

*Celebrating 100 Years of the*



**BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA**

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*Bradford County Historical Society*

**ANNUAL MEETING**

October 10, 2010



## *Program*

- ☞ Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance.....*Henry G. Farley, President*
  
- ☞ Meeting
  - Approval of Minutes of the 2009 Meeting*
  - Reports*
  - Appointment of the Editor of the Settler*
  - Election of Trustees*
  
- ☞ Awards
  - Clement F. Heverly Outstanding Service Award*
  - Leo E. Wilt Historian of the Year Award*
  
- ☞ Celebrating 100 Years of the Boy Scouts of America
  - Nick Ross, District Executive, BSA*
  
- ☞ Refreshments

# *Bradford County Historical Society*

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

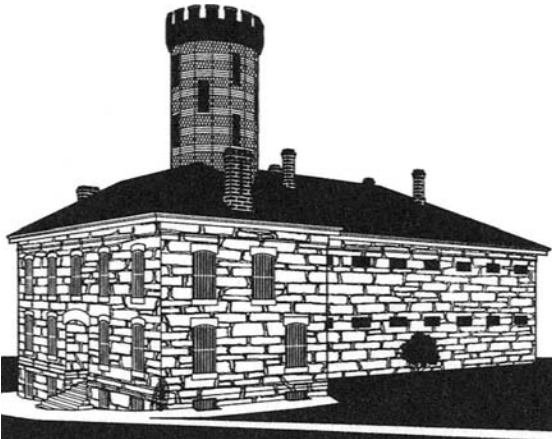
Guy Abell  
Gertrude Bull  
Lois Crandell  
O.B. Crockett  
Henry G. Farley  
J. Kelsey Jones  
Joseph D. Jones  
James Neiley  
Mary Neiley  
Janet R. Ordway  
Mary Skillings  
Larry D. Templeton  
Margaret Walsh  
Frederick Wheaton

## **OFFICERS**

Henry G. Farley	President
Mary Neiley	President Elect
J. Kelsey Jones	Vice President
Mary Skillings	Secretary
Lois Crandell	Treasurer

## **STAFF**

Matthew T. Carl	Manager/Curator
Denise Golden	Library Clerk



## *Report of the President*

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This is the 140th year of existence for the Bradford County Historical Society. We were founded in 1870 as a “foster child” of the Bradford County Medical Society as that group of prominent county citizens saw a great need to preserve our county history. Here we are still in existence 140 years later. We are one of the oldest historical societies in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and have a collection of both manuscripts and artifacts to attest to our long history.

This is also my 20th year as a board member and I thought in this report I would reflect on the past 20 years as we have grown in leaps and bounds with the help of so many talented and interested people.

My first research experience was at the museum located at 21 Main Street. I began doing research on my mother’s family in the early 1980s. I remember using what now exists as our abstract card file when I began. In those days there were no index cards the abstracts were written on sheets of paper and stored alphabetically in dime store flat paper bags. The microfilm reader which was manual was there to read census records only as microfilm of newspapers etc. did not exist. Needless to say research took many many tedious hours and everything got copied by hand. There was a Xerox machine at the museum but it was not used to copy newspapers etc. Mrs. Helen Landmesser, a registered nurse by profession was the receptionist at the museum in my early days of doing research. Had Helen not been there to guide me it would have taken me years to complete my research. Helen taught me the research skills that I still use today when working on a family surname request. The research room had a long row of vertical file cabinets of many sizes and colors where the family files and other documents were kept. It was during these years that Mr. Hall from Citizens and Northern Bank in Towanda began the task of lowering 13,500 glass plate negatives from the old Ott and Hay photography studio stored in the tower of the bank down to be given to the Historical Society. The plates were in their original brown paper sleeves which were crumbling. Each plate had to be taken out of the sheath and placed in a new acid free folder. They had to be labeled and listed on the index. What a process and none of it done with computers except the final index which the talented Joy Bourne volunteered to do for us.

