



The Manor

*A Newsletter of The
Equinunk Historical Society
Calder House Museum
Calder Gift Shop
Joel Hill Sawmill*



Volume 43, Issue 3

Telephone: 570-224-6722

P.O. Box 41, 1972 Pine Mill Rd., Equinunk, PA 18417-0041

E-Mail: EHS22@verizon.net

Website: www.equinunkhistory.com

Fall & Winter 2025



Sunday, November 2 was a lovely autumn day and the dining room at Bryn Mawr Mountain Retreat and Conference Center was filled with friends and family of our very own Carol Ann MacMaster as she was honored by the Wayne County Historical Society as the recipient of the Richard L. Kreitner Lifetime Achievement Award at the WCHS Annual Fall Dinner!

Several lovely tributes were written by community members to Carol Ann including: "I first met Carol Ann MacMaster many years ago on my first historical research trip to Equinunk Historical Society with Mimi Stephen to find information for one of Mimi's books about local rural schools in that area of Wayne County. Carol Ann welcomed us, helped us and made our trip very worthwhile. She has been doing the same for WCHS and for everyone now for decades! With Carol Ann's expertise and organization and her friendly manner, a trip to Equinunk is always worthwhile. She has been part of many

projects which have benefited the community, for which I thank her from the bottom of my heart. Thanks for the help, the energy to complete any project, and for your friendship, Carol Ann!!" ~ Carol Henry Dunn, WCHS Executive Director

"Carol Ann is a sweet person who does a ton for the Equinunk Historical Society. She and I bonded over local history at a local talk that I gave at the society. I was happy to help with whatever she needed. She deserves the award wholeheartedly." ~ Jason Smith

"Carol Ann has been a prolific contributor to many community programs and organizations. She has been a leader in the cause of preserving our local history and making it accessible to everyone. I am very pleased and proud to have worked alongside of her at the Equinunk Historical Society." ~ Vicky Bradshaw



Carol Ann with Jason Smith



Carol Ann with Wayne County Commissioners
Jim Shook and Jocelyn Cramer

President's Message



Welcome all to Fall of 2025!

This is my first letter as returning President of the Equinunk Historical Society. I want to thank Vicky Bradshaw for all her work, time and effort that she has put in as the President for the past three years. We should all applaud her work.

It is my honor to tell you all about Carol Ann MacMaster. This past Sunday, Nov. 2nd, she was this year's recipient of the prestigious Richard L. Kreitner Award for Community Service! The celebration took place at Lake Bryn Mawr Camp Convention Center where she was surrounded by many family, friends and neighbors. Carol Ann received this year's award for her remarkable contributions to our community and especially to the Equinunk Historical Society!

November is the start of our fall/winter run of our "First Fridays". As you all know, it is open to everyone that wants to sing, play an instrument etc... Please, come on down and join in, whether you have talent or just want to support and listen your friends and neighbors! Contact Pat Wilson for details or to sign up, email scardogg@verizon.net or phone 570-224-0223.

I also would like to say, I am looking forward to being "your" President, once again!

With that being said, I want to wish you all a safe fall and winter. Please stay positive!

~ John Schror

"To be ignorant of what occurred before you were born is to remain always a child. For what is the worth of human life, unless it is woven into the life of our ancestors by the records of history?"

~ Cicero

EQUINUNK HISTORICAL SOCIETY Board of Directors, Staff and Volunteers 2025-2026

President	John Schror
Vice President	
Recording Secretary	Donna Burrowes
Treasurer	Donna Burrowes
Directors	Donna Capone, Art Flynn, Carol Ann MacMaster, Anna Sergi, Mike Sergi, Rob Szymanski
Office Manager	Anna Sergi
Building/Grounds	Blair Kobelin, Greg Quaglio
Bookkeeper	Donna DuBois
Calder Shop	Sherry Zona, Lisa Muth
Curator	Roberta McLane
Corresponding Secretary	Victoria Bradshaw
Genealogy	Carol Ann MacMaster
Hospitality	Kathy Quaglio, Donna Capone
Membership	Anna Sergi
Photography	
Program Coordinator	Vacant
Publications	Chris Kobelin
Publicity	Linda Wescott, Donna DuBois, Chuck Stroble, Vicky Bradshaw
Sawmill Committee	Blair Kobelin
"The Manor"	Donna DuBois, Editor
Proofreaders	Carol Ann MacMaster, Donna DuBois

