



# THE LANDMARK

Volume XXXI, No. 4

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Newsletter of the Friends of Old Annville  
P.O. Box 99, Annville, PA 17003

## Antecedents of Historic Old Annville Day

**By Dennis Flake,  
Member FOOA Board of Directors**

Saturday, June 11, 2011 was another successful Historical Old Annville Day. The event has grown dramatically over the years and most attendees had a very good time. The board members of FOOA would like to thank the volunteers who make the event so attractive to the community.

On the day after the event, the *Lebanon Daily News* published an article that I had written about the origins of Historical Old Annville Day. Since not every member of FOOA might have seen the article in the local newspaper, the FOOA board has decided that we should include the gist of the article in the *Landmark*.

Hopefully the members of FOOA will enjoy the following article. In future editions of the *Landmark*, I would like to include articles regarding any annual Annville summer events from the end of the Annville Community Picnic in 1971 until the Bicentennial in 1976, the Bicentennial, and from 1977 until Historical Old Annville Day was commenced in 1989. If you have any information on these summer events, please contact me at [flakedennis@gmail.com](mailto:flakedennis@gmail.com).



While many might think that the origins of Historic Old Annville Day dates back to 1989, the tradition of an annual summer event for Annville dates back about a century.

In 1907, Hershey Park opened for the Hershey, Pennsylvania community. Although the park was originally designed for the workers of the chocolate factory and the model town of Hershey, the park soon became available

for the residents of the surrounding towns in Central Pennsylvania. Many public and Sunday schools made annual picnic trips to Hershey Park. Community baseball teams in Central Pa. played against the Hershey baseball team and other community teams at the ball field at Hershey Park. Hundreds of community fans would travel to the park to attend the games and have a picnic.

Shortly after Hershey Park opened, leaders of the neighboring towns of Hershey decided that an annual town picnic at the park would be pleasurable for its residents. This started a tradition of an annual town or community picnic at Hershey Park that lasted until the park started charging admission in the 1971 season. Most towns in the Lebanon Valley had an annual picnic at the park.

The town of Annville relished the annual summer event at Hershey Park. The Tuesday, August 5, 1913 edition of the *Lebanon Daily News* informed its readers about the Annville Annual Picnic that was scheduled at Hershey Park for the next day, Wednesday, August 6, 1913. The annual picnic was a designated holiday for

Annville. All businesses and industries in town were “suspended” for the day. Only the groceries stores in town were opened in the early morning hours to help people get their picnic baskets ready. The town had a special trolley car that took the people of Annville to and from Hershey Park. The Washington Band of Annville provided the music for the event.



The July 24, 1919 edition of the long defunct Hershey Press described the arrangements for the Annual Annville Picnic that was set for July 30, 1919. Once again, the “Washington Cornet Band” was scheduled to perform at the bandstand. The single men of Annville were slated to play the married men of town in a game of baseball. The trolley car was again the method of transportation to Hershey Park. The cost of a round trip ride on a special trolley to Hershey Park was 42 cents. The trolley departed Annville for Hershey at 8:30AM and left Hershey Park for a ride home at 8:30PM.

Subsequent editions of the Hershey Press told how the town of Annville was practically deserted during the annual picnic to Hershey Park. In its August 19, 1920 edition, the newspaper started using the term “Annville Community Picnic” to describe the summer event for Annville that was scheduled for August 25 that year. This label stuck as the name of the Annville summer picnic, and its use continued until the tradition ended after Hershey Park started charging admission.

Over the years, the Annville Community Picnic did change and evolve, but it was still a big summer event for the town of Annville. Over a thousand residents of Annville would routinely attend the picnic. The automobile replaced the trolley car as the mode of transportation to Hershey Park. Sometimes a truck was used to haul of the picnic baskets. The games such as baseball, egg toss, bag race, and the three legged race still continued until the end. The picnic tables especially under the pavilion and near the miniature railroad were always the choice spots. A trip to the chocolate factory was always a favorite and sweet treat. The band concerts starting at 7PM were the fitting and entertaining end to an enjoyable day.

Some traditions are well worth reviving. The Friends of Old Annville who organizes Historic Old Annville Day decided in 1989 that the Annville Community Picnic should be restarted. A dedicated core of volunteer board members and community residents has helped each year to make the event possible.

Keep in mind when you attend an event like HOAD that you are continuing a tradition in Annville that many generations of your ancestors also appreciated and enjoyed.



