



# Warrington

Historical Society

## NEWSLETTER

### SPRING 2011

#### The Mission of the Society:

- Locate, acquire, preserve and exhibit any and all articles, documents, photographs, papers, artifacts and other items of historic, cultural, educational value, which pertain to Warrington Township.
- Develop educational materials for use with schools/public and promote recognition of the history and development of Warrington Township.
- Restore and maintain 10 Folly Road/County Line Road School House for use as headquarters/museum/storage of Society.

The Warrington Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) qualified entity under the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions may be deducted for Federal Income Tax purposes.

P.O. BOX 706  
Warrington PA, 18976  
WarringtonHistoricalSociety@gmail.com

#### 2011 Officers:

Mary Doyle Roth, *President*  
Kenneth Samen, *Vice-President*  
Scott Yates, *Treasurer*  
Kathy Newcomb,  
*Communications*

### Next Meeting – June 13, 2011

Historic Commission and Historical Society meetings will be held on the SECOND Monday of the month. The Commission business is conducted from 7:30 till about 8:00 and is immediately followed by the Society meeting. Meetings are held at the Township building at 852 Easton Road, Warrington.

### We're Collecting 2011 Membership Dues

For annual members, please send the payment for your 2011 membership dues to PO Box 706, Warrington, PA 18976.

#### Annual rates are:

Individual \$20.00, Individual Senior (60+) \$15.00, Individual Student \$15.00, Family \$35.00, Organizations \$50.00 and Businesses \$100.00.

Please let us know if you are able to help us in any area. We are open to all suggestions and help with anything that may interest you. The society can't grow without help from our members.

### Lost Historic Warrington Houses

Two historic County Line Road houses were taken down this last month due to the 202 Parkway and County Line Road projects: the 1876 Phelps house on Stump Rd and the house that was the office of St John Neumann Cemetery on Upper State Road.

The Penrose/Paul House at 213 Easton Road is circa 1749 with an 1847 addition. The Grasso Organization, who bought it from the Penrose family have informed the Township that they will be applying very soon for a Demolition Permit for the barn, carriage house and main house. We met with the Township and they said there is nothing they can do. Below are some statements in the owner's letter to the Township:

*"...both buildings had been reviewed by architects and found them to be in such total disrepair it would be impractical to consider rehabilitation"*

*"...and significant vandalism has taken place"*

*"...although there is no historical registration of the property, we will do what we can to save things that may be of historical significance for the Township"*

The Penrose family members have been in touch with us this week asking for our support and letting us know they have their lawyers involved because it is stated in the bill of sale that they must retain the house.

### Schoolhouse at 10 Folly Road

There has been a lot of activity surrounding the County Line School House (10 Folly Rd).

In February, Gary James Schlechter contacted the township to inquire about the status of the school house. Gary is the grandson of the former owners, as his father; George Schlechter (age 88) is the youngest child of Amelia & Charles Schlechter,



who purchased the property from the school district in 1928. The Schlechter family presented a plan to the Board of Supervisors that would be mutually beneficial. The board was asked if they would give the property to the Schlechter family, so it could be renovated, and opened to the township as a historical site. Currently

something happened to the organization, the property's ownership would revert back to the township. The Schlechter family would then lease the building to the Society with a 99 yr lease of \$2 a month in return for our help in raising funds for the project. They want to create a memorial to the Schlechter family and to the

one of the ways this could work is as follow: (this is far from a done deal) the township is in the position where they could donate the property to a non-profit organization (the Schlechter family would need to form one), with a stipulation in the deed that if

thousands of children that attended the school house. Gary is energetic and gets things moving. He has already informed Home Depot and Lowes of this project, and they have shown an interest in helping the cause. In addition, he has an army of family members that are ready to go. **There will be a Township Supervisor's meeting on June 14th at 7:30 pm devoted to public input on giving this Township owned property away.** We will provide statuses—of what we hope will become the headquarters of the society—in upcoming newsletters.

## Newsletter

Newsletter article ideas are needed.

## Contributions

We would like to thank Warrington Woman's Club for their 2011 \$100 contribution.