The Equinunk Historical Society Newsletter "The Manor" is published seasonally, three times a year and sent to all members. Additionally, copies are available through the office at the Museum. Materials for publication are always welcome and sought after. Please email submissions to Donna DuBois c/o EHS22@verizon.net or mail them to EHS, PO Box 41, Equinunk, PA 18417

We invite you to our Open House
December 5, 6 & 7 – Noon to 4 PM
Museum Open House
Calder Shop Sale
Sunday Refreshments and Music

MY CONFUSING SEARCH FOR JOSIAH "BOS'N" PARKS

(Continuing Part 2 of the Letter to Robert Wood from Mrs. Lola Nielsen)

For Part 1, See the Summer 2025 issue of The Manor

Bos'n's daughters married into the Lakin, Griffen, Smith and Jennings families; later descendants into Jones, Cole, Doyle and Finch families...and no doubt many others whose names I do not know. In years past I tried to locate descendants of these families.....hoping one might have definite records of Josiah Bosun Parks.

My Parks were in Ohio many years (my grandfather, great grandfather, and great, great, grandfather); then in later years, my grandfather, like many in his day, moved westward seeking new land. He brought his family west in 1878, when my mother was age 7. She never forgot the long trip in the covered wagon. I loved to listen to her recall those long-ago days.

I still hope to someday find someone who has a documented proven record of Equinunk's Josiah Bos'n Parks!

(We have a list of Lola's family on both sides of her family in the files at the Museum if anyone wishes to see it.
~ Carol Ann MacMaster)

Leadership Northern Poconos Class of 2026



The familiar beep-beep of Walter and Nancy Garing's coach backing into the driveway at EHS signals the arrival once again of members of the Leadership Northern Poconos Class of 2026 (formerly Leadership Wayne) under the leadership of Tom Shepstone. These future community leaders are part of a program they enroll in for ten months, with classes held on the second Tuesday of each month at various locations throughout the region. This endeavor is designed to shape the future leaders of Wayne and Pike Counties.

CALDER CAFÉ NEWS: Our 2025-2026 Calder Café season began on Friday, November 7 on a rainy but not bitterly cold evening with about 25 people in attendance.

As is customary, Art Flynn opened with a Kris Kristoferson song, "Why Me Lord," and also did "Hello, Mary Lou." Sandy Weaver got us singing along on "Music Speaks Louder Than Words" and "Try a Little Tenderness." John Joyce, sounding especially good on guitar, did "Millworker," "For What It's Worth," and "America." Pat Wilson finished the first half with three songs including "City of New Orleans," as it has been 20 years since the hurricane hit.

Sandy had to leave but after intermission, Art, John and Pat each performed again to close out the evening. An enjoyable evening was had by all and we're already looking forward to the next Calder Café on Friday, December 5.

JOEL HILL SAWMILL AND CLEVELAND MUSEUM

The summer of 2025 saw our dedicated mill crew working tirelessly to make sure our guests had the most enjoyable, memorable and safest experience possible at the Joel Hill Sawmill and Cleveland Museum. Tours were well attended, with the largest having about 40 people.

Since the summer issue of the Manor, fences were installed, the grounds cleaned of unwanted materials, the log inventory organized and general improvements or repairs made.

In later August, we loaded a few thousand pounds of scrap metal on a trailer, provided by Frank Iorio, and delivered it to a local scrap yard cleaning up our grounds significantly.



The crew has begun the task of painting machinery in the Cleveland Museum. To date, several sheet metal machines are complete as is the foot-operated punch press. The “bone grinder” is presently undergoing restoration.

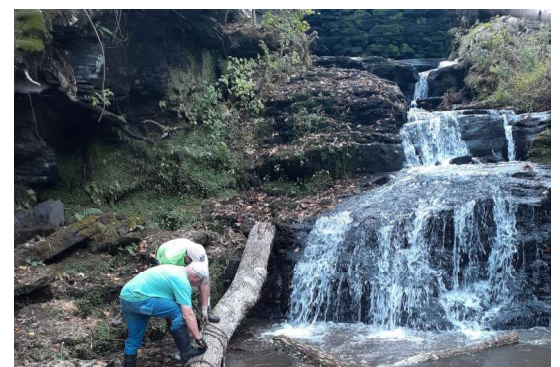


With the dry weather that was upon us lately, the mill pond was drained and the wooden “cage” removed. The wood was badly deteriorated and had come loose from its anchorages. The cage acts as a strainer preventing large debris from reaching the turbine during operation. Recently a brace had come loose and lodged under the water gate holding it open. While the cage was out, the steel that acts as guides for the water gate was inspected and found to be badly corroded. Both the steel and the cage will be rebuilt soon and reinstalled. Each had been in service for about thirty years. We thank Bob Abel for assisting with his Kubota, making extraction of the cage easy.



