Our 40th Festival Celebration

The 40th anniversary celebration of the Hay Creek Festival will take place on September 9-11, 2016 at historic Joanna Furnace. The event will run daily from 8 am to 5 pm.

When we look back at the Hay Creek Festival we all have such fond memories of this popular Hay Creek event. Since the first event in Geigertown in 1976, the event has featured many attractions including antique cars & tractors, open fire cooking demonstrations, early American crafts and modern crafts, a steam traction engine that blew its whistle at lunchtime, homemade apple butter churned in copper kettle, and the many delicious foods that we enjoyed during the festival weekend.

Behind each of these activities the organization has had hundreds of volunteers over the years who have brought their skills and love of the past to make the festival what is it today. Over the years we have seen volunteers such as Annie Wolf’s quilting talents and her hand stitching the first festival quilts, Bob Geiger’s ever-loving passion for hit ‘n miss engines, Paul Norton’s gift of operating the antique threshing machine, George Fleming’s coopering skills and making wooden wheels, and the Fry girls (Verna & Florence) who hand mixed funnel cakes and made each tasty treat in a separate cast iron skillet. There people behind the scenes as well, such as Harry Bickel who brought his electrical skills to run wiring in our “new” food court and Ken Sutter who spent the festival weekend driving a tractor and collecting the trash at the event. We can’t forget Betty Schaeffer and Ruth Bechtel who sat in the Association booth selling merchandise and Hay Creek memberships.

Flash forward to 2016 — the Hay Creek Festival is proud to be the only major community event that preserves the crafts and trades of yesteryear. In fact, to this day we still offer the same festival activities that we started out with 40 years ago in Geigertown. Not only that

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What you Need to Know for this Year’s Festival

Maryanna VerMulm shows visitors how to prepare food in a Dutch oven. Maryanna will be featured on the 40th anniversary festival badge.

The 40th anniversary Hay Creek Festival will take place the weekend after Labor Day on September 9–11, 2016. Below are a few key items that you should be aware of to ensure having a positive volunteer experience.

Volunteer & Parking Passes – Festival exhibitors, interpreters, and festival help will be required to have volunteer and/or parking passes to enter the site. Your committee leader is responsible for getting this pass to you prior to the festival. At no time should you enter the festival without your pass and expect to get through the festival gates.

Parking Change – on Friday, September 9th the festival WILL NOT be offering offsite parking and shuttle service. All festival volunteers shall enter the site via Furnace Road which will be set up as a one way road from Route 10 to Weaver Road. All parking will be on the festival grounds Friday only! Offsite parking and the bus

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September Membership Meeting

The next Hay Creek General Membership Meeting will be held on Sunday, September 18th at 7 pm in the Joanna Furnace Mule Stable. Hay Creek members Jack Woods, Chris Mullen and Steve Witmer will be overseeing the program for the evening. After the program we will have a short business meeting and review the recent Hay Creek Festival.

Please bring a dessert to share with other Association members. See you on September 18th!

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Jack Woods (16-18)
Steve Witmer (15-17)
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Executive Director
Mark Zerr

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The Newsletter is an official publication of the Hay Creek Valley Historical Association and is published four times each year—March, May, July, & September. The purpose of the Hay Creek Valley Historical Association is to promote, within our community, an appreciation for our local heritage. This will be accomplished by maintaining and instructing in those crafts, skills and artifacts that represent our local heritage.

September / October Calendar of Key Events & Activities

(ONGOING event . . . Volunteer Day EVERY Thursday 9 am to 3 pm)

September

1 Christmas at Joanna Market Registration Deadline
6 Pre-Festival Set-up — 9 am
   Layout Festival Parking Area and Hang Parking Signs
   Clean-up Festival Food Stands
7 Pre-Festival Set-up — 8 am
   Prepare Food & Supplies for Festival
   Festival Delivery Day — tents, port-o-pots, etc.
8 Pre-Festival Set-up — 8 am
   Early American, Creekside Crafts & Engine Exhibitors Set-up — 9 am to 7 pm
   Cook & Peel Eggs for Soup, Cook Beans, Soak Apple Snitz

9-11 40th Anniversary Celebration Hay Creek Festival — 8 am to 5 pm daily
   Meet the Joanna Villagers — 10:15 am & 2 pm daily
   Pancake & Sausage Breakfast — Sat. & Sun. 8 to 11 am
   Celtic Martins — Saturday 7:30 to 9 pm.

