

Greater Dover Historical Society  
February 21, 2008

The regular meeting of the Greater Dover Historical Society was called to order by President Madelyn Shermeyer at 7:05 p.m. at the Calvary Lutheran Church. Members present were: Lori Koch, Jo Ott, Madelyn Shermeyer, Gayle Heagy, Joyce Law, Larry Law, Carol Leathery, Doris Burger, June Kinsey, Jeff Koch, Ted Zeigler, Mel Miller, Kay Stitley, Randy Worley, Judy Worley, Melanie Green, Cindy Snyder, Lucia Hrinayak, Zita Smith, Marty Green and Norma Botterbusch.

The program proceeded with the swearing in officers and Board of Director members for 2008 as follows:

Madelyn Shermeyer, President  
Kay Stitley, Vice President  
Lori Koch, Secretary  
Joyce Law, Treasurer  
Cindy Snyder, Historian  
Gayle Heagy, Archivist/Board of Directors  
Melanie Green, Board of Directors  
Jeff Koch, Board of Directors  
(Absent were Ron Botterbusch, Board of Directors and Dr. Charles Drawbaugh, Archivist Emeritus)

President Shermeyer made the appointments of Assistant Archivist, Gayle Heagy, and Assistant Webmaster, Maureen App. President Shermeyer presented the November 2007 minutes and asked for any additions or corrections to the minutes. A motion to accept the minutes as presented was made by Cindy Snyder and seconded by Jeff Koch. All voted in favor and motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's reports November 2007, December 2007 and January 2008 were presented by Joyce Law:

Balance as of November 1, 2007	\$9,635.64
Deposits for November	312.63
Expenses for November	101.42
Balance as of November 30, 2007	\$9,846.85

Balance as of December 1, 2007	\$9,846.85
Deposits for December	281.43
Expenses for December	1,109.78
Balance as of December 31, 2007	\$9,018.50

Balance as of January 1, 2008	\$9,018.50
Deposits for January	986.09
Expenses for January	120.41

Balance as of January 31

\$9,884.18

Joyce reminded all members to pick up a volunteer hour sheet and return to her as soon as possible since the Form 990 is due at the end of the month. Also for any member who paid their dues, the badges and cards are on the table. There was a motion by Cindy Snyder to approve the Treasurer's reports as presented and seconded by Larry Law. All voted in favor and motion passed.

Archivist Report -- Dr. Drawbaugh was absent. Assistant Archivist Gayle Heagy reported the map file drawer is here and set up the in the basement of the Borough Hall. There was a minor problem with the lock which was slightly defective but it has been repaired by Gayle's son-in-law.

Gayle reported on recent donations:

- Nancy Murphy donated old school books that belonged to Mr. Morgan Moul
- Dr. Drawbaugh donated his membership card and badges from the first 6 years of the GDHS
- Bob Little donated the original toolbox from the Neiman blacksmith shop, which also contained old instrumental music books used by the Dover Coronet Band.

Gayle reported that June Kinsey had updated the local obituary files and they are now in stored in the archives. It was mentioned that Bob Maul passed away last week and his obituary was in the evening paper on Monday.

President Shermeyer brought in photos of Governor Casey at the dedication ceremony of the Dover Township Community Building on Davidsburg Road. These photos will be placed in the future historic items file.

June Kinsey brought a photograph circa 1958 of several Dover residents on Queen Street observing the sewer system installation. Included in the photo were June's father, Gayle's father, Gayle's brother Wayne, Gayle's brother Scott's children, George Holtzapple and Butch Myers.

President Shermeyer had a photograph from the local newspaper of Gayle Heagy being recognized as the county Area on Aging volunteer of the month for December 2007. Congratulations Gayle!

Webpage Report – Brett Pfeiger was not present at the meeting.

Historian Report – Cindy Snyder asked members if they see any local reports in the newspaper to please cut them out and forward to her for the scrapbook.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Blood Root -- President Shermeyer she was able to get the first copy of the Blood Root book from Lisa. She and Mr. Botterbusch hope to get started on it soon. We will have to use the same pictures that were in the original book. This may be a project that will be put on hold since we will have to pay for this fundraiser project ourselves without the cooperation from the York

County School of Technology. Doris Burger asked if we needed a proofreader for this project but President Shermeyer stated we are printing the books verbatim. Doris was a former proofreader for the Altoona Mirror, so we will keep in her mind for future projects.

