

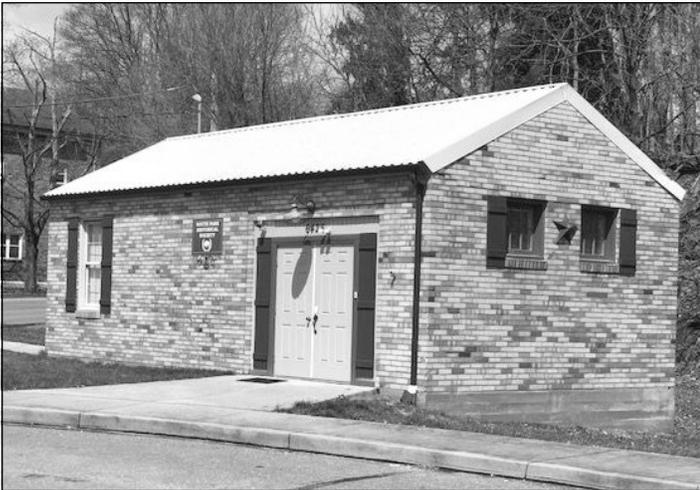


THE SOUTH PARK HISTORIAN

A PUBLICATION OF THE SOUTH PARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VOLUME 22, NUMBER 2

APRIL 2018



Museum Open To the Public

After years of construction, the museum will be open to the public and we hope everyone will come see the exhibits and artifacts. The May schedule is:

Wednesday, May 9 - 6:00 to 8:00 pm
Saturday, May 12 - 12:00 to 2:00 pm
Wednesday, May 16 - 6:00 - 8:00 pm
Wednesday, May 30 - 6:00 to 8:00 pm

MUSEUM GRAND RE-OPENING

The museum grand re-opening ceremony is scheduled for June 16th at 12:00 to 2:00 pm. We hope our members and guests will join us for this special occasion. The museum is located at 6425 Pleasant Street, South Park, PA, 15129. The event will include a brief ceremony and light refreshments will be served.

Museum Displays

A special thank you to Jean Brodt and her committee for their hard work and many hours of re-establishing the museum displays. The artifacts and photographs are outstanding.



South Park Historical Society

is presenting

The Fabulous Hubcaps



Saturday, May 5, 2018

at the

Library Fire Hall

The music is dedicated to the Rock' n Roll era and will lead you on a nostalgic journey. Since their beginning in 1974 they are the most sought after Oldies Rock'n Roll dance show in the country. You will hear many classics and see many of your favorite artists dressed in costume.



Open Seating - \$35.00/Person

**Limited Front Row Reserved Seating
\$50/Person**

Doors open - 5:00 pm Palate Pleasers from 5:00 pm to 6:45 pm

Performance from 7:00 pm until 10:30 pm

BYOB (Soft drinks and water will be available at a small cost)

Call Joan at 412-835-0946 for tickets.

**Proceeds will benefit the South Park
Historical Society Building Fund.**

SOCIETY BUSINESS

PROGRAMS



Bryan Cunning (left) and Clay Kilgore

An interesting program was presented to the members and guests at the March meeting by Bryan Cunning and Clay Kilgore. The subject of their program was “Digging in a Frontier Fort in Washington County” and was illustrated by a photos and maps. The men also discussed the many forts and their importance to the early settlers. historic The presentation also included the many artifacts they uncovered in their digs.

Vincent Ciaramella presented a very interesting program on “Cal Rodgers and the Vin Fiz” at our April meeting. The subject of his program was Cal Rodgers, a deaf pilot who was among the first aviators to learn to fly at the Wright Flying School in Dayton, Ohio. In 1911 he entered an air race and his sponsor was Armour Meat Packing Co. In his effort to promote their soft drink, “Vin Fiz”, he bought a biplane and named it “Vin Fiz.”

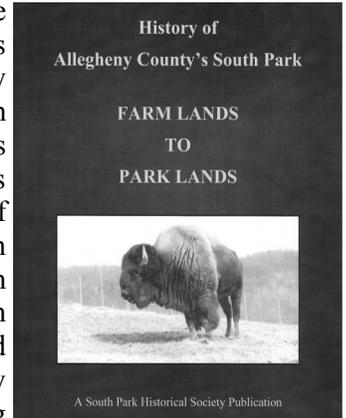


CORRECTION

In our March issue of the “Historian” we had a typo error. The November’s meeting date should have been November 20, 2018. Our meeting dates are always on the third Tuesday of each month, except for our Christmas party.

FARM LANDS TO PARK LANDS

Book Chairman Ruth McKee reports that the Society’s book, “History of Allegheny County’s South Park - Farm Lands to Park Lands” is selling very well. The book is a comprehensive history of South Park from its inception to current times. Illustrated in the book are photos from original houses, buffalo and Indian caretakers, military activities, maps, swimming



pools and sports, county fairs and much more. A detailed time line tells of the parks progress and additions.

The book is available at Society meetings or the South Park Township Library for \$20 (tax included) and can be shipped anywhere in the United States for an additional \$3.25. Books can also be ordered by calling 412-835-9529 or 412-655-4104 or email Ruth at jimru@verizon.net.

