



**HISTORY BYTES**  
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Rick Sedlisky, Editor

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***Delaware & Hudson***



***200 Years – Part II***

*Image source: pinterest.com*

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# *Delaware & Hudson 200 Years – Part II*

*By Rick Sedlisky*

In Part I of Delaware & Hudson 200 Years, we looked at the company beginning with its organization charter, construction of the canal, shipment of anthracite via gravity railroad, early unsuccessful attempts at using steam engines, and the canal's closing due to steam powered trains rendering it obsolete. Part II covers the coalfields.

## *The Coalfields*



*Image source: auctionzip.com*

One of the D&H slogans was, “The Bridge Line to New England and Canada.” A “bridge line” connects with a line at one end of its system and another at the other end. At its southern end, D&H received carloads of freight from the Pennsylvania, Jersey Central and Lehigh Valley railroads at Wilkes-Barre and in the north from the Rutland Railroad in Vermont, the Canadian Pacific Railway in Quebec, and in New York State from the New York Central Railroad, among others.

Of course, just like other railroads that served the Lackawanna and Wyoming valleys, Delaware & Hudson shipped its share of anthracite to those locations as well as New York City. Black diamonds were in demand and through its Hudson Coal Co. subsidiary, D&H was considered a major player in not just transporting coal from its many properties but also mining coal from those operations.

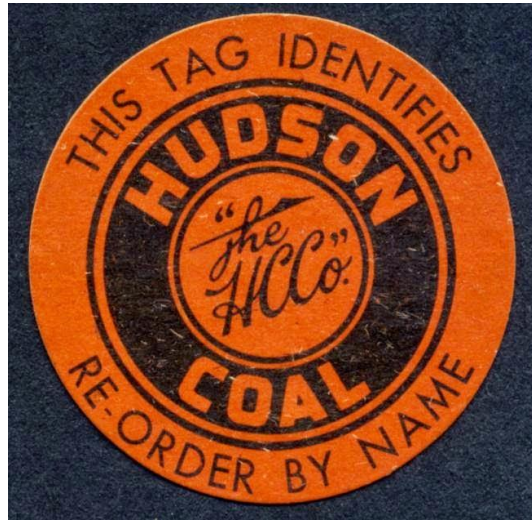
Anthracite was mined and shipped under several company names that changed as time went by. Those corporate names included Delaware & Hudson Canal Co., Delaware & Hudson Coal & Canal Co., Delaware & Hudson Co., and Hudson Coal Co. The names mirrored the evolution of D&H over the decades.

Operations were located along the D&H up and down the valley, from Forest City to Wilkes-Barre. They included:

**Archbald-** Gravity Slope  
**Avoca-** Langcliffe  
**Blakely Twp.-** DH, White Oak, Eaton  
**Carbondale-** Breaker Tunnel, Carbondale, Carbondale Tunnels, Coal Brook, Jefferson Tunnel, Lackawanna Tunnel, Mill Ridge, Valley Tunnel, White Bridge, Forest, Wilson Creek  
**Carbondale Twp.-** Powderly, Rackel Brook, Erie  
**Fell Twp.-** Midland, Clinton (Fell Twp. Vandaling in 1904)  
**Forest City-** Stillwater  
**Jermyn-** Jermyn Slope, Jermyn  
**Laflin-** Laflin  
**Larksville-** Loree  
**Laurel Run** (Parsons in 1888)- Baltimore Slope  
**Luzerne County (1956)-** Mt. Tunnel (mine), Popple (stripping)  
**Mill Creek-** Mill Creek  
**Miners Mills-** Pine Ridge  
**Moosic-** Greenwood, Spring Brook  
**Olyphant-** Eddy Creek, Olyphant, Grassy Island  
**Plains.-** Delaware, Henry  
**Plymouth-** Plymouth Mountain, Plymouth  
**Plymouth Twp.-** Boston  
**Scranton-** Leggets Creek, Marvine, Von Storch, Dickson, Manville (Dickson – Manville in 1933), Dixon  
**Wilkes-Barre-** Baltimore Tunnel, Conyngham, Young

Advertising is a crucial component in the successful marketing of a product, and brand names are key factors in advertising campaigns. Other coal companies had their own brand names, but the brand name, *Hudson Coal*, was considered by many to be the real thing in terms of anthracite. D&H advertising campaigns were meant to drive home the quality, economy of use and dependability of what one Hudson Coal ad called, “*The finest fuel produced anywhere.*”

Just as today, logos and slogans were important parts of advertising campaigns during the days of King Coal. Ads were not only found in newspapers and other print publications. D&H literally brought Hudson Coal ads into your home. When local fuel retailers delivered Hudson Coal to your coal bin, it was not uncommon to find a few of the familiar black and orange tags such as the one below mixed into the delivery. Tags inserted in deliveries of anthracite guaranteed the customer was receiving *Hudson Coal*. The black and orange tags also reminded customers to re-order by name.

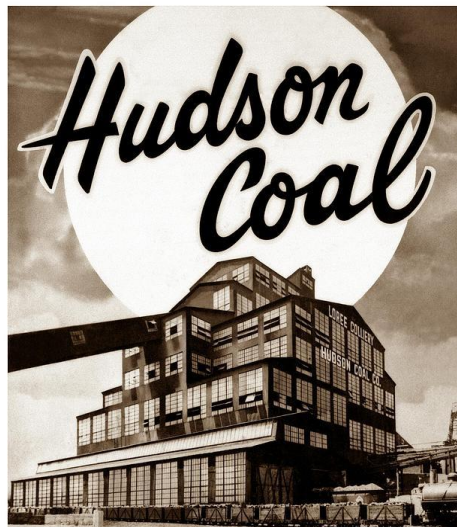


*Hudson Coal Co. Re-order Tag*

*Frank's Place: Marvine Colliery*

*Image source: <https://frank-dutton.blogspot.com/2015/02/marvine-colliery.html>*

Coal retailers often used the Hudson Coal logo in their ads. The ad shown below states that if you purchase Hudson Coal, you receive "The Favorite Pennsylvania Hard Coal."



*The Favorite Pennsylvania Hard Coal ad*

*depicts the Loree Colliery, Larksville*

*Photograph by Arthur Miller*

*Image source: [fineartamerica.com](http://fineartamerica.com)*



*This ad states, "Economical and comfortable heat." But "healthful?"  
Hudson Coal Sign, Riparius, NY  
Image source: flickr.com*

When warm summer days began to wane, customers' thoughts were focused on the coming autumn and winter seasons. It was time to contact the fuel retailer and fill the coal bin. The renderings and text in the below ad said it all.

*DH – Hudson Coal Co. Ad  
Image source: TrainBoard.com*



Note slightly different uses of the Hudson Coal template below. One includes the word, *Sterling*, while another is an ink blotter.

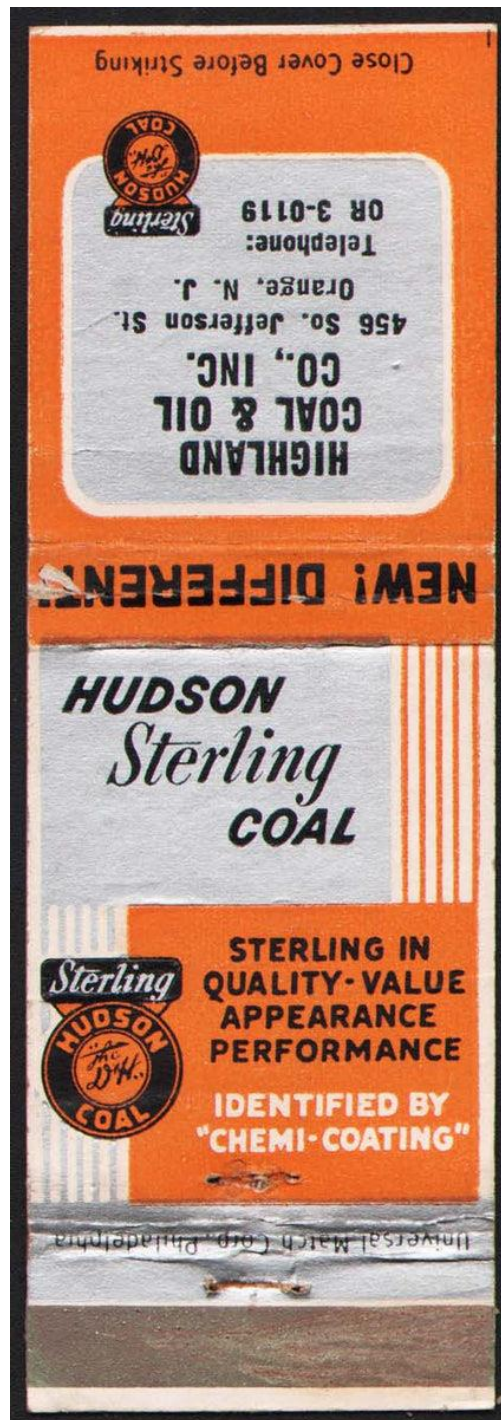


*Hudson Coal Co. Ad  
Image source: Antique-padlocks.com*



*Hudson Coal Ink Blotter  
Image source: flickr.com*

Relaxing with friends after a long day's work? It was not uncommon to see a book of matches containing the Hudson Coal logo and the local fuel distributor's name on the bar next to the patron's "miner and laborer" (a shot and a beer).



*1930s Diamond Quality Matchbook Cover  
Lackawanna Anthracite, Hudson Coal Co.  
Image source: ebay.com*

The Hudson *Sterling* brand name was used by many fuel retailers as the match book above and the below ads show. One retailer even offered deferred payments, while another included the Hudson Coal logo on a thermometer.



