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# The LACKAWANNA HISTORICAL SOCIETY JOURNAL

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*Happy Holidays!*

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## FROM the PRESIDENT

Dear Members:

*As we start to prepare for the New Year, I am asking you to answer the questionnaire located on page five of the newsletter and send it back to us at the Catlin House. I feel this will help us prepare for our future.*

*We depend on our members, grants from Lackawanna County, and the Pennsylvania Museum Commission, plus the Catlin Trust to operate the Lackawanna Historical Society. Today that money isn't enough to sustain our expenses and rehabilitate our home when necessary. We need more members. I am asking you to encourage your friends and neighbors to join our organization. Our staff is also applying for grants to help us prepare for the next century.*

*Our caretakers for many years, Jack and Nancy Hiddlestone retired at the end of November. We thank them for their many years of service to our organization.*

*The holiday season has arrived and our Board of Trustees and staff would like to wish you our best. And also thank you for supporting the Lackawanna Historical Society.*

Alan Sweeney  
President

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

On December 17, 1997, at 1PM, the Board of Trustees will host an open meeting for the purpose of electing *Officers* to the Board for the one year term of 1998. The membership is encouraged to attend.

For additional information please call 344-3841.

Offices:

President  
1st Vice President  
2nd Vice President  
3rd Vice President  
Treasurer  
Asst. Treasurer  
Secretary



### Our Thanks to You

A special thanks is extended to Mr. Raymond Devereaux, Charles Moffat, and Trustees of the Dunmore Cemetery for their expertise and assistance in making October's Cemetery Tour such a success. Over 150 people attended our informal walking tour.

Thanks also to Father Csirip, and the parish of St. Stanislaus Polish National Catholic Church, Scranton. Father Csirip presented an informative program to the Society commemorating the Church's 100th anniversary. Thank you also to Janice Patterson, Program Committee Chairperson and Dr. Lawrence Kennedy for their assistance.

The Lackawanna Historical Society is a 501(C)(3) non-profit organization which is dedicated to keeping vital the history of Lackawanna County. The Lackawanna Historical Society Journal is published by The Lackawanna Historical Society, 232 Monroe Avenue, Scranton, Pa. 18510 Tel. (717) 344-3841. Members of the Society receive this publication. Membership contributions are \$22 and up for individuals, \$30 for families, \$125 for organizations, and \$500 for corporations. The Lackawanna Historical Society Journal is printed in Scranton, Pennsylvania. Entire contents copyrighted 1997 by The Lackawanna Historical Society. Questions or comments can be addressed in writing directly to the Society.

## THE LACKAWANNA HISTORICAL SOCIETY 1997

### OFFICERS

Alan Sweeney - President  
George Houck, Esq. - 1st Vice Pres.  
Richard Bovard - 2nd Vice President  
Eileen Pocius - 3rd Vice President  
Douglas Forrer - Treasurer  
William Nasser, Sr. - Asst. Treasurer  
Rev. Dr. Brolin Parker - Secretary

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Alan Sweeney

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George Broadbent  
Edward S. Miller

### STAFF

Maryellen Calemno  
Executive Director  
Mary Ann Moran  
Administrative & Museum Assistant  
Mary Ann Gavarn  
Museum Receptionist  
Jack & Nancy Hiddlestone  
Caretakers

## FAREWELL FRIENDS

*I take this opportunity to personally thank and bid farewell to Jack and Nancy Hiddlestone as they end their formal association as "Caretakers" of the Catlin House. It is difficult to say goodbye to friends who have been so dear and loyal for so long.*

*As Caretakers, or perhaps more appropriately "Care-givers" Jack and Nancy have certainly provided more than their share of care for our beloved Catlin House. Their affection for this Society and this property has been evident in how well maintained and beautiful the House has been over the last eleven years. From choosing paint colors and painting the walls, grass cutting and gardening, arranging flowers and decorating for the holidays, plus so much more, their touch has certainly been felt. George and Helen Catlin would certainly have been proud.*

*My personal association with the Hiddlestones will continue although their presence at the Catlin House will certainly be missed. They have been friends of this organization, the staff, and members of the Board. They became my friends when I first came to the Society over ten years ago and they have been true ever since.*

*I, as well as many, wish them only the very best. Thank you, friends.*

*Maryellen Calemno  
Executive Director*

## Membership Benefits

The Board of Trustees is considering a change in policy regarding programs hosted by the Society. For 1998, the Board is considering charging a nominal fee to non-members who wish to attend programs at the Catlin House.

This proposal has been under consideration due to the rising costs of operations. Funding generated will benefit future programming. This change will mean that your membership in the Society has more meaning than ever before and will not affect you unless your membership is not current.