I was appointed to the then 17 member board on February 4, 1991. Openings on the board did not occur very often and I was honored to have been selected to fill the vacant seat of Dr. Marcella Hyde. I served with some great historians in those early days, Miss Gladys Gay, Dr. James S. Smith, Mildred Sweet, Doris Wilcox Hugo, Ellen Glueck, Richard Robinson, James Nobles and Theodore Calkins to name a few. I was also in my 30s and a good deal younger than most of the trustees. They had a vision and I had the steam to help get things going. We all worked well together and the society grew and grew. We produced a reprint of the ‘Craft

History of Bradford County” and directly afterwards we began the process of compiling the “New History of Bradford County” which was released in 1995. The publicity generated from the compilation and release of the 1995 history was one of the things that “blew the front door of the museum open.” That along with interest from the Towanda Business Association to hold a Gala at the museum created a lot of interest in the treasures held in the museum. In 1994 and 95 the face of the board began to change Jim Parks, Rich Farr, Margaret Walsh, Carolyn Russell, Malin Martin and Bob Veleker all joined us in our endeavors.

In July of 1997, the Valley Railroad Museum approached the society and asked us to accept their collection in its entirety. The Railroad group was emphatic that they wanted the collection kept together. We felt that since we were the County Historical Society that we had an obligation to help keep this collection (which would go to public auction if we did not help) in Bradford County. It took two days and two moving vans to get the collection to Towanda to be stored in our building which was already bursting at the seams. After the arrival of the railroad collection we immediately began plans to increase the space at 21 Main Street where the museum was located. We engaged an architect and when all reports were in we had to decide if adding onto the museum or just moving to another site would make sense. We looked around Towanda for a possible site and each time we did we were drawn to the old vacant Bradford County Jail. We finally decided that that was the building that we wanted and we approached the County Commissioners with our request. We were told that if we could prove that we could raise money for this project the building would be ours. We set to work raising money for the project that we had anticipated would cost about \$800,000. The results were positive and in March of 1998 the jail was officially deeded over to the Society.

During the 90’s we also began to upgrade our technology we added a new microfilm reader printer and a computer. We wrote grants to have our newspaper collection microfilmed. Our research business was growing and we were receiving requests for family searches from all over the country so we had to keep as user friendly as possible. We also purchased Past Perfect, a museum software program as we needed to catalog our collection and this had to be done electronically.

In 1997 Beryl B. Cleary joined the board followed by Mary Skillings in 1998. As we proceeded with the jail project we brought Roger Graham, Bill Beamer, Vince Amoroso and Robert Murphy to the board in 1999 as they all had expertise in projects such as ours.

In 1999 we reprinted the Beers Atlas of Bradford County. This reprint had been requested many times from folks doing research at the museum. We also inherited the magnificent Maxwell home on York Avenue in Towanda from the estate of Annabelle Maxwell Bennett. The house and contents were left to us upon the death of Mrs. Bennett’s only child, Robert. We scheduled an auction to sell the home and contents. The proceeds from the auction were invested and really gave the new museum project the boost that it needed. We broke ground for the Museum project on April 30, 1999.

We moved the research library to the new museum in May of 2000. We were also notified in May that Mrs. Ruth Tozer Bixby a native of Athens Township and a descendant of Col. Julius Tozer had left the society any of the contents of her home that we wanted. This was a huge donation as Mrs. Bixby had been a history collector all of her life and her three story home to include the garage and cellar were packed with unbelievable things. We worked for weeks sorting and moving items to Towanda from Athens. Mrs. Tozer Bixby’s gift closed the loop on so much “Valley” history for us and right behind her gift came the entire Indian Artifact collection of Fred Bailey of North Towanda. Mr. Bailey collected artifacts all of his life and it completed our Native American collection.

In May of 2002 we completed the jail renovation project with the opening of our museum

exhibits. What started out to be an \$800,000 project finished with a price tag of \$2,000,000. I am pleased to tell you that all of the debt for the museum has been paid and we have no financial obligations to any bank or person. That to me has been our biggest success to think that a board of 15 volunteers could plan and fund this projects is just fantastic.

