



# The Historical Society of Trappe Pennsylvania

For the preservation of the history, ancient buildings and land marks  
of the Trappe area.

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VOLUME IX, Number 4

THE TRAP CHRONICLE

July, August 1981  
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From The Tavern -

My, My, My - where has time gone. It seems that it was only a few months ago that we moved into the tavern and here it's been almost two years now. It's time to sit and reflect upon all that's happened in these past months. Linda and I feel very honored and privileged to have been able to meet so many people that have meant so much to our family. It seems like we're all one big family. As usual in any family we have our bickering and unhappiness but when it comes right down to it, we all stand together for one common cause - TRAPPE.

As with most families, time passes and its members begin to age, oh so very slowly, but we must face it. We do age, and in aging our numbers begin to dwindle to a precious few. I would like to charge our family to the task of obtaining new family members. If each one of us were to just have one friend join, in no time at all we'd double our size. Spread the word.

Linda and I have tried to make the Tavern and residence a place where visitors would feel welcome. We feel that we are open seven days a week for the convenience of the public. We've welcomed visitors at all hours of the day and have done our best to promote a warm welcome to all who have come. In doing so, we have obtained a few new members and many new friends.

Take care until we meet again.

The Bullards,  
Mark, Linda, Josh, Abi

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Ways & Means Committee -

The raffle ended with the drawing of the winners at the Grange Fair. The winners were: 1st prize \$100 - #173 to Mrs. Betsy Ross; 2nd prize \$50. - #474 to B. O. Hurchalla, Pottstown; 3rd prize \$25. to Mrs. Richard Holcombe. Thanks to everyone for their interest and generosity.

Next event - A BIG YARD SALE, Saturday, Sept. 5th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Headquarters, 301 Main Street, Trappe. Donated saleable items are being collected now. For info or pick-up, call 489-2212 or 489-1797.

A FLEA MARKET on Saturday, Sept. 19, 1981 on the grounds of the Boro Hall, Main Street, Trappe from 11 A.M. to 5 P.M. Dealers are invited, bring your own tables. For reservations, phone 287-9105. We will need help for making posters, parking cars, etc. All members are urged to take part in these fund-raising efforts.

Footsteps In The Past

Plans are now underway for our first annual "Great House Tour," which promises to be informative, interesting and elegant. This tour will be the first of what we hope will be a long succession of Annual Christmas House Tours. As the time draws near, more and more information will be passed along as to where to make your reservations and what homes and historical sights will be on the Tour. Our hospitality committee will be baking all those wonderful Christmas goodies to tempt and delight your palate.

Tickets for the Tour will be available September 1, 1981 with the tour scheduled for December 6, 1981 (Sunday). This will give everyone ample time to get their reservations in. Remember, there will only be 500 tickets available on a first come, first sold basis. Admission will not be allowed without a ticket. All ticket requests should be directed to the Historical Society of Trappe, 301 Main Street, Trappe, Pa. 19426. Telephone (215) 489-1797. Tickets are \$5.00 which will cover all admissions.

Refreshments will be served throughout the Tour hours, which are 1 P.M. to 4 P.M., at the Tavern. A donation to help defray the costs would be appreciated. Should you have any questions, please contact Mark Bullard at 489-1797. Mail orders in advance would be appreciated since tickets will be limited.

Application for tickets is enclosed.

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Robert Ulle's Report -

WOMEN'S LIBERATION IN 1844 - According to an 1844 newspaper article filed at the Montgomery County Historical Society, the women of the Trappe area were exercising themselves in what, for the time, many considered inappropriate ways. An organization called the Trappe Female Seminary had been organized and on August 7, 1844 met for a banner presentation.

At the occasion Anne Williams of Innerville gave a capable address on "Clay, Frelinghuysen and Markle, - Union and Protection." The meeting generally called upon "females of the Trappe and Schuylkill as if by one impulse to withdraw from what may justly be regarded as their appropriate sphere and to expose themselves.... to the public gaze in the political arena."

The banner song on this occasion was written by someone known only as the "Garwood Bard." Of particular interest to members of the Historical Society of Trappe in 1981 is the closing notation of the meeting: "After some appropriate addresses, the meeting adjourned to meet at Dewees" in the Trappe on the first day of August to go in procession to the Blue Bell Convention."

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Historian -

As I reported at our June Dinner meeting, I have read the minutes of the Society kept since its inception in 1964 and would like to share the following brief history of the years between. This is particularly interesting, I believe, to those of you, like me, who have joined in later years.

June 15, 1964 - An organization dinner meeting of the Trappe Historical Society was held at which time Mr. Fred Grimison was elected as President along

