

# NEWS

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Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation

Old Post Office • Allegheny Square West • Pittsburgh, Pa. 15212

Number 43 - June 1973

## MEMBERS RESPOND GENEROUSLY TO SPECIAL FUNDING PROGRAMS

In our last newsletter we announced the National Trust for Historic Preservation had awarded our organization a challenge loan of \$85,000 repayable over five years at only 3% interest. A condition of the loan is that we raise \$600,000 in 1973 and 1974.

We recently sent a letter and fund raising brochure to all of our members asking that our members pledge an extra gift for this year and next year to the campaign. If we have a good response from members, we can then go to corporations and foundations on a much stronger basis with requests for major grant funds.

(Unfortunately the letter sent to members had an early date on it. It was printed in advance of the brochure itself and by the time the brochure was off the press the date on the letter was stale. However, we believed that our members would rather have us use it than go to the expense of printing another letter simply for the sake of the date.)

Our members have been responding generously to our request. In the first ten days we received \$11,000 in gifts and pledges. However, more Members remain to be heard from and we hope that they will be able to send in a favorable response. Nothing is more important when soliciting major gifts than to be able to say that our members have contributed first and foremost.

Remember that your gift can be allocated to our General Fund, the Old Post Office, the Restoration Revolving Fund, or the development of the artifact garden next to the Old Post Office Museum.

Please help us by sending in your pledge by July 30, 1973 so that we can swing the campaign into full gear with the corporations and foundations by late summer.

### A GIFT NOW

### A PLEDGE FOR 1973-1974

I/We enclose check or securities to be applied toward the fund campaign of Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation .....

I pledge the following gift for 1973 and again for 1974 (please bill me) .....

I would appreciate a call .....

Please allocate my donation to the general fund campaign .....

Please allocate my donation to the following program .....

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

CITY .....

STATE .....

ZIP .....

All contributions are deductible for income tax purposes.

## MEXICAN WAR STREETS HOUSE TOUR

Sunday, June 24, 1973

11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

We are happy to announce that there will now be a larger group of houses open for inspection for the House Tour than was previously expected. We now have 35 buildings and garden available for inspection!

Cost of the tour is \$3.00 which also includes a tour of the Old Post Office Museum and free transportation to and from Allegheny Center and the Mexican War Streets.

Churches in the area will be selling snacks and refreshments and providing a place to sit and chat.

Tickets may be bought in advance at the Old Post Office or the day of the tour at the Old Post Office or at the Information Booth which will be located near North Avenue and Resaca Place.



Pictured here is Mrs. William Eichleay showing visitors through her lovely home in the Mexican War Streets. Mr. & Mrs. Eichleay came to the area several years ago and rented an apartment from PHLF. They liked the area so well that they moved in and committed themselves very fully to it. Mrs. Eichleay has served as president of the Mexican War Streets Neighborhood Association and has been very generous about letting visitors and perspective residents see their home and splendid garden. The Eichleay home is one of the houses scheduled for exhibit on the Mexican War Streets House Tour.

### GIFT RECEIVED FOR DONALD STEINFIRST MEMORIAL FUND

We are pleased to acknowledge a gift from the Stanton Belfour Fund of the Pittsburgh Foundation of a grant of \$193.70 payable towards support of our Donald Steinfirst Memorial Fund. Last year we initiated the Steinfirst Fund as part of our Performing Arts Series. Each year our jury of professional musicians will select a vocalist and instrumentalist between the ages of 18 and 25 from Allegheny County to perform at the Old Post Office Museum in this series and to receive an honorarium. The late Stanton Belfour was a founder and director of our organization and our second floor lecture hall-gallery is dedicated to his memory.

## Horse Drawn Pittsburgh Hack Coming Our Way

We have a special surprise for those who will be attending the Mexican War Streets tour on Sunday, June 24. On that day two fine horses will lead an early Pittsburgh taxi through the Mexican War Streets and over to the Old Post Office where the taxi will become part of our permanent collection.

We will describe more about the taxi in our next newsletter, but for now we invite you to take a look at it in operation in the Mexican War Streets on Sunday, June 24.

## THE PRESIDENT'S RAMBLE

On May 23, 1618, Czech nobles, dissatisfied with the conceptions of liberty their Emperor entertained, hied up to the Hradcany Castle in Prague and hurled three courtiers out of the royal windows. The courtiers escaped unhurt, but the event heralded the opening of the bloody Thirty Years War.

The windows of Prague have survived. The Hradcany Castle itself has survived not only the Thirty Years War, but the First and Second World conflicts. Prague is one of the great unravaged cities of Europe.

But the windows of Pittsburgh are in great danger. The defestration of Pittsburgh is slowly being completed.

Let us visit Lawrenceville as a beginner, that homogeneous respectable ancient (for Pittsburgh) community built on the site of Shannopins Indian Town and which George Washington and Christopher Gist reached (with frozen feet) after spending a frigid December night on Wainwright's Island over by the Millvale shore.

