



THE LANDMARK

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Newsletter of the Friends of Old Annville

P.O. Box 99, Annville, PA 17003

New Historic Walking Tour • Bylaws Revision • Façade Grant Update

President's Message, by Michael Schroeder

"I think there's value to remembering places that are gone," remarked FOOA Board Member Joanna Guldin-Noll as we sat outside Swatara Coffee Company on West Main Street in Annville on a balmy summer morning, the dappled sunshine dancing across my coffee cup. I was quizzing her about FOOA's new Literary & Literacy Walking Tour, which she pretty much developed all by herself, wondering out loud how our tour guides will be able to make meaningful to our attendees the people and buildings and institutions that no longer exist except as documentary traces or memories.

In my mind's eye, I was comparing this planned walking tour with this past spring's very successful walking tour, developed by Owen Moe, on the "Splendid Stone Structures of Annville." For that tour, our FOOA guides could point to an existing "splendid stone structure" and identify lots of specific features meriting special attention: the architectural style and the qualities of the stones and mortar and fenestration and eaves and woodwork and more.

In contrast, for some stops along this Literary & Literacy Walking Tour, our guides will have nothing tangible or extant to point to, no building or trace footprint to draw our guests' attention.

Take, for instance, Stop No. 1: Jerusalem Church School at 101 S. White Oak St., open for nearly half a century—from 1804 to 1849—for the children of Jerusalem Church, a Lutheran and Reformed congregation founded in 1804 (now the site of Christ Church United Church of Christ at 200 S. White Oak St.).



*Carnegie Library at Lebanon Valley College.
Now it serves as LVC's admission building.*

The building that once housed the Jerusalem Church School was torn down around 1849 and replaced by the house at 105 S. White Oak St.

As Joanna and I talked, it became clear that the challenge facing our guides will be a lot like the challenge of teaching history more generally, at LVC or anywhere else: working to bring the past alive by using concrete evidence to tell stories about people and places and events long since passed, and encouraging listeners to exercise their historical imaginations in ways that are vigorous and rigorous and engaging and fun.

At Stop No. 1, then, our guides will need to point to 105 S. White Oak St. and ask participants to look past what's there today to envision the schoolhouse and imagine the streetscape and what schooling was like in the mid-and-late 19th century, here and elsewhere in Annville—

like at the private Stroh School (est. late 1700s by Daniel Stroh on the corner of W. Queen & Chestnut streets); the Annville Academy (est. 1834 and just south of the Carnegie Library, visited on Stop 8); and elsewhere—and regale them with true-life stories—like how public education was established in Annville Township in February 1845 in a hotly-contested vote when an election-eve snowstorm meant that farmers, most strongly opposed to public schooling, couldn't slog through the snow to vote and the mostly pro-public-school townsfolk, who couldn't afford private schooling, won the day—part of a larger trend toward universal public education in the United States in the 1840s and 1850s.

The tour will continue along East Main St. as far as Saylor St. at the east end of town (and include stories about the award-winning novelist Monica Byrne and the late author and

LVC English professor Art Ford) before circling back to N. College Ave. and the LVC campus.

The 9-stop tour will take around one hour and conclude with an invitation to a final Stop No. 10 in the Annville Town Square for tea & cookies courtesy of Joanna and her husband John of Swatara Coffee Co.

The tour will begin at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 2 behind Christ Church-UCC, 200 S. White Oak St., and is free of charge. Registered participants are invited to purchase a commemorative booklet for \$5. Free-will donations will also be gratefully accepted on the day of the event.

A map of the tour can be found at www.FOOA.org under Resources.

To register for our Literary & Literacy Walking Tour on Sunday, October 2, visit our website at www.fooa.org, click on Resources > Walking Tours follow the links and fill out the Google form, or email us at fooa_annville@hotmail.com.

Friends of Old Annville awards \$1,153 Façade Grant

Friends of Old Annville recently awarded a façade grant to Andrea Drake to help offset the costs to have her property scraped and painted.

Andrea's home, located at 113 S. White Oak St., was originally owned by Smauel M. & Elizabeth Zellers.

The Zeller House is a 2-1/2 stone and log, 5 bay house with slate roof, fine pilastered doorway. c. 1790.

These funds were provided to Andrea through FOOA's Façade Grant Program. The grant covered up to 50% of the costs associated with the projects. More information about the façade grant program can be found at www.FOOA.org.

We can't do this type of work without you! Help us continue the Façade Grant by donating or becoming a member of FOOA.



