

To:

Solebury Township Historical Society
September 4 2013 - Board Meeting
Archives Report

from:

Jean Fitting - Archives Director
Gwen R. Davis - Archives Assistant

Prior to August, there has been little activity at the school house but, more visitors and inquires now.

The annual picnic, held at member Linda Kenyon's unique property was superb!! The Mexican motif, food and spirited drinks added to the very successful day.

A new \$1000 Supporting membership was received, in addition to a few renewals, and interest in researching their property for purchase of our plaque.

At our recent Open House, New member, Doug Shapiro expressed interest in becoming a →

more involved in our various programs. Robert McFar met Doug at the picnic and discussed what is available. Robert is the Committee Chair of the Education Department.

A suggestion:

As 9 out of 10 people arrived at the gate, they were unaware of the \$5.00 charge per person and had to return to their cars for cash or checks. Also, it would be most helpful if a second person could assist as needed. Also, large print on post card of charge.

See attached article by member - Jim Seering, Township Supervisor.

OPINION & Editorial



Solebury will hold on to Roeser land

I'm happy to hear that rumors the Roeser property might be sold are not true and that my colleagues on the Solebury Township Board of Supervisors are in favor of holding onto the land and preserving it.

This land is fundamental to the history of our township. It was originally purchased by John Scarborough, one of the earliest settlers, in 1702. He owned what was called Lot 10 ... consisting of 590 acres.

His father grew up in the same town in England as the Paxsons ... also among the earliest settlers. The name of the town in England that they all came from? Soulbury, in Buckinghamshire.

The Roeser property is some of the most beautiful land in a beautiful township. As a community, we should be looking at how to use this treasure, this land. At a minimum, we should be thinking about how to restore the agricultural heritage of the land, and how to make it accessible to people of all ages for passive recreation.

- Would it be so difficult to lay out a path structure and enlist volunteers from across the community?

- I've been to places where the destination is a landmark, even something as simple as a large rock. Would it be so difficult to make a destination somewhere in these 80 acres, such as a large rock,

an impressive tree, a historic landmark, or an observation platform?

- Would it be impossible to have a sustainable agriculture program for this property or space for a community farm?

- Is it inconceivable to think that we could make some of the land that our citizens have worked so hard to preserve, and spend our precious tax monies on, to make that land a public asset that we all can access, experience, and enjoy?

This land is our land. Let's work together to wisely preserve and use this land, our citizens' land, now, for us and for future generations.

Jim Searing
Solebury Township Supervisor