For 42 Years, the strength of HCVHA has always been our volunteers

MEMBERS RECOGNIZING VOLUNTEERS
At our November General Membership Meeting, we will be recognizing a number of our fabulous volunteers. See page three for a ballot to vote for those to be honored.

2018 in Review
Wow! It’s hard to believe that this year is almost over! This has been a banner year for HCVHA. There were so many things happening that it was hard to keep up.

- Bosh project is finally underway
- The “landing pad” at the third arch in preparation of the bosh project was excavated
- We had new school groups engaged in our educational programs
- Two school groups have already registered for next school year
- Engineering assessment of the casting house north wall was completed
- Research and initial engineering into the water runoff issue from Furnace Road through the historic area
- The upgrading of the water garden and swales
- We celebrated the 1868 wedding of L. Heber and Jennie Grubb at a highly successful new public event
- Three grants totaling $91,400 received for the bosh stabilization project
- We held six 3rd Saturday breakfast events
- Our Hay Creek Festival, although hampered by rain ran smoothly thanks to the more emphasis on committee accountability
- Partnerships were initiated with Reading/Berks SCORE and Kutztown University Sociology Department

Help us save printing and postage! Email info@haycreek.org to receive this newsletter on your computer.
November 2018

November General Membership Meeting

Mark your calendars for Sunday evening, November 18 at 7:00 pm. That’s the date of our fall general membership meeting. There will be a lot going on that evening.

First, we will recognize 2018 volunteers who demonstrated the effort, dedication and leadership which exemplifies our special volunteers.

Secondly, we’ll see a visual program demonstrating HCVHA volunteers, from 1976 to today, who have worked so hard to make our organization and the Joanna Furnace Iron Works what it is today.

Thirdly, we will be having the elections for our 2019 leadership. At this point the slate is still being developed. Anyone who would like to join the leadership of HCVHA for 2019 should contact Mark Zerr (610.286.0388).

Positions to be filled for 2019 include:
- President
- 1st Vice President
- 2nd Vice President
- Treasurer
- Recording Secretary
- Membership Secretary
- Corresponding Secretary
- Three Directors.

Board Meeting Change
Please mark your calendars for the November Hay Creek board meeting. Our regularly scheduled Board meeting was to be held the day before thanksgiving. However, with the holiday and upcoming Christmas event, we have rescheduled our monthly board meeting to Wednesday, November 14th at 6:30 pm.

Officer and Directors

President
Ron Schlegel

1st Vice President
Dave Pray

2nd Vice President
Tammy Schaeffer

Recording Secretary
Rich Nearhood

Membership Secretary
Louise Griffiths

Treasurer
Steve Freeman

Directors
Luke DiBerardinis
Gary Kurtz
Charles Jacob
Phyllis Hummel
Mike Barbieri
Jack Woods

Executive Director
Mark Zerr

We’re looking for Education Program Volunteers

Join us in our mission of inspiring curiosity, discovery and a lifelong appreciation of domestic, technological, and early industrial history and science. We do this through our engaging hands-on educational programs.

At Historic Joanna Furnace Ironworks, volunteers are a vital part of our facility’s staff. All our programs rely on the dedication and commitment of our many volunteers to deliver excellent service to students and the community.

We are searching for talented, dedicated adults who are looking for an opportunity to use their experience and join the camaraderie of others who are like minded. We are experiencing growing pains and are searching for additional volunteers to expand our effort in various educational and support positions.

Volunteers can participate within any time frame they have available.

Training will be provided within areas of interest.

We’re looking for you to join us . . .

Want to learn more about how you can impact students?

education@haycreek.org
610.286.0388
HCVHA VOLUNTEER ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

At our membership meeting in November, we are going to acknowledge a number of our extraordinary Hay Creek volunteers. Being the type of organization we are, nothing could be accomplished without the support, labor, passion and hands-on dedication of our volunteers. Although all our volunteers are important, a number of volunteers stand out in their dedication and leadership abilities.

There will be three types of recognition to include all our various volunteers.

1. **HCVHA Volunteer Appreciation Acknowledgement**
   
   **MEMBERS, IT’S ONLY YOUR INPUT WHICH WILL ACKNOWLEDGE OUR HCVHA VOLUNTEERS.**
   
   As a member of HCVHA we are looking for your input to acknowledge a number of your volunteer friends and cohorts. These are our volunteers who you see as exemplary volunteers, workers and leaders throughout all the various HCVHA, Joanna Furnace events, projects and initiatives. We will acknowledge these extraordinary HCVHA Volunteers for 2018 at our Membership Meeting on Sunday, November 18. Please complete the form below and return it by November 13.

