

Citizen Honored at Brunch

The Solebury Township Historical Society was pleased to present the 2-15 Honored Citizen of Solebury award to **Stephen Raab**. Presented each year at the New Year's Brunch, the award recognizes residents, both present and past, who have favorably impacted the Solebury community.

As a resident of Solebury for over 40 years, Stephen Raab has forged deep ties to the community. From his tenure on the Planning Commission and the Solebury Township Board of Supervisors to his connection with the fields and woods of his farm, he knows Solebury inside and out and supports the community in ways large and small. He is currently (2015) chairman of the board of a family foundation set up by his father, Norman Raab.

Through the foundation Stephen has been a strong supporter of non-profits in our community. Many of these groups could not carry on the work that they do without the financial support of the foundation that he oversees. One such group that enjoys his support is Wrapping Presence, founded by Marne Dietterich, a winner of the Honored Citizens Award in 2010. Marne wrote the nomination for Stephen because she has seen the importance of his work first hand.

Besides Wrapping Presence, some of the local organizations that have received generous gifts from the Norman Raab Foundation at Stephen's direction are the Central Bucks Ambulance and Rescue Squad, the Anne Silverman Free Clinic that provides no cost health and dental care for those in need, the Bucks County Audubon Society, Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve, the Bucks County SPCA, the Bucks County chapter of the Network of Victims' Assistance, also known as NOVA, and of course, STHS.

Stephen piloted a program called Philanthropy Today in seven local schools. This program funds student-led Giving Clubs. New Hope-Solebury was one of the first schools to take advantage of this endeavor. The purpose of the program is to empower students to learn about their communities and the process of giving while at the same time benefitting from a collaboration venture with their peers.



Students make collective decisions about issues or needs they would like to address in their community. The Clubs then research non-profit organizations that address these issues or needs and make grants funded by the Norman Raab Foundation. The program empowers and teaches youth while directing needed funds to local organizations. Stephen continues to be active with this program by going into the schools, engaging with the students, and being a great role model for these impressionable youths.

Do you know someone who you feel is worthy of being considered to receive the Honored Citizen of Solebury Award? Check our website or call 215-297-5091 for a nomination form.

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What famous Solebury "watering hole" remained loyal to the crown during the Revolution?

Answer on page 3

President's Message

Hello Society Members.

As we shiver our way through this cold winter, the Society has many plans to keep us warm and excited as we look to our future. At the onset of 2015 our Board has been transitioning with Donneta Crane stepping down from her position as President. I personally want to thank her for her many years of dedication as a very active board member. During her tenure she oversaw the acquisition of the schoolhouse to provide a long lasting home for the Society and the much needed renovations to keep this historic building in good shape for many years to come. When you think about Solebury Township Historical Society you can't help but recognize Elaine Crooks, a woman who has been on the board longer than any of us. She is our advisor of how things were done in the early days of the Society, as well as being a great Treasurer and Membership Committee Chair. This year she decided to step into the position of Secretary and step down as treasurer to make way for Brian Booth of Rockwood Wealth Management located in Solebury to take over as Treasurer. We are so happy to welcome Brian to the board.

Webster's dictionary describes progress as "moving forward or onward" and also as "to move forward toward completion, a goal etc." Now that much of the renovations to the schoolhouse have been completed, our committee chairs are focusing their efforts on the Society's goals. Archivist Judy Clarke and her team Rita Flack, Marilyn Lanctot, and Gwen Davis have been focusing on properly cataloging and storing our archival inventory. They have come up with an accessioning numbering system which is consistent with the way STHS map collection is accessioned. This is tedious work, but the progress they have made is enormous. They have also been working on our book collection and decided to use the standard library practice of alphabetizing by author within the newly consolidated categories.

