



The Greater Dover Historical Society Inc.

AUGUST 2013



President's Message

Submitted by Madelyn Shermeyer

This will be the last president's message by Madelyn Shermeyer. I have written a president's message for every newsletter since 2007. After the election in November, it will be the newly elected president's job to write the president's message for the newsletter. As many of the membership know, I have tried unsuccessfully for the past three (3) years to have someone take over the office of Society president. In May of this year I informed the membership present that I would not accept the nomination for president - eight (8) years is long enough. It's been a challenging period at times but mostly a rewarding eight (8) years. I was able to accomplish formalizing job descriptions for each office by meeting with each officer and having the minutes printed instead of the secretary reading the minutes. As a Society we accomplished much over the years and I am pleased to have been a part of that success. I would like to thank our secretary, Lori Koch, for all her help and Bill Coleman for his excellent job as our treasurer. I've had a personal satisfaction with continuing the mission of the GDHS during my tenure and hope the Society will continue to prosper.

BLACKSMITH SHOP NEWS

Submitted by Judy Worley

This summer has been a busy and active time with our blacksmith Eli Nikkanen at the forge. We want to welcome blacksmith Fred Shaffer to our blacksmithing family. Both Eli and Fred have shared their blacksmithing skills with hundreds of visitors this summer. Eli and Fred bring a total of 30 years of blacksmithing background to share.

Along with our Open House Saturdays, the Blacksmith Shop welcomed visitors during two (2) Dover Borough Recreation Sundae's In the Park gatherings. On Saturday, June 29th, the Blacksmith Shop participated in Dover's Civil War Remembrance Day Celebration. During the day the open shop was where blacksmith Eli stressed the importance of the blacksmith to the community of the time and demonstrated on the forge the making of various utilitarian period items. Several of our members dressed in period dress and spoke about their day to day activities speaking in period language. Ron Botterbusch brought display of civil war guns and knives.

West Manchester Township Historical Society also participated with a booth and shared civil war memorabilia, including a civil war uniform and cannonball.

The Greater Dover Historical Society is very proud of our Blacksmith Shop, the great Dover history it represents and the skills and knowledge our blacksmiths share with our community. Our next open house dates are Saturday, September 14th and October 12th from 10am to 2pm.

Don't miss us! See you at the Blacksmith Shop!

NOVEMBER GUEST SPEAKER

Prior to the election of our officers on November 21, 2013, a program will be presented by the educational staff from York Heritage Trust. They will provide information about the program's history and its evolution from the junior docent and junior curator programs to the current museum apprentice program. This program provides high school juniors and seniors with an opportunity to learn about *the public history field and discover the challenges of working in a museum.*

Farewell to a Dover *Portable* School (Part 2)

Submitted by Jo Ott

Edna also wrote the following message to her students:

In appreciation of the boys and girls who have been in my school room this past year who have made it possible for me to enjoy one of the most pleasant years of my life. In you I saw the dream of my life come true.

Some of you made this, my first year in the teaching field, a great pleasure because you were patient, kind and loyal when I made mistakes. Others have helped by being troublesome. These latter few have shown me many unkindnesses but by these acts I have learned to understand children and myself a little better. Yes, everyone of you has helped me, and all your attempts at kindness and all your trials to arouse my anger are appreciated. You have shown me my weaknesses and I hope to profit by this knowledge.

This little book is a token of my friendship and hearty appreciation. I hope you will like it and keep it as a remembrance of your one year in the "Chicken Coop."

I want to thank Janet Myers and Fairy Slothower and the others who have contributed writings to the book. Also one whose efforts were misjudged and who stopped her wonderful work upon the book. I hope she will forgive me for causing her so much criticism.

With fond wishes for a delightful vacation and a very bright and successful future. I would like to remain,

*Your friend and teacher,
Edna Iva Boyer*

Our School

(Tune: Aloha Ce)

Dover Portable School, to us you're so dear

Our days with you are passing by

But your praises we will ever cheer

Your glory e'er before us

We'll praise in lively chorus

Because to us you're very dear.

And now we say a fond farewell

Time is passing and we must go on

But our days with you we'll all recall

Many times after we have passed thy wall.