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### A ‘Snippet’ from George Struble

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“One weekend in the late 1940s, the United Brethren Church hosted a missionary who had been working in Africa. Rev. Wilt and his wife hosted the missionary in their home. On Sunday morning the guest gave the sermon in church. After he was introduced, he thanked the Wilts for their hospitality, including the delicious horsefly pie he had for breakfast.”

# FOOA Fall Historic Home Tour

**Tour the Newly-Renovated Marshall Home**

**125 West Main Street**

**Sunday, September 25, 2011**

**2 - 5 PM**

On April 7, 2010, the historic Marshall home at 125 West Main Street was ablaze, with flames pouring out of a large hole in the roof. Things did not look good for the Annville landmark that was built in the early 1800's. While it was saved by the good work of our local firemen, it was badly damaged. Fortunately for the town of Annville, the owners Nevin and Eileen Hoover, went forward with a renovation of the damaged building, a renovation that is now completed. This historic log home will be open for tour on Sunday afternoon, September 25, from 2-5 PM.

The tour will be sponsored by Friends of Old Annville as a fund raising activity, and we recommend that you register in advance for the tour using the mail-in form below. Tickets for the tour will be \$10 in advance for FOOA members, and \$15 for non-members. Tickets at the door on the day of the tour will be \$15. The tour will include a slide show of the stages of the renovation, and all visitors will receive a tri-fold pocket history of the Marshall home. The Flower Garden shop will also be open for tour and post-tour refreshments will be served.

If you are interested in taking this tour, please fill out the registration form below and mail it in with your check. We hope to see you at the Marshall home.

*✂ cut at the line*



## **REGISTRATION FORM FOR TOUR OF HISTORIC MARSHALL HOME**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places for the Marshall Home Tour @ \$10 per person (FOOA members)  
for a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Mail in this form with your check made out to "FOOA" to:

Friends of Old Annville  
PO Box 99, Annville, PA 17003.

***The deadline for receiving registrations is Thursday, September 22.***

# **A Most Successful Historic Old Annville Day**

Annville celebrated its 23rd Annual Historic Old Annville Day on Saturday, June 11, 2011. This event brought great crowds of people into downtown Annville to sample the wonderful foods, to visit the tables of vendors and public service groups, to wander the



historic district, to listen to music, and to shop at local businesses. The event is an annual project of Friends of Old Annville. The day also featured several special events including an art show and sale at the Suzanne Arnold Gallery of LVC, a model train exhibit at the historic railroad station on North Moyer Street, an open house at the old Fink's bakery at 25 East Main Street, and a book signing event for FOOA's new book, Annville Township. The drawing for the FOOA raffle was also held at 1 PM and the winners were **William Heeter** of Annville (\$500), **Alexis Schaeffer** of Leesburg, VA (\$250), and **Mary Kreider** of Annville (\$100).

Special thanks go to members of the HOAD Planning Committee: Mike Bowman (General Chair), Jill Palanzo (Vendors), Laura Charelian (Fund Raising), Michelle Poorman (Publicity), Dennis Flake (Entertainment), and Annville Township Commissioner Jim Scott (Township Liason). Thanks also go to our financial sponsors from the Annville business and professional community (see list below), to the Annville Police and Union Hose Fire Police, and to the Annville Department of Public Works.

## **Thank You to the Donors Who Supported 2011 Historic Old Annville Day**

### **Diamond Level**

Lebanon Valley College  
Owen and Kathy Moe  
Dr. Robert Silverman

### **Platinum Level**

The Allen Theatre/MJ's Coffeehouse  
Eagle Graphics Inc.  
Fulton Bank  
Conner-Streicher American Legion Post 559  
Annville Family Medicine  
McGeary Grain/Annville Flouring Mill  
Butcher Block Antiques  
Kreamer Funeral Home & Crematory  
The Wellness Point  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Charles  
Suburban Realty  
The Auto Hut  
Laudermilch Meats

### **Gold Level**

Edward Jones Investments

Bowman's Insurance Agency  
Bluescope Building NA  
Clift Auto Sales & A C Car Wash  
Annville Sheet Metal  
Corvette Grill  
Dr. Timothy Brennan  
The Patriot House Bed & Breakfast  
Ebersole Honda Buick GMC  
Fife & Drum on Main  
First Floor Attic  
Limestone Ridge Kennel  
Martin Appliance  
Parma Pizza  
Prudential Gacono Real Estate  
Richard and Mary Meininger

