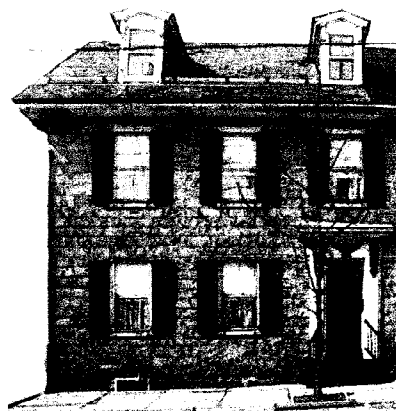


The Biery House Herald



www.hcpa.org

Volume 1, No. 1 Newsletter of Historic Catasauqua Preservation Association Winter 2010

Thoughts From the President

On behalf of the board of the HCPA, it is with great pleasure that I present to you the first edition of "The Biery House Herald". Issued quarterly, our members will be informed of upcoming events, guest speakers, and historical vignettes of life in Catasauqua. Our redesigned website, www.hcpa.org together with "The Biery House Herald" puts us into the information age! We invite comments and suggestions for our website and publication.
Always remember ~~~ History matters!!

Ray Smicker President

HCPA House and Garden Tour

Sunday, June 13th 1:00~5:00 Pm

We are looking for homeowners who would like to put their home on the house tour. We are looking for a mix of homes, large and small, elaborate or simple, if your home has some interesting architectural detail, or if you have some Catasauqua memorabilia to exhibit or a pretty garden. If you would like to offer your home for the tour or if you have any questions or concerns about participating in the tour, contact Janice at 610 266-0255.

Also on the day of the tour, weather permitting, will be "Quilts in the Breeze" on the porch of the Thomas Mansion. There will be displays by local quilters of old and new handmade quilts and quilt related crafts. If you would like to exhibit your quilt, please contact Janice at the above number.

Your help is needed



cut here

**Yes! I Wish to Support
HCPA**



Please accept my contribution

Membership \$25
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Make check payable and send to:

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8 Race Street
Catasauqua Pa 18032

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The David Thomas House by Bob LeFevre

The Mule Barn by Phyllis Facchiano

Two of the paintings from our collection located in the Biery House Art Gallery

Biery House Art Gallery

We have now created our very own art gallery located at the Biery House. We like to refer to these art works as **CAPTURING THE HISTORY OF CATASAUQUA THROUGH ART**.

This came about when I painted the George Taylor Home and donated it to the Borough of Catasauqua. This painting now hangs in the council chambers, I then had the opportunity to meet the members of the HCPA.

In late 2008 I suggested that we contact other artists and we attempt to paint as many of the historic homes and sites in Catasauqua as possible. This was well received by the board.

We have now amassed over 32 painting by 10 artists including myself. We used old photographs that have been stored away for many years as well as resent photos of existing homes and sites. I believe we have a good cross section of Catasauqua history for the public to view for now and for the future.

We have high quality prints of all of the paintings available for sale at the Biery House as well as on the web site. These paintings can be viewed at www.hcpa.org by clicking on the gallery or may be purchased by clicking on the store.

Bob LeFevre Art Director

Historical Items

The HCPA is always looking for historical items as well as vintage photographs relating to the history of Catasauqua to add to our museum.

This is a great way to preserve the history of Catasauqua!

Donate or share today!!

Contact:

Sale of original Paintings by Local Artists

Sat April 17th Thru 24th

Hours Sat & Sun 1 ~4 PM Week Days 6 ~ 9PM

The HCPA is presenting an indoor art display and sale of works by members of the Biery House Art Gallery. These are the same artists that have contributed to the art gallery but with all new art works.

All of our artists are inspired by diverse environments and influences, and the result is a unique offering of works of art in a wide variety of mediums, and an extensive range of styles and subject matter. These works will be on view and offered for sale at reasonable pricing for the individual who is looking for one of a kind painting as well as dealers, collectors, and buyers. Come to the Biery House and check them out!