11 Hay Creek Festival—Nondenominational Church Service — 9:00 am
   Special 9/11 Recognition — 12 noon
   Hay Creek Festival—Quilt Drawing — 4:30 pm

12 Hay Creek Festival Clean-Up Day — 9 am

18 General Membership Meeting & Program — 7 pm
   Attention Members—Please bring a dessert to share.

19 Girl Scouts Scarecrow Sewing

21 Make Apple Dumplings 8 am
22 Make Apple Dumplings 8 am

28 Board Meeting — 6:30 pm

29 Make Apple Pies—8 am
   Apple Festival Flea Market Pre-Registration Deadline

October

4 Apple Festival Flea Market Area Set-up—8 am
5 Apple Festival Set-up — 8 am; Delivery Day — tents, port-o-pots, etc.
6 Apple Festival Set-up — 8 am
   Make Apple Crisp — 8 am

7 Apple Festival Set-up — 8 am
   Cook & Peel Eggs for Soup, Cook Beans, Soak Apple Snitz
   Breakfast Preparation — Sausage to be delivered and cut-up
   Flea Market Registration & Vendor Set-up — 10 am to 7 pm

8 Hay Creek Apple Festival—7 am to 5 pm
   Apple Pancake Breakfast — 7 to 11 am
   Apple Dessert Contest—Registration 8 to 9 am

9 Hay Creek Apple Festival — 7 am to 3 pm
   Apple Pancake Breakfast — 7 to 11 am

10 Hay Creek Apple Festival Clean-up Day — 9 am

26 Board Meeting — 6:30 pm

SAVE THE DATE:
Christmas at Joanna — December 2-4, 2016
   Friday 5 to 9 pm / Saturday & Sunday — 4 to 9 pm
but each year our heritage event includes over 1,000 volunteers who come together to keep the history of the Hay Creek Valley alive!

However, the 40th anniversary Hay Creek Festival will show our festival visitors something different. Yes, we will still have all our favorites from the past but after four decades we will be presenting a new look to our festival attendees. Just like we gave our festival guests in 1980 when we moved from the Geigertown Fire Company to Joanna Furnace, this year visitors will notice our new appearance when they step onto our site.

Upon arrival to the Hay Creek Festival on September 9th, 10th & 11th visitors will immediately see our new Creekside Crafts as they cross over the footbridge. Thirty craft and antique vendors...some new...will be aligned along the creek selling their homemade crafts. Next to the Creekside Crafts will be the hit ‘n miss engines, tractors, antique cars and other engine attractions. Families will walk side-by-side and enjoy this updated exhibitor and vendor-filled area.

As visitors stroll through this area and pass by the threshing demonstration area they will immediately enter the Joanna Furnace Iron Works and Community area. Broom making, wheat weaving, and basket making demonstrations will now take place near the Blacksmith Shop. Festival guests will use these early American craft demonstrators as a starting point to visit the restored historic buildings and to lead the way to a hillside of additional tradesmen.

New this year will be a mansion impression where the ironmaster’s home once stood. Visitors will be able to meet the ironmaster and family to learn about his prominent home that sat on the hill in the 1800’s. Look for spinning and weaving in the parlor and a Windsor chair maker in the dining room. Behind the mansion impression will be a new laundress impression, lye soap making and a seamstress selling clothing.

The early American cooking area will now feature strictly food related demonstrations. These impressions include homemade butter making, bake oven demonstrations with freshly raised bread, open hearth cooked foods, and food preserving from the colonial to the Victorian period. Be sure to try our new period drink — shrub — in the open fire cooking area!

