



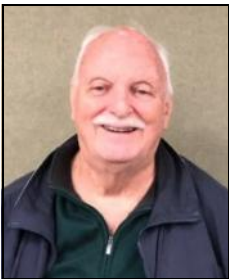
# THE SOUTH PARK HISTORIAN

A PUBLICATION OF THE SOUTH PARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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## Interesting Programs



Thanks to Dick Gaetano for his engaging presentation at our March 15th meeting. Dick informed us about the life of P. T. Barnum and the unusual people and items that were procured for his museum and circus. In addition, the program included information about Joice

Heth, a black woman who was supposed to be 161-years-old and was the nurse to George Washington, Jumbo the Elephant, General Tom Thumb, and “The Swedish Nightingale,” Jenny Lind.



Noreen Beatty presented a very interesting program on the “Boats on the River” at the April 19th meeting. Many photographs of the various boats that made trading and commerce possible in the early years illustrated Noreen’s presentation. She also explained the

different types of boats, from canoes, flatboats, and sailing vessels, to steam paddle boats. Everyone enjoy the program tremendously.

At our May meeting, Society members and guests displayed numerous items for the “Show and Tell” program. Some of the items were a baseball autographed by Pie Traynor, a rare indenture document, an antique cabbage slicer, newspaper article connecting Harry Houdini and the Bureau of Mines, a rare town crier’s list announcing the death of John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, vintage gold cigarette case, artist-painted saw depicting Montour No 10 mine, and many other interesting items. All items were accompanied with interesting stories and comments. The meeting was enjoyed by all who attended.

## Lions Club Donates Charter



On March 29, 2022, Drummond Beach, a South Park Lions Club member, donated the club’s original charter to the Historical Society. Accepting the charter is Board Member Ruth McKee. The charter is on display at the South

Park Historical Museum.

On June 30, 1960, The Lions Club of Library received its charter. In the 1980s, the Library Lions Club changed its name to South Park Lions Club.

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## Society’s Hiatus

A reminder to our members that the Society will be taking its summer hiatus in July and August. No meetings will be held during the hiatus. The museum is open to the public on the second and fourth Saturday of the month, from 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm. For more information, please see page 2.

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## A Good Book For Summer Reading

The South Park Historical Society has published two books about the history of our community: “*Historic Snowden Township (South Park Township)*” and “*History of Allegheny County’s South Park: Farm Lands to Park Lands.*”

The books are \$20 each (tax included) and can be shipped anywhere for an additional \$3.25. You can also pick up a copy at the South Park Township Library or by contacting the South Park Historical Society at 412-835-9529 or jimru@verizon.net.

## History Trivia Quiz

Here is a little trivia quiz about the history of our area. Consider yourself good if you answer 5 correctly. If you answer all correctly, you deserve a pat on the back..

1. What family built the Piney Fork Beach swimming pool in Snowden Township?
2. Daniel's store in Broughton was first called?
3. Before Library changed its name, what was it called?
4. What was the number of the Pittsburgh Coal Montour Mine in Library?
5. What is the name of the creek that flows through Broughton and Bruceton?
6. How many tipples did the Knothole Mine on Triphammer Road have?
7. William Hammel was the first to install what luxury item in his (West) Library home?
8. On February 3, 1926, there was a major mine disaster in this area. What was the name of this mine?
9. In addition to signaling the start of classes, what else was the bell at Stewart School used for?
10. In 1906, the Pittsburgh Railway Company built the interurban line that ran through Library. Where was its first and last stops?
11. The village of Epton's name was changed. What was it changed to?
12. In the 30s, what was the name of the lumber company in Broughton. It was located on the current site of Nativity Church's parking lot?
13. What year was the first Allegheny County Free Fair held in South Park?
14. After the purchase of 2,000 books for the newly-formed library at Loafer's Hollow, currently Library, PA, who was appointed the first librarian?
15. What year did the Bureau of Mines in Bruceton open?

Answers to Trivia Quiz:

1. Bastianini Family
2. Nathan's store,
3. Loafer's Hollow
4. No. 10
5. Lick Run
6. Two
7. The first bathroom with running water from the first artesian well drilled in Library
8. Pittsburgh Terminal, No. 4, Horning Mine
9. Depending on how many gongs of the bell, it signaled the changing of coal miners' shifts, or to alert everyone of a mine disaster
10. Pittsburgh to Charleroi
11. Snowden
12. Graham-Beerbauer Lumber Co.
13. 1933
14. John Moore
15. 1910

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### Multi-Year High School Reunion

Cheryl (Long) Haberstock is planning the Snowden/South Park High School Reunion and is letting everyone know that the deadline for reservations is **July 26th**. The event is scheduled for Friday, August 26, and Saturday, August 27, 2022. Please contact Cheryl Long Haberstock at [evacheryl@hotmail.com](mailto:evacheryl@hotmail.com) or 412-498-1546 for more information.

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### Open to Visitors



The community is invited to bring family and friends to see the vast displays of coal mining, railroads, schools, veterans, county fairs, sports, and much more at the museum.

The museum is open on the second and fourth Saturday of each month, from 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm, except for holidays. It is located at 6425 Pleasant Street, South Park, at the corner of the Port Authority Park and Ride parking lot.

If you are considering donating photographs, documents, or other archival material to the Historical Society's collection, please contact Ruth McKee, archivist, at 412-835-9529.

# ARCHIVED HISTORY

Pittsburgh Press  
April 30, 1937

## County Parks Open On Memorial Day

### North Swimming Pool May Not Be Ready

North and South Park will be opened to the public Memorial Day, according to plans announced by the County Commissioners. This will include the swimming pool in South Park and the new lake and dam in North Park as well as other recreations afforded at the county parks. There is some doubt at present whether the huge new North Park swimming pool will be completed in time for the opening day.

A squabble between plumbers and plumbers' helpers has developed wherein the plumbers charging \$1.50 per hour are demanding work on the pool that the contractors had planned to divert to plumbers' helpers who receive 80 cents per hour.

Henry Hornbostel announced yesterday that he will have several bowling greens available in both parks this year for the playing of "Bocce", an Italian bowling game similar to the ancient game of bowling on-the-green.

Permission for the Pittsburgh Pirates, professional football team, to train again in South Park this year between the dates of August 8 and September 5 was granted by the Commissioners.

Six tennis courts will be covered with a bituminous composition permitting play immediately after rains, Director Hornbostel said, after bids totaling \$6500 are advertised and let.

(Editor's Note: From Wikipedia, The 1933 Pittsburgh Pirates was the debut season of the team that eventually became the Pittsburgh Steelers. The team was founded after Pennsylvania relaxed its blue laws that, prior to 1933, prohibited sporting events from taking place on Sundays, when most NFL games took place. The new squad was composed largely of local semi-pro players Art Rooney became the Pirates owner, paying the NFL a \$2,500 fee to join the league. The team took the field for the first time on September 20 against the New York Giants at Forbes Field, losing 23-2.)

The Pittsburgh Press  
November 9, 1956

## County Rejects Snowden Request

The County Commissioners have turned down Snowden Township's request to use part of South Park as a municipal building site.

Commissioners John J. Kane, Howard B. Stewart and John M. Walker followed the recommendation of George B. McDonough, County parks director, by vetoing the Snowden request.

Mr. McDonough, at the Commissioners' meeting yesterday, said the tract of land that Snowden Township Supervisors want is on Sleepy Hollow Road.

The County should keep the tract, Mr. McDonough advised, because the area will be developed for added picnic and recreational facilities in South Park.

He also said the tract has a low elevation and would be impractical for a municipal building site.

This is the second time the Commissioners have said "no" to Snowden Township Supervisors.

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The Pittsburgh Press  
October 10, 1956

## County Commissioners Reject Snowden's Proposal

A Township street proposal was flatly rejected by the Commissioners.

Snowden had requested a County grant-in-aid to extend Pleasant Street, a road which dead-ends in the South Heights district.

Levi Bird Duff, County Works Director, said extension of the street would only benefit real estate developers. He said Pleasant Street never will become an arterial highway of interest or significance to the County.

## Membership/Renewal Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please check one of the following:

Individual Membership - \$15.00

Family Membership - \$20.00

Senior Membership (65 & over) - \$10.00

Student Members - \$ 5.00

Donation \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make check payable to:*

**South Park Historical Society**

**P.O. Box 555**

**South Park, PA 15129**

## Upcoming Meetings and events

June 21, 2022 - "It's About Time" with speaker and author Ken Kobus

July 19 - August 16, 2022 - Summer Hiatus

September 20 - "Genealogical DNA" with Deborah Morinello

October 18 - "Ask the Attorney—Estate Planning" with David Hyizdos, Esq.

November 15 - Pending

December 13 - Society's Annual Christmas Party

Meetings are held at 7:00 pm in the Library Fire Hall, 6581 Library Road, South Park, PA 15129.

Our meetings are held with no charge and open to the public. Bring a friend and enjoy an interesting program.

For more information visit us at:

[southparkhistoricalsociety.com](http://southparkhistoricalsociety.com)

Or on Facebook at:

[facebook.com/southparkhistoricalsociety](https://facebook.com/southparkhistoricalsociety)

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