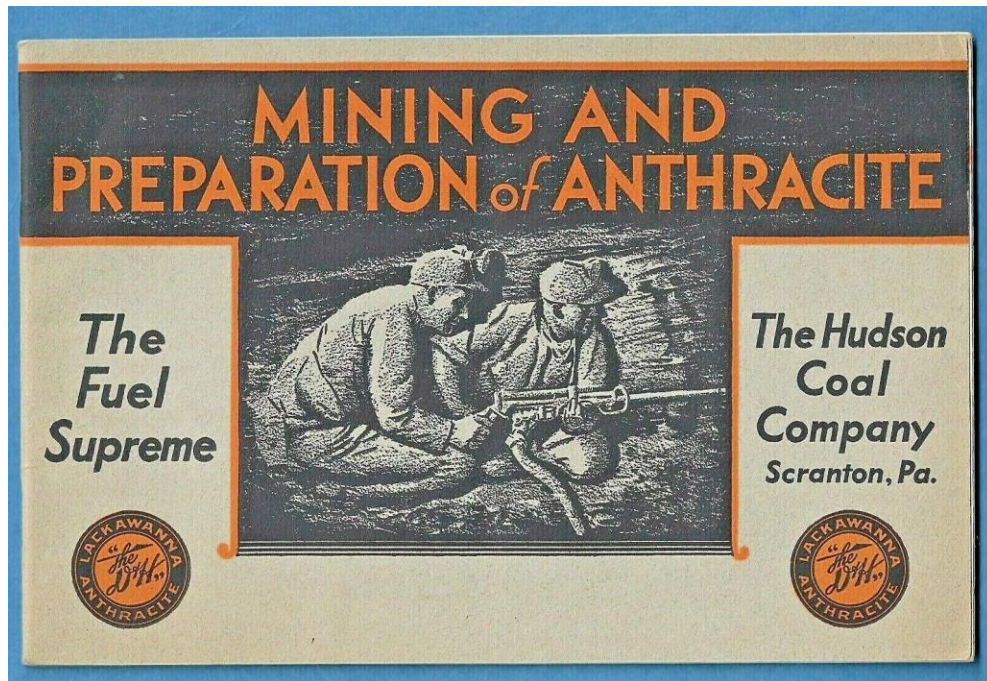
*DH – Hudson Coal Co.  
Image source: TrainBoard.com*



**Photo Courtesy © Wm Morford Auctions Morfauction.com**

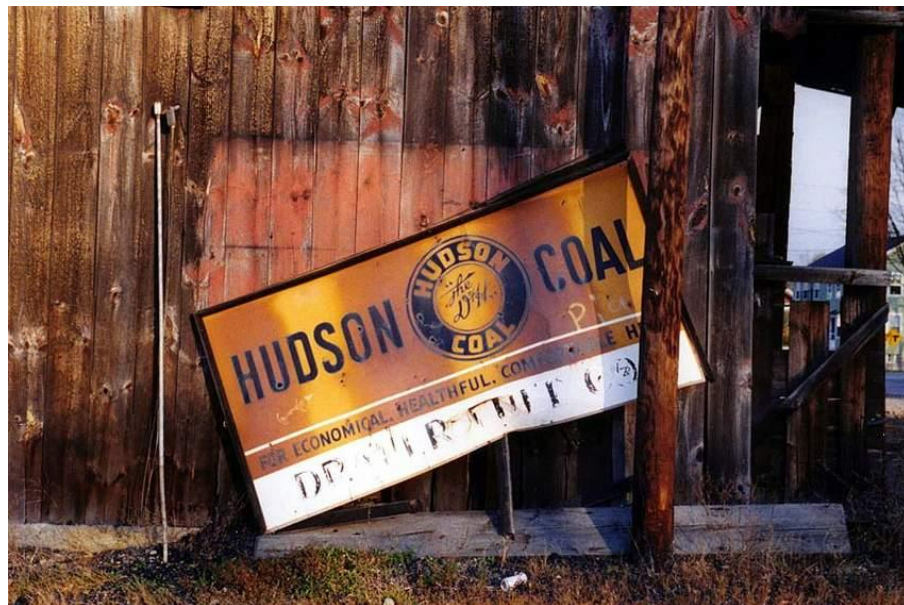
*Image source: Wm Morford Auctions Morfauction.com*





*1931 Mining and Preparation of Anthracite Ad  
Hudson Coal Co., Scranton PA  
Image source: eBay.com*

Coal was a major fuel, one that played a major roll in the industrialization of the United States. Coal was eventually replaced by oil as the fuel of choice and as the below photograph shows, sooner or later, all things come to an end.



*Old Hudson Coal Sign  
Draper Fuel Co.  
Milford, NH*

*Hudson Coal Company records consist entirely of microfilms of office files of the company's operations in Lackawanna and Luzerne counties. For additional information, please visit <https://aspaces.libraries.psu.edu/repositories/3/resources/4566>*

## Delaware and Hudson Canal Company Breakers



*Powderly Colliery, Carbondale, Pa.* Post card in the collection of the Carbondale D&H Transportation Museum

S. Robert Powell, Ph.D.

October 9, 2017

Published by the Carbondale Historical Society and Museum, Inc.

Carbondale, PA 18407

710pp illustrated, ISBN 978-0-9863967-7-9

Image source: <https://archive.org/details/marvine-a>

*Delaware & Hudson Breakers* is Volume XVIII in the 24-volume series of books on the Delaware & Hudson Canal Co. and Delaware & Hudson Railway authored by S. Robert Powell, Ph.D. The volume provides plenty of information about breakers that were located along the D&H “up and down the line.”

The 24-volume series extensively covers numerous aspects of Delaware & Hudson. They include, but are not limited to, the Gravity Railroad, the Steam Line from Carbondale to Scranton (the Valley Road), the Jefferson Branch of the Erie Railroad (Carbondale to Lanesboro), Troubled Times – the 1870s, The Stourbridge Lion, the Honesdale Branch of the D&H, the Anthracite Coal Strike of 1902, The People: The D&H, The community.

## *LHS 2023 Membership Information*

**About Membership:** Membership privileges include unlimited access to the Society library, 10% discount in our bookstore, advance notice, special discounts and invitations to all Society activities, members-only programs, the quarterly newsletter, and the bi-monthly e-newsletter. Attached is a membership form to renew your membership or give to a friend who is interested in joining. Please return it to: Lackawanna Historical Society, 232 Monroe Ave., Scranton, PA 18510.

### *Lackawanna Historical Society Membership Form*

// Student	\$10	Name _____
// Individual	\$35	
// Family	\$45	Address _____
// Contributing	\$75	_____
// Sustaining	\$150	
// Silver Corporate	\$250	Telephone _____
// Gold Corporate	\$500	Email _____

Following is a link for membership payment:

<http://www.lackawannahistory.org/benefits.html>

## *Lackawanna Past Times, Upcoming Events & Meetings*

### *On Zoom:*

Our monthly Zoom and In-Person lecture series features famous local people and early regional history. Email us at [lackawannahistory@gmail.com](mailto:lackawannahistory@gmail.com) to receive the Zoom link. Catch up on past episodes on our YouTube channel.

**Friday, August 25, 2 pm: Voices from the Sanitorium** author Amy Walsh discusses her research of the West Mountain Sanitorium

**Friday, September 29, 2pm: Local History in Special Collections** with Michael Knies, Special Collections Librarian and University Archivist at the University of Scranton

**Friday, October 27, 2 pm: A Look at Stained Glass Treasures** with Alyssa Loney at the Albright Memorial Library

**Friday, November 17, 2 pm: Mafia and the Garment Industry** with Penn State University History Professor David Witwer

### *In Person:*

**Sunday, August 20, 2 pm:** Meg Geffken portrays *Eleanor Roosevelt* at the Catlin House.

## *Ghostly Gallery Link*

<http://www.lackawannahistory.org/ghostlygallery.html>

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**[lackawannahistory@gmail.com](mailto:lackawannahistory@gmail.com)**



## *Dine Lackawanna*

Numerous restaurants support LHS through participation in Dine Lackawanna. Enjoy an evening away from the kitchen and help support these establishments and LHS.

**Wednesday, August 16: Sidel's** 1202 North Main Ave, Scranton 570-343-6544

**Wednesday, September 30: Rosaliano's** 209 Main St., Childs 570-936-2668 **BYOB**

### **Abingtons**

#### **Clarks Summit**

Camelot      The New Cafe  
Formosa      State Street Grill

**Dalton**  
B&B

#### **Chinchilla**

Armetta's Restaurant & Pizza

### **Upvalley**

#### **Carbondale**

KOL Steakhouse  
Pat's Pizza & Hoagies

#### **Jermyn**

JW's Bar & Grill

#### **Eynon**

Pasquale's Pizzeria and Family Restaurant  
Tiffany's Tap & Grill

#### **Simpson**

Frank's Place

### **Mid Valley**

#### **Dickson City**

Texas Roundhouse  
Colarusso's Coal Fired Pizza

#### **Olyphant**

OTown Bar & Grill

#### **Jessup**

Café Colarusso

### **Scranton**

Ale Mary's at the Bittenbender  
AV Scranton  
Back Yard Ale House  
Cafe Classico  
Carmen's 2.0 Restaurant  
Chef Von & Mom  
POSH at the Scranton Club

Market Street Bar & Grill  
Pizza by Pappas  
Sidel's Restaurant  
Stirna's Restaueant  
La Cucina  
Mansour's Market Café & Eatery  
Villa Maria Lola's Cabana

### **Downvalley**

#### **Old Forge**

Cusumano  
Dooley's Pub & Eatery

#### **Taylor**

Union Craft House

### **Dunmore/North Pocono**

#### **Dunmore**

3 Jacks Burgers  
La Cucina

#### **Moscow**

Delish on Main

#### **Springbrook Twp.**

Olde Brook Inn



## Wyoming Valley Ghost Tours

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**Saturday, September 8: Wyoming Valley Ghost Tours** Investigation at Catlin House  
<https://wyomingvalleyghosttours.ticketspice.com/catlin-house-09082023>

## Downtown Walking Tours

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*All tours are free and open to the public and limited to ten people. Learn more about your community and get some fresh air.*

**Saturday, Aug 19, 11 am:** Courthouse Square; meet at corner, N. Washington Ave. and Linden St. (tour in English and Spanish)

**Saturday Sept 9, 11 am:** Lower Hill section; meet at Elm Park Church, corner, Linden St. and Jefferson Ave. For reservations, please call 570-344-3841

## Throwback Thursdays



### Thursday, August 17 Classic Cars and A Classic Movie



**Theatrical Release Poster**

The Lackawanna Historical Society's "Throwback Thursday" classic movies will continue Thursday, August 17, with a screening of "Grease" at the Circle Drive-In! Help us set the mood for this 1950s throwback with a leather jacket or your fluffiest poodle skirt and see classic cars on display from local car clubs.