Let's get right into the story. Here are pictures number one, two and three.



Number 1 is perhaps the most original, most pristine. The original cast iron fence is still there from Pittsburgh iron works. You will remember that the "Iron City" keyed up to a fever pitch in supplying guns and cannons for the Civil War. Thus after the War the factories kept practicing their cast iron skills until most houses large or small felt slighted unless they possessed their fences, balconies, gates or other embellishments. Try to buy such a fence today or acquire one in the second-hand market! The original door in the photo graph with its white glass knob, original cast iron lintels, cornice brackets and cornice, and the interior shutters all attest to the purity of design and passion of the owner to preserve a pleasing and honest work of architecture.

The same simple honesty and design of photographs two and three attest to a tenacity and yes, tenderness over the years in a small self-respecting American industrial town.



Now to pictures four and five by way of contrast. Many features have been changed. The windows have been miniaturized, cornice brackets are gone, lintels have disappeared and brick replacements will attest forever to the desecration.

Enough features have survived, however, to lend hope for some future wave of restoration: here a fence, there a lintel, now a door surround.

The lesson we hope is not one of invidious comparison, but of a plea for simplicity, for respect for original form, assuming, of course, such form has intrinsic worth.

The last picture number six, shows a truly charming row of Victorian houses, intriguing bays, sturdy doors and interesting door surrounds. Siding on one house, however, has all but destroyed the basic form of the house, metal awnings have intruded in the streetscape in others and in one case the glass block has struck a discord-



ant note. Telltale brick insets betray forever the belittled windows of two in the row.

But here again the scene is not hopeless. Someday, some way we know this Block can again be a real gem of true Lawrenceville and hence Pittsburgh style.

The defenestration of Lawrenceville finds its counterparts all over Pittsburgh, the North Side, old Allegheny, South Side, Oakland. Is it not time to discover, protect and preserve the unique and charming character of this grand old city of ours?

Charles Covert Arensberg

## Sarah Mellon Scaife Foundation and City of Pittsburgh Bring Trees To Old Allegheny

Each year for a number of years funds have been made available from the Sarah Mellon Scaife Foundation to the City of Pittsburgh on a matching basis for tree planting. We are delighted to report that more trees have appeared in places around the city for which we and community groups have made requests. This year marvelous large Maple trees and Little Leaf Lindens were planted in the Allegheny Commons to replace those that have been blighted. A year ago we recommended to the City Forester that trees be planted the length of North Avenue between the great Elms that now line the park but which are doomed by the Dutch Elm disease. This way the young trees will already be well developed when the Elms die off. The city has planted a number of these trees already. In previous years the city planted trees in Birmingham (South Side) and in the Boyle-Loraine Street area of Central North Side, in Manchester, and in the restoration area of the Hill District.

## COMMITTEE OF 200 NEEDED TO SAVE OUR TOY MUSEUM



The above pictures are part of the miniature doll house collection and antique toys which we have on display in our museum. This rare and unusual collection has been one of our main attractions and one you can view time and time again.

For centuries doll houses and their miniature contents have fascinated children, collectors, art lovers and practical minded families as a means of instructing daughters in the ways of good house-keeping. Later, in Colonial America, tiny replicas of furnishings accompanied itinerant merchants on their rounds, as samples of the life-sized products they had for sale but could not carry. We are fortunate to have the fine collection we have in the OLD POST OFFICE MUSEUM.

This collection has been on loan to us by Mrs. Jack Reed with the understanding that we would purchase them for our museum. Mrs. Reed has been besieged by people who want to buy the toys which have appreciated rapidly the year we have had them in our museum.

Mrs. Paul C. McBeth, Jr. has agreed to chair a committee of 200 of our members and friends who will donate \$100. each (either individually or as a family) to save the toy museum for future generations to enjoy in the OLD POST OFFICE MUSEUM. A book will be placed in the toy gallery with the signatures of the COMMITTEE OF 200 who made this possible.

Please make your checks out for \$100. to the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation. Mail to Mrs. Paul C. McBeth, Jr., Toy Fund Old Post Office Museum, Allegheny Square West, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15212.

This money will be used ONLY for the toy museum. Any questions - please contact Mrs. McBeth at 322-1204 or 341-5855.

Don't delay, September 1, 1973 is the deadline.



## HOUSE RENOVATIONS

PHLF is currently engaged in two house renovations of quite different scope and effect. One project involves considerable interior alteration and rebuilding; while the other calls for relatively minor physical alterations.

The house involving extensive alteration is 408 Taylor Street (c. 1880) in the Mexican War Streets. We are constructing two new halls, new kitchens, and baths, replacing at least half of the ceilings and plastering walls. When completed, there will



be a two-bedroom apartment on the first floor and a three-bedroom apartment above. The upper apartment has a 20' x 25' living-dining area with exposed brick side walls and exposed ceiling joists. Above this room is the third bedroom which has a view through dormer windows both south across the Mexican War Streets toward the Golden Triangle and north toward the Fineview hill.

