



DECEMBER 2014 NEWSLETTER

WALLENPAUPACK HISTORICAL SOCIETY



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



Wallenpaupack Historical Society's Upcoming Events

Wednesday, December 17, 12:00 noon, the ELC - Holiday Party and Concert by WAHS Choir. December's membership meeting will have an early start time of 12:00 noon for a concert by the Wallenpaupack Area High School Choir and refreshments to follow. Please bring a holiday treat or lunch dish to share, and don't forget to arrive at noon.

November Meeting : The William Henry Christman Story

On November 19, Rick Bodenschatz of the Historical Association of Tobyhanna Township presented *The William Henry Christman Story* about the Tobyhanna resident and civil war veteran who became the first soldier interred at Arlington National Cemetery. Rick's slide presentation outlined the history of the Christman family, the farming lifestyle of Tobyhanna during that era and the various life changes that led William Henry Christman to enlist in the Civil War. Rick also discussed the history of Arlington National Cemetery, including how and why the grounds were selected. Rick's book *First at Arlington* is available for purchase for \$11.95 including shipping by sending a check to PO Box 639, Pocono Pines, PA 18350.



Rick Bodenschatz of the Historical Association of Tobyhanna Township

And the Winner Is . . .

November's membership meeting included the drawing of the winning raffle ticket for the annual quilt raffle. This year's winner is Don Gelderman of Hawley. Thank you to all who participated and to Friends with a Heart for making the quilt and selling tickets. This year's quilt, "Cabins in the Woods," was quilted in honor of Pike County's 200th Anniversary. Through their efforts of selling raffle tickets at the IGA and Hawley festivals, Dick Briden and the quilt committee were able to raise over \$2500 for Wallenpaupack Historical Society. Congratulations to Don Gelderman!

*Dick and Barbara
Briden read the
winner of this year's
quilt raffle.*



MEETING UPDATES

November 13 Board Meeting

Facilities Committee

The Facilities Committee has been working on preparing the Williams House for winter and finishing up grounds maintenance at Purdytown Cemetery for the year. The phone answering service in the Williams House was discontinued with the telephone provider and an answering machine was purchased instead, so that the monthly phone bills will now be significantly lower.

Paupack School Committee

The Paupack School Committee has been working toward the adaptive re-use of the Paupack School and has been meeting during the fall season. Twelve weeks have passed since a survey was sent to all property owners in Palmyra Township asking owners to indicate whether they would be in favor of or against continuing the renovation of the school building. Partial results are available although a relatively small number of residents responded to the survey. Results will be tallied as more come in and the count published at a later date. To date, with the number of surveys completed, 73 percent responded favorably and 27 percent responded negatively. The committee will continue to work with the supervisors to identify grants that are available. If you have grant-writing experience and would like to help the committee, please notify the WHS Board by writing to WHS, PO Box 345, Paupack, PA 18451.

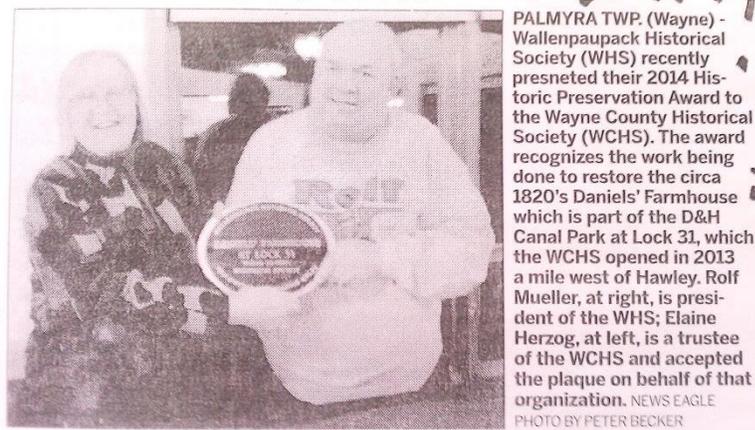
Collections Committee

The Downton Abbey themed display is now complete in the Visitor's Center. The committee will be traveling to the Dorflinger Glass Factory to number and log the WHS items currently on display. If anyone has a cedar or wooden chest that could be used for storing clothing and other items in the Williams House, please call Ann Wiedenman 570-226-4453.

