

THE LANDMARK

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

A Park for All Seasons

President's Message from Owen Moe

It occurred to me as I was preparing a pictorial review of Friends of Old Annville activities for 2009, that events associated with the Quittie Creek Nature Park have come to comprise an important part of our annual activities. When the Quittie Creek Park Committee joined with Friends of Old Annville in the very early 1990's, I wondered if it would be a good fit - one group interested in historic preservation and the other in preservation of a natural area. Now, almost 20 years later, I'm convinced that there is a strong, inherent synergy between the two organizations and in what they each are trying to accomplish.



Jack in the Pulpit Along the Woodland Trail

The Quittapahilla Creek has been a critical component of Annville's history, providing in various eras vital water power needed for grinding grain and pulverizing heated limestone to produce lime. Its springs provided water to the community for many years. It has been a continuous source of recreation and relaxation for several centuries. The town was built in this location precisely because of the presence of the beautiful, spring-fed stream - Annville's history and identity is tied closely to the Quittie.

Thus, the beautiful woodland walk along the stream in the Quittie Park is just as important to the sense of place in Annville as is its collection of historic buildings. Restoration of both our natural areas and our architectural resources has helped to better define what Annville was and now is. The transition from a walk through historic Annville to a walk through the Quittie Park is, in one way, a seamless one - the total walk is a walk through historic Annville.

And the park itself has legitimate historic sites: five still-intact lime kilns used to heat the limestone from the quarry and the site of the original water-powered mill that produced the powdered lime.

Living close to the park, Kathy and I have walked through the park in all of the seasons, even skiing along the creek-side trail in the winter. I'd be hard pressed to say which season is best. The sea of bloodroot flowers makes a strong case for the spring, but the vibrant colors argue for the fall. In the summer the park is so secluded by the leaves that you believe yourself to be deep in the wilds.

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A Lime Kiln in Winter

And in the winter snow, the park is spectacular. And, of course, we cannot forget the Swingholm Bridge that provides the absolute best view of the Quittie and a pedestrian connection between two communities. In all seasons, the hike along the

Quittie (or up into the woodlands or around the quarry pond) is as relaxing and regenerating as it must have been both one hundred and two hundred years ago. ■

SHANAMANS HONORED **At FOOA Annual Dinner Meeting**

Friends of Old Annville's *Historic Building Award* was presented to Ralph and Mildred Shanaman at the 2009 FOOA Annual Dinner Meeting held at St. Anthony Coptic Orthodox Church in Annville. The award to the Shanamans was made on the basis of the large restoration project that they carried out on their exterior stone wall and iron fence. It was also based on years of care that they have given to one of Annville's most important historic buildings.



The annual dinner meeting featured many of the same delightful dishes that the Coptic Church serves every year at Historic Old Annville Day.

Left: Owen Moe Presents Award to Shanamans



Right: Audience at Annual Meeting

Owen Moe presented a pictorial review of the activities of Friends of Old Annville during 2009. Moe announced the 2009 Façade Assistance Grant to Denyse Haupt for the restoration of her front porch on Main Street. A slate of officers and members-at-large were elected to the Executive Board, and Dick Charles made a 15-minute presentation, updating the status of the Annville Center project.

The featured speaker of the evening was Father Yussef Chehata who provided a history and theology of the Coptic Orthodox Church. Following the presentation, the church provided tours of the sanctuary on the second floor of the building.

FRIENDS OF OLD ANNVILLE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Members at Large:

Mike Bowman
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Native American Program Held in October

Friends of Old Annville sponsored a program called “Mastodons to Moccasins: Pre-Historic Times and Native Americans in the Lebanon Valley,” held at the Annville Free Library on October 17. Anthropologist Daniel Simpkins from Lebanon Valley College laid out an extensive history of indigenous peoples in the northeast



part of this country. Dr. Simpkins explained the movements and disappearances of various tribes, both before and after European contact. He also explained the archeological findings related to native peoples in the northeast.

Ruth Krebs followed Dr. Simpkin’s talk with a short talk about her interest in finding Native American artifacts in the fields of Lebanon County. Ms. Krebs also displayed her collection of spear points, axe heads, and other stone tools. Dr. Simpkins appraised and dated collections of artifacts brought in by local people (see picture).

This Old Annville House Doors: A Trade Secret

Submitted by Michael Charelian, M C Carpentry, Annville

Many of us have one or two cranky old doors in our house that just won’t stay where they’re put; they either automatically slowly swing open or close shut when left ajar. To keep them in place you have to use a doorstop or some other toe-stubber to do the job.