Our August tour provided a pleasant surprise when Tom Cleveland (at right in the photo), namesake of the Cleveland Museum, stopped by for a visit. He and his wife, Louise, were up from Charlotte visiting family in the Deposit area. Tom has not been to the museum for a few years since leaving the area. Our crew was happy to see them and Tom and Louise were delighted to see the improvements made in the museum since their last visit. It has been eight years since the pole building that houses Tom’s collection of vintage machinery was erected and the museum established.

Upon arriving at the sawmill recently for our weekly work day, we found several trees down in the area of the waterfall below the dam. The weekend before had been particularly windy and a medium size tree had blown down which in turn hit another causing it to snap. The top of that tree was resting on the roof of the turbine house. Fortunately, no damage was done to the structure. Both trees were carefully removed along with a few smaller ones that might cause problems soon. A much larger dead ash was also leaning toward the mill. After assessing the situation, a rope was attached and the tree was felled into the stream, the only option. The timber fell as planned and was removed.



JOEL HILL SAWMILL AND CLEVELAND MUSEUM

As one drives through Honesdale, several blue historical markers can be seen commemorating the achievements of an individual or the significance of a particular site or event. There are four on Main St. acknowledging the historical significance of the D and H Canal, the Stourbridge Lion, General Lyman Lemnitzer and Ruth McGinnis. Another on Church St commemorates the life of Dick Smith, of Winter Wonderland fame. These historical markers are provided by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. In order to be considered for a marker, the historical value of its subject must be clearly detailed and of course, reflect its significance in history and specifically, the subject's value to Pennsylvania.

Sometime in 2024 I decided to investigate the process of securing a marker for the 150 year old Joel Hill Sawmill. After all, it is well established that much of the lumber provided by the mill was shipped by raft down the Delaware, or later by rail, to Easton and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Trenton, New Jersey. I immediately found that the program was on hold until the beginning of 2025. After discussing the marker program with the mill crew, Fred Blauth stepped up and volunteered to lead this undertaking. At the time, none of us knew what a monumental job this would turn into. After months of investigative work and multiple revisions, Fred felt fairly confident of its completeness and content, but he was told that generally of the many submissions made annually, only about fifty percent are awarded a marker each year. If there was a denial, an updated submission could be made in the future.

I am delighted to announce that on September 25, 2025, Fred and I received confirmation from the PHMC Marker Program Coordinator acknowledging that a marker was being awarded to the Equinunk Historical Society for the Joel Hill Sawmill. Needless to say, our mill crew was excited to hear this news. Make no mistake, it was Fred's hard work and dedication that is solely responsible for this honor and we sincerely thank him. The magnitude of this accomplishment cannot be emphasized enough.



It usually takes several months to produce the marker. After receiving it, it will be installed on the Hill Mill grounds. We hope to have a dedication ceremony sometime in 2026.

Greg Quaglio

Congratulations are extended to Mr. Tom Kulesza for taking second place honors in the Society for the Preservation of Old Mills (SPOOM) 2025 photo contest. Over the years Tom has taken numerous beautiful photos of both the of the Joel Hill Sawmill and the Cleveland Museum. The 2025 contest allowed for two submissions, one each of the interior and exterior. Tom was kind enough to provide a beautiful 11 by 14 print of the winning photo, which has been framed and matted and will be on display at the sawmill location.

All photo contest submissions can be viewed on the Society's web site at spoom.org. Tom's winning photo is at right.



The mill crew would like to extend its thanks to Mr. Darryl Gustin of Aldenville for donating many high-quality logs for future sawing demonstrations. The logs are all about eight feet long and 14 to 20 inches in diameter, consisting of soft and hard maple, hickory, yellow birch, basswood and cherry. Also, a note of thanks to Chuck Stroble for transporting them.

MONETARY DONATIONS

As always, we profusely thank you for your donations and if we have missed anyone, please do not hesitate to let us know.