The movie will begin at dusk. Tickets are \$9 for adults and \$7 for children, with proceeds to benefit the Lackawanna Historical Society.



*istockphoto.com*

Tickets are available at the gate or online at <https://circledrive-in.com/drive-in/>.  
For more information, contact the Society by email at [lackawannahistory@gmail.com](mailto:lackawannahistory@gmail.com).

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**[lackawannahistory@gmail.com](mailto:lackawannahistory@gmail.com)**



Image source: Ciker.com



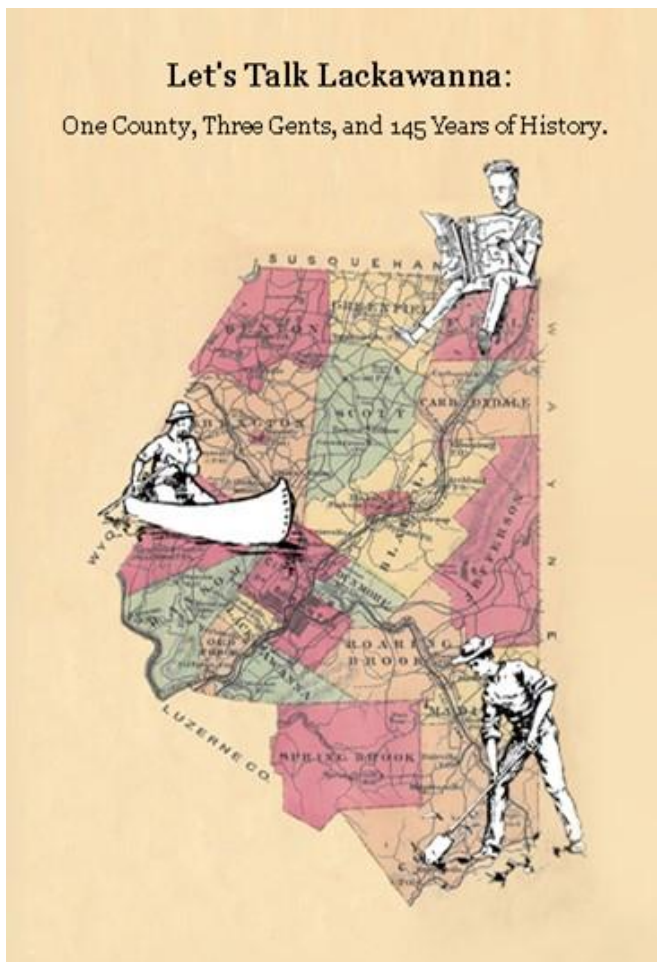
Christy Mathewson (Image source: Wikipedia)

Do you love Local History? Do you love baseball? Please consider supporting LHS when we mark the birthdays of some of our local legends! For any tickets sold using the link below, the RailRiders will donate \$5.

**Saturday, August 12**, Christy Mathewson's 143<sup>rd</sup> birthday.

<https://tinyurl.com/yc7hwr3r>

## *Let's Talk Lackawanna: One County, Three Gents, and 145 Years of History*



**Thursday, September 7 at 6 pm**, LHS presents *Let's Talk Lackawanna: One County, Three Gents, and 145 Years of History* at the **Radisson Lackawanna Station Hotel, Scranton**, 700 Lackawanna Avenue.

Join us to celebrate the place we call home with humor, insight, and a few strange and unusual yarns! Our presenters, who are uniquely suited to discuss Lackawanna County's long history, include:

**Willis Conover**, retired history professor and the author of "Labeling Lackawanna: The Stories Behind Lackawanna County Place Names."

**Bernie McGurl**, longtime director of the Lackawanna River Conservation Association.

**Ted Baird**, archaeologist associated with the Frances Dorrance chapter of the PA Archaeological Society.

Dinner is \$65 per person and reservations are required. For more information and to make a reservation, please visit:

<https://lackawanna-historical-society.ticketleap.com/2023-annual-dinner/>

**[lackawannahistory@gmail.com](mailto:lackawannahistory@gmail.com)**

## *A Night of Amusements*

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**October 5:30pm – 8:30pm, Sidel's Restaurant:** Join us for a new fundraiser where we offer an evening of traditional Victorian entertainment, including games of chance, fortune tellers, magical beasts and other surprises! More details will be announced soon.

## *Save the Date*

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**Sunday, September 24, 4 pm: You Live Here: You Should Know This!** Local history game show, Ritz Theater and Performing Arts Center. Additional details TBA

**Saturday, September 30:** LHS hosts **Local History Fair** at the Viewmont Mall. Details TBA

**Saturday, October 21, E. G. W. Dietrich, Albright Memorial Library.** A lecture by Chris Jend about E. G. W. Dietrich, notable for construction of many buildings in Lackawanna County. Check the Albright website for details.

## *Scranton After Dark*

**Fridays beginning September 29, 7pm** LHS haunted walking tours kick off and continue **through the end of October**. The cost is \$15 per person. Tours sell out fast so don't wait to book your spot. Online registration opens on September 13th. Check our website to access the ticket link.

## *Genealogy Forum*

**Saturday, September 9, 10am: Finding Records in Germany**, Gino Merli Room, Valley Community Library, 739 River St., Peckville. *A laptop is required and participants should have completed genealogy research on the US side of the Atlantic. Session planners ask that anyone who registers knows the approximate place of residence for ancestors in a specific region.* **Registration Required by emailing [lackawannahistory@gmail.com](mailto:lackawannahistory@gmail.com)**

## *Genealogy Forum for Beginners*

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**Saturday, October 7, 14, 21, 28, 9:30am -12pm:** LHS will partner with Albright Memorial Library, Vine St., Scranton, to host the Fall Genealogy for Beginners in the Hinkelman Room. Registration is required. Participants must commit to all four sessions. The fee is \$25 for LHS members and \$35 for Non-members.

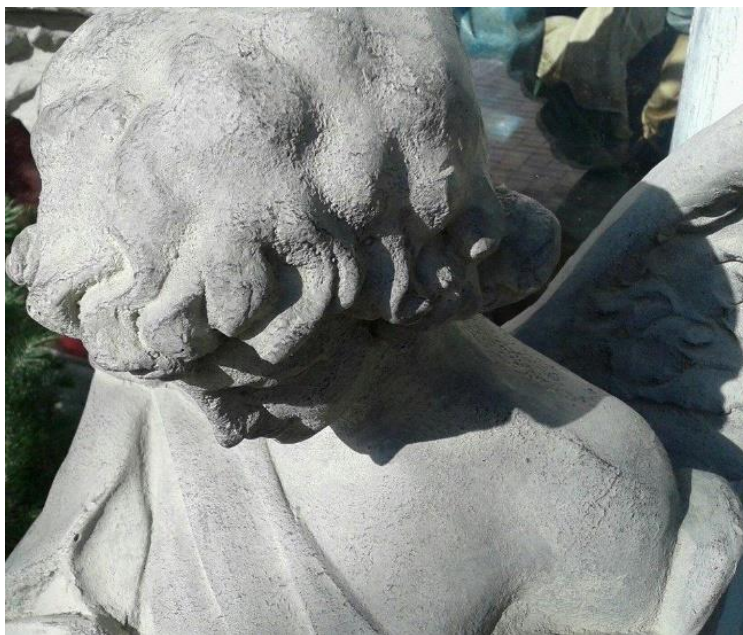
Registration deadline is Friday, September 29. Please either call 570-344-3841 or email LHS at [lackawannahistory@gmail.com](mailto:lackawannahistory@gmail.com) for details.



*The following story by written Nancy Gilbride Casey is an example of what a bit of genealogical digging can find.*

## *Solving A Mystery With A Cemetery Receipt*

*By Nancy Gilbride Casey*



Sometimes, it just takes time before the answers we seek to our genealogical questions come to light.

Two years ago, my husband and I got together for dinner with my cousins Rebecca and Tom on a visit to Cleveland, my hometown. Rebecca is the daughter of the original family genealogist, my aunt Margaret Gilbride Firestone (1947-2004). During that dinner, Rebecca shared with me what I considered at the time as the family Holy Grail—Aunt Margaret's genealogy notes and artifacts.