### **Silver Level**

Joann Y. Hauer Ltd.  
Annville Veterinary Hospital  
Palanzo Financial Services  
Colonial Craft Kitchens

Annville Cleona Veterinary Associates  
Batdorf Restaurant & Pub Tiki  
Deborah Smith Beauty Salon  
Dental Art Images, LLC  
Dr. Ronald Bernhardt, DDS  
Feather & Feather Law  
Olde Annville Custom Cabinetry  
Glenn Shutter Hairworks  
Harry Bachman, Auctioneer  
Jacob Ensminger Builder  
Kettering Corner  
The Levi Samuel Hair Studio  
Music's Auto Center  
Napoli Family Restaurant and Pizzeria  
H & H Tack Shop  
Suanne Long Beauty Salon  
The Flower Garden  
Charelian Remodels & Renovation  
Timothy S. Brandt, Plumbing  
John and Phyllis Norton  
Dr. & Mrs. John Biever  
Annville Inn Bed & Breakfast



## 2011 FAÇADE GRANT

FOOA is extending the deadline for the 2011 Façade Grant Assistance Program until September 30, 2011.

The eligibility for the Façade Grant is a property owner, residential or business, in the Annville Historical District (934 to the Quittee). The Grant Assistance Program is designed to assist property owners both private residences and independent business owners in preserving the historic exterior appearance of their property. Naturally, this is only an assistance program, so the property owner will also have to invest in the improvement of their real estate.

A Façade Grant could range from \$500.00 to \$2,500. FOOA has allocated \$2,500.00 for 2011 grant. The Façade Grant could be one grant for \$2,500 or divided into several smaller grants. The grant will be paid directly to the contractor once the work has been completed and inspected. Self-improvements on property is permitted

The improvements will need to be finished by the end of 2011. Historical and Architectural Review Board approval will need to be obtained prior to submitting an application. The application can be located at the FOOA website ([www.fooa.org](http://www.fooa.org)).

Please let your friends and neighbors in the designated historical area of Main Street know about the program.

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### “Paying it Forward”

The expression “pay it forward” has gotten a lot of play in recent days. In fact it’s credited with inspiring a social movement, a novel, and a movie. Its meaning suggests that we acknowledge an act of kindness not by paying “back” the giver, but by passing a good deed or gift on (or “forward”), to another person or entity.

FOOA’s Façade Grant Program is an excellent example of paying it forward. With members’ support and the hard work of volunteers, Friends of Old Annville raises money to pass along to those in the community who need just a little help to move forward in making improvements to the face of their home. The cash grant is “paid forward”, but at the same time it comes back to the community by making our town entryway and our town’s public image just a bit nicer.

Another way you, as FOOA members, can “pay it forward” is to celebrate the good years you’ve spent in historic Annville by remembering FOOA in your Will.

Your legacy will assure that the Friends of Old Annville will continue to be there as a strong influence for preservation in years ahead; and your kindness will continue to “pay forward” in maintaining our Old Annville heritage decades to come.

### Save the Date

- **Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup>** (2-5 PM)  
Tour of the historic Marshall Home  
*Register NOW!*
- **Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup>**  
Deadline for Façade Grant Applications
- **Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup>** (6 PM)  
Friends of Old Annville Annual Dinner  
at the Annville American Legion (watch  
for details) *Mark your calendar.*



## Holding Out (Carrie Stober)

*In this issue we are going to run another poem/story from Porches, written in 1985 by Phil Billings with illustrations by Dan Massad. This short vignette is based on the reflections of the late Carrie Stober who lived in the west end of Annville near Nellie Bernardo, whose life we featured in our first piece from Porches.*

*In this poem Carrie looks back on her life in Annville, not easy but full of family, neighbors, and the joys of a simpler time. Note that Carrie spends some time talking about the Annville Picnic, the subject of Dennis Flake's article on the front page. Below is the story of Carrie Stober.*

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### I.

When Joe and I was working so hard  
those first thirty years or so,  
him at the handkerchief factory and carpentering,  
me at home till Lucille and Arlene got old enough  
to get Betty looking all right for school,  
then at the factory alongside Joe  
and still doing the housework, canning, baking-  
everything but being a seamstress,  
I seen enough of needles all day long-  
when things was hard and we couldn't let up any  
my mother-in-law used to tell me,  
"This isn't going to hold out."

Of course she would always come over from next door  
to do what she could,  
and the girls helped more as they grew up.  
And I wasn't sickly,  
I was used to working.