ALL FUNDS – Jane Varcoe, Beverly Gill, Karen Peters, Art & Sandy Flynn, Marty & Pat Wood, Robert Walsh, Emma Lou Varcoe, Kevin Delaney, Seth & Joan Koven, Susan & Ben Baxt, Star Community Church, United Women in Faith, Myra & Terry Johannes, Robert Szymanski, Chris & Blair Kobelin, Katherine & August Stile, Harry Hillier, Linda Koons, Greg & Kathy Quaglio, Tom Walek, Donna Capone, Greg Lowe, Charles Ponall, Andre Meade (Capital International), Steven Schwartz, Thomas Bataille, Hugh Rocks, Pat O'Dell, James DeLisle, Robert Heil, Linda Fisher, James Daly, Linda Wescott, Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Knight, Sara Ornstein, Lorraine Zimniewicz, Rachelle Cinque (memory of Charlene & Granville Teeple), Kathleen Wood, Albert Rice, Tim Wilson, Vicki Busch, Carol Ann MacMaster, John & Donna Burrowes, Pamela Arnold, Marilyn Kneeland.

DONATIONS IN MEMORY OF JIM McMYNE- Candice Miletic, Darlene Chaykosky, Patrice Harrison, Mr. & Mrs. Michael Mattise, Donna O'Neill, Rebecca & Geoffrey Schwinden, Donna Capone, Allyson Faist, Terry & Myra Johannes, Leslie Wingel, Glenn Brooks, David & Sarah Schnitger, Donald & Mary Kay Baker Perry, Bonnie Mercado, Jean & William Bouduin, Jamie Quinn, James & Rosemary Miller.

ITEM DONATIONS

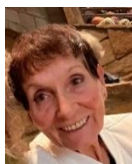
LU ANN BARTCH- 8 21x 29" color illustrations in an original easel binder dated 1935 - 1936 from the Creative Educational Society of Marcato, also two toy cast iron stoves. **ELEANOR DENNIS NOLAN** – vintage post cards, **DAVID DROPPA** – Six lovely 8 inch dolls. **KATHY WOOD** – papers from estate of Robert Wood, including a letter sent from Melvin Parks in 1981, information on Post Office in Buckingham Township, listing of other Post Offices and one-room schools in the area, copy of a Centennial newspaper, large file outlining a case of Jack Dempsey vs New York City involving Jack's claim that the building of a dam by New York City impacted his business from damage being done to the Delaware River as a result of said dam. **BRUCE & DOTTY MCLAUGHLIN** – eight children's books entitled "My Indian Library." **HERBIE WITZENBERGER** – vintage cheese box and bottles, old kerosene lantern, Sears catalog, and a vintage flour sifter.

PRAISES AND THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF

The Hill Mill and Cleveland Museum volunteers, **Greg Quaglio, Blair Kobelin, Tim Wilson, Bob Abel, Chuck Stroble** (also does publicity for the Mill), **Frank Iorio, Art & Sandy Flynn, Dave Grever, Jim Morris, Mike Sergi, Ronald Costantini, Frederick H. Blauth, and Mike Chopek** (on permanent disabled list). **Greg** also serves as interim editor for the spring issue of "*The Manor*," and is the building and grounds volunteer at the museum, **Sandy and Art** craft items for sale at the Open House tours in the summer, and **Kathy Quaglio** is a dedicated volunteer of sales, assistant to the Office Manager and Hospitality volunteer, along with **Donna Capone. Donna DuBois**, Bookkeeper, editor of "*The Manor*", and Website Manager, **Anna Sergi**, Office manager, **Roberta McLane**, Curator, **Donna Burrowes**, Treasurer, **Dave Wagner**, Groundskeeper, and **Reni Kellam**, Housekeeping. Along with **Chuck Stroble, Vicky Bradshaw, Donna DuBois**, and **Linda Wescott** do Publicity. **Vicky Bradshaw** is the Corresponding Secretary and Grant Writer. Board Members are: **John Schror**, President, **Donna Capone, Anna Sergi, Mike Sergi, Art Flynn, Carol Ann MacMaster, Donna Burrowes**, and **Rob Szymanski**.

The Calder Shop ladies, **Sherry Zona** and **Lisa Muth**, who did an outstanding job running the Shop and will be retiring after our Annual Open House Sale in December.

PASSINGS



LORETTA DOUGLAS, 88 - December 13, 1936 -August 12, 2025 A Life Member, Loretta was a long-time supporter and friend of The Society. She also performed at the First Friday at Calder Café events where she played her accordion or keyboard to the delight of all. She was the last surviving member of “The Silver Belles,” a wonderful group of ladies who were very popular as well. Well-loved and missed by all who knew her.