.....Words by Grace Prince



Ivan Albright

Ivan's one ambition is to stop school. He can hardly wait until the minute he is fourteen years old to give one glad shout and rush for the door and home. We don't blame him much, but we feel sure that he will wish for school some boiling hot day in August when he is behind the plow. If one treats Ivan nice and never says a cross word to him he is the nicest boy in the room. But just try getting cross to him and then get ready to run. We all like the "Gentleman" in Ivan and are only sorry it isn't present all the time. We wish you the best of luck in "Hoeing your row."

Elwood Crone

This space is for Elwood. He believes that pictures should be made on the mind and kept there instead of in a camera to be taken out and pasted in a book. His picture is the only missing one in the class and we are sorry. We will have to forgive him for this as we did a hundred and one other things which we didn't think were so nice. If Elwood stops his bluffing and trying to get ahead of everyone else, he will be a boy of whom the pupils of the Dover Portable School will be proud to say, "He was in my room in school." Wake up, Elwood! We wish you luck and happiness.

Roy Frederick

Roy is the smallest boy in the seventh grade and true to the saying "Good things comes in small packages." Roy is easily provoked and thinks that everyone should agree with him and change their ideas so that nothing stops him from having his way. We think that he will get over this and we know that he will be glad. We are sorry that he has left us but he has already made many new friends at the other school and we feel sure that he is happy. May you continue to win favor and praise, Roy. Here's to your success and joy in the days to come.

Howard Goodwin

"Howard!" "Why do you always call my name?"

These are daily happenings when "Sots" gets blamed for all the noise in the corner of the room in which he is. Will you forgive us, Howard? Your name is so easy to say. We would like to know why Howard always takes the teacher's paddles and also how it is that he can invent so many excuses to walk around the room to sit with someone instead of in his own seat. But some day he will be a great success and we will be willing to forget how mischievous he was in school. We all like you Howard, and wish you much happiness and fun in life.

Charlotte Latchaw

How would we ever get our supplies from Weigelstown if Charlotte would not bring them to us? Thank you, Charlotte! Here is an ideal student and one who is entirely dependent on herself for her lessons. How much everyone would learn if they would do this! Everyone likes Charlotte and for good reasons. Now and then she gets cross, but who doesn't? We must also thank her for playing--yes, and almost paying for the piano. She won the selling contest as well as the spelling contest and if her efforts continue she will win many more. We wish a bright future for you.



(Editor's Note: This article was very lengthy and will be published in several parts in our future newsletters)

DOVER FIREMEN'S FAIR

Submitted by Norma Botterbusch

Our Historical Society will again be having a display at the Dover Fireman's Fair in Dover Borough on August 31 and September 2-7. Volunteers are needed to help with setup, working during the week at the display, and tearing down on Saturday night, September 7th. If you can volunteer, please call Kay Stitley - 292.3866, Norma Botterbusch - 717.891.5239, or email Doverwatchdoctor@aol.com. We will be displaying some memorabilia and artifacts and selling different items such as Blacksmith Shop replicas, Blood Root books, trash bags, and t-shirts. We will be accepting 2014 membership dues as well. The purpose of this week is to give the community a chance to get better acquainted with us. We will also be accepting donations of memorabilia and artifacts. We encourage you to stop down and see our display and visit with us at the Dover Fireman's Fair located in the lower level of the Union Fire and Hose #1.

GREATER DOVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Submitted by Kay Stitley

The Northern York County Regional Police Department sponsored National Night Out on August 6, 2013 at the Dover Fire hall. This is a chance for families in the community to come out and meet the police department, fire department and share in activities with their neighbors.

The Historical Society participated in the evening's activities by having a booth with information on the society. Members gave out information about our Blacksmith Shop and the dates that it is open to the public. We handed out bookmarks with information on our meeting times and our website address. Also available to the public were free books on the Civil War. This was a fun evening as lots of people came by to talk and were glad to hear about what our society is doing for the community.

There were booths from several local companies, public service groups and lots of free food and activities for the children. Each person received a free ticket stub when entering the fire company property and at the end of the evening, lots of great door prizes were given away. There was one little boy who was just thrilled that he won a new bicycle!

Mark your calendars for next year, the first Tuesday in August for another great time!

PRESERVING OUR HISTORY FOR OUR FUTURE