2. **Thursday Volunteer Acknowledgement**

   In addition to the general acknowledgments, the **THURSDAY VOLUNTEER GROUP** will also vote for two members of the Thursday group to recognize. Thursday volunteers will vote on Thursday, November 8.

3. **2018 Board Acknowledgement of Volunteers and Partners**

   The board will recognize one individual from our membership and one community partner:

   - HCVHA Board volunteer Recognition Award
   - HCVHA Community Partner Recognition

**MEMBERSHIP HCVHA VOLUNTEER BALLOT**

Since we are all volunteers, the acknowledgment of special effort of our friends is best decided by peer volunteers. So we are asking each member to take a few moments and vote for the people you work with. When recommending the name of a volunteer, please consider that person’s dedication to the mission of HCVHA, work ethic, time given and positive attitude with others.

**I am voting for these HCVHA Volunteers to be recognized for:**

- Being an encourager “a cheer leader”
- His/her dedication to the HCVHA mission
- Demonstrated leadership abilities
- Being the most effective “go-to” person
- Being “the” Hay Creek Historian

To return your ballot, simply send your volunteer recognition votes to mzerr@haycreek.org or... Snail Mail your ballot so that it reaches the HCVHA office before November 13. Mail ballot to:

Volunteer Recognition
HCVHA
Box 36, Geigertown, PA 19523
From the President . . . Coming in 2019

Ever since the first of the year, the board working through the executive director and leadership have been actively engaged in many behind the scenes activities. These are the things that most members don’t see but impact the overall effectiveness of the organization and the historic site. We are working to move the organization forward through many different fronts, from site promotion to engineering, to strategic planning, to organizational structure, to fund development, to volunteer recruitment. This applied organizational structure began this year in a sometimes rocky manner as committee leaders began to try to work through the layered structure. The learning curve will take a year or two more, but in the end it will expedite all committee work and aid in committee member recruitment.

Committee Structure
The board has established a structural chart which now delineates 16 main committees plus their subcommittees. This chart enables everyone to see how the organization works and who is the responsible committee for each operational area. Also, each committee is assigned a board liaison to bring committee issues to the board and aid in committee accountability. The goal is to allow each committee to operate independently, establish goals, standards and accountability. This type of governance also allows for more input and discussion within committee decision making.

The committees:
- Education
- Events—Hay Creek festival/Apple festival/Christmas at Joanna
- Finance
- Financial/Grant Development
- Food Services
- Gift Shop
- History/Archaeology/Restoration
- Marketing
- Mechanical Technology
- Membership
- Non-Historic Buildings
- Property/Grounds/Equipment
- Risk Management
- Strategic Planning

SCORE assistance in strategic planning
The board has developed a partnership with the Reading/Berks wing of SCORE.
SCORE is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that provides free business mentoring services to prospective and established small businesses and organizations. With this group of professionals, we will have a team of five local retired business executives and financial experts who will mentor our executive team in developing a strategic plan. This process may take us to the end of 2019.

Bosh stabilization project
The bosh project is on track. Because of a hold up by the state comptroller’s office releasing funds to PHMC on time, the project start was delayed. The delay within the state then caused International Chimney Corporation to recommend the delay of the start until spring. They were concerned that cold weather would cause problems in the laying of the brick because of size of the restoration area that would need to be heated. The plan now calls for the full restoration to begin on or about April 1st.

Wheelwright Shop foundation
In a week or two, we will be doing survey work at the Wheelwright Shop in preparation for the long-anticipated restoration of this historic building. Since the state raised the level of the road when the Hay Creek bridge was built many years ago, we will need to raise the building approximately four feet and new grading around the building will be done. The elevation drawings will be done by Mike Barbieri and a construction permit application will be sent to the township.

Expedited planning of Hay Creek Festival, Apple Festival and Christmas at Joanna
The newly formed event committees are beginning to work in planning, responsibility assignment, looking at return on investment of elements, staffing and assessing expenses for our main income producing events. One of the goals is to take all planning minutia out of the hands of the executive director allowing him to look at the event planning globally rather than having to deal with simple decisions which can be handled through the committee staffs.
Developing a model for volunteer/membership recruitment
It is my hope that we can establish an active Membership Committee who will oversee the membership drives, maintain communication with all levels of memberships, actively recruit general members and specific talent as well, which would be needed to staff committees with the experienced people they may need.