I wish Joe's mother could see me these days.  
I'm 88 and I'd work yet if I could.

### II.

It isn't the way it used to be.  
When we moved in in 1913  
there was lots of people used to live around  
here  
and they all were friends.  
The kids all played together  
down along the Quittie or back in the alley.  
I didn't have the time to go to the neighbors  
a lot,

but we always talked.

Fussing with the neighbors and not talking-  
that way you just didn't do.

Now there's just one other left from back  
then, Mrs. Bernardo across the street,  
and she's only what, 70?

I remember those fishing parties we used to have  
back at Valley Glen or Bellegrove,  
us, the McKees, the Waltzes, the Herrs.  
All day long.  
But I never cleaned no fish, no way!

And the Annville Picnics-  
all the stores shut down for the day  
and we packed a lunch and took the trolley  
into Lebanon,  
then switched to the train for Pennryn.  
There was so much you could do.  
That's how Joe and I started going together.

Then they had it at Hershey Park for years.  
Ike Long would come by with his truck  
and pick up all your baskets and take them to  
the shelter,

then you would come along later  
with the tickets for all the rides  
that they'd handed out in Sunday School.

I believe they've started Picnic Day up again,  
over at the grade school.

Some games for kids, a bake sale, the Washington

Band and such.  
I don't go.  
I just wonder if the people now  
know how to have as much fun.

### III.

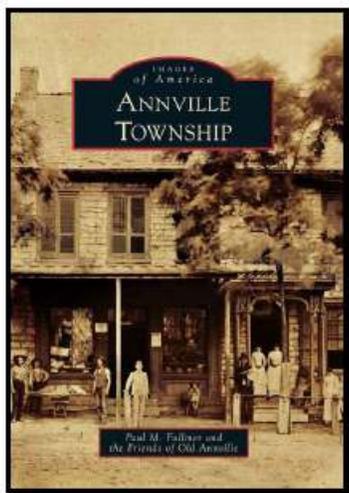
I had two boys and four girls and I'm glad I did,  
they all come home.  
I have nine grandchildren, ten great  
grandchildren,  
and everybody stops by here,  
though I don't expect it as much  
from the ones way out on 322.  
All how-many was here, though, for  
my birthday,  
even up from Delaware.

Joe built this sun porch evenings and weekends  
during the war  
while we were waiting to hear from our oldest.  
That table he built after he retired.  
He did a lot of them.  
He could never just sit.

Before he tore the barn away  
we had chickens and pigs along with  
the garden.  
Then the farmers would come in with their wagons  
as soon as things got ripe-  
strawberries, corn, on Labor Day peaches,  
goose and duck and turkey for Thanksgiving and  
Christmas.

Joe's mother always helped in the kitchen.  
She would give advice,  
but she was never critical.

All I would say to the young people  
today is  
The things you make yourself are  
better.  
This way of only having a couple of kids  
and paying so much money for your fun  
and buying frozen food and a lot of insurance and  
Kleenex  
isn't going to hold out.



## New Picture History of Annaville

Working in partnership with the Friends of Old Annaville, Arcadia Publishing has produced a fine pictorial history entitled *Annaville Township* as part of its "Images of America" series. A part of the proceeds from the sale of each book benefits the Friends.

More than 225 historic pictures taken at locations along Main, Queen, Maple and other streets as well as at Lebanon Valley College fill 128 pages. Images from the archives of the Friends of Old Annaville, from local residents, and from community groups serve as powerful testimonies to entire communities of ages past and the contributions they have made to the present. Many of the pictures have never been published before.

Street addresses provided in the captions allow the reader to engage the dynamics of history by comparing the past with the present. The block-by-block pictorial history incorporates information from walking tours spanning several decades.

**Copies are available locally from the Friends of Old Annaville** for a discounted price \$20.00. (Sales tax is included in price). Include an additional \$5.00 if you'd like to have

the book shipped to you. Otherwise, we will contact you regarding pick-up in Annaville. *Although copies may be ordered through online booksellers for \$21.95 + shipping, orders placed through FOOA significantly benefit the organization.*

## ORDER FORM

Please reserve me \_\_\_\_\_ copy/copies of *Annaville Township*. I've enclosed exactly \$20.00 per copy.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/TOWN \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

**CHECKS, MADE PAYABLE TO "FRIENDS OF OLD ANNAVILLE," MAY BE MAILED TO 444 EAST MAIN STREET, ANNAVILLE, PA 17003.**