There will be more hands-on activities at our festival than ever! In addition to the archaeological “mud pie” adventure children, as well as adults, can now do fun chores at the festival. This includes visiting the Joanna Post Office booth and writing a letter, carrying a yoke with wooden water buckets, kneading bread, gathering herbs in the garden, delivering mail to a festival personality and playing early American games to name just a few. After the chore list is completed guests will be rewarded with a free wagon ride around the furnace complex.

To celebrate our fortieth event, the Hay Creek Festival will offer Saturday evening entertainment. Starting at 6 pm Rhythm and Thyme will perform on Bull’s Stage and the featured act—the Celtic Martins will perform from 7:30 to 9 pm. Admission is free to the Saturday evening entertainment. Food and drinks will be available for purchase.

Sunday morning at 9:00 am we will once again offer a non-denominational church service. This year we are honored to have the Reverend Carl Shankweiler who will oversee the service. Pastor Shankweiler was the minister who performed our first service back in 1976.

All of our delicious food court foods will return as well. This includes Mable’s kettle-cooked soups. A pancake and sausage breakfast will once again be served from 8 to 11 am on Saturday and Sunday of the festival.

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shuttle service will only take place Saturday and Sunday this year.

Volunteer Arrival — Due to the parking change on Friday, we are asking all exhibitors, interpreters and volunteers to be on site and have their car parked in the designated lot by 9 am. This is imperative as we will be closing the new driveway gate near the soup area at this time. Since we expect visitors to start arriving around 9:30 am on Friday we are asking volunteers to be in place and ready for our guests by this time.

Booth Setup — It is highly recommended that exhibitors and interpreters setup their booth on Thursday, September 8th between the hours of 9 am and 7 pm. During this time we will have volunteers available to help guide you to your location and answer any questions that you may have.

Booth Location — Please verify your booth location prior to the festival. Because of the changes to our festival this year don’t assume you will be situated and/or parked at the same place you were in previous years.

Supplies — Hay Creek interpreters and food staff who are in need of special supplies (tables, chairs, hay bales, fencing, etc.) must inform the organization by Monday, August 29th to guarantee that item for the festival. Please don’t show up the day before the festival and expect our helpers to locate certain supplies for you.

We are ALL Volunteers! — Keep in mind all of our festival helpers are volunteers. Please be courteous and respect what our helpers and festival signs tell you to do. This is necessary to help expedite your entry onto the site and assist with your exhibit set-up. If you have a question about something please ask one of our festival leaders.
Reproduced below is a summary of the November 10, 1976 article written by President John Fleming for the organization’s newsletter. Here John highlights the success of the first Hay Creek Festival.

The organization has grown to nearly one hundred members. I can no longer contact you by phone as in the past so letters will be sent out when possible.

We are pleased with the success of our first reunion September 10th and 11th. Most of you were there. But for those that weren’t, you missed a good show.

I want to thank all the committees and all the exhibitors for a job well done. Some came from New Jersey, New York State, and Maryland. Those with steam engines deserve a special thank you – Leroy Shannauer with this 30 hp. Frick and Wellington Kohl Sr. with his Frick. Also those with antique cars, gas engines and crafts. The open fire cooking and bread baking added to the show.

The board of directors have set the same weekend in 1977 for our show – the 1st Saturday and Sunday after Labor Day – 10 am to 8 pm. Friday will be set up day. We are hoping to have an apple butter boil this year if apples are available by this date.

Emory Ritchie, chairman of wood crafts, has requested as many as possible to wear colonial costumes next year or proper garb for the year of the exhibit. This will add to the show.

The ladies have started another quilt. This year they are embroidering patches of local historic places. The ones I have seen completed are very nice. Millie Ritchie is the one to contact if you want to help.

Another project started for 1977. Wellington Kohl Sr., myself and son Kevin planted 2 ½ acres of wheat to thresh at our show. We used the 1920 Hart Parr. We must all hope for a good season. Some will be cut with a cradle and hand tied for pictures. The rest of the wheat will be cut with a binder.
Long Ago In The Hay creek Valley

Madeline Johnson (left) and Betty Geiger (right) make pie crusts for shoofly pies at the 1979 festival.

