

TREDYFFRIN HISTORIC PRESERVATION TRUST

TRUST NEWS

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 1

SPRING/SUMMER 2007

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

BUILD THE BARN!

First of all, I'd like to thank our board members, especially our President Pattye Benson, for a renewed and very energetic effort to rebuild the historic Jones Log Barn in Wilson Farm Park. In February, as a follow-up to our May 2006 Community Meeting, we brought together volunteers to form the nucleus of committees required to BUILD THE BARN! Fundraising, Building, Program/Operations, Communications and Project Management Committees are now up and running. After a brief recap of our efforts to rebuild the Jones Log Barn, the committee members got down to work. The committees will meet on a regular basis until we actually BUILD THE BARN!

Additional committee members are wanted and very much welcome; please call me directly at 484-202-8187 if you want to help with this project.

Here is a partial list of BUILD THE BARN committee members. Friends? Neighbors? Perhaps you can give them a hand and help us to BUILD THE BARN!

BUILD THE BARN Committee Members (list not complete)

Art Blumenthal
Betty Sudmeyer
Bob O'Leary
Bob Wise
Brad Tiffany
Brian Lihou
Carol Claypoole
Chappy Graf
Chip Vaughan
Colleen McCauley
Glen Owens
Glenna Keene
Gretchen Kiernan
John Beatty
John Sacharok
John Shimrak
Judy DiFilippo
Lee Guertin
Maurice Weintraub
Mike Fahey
MJ Ormsbee
Neil McAloon
Pattye Benson
Peter Monaghan
Polly Hagan
Tami Schofield
Trish Kreek

Much of our "charge" is a result of the Trust being a part of *Tredyffrin 300* activities, discussed elsewhere in the newsletter. *Tredyffrin 300* will be a great way to involve you and your family in the Tredyffrin community. And it greatly benefits the Trust: A portion of the

proceeds generated from the celebration will go directly to the Trust - to BUILD THE BARN!

The newly energized BUILD THE BARN Building Committee, meanwhile has been working with contractors and the building trades to seek the best means to rebuild the Jones Log Barn. Several companies have expressed the desire to provide manpower, time and materials. Interested?

John Sacharok, a newly elected Trust Board member, has kindly offered to serve as the General Contractor on the BUILD THE BARN project. Please call John Sacharok at (610)719-0232 ext.107 for specific ways you can help with the building process. Soon the Trust will request the Chester County Convention and Visitors Bureau to provide the remainder of a grant for architectural services.

Who knows, you could see "shovels" in the ground by year's end at Wilson Farm Park!

Bob Wise
Chairman



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***"WHO KNOWS,
YOU COULD
SEE 'SHOVELS'
IN THE
GROUND BY
YEAR'S END AT
WILSON FARM
PARK!"***

BOB WISE



LOCAL HISTORY NOTES....FROM HERB FRY

Landmarks of Tredyffrin Development

The U.S. Census of 1910 showed Tredyffrin's population up 37% in the decade to just over 4,000 residents, a rate of gain not encountered again until the 1960s. Development followed the railroad along the spine of South Valley hill. Paoli, especially, added residents. A number of influences at work in the societal ferment of the day contributed to the influx of newcomers.

The process we call suburbanization was at work, aided by the Pennsylvania railroad which promoted suburban living and commuting. Wealthy Philadelphians increasingly wanted to live outside the city during the hot weather months. Devon had been created as a summer resort, but other local destinations also drew city folks. The railroad offered encouragement to its own executives to build new

residences in the suburban areas. Electrification of the Paoli Local in 1915 attracted still more commuters.

The new residential areas were superimposed upon a society that already included small farmers, artisans, shopkeepers and mill hands. In addition, suburbanization attracted a middle class of professional men, service tradesmen, and shopkeepers who served the wealthy. The needs of the affluent also created a new under class of domestic servants, cooks, coachmen, and waiters. Thus, while the early suburbs were composed of a population drawn from all social strata, they were dominated socially and economically by the wealthy residents. To a considerable extent that social pattern prevailed until after World War II.