In our last episode we left Pat walking around the school pretending to look for a friend. During the times we stood in single file waiting for the “lav”, I often wound up standing next to the most beautiful girl I had ever seen. She was in the other first grade class, we’ll call her Judy (to protect the innocent). I am not joking when I say that I thought she was beautiful because she had rather pronounced buck teeth and Mary Jane shoes. I like buck teeth because they make their owner look like she is smiling. Mary Janes, very feminine, are to little girls what exhaust pipes are to cars. I couldn’t take my eyes off her. That was a problem.



The second graders, the big kids, saw me looking at Judy probably on several occasions and one day at recess, they interrupted my pretend search for my imaginary friend. They grabbed me and Judy and pushed us under the forsythia bush and forced our heads together and insisted I kiss her. I was terrified and so was Judy who knew nothing of the reason behind this bullying. If I had been a swashbuckling Lothario, I would have snatched the opportunity and wrapped her in my arms but instead I cried and so did Judy and still the big kids persisted. This cruelty happened several times as I remember. Once I went to the window of the school and asked the teachers having lunch inside to make it stop. They dismissed me with the ludicrous suggestion that I ask them to stop.

Another day, again we were shoved, crying, under the bush. A rather large second grader whose (real) name was Lloyd, came up and pulled the other kids off Judy and me with some angry shouting. That ended the bullying. I would dearly love to find Lloyd and thank him from the bottom of my heart, he is and was a true hero. I hope he has had a great life.

In St. Dismal Elementary School, our desks were of course bolted to the floor. Most kids wanted to sit as far back in the row as they could but not our little hero. I wanted to be in the first seat. Why, you may well ask, as well you may. My paternal grandfather was an employee of the Santa Fe Railroad in Oklahoma. I have always loved trains. My maternal grandmother who lived in Center Hall lived close to the old railroad station and just getting near it and smelling the creosote of the ties and the coal smoke and steam of the old locomotives was like perfume to me. On the rare occasions I was assigned to the first seat in the row I imagined myself the engine of a long train of desks. At the end of the school day, Mrs. Keller read a chapter from Heidi, about a girl who lived on the Ulm, a mountain in the Alps. I imagined the hill where Uncle Gid’s house (Kreiderheim) was, was just like the Ulm. After she finished the chapter, Mrs. Keller would tell us that the row that sat up the straightest would be dismissed first. We would plant our feet firmly on the floor, lean as far back as possible, and put our hands together tightly. One by one, the rows would be dismissed.

Forgive this untoward anecdote. To me it is a dark moment burned into my brain which I choose to share. During the winter my mother made me wear long underwear, another torture to prevent polio. I hated wearing long underwear. If your pants cuff slides up, there is the white underleg exposing the embarrassing truth. One day during the reading of Heidi I suddenly had an urgent need to go to the “lav”. I put my hand up, was told to put it down. I tried again and again, more stern warnings ensued. I said to the kid sitting next to me that I REALLY had to go. He said, “Just get up and go”. I stood up and was angrily told to sit down.

Heidi picked flowers, strolled the hills, played with the sheep and I squirmed. At last Mrs. Keller finished and gave me permission to go. I ran down the stairs and into the bathroom, fumbled with the buttons on the back of the long johns...but, too late. The whole situation was made worse by the long underwear and the fact that I had to go back upstairs and sit. When I got home I told my mother what had happened, she was out of the house like a shot. Mrs. Keller never said a thing about it.

Annville Free Library: Breaking new ground

By Marty Brandt, President, Annville Free Library

A week after the enjoyable weather of Historic Old Annville Day, we had another beautiful Saturday on June 18 for the ceremonial ground breaking of the Annville Free Library Expansion Project. Supporters and guests could walk through the Addition following the signs and painted outlines on the grass for the new reading patio, foyer, patron services areas, youth room location, etc leading into the 226/228 duplex being remodeled as the new community room.

A short program thanked the many people, businesses and foundations that are making this project possible.

The largest contribution was a \$750,000 Grant from the Office of Commonwealth Libraries, Bureau of Library Development, Pennsylvania Department of Education, for public library facilities with funds provided from the Keystone Recreation, Park, and Conservation Fund. We are thankful for the support from so many sources. After the program we had the “golden shovel” photo simulating the start of the project. The shovelers from left are: Marty Brandt - co-chair, Bill Christ - honorary co-chair, Ben Soumis - representing BlueScope Foundation, Carrie Ehrgood - JBT, Karen Gerhart - Annville Township, Nick Yingst - Annville Township, Carol Hickey - Hickey Architects, David Funk - Arthur Funk & Sons, Dee Neff - Library Director. We wished we had many, many more shovels to get everyone in the photo, who new they were so hard to find?