In 2003 Guy Abell and J. Kelsey Jones joined the board followed in 2004 by Matt Carl and Anne Sturzen. In February of 2003 we were able to return the Valley Railroad Museum Collection to Sayre. The Sayre Historical Society had room in the old Lehigh Valley Passenger station on S. Lehigh Avenue to house the collection and since it was a "valley" collection we felt it needed to be back in its own environment. The collection was inventoried and given to Sayre with the stipulation that should the museum cease to exist the collection was the property of the Bradford County Historical Society.

We moved through the first few years of the new millennium getting used to the operations of the huge new museum building. Kelsey Jones who brought many great skills to the board encouraged us over and over to think about hiring a curator. Of course we had no idea how we could afford this but Kelsey talked us through our fears and finally in 2007 with the support of the Bradford County Commissioners we were able to take our part time county position and convert it to a curator's position the Society would pay half and the county the other. Matt Carl was hired to be our first paid curator. Matt has been a power house in the museum using his excellent organizational skills to organize the collections we have housed for 140 years.

We have had several others join the board over the past few years to include: Buddy Crockett, Trudy Bull, Susan Miller, Mary Neiley, Jim Neiley, Lynn Pliske, Larry Templeton, Fred Wheaton, Janet Ordway and Ceil Maynard all of whom brought something to the table.

In 2007 we produced "Barclay Mountain - A History." The book compiled and completed from the works of the late Dr. James S. Smith by Guy and Marti Abell is truly a tribute to Barclay Mountain. Dr. Smith who had been trustee of the Society died very unexpectedly and his wife gave us all of his work and collections. We made several attempts to get the book started but it was not until Guy and Marti took on the project that it happened.

I also want to mention Lois Crandell. Lois is our most senior trustee having been appointed to the board on June 5, 1972. She has served the society for 38 years most of them in the role of treasurer. Lois is hard working and gives whatever project we are working on her all. Thanks for all your support over the years Lois.

Denise Golden has been our Library Clerk for many years. She started in the old museum in either late 1996 or early 1997 and was here for the move and set up of the new research library. Denise does a fantastic job and has a wonderful rapport with our customers, staff and volunteers. I remember the day Jim Parks and I interviewed Denise. We knew when she came into the room she was our next museum clerk. Her bright personality sold us.

When I realized that this was our 140th year I thought I should reflect a bit as to where we have gone over my 20 years on the board. I served previously for 8 years as president and am in that role again this year. I have seen a lot of change over these years but it has all been good change and we have grown from a house museum to a state of the art research facility and museum. I have worked with great people all along the way who have all had an area of expertise that served our society well. I look forward to our future and the projects that we will undertake as the bi-centennial of Bradford County arrives in 2012.

*Henry G. Farley*

President

# MANAGER / CURATOR'S REPORT

Matthew Carl

This has been another busy year with a tremendous number of accomplishments.

## Operations

Shortly after our last annual meeting, we received a new microfilm reader-printer for our research library which we were able to purchase with funding received through our annual appeal. This model features many new upgrades that make viewing and printing from our microfilm collection much easier.

Another new addition in the research library is a laptop donated by Chesapeake Energy which features a digitized collection of Troy area newspapers. More about this can be found under Funding and also under Preservation.

A work room was created this year for volunteers and staff and our credit card processing equipment was replaced and updated to meet current standards.

We have also focused on safety this year by installing a commercial first-aid kit, carbon monoxide detectors, and an alarm on our Pine Street fire exit door.

## Programming and Community Outreach

It has been another excellent season for our *Friday Night at the Museum* programming series. We have hosted full houses at each program and in many cases it has been standing room only. The popularity of our yearly programming, held May through October, continues to grow as we host more and more high quality, interesting and educational programs. Over 300 people have attended our programs this year, up from 250 in 2009.