Immigration also played a role. Many workers who built the P & W Railway electric car line to Stafford were of Italian origin. After the line was completed in 1911, some workers and their

families settled here. The villages of Howellville and Cedar Hollow also attracted immigrant laborers who worked in the nearby quarries.

Agriculture waned and the size of Tredyffrin farms diminished after several generations, but land subdivision began to be replaced by consolidation into larger estates. Chesterbrook Farm assembled by A. J. Cassatt in 1881 was a portent of suburbanization. P. C. Knox acquired Valley Forge Farm in 1903, followed by John R. K. Scott at Glenhardie, Frank Thompson at Brookmead, S. Laurence and Susanna Bodine at Valley Brook, Richard Haughton at Valley Mill, and Thomas Royal at Cressbrook Farm. The land held by these seven families totaled over 2,800 acres, almost a quarter of the township!

**DID YOU
KNOW THAT
DEVON
WAS
CREATED AS
A SUMMER
RESORT?**

THE MILL AT ANSELMA

The Mill at Anselma, a National Historic Landmark, is "the most complete known example of a custom grain mill". The Mill is located in West Pike-land on Route 401 just north of Route 113.

The Mill was built and began operation as a grist mill in 1747. It operated as a flour mill continually until the mid twentieth century. It has also operated as a saw mill, cider press and other businesses as well as serving as the post office for the village of Anselma. Water enters from the mill race, turns the water wheel which provides the power to

turn the grist stones.

The property was acquired by The French and Pickering Creeks Conservancy and then transferred in 1998 to the Mill at Anselma Preservation and Educational Trust, a community non-profit corporation that was organized to restore the Mill.

The Anselma Trust has raised \$1.6 million to date. Restoration began in 2001 and The Mill was opened to the public in 2004.

The Anselma Trust provides monthly milling demonstrations and sells the flour it produces to the public. The Mill is open to

the public on Saturdays and Sundays from May through November.

More information about the Mill can be obtained at their website located at:
www.anselmamill.org.



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NATIONAL
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A CUSTOM
GRAIN MILL".**

TREDYFFRIN 300 — A PARTY 300 YEARS IN THE MAKING!

This year marks the 300th birthday of Tredyffrin Township and the *Tredyffrin 300* Committee is busy working on many activities to celebrate this milestone. Our Trust president, Patty Benson and board member and Township Supervisor, Judy DiFilippo are co-chairing the many events planned for September 14 - 23, 2007.

Tredyffrin Historic Preservation Trust is excited to be one of the recipients for the proceeds of *Tredyffrin 300* activities. This is exciting because this money will go towards the BUILD THE BARN project to rebuild the historic Jones Log Barn in Wilson Farm Park.

Bob O'Leary, another Trust Board member and T300 Committee volunteer is responsible for the "Tredyffrin 300" green and white logo banners that are displayed throughout the Township. Devon Snyder, a Senior at Conestoga HS designed the logo and Bob was responsible for their production and placement.

The following is a preview of the activities that are currently planned to celebrate our Township's 300th birthday:

Friday, September 14
Tredyffrin at Twilight
Soirée & Auction
St. David's Golf Club

*

Saturday, September 15
Birthday Party

Premier Showing of
Historical Documentary
Followed by Fireworks
Wilson Farm Park, Chesterbrook

*

Sunday, September 16
United in Song

Local musicians and church choirs
present a musical celebration
Conestoga High School

*

Thursday, September 20
Vintage Fashion Show

*

Sunday, September 23
3rd Annual Historic House Tour

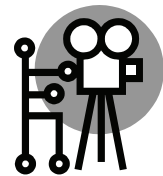
Tredyffrin Township
Sponsored by Tredyffrin Historic
Preservation Trust

The documentary 'Trailer' is now on YouTube.com. Please visit the www.YouTube.com website and enter the keyword, Tredyffrin, in the 'search' and you will be able to see the 4 min. documentary trailer. For further information on *Tredyffrin 300* activities and how you can get involved and volunteer, visit

HELP US STAY IN TOUCH!