*Please remember the Society when donating to your select charity.*

## SPANISH AMERICAN WAR COMMITTEE

At the September Board of Trustees meeting, it was approved we should recognize and honor the Spanish American War and its veterans. The following members and friends have volunteered to serve on a committee to plan an appropriate program: Alan Sweeney, Lawrence Kennedy Ph.D., Francis Tartella, Jim Hillestead, Jonathan Pytko, and Joseph Long. Anyone interested in joining this committee, please call the Society at 344-3841.

## \$10,000 GRANT RECEIVED

The Society is pleased to announce that the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission has awarded a \$10,000 grant to the organization to be used for general operating expenses in 1998. This grant is made available only to official County historical Societies throughout Pennsylvania which meet specific criteria. The maximum grant awarded is \$10,000, and is based on the availability of funds as well as the organization's ability to function in a professional manner. This is the second year that the PHMC has awarded the Society this amount.

## ANONYMOUS DONOR

We gratefully acknowledge the receipt of \$1,000 from an anonymous donor.

You know who you are and your generosity is appreciated more than you can know.

## RECENT DONATIONS

Aileen Freeman: A.H. Winton; Diane Muskey: doll furniture; Mrs. Frederick Hall: Civil Defense Uniform and related material; Mrs. John Mears: the DAR handbook; C.B. Livingstone: *Charlie's Civil War*; Elizabeth Burkavage: clothing collection; John Cagnetti: Lackawanna Station floor plan and various publications; James Howard: local business artifacts; Tom Halligan: clothing collection; Chris Casey: plaques and trophies of Governor Casey; Slovak Heritage Society of Pennsylvania: video-*Radio's Forgotten Rev. Jozef Murges*; Howard E. Lane: genealogical information; Charles D. Wenzel: xerox of photo of Hotel Belmont; Cumberland Historical Society: ICS pocket text book; Isaac Tripp III: Tripp family history.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

	Student
Cheryl Kizelevicus	Scranton
Roy Whitman	Scranton
	Individual
L. Paul Church	Provincetown, MA
Robert F. Cummings	Factoryville
Barbara Frable	Moscow
Mary A. Judge	Scranton
Sherman F. Wooden	Scranton
	Family
Mr./Mrs. Eugene Stec	Dalton

## COMMITTEES

If you have a particular interest or expertise and would like to assist in carrying out the functions of the Lackawanna Historical Society please contact the Executive Director at 344-3841. Committees are chaired by members of the Board and meet as needed depending on each committee's responsibility. The following committees are open:

Budget & Finance	Membership
Program	Reception



# HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS

## Members receive a 10% discount

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### FROGS IN THE BEER PAIL POLKA MUSIC

by John Stanky and the Coal Miners

Recorded live at the Polish American Citizens Club in DuPont, Pennsylvania for the sound track of the soon to be released feature documentary film, *Frogs in the Beer Pail*. Includes such favorites as *Pick and Shovel Polka*, *Wishing Well Waltz* and of course, the *Frogs in the Beer Pail Polka*.

Tapes - \$10.00      CD's - \$14.00

### COLD AND GOLD FROM THE POCONOS, A History of the Stegmaier Brewing Company, Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania

by Robert A. Janosov

Completed as part of the Stegmaier renovation project, *Cold and Gold* documents the company's history from Charles Stegmaier arrival in the United States in 1849 to 1974 when the Lion Brewery acquired it to present day renovations. Contains 32 illustrations and bibliography. \$9.00

### COMMEMORATIVE

#### BREW FEST GLASSES & T-SHIRTS

After a second successful year, the Society's Craft Brew Festival is sure to become an annual event, so mark its start by purchasing commemorative glasses and shirts from the first year.

glasses - \$2.00 shirts - \$10.00

### A. H. WINTON, THE STORY OF LACKAWANNA COUNTY

by Aileen Salmom Freeman

Second printing of the now illustrated story of the life of A.H. Winton and his involvement in the founding of Lackawanna County.

\$14.95

### WHITES CROSSING

by Donald J. Rowland

A family history set in the Northeastern Pennsylvania village of Whites Crossing. \$20.00

### DANCING ALONG THE DEADLINE

edited by Marc Snell

The perfect gift for the Civil War buff in your life. The memoirs of Ezra Ripple give a realistic account of life in a Confederate Prison. Ripple shares his actual experiences at Andersonville and Florence Prisons, which are illustrated through the renderings of New York artist James E. Taylor. \$19.95

### GREAT AMERICAN RAILROAD STATIONS

by Janet Greenstein Potter

An illustrated guide providing detailed biographical information on still standing railroad stations in the United States. Includes each station's year of construction, original name, designer, style, and present condition. \$29.95

### ANTHRACITE GHOSTS

by Walter L. Dinteman

Photographer, Walter Dinteman offers one last chance to view the rapidly vanishing Anthracite Structures that once covered that landscape of the coal fields of northeastern Pennsylvania. \$25.00

### FLAVOR OF WAVERLY

by Rosamond Peck

A cookbook with a twist, *Flavor of Waverly* offers readers a chance to sample some seasonal dishes and local favorites and at the same time learn about the diverse history of the village of Waverly. \$24.95

Discount on the following items  
through January 31st.