Adopt-a-Highway – Lucia Hrinyak reported we held a pickup on February 3. Our two-year contract with PennDOT expires on May 17, 2008, unless we as an organization choose to renew the contract. To date we have completed 6 pickups and our contract requires 4 per year. Therefore, we need to complete 2 more pickups to fulfill our contract obligations. Lucia has a sign-up sheet for a pickup on March 8 and plans another pickup in April. Lucia reported we had 10% participation of members in the last 5 litter pickups. Lucia stated that she will not chair the committee if the society decides to renew the contract. Kay Stitley stated she felt this is a very worthwhile project and several people thanked us for doing such a nice job during the pickups. President Shermeyer asked Lucia to share with the membership what the responsibilities of chairperson of the committee. As chairperson, you pick the date of the pickup, contact the liaison at PennDOT on the Susquehanna Trail to request supplies (trash bags, gloves, orange safety vests) and notify her of the scheduled date via email. After the pickup is complete, the chairperson would contact the PennDOT liaison to notify her of the number of bags, number of participants and where the trash bags can be picked up. Lucia does write an article for the newsletter. Lucia stated that we are making a difference since our first pickup took about 4 hours and our last pickup was done in less than 2 hours. April and October are the obligatory months. After a brief discussion on the issue, Judy Worley made a motion to table it until the next meeting in March. All members were in favor of the motion.

Landscape Committee – Lucia reported the committee met last fall to make plans for this year, including maintenance of the chestnut tree. Lucia stated it is the responsibility of the GDHS to water the tree on a weekly schedule from May through the end of October, as per the recommendation by Gayle Heagy. The nursery gave Gayle a guarantee to replace the tree if it died over the winter and does not bloom in the spring. The committee felt the responsibility of watering the tree could be shared by members of the society, and Lucia will have a sign-up sheet available in April. Joyce suggested that Larry and Ted could water the tree on the Saturdays they are there for the open hours of the blacksmith shop.

#### Board of Directors' report

President Shermeyer reported on several items discussed at the Board of Directors' meeting in January as follows:

- removal of the timbers and slate from the storage shed was discussed; June Kinsey checked into a location to store the timbers but it did not work out.
- revisions to the membership page for the website were finalized and posted.
- discussed the cost of bronze and cast aluminum for historic plaques in the Borough.
- discussed the interviews done by Kay and Ron with Joyce doing the video; Gayle and Madelyn will also be helping with these. We need to get these interviews completed soon since one person on the list (Bob Maul) just passed away before his interview was done.
- other uses for the blacksmith shop were discussed, besides Ted's open hours.
- updated letterhead was discussed; there was thought that if Kay's son cannot get to it and have it done within 4-6 weeks, we know someone who can have it ready. We can print it ourselves and only print what we need to use so we don't have to order large quantities and have a lot of money tied up in this fundraiser.
- annual craft fair at blacksmith shop; this will be planned for 2009 and a committee will be appointed.

--security for storage shed was discussed; Marty Green has light purchased and will install soon; it has been too cold for Bob Stitley to work on the door.

Larry Law asked about the slate in the storage shed. Gayle Heagy reported a gentleman came out to look at it, and he was interested in roofing slate. He did not feel the slate we have met his needs.

### OLD BUSINESS

Tree lighting – Mrs. Koch reported it was a very nice event and a great turnout. We had lots of hot chocolate, hot coffee and cider along with cookies and other snacks. The kids enjoyed the visit by Santa who arrived on the Borough fire truck. Everyone enjoyed the band again this year.

Date/name stone – President Shermeyer reported the stone was delivered to the blacksmith shop on February 20. It was suggested that we have Ted make a small fence to put in front of the stone to keep visitors away from the stone. This may be a better option than our original idea to put a piece of Plexiglas in a frame to surround the stone.

### NEW BUSINESS

President Shermeyer reported blacksmith shop open hours will be from April through October, 10am-2pm. We need a volunteer to work the GDHS stand to sell our items (t-shirts, replicas, pictures, trash bags, Ted's items). Norma Botterbusch stated she felt we need 1 or 2 ladies there to help answer questions while Ted is working. President Shermeyer reported that Joyce Law took photographs of Ted working from start to finish. These photos will be numbered and an explanation will be attached on a board so visitors can read it as Ted works. Leaflets will also be available for visitors to take along with them. President Shermeyer asked about the burlap in the shed because she would like to use a piece to cover the board and attach the photos to it. She was instructed to use the smaller piece since we use the larger size to cover the tables. Randy Worley felt that visitors will still ask Ted questions while he is working but President Shermeyer pointed out that the leaflets are self-explanatory and visitor should not have to ask as many questions. It was suggested that a member can volunteer to be there to answer questions. Jo Ott volunteered to greet visitors and answer questions since she will be there taking photographs. President Shermeyer suggested that all the items we sell at the open hours be kept in one centralized location. At the present time, Joyce, Kay and Norma all have items we use at their homes. President Shermeyer asked them to coordinate all their items into one box for the April open hours. Norma Botterbusch will purchase a large Rubbermaid container and President Shermeyer asked them to bring their supplies to the March meeting.