Bertha Stoltzfus stirs apple butter at the 1981 festival while Bruce Gross oversees the process. Melvin Kratz stirs the kettle on the far right.

Heber McGowan (left) and Karl Knauer (center) operate the sawmill in 1981.

Roland Johnson (right) shaves wood on the “schnitzelbunk” and shows festival guests how to make wooden buckets.

Festival at Geigertown Draws 5,000 Persons

Ruth Kurtz (right) oversees candle dipping at the 1981 festival at Joanna Furnace. Note the Charcoal Barn ruins in the background.
Darrell Gibble (left) demonstrates the two man pit saw at the 1986 festival.

In 1988 D.J. Shirey uses a Frick steam engine to power the sawmill.

In 1990 Anna Whitman peeling an apple at our festival. Anna started our Open Fire Cooking presentations at the second festival in Geigertown.

After the flood of 1987 volunteers constructed a footbridge over the Hay Creek to allow visitors an entrance into our festival.

A special commemorative postage stamp was issued by the Geigertown Post Office in September 1988.

Anna Whitman peeling an apple at our 1990 festival. Anna started our Open Fire Cooking presentations at the second festival in Geigertown. To this day we still make and serve her authentic Apple Pot Pie, Apple Fritters, Irish Potatoes, and Chomp recipes at the Hay Creek Festival.

Cooking chicken broth for the 1989 Hay Creek Festival, Mable Sparr stewing chicken for her popular soup. In 25 years her family has generated over $250,000 in soup revenues.

Wilbur Lutz rests on his 1939 Cletrac tractor. At one time he had close to 40 Cletracs on his farm and would bring a sampling of his collection to our annual festival.

After the flood of 1987 volunteers constructed a footbridge over the Hay Creek to allow visitors an entrance into our festival. Prior to this visitors would arrive on site via old Furnace Road and begin their visit in front of the Mule Stable.
James Kohl (left) stands with his Charcoal diorama exhibit at the 1988 festival while Pearl Webb (right) checks out his work. Mr. Kohl’s display is now encased and on permanent display in the Charcoal Barn.

Quilt chairwoman, Annie Wolf sits at the 1994 festival and sews a few stitches. For the first 25 years our raffled quilts were entirely handmade by our members.

Modern crafts were a part of our festival since the beginning. In 1994 Richard Lilley sold his sand-blasted “etched” mirrors at the festival.

Patrons line up at Lloyd Osmun’s roasted peanut stand in 1998. Lloyd’s stand has always been a festival favorite.

Bob Geiger displays his engines at the 1996 event. Bob had a model straw-bale machine where he produced and sold the bales to visitors.

Schoolmaster David Hoffman shows children the art of calligraphy at the 1998 Hay Creek Festival.

Hands-on activities have always been a big part of our festival.
Thanks to everyone for making the raffle a success!

The quilt will be chanced off at the festival on Sunday, the Quilt Stand that is located under a tent next to the Flag Pole. The quilt will be chanced off at the festival on Sunday, September 11th at 4:30 pm. Thanks to everyone for making the raffle a success!

**Quilt Ticket Reminder**

If you haven’t turned your quilt tickets in yet, you are welcome to bring them to the Hay Creek Festival and turn them in at the Quilt Stand that is located under a tent next to the Flag Pole. The quilt will be chanced off at the festival on Sunday, September 11th at 4:30 pm.

**Greeters Needed**

We need volunteers to help with Bus Greeting and Ticket Checking at the Hay Creek Festival. The Bus Greeters will meet the busses and place a step at the bus’s exit (the step weighs about 20 lbs.). They will then greet visitors exiting from the bus, including helping with children, strollers, etc. The Greeters will direct the visitors to the entrance. At the end of the visits, the Greeters will again place the step at the entrance of the bus and aid the visitors in entering the bus. We would like to have two Bus Greeters on duty for each two-hour shift.

The Ticket Checkers will be stationed at the base of the entrance bridge to check volunteer passes. The Ticket Checkers will direct visitors who hold complimentary passes to the Ticket Booth. Again we would like two people per two-hour shift.

