



The Greater Dover Historical Society Inc.

DECEMBER 2010



President's Column by Madelyn Shermeyer

This President's column is in a different format from the previous columns. I wish to show that even though we've had no major projects this year, there was much accomplished. In the future, the last President's column for the year will most likely be in this form as it is a way to recap the year's accomplishments.

In January 2010, a number of issues were acted upon. A vote was taken by the membership to eliminate the membership badges. The replicas of the Blacksmith Shop were reduced to \$12 each. The historical plaques were ordered and delivered.

Don Baughman of Baughman Memorials in Dover, along with his daughter Suzanne, gave a power point presentation on the history of Baughman Memorials, a presentation that was so informative not only for visitors but for those of us that were born and raised in the area. Don fielded many questions from the interested members and guests.

GDHS notepaper was presented with a sale price determined: \$5 for a set of 10 printed sheets, 10 plain sheets and 10 envelopes.

The Blacksmith Shop will be featured on the cover of the York County Association of Township Supervisors publication, which will be available to the township supervisors at their convention on 11/11/10.

In order to eliminate continued storage of the leftover brick from the reconstruction of the Blacksmith Shop and to add a few dollars to the society's coffers, the Board of Directors decided to sell the rough brick for 10 cents each and the full size red brick for 20 cents each. At this writing, only a few of the rough brick remain in inventory.

Our State Representative Seth Grove asked to produce a legislative video at the Blacksmith Shop where it was explained how the GDHS volunteers dismantled and rebuilt the Blacksmith Shop. I had an opportunity to emphasize the GDHS's mission to preserve our past for future generations.

Nathan Stone, GIS specialist with Dover Township, determined the coordinates for the Blacksmith Shop which were posted to the main page of the Greater Dover Historical Society website (www.gdhspa.org).

Ron Botterbusch gave a presentation on muzzle-loader guns, a program which was a learning experience for many of those attending. Ron discussed their use in the early days and their transition to the present time. Ron displayed the gun he made from scratch. This scratch project took many hours of his time.

The Adopt-A-Highway GDHS volunteers cleaned up the debris along Route 74 from the Dover Borough line north to Sky Top Trail, an activity scheduled four times a year. The crews had a number of passersby express their appreciation for the effort put forth by our volunteers.

The Landmark Committee selected the first five sites to receive the historic plaques. We will have a professional builder install these bronze plaques on the homes that were chosen.

Once again, the GDHS took the opportunity to have the concession stand for Dover Township's annual Fall Fest at Lehr Park. As usual our volunteers did a fantastic job. The dedication to our society and the effort of our volunteers made this event a success.

Finally, planning for 2011 was discussed and a time for the budget meeting was determined.

Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year from the Greater Dover Historical Society!



Blacksmiths, Butchers and Brickyards

Submitted by Jo Ott

During a recent visit to the West Chester Historical Society's library to do research in its exceptional genealogy collection, I unexpectedly came across numerous items on Dover history. I read through one volume in particular with a degree of amusement, for the information it contained gave me an idea for newsletter articles.

Browsing thru the 1860 edition of *Boyd's Business Directory of the Counties of Adams, Bucks, Chester, Cumberland, Dauphin, Delaware, Franklin, Lancaster, Montgomery, York, PA*, I came across entries for many residents and their occupations, including those living in Dover Township with a Davidsburg post office address, and in the borough of Dover. Having abandoned my own research for the lack of finding anything worthwhile, I began writing notes on Dover people and soon discovered there were lists of several occupations of likely interest to Dover residents.

One list in particular would be of interest to members of the Greater Dover Historical Society and, later, my wanting to do further research online, what better beginning than with the blacksmiths.

There are several **blacksmiths** listed for 1860 and I found all the families but two in ancestry.com. Recognize any ancestors?

Benjamin Eisenhower, 35, master blacksmith; Lydia, 36; William, 11; Elizabeth, 7; Samuel, 7 mos. R. E. value--\$900; personal--\$150.

John Gross, 65; Mary, 54; Elizabeth, 27; Catherine, 17. R. E. value--\$3230; personal--600.

John Hummer, 37; Susan, 34; Jacob, 12; Catherine, 10; Anna May, 8; William, 7; Sarah, 5; Edwin, 14. R. E. value--\$400; personal--\$200.

Henry King, 37; Susan, 36; Caroline, 15; Jesse, 11; John, 8; Henry, 4; Mary, 3; David, 1; Catherine, 1. R. E. value-- \$500; personal--\$150.

