

The Pencader Press

Newsletter of the Pencader Heritage Area Association

December 2013
Vol. 7 Issue 4

Who are we?

Volunteers interested in promoting the Pencader Heritage through active participation.

How do we do that?

- Outreach Programs
- Educational Sign Program
- Video Library
- Local Oral Histories
- Preservation of Pencader History



PHAA Museum

2029 Sunset Lake Rd.
Newark, DE

Open: 1st & 3rd Sat.
10:00am to 4:00pm
Free Admission !



Want more information ?

302-737-5792 or
Visit our web site:
www.
PencaderHeritage.Org



At the end of another busy year Pencader Heritage Museum is active and growing. We ended the year with our annual December Wreaths Across America program honoring the veterans of all our wars. Pencader is one of just 3 places in Delaware to receive the fresh evergreen wreaths from the national WAA project.

Our new flat-screen TV and computer have been installed, which will allow us to show our speaker series lectures and showcase our many previous events. Maps, books and photographs are also scanned and available for viewing.

Our association with boy scouting grew this quarter. Board member Lowell Jacobs conducted a merit badge program in wood carving with three boys completing requirements to earn the Woodcarving badge. A group of 8 boys had a day of bridge engineering study taught by a professional woman engineer. They built various types of model bridges. Boy Scout Troop 603 held a large yard sale in our parking lot. The proceeds go toward their next big adventure camping trip.

The long-awaited roadside signs informing travelers they are entering the Cooch's Bridge Battlefield have been installed.

Planning is under way for a spring ceremony honoring the French army for the invaluable aid they gave in American's struggle to be free of English rule. We will be dedicating a bronze plaque at the new educational sign site on the museum grounds. The French ambassador to the US has tentatively agreed to attend. The ceremony will be in April or May. Check pencaderheritage.org for updates.

Plans have been firmed up for a lighted flag at the museum. Work will begin when the weather permits.

We are delighted to have a new and dedicated docent who spends the day each time we're open. She has very deep roots in Pencader, going back to a Revolutionary War ancestor. Our goal is finding enough docents to be open on a regularly scheduled Sunday. Want to help? Ties to Pencader aren't needed, just a love of history. We're willing to teach you Pencader's story.

Our curator Bob Barnes has copies of the Newark City Council minutes from 1866. They are being transcribed from the original handwriting and excerpts are appearing each week in the Newark Post under the title *Out of the Past* and on Pencader's website. The handwritten copies are available for study at Pencader Museum. Reading them is to watch Newark's struggle to grow.

We've added to our Awesome Autographs collection since last mentioning them. New are signatures from Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker and Henry L. Stimson. Capt Rickenbacker was a WW I flying ace, a co-founder of the former Eastern Airlines,

race car designer/driver, and an aviation adviser to Pres. Franklin Roosevelt during WW II. On a secret mission for Pres. Roosevelt their plane crashed leaving him and his crew to survive 24 days on raw fish and rainwater in a life raft drifting on the Pacific Ocean. Mr. Stimson led a less adventuresome life but was a cabinet secretary and valued diplomat under several US presidents.

Hours given by Pencader's volunteers in the 4th quarter were 928 and we had 251 visitors.

In the last 5 years our hours have totaled 13,659 and we have had 3325+ visitors. Pencader is totally operated by volunteers and we are proud to donate our time and effort to preserve the history and heritage of Pencader Hundred through educating others.

Our annual membership drive is underway. Please consider joining for only \$10.00 a year. You can join through our website or by sending your donation directly to us at:

PHAA
203 HULLIHEN DRIVE
NEWARK, DE 19711.

Please include an email address, as we can't afford post office mailings. Thanks for helping protect our heritage.

What's in our newest "old" display? A really fun showing of over 50 toy school buses from around the world. The exhibit includes 2 identical toys, one with English lettering, the other in German. After seeing the school buses look around the museum to find a gasoline-heated clothes iron. Earn a hand-whittled toy as your prize.

Check pencaderheritage.org and like us on Facebook (www.facebook/pencaderheritage). There's always something new.

COMING EVENTS

Open every 1st & 3rd Saturday, 10:00 - 4:00

All activities are FREE

April or May 2014 Ceremony honoring the French for helping us during the Revolution

September 2014 Annual Memorial Ceremony

Watch pencaderheritage.org for updates