This year's *Friday Night at the Museum* series has included: *A Glimpse Into the Past*, a slideshow of Bradford County by David Lenington with musical accompaniment by Carrie Hooper; *The Music of World War II*, by Phillip Atteberry (this program was provided through a grant from the Pennsylvania Humanities Council); *The Barns and Agriculture of Pennsylvania's Northern Tier*, a video presentation by the Northern Tier Cultural Alliance; *Stephen Foster: Father of American Music*, by Guy Abell with musical accompaniment by Jim & Marie Parks and Terry & Lois Gray; *Canton: Circus Capitol of the East*, by Matthew Carl; and the final event scheduled for this year is *The Frisbie Family of Orwell Township: A 19th Century Saga of Bradford County and Beyond*, by Marsha Ann Tate, Ph.D.

I presented the program, *Laquin: Behind the Photos* at the Rialto Theatre in Canton on November 7, 2009. The theater has 154 seats. Approximately 240 people showed up. The line extended out the door, down the sidewalk and around the corner. Chairs were set up. Thanks to the assistance of the Rialto staff and volunteers, we were able to do a second show that afternoon. About 40 people came back for the second show.

The same program was presented a second time at the Keystone Theatre on February 20 with nearly 300 in attendance. It will be presented a final time at the Sayre Theatre on October 30.

Other than the large scale outreach events that are described above, I spoke by invitation at the following locations this year: National Management Association meeting, Rural Amity Lodge Masonic Banquet, Troy Senior Center, Bradford County Manor, Towanda Rotary Club, Mt. Pisgah Nature Center, and the Susquehanna River Archeological Center. I attended the Northeast Region Regents Club NSDAR luncheon meeting at the Wysox Presbyterian Church and a Eucharist at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Stevensville where I presented a Century Building plaque to Father Paul Walker, Carol Marker and John Finlon during the service. I attended the rededication of the French Azilum monument as a representative of BCHS.

I applied to the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission to host a 2-day preservation workshop at BCHS in 2011. They confirmed that BCHS will be one of the three locations for this workshop in Pennsylvania next year. We are looking forward to this opportunity.

## Outreach through Print and Electronic Media

BCHS has been featured in local print media over 50 times since April of 2010. This is a dramatic increase over

the past and has increased public awareness of who we are and what we offer.

Our website continues to grow and one new feature added this year was the website ticket office. This has made it possible for people to buy tickets to our special events through our website and has helped to streamline this process for us.

We began receiving regular reports about our website this year on a monthly basis including numbers of visitors, names of pages that are visited most often, countries where visitors are located, etc. We receive approximately 500 unique visits to our website each month with the most visits coming from the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, Germany and Spain.

I started a Facebook page this year for the Bradford County Historical Society. Over 250 people have joined the group so far. This has enabled us to reach out to many new people and has afforded us the opportunity to spread news and event announcements in a new way.

Our eBay store continues to be used by those interested in purchasing books online.

## Funding

We received funding from the Bradford County Room Tax Fund to have our Pine Street sign repainted and directional signs placed on Main Street. This project is ongoing.

We were fortunate to receive our usual Operating Grant from the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission for 2010 but as of 2011 and until further notice, this funding source has been eliminated by the state due to budget cuts.

We requested funding from the Bradford County United Way to support our Friday night programming series.

A contribution came from Chesapeake Energy in the form of two laptops and a laser printer.

One laptop is used by our summer tour guide to complete projects and the second is available for use by library patrons to view digitized newspapers at the library tables. We were very grateful to receive this much needed equipment.

Since the laptops came with no software such as Word or Excel, I requested a donation of software from Microsoft. Our request was approved and we received over \$1,800 in computer software as a donation from Microsoft.

We continue to apply for funding to help us carry out special projects and to help support our daily operations.

## Museum Visitors

The museum opened for the season on May 27 and closed on September 25 with tours by appointment only during the fall.