There will be artists with works in progress. **CASH or CHECK ONLY**

For More Info call Bob LeFevre 610 509-1048

The
Improved
Order
of the
Red Men

by
John
Ponstingl



Council No 212, Improved Order of the Society of Red Men, Catasauqua, 19xx

The fraternity traces its origins back to 1765 and is descended from the Sons of Liberty. It was established to promote liberty and freedom in the early colonies and to defy the tyranny of the English Crown. They patterned themselves after the great Iroquois Confederacy and its centuries old democratic governing body, composed of elected representatives to govern tribal councils.

On December 16, 1773, members of the Sons of Liberty met in Boston to protest the tax on tea imposed by England. When their protest went unheeded, they disguised themselves as Mohawk Indians, proceeded to Boston harbor, and dumped overboard 342 chests of English tea.

During the Revolutionary War, members of such secret societies quenched their council fires and took up muskets to join with the Continental Army. To the cause of Freedom and Liberty, they pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honors. At the end of the hard-fought war, the American Republic was born. Following the American Revolution, many of the various secret societies founded before and during the conflict continued in existence as brotherhoods or fraternities.

For the next 35 years, the original Sons of Liberty and Sons of St. Tammany groups went their own way, under many different names. In 1813, at historic Fort Mifflin, near Philadelphia, several of these groups came together

and formed one organization known as the Society of Red Men. The name was changed to the Improved Order of Red Men in Baltimore in 1834.

It was also in Baltimore, that in 1847 various local tribes came together and formed a national organization called the Grand Council of the United States. They kept the customs and terminology of Native Americans as a basic part of the fraternity.

Council No. 212 in Catasauqua was established in the early part of the Twentieth Century. It consisted of several dozen local residents, among them Henry Stoltz of Union Street. A set of his Indian regalia can be viewed in the HCPA Museum at 8 Race Street. The Local Council held its meetings on the second floor of the P.O.S.A. Building (Patriotic Sons of America) on Pine Street across from what was the old Post Office Building.

(Anyone with information on other past members, please contact John Ponstingl, 610-509-9327).

Braves of this local tribe in full regalia would participate in the Halloween parades and other community events. They were always an exciting addition to these events as the braves would "kidnap" young children from the street-side viewers, amid whoops and blood-curdling cries.

When membership dwindled and the tribe became inactive, Council No. 212 was moved to Oxford, PA west of Wilmington, DE.

Historic Catasauqua Preservation Association
8 Race Street
Catasauqua, Pa.
18032

STAMP



OUR MISSION

The Biery House c. 1826

To encourage an appreciation of the historical and the architectural heritage of the borough; to encourage the preservation of the architecture in our historic districts and the borough at large as the houses and buildings are the tangible evidence of the events that made Catasauqua important as a contributor to the growth and development, not only Pennsylvania, but also of the United States; to encourage the preservation of the architectural integrity of our neighborhoods and to foster pride of ownership in the houses and buildings in our historic districts.

Mailing label

Our Board Members

Ray Smicker	President
Debra Mellish	Vice President
Janice Lathrop	Treasurer
Brian Zettlemoyer	Director
Betsy Hillenbrand	Director
Larry Mouer	Director
John Ponstingl	Museum Curator
Bob LeFevre	Art Director
Dave Bernini	Web Master

Up coming events

March 14th	Chicken dinner	see insert
March 16th	Program *	TBA
April 17 thru 24th	Art Sale	page 3
June 13th	House Tour	page 2
June 18~ 20th	Blues Fest	TBA

*All Programs at the Biery House
8 Race St 7:00 Pm

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Call 610-264-9716 or 610-266-0255
or e-mail [bhillerbrand@hcpa.org](mailto:bhillenbrand@hcpa.org)

The Biery House Herald is available online and via email. If you would prefer to receive the newsletter electronically, please email to:
dbernini@hcpa.org