



The Pencader Press

Pencader Heritage Area Association Newsletter

September, 2015

Volume 9, Number 3

Who are we? Volunteers interested in promoting 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. 19702 phone # 302-737-5792
Open: 1st & 3rd Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free Admission!

Want more information? Visit our web site: PencaderHeritage.org.



2007

PHAA members meeting in the Pencader Room, making plans around the first board table.



2015

The Pencader Room today with local artifacts and a very impressive board table!

It's Been a Great Eight

....years, that is, since Pencader Heritage Museum opened in September, 2007. We few volunteers were so excited that day to finally have the dream of a museum coming to fruition.

Pencader Heritage Area Association was originally formed with the idea of educating our citizens about the myriad of history surrounding us here in Pencader Hundred, particularly the early Welsh settlement and the Battle of Cooch's Bridge. The plan was to place educational signs around the area. However, the more research we did, the more apparent it became that signs alone wouldn't serve our purpose. We needed a museum. Appeals to the Delaware Department of Historical and Cultural Affairs finally led to us renting from the state the 1860s dairy barn we now occupy.

- Since our opening in September, 2007, Pencader Heritage Museum has welcomed just short of 5,000 visitors and our volunteers have contributed over 19,000 hours.



Volunteers at the museum hosted French visitors from The Rochambeau Society on June 11, 2015.

- Some of what we've accomplished: 5 educational sign sites each with multiple signs; encouraged the State Archives to provide 3 new historical markers; built monuments and planted a memorial tree honoring the fallen at Cooch's Bridge; installed the official lighted flag marking the battlefield; recognized contributions of Generals Lafayette and Rochambeau's French armies in aiding America's cause in the Revolution; instrumental in having official state road signs installed marking the battlefield. These things were completed with support from national and local DAR SAR, W3R, Delaware Saengerbund; state highway department and a few local businesses.



- Through the quarter, our displays have evolved, with new exhibits and additional artifacts. Our military display now includes a WW I uniform and numerous items of equipment, on loan from board member Linda Duffy.



US Army, WW I uniform and accoutrements.

- Our annual September memorial service honoring the fallen at Cooch's Bridge and the unveiling of our latest educational sign, *Delaware Militiaman, Citizen Soldier*, was well attended. Retired Delaware National Guard Gen. Ken Wiggins gave a history of

the Delaware Militia and how it has changed over the years into today's Delaware National Guard. A beautiful a-cappella rendition of the Star Spangled Banner was performed by 9 year-old Mikala Plymyer, granddaughter of board member Sally Miller.

- Our refreshed Facebook site is attracting an increasing amount of interest. The latest six entries have accumulated over 4,000 hits. Please visit our page at <https://www.facebook.com/PencaderHeritageMuseum> or, access it through our web site.
- We now call it Veterans' Day, but November 11th was originally called Armistice Day, marking the end of WW I. To commemorate the day Pencader Vice-Pres. Bill Conley has loaned a number of artifacts and photos from his personal collection. This display will be available for several more weeks.



WWI posters are just a few of the items which Bill Conley has loaned the museum to commemorate the Nov. 11, 1918 ending of the Great War.

- In conjunction with this the Delaware Military Vehicle Association will present a display of military vehicles on November 7, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.



Spend Nov. 7th learning the history of vintage military vehicles while viewing authentic WWII encampments on the museum grounds.

Remember to come inside and see our latest displays.

- Don't forget to check out the *Out of the Past* column on our website, excerpts from Newark City Council minutes from 1867. See what Newark used to be like or see full content copies in original handwriting, available for research at the museum. <http://www.pencaderheritage.org/main/outofthepast/outofthepast.html>
- It's time to think about renewing memberships for 2016. Yearly memberships are \$10.00. Please send checks to 203 Hullihen Drive, Newark, DE 19711. Consider an extra amount. The museum relies on membership fees and donations.
- The third quarter numbers: visitors 195, volunteer hours 1,145.

Coming Events

Admission is always free to events and the museum

Commemoration of Veterans' Day
Saturday, Nov. 7th 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
with a display of military vehicles.

Wreaths Across America

Saturday, December 12, 2015

Program at 10:00 a.m.



May, 2016

Kids' Fest program and military re-enactors.

Details are being finalized