

SEPTEMBER 2014 NEWSLETTER

**WALLENPAUPACK
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**



"Keeping the history of Lake Wallenpaupack alive and accessible for present and future generations"



**SEPTEMBER 19, 4:00 p.m.
ANNUAL PRESERVATION AWARDS DINNER**

SILENT AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED

Items are needed for the Silent Auction which will take place at the September 19th Preservation Awards Dinner. Please contact WHS Director Bob Essex to arrange the donating of items for the auction by calling Bob's home phone (570)226-6240 or cellular (570)352-5130.

Wallenpaupack Historical Society's annual Preservation Awards Dinner will be held on Friday, September 19th at Ehrhardt's Waterfront Resort, located at 205 Route 507, Hawley, Pa., 18428. Please make your reservation today by completing the following form and mailing it to Nancy Gumble.

JOIN THE PAUPACK SCHOOL COMMITTEE

The forming of a new WHS committee for the Paupack School was approved during the May board meeting. This committee will explore options for the best use of the historic Paupack School. The intention of the Society is to enable the restoration of the Paupack School to its former glory as the social center and meeting place of the community, and to determine how this treasure of the past could be used presently as an asset to current residents. Please call Audrey Graybill for more information (570) 226-3663.

**ANNUAL PRESERVATION AWARDS DINNER at
EHRHARDT'S WATERFRONT RESORT
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19th 4:00 p.m.
RESERVATIONS \$35.00 PER PERSON**

Reservations due by Friday, the 12th of September.

Anyone with a question may call Nancy Gumble (570) 226-6596.

Please make your reservation by completing this form and returning with your check (payable to Wallenpaupack Historical Society) for \$35.00 per person attending to:

Nancy Gumble
P.O. Box 303
Tafton, PA 18464

NAMES of PEOPLE ATTENDING: _____

CONTACT PHONE NUMBER: _____ AMOUNT of CHECK ENCLOSED: _____

Wallenpaupack Historical Society's Upcoming Events

- ‡ Saturday, September 6, 3:00 p.m., the Paupack School - Walk-through of the Paupack School, intersection of Route 507 and Nemanie Road, Palmyra Township, Pike Co.
- ‡ Tuesday, September 9, 7:00 p.m., Palmyra Municipal Building - Paupack School Committee meeting
- ‡ Saturday, September 13, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m., Palmyra Township Park - Pike 200th Anniversary Commemoration by Palmyra Township
- ‡ Friday, September 19, 4:00 p.m., Ehrhardt's Waterfront Resort - Annual Preservation Awards Banquet
- ‡ Wednesday, October 15, 1:00 p.m., the ELC - Dr Alberta Weber's presentation about the year her husband and she worked as missionary doctors in Africa
- ‡ Wednesday, November 19, 1:00 p.m., the ELC - Rick Bodenschatz's, from the Historical Association of Tobyhanna Township, presentation of "The William Henry Chrisman Story," a veterans' program about Private Christman of Tobyhanna Township. Pvt Christman was the first soldier ever buried at Arlington National Cemetery.
- ‡ Wednesday, December 17, 12:00 noon, the ELC - Holiday Party and Concert by WAHS Choir



Meeting Updates: August 14 Board Meeting

Facilities Committee

The Purdytown Cemetery volunteers have begun implementing a landscaping plan for the cemetery including planting native plants, perennial ground cover and daffodil bulbs. The volunteers received a delivery of top soil from Paupack Township and have purchased lime to enhance the soil.

Collections Committee

Committee chairperson Ann Wiedenman has received a mid-twentieth century map of the lake, drawn by PPL engineer Cecil Gager. The map was donated by Mrs Bonnie Bellesfield of Oklahoma. The Collections Committee also has received two other maps, a photograph of students attending the Tafton School in 1921, and a list of registered voters of Palmyra Township, Pike Co., c. 1938. These artifacts were donated by Mr Ed Burns of Washington. Mr Burn's grandfather, Mr Louis Engle, was a Palmyra Township supervisor from 1915 until 1928 and a resident of Tafton.