Nominating Committee

A nominating committee was formed for the nomination of board officers and directors. Jim Pellington, Bruce Taylor, and Audrey Graybill will be working together to fill vacant leadership positions for the January election meeting. If you would like to serve on the board as a director or officer, please contact Bruce Taylor 570-857-1153.

A recent photo printed in the News Eagle.



WHS trustee Nancy Gumble recently oversaw the repair of the Zadoc Killam gravestone, which had cracked in half, and installed a plaque on the stone located in the Old Paupack Cemetery. The plaque reads:

Legend of the Pine

According to the wishes of Zadock Killam (1722-1800), this pine, which stood until 2009, was planted as his memorial. He and his family were among the pioneers who settled the Wallenpaupack Valley in 1774.

Nancy Gumble, nee Killam, is a descendant of Zadoc. The pine tree, now a trunk only, which was planted in Zadoc's memorial, is seen on the right side of the photo. The Zadoc Killam gravestone had been resting against the tree until it split in two, and now stands repaired.

History of the Second Pennamite Wars 1771 - 1781

*The following historical account of the Pennamite Wars appears in
Pennsylvania - A History, Volume I, p. 512, Editor-in-Chief, George P. Donehoo,
 Lewis Historical Publishing Company, Inc., 1926.*

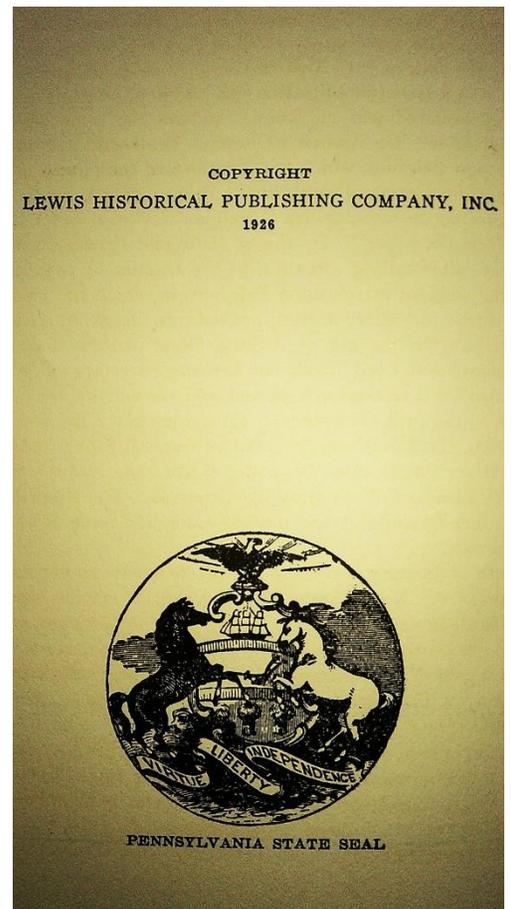
It was then [midsummer 1771] that Captain Zebulon Butler, with seventy armed men from Connecticut, suddenly descended from the mountains and attacked the new fort which Ogden had built. Ogden managed to escape. He went to Philadelphia and induced Governor Hamilton, who had succeeded to Governor Penn, to send a further detachment of a hundred men to the scene of hostilities. These went to Wyoming and made a tentative attack. This time fortune was not with them. The besieged Connecticut men, wiser by experience, had acquired means of keeping the enemy at bay. The siege, which lasted till August 11, had a number of casualties, including several persons killed. Finally an armistice was called for. Terms were agreed upon by which the Pennsylvanians undertook to leave the valley.

Wyoming incorporated with Connecticut --- The Yankees were thus left in possession. They forthwith began to take measures to consolidate their position, and, under the advice of the Connecticut Assembly, took steps to organize civil government in the valley upon a democratic system. The settlement was incorporated with the colony of Connecticut, and its representatives were admitted into the General Assembly. Wilkes-Barre was laid out and for four years peace reigned in the pleasant valley, and the future seemed as bright in the Wyoming as in the home settlements of Connecticut. Then, in the autumn of 1775, the Pennsylvanians, directed thereto by Governor Penn, renewed the civil war. It was considered intolerable in Pennsylvania that men from Connecticut should come across New York and claim land that was clearly with the territory delimited in the original Penn charter. Hostilities thus broke out again and continued until swallowed up in the larger conflict of the Revolutionary War.

