

Archive Report October, 2015

We had several visits in September.

David Scarborough spent a fruitful afternoon researching his 7th great-grandfather, John Scarborough (late 17th-early18th c) finding not only extensive written material about the Scarboroughs, but maps of their land holdings in Solebury Township.

Lulu DeVries, a friend of Constance Clarke who died this past June, was brought by Robert Clarke to look up her 1940s school records for her classes in the one-room school. Lulu was quite captivated by the school room itself and by the scrapbooks about STHS.

Donations:

From the estate of Clarence Overpeck, what appear to be school financial records. They just arrived and we have not had time to really see what is there.

Janice Worthington and her cousin, both of whom went to school here in the school house, donated a small chair, first grade size, with good provenance, and a photograph, taken on the front steps c. 1915 and a list of as many of the students as they could remember—among them the fathers of Janice and her cousin.

CCHA visit: On September 30, we were audited by Dyani Feige and Tamara Talanski from CCHA (Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts) They sat down with Robert McEwan, Marilyn Lanctot and me and we all went through the major preservation issues covered in the pre-survey questionnaire, focusing on collection storage, and building infrastructure and safety. After lunch, attended by several board members as well, we inspected the various areas including the basement. This audit will pinpoint our building and archive needs and how we can better preserve our collections. They suggested several things we can do before the report comes out in the spring of 2016: be specific in defining the scope of our collections, think of future projects, make emergency information, ie list of board members, list of contractors, such as plumber and electrician, readily available.

Beth Carrick suggested that STHS should not subscribe to Ancestry, which is expensive, but should use the library's free copy. That we probably would not have enough use to warrant the cost.

Cushions for the chairs. As anyone who has sat in one for more than an hour, there chairs are torture. Having cushions will make any meeting, or discussion group much easier to take.