Our Vice President Robert McEwan's Oral History committee has been working on some extremely exciting projects that will continue throughout 2015. Working closely with the Michener Art Museum, their tapes are being converted to discs and all will be posted to our website by the end of May. The Ranulph Bye interview is on our website and has been tremendously received having coincided with the Michener Museum's Bye exhibit. If you haven't had the chance to watch the two videos posted to our website from the Historic Carversville Society, take the time to do so as you won't be disappointed. The first is the full version of the Robert L. Green's Bucks County video from 1977, and the second is an interview of Ned Harrington. Looking to the immediate future, Robert has begun work on a new project centered on the disappearing Ingham Lake. This project will be ongoing, so tune in to watch it unfold.

Charlotte Zanidakis, our grants committee chairperson, is diligently working on applications for grants for some of our "building needs" and to continue our historical and educational programs. We so appreciate Charlotte's tireless patience in these efforts and are optimistic that the results will be rewarding. Marnie Newman Leasure, our education chairperson, is working on some

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Drawer 525 Solebury, Pennsylvania 18963 215-297-5091 info@soleburyhistory.org www.soleburyhistory.org

2015 Board of Directors

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> **Board emeritus** Joan Fitting Sally Jagoe Franca Warden

Welcome new **Board member**

Brian D. Booth was elected to the STHS Board at the November Annual Meeting and accepted the role of Treasurer. Brian, a Senior Partner of Rockwood Wealth Management, has 25 years of



experience in private wealth management. His focus is on helping people make smart decisions about money. He has significant expertise in the areas of asset management, financial, retirement and estate planning, banking, trust and fiduciary matters.

Before launching Rockwood Wealth Management with his partners, Brian was the Managing Member of the Booth Advisory Group, which was a comprehensive wealth management firm based in Newtown, PA. His prior experience includes working with privately-owned trust companies as well as with some of the largest private banks in the country, operating in New York, Boston and Philadelphia. He received his Bachelor of Arts from Rutgers University and did his graduate work was at Fordham University in Manhattan, Boston University School of Management, before receiving his Masters of International Business from the Edinburgh Business School, UK.

Brian is President Emeritus of the Princeton Committee on Foreign Relations, a member of the Foreign Policy Research Institute and the Union League of Philadelphia. He is the past Chair for the American Cancer Society's Newtown Relay for Life and an avid sportsman. He and his wife Helen live in Bucks County with their two sons.

We are very pleased to welcome Brian to the Board.

A new twist to our Open House SAVE THE DATE: April 12

Each April the Society welcomes members and non-members alike to our annual Open House at the historic Solebury schoolhouse. It's an opportunity for folks to see what's new in our library; there's lots new this year. We acquired several important collections during 2014. Our volunteer archivists have worked diligently to catalog these items, and the archivists will be on hand at the Open House from 2 to 4 p.m. to guide you in your explorations. There will be lots of delicious refreshments for your enjoyment.

Then at 4 p.m. we are proud to present the first in this year's educational programs; an illustrated presentation on the role of the 128th Pennsylvania Infantry in the Civil War. These volunteer Infantry men came from the counties of Bucks, Berks and Lehigh. They enlisted in August 1862 for nine months in response to the fear of invasion of the North by the Confederate Army. Entering the battle of Antietam in Maryland after one month's service, they had very little military training and paid with heavy casualties. By the battle of Chancellorsville, Va. in May 1863 they were fully trained soldiers and possibly were the catalyst in the friendly-fire shooting of Confederate General Stonewall Jackson. Their full story has not been told and deserves to be known.

Our speaker will be Paula Gidjunis. Paula is a retired middle school Social Studies teacher and currently works as a bookkeeper for JPG Photography in Philadelphia. She serves on the boards of the Historical Society of Montgomery County, the Delaware Valley Civil War Round Table and chairs their Preservation Committee. She has a BA in History/Education, a certificate in Historical Preservation, an M.B.A. and recently earned her M.A. in History from LaSalle University.

Plan to join us for the afternoon of April 12. This event is open to the public and free of charge.

Many of our important documents and maps are now protected with archival sleeves, folders and boxes. During 2014 your Society invested over \$2000 in these archival materials. Now important historic documents, maps and photographs will be preserved in their current condition for future generations.

History Quiz

Answer: The Black Bass

Impression-*sips*!