*The Tafton School
1921*

Wallenpaupack Historical Society Incorporated

OFFICERS

Rolf Moeller, President
Robert Morgan, Vice-President
Jon Tandy, Secretary
Donna Stuccio, Treasurer

DIRECTORS

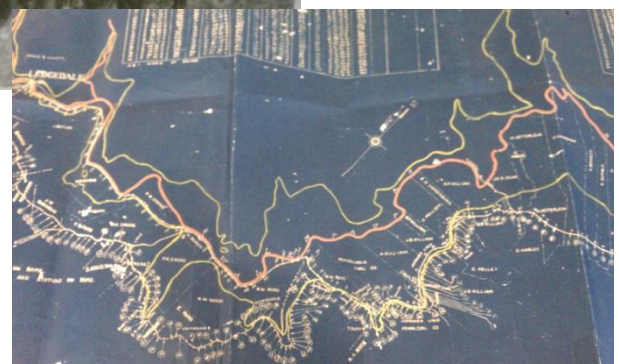
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C. Richard Briden
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Robert Essex
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Bruce Taylor
R. Anthony Waldron
Ann Wiedenman

103 Manor Woods Court
P.O. Box 345
Paupack, PA 18451

(570) 226-8980

www.WallenpaupackHistorical.org

*Map of the Wallenpaupack
River and flood plain of the
proposed dam, early 20th
century*



Thank you to Nan Coutts Brown, who contributed the following biographical information of the two early Palmyra Township, Pike Co., residents Marcus and Nancy Killam.

As a follow-up to the article "Pippins and Pork" (which appeared in the August newsletter) is a biographical sketch of Marcus and his wife Nancy Jane Bennett Killam. "Pippins and Pork" had been re-printed in the *Fort Worth Gazette* in 1893 from the *Philadelphia Times*, having liberally depicted one hunting adventure of Marcus N. B. Killam of Shiny Mountain Road.

Biography of Marcus Killam

Marcus N. B. (Napoleon Bonaparte) Killam was born in Paupack on Feb. 7, 1815. His great grandfather, Zadock Killam (born in 1720 in Preston, Connecticut) was one of the original settlers to this region, having a cabin near the old Wallenpaupack fort, "a rude affair built for protection against the Indians."

Marcus was one of ten children of Rev. Benjamin T. and Elizabeth Witter Killam. Elizabeth was born September 3, 1773 and was the first white child born in this vicinity, either in Pike or Wayne Counties.

During his youth Marcus attended the common schools, and he assisted his father in the work upon the farm and in the lumber woods until he reached the age of thirty years, when he took entire charge of both.

In 1845 he married Olive Kimble, with whom he had one child, Margaret. Olive died in 1847 and the following year he married Nancy Jane Bennett. Nancy's paternal grandparents were Stephen Bennett of Revolutionary War fame and Mary Gates - both original settlers to Paupack.

Marcus and Nancy had two sons, Benjamin F. and Alfred K., and two daughters, Esther and Olive.

Upon his father's death in 1856, Marcus inherited the homestead, built around 1810, on Shiny Mountain Road. In 1870 he purchased the Abel Kimble property and built a saw mill in 1871. In 1873 Marcus bought the Pellett House property upon the death of Eunice Pellett. This added another farm and 250 more acres to his holdings. Both the Pellett House on Ansley Road and the Killam homestead on Shiny Mountain Road still stand today.

Marcus lived on his large farm in a very comfortable manner and entertained his friends with the old-time hospitality for which the Paupack settlement has ever been celebrated. Marcus, without doubt, was the most successful living hunter in Northeastern Pennsylvania. He killed his first deer when he was 11 years old and did not miss a year without killing one or more from that time until his old age. Some years he killed a dozen and one year secured forty, killing three in one day. He at three different times killed three bears in one day. He killed nine bears a year for three successive years. His success was owing to the fact that he lived near the edge of that thick spruce and pine swamp in and about "Promised Land," and was an almost unerring shot.