The contractor for the project is Lerda Construction Company, the same contractor who renovated 1705 Carson Street a year ago. Mrs. David L. Genter, owner of a restored house in the Mexican War Streets and member of our Board of Directors is conducting the interior decoration using grey-blue and white in the first floor and gold and white on the second floor.

The only problem remaining to be solved in this house is the very beautiful but very inappropriate Tudor front door for which we must find or construct a fitting replacement.

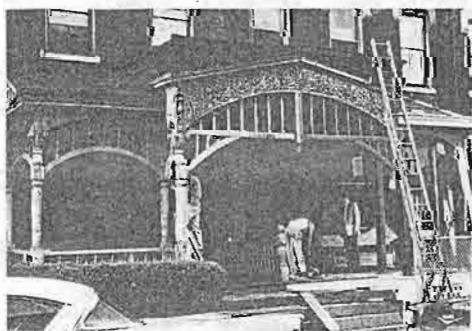
The other house currently undergoing renovation is 1329 Liverpool Street (c. 1880) which may prove to be the least expensive and most faithful Victorian house renovation we have undertaken. Due to the excellent care which had been taken of this



building by previous owners and tenants, all woodwork has retained its original finish and all plaster ceiling mouldings and rosettes are intact. All plaster walls were found to be in very good condition under layers of wallpaper. (We have usually found that in an old house, contrary to popular belief, it is the wallpaper which holds the plaster up and not vice versa.)

A hot water heating system, new electrical service, thermal insulation, and new kitchens and baths are being installed with minimum alteration of the original walls and details. When completed, the building will contain two spacious two-bedroom apartments which, due to the low cost of renovation, will rent in a price range which Manchester residents as well as others can afford.

The contractor for this work is William J. Venzdy, who has previously renovated two of our houses on Jane Street in the South Side. One of our members, Henry Hegerle, is the electrical subcontractor and another member, William Lisk, Lisk Plumbing and Heating, is the plumbing subcontractor.



The exterior of the building including its extravagant Victorian porch for which Liverpool Street is famous was restored by our work crew in 1967 so no further work save a fresh coat of paint is necessary to complete this project.

We have long been concerned with the preservation of Liverpool Street and have been working with the residents there. Now a \$12,000 grant from the Ryan Foundation has allowed us to take this first step.

Eventhough the weather was quite "unfit", our recent Flea Market was able to add approximately \$400. to the Garden Court Fund. We thank all of you who participated and all of you who worked so hard to make it a great day!

## Staff Changes Announced

Our Executive Director, Arthur Ziegler, on June 1, announced major changes in our staff.

The growth of our organization and the multiplication of demands upon us for services necessitate realignments of responsibilities and changes in personnel.

Several months ago we initiated an experiment by making Mrs. Carolyn Emerick available as liaison with volunteers on an experimental basis to see if we could expand our volunteer program. The effort has been highly effective and Mrs. Emerick is now named to the permanent post as Assistant for Programs, Membership, and Volunteer Services. As Mr. Ziegler pointed out, "This delineation of responsibilities means that we will have one highly qualified person in charge of all areas of our organization that directly affect our members. Mrs. Emerick has organized the most extensive tour program in our history and will expand it next year into charter air flights abroad, she will continue to work with all special events like the Mexican War Streets house tour, the flea market, and the street fair and will be responsible for developing membership.

Ellis Schmidlapp, now in his fourth year with our organization as "Assistant for Design Programs" will assume the title of "Restorationist and Exhibitions Designer." Mr. Schmidlapp, a graduate of the Department of Architecture, CMU, works closely with the executive director in the restoration and maintenance of all of our properties, the development of all exhibitions in the Old Post Office Museum and at the Neill Log house, and serves as a consultant to Mr. Ziegler concerning the acquisition and development of all properties. He is also responsible for Federal and State Register programs for historic buildings in Allegheny County. One of his most important contributions of recent date is the design of the artifact garden for the Old Post Office Museum.

Mr. Ziegler also announced the appointment of Ms. Barbara Hoff of Shaker Heights, Ohio, to the staff as "Assistant for Special Projects". Ms. Hoff is a candidate for the degree of Master of Science in Historic Preservation in the Restoration and Preservation of Historic Architecture Department in the School of Architecture at Columbia University. Much of her graduate work was devoted to studying self-help housing rehabilitation projects and has worked on an architectural survey of Flushing and South Jamaica, New York. She has also been employed by the Cleveland Museum of Art and comes highly recommended by Professor James Marston Fitch, author of the noted book American Building: The Forces that shaped it. Ms. Hoff took her undergraduate work at the College of Design, Architecture and Art of the University of Cincinnati. Her chief responsibilities will be to assist the director in carrying out various programs including community action programs. She will also assist Mr. Schmidlapp in the Federal and State Register recording project and in research for exhibitions.