We have hosted over 1,200 visitors in the museum since the last annual meeting. This is comparable to last year's numbers and more than a 400 person increase since I started in this position three years ago. As reported last year, this has occurred because of our increasingly popular programming series and a larger number of groups scheduling tours of the museum.

The following groups scheduled guided tours of the museum over the past year: Outstanding Young Woman finalists, National Management Association, Home School group, Northeast Bradford Area Brownie Troop, Association of University Women, SRU Middle School 6th grade, W.R. Croman first grade, Beacon Light Summer School, J.A. Morrow Day Care, Towanda Elementary 4th grade, North Rome Christian School, Lt. Asa Stevens DAR, and the Towanda Personal Care Home.

## Summer Tour Guide

Shannon Funk was hired as our Summer Tour Guide this year. She graduated from Bloomsburg University last December with a Masters in Education and Bachelors in History and Anthropology.

We look forward to having the extra help in the summer each year. This year, Shannon worked on several projects and did an excellent job. She began by helping with the index for an upcoming atlas we are planning to publish. Next



she began working on the collection of Native American artifacts and fossils described under Preservation. The final project that Shannon completed was an index of maps, certificates, oversized documents and posters stored in our flat files.

Shannon worked from May 23 until September 25.

## Exhibits

This year we held an Open House on May 23 for our membership to officially open our 2010 season and show our new exhibits.

Visitors found a variety of new exhibits and displays this year including: Lobby (first floor) – *Curiosities from our Collection*; Gift Shop – *BCHS Old People Day*; Rotating Exhibit Room Wall – *Charles Carroll of Carrollton*; Rotating Exhibit Room Cases – *Photography (cameras, negatives, prints from Ott & Hay, stereoscope and card collection)*; Pine Street Hall Case – *Photography* continued; Jail Cell (second floor) – an inmate lying in bed; and the interior of the Log Cabin was completely redesigned. A display of early county deeds was also placed in the research library.

## Preservation

One of the most important tasks that we do is to preserve our collection for future generations.

Last winter, I spent significant time working in the storage areas of our building to completely reorganize the items that are used for rotating exhibits and also the extra library resources that are not stored in the library. A new system of shelf numbering was developed to provide a “home location” for each object. The collection was also reorganized and stored by subject making it easier for me to pull together new rotating exhibits each spring.

I sorted through and organized most of the Ruth Tozer Bixby collection and Denise catalogued over half of it last winter which is a tremendous accomplishment. Board trustee, Guy Abell, organized the Tozer-Bixby family letters chronologically.

Approximately 50 more maps in our collection were placed into acid-free protective sleeves. Shannon finished an index of our map collection that was started by our summer tour guide last year. This will be added to our website this winter to supplement a list of other maps that were added to our website this summer. This makes it possible for researchers to know what map to ask for even before they visit the research library.

We continue to work with the Bradford County Courthouse to make historic records available at the Society research library. This year we received 125 boxes of Prothonotary court records from 1812 to 1930. I would like to thank Sally Vaughn who spent considerable time organizing the move of this material to the Historical Society. These records were not easily accessible in the past, yet they contain a wealth of valuable documents covering a variety of topics.

Another project completed this summer by Shannon was a complete organization and inventory of both our Native American artifacts and our natural history artifacts. Materials for this project were purchased with funds raised during one of our theater events this year. She bagged each item, labeled them, assigned inventory numbers, created inventory record books for the collection and prepared the information for entry into our Past Perfect computer inventory system. When finished she had created six binders of documentation on the collection including five binders containing 854 separately numbered Native American artifacts, and a single binder containing 53 separately numbered items in our natural history collection.

Another example of preservation this year is the newspaper digitization project. We received a large private donation this year to add to the funds that we already have to digitize our newspaper collection and make it available on our library computers. We have borrowed microfilm from the Green Free Library in Canton in order to digitize the Canton Sentinel, Canton Independent-Sentinel, and the Canton World newspapers so that they can be available for research at our facility. This is a major step for us because we currently offer no newspapers for research from the Canton area. We also finished digitizing many Troy newspapers which are now available on a laptop in the library. Many thanks to Board trustee, Janet Ordway, who made it possible for us to borrow issues of these papers that we did not already have.