a slate of officers. Ten standing Committees were appointed and it was announced that the lease for the Headquarters Building from St. Luke's Congregation was already arranged. (This is the upper part of the building). Until 1971 officers served for one year. In 1971 it was decided that they would serve for two years. Unfortunately, in September 1971, Mr. Grimison, who had served as President since 1964, died. It was largely due to Mr. Grimison's interest that our Society was started. In June 1972, Charles Wismer was elected President and served until 1979. In August of 1972 the office of Historian was created. In November 1972 a meeting of the Board of Directors was held for the purpose of reorganizing and recommendations of a Constitution and ByLaws. These were accepted by the membership in February, 1973 (copies available at the Headquarters). In January 1973 Special Memberships Classifications were created. I now quote from a report made by Frank Eld at a dinner meeting in June 1973. "In September 1974 we obtained a 99 year lease on the Dewees Building (known to us as the Dewees Tavern or our Headquarters Building located at the intersection of Routes 113 and 422 in Trappe) and then we had the authority to repair the roof. The town then agreed to make the Restoration of the building the Bicentennial Project of the Borough and to retain Dick Franz, a restoration architect from Pottstown, as consulting architect. The actual restoration began as soon as the weather allowed." Frank was in charge of the work of the restoration. After the living quarters were finished, he and his wife Barbara and daughter moved in and acted as curators until they moved west in 1978. Robert Ulle was hired to be a live-in curator in September 1978 which he was until the Fall of 1979; at that time he moved to private quarters but was retained as a part-time curator. Mark and Linda Bullard, two active members of the Society, and their son Joshua moved into the living quarters, as tenants, in December of 1979 and are still living there, with the addition of a daughter Abigail. The restoration of the building has been proceeding through the years, though at a slower pace than originally. We still have much to do.

Esther Keller, Historian

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Membership Chairperson -

A reminder to pay your dues to be in good standing in the Society. If you haven't paid, you are delinquent. Members owing dues for 1981 on this date are subject for suspension.

Dues for one year regular membership is \$4.00, students \$2.00. Make checks payable to Historical Society of Trappe and send to Mrs. Charlotte Rosser, 347 Main Street, Trappe, Pa. 19426. The Society has ten new members thus far this year.

Charlotte Rosser, Membership

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Quilters -

From the quilt mentioned in the previous Newsletter, we would like to realize some revenue for our Society.

The enclosed tickets are \$1.00 each or if you prefer to send a donation instead. Make checks payable to Historical Society of Trappe and mail to Mrs. Anna Schrack, 555 Bonnie Brook Lane, Trappe, Pa. 19426.

The quilt is a double bed size and a pretty, colorful pinwheel design with a beautiful scroll border. You may see the quilt by contacting one of the quilters.

A winning name will be drawn at our November 11th Dinner meeting. May we have



your support, please and Thank You.

Anna Schrack, Quilter

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Library - Acquisitions and Accessions, July 10, 1981

- Biographical Dictionary of the American Congress, Washington, Government Printing Office, 1928, Purchase.
- Egle, William H. An Illustrated History of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Harrisburg: DeWitt C. Goodrich, 1877. Purchase.
- Jones, J.K. A Brief History of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Spring City, Pa. n.p., 1899. Purchase
- Erdmann, Heinrich. Die Letzten Stunden einiger der Evangelischen Lehre. Halle, 1734. Purchase.
- Nachrichten von den vereinigten Deutschen Evangelischen Lutherischen Gemeinde in Nord America. Allentown. Brobst, Diehl, & Co., 1886. Purchase
- Mifflin, Thomas. Signature. From museum to manuscript collection.
- Muhlenberg, William Augustus. Church Poetry. Phila.: S.Potter, 1823. Signed by author. Purchase.
- Der Nachricht von einigen Evangelischen Gemeinen in America...Halle:1765-1785. Purchase.
- Der Neutralist. Skippack. April 11, 1848. Band 3:139. Purchase
- Pennsylvania Federation of Historical Societies. Highlights of the 74th Annual Meeting. 1981. Free.
- Photographic History of New Goshenhoppen Reformed Church. Pemsburg: Town and Country Print Shop, 1927. Purchase
- Woodman, Henry. The History of Valley Forge. John U. Francis, Sr.: Oaks, 1922 Purchase.
- Pecman, R.S. A Guide Book of United States Coins. Racine, Wis.: Whitman Publishing, 1963. Purchase.
- Postal card showing dormitories of Ursinus College, n.d. Gift.
- Graduation announcement for Lylie Miller, Upper Providence Schools, 1896. Gift

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From The Kitchen -

Colonial Trifle

12 macaroons	$\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon almond extract	6 egg yolks, slightly beaten
4 cups milk	3 tablespoons sugar
$\frac{1}{2}$ cup sugar	6 egg whites, beaten stiff

Roll one macaroon to make fine crumbs and place others in the bottom of a serving dish; sprinkle with almond extract. Scald the milk over hot water. Add the sugar and salt to the egg yolks, and stir slowly into this mixture a little of the hot milk, blend, and pour back into the scalded milk. Cook over hot water until the mixture thickens. Cool, pour over the macaroons, and chill. Fold the 3 tablespoons of sugar into the beaten egg whites and pile high on top. Garnish with macaroon crumbs.

Linda Bullard

How about sending one of your favorite recipes to be shared and printed. Send to Linda Bullard, 301 Main Street, Trappe, Pa. 19426



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August 29, 1981

Elmer Funk, President  
Trappe Historical Society  
Trappe, Pa. 19426

Dear Elmer,

With this letter I am giving two months notice of my resignation as the Society's curator-librarian. As we have discussed in board meetings and other sessions, it seems that the time has come for my services to be taken over by others in the Society are are now willing to do so.

I have found my three years with the Society to be profitable in an academic sense and interesting, in the sense of learning how a small local historical society functions. I believe that my time was well spent, both for myself and for the Society, which now has an organized library with policies, an organized museum collection, and increased visibility through the Independent series and the Second Hundred Years article.

I hope to continue my membership in the society, and hope the Society will feel free to call upon me from time to time as a volunteer. But, for now, it seems best that I resign after my time for the month of October, 1981 is put in.

Sincerely,

Robert F. Ullé, curator