Mr. Ziegler announced the resignation of Charles W. Shane as director of public relations, Mr. Joseph Drexler as general staff assistant, and Mrs. Betty Dougherty as general office assistant. Mr. Shane will devote himself to the development of his own firm, Mr. Drexler is returning to school, Mrs. Betty Dougherty had to resign for personal reasons and we hope that she will be able to return in the near future.

Lee Zielinski remains as Administrative Assistant, Mrs. Minnie Portnoy as Bursar, and James D. Van Trump as Director of Research.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| June 24,  | 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.<br>Mexican War Streets House Tour     |
| July 7,   | 8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.<br>Bus Tour to Washington & Greene Co. |
| July 29,  | 2:00 p.m.<br>Walking Tour of Thornburg                        |
| August 4  | "Ole Allegheny Street Fair"<br>in the Mexican War Streets     |
| August 18-19  | Bus Tour to Titusville-Chautauqua                             |
| Watch for exact date - Bus Tour to Historic Annapolis |   |



Volunteers Appointed to Official Posts

We are fortunate indeed to have a number of volunteers who have offered to contribute their time on a regular basis, so that they have become like staff. There are now so many volunteers working in so many different areas for PHLF that we cannot list them all here, but in the next few newsletters we will be discussing some of their activities. Herewith are just a few:

Harold Lyke is now responsible for visitor information services. Mr. Lyke keeps our tourist literature rack in the lobby of the museum filled with first rate literature about Pittsburgh and our surrounding area. More than 80 different pieces of literature have been gathered by Mr. Lyke in large quantities and are available at no charge. We operate the only tourist literature rack in the entire county on a permanent basis, thanks to funds donated last year by the Jr. League for the construction of the rack. Mr. Lyke also travels to all hotels and motels within a 100-mile radius and leaves literature in their racks about the Old Post Office Museum, the Mexican War Streete and Birmingham.

Mrs. Paul C. McBeth continues to serve as head of the gift shop. Mrs. McBeth has actually held this position for many months now and has built up the gift shop to where it produces at least \$200 a month profit for PHLF. She has a wide range of items in the shop and because so many of our visitors return to the museum frequently, she keeps the contents of this shop changing regularly so that new items are always available for your consideration.

Pat Degenhardt is now responsible for all museum accessioning other than fashions which receive the careful attention of the Fashion Group. Ms.Degenhardt has been a hard worker for PHLF and because of her thorough and diligent concern with the many artifacts and acquisitions that are being offered to us, we asked her to take full charge of seeing that they are properly catalogued and stored. She is being assisted by Mrs. Margarite Boese and Mr. Gerald Kummer.

Mrs. Helen Mackey is currently assisting in our office doing typing and cataloguing for Mr.VanTrump.

Ellen Malone and Getty have generously consented to assist mightily in the Birmingham project. Together they have helped the South Side Chamber of Commerce and the South Side Community Council organize a massive clean-up program for South Side at the request of the businessmen and residents. They have designed posters and are organizing the young people into a special "wash up Carson Street" day. Soon they will be calling upon those businessmen and residents to explain the Birmingham restoration program, discuss the value of the buildings owned by them and encouraging restoration. Because the Birmingham program has been stalled for lack of funds for staff, we feel that the presence of Mrs. Malone and Mrs. Getty will boost the program immeasurably.

Mrs. Kenneth Boesel has been very generous with her time as chairman of the Mexican War Streets house tour program. She has an excellent committee to assist her, all of whom were listed in our last newsletter. Mrs. Boesel has been active in the Mexican War Streets since the time our program started and she has restored several houses handsomely herself. Without her chairmanship this year, the Mexican War Streets house tour could not have been held.

NEW MEMBERS

David and Nickl Adler  
Allegheny City Society, Inc.  
Mrs. George C. Anderson  
Dr. & Mrs. Richard A. Anderson  
Dr. & Mrs. David F. Archer  
Mrs. Louise T. Aston  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas I. S. Boak, Jr.  
Borland Printing Company  
Mr. & Mrs. W. Theodore Brooks  
Dr. & Mrs. William Browne  
James F. Butler  
George F. Cahill  
Mrs. Robert D. Campbell  
Mr. & Mrs. Larry C. Carey  
Judge & Mrs. William F. Carcone  
Fred R. Curtis  
Ms. Glenda G. Dull  
Mrs. H. S. Dunmire  
Frank J. Eckel  
Jerome J. & Elizabeth M. Essel  
Ms. Leona K. Fisher  
Mr. & Mrs. Gay A. Gabriel  
Mr. & Mrs. James C. Glascock  
John R. Good, Jr.  
Warren & Marjorie Gottschalk  
Mr. & Mrs. Roland R. Graham, Jr.  
Mrs. James H. Higgins  
Mr. & Mrs. Sidney B. Hoover  
Mr. & Mrs. Alexander H. Jackson  
Curtiss M. Jackson  
Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Janosco  
Mr. & Mrs. J. Frederick Kunze  
William Kurtek  
Mr. & Mrs. Louis Kushner  
Mrs. Carl Kutchenreiter  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul F. Leix  
Thomas Letosky  
Mrs. Betty H. Little  
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Lupovitz  
Mrs. Gordon G. MacVean