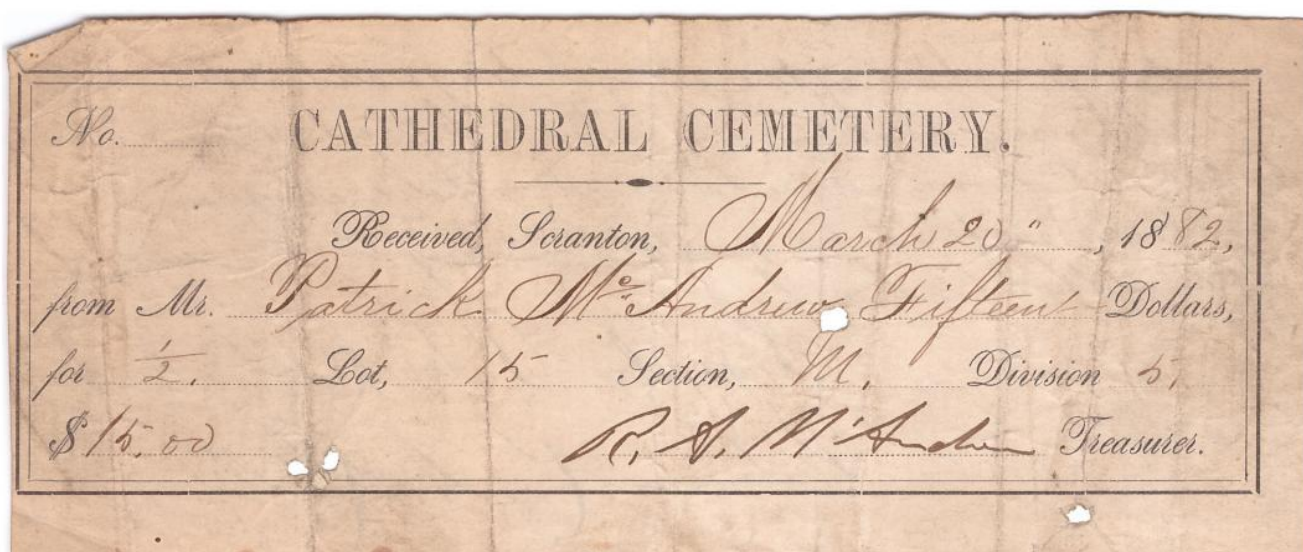
My aunt conducted pre-internet genealogy, a time-consuming slog of writing letters and visiting archives and churches in search of family information. And waiting. This cycle resulted in mostly rejection (evidenced in the replies she kept), and occasional success. It was a thankless task at the time, but one she continued to pursue, to my endless thanks today.

She was also the keeper of various artifacts passed down through the family from our Baker/Cassidy and Gilbride/McAndrew lines. Among the amazing items Aunt Margaret's collection contained was a 140+ year-old cemetery receipt dated 20 March 1882. It was for a plot purchased by our great-great grandfather Patrick McAndrew (1838-1892) in Scranton's Cathedral Cemetery.<sup>1</sup> But who the plot was for was a mystery.

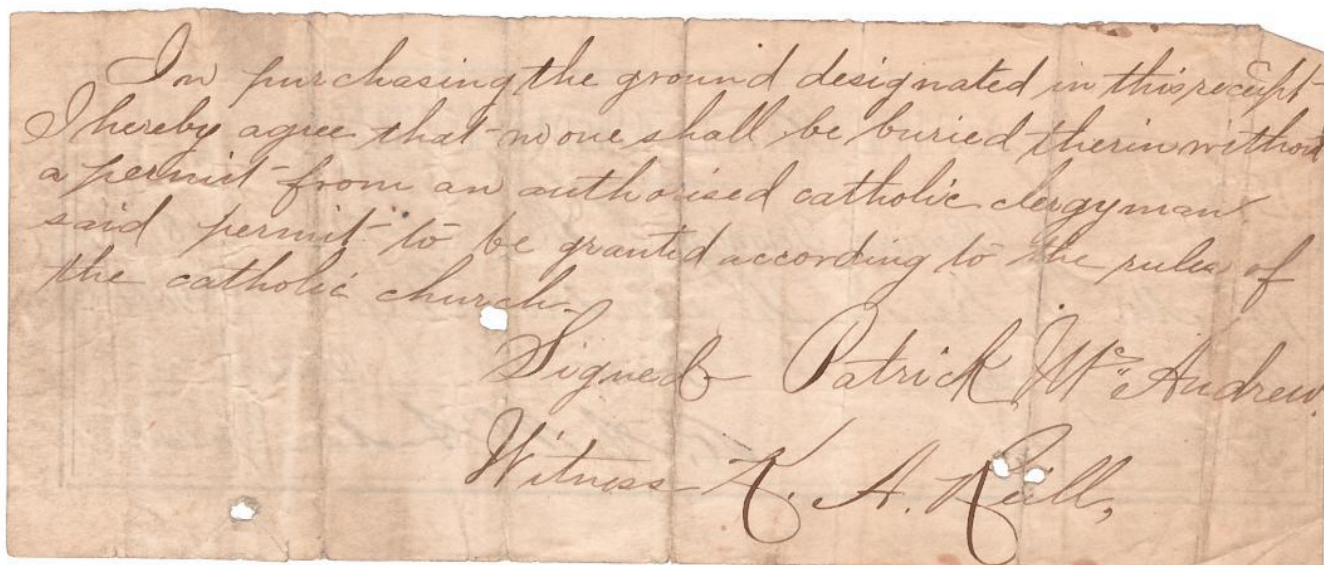
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**[lackawannahistory@gmail.com](mailto:lackawannahistory@gmail.com)**





*Front of Cathedral Cemetery receipt, noting the purchase of a 1/2 plot in March 1882.*



*The back of the receipt gave specific instructions on who could be buried in the plot in the future.*

Cemetery staff gave me the information from their records that Patrick J. McAndrew and Bridget Lavelle McAndrew were buried in the plot. But this man was not my ancestor; he died in 1934 and my ancestor in 1892. Also, my Patrick was married to Ann Kelly, not Bridget Lavelle. I speculated at the time that it was a family plot, and these individuals were somehow related to my McAndrew couple. But I did not delve too much further into it, and after a few days I moved on to other mysteries.<sup>2</sup>

This week, I remembered the cemetery receipt as I reviewed old Facebook posts. Back in 2021 when I first saw the receipt, I shared photos of it on my page, and tagged my cousins so that they too could see this incredible document.

But this time as I re-read the post something clicked, and I recalled that my great-great grandfather Patrick had one daughter Barbara, born in 1878, who died before he did. He had eight children with wife Ann Kelly McAndrew, but his 1892 will mentioned only seven; similarly, his obituary noted that he "leaves a widow and seven children."<sup>3</sup>

Quickly turning to my records, I realized I had found Barbara's Scranton death record sometime in the past two years, but never associated it with the cemetery receipt. A comparison of the two documents confirms that the plot Patrick purchased was for his 5-year-old daughter Barbara. She died on 19 March 1882. He purchased the plot the next day, 20 March 1882. It was a "1/2" plot, suitable for a small child.

6

RETURN OF A DEATH.  
TO THE BOARD OF HEALTH OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON, PA.

PHYSICIAN'S CERTIFICATE.

1. Name of Deceased, *McAndrew*  
2. Color, *White*  
3. Sex, *Female*  
4. Age, *Five Years*  
5. Married or Single, *Single*  
6. Date of Death, *19th March 1882*  
7. Cause of Death, *Pneumonia*  
8. Nationality, *Irish*  
*A. H. Beutler* M.D.  
RESIDENCE, *Scranton 2d Ave*

UNDERTAKER'S CERTIFICATE IN RELATION TO DECEASED.

9. Occupation, *High - Works*  
10. Place of Birth, *High - Works*  
11. When a Minor, } Name of Father, *Pat McAndrew*  
                              } Name of Mother, *Mrs McAndrew*  
12. Ward, *3rd*  
13. Street and Number, *Rockwell's Hill*  
14. Date of Burial, *March 21st*  
15. Place of Burial, *Hyde Park*  
*Mrs. A. P. O'Donnell*, Undertaker  
RESIDENCE, *Providence Pa*  
Date of Certificate, *March 21st*

Death certificate for Pat McAndrew's unnamed daughter, now identified as Barbara McAndrew.<sup>4</sup>

I can only imagine the grief that Patrick and Ann faced as they buried their young daughter who succumbed to pneumonia. This is one of the sadder aspects of researching family history—we often come across the tragedies of past generations.

I consider it an honor and a privilege to tell these stories as I find them, and to stitch back together families who have long since left the Earth. Rest in peace, Barbara.

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*Genealogy researcher/writer **Nancy Gilbride Casey** has been exploring her family roots since the early 2000s. Though a Cleveland native, she loves to research her Scranton ancestors whose surnames include Gilbride, McAndrew, Kelly, Eagen, and Ryan. She began her blog [Leaves on the Tree](#) in 2018 to document discoveries and share stories. She lives in Tioga, Texas with her husband. Reach her at [ngcintx@gmail.com](mailto:ngcintx@gmail.com).*

**IMAGE:** McKinney Angel, Nancy Gilbride Casey, 2013.

## NOTES

<sup>1</sup> Cathedral Cemetery, Scranton, Lackawanna, Pennsylvania, receipt for 1/2 plot, Lot 15, Section M, Division 5, purchased by Patrick McAndrew, 20 March 1882. Private collection of R. Firestone [address for private use], Willowick, Ohio, 2023. Future research will hopefully reveal the relationship between my ancestor Patrick McAndrew, and Patrick and Bridget McAndrew also buried in this plot.

