

TREDYFFRIN HISTORIC PRESERVATION TRUST

TRUST NEWS

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 1

FALL/WINTER 2016



Letter from the President ...

Preserving historic buildings is vital to understanding our local heritage and 2016 marked a milestone for historic preservation in Tredyffrin Township.

In January, a CVS pharmacy redevelopment plan threatened the future of the Old Covered Wagon Inn, the two hundred and fifty year old Main Line landmark at the corner of Lancaster and Old Eagle School Road in Strafford. Initial plans presented by developer John Zaharck and Summit Realty Advisors to the township included the demolition of the Covered Wagon Inn.

Citizens and preservationists rallied to save the historic inn where Count Basie, Duke Ellington, and other famous musicians performed and residents had gathered for high school proms, wedding receptions, and special family meals.

Utilizing social media, traditional newspaper coverage and an online petition, a campaign was launched by the Trust to save the historic inn.

With encouragement and support from the township staff, Planning Commissioners, and Supervisors, the CVS plans were revised to include preserving the Covered Wagon Inn. The project no longer includes the demolition of the Main Line landmark. Thanks to the developer John Zaharck, property owner John Hoopes, and CVS, the inn will remain as the gateway to Tredyffrin Township.

The Trust is grateful to the developer for listening to the community and saving an important part of our local history. Recognizing the significant historic preservation

contributions in saving the Old Covered Wagon Inn, the Trust has named John Zaharck and Summit Realty Advisors, the recipient of its 2016 Historic Preservation Award.

The public learned recently that the oldest place of business in Berwyn is closing its doors after a century and a half of service to the community. After 153 years, the fifth-generation of Fritz Lumber made the difficult decision to close its doors. The property was purchased by Eadeh Enterprises and the redevelopment decisions by the new owners will be guided by the Berwyn Village zoning ordinance changes of 2013.

To honor the Fritz family, the Trust is planning a celebration and fundraiser for the evening of Saturday, Oct. 22 on site at the Fritz Lumber Company in Berwyn. With support from the event's presenting sponsor Eadeh Enterprises, *Come to the 'LumberYard'* will be an evening of community spirit, entertainment, and lots of fun! More details to follow - Save the date!

Our local history is important and its preservation matters. Please join us at one of our upcoming events — the house tour preview party, the 12th Annual Historic House Tour, the Fall Lecture Series or 'LumberYard'. All of our fundraising efforts benefit historic preservation and the completion of the "Living History Center at Dupontail" in Chesterbrook.

Patty Benson

President
12th Annual Historic House Tour,
Chair
Tel: 610.644.6759

Welcome to New Board Members

The Trust was excited to welcome five new Board members in 2016 - Doug Anestad, Amy Dluhy, Cam Hopkins, Suzanne Kinsler and Craig Postlewait.

Chesterbrook resident, **Doug Anestad** has a background in education and technology and a "passion for history." He is a Senior Consultant for Technology Dynamics for business intelligence software. He has worked for a number of tech company start-ups and previously worked for the School District of Philadelphia as math, science and computer science teacher. Doug serves on Tredyffrin Township's Environmental Advisory Council and on the boards of Chesterbrook Civic Association and Green Hills Landowners Association. On the Trust board, Doug contributes his time as a website administrator and member of the Programming and Fundraising committees. He was elected in August to serve as the Trust's Vice President.

Amy Dluhy grew up in the Strafford section of Wayne and attended T/E schools. Now living with her family in Chester Springs, she enjoys a successful career as an event planner. She is chapter leader of a woman's networking and charitable group, Fabulous Shoe Night, and has planned events and raised money for many non-profit organizations, including the SPCA and Team CMMD. Serving on the Trust Board, Amy is utilizing her event planning skills by helping in the organization of "Classical Affair", the house tour preview party on Sept. 18.

Wayne resident **Cam Hopkins** has been a social studies teacher at Valley Forge Middle School for the past ten years and serves as a liaison between the Trust and the T/E School District. Cam was named Teacher-Scholar at Valley Forge National Historical Park and served in that role for three years. He developed a federally funded program for students to explore the life of Continental Army soldiers in the winter encampment of 1777-78.

Suzanne Kinsler lives in Valley Forge and has a strong interest in historic preservation. Her background includes extensive marketing, research, strategic planning, analytics and management experience. She is the Director of Marketing for the CPCU Society, a non-profit professional member organization. Suzanne is helping the Trust with marketing, fundraising and increasing the community awareness of the organization's upcoming events.