**Garb Pick-Up**

Attention members, if you reserved garb from our loaning closet for this year’s festival be sure to pick up your items on Thursday, August 25th or on Thursday, September 1st.

Please contact Nancy Eggleston at 610-404-7278 for questions or to make other arrangements to pick up your garb.

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**Festival Volunteers Needed**

The Association needs over 1,200 volunteers each year to put on the Hay Creek Festival in September. As a member we ask that you step forward and reserve 2 or 3 hours in your personal schedule to give our main fundraiser a hand.

Here is where volunteers are needed:

- Antique Cars — Dave Beideman — 610-582-2257
- Antique Tractors — Dan Mitchel — 610-286-6742
- Apple Cider — Rudy Rosenberger — 610-458-3829
- Archaeology — Cathy Spohn — 610-678-1724
- Association Stand — Sandra Smale — 610-286-9280
- Breakfast (Servers & Dining Help) — Caroline Lee — 610-670-0098
- Casting — Jack Woods — 717-687-7571
- Civil War Encampment — Dave Culp — 610-856-7390
- Creekside Crafts — Mark Zerr — 610-286-0388
- Early American Crafts — Susan Gibble — 610-286-6187
- Engine Area (registration booth) — John Keithly — 610-327-0656
- Entertainment — Jeremiah Wright — 610-463-4040
- Food Preparation & Sales — Linda Ott — 610-856-7668
- Funnel Cakes — London Hain — 610-582-8544
- Gate & Bus Greeting — Jenifer Sparr — 610-732-0064
- History (interpreters) — Mark Zerr or Nancy Eggleston — 610-286-0388
- Open Fire Cooking — Maryanna VerMulm — 610-777-2044
- Mechanical Technology Building — John Fleming — 610-582-4938
- Membership — Sylvia Loughery — 610-740-4892
- Root Beer Floats — Linda Ott — 610-856-7668
- Saw Mill — Wayne Ramer — 610-469-6658
- Schnitz Un Knepp — Olga Hoffman — 610-856-1174
- Soda Stand — Teresa Kuhar — 610-286-6595
- Soup Stand — Susan McMullen — 610-286-9221
- Threshing — Jim Molleca — 610-582-4776
- Wagon Rides — James Molleca — 610-582-4776
- Women of Joanna — Nancy Eggleston — 610-404-7278
- Woodworking — Emory Ritchie — 610-286-9196
- Quilt (selling raffle tickets) — Susan Gibble — 610-286-6187
- Ticket Booths — Tammy Schaeffer — 484-955-1970

If you are volunteering for the first time and don’t know anyone in the organization you are welcome to ask one of your friends to volunteer with you. Remember ... when you volunteer... you not only help our community event but also you get into the event for free!
Hay Creek Festival Entertainment

Hang on to your hats folks! Or, maybe throw ‘em in the air! I dunno, you decide! Its gunna be a wild ride and great party! For forty years we’ve been gathering together as a community at this festival and remembering where we’ve all come from and how things used to be. This year we make a bit of history of our own as we push into another decade of doing this. You’ll see some changes all throughout the grounds. Bull's Stage, our "Town Square", and the most entertaining place on the grounds to be, is no exception. This year gather with us twice a day to "Meet the Joanna Villager", and step back in time and interact with and get to know our craftsmen and interpreters as they gather in our "town square" and tell you about who they are and what they do. You’ll have the chance to ask questions and find out more about all of them, then follow them back to their respected areas throughout the festival grounds to see more of what most interested you. This activity will take place at 10:15 am and 2:00 pm each day.

Also, new for this year we will be having a time of music and dancing at 2:30 pm each day and our demonstrators will be encouraging you to step back in time and participate by learning the steps of several 1800's era dances.

Our lineup this year is packed with old returning favorites and newcomers alike. Also at the stage you won't want to miss the civil war firing demonstrations and the antique car and tractor parade. There's really so much happening this year it’s hard to mention it all, but you can expect to see the Celtic Martins, Chris Ivey (a world record holding juggler), Marion Gehman and Friends, and our new performer of the year, playing on Sunday, a newly formed local bluegrass band that's causing quite a stir, "Grexin"!