One simple, low-tech solution I have discovered fixes this annoyance 99% of the time. Take the pin out of the lower door hinge and lay it on a piece of wood or surface that will not crack or shatter. Pound it once with a hammer, or just enough to give it a slight curve. Then place it back in the hinge and pound it in. It should have a bit of resistance now that it is slightly curved instead of straight. This should be enough to keep the door stationary when left open. If it does not, take the pin out of the middle hinge and do the same procedure. Voila - the “door ghost” is gone!



The Ice Boy Cometh

In this issue of the Landmark, we are bringing you the conclusion of both Dr. Monteith’s “Physician’s View of Annville in the 1930’s”, and Robert Swope’s memories of “John McClure’s Newspaper Carriers”.

Although we’re sorry to see these fun pieces come to an end, the new year will bring new memories. Please be sure to watch for your first 2010 issue and Ken Umberger’s tale of being an ice boy in Annville.

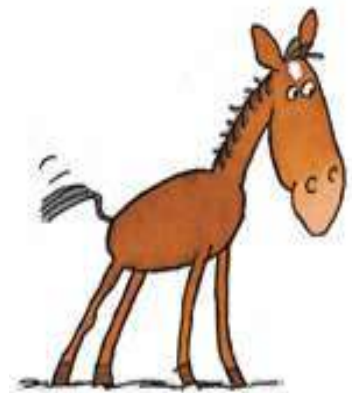
John McClure's Newspaper Carriers (Conclusion)

Submitted by Robert M. Swope, Annville High School Class of '54

The Sunday route ended near the west end of the Millard quarries. There, on most weeks, John would challenge us with a contest. He'd set a monetary prize to accomplish a feat. After running for six hours we should have collapsed but, fifteen year old boys don't know they are exhausted. And, we were always ready to compete for the extra money. There are two of these contests that I can still remember well.

The deepest Millard quarry had a steep steel stairs at the Northwest end that descended to a small building at the bottom. The stairs rose out of the quarry at the same angle that an extension ladder would lean against a house. There were hand rails on each side to keep you from falling backwards as you climbed. John's contest was to carefully climb down the steps (not easy) and then immediately run back up to the top. I can clearly remember getting to the top and falling on my hands and knees, gasping for breath, with my heart pounding in my chest. On one occasion I talked John into double or nothing to do the run twice in fifteen minutes. I won but, I think John knew that I would when he agreed to the bet. He just wanted me to set a new benchmark to challenge the carriers that would follow me in this job. For me, I was rich.

The other contest involved Millard's horses. After finishing the route, we were driving back to John's barn when we saw five of Millard's horses near the rail fence. We stopped to admire and pet then and



we discussed how they looked lean and fast. Rich Hoffman thought they would be fun to ride and John thought he'd pay a dollar to see us to do it. Rich knew more about horses than I did so he went first. He climbed the fence and smoothly slid onto the horse without a problem. The horse calmly walked away with Rich looking like an experienced jockey. I was raised in the city. I didn't know anything about horses. I climbed the fence and grabbed two hands full of mane on the nearest horse. The horse pulled away a little bit so I had to jump to get onto his back. As my leg came over the top my heel kicked him in the ribs and we were gone. John said he could see three feet of daylight between me and the horse on every bounce. I held on for about a hundred feet and then I went flying. To this day, I have a spot on my hip that can forecast the weather. I argued that technically I did ride the horse. John paid me when he stopped laughing.

By the time I was sixteen, at the end of '52, I had to move on to other work. Dating, movies, clothes, and the Dixie Drive-In cost more than a paper route could support. But, in all of the jobs that I have had since then, I have benefited from the things that I learned while I was working for John McClure. I'm sure his other carriers will tell you the same. Just ask them.

Have You Visited Recently?

If you haven't stopped by www.FOOA.org lately, you really should visit to see how the FOOA website has grown.

Not only will you see your next issue of the Landmark before it reaches your mailbox, and be able to view our photos in color, but you'll find that the **East End Walking Tour** has added several new OLD buildings and their history; Laura Charelian's wonderful photos "**Artful Images**" of Annville homes and destinations has been updated. You'll be able to enjoy excellent scenes of Quittie Park, find the latest information on programs and events, and even peruse FOOA's tax returns if you're so inclined. Be sure to bookmark FOOA.org and visit frequently!

Installment #5: A Physician's View of Annville in the 1930's

In this final installment of an essay about Annville that was written by Dr. James Monteith, a local physician, we cover topics from barbers to babies . Dr. Monteith writes . . .

Miscellaneous

There are no markets in Annville. Many farmers bring their produce to town in their wagons and there sell it from door to door. Stores are kept very clean and the two soda fountains in town are also quite sanitary for they are both comparatively new and the proprietors are keen rivals. There are no slaughter houses and meat is not inspected in town at all. Neither are there any cold storage plants. Restaurants are run as regular country "dining rooms" and serve good but plain food from very well cleaned kitchens, again reflecting the Pennsylvania Dutch people. There are three barber shops, two of which are excellent. The third is a dark little room with a stove in the middle run by a little old man of about 68. There is a continual checker game in back of the stove and old Sunday papers thrown around. The barber's tools, however, are clean and hair is quickly brushed up. This man has very little trade.