Craig Postlewait is the owner of Pendulum Solutions in Wayne, a building and remodeling company. He has restored many historic homes and commercial properties, including a Malvern building once used as a post office and general store, and featured on the Trust's 3rd Annual Historic House Tour. Craig recently won national recognition from Remodeling Magazine as one of the "Big 50, Class of 2016." He has appeared on local television as an "old house" expert and "storm prep guy." As chair of the Trust's Fundraising Committee, Craig has set a goal of raising the remaining funds needed to reconstruct the Jones Log Barn.

These new members join our other Board members and we are grateful to all for their passion, time and talents!

Thank you 2015 House Tour Sponsors

The Trust recognizes the following individuals and businesses for their generous support of the 11th Annual Historic House Tour, held on September 28, 2015 — raising \$25,000 for historic preservation! We're hoping to surpass that fundraising effort in 2016! Sponsorship opportunities remain for the 2016 Historic House Tour, please contact Patsy Benson, House Tour Chair, for details - 610.644.6759.

11TH ANNUAL HISTORIC HOUSE TOUR SPONSORS 2015

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Zeyn B. Uzman, PE

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History Matters

FALL 2016 LECTURE SERIES

Lecturer and living biographer **Gene Pisasale** will present "*Alexander Hamilton: Architect of the American Financial System*" on **Thursday, October 27**. Portraying Hamilton, Pisasale will appear in full Continental Army officer's uniform.

Alexander Hamilton (1757-1804) is one of the most important, yet least understood of the Founding Fathers. Orphaned as a young boy on the island of St. Croix, he later emigrated to the colonies and fought as a soldier in the American Revolution. He became a trusted aide to General Washington, serving through most of the war. Hamilton was an important contributor to the U.S. Constitution and the Federalist Papers, subsequently becoming the first Secretary of the Treasury, where he transformed a bankrupt nation into an efficient government able to pay its debts, issue currency and regulate trade. His accomplishments stand among the most critical in the founding of our nation.

Gene Pisasale is an author and lecturer who lives in Kennett Square, Pa. He's written nine books, conducts an historic lecture series, has a radio show and a regular column in *The Chester County Press*, *The Daily Local News* and *The Hunt Magazine*.

Gene is currently earning a Master's Degree in American History at American Public University. He started his career as a petroleum geologist. In 1986, shifted his talents to the investment industry, where he worked as an analyst and portfolio manager for 24 years before retiring in 2010 to pursue a writing career.

Note: Books available for purchase and signing following lectures.

On **Thursday, December 1**, author **Mark E. Dixon** will entertain the audience with stories from his book, *'Hidden History of the Main Line'*, a collection of articles from *Main Line Today* which explores the region's offbeat and oft-forgotten history.

Beyond the grand facades and trappings of the Main Line cream-and-crystal crowd are hidden tales and scintillating stories. With a keen eye and a touch of humor, Dixon brings to light the lost pages of Main Line history.

Mark E. Dixon has lived in the Delaware Valley since 1987. Though not himself a native, he grew up hearing about "the beautiful city of Philadelphia" from his mother, who moved here in 1945 to do social work. And the roots go deeper: Dixon's mother chose Philadelphia based on stories told by her grandmother. In 1886, Dixon's great grandmother, a descendant of some of the region's earliest settlers—was a shop girl at Wanamaker's Grand Court, opposite city hall in Philadelphia. And there, though it was surely against John Wanamaker's rules, great-grandmother let herself be romanced by - and later married - a Midwestern Quaker who was in town on business but needing a pair of gloves. Those tales provided a window into the area's history.

The public relations job that drew Dixon to the Delaware Valley vanished in a spectacular corporate bankruptcy three years later. Eventually, he returned to work as a writer - this time, freelance - building on earlier experience as a reporter for newspapers and trade publications. The stories in this book are columns that he began writing for *Main Line Today* magazine in 2003. Dixon and his family live in Wayne.

The Fall Lecture Series is held at
Duportail House
297 Adams Drive, Chesterbrook, PA 19087
Refreshments 7 PM Lecture 7:30 PM
Tickets: \$15

Reservations or Questions: Polly Hagan, 610.647.1051

We wish to thank the Duportail House Board of Directors for their generosity in hosting the Fall and Spring Lecture Series.

12th Annual Historic House Tour

Saturday, September 24, 2016

Noon - 5 PM

Travel back in time. If you love history and architecture, you will not want to miss the much-anticipated **12th Annual Historic House Tour**.

Guests will go behind the front doors of historic properties on **Saturday, September 24, 12 Noon - 5 PM**.