## In Memory - Jean DeLong

Helen Jeanne Ace DeLong, died Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2010. She was born Nov. 8, 1914, in Bridgewater, Conn. She resided at "Yankee Farm" on Folly Road in Warrington since 1944. An active club woman, she had served as president of both the Warrington Junior and Senior Woman's Clubs. In her former years, she was active in scouting and served on the Red Cross Motor Corp. during World War II.

# Feature Histories

*Compiled by Ken Samen*

## Green Tree Inn

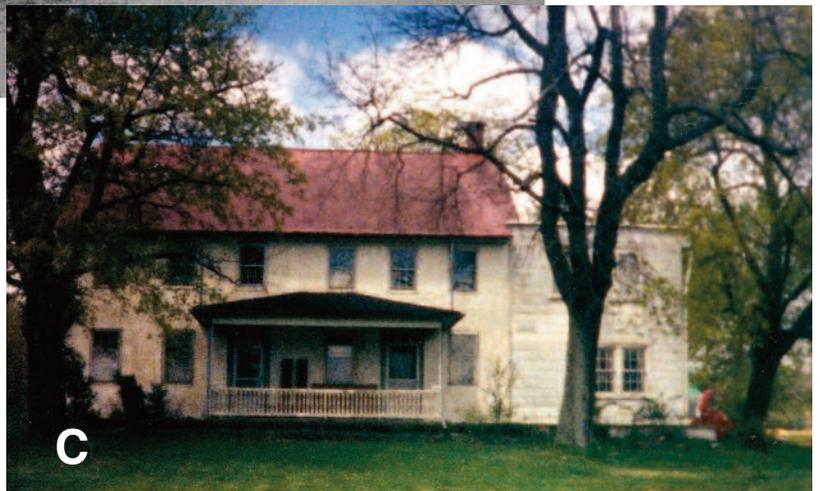
To the west of the center of Eureka was the Green Tree Inn [(1834) earlier known as Eells Foot, then the Old Turnpike Hotel]. The Inn at one time was run by John and William Snare. The Nash family was the first to turn it into a residence and they developed the back portion of the property into Woodlawn Ave. The Munsell family was the last to live in the Inn. The Inn was eventually torn down for a landscaping business in 1984. The Munsell's Lawnmower repair shop on County Line Road continued to operate until all of the buildings were replaced by a modern shopping center. While the demolition was being completed, documentation was found on an addition to the inn that stated, "T.C Waters Shenandoah Penns Jul. 29th 1892, Bought Green Tree Mar 1892". In 1984 a large barn was also taken down on the property. The landscaping business was removed in 2007 and replaced by a shopping center.



**Picture A** from about 1910

**Picture B** from about 1940

**Picture C** from about 1984



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*Any member of the Warrington Historical Society can submit work to be published in the Newsletter. Personal stories, pictures, or history of the township should be submitted to our email address at: [warringtonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:warringtonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com), or mailed to the society at P.O. BOX 706, Warrington PA, 18976. It is the society's goal to produce this newsletter quarterly. But we can only do this with everyone's input. This issue's publisher is Kathy Newcomb.*

# Feature Histories

## Pickertown Rd Log Cabin

Built in the late 1700s, this log cabin, once located on Pickertown Rd, was historic in its own right. The cabin contained two rooms on the main floor and two loft rooms above. The outside log walls had been covered in wood siding, and the roof was capped with tin in the 1890s. It was donated to the township by the Kentopp family in 1975, with the condition that it be moved from the property it sat on. Plans were introduced that would move the cabin from Pickertown Rd to a portion of the property that Titus Elementary school is located on, where it would showcase artifacts from the Revolution. It was to be the centerpiece project of the Township's



1976 Bicentennial festivities. Due to the costs that were associated with such a move, it never left the Pickertown Rd location, where it sat vacant. After further deterioration, the dwelling was razed in the late 1980s. The late Mrs. Kentopp was born in the cabin in the early 1900s.

## The Historic Infrastructure of Warrington Township



Per PennDOT documentation, the following is known about this neat bridge.

**Road:** BRISTOL ROAD

**Road crossing:** BRANCH  
NESHANINY CREEK

**Location:** BRISTOL, .01mi  
SE of STUMP RD. 28D05

**City/County:**  
WARRINGTON-  
DOYLESTOWN/Bucks

**Type, year built:** Concrete  
(in place), Arch deck, 1938

**Length:** 12.00 feet