Laughter resounded from within the schoolhouse on January 25 when a group of 20 would-be artists tried their hand at replicating a painting by Bucks County artist George Sotter. The first in a new 3-part BYOB (Bottle, not Brush!) art lessons sponsored by the Society was a smashing success.

The brainchild of Development Chair Melody Hunt, the afternoon provided an opportunity for participants to create their very own masterpieces based on Sotter's "Moonlit Bucks County." Everything needed to produce the painting was provided by the Society thanks to our sponsors, Freeman's of Philadelphia and Tinsman Bros. Building Materials of Lumberville. Local artist/ designer Sandra Vallely provided guidance as the art was created. Manoff's Market of Solebury supplied the apples, cheese and cider. And thanks also to Will Tinsman and Bill West for clearing the snow from the sidewalk and helping set up.

In keeping with the Society's educational mission, Melody gave an informative account of Mr. Sotter and his artistic contributions to Bucks County and indeed the world.

You have one more opportunity to join the fun.

On March 15 from 2:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. participants will paint a spring scene inspired by Fern Coppedge's Red Bud Time. Coppedge is beloved by many for her wild use of color, her inventive perspective, and her lively, dancing trees. Her painting Red Bud



Time has it all and explodes with the joy of spring! By March we should all be ready to give something similar a try!

Each session is limited to 20 people. Visit soleburyhistory.org today to sign up for one or both of these events (\$50 pp).



The January participants show off their art works.

STHS teams with the Michener Art Museum

The STHS oral history team has been working with James A. Michener Art Museum archivist Pam Sergey to translate their archives of Oral History tapes to both organizations' websites. The Michener Art Museum (MAM) has about 50-60 histories of various subjects, primarily concentrated on Bucks County artists, many of whom were (of course!) Solebury Township residents. The project is in mid stream (February 2015) however in December 2014 we discovered a Ranulph Bye interview from long ago that coincided with the museum's current exhibition of his paintings. The following Intelligencer news article, which appeared in a slightly different form in the Bucks County Herald, brought the exhibition and STHS's archive program to public notice. STHS' project team has enjoyed serendipitously uncovering this past and present voice.

Oral history project discovers Ranulph Bye recording

A recording of a 1985 radio interview with famed Bucks County painter Ranulph Bye has been digitized, thanks to the efforts of the Solebury Historical Society.

Robert McEwan, project manager for the historical society's oral history program, said the half-hour interview coincides with a Bye exhibition on display at the James A. Michener Art Museum in Doylestown through March 1.

Working with Michener archivist Pam Sergey, McEwan and a small staff of Solebury history buffs transferred the old cassette tape recordings onto CDs "so all people could hear them," he said.

The radio broadcast features Bye describing a similar show that brings his artwork, painting techniques and iconic themes to life, said McEwan.

During the exhibition at the Michener, docents are conducting tours in a way that seems as if Bye is actually teaching.

To hear Bye's May 15, 1985, interview with then-WBUX radio host Louise Collins, visit <u>http://soleburyhistory.org/ranulph-bye-3</u>.

The third Bye interview on the site is a promotion for an exhibition. It's the clearest and most helpful interview of the three in the Solebury collection, according to the historical society, as the artist talks about why he chose watercolor as his primary medium, the techniques he used during his painting, and why he chose two of the major themes of his later works: railroad stations and Victorian house architecture.

Bye was born in 1916 in Princeton, New Jersey, and made his home in Holicong.

Considered one of the country's leading watercolorists, the painter found great inspiration in the natural beauty of Bucks County.

Freda Savana February 2, 2015 Reprinted with permission from the Doylestown Intelligencer,

Join our dynamic team

STHS offers many opportunities to become involved with this growing local organization. You will get to know some wonderful people while serving your community and having lots of fun. Do you enjoy giving parties? If so perhaps you'd like to become involved with one or more of the society's social or educational events. Do you like to write, or take photos? We could use that help also.

Just call "president" Stephanie at 215-595-7402 to talk to her about the many ways you can fit into our organization.