Grant Development for 2019
The Fund Development Committee will be actively researching and pursuing new grants. We will look for additional grants to assist in financial support of our programs and projects. This year we were able to obtain $91,400 in grants to underwrite our site restoration. In 2019 the Grant Committee will actively pursue as many grants as possible providing committees are diligent in planning and present complete documentation in their proposals. We are moving to supplement our income with alternative funding sources.

SAFESITE background checks
Early in 2019 we will be reviewing our SAFESITE database and note who will be needing new Criminal and Child Abuse Background checks. This will affect all those who work with children in our educational programs as well as all of our elected leaders.

The state requires background checks be renewed every five years so anyone who got the background checks in 2014 or earlier must go through the process again. We will offer the means to complete this free process through the office and, in early spring, will be giving the state required 1 ½ hour training in-house.

WANTED - ALUMINIUM
ALUMINUM SCRAP FOR THE CASTING HOUSE.
WE REMELT SCRAP TO USE IN THE CASTINGS.
WE POUR IN DEMONSTRATING THE HAND CASTING PROCEDURE AS DONE IN THE 19TH CENTURY.
IF YOU HAVE AN OLD UNSAFE ALUMINIUM LADDER BEHIND THE GARAGE, OR ALUMINIUM STORM WINDOWS, PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING THEM TO HAY CREEK VALLEY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION.
WE CAN PROVIDE A TAX DEDUCTION FORM FOR YOUR DONATION.
Why I Volunteer . . . Jack Woods

Seven years ago I was looking for some family history and used a website that led me to www.haycreek.org. It sounded quite interesting so the following Sunday afternoon we drove up to Hay Creek and Joanna Furnace. As we drove toward the red stone buildings, I noticed several cars and people moving around. When I got closer, I saw that it was some kind of a dog show, and I thought what kind of place is this? I did walk in the mule barn and saw the literature rack and picked up a couple of brochures. I read that there was a volunteer group called the Over The Hill Gang and that they met on Thursdays. So the following Thursday I showed up, and I’ve been volunteering ever since.

Why do I drive for almost an hour each way, get dirty, smelly and tired, and get frustrated once in a while? There are several reasons. I love the activity because it keeps me healthy. Many Thursdays I get energized enough to wish there was a Friday volunteer day. The tasks I do in the Casting House are varied, from ramming sand molds and pouring molten metal, to thinking up and making new patterns for casting. Twenty-first century 3-D printing has even been used to make patterns! All this activity keeps my brain working, too, although there may be a few co-workers who question that.

Enjoyable work pleases me, and work done well makes stress disappear. Many of us, in the Over The Hill Gang, are using the skills they used when employed, but there are others who have chosen an entirely new direction in volunteering. There’s a story I heard years ago about defining work. A young student took some kind of intelligence test, and one of the questions showed two drawings. One showed a man reading a book, and a second showed a man splitting firewood. Which is work, and which is play? His father was an English teacher who split wood weekends, so reading was work, and splitting wood was play. Maybe you are in that category - just wanting to do something different and pleasurable.

Our dedicated volunteers do everything from mowing lawns, building sheds, repairing engines and machinery, preparing meals, cleaning floors, setting up tents, woodworking, electrical, making castings, and some I don’t remember. Why volunteer? Don’t just make a living, make a difference, too. You can make a difference to people in the community, and gain valuable experience in a wide range of areas unrelated to your job or training. It’s also a great way to meet new people who share your interests.

Christmas at Joanna Preparation Schedule . . . Volunteer Opportunities

Thursday – November 8th
- Wash glass globes for Mule Stable ledges
- Place Gloves on ledges
- String popcorn strands (place on trays with lids)
- Inventory White Lights (120 strands for 60 trees, 10+ sets for Mule Stable)
- Pull Christmas tree ornaments from barrels and inventory. Make new as needed.
- Place Christmas lights in Market – Doug Logan
- Place Christmas lights in Trees near pergola – Rich Nearhood
  Set-up lights for wagon ride in Engine Area – Jim Molloca