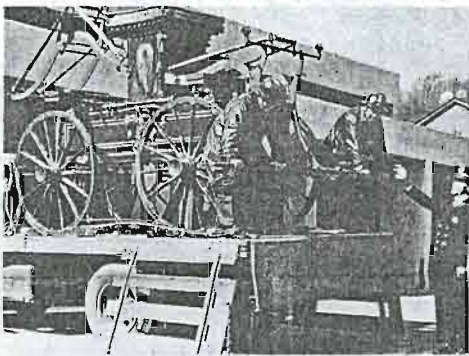
Mr. & Mrs. James F. Malone, III  
Lynne W. Mason  
Mr. & Mrs. C. Max McCullough, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Edmund R. Michalik  
Mr. & Mrs. James H. Morehouse  
Honorable & Mrs. Gregg L. Neel  
Fred W., Jr. & Karen A. Okie  
Mrs. Glenn Osborne  
John F. Oyler  
Perry Women's Club  
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce N. Phillips  
Pilot Club of Pittsburgh  
Mrs. H. A. Power  
Ms. Mary K. Pringle  
Dr. & Mrs. Robert W. Pringle  
Dr. Ann Quattrocchi  
Mr. & Mrs. Ian G. Rawson  
Keith D. F. Rowland  
Miss Elaine Sadowski  
Mr. & Mrs. William R. Salinetto  
Donald L. Schiele  
Mr. & Mrs. Walter A. Scott  
Mr. & Mrs. Allen C. Sheldon  
Ms. Clara H. Shipley  
Mr. & Mrs. H. D. Stone  
Ms. Sandra Sweetland  
Mrs. A. E. Telchart  
Mrs. Lucile L. Thiessen  
Matthew R. Tibby  
Mrs. Benjamin H. Thomasson  
Mr. & Mrs. Maurice E. Trout  
Miss Sara Warburton  
W. L. Ward  
F. L. Wiegand, Jr.  
Joseph L. Wiley  
John O. Yoedt  
Miss Susanna Lee Yoedt

With thanks to our many friends

for their many and varied artifacts for our Museum collection in the months of March, April and May.

Mrs. P. L. Hartsock  
Katherine E. Reichart  
George E. Bish  
Mrs. David Grubb  
Mrs. Hilda Erwin  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard McCall  
Dr. & Mrs. James Ballantyne  
John Baxter  
Mrs. J. L. Schulmire  
Mrs. Earl W. Lyon  
Miss Karen Klaphake  
Pete Crothers  
Richard Giese  
Mrs. Alvin Dorfield  
Adele Evanish  
Beatrice Consolo  
Mrs. Ann F. Murphy

Lewis M. Stark  
Mrs. William McKee  
Mrs. P. L. Hartsock  
Mrs. William B. Morse  
Mrs. John T. Tim  
Miss Carol Bridgens  
Mrs. Harold L. Lang  
Miss Patricia Flynn-Lyons  
Mrs. Hugh Nevin  
Mrs. Audrey Y. Slesser  
Victor Weible  
Walter Leuba  
Mrs. Pauline Croasmum  
Mrs. Edward P. Junker, Jr.  
Mrs. Bertha Boyle  
Mrs. Edward O'Neil  
Mrs. Dorothy Dawson



Shown here is Pittsburgh Fire Chief, Thomas Kennelly, right, showing firemen Vince Petrelli, left, and Phil Casale how "Old Vigilant" was pumped. Chief Kennelly and firemen at the North Side Public Safety Building were on hand to welcome "Old Vigilant" to its new home on the North Side.

Carnegie Institute has donated "Old Vigilant", Pittsburgh's oldest fire engine, to PHLF for the Old Post Office Museum. The hand-pump engine was used by the Vigilant Volunteer Fire Department before the advent of steam fire engines and a paid city fire department. Built in 1850, the engine battled fires in Pittsburgh until the early 1860's. "Old Vigilant" was sold in 1870 to Salem, Ohio, and later was acquired by the Veteran Volunteer Firemen's Association for a museum exhibit in Philadelphia. In 1922 the Association gave the engine to Carnegie Institute, where it has been displayed for the past fifty years. "Old Vigilant" remains almost wholly intact from the days when volunteers could pull it across the city in less than twelve minutes to combat a raging fire. The engine is elaborately adorned with brass hose fittings, silver trim, and a beautiful stained glass and brass lantern. We express our profound appreciation to Carnegie Institute for their donation fo this outstanding relic from Pittsburgh's past.

Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

☐ New

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ENCLOSED IS \$ \_\_\_\_\_ FOR A \_\_\_\_\_ MEMBERSHIP.

(Your cancelled check is your receipt.)

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES:

Individual .....from \$10.00  
Husband & Wife.....from \$12.00  
Contributing .....from \$50.00  
Sustaining .....from \$100.00  
Patron .....from \$500.00  
Life .....from \$1,000.00  
Organizations:  
Active .....from \$25.00  
Contributing .....from \$50.00  
Sustaining .....from \$100.00  
Patron .....from \$500.00

MEMBERSHIP PRIVILEGES

1. Free admission to the Old Post Office, the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Museum.
2. 5% discount on purchases at the Old Post Office Museum Gift Shop.
3. Subscription to "News for Members" and special publications on architecture and history.
4. Free admission or discount tickets for walking and bus tours.
5. Free admission to winter lecture series.
6. Notification of new exhibits at the Old Post Office.
7. Participation in an organization given national awards "for the vigor of its programs."



HOUSE RENOVATIONS

PHLF is currently engaged in two house renovations of quite different scope and effect. One project involves considerable interior alteration and rebuilding, while the other calls for relatively minor physical alterations. The house involving extensive alteration is 41 Taylor Street (c. 1880) in the Mexican War St. We are constructing two new halls, new kitchen and baths, replacing at least half of the ceiling and plastering walls. When completed, there



be a two-bedroom apartment on the first floor and a third bedroom apartment above. The upper apartment has a 25' living-dining area with exposed brick side wall and exposed ceiling joists. This room is the third room which has a view through dormer windows both south and east toward the Mexican War St. and north toward the Fillmore hill.

The contractor for the project is Lerda Construction Company, the same contractor who renovated 17 Carson Street a year ago. Mrs. David L. Gent, owner of a restored house in the Mexican War St. and member of our Board of Directors is conducting the interior decoration using grey-blue and white in the first floor and gold and white on the floor.

The only problem remaining to be solved in this house is the very beautiful but very inappropriate Tudor front door for which we must find or construct a fitting replacement.

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building by previous owners and tenants, all woodwork retained its original finish and all plaster ceiling moldings and rosettes are in place. All plaster walls were found to be in very good condition under layers of wallpaper. (We have usually found in an old house, contrary to popular belief, it is the wallpaper which holds the plaster up and not vice versa.) A hot water heating system and new electrical service,

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Eventhough the weather was quite "unfit", our recent Flea Market was able to add approximately \$400. to the Garden Court Fund. We thank all of you who participated and all of you who worked hard to make it a great day!

TOURS...

WEST MIDDLETOWN SESQUICENTENNIAL AND GREENE COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM JULY 7, 1973

Our tour is set and ready for reservations for a one-day visit to West Middletown in Washington County and the Greene County Historical Museum near Waynesburg.

Our morning will be spent on a walking tour of West Middletown and enjoying their exhibits of candle making, churning, horse shoeing, chair caneing, quilting, wood carving, soap making, bread making, and doll display. Then a guided bus tour will point out the surrounding points of interest of the locality.

We will then have a buffet lunch at the historical Drover's Inn enroute to our afternoon visit to the Greene County Historical Museum.

Our bus will depart from the Old Post Office Museum at 8:30 a.m. and return at approximately 6:30 p.m. The cost for the day, including bus fare, admissions, and lunch is \$12.00 for members and \$16.00 for non-members.

RESERVATION FORM FOR WEST MIDDLETOWN + GREENE COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM - JULY 7, 1973

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Please hold \_\_\_\_\_ reservations for the Tour to West Middletown and Greene County Historical Museum @\$12.00 for members; and \_\_\_\_\_ reservations for non-members @\$16.00.  
My check is enclosed. My self-addressed, stamped envelope is enclosed.  
-----

THORNBURG WALKING TOUR JULY 29, 1973

This walking tour will take us through the fascinating section of Thornburg. We will in addition to walking through the area, be permitted to tour one house and a number of private gardens. We think this will be one of our most interesting tours yet!

We will meet at the old Thornburg school on Hamilton Road at 2:00 p.m. and start the tour promptly from there.

If driving - take Steuben Street to Route 60, continue to Thornburg - turn left on Thornburg Avenue, continue to Hamilton Avenue - turn right and continue to the school.  
If traveling by bus - take 26 B-C from downtown at 1:00p.m.  
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RESERVATION FORM - THORNBURG WALKING TOUR - JULY 29, 1973

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Please send \_\_\_\_\_ tickets for the Walking Tour on July 29, @\$1.50 for members; and \_\_\_\_\_ tickets for non-members @\$3.00 each.  
My check is enclosed. My self-addressed, stamped envelope is enclosed.  
-----

TITUSVILLE - CHAUTAUQUA BUS TOUR August 18-19, 1973

This two-day tour will include a visit to Drake's Well at Titusville, Penna., Pithole, a buffet luncheon at Cross Creek Country Club, and then we will continue on to Chautauqua Institution. We will have dinner and then a choice of attending a play or a concert. Sunday, one may attend church in the amphitheater or rest. After lunch we will take a boat ride around the lake, and then head for Pittsburgh to arrive at approximately 7:00 p.m.