Giving Tuesday Scholarship Campaign a strong success

The Society embraced a new challenge during the final weeks of 2014. We joined a growing national movement known as Giving Tuesday, the Tuesday after Thanksgiving when folks are encouraged to give to their favorite charity. We focused our efforts on funding the Ned Harrington Scholarship Fund. Our goals were to not only fund the scholarship awards at the past level of \$1500 but to see if we could increase the size of the award. In addition we wanted to raise awareness of STHS via the media around Giving Tuesday and in general motivate our members and the community in a new way.

We are very pleased to announce that STHS actually exceeded our \$2000 goal. In addition we had almost 15% of our members make a donation, which we understand is a strong sign of vitality in the first year.

We extend special thanks to our major donor, The Haley Foundation, who came in with a vital contribution based on their good will and our good community participation. So the lessons are: We can do it! We have to shoot for even greater member participation in 2015. And it was a fun campaign to join.

Special thanks to the members of the (hastily) arranged committee : Donneta Crane, Beth Carrick, Charlotte Zanidikas, Marnie Leasure and Robert McEwan. Extra thanks to Donneta and Beth for the old-time photos posted in emails each Tuesday running up to the event.



Addison Wolfe Real Estate 550 Union Square, New Hope PA 18938 t 215.862.5500 Ext.190 c215.595.7402 f 215.862.4290



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Addison Wolfe Real Estate

Solebury brings in the New Year — in fine fashion

The tradition continues: for the 14th consecutive year, the Solebury Township Historical Society sponsored a New Year's Brunch. For many of the 125 guests, the Brunch has become an important part of their holiday traditions.

If you would like to help make this event happen again next year, please contact Stephanie Garomon, 215-595-7402. info@soleburyhistory.org.

Sephanie Garomon (left) the newly elected Society president presented outgoing president Donneta Crane with a handmade birdhouse that looks amazingly like our one-room schoolhouse.



Brunch Sponsors

Addison Wolfe Real Estate Bountiful Acres First National Bank & Trust Company of Newtown

Silent auction & raffle donors

1740 House Angel's Cards and Gifts C'est La Vie Caleb's Carversville Centre Bridge Centre Bridge Dot Bunn Duck Soup Eagle Diner Alex Fraser Four Seasons Car Wash Giuseppe's Holly Hedge Estate Linda Kenyon New Hope Auto Show New Hope Pet Center New Hope Winery Pudge Cakes Salon Gratitude Square One Pub Tuckamony Farm Via Ponte Ristorante





Linda Kenyon (right), chair of the New Year's Brunch, with guest Pearl Minzer.

Former STHS president Sally Jagoe (right) with former Board member Franca Warden.





(l-r) Melody Hunt, STHS Development chair; Marie McEwan; Robert McEwan, STHS VIce President; Bill Tinsman.



Kevin Morrissey takes a chance on one of the many raffle items. The raffle and silent auction help make up the difference between our costs for the brunch and the ticket revenue.

Most photos taken by Carol Ross, Bucks County Herald

SWEEPINGS by Ned Harrington

Township historian Ned Harrington left us with a number of one-page historical tidbits. Occasionally we will print one in the Chronicle; they're always informative and amusing.

OLD MAN ELOQUENT



John Quincy Adams has been under-rated by most historians. He was the son of John Adams, our second

president, and — like his father — was rather reserved, introspective, austere and forbidding. His one-term presidency, 1825-1829, was not a great success and he was not happy in the office; but he accomplished much of importance in the years before and after that time.

Born in 1767, at Braintree, Massachusetts, he was named after his great-grandfather Colonel John Quincy, a noted politician and militia officer. He matured to be five foot seven, about 175 pounds, with deep black eyes, balding in mid-life, and only fairly good health. He experienced depressions, often melancholy: which could be called Yankee characteristics. In all, not the back-slapping type, with family and friends.

But he was the most successful diplomat of his time's, filled with American history. He and. mother Abigail watched the Battle of Bunker Hill from Boston. At age ten, he accompanied his father to France, and soon became fluent in French. 'At age fourteen, he served as secretary to Francis Dana, minister to Russia; and then went with his father to the Netherlands, and learned to speak Dutch. Returning to America in 1785, after a spell of college in Holland, he attended Harvard, graduating Phi Beta Kappa in 1787. Following, he studied law' arid was admitted to the bar.