<sup>2</sup> Mariellen Donovan, Cathedral Cemetery, Scranton, Pennsylvania [e-address for private use], to N Casey, e-mail, "McAndrew Lot," 25 June 2021, privately held by Casey [e-address for private use], Tioga, Tx. Also: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Health, Certificate of Death #5380, Patrick J. McAndrew, 14 January 1934; database and images, *Ancestry* ([https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/5164/images/42342\\_647680\\_0921-02121](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/5164/images/42342_647680_0921-02121)); citing Bureau of Vital Statistics, Harrisburg. Also: Board of Health of the City of Scranton, Death Certificates, Vol. 30, 1892, np, Return of a Death, Patrick McAndrews; database with images *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C9YG-P3TY-C> : accessed 12 July 2023), FHL film 7700819, Image 1020. Also: B.S. Shuta, transcriber, Holy Rosary Church (Scranton, Lackawanna, Pennsylvania), Baptismal Register 1860-1887, p. 59, entry for birth of Dominic McAndrew, b. Aug. 1867, parents Patrick McAndrew and Nancy Kelly; transcribed from digital images, "Teresa M. McAndrew Memorial Catholic Record Collection," Northeast Pennsylvania Genealogical Society, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Nancy is a common nickname for the name Anne. Also: Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania, Marriage License Docket, Vol. 26, p. 272, #9299, marriage of Patrick J. McAndrew to Bridget Lavelle 10 Aug. 1892; image, "Marriages 1885-Present," *Lackawanna Public Inquiries* ([www.lpa-homes.org/LPA\\_Public\\_Inquiries/Views/CAXMLW\\_VIEWS/MRG460DW.aspx](http://www.lpa-homes.org/LPA_Public_Inquiries/Views/CAXMLW_VIEWS/MRG460DW.aspx)), citing County Courthouse, Scranton.

<sup>3</sup> 1880 United States Federal Census, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania, population schedule, page 33 (penned), enumeration district 55, ward 2, dwelling 223, family 236, Patrick McCandraw household; digital image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/6742/images/4244365-00740> : accessed 2 Feb 2019); citing NARA microfilm publication T9, roll 1138, image 739. Also: B.S. Shuta, transcriber, Holy Rosary Church (Scranton, Lackawanna, Pennsylvania), Baptismal Register 1860-1887, p. 259, entry for birth of Bridget McAndrew, b. Sept. 1880; transcribed from digital images, "Teresa M. McAndrew Memorial Catholic Record Collection," Northeast Pennsylvania Genealogical Society, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Also: "Register of Wills, Orphan's Court, 1878-1994,"



Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania, Entry for Patrick McAndrew, 1893, Estate No. 2680; *Lackawanna Public Inquiries* (<http://www.lpa-homes.org> : accessed 31 Jan 2019). Also: "Patrick McAndrew," death notice, *The Scranton Tribune* (Scranton, Pennsylvania), 23 Sept 1892, p. 7, col. 3; photocopy from microfilm, Albright Memorial Library, Scranton, Pennsylvania.

<sup>4</sup> Board of Health of the City of Scranton, Death Certificates, Vol. 4, 1882, np, Return of a Death, unnamed female child McAndrew, 19 March 1882; database with images *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C9YG-R91L-K> : accessed 12 July 2023), FHL film 7700813, Image 2040. Barbara's birthplace of the High Works was a north Scranton neighborhood named for a bridge construction project in the area. The street Rockwell's Hill noted on the certificate matches the family's residence on the 1880 census taken two years prior to Barbara's death. Cathedral Cemetery was previously known as Hyde Park Catholic Cemetery.

**Unlike Your Bank**

If you're a member of the Lackawanna Historical Society, then you can Bank on NET!

- #netcares
- All Local
- Not for Profit
- Diverse Products & Services
- Personalized Mortgage Services
- No Annual Fee on Credit Cards

[netcreditunion.com](http://netcreditunion.com)

**WNET**  
CREDIT UNION



## *Pittston Tomato Festival 2023*



*Pittston Tomato Festival Parade 2021*  
<https://www.discovernepa.com>

The 2023 Pittston Tomato Festival, which has been called one of Northeast Pennsylvania's best festivals, takes place from Thursday, August 17 through Sunday, August 20 at the Tomato Festival Grounds, South Main St., Pittston.

The four-day event, which attracts more than 75,000 people, offers live music, a 5k run, arts & crafts, games, bingo, carnival rides and home-grown Pittston tomatoes. The emphasis is on food, which includes pizza, pasta, and numerous other Italian dishes.

All are invited to participate in the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Pittston Tomato Festival Parade to be held on Saturday, August 19, at 11am in downtown Pittston. For information on the parade, please visit <https://www.pittstontomatofestival.com/parade>

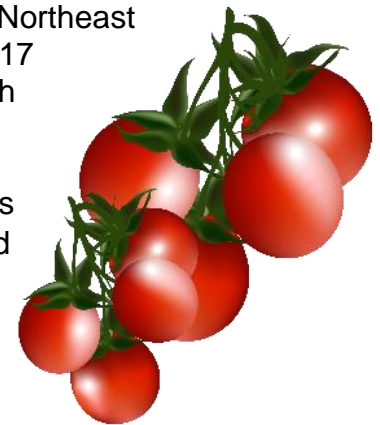
One of the event's many highlights is the Tomato Contest that will be held at the Tomato Festival Committee stand on Saturday, August 19, at 7pm. Categories include the largest, smallest, most perfect, and ugliest tomato. Please drop off your tomato by 5pm. Judging takes place at the committee stand at 6pm. For additional information, please visit <https://www.pittstontomatofestival.com/tomato-contest>

### *Spaghetti Eating Contest*

*Saturday, August 19, 1:30pm, Main Stage*

Contestants will be given a one-pound plate of spaghetti with sauce and three minutes to finish. If no one finishes the entire dish, the winner will be decided by the weight of contestants' remaining pasta. *USE OF UTENSILS IS NOT PERMITTED!!!* Entry is free.

*Note: All 20 slots haven been filled*



## *Attention Kielbasa Connoisseurs!*

### *The 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Plymouth Alive Kielbasa Festival*



*Image source: Discover NEPA*

The 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Plymouth Alive Kielbasa Festival takes place on Friday, August 11 and Saturday, August 12, beginning at 11am. The event offers more than 80 vendors with entertainment, contests, crafts, a variety of food and, of course, enough kielbasa to feed the baseball RailRiders and hockey Penguins.

Of the many attractions is the Kielbasa Contest that brings kielbasa makers from across the region to see how each one's kielbasa stands up to the competition. The contest has two categories, fresh and smoked. When the dust settled at the 2022 festival, Tarnowski's of Nanticoke took first prize in both categories. Komensky's of Duryea took second and Glen Lyon Brothers, Glen Lyon, came in third.

Bosak's Choice Meats of Olyphant holds overall first place with a total of 16 titles. Following is a list of the winners with number of wins since the contest's inception.

*Bosak's Choice Meats, Olyphant: 10 Fresh; 6 Smoked*

*Komensky's Market, Duryea: 5 Fresh; 6 Smoked*

*Tarnowski's Kielbasa, Nanticoke: 3 Fresh; 3 Smoked*

*Fetch's Kielbasa, Wyoming: 2 Smoked*

*Plains Meat Market, Plains: 1 smoked*



***Will Tarnowski's repeat in 2023?***

*Image source: Discover NEPA*

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**[lackawannahistory@gmail.com](mailto:lackawannahistory@gmail.com)**

# *Lackawanna County Movie Theaters: From Their Beginnings and How They Evolved*

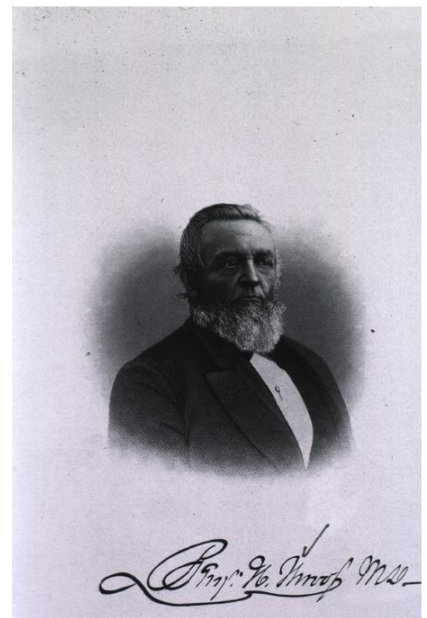
## *Part One Entertainment in the 1800s and the Faint Beginning of Pop Culture*

*By Michael A. Kashmer*

Entertainment venues played a big part in the cultural landscape of our county. From the earliest of times, people looked to be entertained in one way or another. How else to break the boredom of long hours with little pay? People left to their own devices might drift towards drinking and criminal behavior. As you can imagine, the very first entertainment offered modest attempts at music and other skills. Only as time went on did these diversions evolve to include musical instruments, costumes, circus acts, dramas etc. As shows became more sophisticated they moved to their own buildings and structures which gave room for the business to flourish.

From a piece I wrote last year about a local pioneer, Dr. Benjamin H. Throop in the early 1800's, I learned that back then, organized entertainment depended on simple but satisfying choices. Churches encouraged participation during these early days and any new, creative way to bring people into church was welcome. Traveling preachers were popular and were often successful in filling the pews on short notice. Dr. Troop's eyewitness reports include audiences drinking heavily and sometimes taking over the preaching duties. It was unclear if any of the revelers returned to the congregation for penance.

Another early form of entertainment was "barn dances" which allowed the community's single men and women to meet like-minded folk. Using a generous neighbor's barn, a band made up of a fiddle or two, a guitar-type string instrument and a variety of percussion to keep the beat going was all that was needed. The goal was to get as many people as possible to participate. At first, shy first-timers would try to blend into the background or stand in defensive looking groups avoiding the glances of the eligible bachelors. After a few songs the crowd would warm up, helped by the dance organizers and everyone would join in and have fun.



