveling pastor for a few years. Then, as their congregation grew, they decided that a full-time pastor was needed. The group decided on their worship to be the German Reform Church.

In January of 1898, the congregation met in a brick church with plaster on the outside walls to keep out the cold. At the March meeting, the congregation agreed to fund the building of a proper church, and many parishioners offered their help to build the new church. This church was used for many years forward. This older sanctuary was built in 1898-99 with German stained-glass windows originally produced by a glassmaker in Philadelphia.

In 1956, an addition was added onto the current building with a new sanctuary, as the two services had become too crowded. After a committee was formed and a number of meetings were held, it was decided to expand. Our guide, Fran, being on the committee, wanted the new sanctuary to resemble the old one. She was made in charge of the stained-glass windows in the new sanctuary and decided to put a stained-glass window in the front of the sanctuary in memory of her parents. Fran and her sister were permitted to help with the insertion of a few panels of glass in the window. A church office was also added with Fran as the secretary. Our group met in the Sunday school Rose room. The beautiful stained glass there was paid for by the children. The round stained-glass window in the attic above the Rose room was hidden until Fran's son-in-law opened up the wall so all could see this beautiful window. Nearby to the Rose room was a lobby. It originally was a small kitchen where the women along with Fran's mother would make the Fastnacht donuts in the early morning hours each week. The men of the congregation would deliver these donuts to the congregation that same day. They always had a choir loft with an organ where families had their own life-time pew. This custom of family pews continues to this day. They still use the original bell, but now it is electrified.

Many windows have the names of the congregation imprinted on them, and their descendants are still current members of the church. One of the members of this congregation was the Hoover family related to President Hoover. He was invited many times to various functions, but he never accepted the invitation. Also, a memorial library with many books was added for their members' use.

Currently, services are held every Sunday. Communion is distributed once a month, along with baptisms and weddings. Smaller weddings are also permitted in the older sanctuary, which is lovely. A cemetery surrounds the church where older and current members are buried.

Our group experienced a very informative presentation of this beautiful and historic church. Also, a few of our Quester members worship here, which made it all the more special. Our monthly meeting and a lovely lunch were held at Pat's Select in Warrington.



*John Craig's Tavern Questers visit Pleasantville Church*



## Round Meadow Run #126

### Revival of Boro and Sashiko

*Submitted by Kathy Baker*

At an early spring meeting of the Round Meadow Run Questers, clearly evident was the toll the pandemic has taken on this retired population. Our members were so eager to meet again that, with 24 hours' notice, an invite went out and more than two-thirds of our membership gathered at the Doylestown Asian restaurant, Omiza. We had a delightful lunch and most interesting program about an ancient Japanese craft that captured the attention of our own resident quilter. **Jean** was so fascinated with Boro and Sashiko that not only did she share the history of these two art forms, she prepared a simple hands-on project for each attendee.

Boro means rags. The poorer people of northern Japan mended clothing by creating colorful patches in carefully planned patterns—an art form that seems to have had a revival among sewers and quilters today. Sashiko means little stabs of stitching, used to create patterns, designs and pictures on cotton fabric; one beautiful popular design is the crane, a symbol throughout Asia of happiness and eternal youth.

Weaving a program around a meal and lively conversations was thoughtfully done by our presenter. All too soon lunch ended, conversations dwindled, and each Quilter reluctantly left, holding a bag of fabric pieces and instructions for creating a block of boro. Jean's enthusiasm for a new craft that has no boundaries and can be done with relative ease and few supplies, was appreciated by everyone, as was her continued effort to keep our group together in the toughest of times.



*Jean shares the history of Boro and Sashiko art.*

## Spoke and Handle #693

### Boone Farm

*Submitted by Mary Jo Poole*

At the Spoke and Handle Meeting on October 18, we had the pleasure of welcoming Linda Salley and her husband, Al Salley, as our speakers. Linda is the Director of the new African American Museum of Bucks County. On September 3, 2020, the members were granted a lease to the Boone Farm in Langhorne, Bucks County, PA. The Boone Farm has been home to some of the oldest free African American families. Of the two buildings on the property, the historic Kirk stone house dates back to circa 1716. The people who lived in this home were instrumental in giving work to African Americans who moved North during the great migration in the 1940's and 1950's. Here, they found a safer community in which to bring up their families.

The board members of the Museum are in the process of renovating the home into a friendly space to teach and show all interested visitors the importance of this farm. The African American Museum of Bucks County has presented pop-up exhibits for corporations, community and faith-based groups as well as to several schools in the county. Certain artifacts and lectures are used in these mobile traveling exhibits to promote appreciation and understanding of the African American experience. We all enjoyed the Salley's visit to our meeting. They were a delightful couple.