Friday – November 9th
- Stand Sponsored Xmas Trees – BST 241 (Robert Keffer) supervised by Rich Nearhood
- Stand Cedar Tree in Mule Stable – Boy Scouts to assist
- Hang Wreaths on Charcoal Barn & Mule Stable (Mark Zerr ordered from Mary Frazier)
• Hang Roping on Mule Stable & Mansion area fences – Troop 351 (Eric Larson)
• Lunch for Volunteers Weekend of November 24th – Set-up Light Maze – Troop 543 (Tina Kastings) with Rich Nearhood

**Sunday – November 25th**
BST 543 (Tina Kastings) set-up luminaries in Mech Tech Building 5 pm (Mike Barbieri to coordinate)

**Monday – November 26th**
• Decorate Mule Stable Cedar Tree (Gini Carl)
• Mule Stable Set-up – Drop off Furniture
• Mule Stable Set-up – Hang pictures and other items on Mule Stable Walls (Gary Kurtz & Phyllis Hummel)
• Bring Stanchions into Mule Stable (Jack Kulp)
• Place white pine roping and bows around mule stable fence if not completed on 11/23
  VOLUNTEER PASS SHEETS DUE!

**Tuesday – November 27th**
• Mule Stable Set-up
• Drop off Holly for Mule Stable Decorating.
• Mule Stable Decorating (Gary Kurtz & Phyllis Hummel)
• Setup Parking lights behind food court – Jim Molleca
• Set-up small fire pit in food court
  Need 6 benches for small bonfire in food court.
  (Jack Kulp)

**Wednesday – November 28th**
• Mule Stable Set-up
• Decorate Window Sills in Mule Stable (Gary Kurtz / Phyllis Hummel)
• Craft Tent Delivered & Set-up (Jack Kulp to supply ten (10) 6’ tables). Also need 10 metal folding chairs.
  Port-o-Pots & Handwashing Station Delivered (place behind funnel cake stand)

**Thursday – November 29th**
• Mule Stable Set-up
• Finish Mule Stable Decorations
• Clean Mule Stable Floor - Gary Kurtz
• Set-up Craft Tent with tables – See M. Zerr
• Hang Tree & Market signs – Volunteer Needed
• Train Display Set-up in Mech Tech Bldg. (Ron Messenger)

• Rental lights for Furnace Road Delivered – John Keithley to coordinate
• Propane tanks for heated tent - Need 4. (Jack Kulp)
• Interpreter / Dancer practice in Mule Stable – 7 pm
  Drop off homemade cookies

**Friday – November 30th**

Ron Schlegel to deliver Christmas at Joanna programs.

Drop off homemade cookies (Arrange cookie trays – Gini Carl & Rachael Smith)

• Bonfire Programs at 4:30 pm, 6:00 pm & 7:30 pm
  (except on Friday evening there is no program at 4:30 pm)
  Bonfire (main at stage) – David Pray to oversee and coordinate.

**Christmas at Joanna – November 30th – December 2nd, 2018**
**Friday – 5 to 9 pm**
**Saturday & Sunday – 4 to 9 pm**
Become a Part of History ... Join our Volunteer Program!

Select one of the following membership categories:

☐ FAMILY MEMBERSHIP $40  ☐ INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP $25  ☐ INDIVIDUAL LIFE MEMBERSHIP $250

Name ___________________________________________________________ Address ____________________________________________

City/State/ZIP ___________________________________________ Phone ___________________________ Email ______________________ __________

Birth date ___________________________ Occupation ____________________________________________ CIRCLE IF AVAILABLE ON: DAYS EVENINGS WEEKENDS

Can you help at events? Yes / No ___________________________ Are you interested in helping at our Thursday work party days? Yes / No ___________________________

Would you be interested in serving on one of our organization’s committees? Yes / No ___________________________ Can you do things at home to help the organization? (i.e. make phone calls and/or sew scarecrow supplies) Yes / No ___________________________

Family Memberships:

ADDITIONAL MEMBER NAME ___________________________ DOB ________ ADDITIONAL MEMBER NAME ___________________________ DOB ________

ADDITIONAL MEMBER NAME ___________________________ DOB ________ ADDITIONAL MEMBER NAME ___________________________ DOB ________

_____ Help us save postage and printing. Check here to have your newsletter emailed to you.

Make check payable to HCVHA and return application with self-addressed stamped envelope to:

Hay Creek Valley Historical Association PO Box 36, Geigertown, PA 19523. Memberships can also be paid online at haycreek.org.