Marcus passed away July 19, 1902. The funeral was held at his late residence. Interment was made in Paupack cemetery. His name was a household word, his life a pattern to be emulated, and few leave behind them such a bright record of virtues.

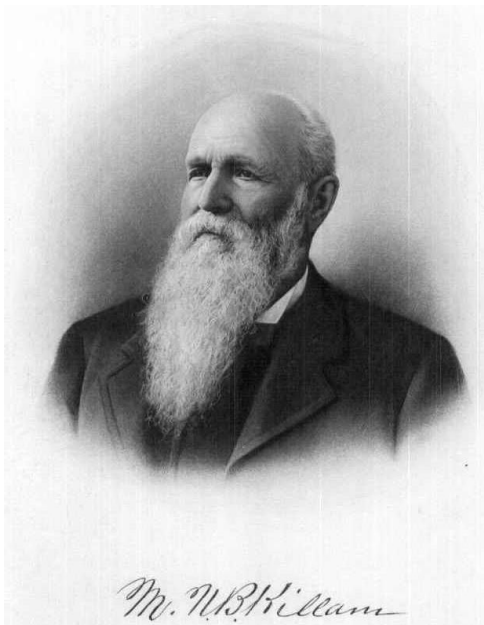
Obituary of Nancy Jane Killam

Following a short illness, Mrs Nancy Jane Killam, aged nearly ninety-five years, one of the oldest residents of Pike County, died at her home in Paupack last Saturday [January 11, 1913].

Mrs Killam was a remarkable woman in many ways. Well educated and refined, she held her faculties almost to the last and was unusually spry and vigorous, mentally and physically. She had a fund of anecdotes and reminiscences. She was fond of relating the early history of that section, and she was held in the highest esteem by her neighbors and friends, who were many.

Mrs Killam was born in Palmyra township March 2, 1818, a daughter of Jared and Esther (Killam) Bennett, and her entire life had been passed in that township. She married Marcus N. B. Killam on June 19, 1848, and fifty years

(continued)



M. N. B. Killam



Nancy J. Killam

later, in 1898, the couple celebrated their golden wedding, a surprise having been arranged by their relatives and friends. Mr Killam died several years ago.

Surviving are three children, Esther, at home; Benjamin F. Killam, the well-known attorney at Paupack; Alfred K. Killam of Hawley.

The funeral was held from the house on Tuesday afternoon. Internment in Paupack cemetery.

For more information on the Killam family and homestead on Shiny Mountain Road please see the WHS publications *Historic Homes of Palmyra Township* by Audrey Graybill and the *1887 History of the Settlement Upon the Wallenpaupack* by Ephraim Killam.

Sources:

- Marcus Killam obituary from *Pike County Press*, July 25, 1902
- Nancy Killam obituary from *Milford Dispatch*, January 16, 1913
- History of Wayne County, Pennsylvania*, Phineas Goodrich, 1880
- Commemorative Biographical Record of Northeastern Pennsylvania*, J.H. Beers, 1900
- History of Wayne, Pike and Monroe Counties, Pennsylvania*, Alfred Mathews, 1886

Wallenpaupack Historical Society Membership

Membership benefits include a monthly newsletter, special notices of upcoming programs of interest, and the right to vote in the corporation. Memberships are for the calendar year. New membership applications received in the final three months of the fiscal year (October, November and December) are automatically extended until the end of December in the following year.

Please complete the following form and mail with your payment, payable to Wallenpaupack Historical Society, to:
Wallenpaupack Historical Society
P.O. Box 345
Paupack, PA 18451

Student \$5.00 Individual \$15.00 Family \$25.00 Corporate \$50.00

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip Code:

Phone:

E-mail:

Please check here if you would like to receive the monthly newsletter via email instead of U.S. Mail.

For student membership only -

Name of school, college or university:

right, the Paupack School Committee meeting on July 29 at Palmyra Township Municipal Building



near right, Audrey Graybill speaking at the Paupack School Committee meeting on July 29; far right, Chief Shelley DePaul of the Lenape Nation displaying the Treaty of Renewed Friendship signed by Wallenpaupack Historical Society on August 4