*Benjamin H. Throop, M.D*

*Image source:  
National Library of Medicine*

About a year ago I attended a Jewish/Russian wedding in New York City and the percussion part of this ensemble was key to keeping the "beat" going. This wedding



band was just like the music makers described above --- a guitar, two percussion pieces, one modern drum set, and another composed of two large free-standing drums which kept the beat. The drum players kept the beat alive with a lively (and loud) foot stomping move that was mesmerizing. The beat keeping drummers shared Russian language songs, festive wedding songs and other more somber melodies. There was a guitarist, a single female vocalist and on occasion a male volunteer with a powerful voice came up from the audience.

### *Tavern Music*

Just as people do today, after a long day at work, people wanted to put away their mining tools, farming implements or computers and apps and enjoy life. Relaxation can take many forms, but most include talking, some food and drink, and maybe music. If you are lucky enough to have all these at your disposal you are being entertained!

Tavern music was initially someone with a fiddle who was looking to make a few coins while performing for a crowd. Fiddlers who could coax some emotion from their instrument and the audience were well received. A lament made the audience subdued but if a dance tune is played the audience is completely engaged. A lively tune would get hands clapping and feet tapping and as the music wound down there would be a burst of applause.

Eventually, musicians would play on Friday night after work, for example. And on Saturday too. Not Sunday though, the day that was set aside as a day of rest and reflection of the Lord.

Some popular songs of the time were ideal for the fiddle and if the fiddler could sing, that was even better. There was never a lack of patrons who could be counted on to chime in and contribute to the camaraderie. The fiddler encouraged patrons to lend their voices to the amplifying sound.

“Across The Western Ocean” and “Blue Tail Fly” were favorite tunes. reflecting on everyday life. Songs about family, romance, work, emigration, unknown dangers and death were popular themes. There were political songs and humorous ones too, some of them quite bawdy.



*1860s Barn Dance Band*

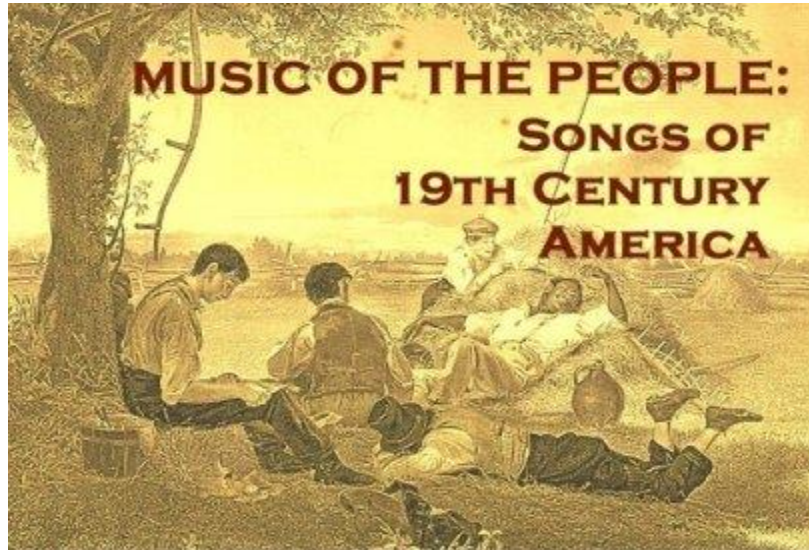
*Image source: pinterest*

Irish songs became the mainstay of tavern music in the mid 1800's up and down “the line”. Because of the large number of arrivals from Ireland and their growing economic and political power in the Valley, the Irish were able to heavily influence tavern culture. There were several distinct categories of Irish songs, here are just a few. Irish language songs - included beautiful poetic lyrics and internal rhymes which work well in Gaelic but not in English. “Sean nos” - old style, the most traditional style of Irish singing



“Aisling” - was an emotional song in which a female character personified Ireland and predicted that Ireland will be set free again one day.

Ballads - Popular songs enjoyed by all nationalities reflected growing American populism with emphasis on life in their new country. Later in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, tavern and street singers sold song sheets that people could take home and learn.



*Image source: palosverdes.com*

It must have been marvelous to see this new community come together. Can you imagine how immigrants enjoyed being a part of this event? Just like in their home country, neighbors came together for company and enjoyment.

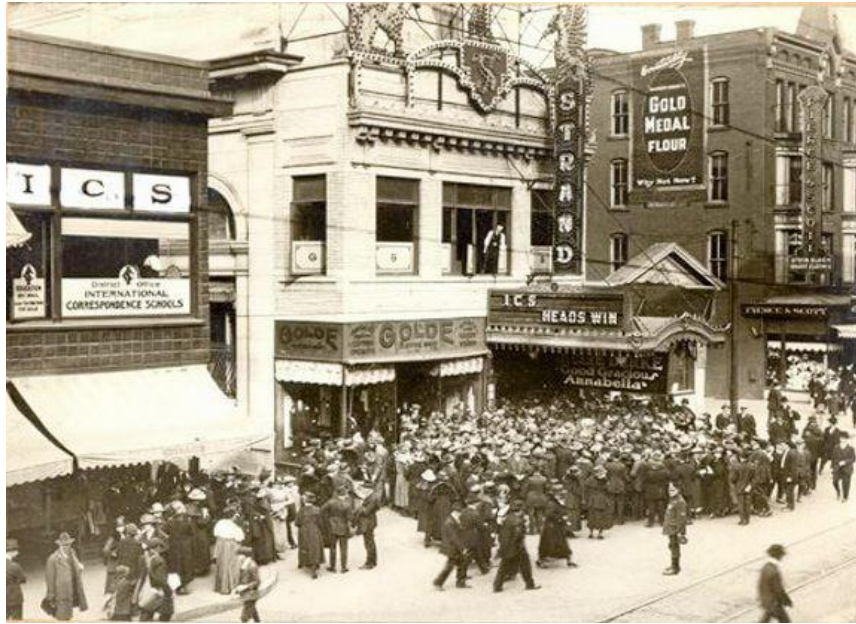
As time went on and communities became more stable with the addition of family homes, businesses and structures built solely for the purpose of recreation. This stability was based on jobs and the steady wages which provided the wealth and leisure time that allowed theaters to flower. The first music hall theaters were ramshackle affairs, non-descript structures with minimal comfort and little decoration. In a short time, as populations grew, new residents brought stories of large, well-appointed theaters complete with a larger band, dancing acts, comedy skits including renditions of famous dramatic pieces and speeches.

There were also a variety of drinks and things to eat plus quiet spots to practice some sweet talk with a new acquaintance. Many buildings had boarding rooms upstairs. Others featured card or billiard rooms. The wealthier the town, the fancier their entertainment would be.

An opera house required capital and access to the touring opera companies that entertained along a “circuit” that started in New York or Philadelphia. These circuits were organized and supported financially by booking agents in those cities.

The history of booking agents is fascinating and showed how middlemen could make money and enjoy prominence in the growing field called “Show Business”. These agents grew along with the industry and would be the first to adapt to changing tastes and styles. And they were the first to embrace the latest technological improvements. For example, agents had the

capital to invest in the change from vaudeville houses to nickelodeons and then movie houses.



*Early Scranton Theatre  
Image source; thetimes-tribune.com*

Lackawanna County enjoyed an excellent geographical location. The Valley had connecting rail lines making it easy to distribute the manufactured goods and anthracite coal that the valley was famous for. The canal network enabled shippers to transport large bulk shipments like grain, iron ore and heavy industrial equipment from the Midwest to eastern markets. These canals were the engineering marvels of their time. They spread to the north and west but were eclipsed by faster steam engines that could travel from Philadelphia to Chicago overnight.

In Part Two of this story about entertainment in the Lackawanna Valley, we will look at the growing number of US-made musical instruments, developing new dancing styles, like “four-part glee” and the use of music and campaign songs arranged specifically for the election campaign of President William Henry Harrison.

We will also look at the venues themselves and how some lasted for many years, keeping up with changing consumer tastes, while others disappeared quickly. Today that progression would be called “Pop Culture”.

## *Anthracite Ancestry*

*Anthracite Ancestry* covers various aspects of Northeast Pennsylvania's coal legacy, including coal companies, coal barons, labor and labor unions, individuals, families, immigrant groups, disasters, subsidence and railroads. If your ancestors left behind anthracite stories of any kind, please contact us at [lackawannahistory@gmail.com](mailto:lackawannahistory@gmail.com) and include *Anthracite* in the subject matter.

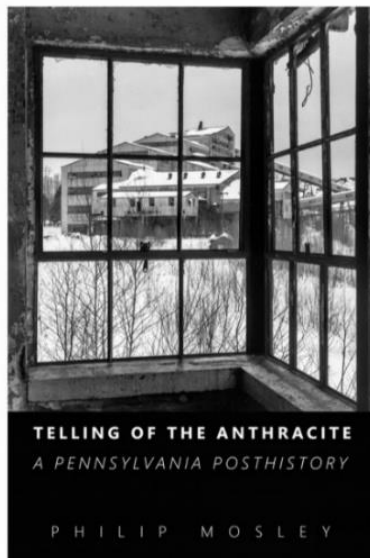


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# NEW RELEASE

## TELLING OF THE ANTHRACITE A PENNSYLVANIA POSTHISTORY BY PHILIP MOSLEY



This is the first book about how we tell the Pennsylvania anthracite story in the postindustrial age, and it places this discourse in the broader context of environmental and socioeconomic change. It is a work of regional history that is scholarly in tone yet written in a style accessible to the general reader. It explores the various ways in which anthracite history has been represented and remembered since 1960.

A native of England, who came to the USA in 1988, Philip Mosley is Distinguished Professor Emeritus of English and Comparative Literature at Penn State University. Author of a number of books on literature and cinema, including *Anthracite!* (2006) and most recently *Resuming Maurice* (2019), he is also a translator of works by Belgian francophone authors and was awarded the Prix de la Traduction in 2008.