MORE ABOUT THIS TOUR IN FORTHCOMING NEWSLETTER!

HISTORIC ANNAPOLIS BUS TOUR

We are in the midst of planning our tour to Historic Annapolis for late September or early October. The Historical Foundation of Annapolis is planning to give us a private house and garden tour of their restoration work so we do not have to go when they have their regularly scheduled famous house tour which has become so congested. We are looking forward to this special treatment and hope many will take advantage of this tour! More will be announced later.



# Our Volunteers Speak . . .

A WORD FROM MARY WOHLEBER, PRESIDENT OF OUR VOLUNTEERS:

"Nothing is accomplished without enthusiasm." That is what our volunteers have and they accomplish a great deal. Anytime of the day and quite a few nights volunteers have kept things humming at the Lively Landmark. Many thanks to all you wonderful people for your loyalty and hard work!

The big one is coming up for the Associates: There will be a meeting on Tuesday, June 12 at 7:30 p.m. at the Museum to finalize our plans for the Mexican War Streets House Tour.

If you forgot to send in your volunteer slip, come to the meeting and sign up. Be assured we need you and bring a friend, member or not, everyone who has an interest in what we are doing is welcome.

Half of my term as your president is over and I want you to know what a joy it has been to work with you. The Social Committee serving at the Performing Arts Series thought they were swimming in a sea of punch with waves of cookies...The Gift Shop under Mrs. McBeth, a real star in the volunteers' crown...Grace Alster and I, speaking at schools and clubs...Mrs. Johnson and her Tour Guides, enthralling innumerable school children and folks of all ages...Pat Degenhardt has the Accessioning group well in hand...Greg Weidner, Exhibits, what goes up must come down...John Martine filling in wherever I need him...and it goes on and on.

A special mention to those who rallied round at a last minute notice to help me get those 1700!! Fund Raising envelopes stuffed. We even had some child labor in on that act.

I am proud to be one of you and so glad you are with me --A Landmark Associate--Join the lively ones, join the Associates.

One of our current exhibits is the "Old Tool Collection" of Mr. James Glascock. We asked Mr. Glascock, one of our members, to write an article for our newsletter about his collection . . .

I do not know just how one does start collecting old tools. I started by stumbling on an old rosewood plow plane which was covered with paint. When I got it cleaned up and found a blade to fit it, it was a beautiful piece of work. I have often wondered who bought it; how many years it was used; and how it got so much paint spilled on it.

All old tools be they 16th century or early 19th century show ingenuity on the part of the maker. They were used for specific jobs and trades -- many of which no longer exist.

I have found many tools that I spent a year or two identifying. Herein lies the challenge. There are a few good books on the subject. The one I recommend most highly is Eric Sloane's "Museum of Ancient Tools".

## Rachel Carson Homestead Campaign On

Did you know that the birthplace of Rachel Carson was here in Allegheny County in the community appropriately named Springdale?

The house is in private hands but a move has been started by a local group called the Rachel Carson Homestead Association to raise funds to acquire, restore, and maintain the property.

At the request of the association, PHLF has agreed to co-sponsor this important effort, and we have opened a special fund within our organization to collect donations toward this goal.

Rachel Carson, author of the Silent Spring, the book that called to national attention the danger of pesticides, was one of the most important leaders nationally in the environmental movement. She made us aware of the interrelationships of our ecology before that word became popular, and her writings are now part of our daily vocabulary. Allegheny County is both fortunate and honored to have produced such a distinguished woman. We feel it is very important for our organization to join in this effort to save a house that has been rendered significant by virtue of being the birthplace of Rachel Carson. In future newsletters we will be lineating the full program as it is formulated by the Rachel Carson Homestead Association. We will also be projecting budgets and uses of the house.

Checks should be made payable to the PHLF and marked "Rachel Carson".

NEEDED

A Garden Club or some volunteers to work together to beautify some vacant lots opposite our restored properties on the South Side. Please contact our office.