Postage continues to increase and we are always looking at ways to reduce our mailing costs. Although for the near future we will mail the newsletter, we would like to communicate with our membership more regularly, through email. Email allows us to send event updates as the need arises. If you have an email address, would you take the time to email Patty Benson at: patty@greatvalleyhouse.com

We appreciate your privacy and understand that we will not give out your email addresses.



**TREDYFFRIN
300**

**'TRAILER'
NOW
ON
YouTube!**



**"EMAIL
ALLOWS
US TO SEND
EVENT
UPDATES AS
THE NEED
ARISES"**

FROM THE - TREASURER

2006 was a very successful year for our Adopt-a-Log program. Our total contributions for this program amounted to \$2,360. To our 2006 participants, thank you.

Adopt-a-Log contributions make great gifts for birthdays, special events, anniversaries, any occasion. Each contribution is acknowledged with as certificate suitable for framing. It makes an unusual and meaningful gift that supports a good cause. It shows the recipient you took special care in selecting this gift. The Trust is

looking forward to an even more successful 2007 with your name on a log.

And don't forget - the Trust is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization so your donations are fully tax-deductible.

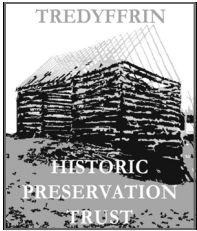


SPRING LECTURE SERIES

The Trust is pleased to announce our Spring Lecture Series will feature Stephen Hague, Executive Director of Stenton on April 12 at 7 PM at the Valley Friends Meeting. In addition, Captain Paul Sanborn, aide to General George Washington will present a first-person lecture in full military costume in the Great Hall at Devon Prep School on May 17 at 7 PM. Capt. Sanborn's lecture would be suitable for children ages 7 or older. Details on these lectures may be found on the enclosed flyer or visit : www.tredyffrinhistory.org

**IMPORTANT
LECTURES
THIS
SPRING!**

**APRIL 12
&
MAY 17**



Tredyffrin Historic Preservation Trust

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OFFICERS

Robert J. Wise Jr.
Chairman

Patty Benson
President / Secretary

Trish Kreek
Treasurer

BOARD MEMBERS

Judy DiFilippo
C. Herbert Fry
Glenna Keene
Gretchen Kiernan
Neil McAloon
Colleen McCauley
Robert O'Leary
MJ Ormsbee
John Sacharok

TREDYFFRIN HISTORIC PRESERVATION TRUST

Website: www.tredyffrinhistory.org



THE TRUST NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Please consider helping to preserve your community with your time and your talents.

The Trust is in need of a Recording Secretary. We need someone to take minutes at our Trust Board meeting, the 4th Thursday of each month, 7-9 PM at the Township Building. There are 10 meetings per year. Patty Benson has served as both Secretary and President for several years, and she needs some help! Patty is willing to retain all the other Secretary responsibilities - she just needs someone willing to help with the monthly Board minutes. Can you spare a few hours a month?

If interested, please call Patty Benson (610)644-6759 or email her at patty@greatvalleyhouse.com.



SAVE THE DATE!

3RD ANNUAL HISTORIC
HOUSE TOUR

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2007

The advertised events of *Tredyffrin 300* celebration includes our 3rd Annual Historic House Tour on Sunday, September 23, 2007. We looking for a "few good houses" to showcase in this years' tour. Additionally, we are also looking for historic houses for the 4th Annual Historic House Tour in September, 2008.

If you would consider having your house on our 3rd Annual Historic House Tour or would like more information, please call Patty Benson (610)644-6759 or email her - patty@greatvalleyhouse.com