### SUMMER / FALL BOOK SIGNINGS

Bethlehem: Moravian Book Shop, 428 Main St., Saturday, June 24, 2023, 1-3 pm.  
Lansford: Coal Miners Heritage Festival, No. 9 Mine & Museum, Sunday, July 9, 2023, 10 am-5 pm.  
Scranton: Page to Stage (Diva Theater), Olde Brick Theatre, 126 W. Market St., Saturday, August 19, 2023, 8 pm.  
Scranton: 17th Interdependence Hexagon Project Exhibition, ArtWorks Gallery & Studio, 236 Penn Ave., Sunday, September 17, 2023, 1-2.30 pm.

Paperback, 250 pages, \$19.95  
Publish Date: January 3, 2023  
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HISTORY / Historiography  
SOCIAL SCIENCE / Popular Culture

  
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## *Spitting in Northeastern Pennsylvania*

*By Bob Wolensky*

I come from a spitting culture. I never thought much about it growing up in Northeastern Pennsylvania because it was something you just took for granted. So many men spat (as did some women but not as blatantly) that it was just part of everyday life. Of course, most of the men's expectorations came from mining anthracite. Hard coal inflicted widespread lung damage on those who toiled below and above ground, and one result was the regular need to spit. Some of the miners chewed tobacco at work ("it helps control the dust") and did most of their expelling underground. But some others brought the habit out of the mines to the main streets and sidewalks. (I'm told that tobacco chewing was more common in the bituminous or soft coal fields, which exist in 35 states).

At the extreme, mining anthracite led to Black Lung (antho-silicosis), which caused a serious loss of breathing capacity as well as the constant production of phlegm. Yet even before the disease took hold, the typical mineworker had to deal with breathing problems on a daily basis. This inevitably involved the need to "clear the lungs" from coal particles in order to respire. Hence spitting was everywhere.



The men said they needed "a miner and a laborer" (a shot and a beer) after work in order to "cut the dust" from the throat. So, they'd stop at their "country clubs"—the local taverns—whose owners recognized their need to expectorate. As late as the 1950s, when I would go to neighborhood establishments with my father, I recall spittoons stationed at strategic positions around the bar. Of course, the drinkers would regularly visit the cuspidors, and I'd watch as they did their business. It occurred to me that someone would have to empty the containers when they filled, which could have been more than once a day as the taverns were open from morning till night.

*Left: Early 20<sup>th</sup> century spittoon. Image source: Wikipedia*

Speaking of which, one elderly gentleman told me (and I vaguely remember it being so) that some beer gardens installed a tile trough at the base of the bar, below the patrons' feet as they sat on stools, containing running water. The customers could simply spit into the stream from their seats, and all would wash away. No more spittoons! No doubt some of the men missed the mark and the dribble would slime down the front of the bar. Nevertheless, I think the flowage system was an ingenious idea.



*Spittoon Trough*

Image source: <https://twitter.com/MrTimDunn/status/1587820016132661248>

As spitting spread through the culture, hard-working mineworkers were not the only ones who engaged in spluttering practices. For example, in high school it became fashionable among we boys to raise up juices and launch “hockers.” One of my good friends referred to his output as ICBHs (InterContinental Ballistic Hockers). Boys would do this before school, between classes, during sports practices, and after school (but not during school). Of course, when playing sports, we’d regularly spit on our hands to get a better grip on the baseball, bat, or football. It really was a nasty custom, but it was considered quite normal, so we thought nothing of it. In fact, now that I reflect, I think spitting was viewed as a manly activity. Germs? We never thought about them.

My dad, Nick Wolensky, was a regular spitter. He worked as a miner before World War II and as a breaker man above ground afterwards, for a total of over 30 years. In the process, he developed black lung, but a milder form, which he attributed to the wetted bandana that he wore around his face every day. His fellow workers made fun of him as he’d put on the kerchief in the morning and rinse it out during the shift. However, he believed that the relatively thin piece of cotton trapped at least some of the particles from his very dusty workplace.

At home dad would habitually spit into the toilet or sink, always sure to flush away the result. Mom never liked it despite the fact that five of her six brothers worked in and around the mines and, of course, were spitters. Once in a while Dad would chuck a mouthful out the car window while driving, sometime seeing the missile smear the rear window or, worse, stain the paint. Mom would frown greatly on this practice, but dad claimed that he had no choice. One evening, while we were sitting in the living room watching television, he coughed and choked so violently that a wad of mucus became caught in his throat, and he passed out. Mom screamed and shook him vigorously, and we kids thought he might be dead. Mom

saved the day by sticking her fingers into his mouth, clearing the blockage. Not soon to be forgotten.

One of my friends, who is now in his late 70s, experienced a less traumatic occurrence with his grandfather. A miner for nearly four decades, the granddad handled his black lung effluent by regularly ejecting it into a Ball canning jar that he kept at the foot of his easy chair. My friend vividly (and unfortunately) recalled the routine, which involved long strings of black, brown, and grey spittle cascading from granddad's mouth into the jar. He said that the saliva looked like a stream of juicy clams, mussels, and oysters and, to this day, he can't eat any of them.

I have been known to spit. It's not because of my mining days for I had none, but I was born in the shadow of the Harry E breaker in Swoyersville where I lived during the first five years of my life. The breaker operated into the early 1960s. The entire neighborhood around it, where most of my extended family lived and where I often visited after we moved to the suburbs, was covered with dust from the coal processing plant. We could not have helped but breathed the polluted air and it likely contributed to ' allergies, nasal drip, asthma, and other maladies. Like me, many family members face these problems to the present. My guess is that more than a few of them spit. I wish it were not so but there it is: a facet of anthracite's physical and cultural legacy lasting into the twenty-first century.



*Harry E. Breaker Image source: railfan.net.*

## *Spitting Forum Invitation*

When Bob Wolensky submitted the final draft of his "Spitting" article, he informed us that a few people related to him their spitting experiences, usually regarding relatives. A British friend told Bob that there was very little spitting in the UK and explained why.

We took Bob's suggestion and decided to invite readers to share their spitting experiences with us in, for lack of a better title, a "Spitting Forum" although we must admit the title is as about as direct as can be.

If you have any spitting stories and most of us do have recollections from somewhere along the line, we'd love to include them in upcoming issues of History Bytes. Please forward yours to us at [www.lackawannahistory@gmail.com](mailto:www.lackawannahistory@gmail.com) and place *Spitting Forum* in the subject matter. Thanks very much!



## *A List of Pennsylvania Mine Disasters 2002 - 1846*

Most readers are aware of the “Remembering” series published from time to time recognizing mine disasters that took place over many decades. The United States Mine Rescue Association website lists in detail all Pennsylvania mine disasters, both anthracite and bituminous, by year from 2002 to 1846. Following is an example of what the site offers.

### **Pittston Coal Company Old Forge Colliery Explosion**

Avoca, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania

September 29, 1930

No. Killed – 4

[USBM Final Investigation Report](#) (9.4 Mb) 

A local gas explosion occurred in three chambers of the first right rock tunnel section of this mine.

As a result of the gas ignition, at least two kegs, or portions of kegs, of black blasting powder were exploded.

Three men were killed instantly by violence, and another died two days later in the hospital. Three others were seriously injured as a result of this explosion.

Deceased:

Amelio Bonfilio, 47

Robert Brunetti, 30

Adelphio Ercoli, 31

Marcellis Monacelli, 35

Injured:

Wasil Barilla, 39

Joseph Brazacio, 32

Razni Eltor, 32

Source: [Pennsylvania Anthracite Mine Accidents, 1924-1932](#) 

To see a complete listing, please visit:

[https://usminedisasters.miningquiz.com/Mine\\_Disasters/search\\_all\\_state.asp?ACC\\_STATE\\_NAME=Pennsylvania](https://usminedisasters.miningquiz.com/Mine_Disasters/search_all_state.asp?ACC_STATE_NAME=Pennsylvania)

*In The Mines*  
*The Daily Diaries of Thomas J. Goblick*  
*By Carl Orechovsky*

Thomas J. Goblick worked in the mines as a motorman. A motorman operates an electric or battery-powered mine motorcar to haul trips (trains) of cars, loaded with timbers, rails, explosives and other supplies, into a mine.

Mr. Goblick lived in the Austin Heights section of Old Forge. A friend was removing items from Mr. Goblick's house and came upon his work diaries that cover six years, extending from 1938 to 1944. The owner of the house didn't want the diaries, which are smaller sized, spiral bound notebooks. They were scanned and enlarged, and subsequently donated to the Old Forge Historical Society. Most entries pertain to Old Forge, and I have permission to share the contents.

*Volpe Coal Co. sold to Jermyn Green Coal Co on April 26. No. 6 Colliery, No. 11 Shaft. April 1943*

APR 1. All Fools Day. Drove Helen to Hospital. Stayed home. Anniversary.

APR 2. Cold. OK.

APR 3. Cold. Francis Coyhe Died. OK.

APR 4. Cold. Sunday. Stayed home. Joe Ulias was to visit me.

APR 5. Cold. Mailed puzzles. Was to Communion today. OK.

APR 6. Real Cold. Up at 8:30 am, drove Dell to Duryea. Made 1 trip inside, High Road broke. OK.

APR 7. Snow. No mail. Drove to work. Swell shift. Lent Jim \$.50. Home 10:30. Fixed trap doors at home.

APR 8. Cloudy. Up at 9 am. Joe Ulias armature burned.

APR 9. Warm. Up at 9 am. Was to Old Forge A&P. Sifted some ash. Hoisting down 2 hrs.

APR 10. Cold. Up at 9:30 am. Was to Old Forge for haircut, \$.50. Left home 1:30 pm for shift. Swell shift.