The young man was appointed by Washington to be minister to the Netherlands; and then served as minister to Prussia. During a spell in London, he met and married Louisa Catherine Johnson: the only first lady of foreign birth. They were happy, in a reserved way, and had three sons. George Washington and John Adams II turned out not good, the elder committing suicide and the younger dying young; but the third son, Charles Francis, became a well-known diplomat and author, and was the father of several other famous Adams men. All of the family were Unitarians, close to Congregationalism, and John Quincy was a regular church-attender. For years he kept a daily diary; and, during his presidency and after, he was noted for his early-morning swims In the Potomac River.

He served as a state senator, in 1807; and then was a senator in Washington, from 1803 to 1808, where he supported the Louisiana Purchase. From 1809 to 1814, he was minister to Russia, appointed by President Madison, and was a good friend of Czar Alexander. In. 1814, he was the chief negotiator of the Treaty of Ghent, ending the unfortunate War of 1812 with Britain. In 1817, he became Secretary of State under President Monroe, and concluded a treaty that acquired Florida and set straight the boundaries of Louisiana. Most famously, he was author of the Monroe Doctrine, fending off European interference in the New World. Reluctantly, he ran for president, in 1824, and was elected by a whisker with support from Henry Clay: whom he then made Secretary of State, and was unfairly accused by some of having made a deal. Having served the one term, John Q. was defeated by Andrew Jackson: a new era of Scots-Irish domination, replacing the easterners.

Afterwards, he was persuaded to serve in the House of Representatives (the only ex-president so to do), and for years valiantly fought against slavery and in defense of the Constitution. He also became famous for successfully obtaining acquittal for the slaves who had commandeered the ship Amistad in a mutiny, winning them freedom. He died with his boots on, in the Capitol, from a massive stroke, age eighty; buried at Braintree (now Quincy), with family members. An exemplary life.

President's letter

(continued from front page)

educational activities in 2015. Coming this spring Marnie has organized a Civil War lecture on the afternoon of our Open House, April 12.

Melody Hunt Tinsman, our Development/Fundraising Chairperson, has had an exciting January with the success of her fundraiser, "Painting with the Impression-*Sips*" Part 1. It was a sold out event and tons of fun! Someone said the schoolhouse sounded like a bunch of kids in recess with all of the laughter from the participants! Part 2 is in February and Part 3 is in March. Check our website for registration details.

I am reminded of the importance of our mission here at Solebury Township Historical Society, where we are dedicated to promote an appreciation of Solebury's history. We cannot do this without your support. So, please accept my sincere thanks to you for our successes thus far: thank you for supporting us through your membership, by visiting our one-room schoolhouse, for attending our programs, and for telling your friends and family about us. As we move forward to reach our goals this year, I would ask you to think about supporting this organization by volunteering. Our all-volunteer board works very hard to enrich the lives of our community and can always use more help from our valued members. Make history matter.

With Best Regards,

Stephanie Garomon, President

In Memoriam

In January we lost two long-time Solebury residents. We remember them for their important contributions to the township over many years:

Thomas James "Jim" Lockhart

Esther Goss

The **advertisers** in the *Solebury Chronicle* help offset the cost of producing the newsletter. These are local businesses, and we urge your patronage.

(Call 215-297-5091 or email info@soleburyhistory to place your ad in the next *Solebury Chronicle*.)

With gratitude . . .