Thank you to our Members

The Society values our members and their support. A special thank you to all who renewed their membership this year. The benefits of membership include interesting monthly programs, free passes to the Heinz History Center, quarterly newsletters, Christmas party and other events, assistance with genealogy and historical research.

In Memory

Donald W. Taylor

The Society’s past-president, Don Taylor, aged 83, passed on April 5, 2018. His professionalism and tremendous support for the Society will not be forgotten. He will be greatly missed by all who had the honor to know him.

Don is survived by his beloved wife Janet of 60 years and his son Stephen Taylor, daughter, Beverly Kennedy and grandson Patrick Kennedy.

He was an Air Force veteran and retired as a Chief Master Sergeant with the Air National Guard.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

The Pittsburgh Press
August 12, 1932

SOUTH PARK POLO TEAM PLAYS TWICE

“The South Park Polo Club will meet the Robin Hoods in a two-game series tomorrow and Sunday at the South Park Field at 3 o’clock. To reach the scene of the games, take Library Road to Conn’s Service Station and bear left to the polo field. A two-game series has been scheduled at South Park between the South Park Polo Club and the Fox Chapel Polo Club.”

Daily Republican
June 24, 1907

BASEBALL AT FINLEYVILLE

“The Finleyville and Bruceton baseball teams met in an exciting contest at Finleyville on Saturday, which resulted in a victory for the home team by a score of 3 to 1. In the eighth inning a dispute arose over a blocked ball and the Bruceton team left the field.”

Reading Eagle
April 23, 1954

King of Buffalo Herd Gores Rival to Death

“Big Thunder, king of South Park's buffalo herd, early today gored to death his only rival. Herd keeper Thomas Turner said he found 16-year-old Thunder Cloud dead in the far corner of South Park's range. Big Thunder showed only a few patches of missing hair. The 2,200-pound king bull is 24 years old. He recently became the father of Sky High. Six cows complete the herd. Turner said the carcass of Thunder Cloud will be converted into soap.”

The Free Lance-Star
March 15, 1957

Here's Chance To Buy Buffalo

“If you're in the market for a buffalo, can give him plenty of space to roam and guarantee he won't wind up a buffalo burger it might be wise to get your bid in immediately with officials of Allegheny County. The county has a herd of 19 buffalo and has set aside 20 acres of South Park for them. But four young buffalo are expected soon and officials have decided to cut down the herd by selling a few. Parks Director George B. McDonough says he isn't sure how much to charge but he believes the going price for a buffalo is about \$500.”

The Pittsburgh Press
September 1, 1934

School Bells to Close Boy Scouts' Tented City at South Park

“Boy Scouts from Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Delaware, Maryland and the District of Columbia are attending a three-day Regional Camporal at South Park and visitors to the fair have witnessed demonstrations of every activity of Scouting in a three-circle display.

Sea Scouts and Canadian guides attired in uniforms of their branch of Scouting demonstrated cooking aboard ship and on land tours, using improvised utensils made of whatever might be found on the premises. Other boys made brooms, knives, and other useful gadgets and took their guests through a display of knot typing, sewing, shelter construction, and outdoor life. The third circle baked, did forestry tricks, built tents and lean-tos. The boys were entirely "on their own."

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
April 9, 1934

GROVE IS PLANNED FOR JOYCE KILMER

South Park to Have Tree Memorial for Poet

“Joyce Kilmer, fighting poet of the American Expeditionary Forces and author of “Trees,” will be perpetuated by a grove of stately elms in South Park. Sixteen tall and slender elms are being transplanted from North Park into a cluster for the Joyce Kilmer Memorial Grove, Catfish Run Road, South Park, under supervision of Colonel C. C. McGovern, chairman of the Allegheny county commissioners.

The project was begun last week. Tablets at the base will commemorate the author, who died in action in France.

County Parks Director, A. M. Marion has selected the elms for uniformity. Each is approximately nine inches thick and reaches a height of 30 feet. A center flag pole, a 30-inch base wall and benches will complete the memorial.

Men for the project are being furnished by the Relief Works Division, while tools and materials are being provided by Allegheny County. Major Henry Hornbostel designed the memorial gratis.”

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 and 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

May 5, 2018 - Fabulous Hubcaps at the Library Fire Hall.
For more info please see page 3 of this publication.

May 9, 2018 - Museum re-opens to the public. (See pg. 2)

May 15, 2018 - "Lincoln" with speaker Jack Puglisi

June 16, 2018 - Museum Grand Re-opening at 12:00 to 2:00 pm, 6425 Pleasant Street, South Park, PA, 15129

June 19, 2018 - "Steamboat Industry in Brownsville" with speaker Marc Henshaw

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.

The Museum is again open to the public. Please see page 2 of this newsletter for the museum schedule. 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.

For more information visit us at:
<http://www.southparkhistoricalsociety.com>
or on Face book at: [https://](https://www.facebook.com/southparkhistoricalsociety)
www.facebook.com/southparkhistoricalsociety

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