HAROLD WOOD, 71 - October 27, 1953 – August 21, 2025 Harold was born in Callicoon, NY and grew up on the family dairy farm. He started Wood Construction which he owned and ran for 53 years, eventually with his son Keith, up until his passing. He and his wife, Denise have worked both at The Society and the Hill Mill. He was also a dedicated member of the Equinunk Volunteer Company. In addition to his son Keith, he is also survived by a daughter Emily, two granddaughters, his sister and two brothers; nieces and nephews.



HELEN SCHUMAN, 96 - January 7, 1929 – September 17, 2025 A Life Member, Helen was an active member of the Equinunk United Methodist Church, serving as a Sunday School teacher and United Methodist Women’s Group Treasurer for many years. To most of them, especially the children, she was affectionately known as “Aunt Helen.” She was also a volunteer and supporter at The Society working tirelessly for many years in the Calder Shop.

MARY DEDUKE, 89 - 1936 – 2025 A longtime EHS member, Mary volunteered in the Calder Shop for many years, and was an expert knitter, crafter, and quilt maker, and spurred on by her talented husband Len, (also a performer) played the dulcimer at the First Friday at the Calder Café event as well. In her many travels, she learned to cook multicultural dishes. She will be remembered for her warmth, adventurous spirit, creative talents, and the beauty she brought into the lives of all who knew her.



CHARLES “CHUCK” TRUMMER, 87 - February 9, 1938 – October 11, 2025 A Life Member, Chuck used his remarkable talents volunteering at The Society and at the Hill Sawmill. A quiet man, his hands were his “voice” and he helped others often with building projects, including home repairs, electrical work and even landscaping. He also served proudly in the United States Army and National Guard. He is survived by his wife Dorothy, six children, nine grandchildren and one great- grandchild.

WARREN SCHLOESSER, 79 - November 1, 1946 – October 26, 2025 Warren was born and raised in North Philadelphia, and earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Temple University, later serving his country in the U.S. Army as a medic in Germany. Following this he went to Temple University Law School and eventually settled in Honesdale in 1975 where he spent the rest of his life on the establishment of and sustaining the community around him. Space does not permit listing all his accomplishments in the area, all the volunteer work, and the places he visited in his many travels. He had a stern appearance which belied his wry sense of humor, and silly things he did during photo ops, or with friends and family. He would be happy to learn of any efforts made by others to volunteer in any way which would benefit others and the community surrounding them. Missed terribly by his children from his first wife Kathy and 16 grandchildren, and his best friend, fellow adventurer, confidant, caregiver, and dance partner for the last 25 years, Diane Kean.



MICHAEL “MIKE” KELLAM, 77 - June 5, 1948 – October 30, 2025 Mike was born in Callicoon, NY, and spent his adult life in the logging business, and loved the brotherhood forged with other loggers. Many memories were shared by these men in those woods, which will remain there forever. He also loved the home he built with his own hands and the land it sat on, which he shared with his wife of 58 years, Reni, who is a Society member and our Housekeeper. He is also survived by a daughter, Kim Kellam Hunt, (Scott) two brothers, three sisters, and many nieces and nephews.

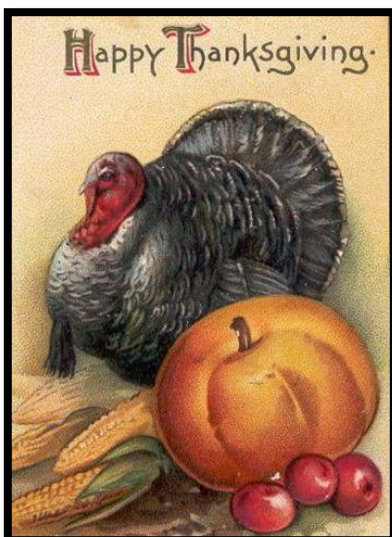
EQUINUNK HISTORICAL SOCIETY
PO BOX 41
EQUINUNK PA 18417

**MEMBERSHIP INFO:
DUES PER YEAR**

Individual	\$ 20.00
Family	\$ 30.00
Junior	\$ 2.00
Lifetime	\$125.00
Corporate	\$ 50.00

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU AT OUR OPEN HOUSE DECEMBER 5, 6 & 7
MUSEUM OPEN HOUSE, CALDER SHOP SALE
ALL THREE DAYS NOON TO 4 PM
SUNDAY REFRESHMENTS AND MUSIC

**FROM ALL OF US AT EQUINUNK HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO YOU AND
YOUR FAMILIES, WE WISH YOU A VERY...**



AND A PEACEFUL, HAPPY, HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS 2026