Held annually since 2004, the purpose of the historic house tour is to foster appreciation of historic buildings and neighborhoods and the need for their preservation. The tour showcases history and architectural splendors, and shares elegant examples of beauty, warmth and historic preservation.

The 2016 house tour features privately owned historic homes in Tredyffrin and Easttown Townships. The tour has featured nearly 100 historic homes over twelve years with no houses repeated. The tour celebrates the 40th anniversary of Jenkins Arboretum and the 50th anniversary of the Tredyffrin Library with stops at each location.

House tour visitors on September 24 will also enjoy an opportunity to visit *Sunekrest*, the circa 1839 stone farmhouse of acclaimed wood sculptor Wharton Esherick (1887-1970), acquired in 2015 by the Wharton Esherick Museum.

As an added bonus for 2016, the Main Line Antiques Show is generously providing two tickets (\$30 value) for its show on October 1 and 2, with each historic house tour ticket purchased. The only antiques show on Philadelphia's Main Line, all proceeds benefit Surrey Services, which helps older adults to live with independence and dignity and to continue as active members of the community.

The beautiful properties and gardens featured on the 12th Annual Historic House Tour will be open from 12 Noon to 5 PM on Saturday, September 24, rain or shine.

Important Note: For the 2016 house tour ticket pick-up, the location is Tredyffrin Library, 582 Upper Gulph Road, Strafford.

House tour tickets and individual house history booklets that include a map and parking details (where needed) will be available for pick-up inside the library **starting at 11 AM** on the day of the tour, Saturday, Sept. 24.

House tour tickets are \$35 and can be purchased online at www.tredyffrinhistory.org or by sending a check with the form below.

Questions: 610.644.6759



2016 House Tour Tickets

House Tour tickets (\$35)
 Preview Party tickets (\$30)
 Combo Ticket (\$60)

Fall Lecture Series
 Tickets (\$15)

To purchase tickets, use the form below or order online at: www.tredyffrinhistory.org

CLASSICAL AFFAIR

House Tour Preview Party

Sunday, September 18, 2016

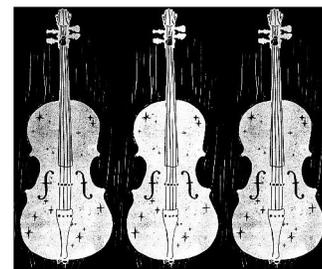
To celebrate historic preservation, the public is invited to attend '*Classical Affair*', the 12th Annual Historic House Tour Preview Party on **Sunday, September 18, 6 PM—9 PM** at the historic Duportail House in Chesterbrook.

You are welcome to enjoy an evening of live classical music by 'Michael Ronstadt's Three Cellos', drinks and catering provided by Blaize Catering and Birchrun Hills Farm.

The evening of fun will celebrate the homeowners and the homes featured on the tour and allow us to thank the generous individual and corporate sponsors

who make the annual tour possible. Attendees will get a sneak preview of the beautiful homes featured on the 12th Annual Historic House Tour!

During the event, attendees will also have an opportunity to tour the property and dream of its future as part of the '*Living History Center at Duportail*'.



TREDYFFRIN HISTORIC PRESERVATION TRUST TICKET ORDER FORM

	TRUST EVENT	Qty.	Price	Subtotal
Name _____	Historic House Tour, September 24, 12-5 PM		\$35	
Address _____	Classical Affair Preview Party, September 18, 6-9PM		\$30	
_____	Combo: Preview Party & Historic House Tour		\$60	
_____	Lecture: Gene Pisasale, October 27, 7 PM		\$15	
Phone _____	Lecture: Mark E. Dixon, December 1, 7 PM		\$15	
Email Address _____				

Order total: _____

Additional Donation: _____

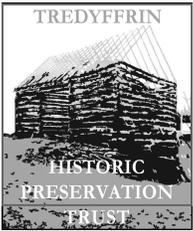
Total: _____

Please make check payable to Tredyffrin Historic Preservation Trust (THPT) and mail to:

PO BOX 764, Devon, PA 19333

Credit card charges through PayPal are available at www.tredyffrinhistory.org

THPT is a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. All contributions tax-deductible as the law permits.



Tredyffrin Historic Preservation Trust
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TREDYFFRIN HISTORIC PRESERVATION TRUST

www.tredyffrinhistory.org



12TH ANNUAL HISTORIC HOUSE TOUR

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

12 NOON - 5 PM

TICKETS: WWW.TREDYFFRINHISTORY.ORG

CLASSICAL AFFAIR

HOUSE TOUR PREVIEW PARTY

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

6 PM - 9 PM

TICKETS: WWW.TREDYFFRINHISTORY.ORG