## Preservation

When you look around the museum you may notice several new pieces that we have added this year. Due to the closing and/or consolidation of several Catholic churches in our county, we received several important items that have greatly increased the amount of church history that we have on exhibit. I would like to thank Board President, Henry Farley for his role in acquiring these items.

Another impressive item came to us this year from Maryland. It is an Albany Cutter, a sleigh built by the Manual Arts Class in Towanda High School in 1906. This is a beautiful piece and we are very fortunate to have it in our museum.

Francis Kisner donated three display cases to the museum this year that fit perfectly into our layout. One case is in the research library and now displays early county deeds.

We gratefully received items for our collection from the following people this past year: Marjorie Templeton, Nelson D. Mathias, Guy Abell, Sarah Edsell, Lois Crandell, Virginia Rogers, Frances Clark, Carolyn Russell, Jim Nobles, Mary Sabatura, Towanda Garden Club, Janet Ordway, Alice Matson, William Madill, Elizabeth Hogeland, Henry Farley, Norma Cummings Colburn, Doris Alaimo, Rev. John Kingsbury, Grace Larrabee, Louise Finch Jordan, Chris Shaffer, Gertrude Bull, Sandra Smith, Pat Privitera, Sarah Ransom, Carolyn Morse, Dewey & Patricia Cokely, Richard Schmieg, Mary L. Weigley, Pauline Rose, Jim Parks, Mildred Neubert, Susan Weaver, Betty Slingerland, Paul Newell, Joseph D. Jones, Thomas & Doris Bennett, Mrs. William Payne, Lorelei Colton, David M. Roberts, Marion Aeppli, Beverly Vanderpool, Jessie Herman, Robert E. Long, Alice L. Silverstrim Chrzanowski, Dianne Mathis, Steve Chisarick, David Lenington, Rev. Andrew Hvozdovic, Barbara Dinsmore, William Woodburn, Otto G. Coldiron, Sarah Darrow, John Roberts, Gerald Franklin Sr., Outstanding Young Woman organization, Phyllis Dunbar, Myrna Horton, Helen Hull, Dorothy Woodruff, Robert L. Johnson, Larry & Elaine Elliott, Family of Ivan Myfelt, and Cheri Burchard.

Thanks again to all those who have supported the Bradford County Historical Society this year.

## LIBRARY CLERK'S REPORT

Denise Golden

Sept. 2009 - August 2010

1,067 registered library patrons from the following 37 states and Washington D.C.:

AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KY, MA, MD, MI, ME, MN, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, TN, TX, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV

3,027 volunteer hours logged

Volunteer Projects:

- ~ 83 research letters answered
- ~ Tax Assessment records, 1812-1868, up thru Pike Twp., copied and indexed
- ~ Bradford County Fires recorded in the newspapers up to 1929, copied and indexed
- ~ Miscellaneous research projects

Volunteers:

Martha Abell, Lois Ball, Pat Buck, Ann Carl, Tom Carl, Marolyn Cole, Sarah Edsell, Elaine Engisch, Margo Fox Picou, Marjory Horton, Andrew Love, Paul Newell, Carolyn Russell, Teresea Sickler, Deanna Thurston, Barbara Tolbert

Volunteers who have worked 50 or more hours are:

Marolyn Cole, Sarah Edsell, Elaine Engisch, Marjory Horton, Deanna Thurston

# 2009 MEETING MINUTES

Mary Skillings, Secretary

The Bradford County Historical Society 2009 Annual Meeting was held on October 11, 2009, at the Bradford County Historical Society and Museum Center. President J. Kelsey Jones welcomed all present and led everyone in the flag salute. The business meeting began with President Jones introducing special guests. Present was Sister Jean Adams, sister of Holy Child of Jesus. Emeritus board members present were: Sylvia Wilson, Beryl Cleary and Jim Parks. President Jones asked all members to read through the program for the evening, which included the minutes from the 2008 annual dinner. Henry Farley made the motion and Lois Crandell seconded the motion to approve the minutes. The minutes were subsequently approved by the membership.