Refreshment committee – President Shermeyer asked if there was any storage space at Calvary for our refreshment supplies. Doris Burger said yes. It was agreed by the membership to have volunteers each month bring finger food snacks and Norma will bring the coffee. The secretary will have a sign-up sheet at the March meeting; snacks for March will be supplied by Madelyn and Gayle; April snacks will be supplied by Doris and Lori.

Uses for blacksmith shop – there were discussions on other uses for the blacksmith shop besides Ted's open hours. It was suggested that perhaps the Board of Directors could hold its meetings there in the warm months. We could invite scouts or school groups outside of Dover to visit the blacksmith shop. President Shermeyer asked the members to think about other ideas and bring their suggestions to a meeting.

President Shermeyer stated the annual craft day at the blacksmith shop will be held in 2009. Planning will begin on this project later this year or early next year.

The interviews were discussed under the Board of Directors' report.

Typing of biographies – Joyce Law stated she is typing the interviews and will need someone else to type up the biographies. Joyce takes notes from the information on the video and tape recordings she takes of the interviews which is transcribed into a comprehensive, readable biography/interview. Joyce said she has a couple of biographies from 2 years ago that still need to be typed. Gayle Heagy stated the committee is working on more comprehensive and orderly template of questions to ask the person in order to eliminate redundancy and hopefully keep the interview on track. Cindy Snyder said she will present this project to some of her students who may need credit for their community service project.

President Shermeyer stated we will need a chairperson for the Dover Fair Committee. Last year we had 3 co-chairs (Kay Stitley, Lois Slothower and Carol Leathery) and they have indicated they cannot be chairperson again this year. President Shermeyer said we have March and April for members to think about volunteering and she hopes we will a volunteer in place by April.

President Shermeyer announced that Mr. Ron Botterbusch will be our speaker for the March meeting and he will be making a presentation on the civil defense during World War II.

#### OTHER NEW BUSINESS:

President Shermeyer stated she met with Brett Pfleiger on January 29 to lay the groundwork for the new link for the blacksmith items for the website. Everything that is currently on the website now related to the blacksmith shop will be removed and placed under this new link. All photographs from the dismantling of the shop to the dedication ceremony will be on the new link. President Shermeyer stated she and Brett discussed ways to make access to the site simple for individuals who have dial-up which tends to be very slow.

Timbers in storage shed – President Shermeyer said removal of the timbers from the storage shed was discussed. June Kinsey had checked with a source to store the timbers but it did not pan out. Perhaps we can place a blurb in the newsletter asking members if they know of any place we can store the timbers. If we cannot find an inside location to store them, we may be able to move the timbers outside beside the shed or blacksmith shop and cover them. We need to remove the timbers and slate from inside the shed to reduce the weight on the shed floor.

President Shermeyer reported she contacted the Board members, including the two new members, asking permission to write a letter from the GDHS in support of soft path water improvements. Liz Garland from American Rivers will be requesting an earmark from Congress for funding to improve the storm water management (bio-retention facilities such as rain barrels, rain gardens) at Lehr Park and will need support from Congressman Platts. Since the society has used the park for fundraisers, this group was asking for letters of support from the different organizations who use the park facilities. President Shermeyer stated due to the time constraints of the request, she contacted the board members and prepared the letter to Congressman Platts. She gave a copy of her letter to the secretary for the GDHS records.

President Shermeyer asked the membership for suggestions for future speakers for our GDHS meetings.

Meeting location – President Shermeyer stated she was approached by some members regarding their interest in continuing to use the Dover UCC for our meetings instead of Calvary Lutheran Church. President Shermeyer stated we should take a vote to see if there in any interest in going to Dover UCC and if there is interest, she will speak to Reverend Loser about it. If there is no interest, we will continue to hold our meetings at Calvary Lutheran Church. There was no particular reason for the request per President Shermeyer; except perhaps storage for refreshment supplies and set up was done for us and we only had to tear down after the meeting. President Shermeyer stated as long as Kay is here by 6:15 p.m. to open up, we are OK to continue at Calvary since our refreshment storage needs have been addressed. After a brief discussion, there was no interest by the membership to use Dover UCC and a decision was made to continue our meetings at the Calvary Lutheran Church.

List of Accomplishments – June Kinsey compiled a list of accomplishments for 2007, which will be attached to the minutes as Addendum A. President Shermeyer thanked June for keeping such good records. Joyce Law reported she is working on a historical walk education article which will be posted to the Kid's Page on the website after Lucia has completed the editing.

President Shermeyer addressed the membership regarding a complaint which was made to a Board member concerning all decisions being made by the GDHS Board of Directors. A copy of this information presented by President Shermeyer is attached to the minutes as Addendum B.

There being no questions or any suggestions from the membership, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m. by President Shermeyer.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Koch  
GDHS secretary