APR 11. Cold. Was to Puzios home in evening.

APR 12. Cold. Up at 5:15, in the mine at 6:15. 7am, 6 places. 27 cars coal. Home 3:30 pm. Nell & Dell to movies.

APR 13. Snow. Everything OK. Up 5:15, in mine 6:15. Home 3:30 pm.

APR 14. Cold. Pay Day. Swell shift. Riders paid. Was to Franks.

APR 15. Snow. Man hurt. Swell shift. Nell & Dell to movies. 77 hrs + 7 hr time ½. 84 hrs. \*\*\* no pay listed\*\*\*

APR 16. Frosty. Sent for motor book. All riders in, work was well done. Bought 2 smoking pipes\$.78. Done 12:30.

APR 17. Cold. Helen was home. Time&1/2.

APR 18. Warm. Sunday. Was to Puzios. Drove Helen back to Hospital.

APR 19. Cold. 3 pm. Everybody working.

APR 20. Warm. Helen was home in morning.

APR 21. Rain. Drove Helen to Hospital. Home 10:30 pm.

APR 22. JOE McCARTY DIED. Orders to quit at 10:30 pm.

APR 23. Nice. Big Good Friday. Colliery working. Up 9:30 am, rubbish out. Done 8 pm. Home 10 pm.

APR 24. Warm. Was to Old Forge for papers. Bought case of beer in Franks. Done 8 pm, Home 9 pm. Time &1/2

APR 25. Cold. Easter Sunday.

APR 26. Warm. 7 am. Easter Monday. Colliery Idle.

APR 27. 107 not in. Bought gas in Pittston. Bought Nell pint of cleaner. McCarty Buried to-day.

APR 28. Cloudy. JONNIE DUPONT DIED. Rose DuBernas Married. Swell shift.

APR 29. Nice. Was to Old Forge with 3 pair shoes. Received special delivery letter from Com. Contest. Done 12am.

APR 30. Rain. Pay Day. Riders paid. Was In Joseph's. Stayed home. 70 hrs+14 time&1/2.

*Jermyn Green Coal Co, No 6 Colliery, No 11 Shaft. May 1943*

MAY 1. STRIKE

MAY 2. Sunday. Gov. takes the mines.

MAY 3. 3 pm. STRIKE.

MAY 4. Received Motor book. All OK.

MAY 5. OK

MAY 6. Rain. OK.

MAY 7. Nice. Swell shift. Helen came home tonight.

MAY 8. Warm. Swell shift 2 places in East.

MAY 9. Was to movies with Tom. Our Air Force.

MAY 10. 7am. To Town, register for Murry Body Corp.

MAY 11. Rain. To Town. Saw Mr. Williams. Register with Mr. Stevens, Technical Wood Working School.

MAY 12 - 13. Rain. 3 places. Done 12 am. Good Shift.



MAY 14. Cool. Shoe Stall and Back Branch to work.

MAY 15. OK. Time&1/2. 70hrs + 7time&1/2

MAY 16. Pm. Sunday Stayed home. Was to visit Jonnie Puzio.

MAY 17. Rain. 1 place Back Branch, 3 places in Shoe Stall. Done 8:30.

MAY 18. Rain. Moisture begins to form in airways.

MAY 19. Rain. New truce ext. to May 31.

MAY 20. Cloudy. 3 places, 19 cars coal. Chopped wood.

MAY 21. Storm. Swell shift.

MAY 22. Cool. Done early. Helen was home. 7 hrs time&1/2.

MAY 23. Warm. Sunday. Drove Helen to Moses Taylor.

MAY 24. Trans to machine room. OK.

MAY 25 - 29. OK. MAY 29 7hrs time&1/2

MAY 30. Sunday Memorial Day. Decoration Day.

MAY 31. Cleaned Red Ash Slope. 5 men loaded 3 coal, 1 wood. Trans to machine room 20 hrs. 77 hrs + 14 time1/2.

*Jermyn Green Coal Co, No 6 Colliery, No 11 Shaft. June 1943.*

JUN 1. Rain. STRIKE. ALL COLLIERIES IDLE. [4] \*\*\* [4] Means 4 hours worked in the Machine Shop\*\*\*

JUN 2 - 4. Attend Night School in Town Technical Training School. [4].

JUN 5. Ordered back to work by Government.

JUN 6. Sunday stayed home. Was to Johnnies.

JUN 7. Rain. Was to shop practice. Worked 7 hrs + [4].

JUN 8. Warm. Joe Ulias stayed at home from shop. Worked 7 hrs + [4].

JUN 9. Cold. Worked 7 hrs + [4].

JUN 10. Busy all day. Dan Conley was around. Worked 7 hrs + [4].

JUN 11. Ran around like a rabbit. Worked 7 hrs + [4].

JUN 12. Nice done every little thing OK. 7 hrs time&1/2.

JUN 13. Sunday. Was to church. Sonny's first Communication. Swell day.

JUN 14. Fair shift.

JUN 15. Pay Day. Riders Paid. Good Shift. 32 hrs + 20 [4] = 52.

JUN 16. Rain. Everything OK.

JUN 17. Rain. Joe Puzio had Baby Boy. Pulled rails in South Babylon. + 2 hrs.

JUN 18. Cool. 2 shakers broke down. 6 cars coal.

JUN 19. Easy shift.

JUN 20. Sunday stayed at home.

JUN 21 – 24. STRIKE. [4]

JUN 25 - 26. STRIKE.

JUN 27. Sunday.

JUN 28 - 30. STRIKE. [4] JUN. 30 Pay Day. 30 hrs + 24 hrs [4]

\*\*\* *(Thomas: O.K. means everything in order, everybody all right.)* \*\*\*

## *Subscribe to History Bytes*

History Bytes offers a look at our past, as well as a look at Lackawanna and Northeast Pennsylvania in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Who are we now? How do we embrace those who came before us and those who are newly arrived?

A subscription to History Bytes is free. If you would like future issues of our bi-monthly, e-newsletter sent to your inbox, please contact the Lackawanna Historical Society at [lackawannahistory@gmail.com](mailto:lackawannahistory@gmail.com) and place *History Bytes* in the subject matter.

## *Tell Your Story*

If you have any Northeast Pennsylvania-related stories to include in History Bytes, please contact the Society at the above email address. Please include your name, email address and a brief description of your story.

Stories, recollections, etc., can be as short as a few paragraphs; topics can be about a variety of subjects, including, but not limited to, ancestral tales of arriving in their new country and the challenges they faced or stories about jobs that, for the most part, are not as mainstream as they once were. Stories of school life while growing up, unusual places where you played or hung out, college or military experiences, the list is endless.

If by chance you're concerned about writing ability, spelling, punctuation, no worries. Our editors are here to remove any such concerns. Feel free to submit your stories to us at [lackawannahistory@gmail.com](mailto:lackawannahistory@gmail.com).

## *Internet Links*

### ***Historical Attractions***

Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority  
Steamtown National Historic Site  
Anthracite Museum and Iron Furnaces  
Electric City Trolley Museum  
Lackawanna Coal Mine Tour

### ***Cultural Partners***

Albright Memorial Library and the Lackawanna County Library System  
The Everhart Museum  
Scranton Cultural Center at the Masonic Temple  
Scranton's Annual Civil War Weekend Events  
Scranton Times-Tribune's Pages from the Past

### ***Anthracite Research***

Pennsylvania's Northern Anthracite Coal Field <http://www.northernfield.info/>  
The North-East United States Historical Geographical Information System (NEHGIS)  
<http://www.nehgis.org>

### ***Historical Societies***

Carbondale Historical Society  
Plymouth Historical Society [www.plymouthhistoricalsocietyluzernecopa.org](http://www.plymouthhistoricalsocietyluzernecopa.org)  
Luzerne County Historical Society  
Wayne County Historical Society  
Susquehanna County Historical Society  
Monroe County Historical Society  
Wyoming County Historical Society  
Archbald Historical Society: Contact Ed Casey 570-614-3628  
Scott Township Historical Society: Contact Robert Vail 570-254-9536  
Taylor Historical Society: Contact Christine Schaefer 570-562-1225

### ***County and Educational Partners***

Lackawanna County  
Lackawanna County Convention and Visitors Bureau  
Northeastern Educational Intermediate Unit



# *The Lackawanna Historical Society 2023*

## *Officers*

Michael Gilmartin, President  
Donald Frederickson, Jr., Esq., 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Laurie Cadden, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
Douglas Forrer, CPA, Treasurer  
Dalida Walton, Assistant Treasurer  
William Conlogue, Secretary

## *Trustees*

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Linda Lynett	Elaine Shepard
Mary Jane Memolo	

## *Staff*

Mary Ann Moran Savakinus, Executive Director  
Sarah Piccini, Associate Director      Olivia Bernardi, Creative Director  
Gay Clifford, Caretaker

## *Business Hours*

Tuesday – Friday, 10am – 5pm      Saturday, 12pm – 3pm  
Address: The Catlin House, 232 Monroe Ave., Scranton, PA 18510  
Phone: 570-344-3841      e-mail: [lackawannahistory@gmail.com](mailto:lackawannahistory@gmail.com)

*Founded in 1886 as the Lackawanna Institute of History and Science, the Lackawanna Historical Society provides the community with a record of local history through its museum and library collections, exhibits and programs. In 1942, at the bequest of George H. Catlin, the Society established its permanent home at Catlin's 1912 residence, located at 232 Monroe Avenue in Scranton, Pennsylvania. In 1965, it was designated as the official county historical society by Lackawanna County and continues to serve the county as a center for local history resources. The Society, a 501 ©3 nonprofit organization, is supported in part by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Catlin Memorial Trust, Lackawanna County and memberships.*