The dispute between the Yankees and the authorities of Pennsylvania was not carried on merely by force of arms. The use of conference and compromise was also invoked. In 1771 the Assembly of Connecticut proposed to make an effort to adjust all the difficulties, but the Governor of Pennsylvania refused to enter into any negotiation. The Connecticut Assembly then made out a case and sent it to England for adjudication. It was submitted by the ablest lawyers in the realm, and was decided in favor of the Susquehanna Company. The decision was unheeded by Governor Penn. The Connecticut settlers, during the intervals when they were unmolested, repeatedly endeavored to organize an independent government by town meetings, as in Connecticut. In 1774 they united seven towns in one, Westmoreland, and attached it to Litchfield County, Connecticut. It was these settlers from Connecticut who were killed and scattered in the shocking Wyoming massacres, perpetrated by the British and Indians, in 1778 at the height of the Revolutionary War, when the smaller animosities were engulfed in the greater. In 1779 and 1780, despite hardship and peril, the remnant of the settlers, reinforced with others, returned again, drawn thither it would seem by the spell which this fairest of valleys cast over them. Then the issue of the Revolutionary War cut the Gordian knot. As a result of the war of liberation the titles of the Penns passed to the State, and, although the controversy still had an appendix following the revolution, the negotiations were direct and were tied up by no personal entangling interests such as the claims of the Penn family. Pennsylvania ultimately confirmed the title of the Connecticut settlers on their payment of a nominal sum for their land, and compensated the Pennsylvania claimants with other land and money. The Continental Congress, to whom the dispute was referred, gave a decision in favor of Pennsylvania in 1781. The cession of her western lands by Connecticut to the general government of the United States at last ended all controversy.

Such in skeleton form were the main events that marked a series of collisions that endured for a score of years. The scene of the conflict, though now well separated from the limits of Northampton County, was, at the time of its occurrence, in the border confines of the newly organized county region, and the authority of the county was invoked repeatedly in the course of it. Fundamentally, it was a contest of Quaker and Puritan, with the human factor of acquisitiveness the leaven in both. But by that time there had been engrafted upon the Puritanism of New England new and progressive ideas. Connecticut was perhaps the first of the corporate States

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*Wallenpaupack
Historical Society
Incorporated*

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

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to embody these new ideas in its procedure and to head the new advance. The movement westward was at its apogee in the eighteenth century, but Connecticut had shown tendencies in that direction at the end of the seventeenth. As early as 1680, as we have seen, Connecticut had sent offshoots of its population into New Jersey and lower Pennsylvania, as well as into some contiguous territory.

Connecticut's charter had been granted by Charles II in 1662, and like all of the charters of that time, was vague and ambiguous in its references to boundary lines. It conveyed to the colony, besides the land included in the existing State boundaries, all the land west of it to the extent of its breadth, from sea to sea, or "to the South Sea." This would have brought Connecticut's western extension nearly quite down to the forty-first degree of north latitude, or almost to the Delaware Water Gap. The charter granted to Pennsylvania by the same sovereign nineteen years afterward extended, as has been noted, through the forty-second degree of north latitude. The attorney of the Crown, Sir William Jones, in reporting to Charles II on the patent desired by William Penn, stated that it seemed to be undisposed lands except the imaginary lines of the New England patents, which, on the westwardly boundaries to the great ocean, gave them a real though impracticable right to all of those vast territories. Thus the seed of strife of the Pennamite war was sown in England at the very outset. The peace-loving Quaker colony's territorial boundaries had been assaulted on many sides. Maryland and Virginia had endeavored to subtract from her area in the south, and New York and even New Jersey had sought to secure a part of her dominion. However, the efforts were all brief, bloodless, and without serious results. Thus, there was nothing new in Connecticut's purpose to invade Pennsylvania. It was merely a manifestation of the old-time tendency turned in a new direction, and was more carefully planned and very much more pertinaciously prosecuted.



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: