



THE SOUTH PARK HISTORIAN

A PUBLICATION OF THE SOUTH PARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Volume 28, Number 4

November 2023



South Park Historical Society *Christmas Party* *December 12, 2023*



Library Fire Hall, 6581 Library Road,
South Park, PA 15129

Doors Open at 5:00 PM - Dinner Served at 6:00 PM

Festivities Include:

A Delicious Buffet Prepared by Cyd West - Comfort Catering:

Chicken Romano, Shrimp, Roast Beef Au Jus, Roasted Potatoes, Pasta Florentine,
Glazed Carrots, Green Bean Almandine, Traditional Salad, Rolls and Butter, Cranberry Punch,
Coffee and Tea, Dessert of Macadamia Nut, and Double Chocolate Cookies

Entertainer Comedian David Kaye of Slapsticks Productions

Raffles and Door Prizes

The party is a BYOB event

The party is open to all Society members and their guests.

Members - \$21.00

Guests - \$25.00

Date: _____

Check No. _____

Member's Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

No. of Guests: _____ (please include name/s on the back)

Total Amount Due - Member @ \$21.00 _____ Total Amount Due - Guests @ \$25.00 _____

For further information or concerns, call Ruth McKee at 412-835-9529

The deadline for reservations is December 3, 2023

Please return this reservation form with a check payable to South Park Historical Society and mail to:

**South Park Historical Society
P.O. Box 555
South Park, PA 15129**

South Park Community Day



(l-r) Rose Turzsk, Betty Klavon, Jean Brodt, Nancy Smith, Ruth McKee, Steve Tkach, Joy Marquis

At the South Park Community Day, on September 16, the Society enjoyed having many visitors stop at their booth. Their books were sold, and people signed up for new memberships. The Society received the second-place prize for their booth display, "Bringing the Blues."

Exciting Programs

The September 19 program was a fun-filled evening of "Show and Tell." Attendees brought very interesting items that they displayed and told a story about.



Mr. Thomas White, an adjunct professor, archivist, curator of special collections at Duquesne University, and author of 11 books, delighted us at the October meeting with stories of ghosts and legends of Western Pennsylvania. His outstanding presentation included stories of the old Quaker Church, the Black Cross, steel worker Jim Grabowski, and Green Man Tunnel. A lively discussion from attendees included ghosts of cemeteries, morgues, jail houses, and other ghost-related stories.



You won't want to miss the November 14 meeting. This much-requested program by Leonard Marraccini is "A Vanishing Piece of History-The Outhouse." Len's fun-filled informative presentation is the history of privies. His research also explores the involvement of the Works Progress Administration (WPA).

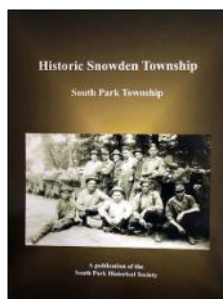
Special Notice of Membership Meetings

Please note a change of date for the Society's Membership Meeting, which will be Tuesday, November 14, at 7:00 PM in the back of the Library Fire Hall.

Also, for the safety of our members and guests, no meetings are scheduled during the winter months of January and February 2024. The museum will also be closed during these months.

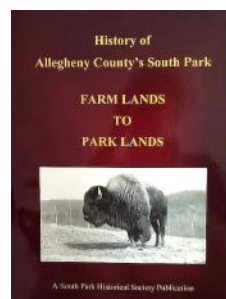
A Great Gift For Christmas !

The South Park Historical Society has published two books about the history of our community. The books contain hundreds of photos and information. It is a great history lesson for the young and a wonderful remembrance of earlier times for the older generation. The books would be a great Christmas gift for friends and family near or far.



Historic Snowden Township (South Park Township):
\$20

History of Allegheny County's South Park: Farm Lands to Park Lands: \$20



The books can be shipped anywhere for an additional \$5.00. You can purchase a copy at the South Park Township Library or by contacting the South Park Historical Society at 412-835-9529 or jimru@verizon.net.

A Friendly Reminder Membership Renewals Are Due

Our membership chairman, Marilyn Moore, reminds us that membership renewals are due. To renew your membership, please use the form on the last page of this newsletter. If your information hasn't changed, you may also just send a check to South Park Historical Society, Attn: Membership, P.O. Box 555, South Park, PA, 15129.

ARCHIVED HISTORY

The following is a page from the 1945 Snowden High School Aquila yearbook. It honors Snowden High students who were killed in action in WWII.

In Memoriam

Those of Snowden Township Who Have Made The Supreme Sacrifice.

James Armony	Robert Mathias
William S. Batelli	Arthur Mathies
Owen Bell	William E. Newhouse
Michael Bookie	Walter P. Ozesky
Frank M. Borchick	Milford Charles Prosser
Joseph Bruno	Joseph G. Slovak
Bernard Comis	Harold Simmons
Edward L. Drexler, Jr	Raymond B. Stump
Robert A. Kennel	Anthony Swatko
Albert Markiewicz	Leonard Wisniski
Eugene Mathias	

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
September 2, 1955

Horse Missing From the Fair

“A horse was missing from the Allegheny County Fair yesterday and County Police are fairly sure it didn’t pull up stakes and move on without help. There were two bronze-colored horses at the entrance of the park.”

“County Police found one of them riding around in the back seat of a snappy convertible with three GIs from the South Park anti-aircraft unit around midnight on Wednesday. The GIs said they found the horse in a ditch beside the road. Raymond G. Glynn, Northside display decorator, gave them till today to bring back or replace the missing nag. Wooden display horses are worth a lot of money, Mr. Flynn says.”

Pittsburgh Press
October 26, 1937

Bloodstained Clothes Found

South Hills Residents Probe “Murder Mystery”

“Discovery of a woman’s bloodstained clothing on an abandoned farm in a lonely section of Snowden Township - a “perfect spot for a murder,” neighbors describe it - has provided several South Hills communities with a puzzling mystery.”

“Works Progress Administration employees crossing Piney Fork Road discovered a bundle of clothing on the old Snee farm, abandoned 25 years ago.”

“The bundle included a woman’s blue hat, coat, two dresses and an undergarment. Each article was bloodstained.”

“About 100 feet away from the bundle was an abandoned well. Brush has grown over the five-foot well opening. But alarmed residents of the district found enough brush had been pulled away to allow passage of a body into the well pit, more than 50 feet deep.”

“Volunteer investigators found several hundred feet from the well, a bloodstained man’s jacket.”

“A checkup in Snowden Township, Broughton, Willock and other South Hills communities revealed no persons missing.”

“Residents are theorizing that a woman was killed, perhaps miles away, and her assailant drove until he found the lonely road where he threw out her clothing and possibly stuffed her body down the well.”

“The well has not been sounded, but stones and glass bulbs thrown into its depths indicate it contains no water.”

“The mystery first was revealed by Mrs. William Goodboy of Box 251, Willock. A WPA foreman was said to have turned over the bloodstained clothing to county detectives. Detectives are believed to be carrying on an undercover checkup.”

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

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South Park, PA 15129

Upcoming Meetings and Events

November 14, 2023 - Leonard Marraccini will present "A Vanishing Piece of History-The Outhouse."

December 12, 2023 - The Annual Christmas Party. Join us in celebrating the season at this great evening of fun, a wonderful meal, and outstanding entertainment.

January 16 and February 20, 2024 - No meetings are scheduled.

Meetings are held with no charge and open to the public, at 7:00 pm in the Library Fire Hall, 6581 Library Road, South Park, PA 15129.

For more information visit us at:
southparkhistoricalsociety.com or on
Facebook at: facebook.comsouthparkhistoricalsociety

The Museum Will Be Closed In January and February

Please Note: The Museum will be closed during the winter months of January and February 2024. It will reopen on March 9, 2024. The Museum will be 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.



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P.O. Box 555
South Park, PA 15129