### Package of ten note cards on sale for \$5.95.

Five different images from the collection of the Society including Lackawanna Avenue 1916; Breaker Boys; Scranton Bicycle Club; DL&W Locomotive; Scranton Garden Party.

### Historic Scranton Scenes \$15 each

Reproduction photographs from the collection of the Society. Choose from four different images of Scranton at the turn-of-the century. These photos are mounted and ready for matting and framing.

For a unique gift, give a year's **Membership** in the Lackawanna Historical Society only \$22.00. Call us now and we'll send out a personalized card from you with details on the Society and membership benefits. (717)344-3841.

The Society is open  
Tuesday thru Friday: 10A.M. - 5P.M. ,  
Saturday: 12-3PM

Please call us if you need to make arrangements for purchases after hours.





### LHS MEMBER RESEARCHING ETHNIC COMMUNITIES OF SCRANTON

Mike DeVivo, a historical geographer on the faculty at Kutztown University and LHS member, is currently engaging in research devoted to Scranton's ethnic communities, with special reference to Italian immigrants and their descendants between 1900 and 1950. Because part of his research involves compiling information derived from oral history interviews, Mr. DeVivo is seeking individuals who are interested in sharing their personal experiences concerning lifeways of immigrants and their children. Ideal candidates would be those of Italian descent who immigrated to Scranton before 1924 or the children of such immigrants. Additionally he is looking for individuals of Polish and Irish descent who also would be willing to be interviewed; these candidates should be either the children or grandchildren of such immigrants who arrived in Scranton between 1880 and 1920. If you are interested in being interviewed, please call the Lackawanna Historical Society or contact Mr. DeVivo directly at the Geography Department of Kutztown University in Kutztown, PA 19530 Telephone (610) 683-1595.

*Wish you were here ...*

### A Picture Postcard History of Lackawanna County, Pa.

The long awaited new book by Jack Hiddlestone and the Society's Director, Maryellen Calemme, is near completion. The 244 page book, includes over 300 postcard images relating to Lackawanna County. Many of these images have never been published and some have never been seen in this area.

The book is in the hands of our printer and we expect it before Christmas. Our apologies to anyone who we have inconvenienced. It has been a long and tedious undertaking. However, we think it will be well worth the wait. The estimated cost of this book will be \$24.95 plus a 10% discount to current members. Sponsors who contributed to the book by purchasing a page will receive as indicated, one complimentary copy however, we're sure you'll want to purchase one for a friend. All members will be notified when books are in hand. We'd appreciate your purchasing from the Society as all proceeds benefit the organization. Thanks for your patience.

### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Membership Renewals are due January 1st for 1998.

You can help us save on postage by sending in your membership with this form NOW.

Send in your check with your name and current address.

Membership Rates: \$22 Individual, \$30 Family, \$75 Contributing, \$150 Sustaining, \$500 Corporate

### QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Are the hours of operation convenient to your needs? \_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_no  
What hours might be convenient to you? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What topics would you like to be presented through Society programs?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Have you enjoyed programming in the last year? \_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_no
4. Do you/would you mind attending Society programs at locations other than the Catlin House?  
\_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_no. (i.e. Dunmore Cemetery Tour, Polish Nat'l. Cath. Church Lecture)
5. Would you support a major fund raising campaign? \_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_no
6. Suggestions for how we can better serve you, our members in the future? \_\_\_\_\_

SEND THIS BACK TO SOCIETY WITH YOUR 1998 MEMBERSHIP - THANK YOU.

*You are Invited  
to The Lackawanna Historical Society's  
Annual Holiday Open House*

*December 11th & 12th between the hours of 6:30 & 8:30 p.m.*

*Please join us as we celebrate this joyous time of year. Each evening, candle light tours of the Catlin House will be provided by our costumed guides who will relay Christmas legend and lore as you sample a cup of eggnog and a scrumptious treat. The Catlin House will be decorated in all its finery, including an antique toy display in the parlor, reminding us of holiday traditions of the past. Christmas carolers, storytellers, music and more.*

*Thursday*

*6:30 George Strasburger, Classical guitarist  
7:15 St. Lawrence Youth Choir  
7:30 A Christmas Reading*

*Friday*

*6:30 Eileen Petrone, Pianist  
7:00 Robert Dale Quartet*

*Bring a friend or family, all are welcome.*

*A special thanks to Sarno & Sons, Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Gavern, Jim Gavern, Michael DeVivio, Janice Patterson,  
and the Society's dedicated volunteers, for their assistance in preparing for this holiday season.*

*For further information call 344-3841.*

The Lackawanna Historical Society  
at the Catlin House, 232 Monroe Avenue  
Scranton, PA 18510

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