

Herr House Happenings

Amos Herr House Foundation and Historical Society
www.herrhomestead.org

Summer 2017
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Salunga Post Office

The Salunga Post Office was part of Hiestand's Store on Main Street in Salunga. The first postmaster was Simon Hiestand, owner of Hiestand's Store. He served as postmaster for 50 years from 1893 until his retirement on June 30, 1943. Mary K. Minnich was his successor until the post office closed on April 30, 1960.

The mail was delivered by a steam engine run train, which had a mail car, and the mail was sorted on the train. Located behind Hiestand's Mill (directly across the street from the store) was a steel pole, which had a spring-loaded hook. The mail was taken from the post office every day and was hung on the hook. When the train delivered the mail, the bag was thrown off. The train ran on time and someone would go and pick up the mail every day.



Details of the Salunga Post Office. Photo courtesy of the AHHF.



The Salunga Post Office at its new location in the basement of the Herr House. Photo courtesy of the AHHF.

New Docent

Deborah Herbert has been a receptionist (a person who greets the visitors and asks them to sign the guest register) and has recently become a docent. Welcome, Deborah, and thank you for volunteering!

The Eastern Mennonite Missions located at 53 West Brandt Boulevard, Salunga, operated the post office. Upon closing in the late 1980's, they dismantled it and donated it to the Amos Herr House Foundation and Historical Society on May 18, 2000 where it was stored in the corn crib until this year.

The Board members checked the dimensions of the post office and basement and a decision was

made to move the Salunga Post Office into Emma's Keeping Room located in the basement of the 1852 Amos Herr House. It took many man hours and lots of hard work, however when looking at it, it does resemble the original post office. John Houston, President of the Amos Herr House Foundation and Historical Society dedicated many hours moving and reassembling the post office to its new location.

September Lecture

The Foundation is happy to announce our Lecture Program will resume on Thursday, September 28th from 7-8 p.m with "Under the Maple Trees." The founder and Chairman of the Shady Maple companies, Marvin Weaver, will tell the Shady Maple story, of how a quaint little business grew into the largest smorgasbord in the Country.

Over one million people are fed each year at Shady Maple. Mr. Weaver's story is one of vision, hard work and a great faith. Herb Noll, an East Hempfield resident and Hempfield High School graduate will be attending as well. Herb is the manager of the banquet/smorgasbord at Shady Maple.

Mr. Weaver does not give many presentations and he requests that attendees bring along questions for him to answer.

We are honored to be the first non-profit in the area to hold this program in the beautiful Gamber Auditorium in the VIVA welcome center of Woodcrest Village. Woodcrest is at 2001 Harrisburg Pike, directly across from the Lancaster General Health Campus. Enter Woodcrest and there will be a sign directing you to the VIVA Center. Please bring a guest and join us for this special evening!

About Us

The Amos Herr House Foundation and Historical Society is a non-profit organization. Monies paid for membership may be deducted when filing your taxes. The Foundation has thirteen members on the Board and they meet on the second Wednesday of every month except July and December. Paying members are welcome to attend

the meetings, which are held in the basement of the house.

A docent is an individual who guides visitors throughout the house and explains

how people lived in the 1800's. Unfortunately, this year, we have a shortage of docents due to illness and moving out of the area. Tours are given on weekends from April through October between 1:00 and 4:00 p.m. with the last tour beginning at 3:15.

There is a group of people who maintain the Herr House gardens on the second Friday of each month from April to October.

All of the above people volunteer their time and energy for the Foundation.

Volunteers needed 8/25/17

Volunteers are needed on Friday, August 25th, 2017 to help pack Honey Run race gift bags and race shirts. Please call Millie Brubaker at 735-2552 if you can help. Volunteers should meet at the House at 12:30 p.m.

Notes From Emma's Diary

Saturday, May 3, 1941

"Kemp & Philesph wedding a beautiful day, very dusty - I clean up downstairs & dust & clean up kitchen - take a nap. Amos & Ben are planting corn & plant 12 acres. Me just don't go to wedding me bad I guess but Amos is (busy) ha - I retire early don't get to Lanc either."