Abraham Lankert (or Longard), 75, retired blacksmith; Catherine, 65. R. E. value--\$1500; personal--300. Sara Ann, 29; R. E. value--\$29; personal--100.

Abraham Lankert, Jr., 40; Lucy, 31; Levi, 11. R. E. value-- \$1000; personal--500.

John Myers; 1860 census shows: 16, 18, 4 year old hh members.

Aaron Rodgers, page illegible in 1860 census.

John smith, 27, master blacksmith; Susan, 28; Emma, 5; Mary, 2; Gustavus, 9 mos. R. E. value--\$4000; personal--400.

John Urich, 25 (lived on Peter Myers' farm); Emeline, 18.

Butchers

Samuel Myers, 51; Lydia, 42; Franklin, 21; John, 18; Christiana, 17; Mary, 16; Fritta, 7; Sarah, 2; Rebecca, 4; R. E. value--1600; personal--925.

Eli Lauer, 36; Rebecca, 25; Amanda, 6; Oliver, 4; Sarah, 1; R. E. 1500; personal--925.

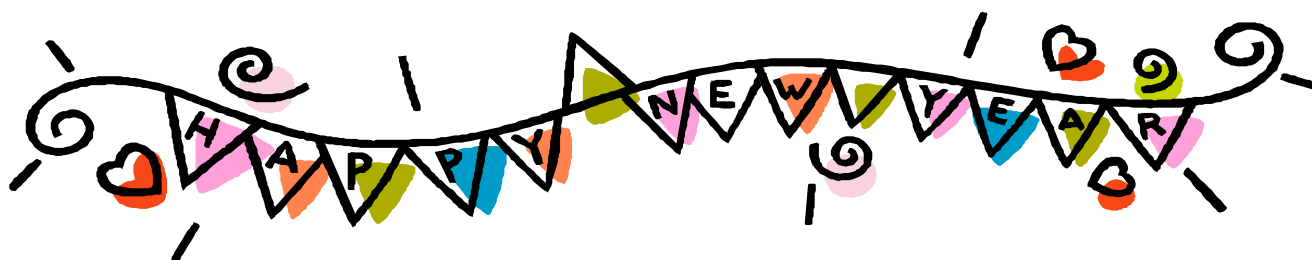
Henry Spahr, no information for him in 1860 census.

Brickyards

Franklin Seifert, no brickyard information for him.

Henry Stough, no brickyard information for him.

Joseph Wagner, 36; Elizabeth, 9; William, 6; Rebecca, 3; R. E. value--2500; personal--475.



MEMBERSHIP DUES

Just a reminder! Don't forget to pay your 2011 dues by 12/31/10. Send your check payable to GDHS Inc. to Bill Coleman, 3083 Jodi Lane, Dover, PA 17315. The dues are \$10.00 for individuals, \$5 for students and \$25 for families, includes children under 18.

FOR SALE — available for purchase at Dover Twp Municipal Bldg, Botterbusch Jewelry Store or contact any GDHS member

Blacksmith Shop replicas \$12 — Carousel Building replicas \$16 — Brookside Park booklets \$2

**Christmas Town & Country House Tour
Historic East Berlin
Sunday, December 12, 2010
12 pm until 5 pm**

The East Berlin Historic Society sponsors a Holiday Tour of 18th & 19th century homes and buildings in and around East Berlin. Your contribution of \$12 supports the preservation and education work of the society. Come enjoy this special tour as a wonderful start to your holiday season. Tickets are available the day of the tour at Red Men's Hall, 332 West King Street in East Berlin. For information and advance ticket purchase, call 717-259-0822 or 717-259-9866.

2011 GDHS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- January 20 — regular meeting
- February 17 — regular meeting
- March 17 — regular meeting
- April 21 — regular meeting
- May 19 — regular meeting
- June 16 — regular meeting
- June 21 — historical walk
- July 21 — membership picnic
- August 18 — regular meeting
- September 15 — regular meeting
- October 20 — regular meeting
- November 17 — regular meeting
- December — no meeting

All GDHS meetings are held at the Calvary Lutheran Church on the square in Dover beginning at 7pm, the third Thursday of each month. Guest speakers will be scheduled early in 2011 and announced at our regular business meeting. Everyone is welcome to attend!

GREATER DOVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2 S. Main Street, Dover PA 17315

Website: www.gdhspa.org

Email: doverhistory@gdhspa.org

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Eli Nikkanen, Paul Mullin, Christine Geiselman, Walter Crider, Adam
Coffman

PRESERVING OUR HISTORY FOR OUR FUTURE