## MEMBERS

- Ickl Adler  
City Society, Inc.  
C. Anderson  
Richard A. Anderson  
David F. Archer  
T. Aston  
Thomas I. S. Book, Jr.  
nting Company  
V. Theodore Brooks  
William Browne  
tler  
hill  
D. Campbell  
Larry C. Carey  
L. William F. Cercone  
tis  
C. Dull  
Dunmire  
kel  
Elizabeth M. Essel  
Fisher  
Gay A. Gabriel  
James C. Glascock  
d, Jr.  
rjorie Gottschalk  
Roland R. Graham, Jr.  
H. Higgins  
Sidney B. Hoover  
Alexander H. Jackson  
Jackson  
Bernard Janosco  
J. Frederick Kunze  
tek  
Louis Kushner  
utchenreiter  
Paul F. Leix  
sky  
H. Little  
Howard Lupovitz  
G. MacVean
- Mr. & Mrs. James F. Malone, III  
Lynne W. Mason  
Mr. & Mrs. C. Hax McCullough, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Edmund R. Michalik  
Mr. & Mrs. James H. Morehouse  
Honorable & Mrs. Gregg L. Neel  
Fred W., Jr. & Karen A. Okie  
Mrs. Glenn Osborne  
John F. Oyler  
Perry Women's Club  
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce N. Phillips  
Pilot Club of Pittsburgh  
Mrs. H. A. Power  
Ms. Mary K. Pringle  
Dr. & Mrs. Robert W. Pringle  
Dr. Ann Quattrocchi  
Mr. & Mrs. Ian G. Rawson  
Keith D. F. Rowland  
Miss Elaine Sadowski  
Mr. & Mrs. William R. Salinetre  
Donald L. Schiele  
Mr. & Mrs. Walter A. Scott  
Mr. & Mrs. Allen C. Sheldon  
Ms. Clara H. Shipley  
Mr. & Mrs. M. D. Stone  
Ms. Sandra Sweetland  
Mrs. A. E. Telchart  
Mrs. Lucile L. Thiesen  
Matthew R. Tibby  
Mrs. Benjamin H. Thomason  
Mr. & Mrs. Maurice E. Trout  
Miss Sara Warburton  
W. L. Ward  
F. L. Wiegand, Jr.  
Joseph L. Wiley  
John O. Yoedt  
Miss Susanna Lee Yoedt

## Thanks to our many friends

air many and varied artifacts for our Museum tion in the months of March, April and May.

- L. Hartsock  
ne E. Reichart  
E. Bish  
vid Grubb  
Ida Erwin  
rs. Richard McCall  
rs. James Ballantyne  
xter  
L. Schulmire  
rl W. Lyon  
ren Klaphake  
others  
Giese  
vin Dorfield  
vanish  
e Consolo  
n F. Murphy
- Lewis M. Stark  
Mrs. William McKee  
Mrs. P. L. Hartsock  
Mrs. William B. Morse  
Mrs. John T. Tim  
Miss Carol Bridgens  
Mrs. Harold L. Lang  
Miss Patricia Flynn-Lyons  
Mrs. Hugh Nevin  
Mrs. Audrey Y. Slessor  
Victor Weible  
Walter Leuba  
Mrs. Pauline Croasmum  
Mrs. Edward P. Junker, Jr.  
Mrs. Bertha Boyle  
Mrs. Edward O'Neill  
Mrs. Dorothy Dawson



Shown here is Pittsburgh Fire Chief, Thomas Kennelly, right, showing firemen Vince Petrelli, left, and Phil Casale how "Old Vigilant" was pumped. Chief Kennelly and firemen at the North Side Public Safety Building were on hand to welcome "Old Vigilant" to its new home on the North Side.

gie Institute has donated "Old Vigilant", burgh's oldest fire engine, to PHLF for the Post Office Museum. The hand-pump engine was by the Vigilant Volunteer Fire Department e the advent of steam fire engines and a city fire department. Built in 1850, the e battled fires in Pittsburgh until the ear- 60's. "Old Vigilant" was sold in 1870 to , Ohio, and later was acquired by the Vet- Volunteer Firemen's Association for a museum it in Philadelphia. In 1922 the Association the engine to Carnegie Institute, where it een displayed for the past fifty years. "Old ant" remains almost wholly intact from the when volunteers could pull it across the city ss than twelve minutes to combat a raging The engine is elaborately adorned with hose fittings, silver trim, and a beautiful ed glass and brass lantern. We express our und appreciation to Carnegie Institute for donation fo this outstanding relic from burgh's past.

## Foundation

- RSHIP DUES:

.....from \$10.00  
.....from \$12.00  
.....from \$50.00  
.....from \$100.00  
.....from \$500.00  
.....from \$1,000.00  
  
.....from \$25.00  
.....from \$50.00  
.....from \$100.00  
.....from \$500.00
- MEMBERSHIP PRIVILEGES

  1. Free admission to the Old Post Office, the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Museum.
  2. 5% discount on purchases at the Old Post Office Museum Gift Shop.
  3. Subscription to "News for Members" and special publications on architecture and history.
  4. Free admission or discount tickets for walking and bus tours.
  5. Free admission to winter lecture series.
  6. Notification of new exhibits at the Old Post Office.
  7. Participation in an organization given national awards "for the vigor of its programs."