Joe Arbeiter

Members are the backbone of our organization. We are deeply appreciative of the support of the residents listed below who have renewed their membership or joined the Society **since the last news-letter.**

Marianne Bender Steven Cohen and Pamela Blake Brian Booth Franta Broulik James and Rhea Brown The Brussock Family Patrick Pastella and Kanitha Burns Margo and Harold Busund Richard Carlson John and Carol Carpenter Bob and Dotty Carr Thomas and Jenny Carroll Frank Chicarelli Carol Church and Gary Wilmore Judith Clarke Tim and Millena Coffey Paul and Mary Cosdon Frank and Patty Cosner Crabtree-Brennan Land Consultants Anna Burbank and David Cramer Stephen and Donneta Crane R. Scott Creighton Leslie Crilley Suzanne Crilley Elaine and Malcolm Crooks Forrest Crooks Julie and Brian Davies Daniela Deluca Helen Devlin Marne Kies Dietterich Jack and Claire Donohue Sally Drayer Daniel and Mary Dupont Ruth Durnin John and Susan Eichert Phyllis and Gary Euler Michelle Fair Ernest B. and Barbara H. Feldgus Ronald and Shirley Felix Maria Fell Paula Fenger Geoffrey and Kathleen Fisher Joan and Don Fitting Paul and Rita Flack Eugene Fluehr Michael and Jean Fowler Patrick and Mary Fowles Carolyn Fox Bruce and Sheryl Fredendall Clifford Funk Stephanie Garomon Pamela Burrell and Peter Gatto Phil Getty David and Connie Gillis Wendy and Eugene Gladston Lewis Baratz and Guy Glass Alison Gross Joseph Gross and Jessica Allen Star and Peter Grover Lola and Robert Haddow Jane Hallett Natalie Hamill Sharon Anderson and Walter Hauck Peggy and Bill Hecht Lynn Hoffman Nancy and Burt Holland Barbara Housley Robert and Sally Huxley Bruce Imber

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(continued)

Don Wilson Mike and Ruth Ann Wilson Patricia Witlicki Robert Beck and Doreen Wright William Yandle Ted and Charlotte Zanidakis Edward Zekas Roy Ziegler and Charles Tarr Judy Zipkin-Grasso Every effort has been made to publish a complete and accurate list of memberships received since the last newsletter (October) and up to about February 10, 2015. We regret if there are any omissions.

Support our Business Members

We are most grateful for the support of the local business community and encourage you to patronize these fine businesses:

Steward

Addison Wolfe Real Estate Bountiful Acres First National Bank & Trust Company of Newtown Rockwood Wealth Management

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Delray Plus True Value Mancuso Show Management Nakashima Woodworkers

Highlighting a Business Member

(In each issue of the Chronicle we will highlight one of our business members.)

Bountiful Acres has been a Bucks County landmark since 1955. Starting as a roadside produce market, Bountiful Acres has evolved into a premier garden center and nursery covering six beautiful acres. They stock quality nursery and garden plants, garden supplies, tropical and indoor foliage plants, aquatic plants, statues, furniture, fountains, soils and mulches. They also provide professional landscape design and installation.

Bountiful Acres takes great pride in being a multiple award-winning exhibitor at the Philadelphia Flower Show. They are also professionally recognized by organizations such as the Pennsylvania Landscape and Nursery Association, Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, Master Nursery Garden Centers, and National Association of Remodeling Industry.

> 5074 York Road, Holicong, PA (215) 794-7043 www.bountifulacres.com

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Solebury Township Historical Society Drawer 525 Solebury, PA 18963 Nonprofit Org. US POSTAGE PAID Doylestown, PA Permit No. 640

Upcoming Events

March 15, 2 - 5 p.m. Art Series Spring Scene inspired by Fern Coppidge's *Red Bud Time*

April 12, 2-4 p.m. 4-5 p.m.	Annual Open House Civil War presentation
August 30 New location!	Annual Summer Picnic
September 26	STHS Repeats Dinner
November 15	Annual Meeting

Visit soleburyhistory.org for details closer to the dates. STHS members will receive invitations to all events.

Wish List

The schoolhouse is now hosting events (Impression-sips!) as well as regular meetings. For the forthcoming education events we are still looking for donations of any and all of the following items which you may have in "extra storage" and are willing to donate!

Pull down screen for projection

Speaker's lectern

Audio system for a speaker

Reasonably working portable or laptop computer

And of course for our storage needs we are still looking for some decent steel shelves and fairly large flat-screen television.

Many thanks for thinking of STHS in your spring cleaning.



Early photo of Ingham Spring in Solebury. More about this spring in the next newsletter.