President Jones asked Margaret Walsh, chairperson of the nominating committee, to present the slate of trustees for the term expiring in 2011. They were Buddy Crockett, Vince Amoroso, Mary Skillings and Larry Templeton. The membership approved all of the nominees.

Henry G. Farley was elected editor of *The Settler* with a motion made by Buddy Crockett and seconded by Mary Neiley, and approved by the membership. Heartfelt gratitude was expressed for the many hours of thought and research that Henry puts into *The Settler* to make it as impressive as it always is.

An introduction of our staff was presented: Matt Carl, curator, and Denise Golden, library clerk. Both were acknowledged as very capable and knowledgeable people running the day-to-day events at the Historical Society and the museum and it was agreed that the Bradford County Historical Society is fortunate to have both.

In his curator's report, Matt Carl shared highlights of goals achieved following the mission of the Society. In recording and preserving the history of Bradford County, 70 families donated to our collection. We received many documents and notes that belonged to Clement Heverly. The county is working with us to make more Bradford County records available. Our map collection is cataloged and placed in protective tubes. Over 1700 items have been cataloged into Past Perfect. We stimulated interest in history in many ways. Attendance and research requests doubled. The number of school groups touring have increased. Our new website has much more information available and forms to download in all areas. Our Friday Night at the Museum series has had full house audiences each month. Major programs on the road presented by Matt Carl were on the topic of Harry Davenport and Laquin. With the support of the Societies membership Matt Carl looks forward to support for another productive year.

The board members of the Bradford County Historical Society were presented.

We have some very dedicated volunteers and they are listed in this year's annual booklet. Many of them were in attendance and were introduced. Some of the projects completed by this group include research letters, tour guides, help on special events and many other endeavors. Our volunteers logged 3000 hours for the 2008/2009 fiscal year.

Our expenditures are exceeding income. Hopefully, this gap can be narrowed. Although the organization is going through some trying financial times, the board is hopeful that our membership will help with the resources to close this gap and also to reach out to non-members and bring them into the BCHS.

At this time the annual awards were presented. The Leo E. Wilt Historian of the Year Award is presented to a person who the board feels has made a significant individual contribution to Bradford County History. The winner this year was Sylvia Wilson. She has been a dependable board member and volunteered for over a 22-year tenure. The Clement F. Heverly Award for Outstanding Service was then presented. The award is presented to a person or organization in recognition for their dedication to and preservation of history in Bradford County. The award was presented to Rekindle the Spirit Inc. Under their guidance the Manley Bohlayer farm and schoolhouse have been restored. They sponsor the Apple & Cheese Festival and educate over 1000 people a year in culture and agriculture. The award was accepted by Kathleen Nelsen. Mary Neiley handed out Bradford County History Quizzes, with the answers to be presented at 3:45PM. The business meeting was adjourned and this year's program was presented. The speaker for the afternoon was President elect, Past President and Editor of *The Settler*, Henry Farley. His topic was Dr. Donald Guthrie (1880-1958), who served Bradford County from 1910 to his death in the running and development of the Robert Packer Hospital.