Forever Friends remember Rohrerstown (cont'd from Spring newsletter)

As remembered by two "Forever Friends," Eileen Bender and Shirley Sigman

Our Post Office was a wandering one, a 10 x 16 shack that was once a Barber Shop and then moved in 1930 to Wood Street where it became our official Rohrerstown Post Office. Our identity was lost when our 17552 zip code was changed to 17603 Lancaster. As of April 7, 1962 the Post Office shack was no longer needed and a new brick Post Office building was dedicated. One would have a difficult time finding the Rohrerstown Post Office today as it is hidden in a shopping center nearby.

Before our time we discovered that there had been a Harmony Literary Society. H. M. Mayer, John H. Shenck, Sara Mauk, and Miss Devore organized it in 1884. There was also a Rohrerstown Brass Band from 1894-1899. We do remember the Rohrerstown band, still in existence, because the music makers practiced in the 2nd floor of Walter Fenstermacher's barn every Monday evening in the summertime.

A parade to dedicate the new firehouse in 1961 was almost as enjoyable as preparing for the bi-centennial in 1976. The forgotten post office, now known as Jake's house was transformed into a very colonial one-room museum. Every house in town loaned their best antiques to us to help to add to our upcoming decorating abilities. Does anyone remember the Wood St. HOBY (Help others before yourself) Club?

My dad and brother managed one of the gas stations that became a gathering place to many an old codgers that could always find time to discuss the events of the day with a cigar. In the day, this exercise used to be done at the post office or Walk's Hotel (located where Turkey Hill built one of their first stores in Lancaster Co.) Russ Markley owned an earlier filling station.

As we composed this collection of memories, it was the laughter and the tears that reminded us of the how important it is to have a FOREVER FRIEND.

18th Annual Amos Herr 5k Honey Run Coming up Soon!

The 18th Annual Amos Herr 5K Honey Run, sponsored by Dutch Gold Honey of Lancaster, is slated for Sunday August 27th. The Kid's COLOR Fun Run, sponsored by Sardina Dental Group, will begin at 5 p.m., followed by the 5K run at 6 p.m. at Amos Herr Park.

Hempfield Area Recreation Commission and the Amos Herr Foundation and Historical Society are collaborating on the organization of this special event, to the benefit of both organizations. Net proceeds benefit restoration projects at the 1852 Herr Homestead in Landisville and Hempfield Area Recreation Commission financial assistance fund.

Runner pre-registration deadline is August 16th. Rates increase August 17th and No Shirt orders will be available. Registrations are accepted the day of the event. Race day sign-ups: 4 p.m. until 30 minutes before Kid's and 5K events. Please note: if you pre-register by the deadline you can pick up your pre-race number, and other items at the Herr Homestead from 1:00 to 3:30 on Saturday, August 26th.

Register online at: www.hempfieldrec.com

Things we hardly ever think or talk about anymore

- Trolley cars
- Ladies Auxiliary
- Minstrel Shows
- Yearly town festivals in the school yard
- Wheelwrights
- Men's croquette & baseball teams
- Produce hucksters
- Air raids
- Rags men & bums
- Grist & saw mills
- Gas & sugar ration
- Home delivery of bread & milk
- Taverns
- Fire siren no longer necessary
- Party lines
- Weidman's potato chips
- Two Guys
- Rohrerstown Turkey Hill

Notes From Amos' Diary

Sunday, May 1, 1960

"Rain during night and early AM read papers – to S. School – Ethel teaches her class – Charles Shenk teaches men – poor attendance – Smiths absent – powerful sermon – home by 12:00 – lunch – walk in lawn & meadow – to school to check on some matters – chat with Mr. Hackman – home – read and watch Phillies lose to Braves – read – music."

Board Members

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Laura Dalton
Angie Fox
Delphine Heimer
Elam Herr
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