We're also doing something that hasn't happened in a long time, evening music! As the festival winds to a close for the day on Saturday we will be opening up our bottom parking lot and encouraging visitors to come park onsite and enjoy music starting at 6:00 pm. At this time "Rhythm and Thyme" opens up our evening of music with some old jazz and classical standards. At 7:30 pm the Celtic Martins will go on for another hour or so to wrap up our evening with some of the finest toe tapping music around.

All three days this year are just jam packed with the best stuff we could think of and we can't wait to see you there and experience this festive 40th anniversary celebration with you!

The Celtic Martins will perform Saturday evening from 7:30 to 9 pm at the Hay Creek Festival.

Festival Casting Demonstration

Most volunteers and visitors have looked over the cast stoves in the Charcoal Barn. Some may be aware of how the stoves were made. Some may wonder how such detail in lettering and design were impressed into the iron. Surely not by hammer and chisel, but by pouring molten iron into sand molds with impressions made by wood patterns. These words probably did not present a clear picture of the process.

The Casting House has been made more ‘visitor friendly’ during the past year. The viewing platform has been extended, and the entry has a smoother transition from boardwalk to platform. A picket fence replaces the rope, increasing safety for the visitor. Recently constructed, well-balanced benches are available for seating. Permanent electrical power has been added, including spot lighting for the new molder’s benches, and a new crucible furnace.

New patterns have been made, based upon suggestion from visitors. We also hope to have a pattern in use made using 21st century technology – 3-D printing! A sales table has been placed inside the door to make it easier for visitors to obtain the castings made here at the Casting House at historic Joanna Furnace.

You may be aware that there are hundreds of volunteers here at Joanna, working at making this a superior historical site. There is a need for volunteers in the Casting House! Would you consider helping to make a sand casting – for a half day – or more? We’ll provide on-the-job training, and [dare I guarantee!] you will have fun!

Apple Festival Apple Dessert Contest

The 37th annual Hay Creek Apple Festival will again feature the Apple Baking Contest on Saturday October 8th. When the festival was started in 1980 the baking contest was a center of excitement as we searched out the best cook. In recent years the participation has declined and we would like to renew enthusiasm for the Apple Dessert Contest.

Both members of Hay Creek and non-members are encouraged to participate. Baked goods must be brought to the Baking Contest stand where the red curtains are hanging in the food court area between 8 and 9:30 am Saturday morning with the recipe attached. After judging the items will be cut into pieces and sold to benefit the organization. Categories are apple pie, cake, breads and cookies, desserts, and youth entries for ages 18 and under. All entries must have some form of apple used in the recipe. Boxed mixes should not be included in the ingredients. Presentation of the entry is important when judging the item. Prizes and/or recognition are awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners. The winners of the 2015 baking contest will be published in a cookbook and sold for $3.00 each.

Please bake your favorite apple recipe and bring it to the festival. Let’s make this an award winning year. Invite your friends and relatives to participate as well and come to the Apple Fest!
Become a Part of History ... Join our Volunteer Program!

Select one of the following membership categories:

☐ FAMILY MEMBERSHIP $30  ☐ INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP $20  ☐ INDIVIDUAL LIFE MEMBERSHIP $250

Name ___________________________________________________________ Address __________________________________________________________

City/State/ZIP __________________________________________________ PHONE ___________________________________________ EMAIL __________________________________________________

Birth date ____________ Occupation ___________________________________________ Circle if Available on: DAYS EVENINGS WEEKENDS

Family Memberships:

Additional Member name __________________ DOB _______ Additional Member name __________________ DOB _______

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.

Can you help at events? Yes / No (Hay Creek Festival, Apple Festival, Christmas at Joanna, Saturday Breakfast)

Are you interested in helping at our Thursday work party days? Yes / No

Volunteers are needed in the following areas; please circle where you can help: Archaeology, History Tours, Mowing/Trimming, Scarecrow Sewing, Scrapbooking, Thursday Volunteer Lunch Preparation, Other __________________________________________________________

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.