The district nurse is continually on call and does a good deal of work in town. She visits all needy patients, attends the Baby Clinics, etc.. I have already explained the Health Council which is the principle welfare and health organization of the Town. This Council and the various churches do most of the welfare work. The Associated Charities of Lebanon County also assists in Annville cases. There are two fairly good hospitals in Lebanon to which all Annville patients are taken. These are the Good Samaritan and the Lebanon Sanatorium - both of which do a good deal of charity work.

General Summary

I think Annville as a whole had fairly good conditions of living, for being as small as it is. Really a country town, it escapes a good many complications of a larger city; however, many things could and should be bettered or changed entirely.

First of all the Health Commissioners should be better organized and take a more active part in town affairs, rather than letting the Health Council have all the work to do. The sewage system should be inspected more often. I would recommend a new system, but as the old one has worked so far, there seems to be no chance of change. The garbage and ash disposal is certainly very poor. I would suggest collection by an agent of the Board and a different method of disposal. The milk and water conditions are fairly good and there are no nuisances to worry about. The factory conditions are very poor and I would certainly recommend more and unbiased inspection with plenty of compulsory changes in the factory, especially as to cleanliness, ventilation, first aid, etc.. The school system I found to be excellent.

Therefore, as a whole, I would consider Annville a healthy place in which to live.



The Friends of Old Annville Train Station is open to visitors Tuesday, 7-9 PM, Saturdays, 9 AM-12 noon, or upon request.

*The Station is also available for parties and meetings.
Please write Friends of Old Annville,
P.O. Box 99, Annville 17003,
or call (717) 867-0770 for information.*

Membership Renewal

Please remember, your MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DATE can be found on the mailing label of this issue of The Landmark. Please send your dues and address change to: Rachel Noll, 1673 Louser Road, Annville, PA, 17003-8856.

Have questions? Call: (717) 867-2137.

Individual & Student \$ 5.00	Family (2+ persons) \$ 10.00
Business \$ 25.00	Friend of FOOA \$ 50.00
Benefactor \$100.00	

RENEWALS

Stan & Joanne Anspach
M/M Randall Aungst
Dr/M Robert Bauer
The Beazley Family
M/M Craig Borges
Lyle & Christine Bowser
Adelene B. Boyer
Mr. James K. Brandt
Tim & Audrey Brandt
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James W. Davis
M/M Harry Fake
M/M William J. Felty
Norman & Marian Trygve Struble
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M/M Dennis George
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Dr/M Allan Wolfe

NEW MEMBERS

M/M Frederick Melhorn

★ Denotes Friend of FOOA §§ Denotes Benefactor of FOOA

PLEASE REMEMBER TO SEND US ADDRESS CHANGES

**Please don't forget that a membership in FOOA
makes a great gift to welcome a new neighbor to Annville,
to celebrate a holiday, or
to honor a special occasion.**

All gift subscriptions are acknowledged by FOOA to the recipient



Façade Grant Assists Restoration on Main Street

In January 2009, the FOOA Board of Directors approved a pilot **Façade Grant Assistance Program** to support the owners of private residences and small businesses in preserving their historic buildings. The pilot program, limited to the west end of Main Street in the Annville Historical District, awarded a grant of \$4000 to Denyse Haupt for the restoration of her front porch and the street-facing façade of her home at 215 West Main (*see picture at left*). At the time of this writing, the final touches are being completed on her property. A check from FOOA will be delivered to her once all the work is completed and inspected.



Through this pilot program, our organization was able to assist a property owner with a historically-sensitive restoration project. We were pleased to be able to do so, and would like to continue the Façade Grant Assistance Program into 2010 and beyond. We hope that the grant program will have an effect that goes beyond individual projects if it can encourage, by example, the preservation of properties throughout the historic district.

The cost of continuing and hopefully expanding such a grant program will be substantial for a small nonprofit like FOOA. As we move forward, Friends of Old Annville will be working to endow the Façade Grant program and, we hope, make it self-sustaining. We will work with private individuals, businesses, and the Township to try to find a mechanism to fund a Façade Grant Assistance Program that will have a real impact on Annville. Please contact Owen Moe (867-4326) if you have an interest in working on this project. Stay tuned for more on this important initiative.

SPEAKING OF MAIN STREET . . .



Can you name the Annville Store featured in this 1915 penny postcard?

Unlike the many postcards with more typical views of Main Street and Lebanon Valley College buildings, this used card sold on eBay this month for \$130.

Find answer next issue, and let us know if you have a special old photo of Annville to share.