# FINANCIAL REPORT

Lois Crandell, Treasurer

## Income:

Donations	2891.17
Grants	14725.00
Appeal 2010	3720.00
Appeal 2009	1872.00
McFarlane Estate	38858.76
Tozer Trust	717.60
Gift Shop	2631.57
Barclay Mt. Book	2424.00
Interest	1110.67
Memberships	5405.00
Copies	557.80
Events	3480.99
Research	2647.00
Postage	200.52
Map/Photo Scans	70.00
Veterans Office	747.62
Miscellaneous	<u>323.91</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>82383.61</b>

## Accounts:

Super Money Market	99335.03
Checking	1010.88
Cash Available	100345.91

## Projects in Progress:

Publishing	10000.00
Newspaper Digitizing	20000.00
Room Tax Grant	3000.00

## Other Accounts:

Vision CDs	50808.61
C & N CD	10164.74
Visions Saving	25.00
Long Term Investment	183685.50

## Expenditures:

Advertising	1510.54
Computer Programs	438.89
Equipment	1647.24
Dues/Subscriptions	722.40
Events	689.55
Event Participation	110.00
Charitable Org. Fee	150.00
Credit Card/EBay Fees	469.53
Gift Shop Inventory	142.61
Insurance	4296.00
Internet/Web Site	714.20
Maintenance-Elevator	4533.75
Maint.-Heat/AC	1000.00
Maintenance-Copier	444.78
Building Repairs	311.19
Building Security	225.00
Parking Spaces	2520.00
Garbage Collection	305.14
Other Maintenance	579.89
Payroll-Curator	10002.83
Payroll-Tour Guide	1787.22
Payroll Expense	234.88
Postage	829.10
Preservation	447.12
Professional Fees	1075.00
Settler Quarterly	4619.38
Office Supplies	1423.89
Standing Stone Taxes	72.59
Telephone	1456.80
Electric	4210.68
Gas	2341.00
Water & Sewer	165.51
Veterans Office	1110.38
Curator Purchases	487.32
Displays	132.26
Miscellaneous	<u>298.47</u>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>51505.14</b>

## **LIBRARY COMMITTEE**

*J. Kelsey Jones, Chair*

The Research Center continues to be an important resource for genealogical and historical research by genealogists, historians, and scholars. There are vast and voluminous amounts of information contained in the library in various cabinets and nooks and corners that exist nowhere else. Someone recently told me they could do all of their genealogical research from home via the internet. There are many resources on today's internet but there are many original records that are not online and only exist at the Bradford County Historical Society. For instance, assessment lists, one of the often overlooked genealogical research tools hold a vast array of information from the real and personal property one owned to listing young single men who were also taxed, families who were unable to pay for their children's schooling which lists the children's names and ages long before the 1850 census came about enumerating the entire family, and even militia lists were included in assessment records. The assessment records for Bradford County are nearly complete to 1812 when the county was formed.

When you visit don't hesitate to ask the staff or volunteers is there something you are missing. Are there files in a cabinet that might be the clue to finding that elusive ancestor that you aren't aware of. If you are unable to make a personal visit dedicated staff and volunteers can assist you with research.

Most importantly, the Research Center can only expand with your assistance. Valuable photos and other memorabilia continue to be donated for safekeeping for future generations to enjoy. Far too often we have found the love and care that someone may have for a treasured family bible, the old tintypes in the family photo album or other family heirlooms are lost with later generations who may have no interest in their overall genealogical and historical value and long term care. A relative from Texas recently brought an embroidered coverlet that contains "Sarah A. Pellet 1844" on it who was my great great great grandmother Sarah Ann Wyker wife of John W. Pellet who lived in Wells Township near Mosherville, which I am gifting to the Bradford County Historical Society along with the Pellet genealogy I have compiled and many scanned photographs of the family from the 1800's.

## **PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE**

*Guy Abell, Chair*

Work is being completed on the new 1858 color county atlas, with plans to have it available for Christmas 2010. This is possible because of the dedicated work of Matt Carl. We will be using the same company that produced our successful Barclay Mountain book.

Plans are being made for the Bicentennial history of the towns of Bradford county. Meetings have been held and letters have been sent to local governments asking for input. Plans are for the book to be published in time to celebrate our 200th anniversary.

As usual Henry Farley has done an outstanding job turning out regular issues of the Settler. In addition many articles about the museum have been appearing in the local newspapers and on our web sites. Thanks Matt!

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