*Seated left to right: Al Salley, Rosemary Vickers, Linda Salley; Standing: Karen Steenhoff and Shirley Guzikowski*

## Gaudy Dutch #270

### English Tea

*Submitted by M. Grace Emmell Leister*

In June, we celebrated Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee! Each member signed up to bring tea sandwiches, scones, or desserts, which left no one with burdensome food preparation tasks. The food items were placed on a tiered tea party rack and placed on a linen tablecloth with fine china! The hostess, **Anita Lamond**, made an elegant table for this special occasion. After enjoying the food, a video of the Queen's coronation dress was enjoyed! The day ended with music piped through the house, "God Save the Queen!" This was certainly a celebration of this iconic woman and all women!

#### Comments about this event from Quilter members:

"The table was welcoming and charming. The room just radiated a British ambience. We were all able to sit and enjoy delicious food and good conversation."

Another Quilter wrote, "I think it was really great. It looked like an English Tea. I loved singing "God Save the Queen" and seeing her coronation gown up close. I'm such an Anglophile that it was up my alley."

## CHAPTER NEWS

### **Featherbed Hill #501** **Treasurers in Our Backyard** *Submitted by Barbara Krempa*

What a surprise it would be if you saw a rocking chair almost the same as the one in your Great Grandmother's home! Featherbed Hill Chapter members oo'd and ahaa'd at the collection of furniture, horse-drawn sled, 1800 circa fire "trucks", baby trams and a whole treasure trove of household items in the storage facility of the Mercer Museum.

We were privileged to meet with Cory Amsler, Vice President, Collections and Interpretation, at the barn-like building. He introduced us to Emma Falcon, Collections Assistant, Research and Library Services. Her work area is on the lower floor, climate controlled to preserve items donated or acquired by the Museum, but not currently on display. Cabinet after cabinet contained satin-embroidered baby shoes, firemen's hats, hand-sewn quilts, samplers, dresses and suits from the preindustrial age, cigar store Indians, paintings – some by Edward Hicks, and a pump organ. Upstairs on three or four high shelving units, were tables, chairs, pottery, various tools, cement mile markers, one surprising item after another. A rare find was a complete Levittown kitchen appliance display – all in pink. Emma Falcon's position includes loaning or borrowing items with other museums.

The long tables in her space held drums, some guitars, zither and other instruments which were planned for the newest exhibit, "Everyday Rhythms, Music at the Mercer", which is now on display until December 31, 2023.



*Featherbed Hill Questers tour Mercer Museum storage facility.*



*Conestoga Questers visit Harriton House*

### **Conestoga Questers #63** **Colonial Times**

*Submitted by Robin Koslo-Stahl*

From mill to farm, the Conestoga Questers were on the road again to explore historic sites in the surrounding counties. Late in the winter we began with a lecture by Jennifer Green of Chester County Historical Center entitled, "Breadbasket of the World," which focused on the mills in Chester County and beyond that supplied flour to the world in the mid 1700's to early 1800's. This informative lecture piqued our interest to further our learning at the Mill at Anselma in Chester Springs. A grist mill along the Pickering Creek built in 1747, it is now a National Historic Landmark.

We traveled the following month to Harriton House in Lower Merion Township, settled by Welsh Quakers and built by Rowland Ellis in 1704. It was later sold to Maryland tobacco planter, Richard Harrison. Later through a marriage to Richard Harrison's daughter, Hannah, it was home to Charles Thomson, the first and only Secretary to the Continental and Confederation Congresses. One of Thomson's major interests was scientific agriculture that prompted him to experiment with crops and techniques on the property. Both properties provide a view of life in colonial times and a rich historical past.

**Pennsylvania State Organization  
of The Questers  
Pennsylvania State Executive Board and  
International Officers for 2022-2023**

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Como #81

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Philadelphia, PA 19107  
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questers210@questers1944.org

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Irene Dickinson  
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Featherbed Hill #501

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Fonthill #254

Lois Bell  
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**TREASURE TABLE**

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Fonthill #254

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**Springhouse Area**

**Western Area**

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## Basket Donations for Spring Conference

Brittany Belles #1404  
Brown's Folly #1373  
Como #81  
Conestoga #63  
Country Collectors #1024  
Dames of Rockville #900  
Damian House #754  
Fonthill #254  
Gaudy Dutch #270  
Heritage #1  
John Craig's Tavern #1390  
King's Path #435

Lamplighter #117  
Lingohocken #495  
Lydia Darragh #156  
Marquis #1461  
Militia Hill #5  
Moland House #1423  
Neshamini Creekers #1460  
Norriton #396  
Peaceable Kingdom #1440  
Penn's Manor #84  
Pennsbury #550

Pennypack #1386  
Pilgrim #237  
Rittenhouse #252  
Salt Cellar #329  
Spring House #1399  
Spoke And Handle #693  
Sunnyside #17  
Washington's Crossing #1483  
Whimsies #476  
Williamstadt #249  
Ye Olde Almshouse #466

*List does not include monetary donations*

**PA Questers Web Site:**  
**[www.PAQuesters.org](http://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.*



PA State President, Natalie Macy, received 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Founders Award. The topic was "Northwoods Logging-Myths and Legends."



Pennsylvania Questers at International Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Lower left: Joan LoCasale, Pamela Todd. Standing: Irene Dickinson, Barbara Krempa and Dottie Campbell.