There are far too many people who attended to mention in this article. Everyone enjoyed walking the floor plan, touring through the 226/228 duplex, and refreshments compliments of Swatara Coffee and Whirling Dervish. We also had a nice photo backstop of a tractor supplied by Tom Risser of the Annville Auto Center.

Some next steps for the project is preparation of the construction lay down area on the cemetery, with thanks to St Mark Lutheran Church. Then reviewing the bid submissions and general contractor selection plus continued preparation work in the library and the duplex. We all hope the bids are the same as the estimate, keep your fingers crossed. Come by the library and learn more about this exciting project for our community.

Thanks To All Who Made 33rd Historic Old Annville Day a Grand Success

By Michael Schroeder and Doug Nyce

The Board of Directors of the Friends of Old Annville, Inc. and the Historic Old Annville Day Planning Committee, spearheaded by FOOA Vice President Doug Nyce, offer their sincere & heartfelt thanks to the following organizations & individuals for all their help in making HOAD 2022 the spectacularly successful event it was:

- Annville Police Chief Bernie Dugan and his team in the Annville and South Annville Township police departments for providing excellent security throughout the event.
- Annville Township Public Works Supervisor Les Powell & his team of Keith Heck, Christopher Koehler, Joseph Viozzi, Jason Shaak & Gary Kosh for expertly managing myriad tasks and event logistics, from setting up the main stage & the porta-potties & extra trash cans & traffic cones & barriers & making sure that vendors who asked for electricity got it & more than we'll probably ever know.
- Annville Township Commissioners Rex Moore, Henri Lively, Thomas Embich, Nevin Hoover & Anthony Perrotto and Township Administrator Karen Gerhart for facilitating the event with PennDot and other government agencies and for all their support.



- The Lebanon County Auxiliary Patrol Captain Neil Umberger and his team of nine trained & deputized traffic controllers for expertly conducted traffic control.
- The Lebanon County Commissioners for a generous tourism grant to help defray the cost of necessary expenses.
- The Palmyra Lion's Club for voluntarily sharing half of their profits from milkshake sales with the Friends of Old Annville.
- Volunteers who helped with sound support for the music, especially Bob Bechtel and members of the Palmyra First United Methodist Church sound team: Fred Adams, Dave Yascavage, Phil Deivernois, and Tom Ryan.
- Lee Smedley and his team for arranging and coordinating yet another year of fabulous musical performances.
- Michael Charelian for yet another extraordinary performance selling raffle tickets on the day of the event.

The event's many sponsors and donors, who fall into the following categories:

- Leadership (\$500 and up): Annville Township | Charlie's Septic Service | Kreamer Funeral Home & Crematory | Lebanon Valley College | Lebanon County Tourism Grant.
- Diamond (\$200-\$499): Pennsy Supply | Rotunda Restaurant & Brewery, Lou Rotunda | Sound Advantage.
- Platinum (\$100-\$199): Annville Cleona Veterinary Associates | Bluescope Buildings | Bomberger's Ace Hardware | Sons of the American Legion Post 559 | Country Lane Furniture | Limestone Ridge Kennel | Fulton Bank | Laudermilch Meats | Reeds Lock & Access Control Systems, Inc. | Sherry Giorgio / Butcher Blocks Antiques | Synergy Health
- Gold (\$50-\$99): 1st Floor Attic Antiques | Butcher Block Antiques | Charelian Remodels & Renovation | Cleona Dental | Clift Auto Sales | Edward Jones—Doug Russell | Harry Bachman, Auctioneer | Feather & Feather, PC | Swatara Coffee Company
- Silver (\$30-\$49): J & S Pizza | Silk & Lace Bridal | Stewart's Gift Peddler | The Flower Garden | The Law Office of Tucker R. Hull, LLC | Kreamer Brothers Furniture

This is not an exhaustive list, of course, and please forgive us if we've overlooked anyone. It takes a whole village to put on an event like this, and we are very grateful for everyone's help.

Now, mark your calendar for Saturday, June 10 next year for HOAD 2023!

The FOOA Board of Directors voted on July 14 to revise our By-Laws. These proposed revisions will not be officially adopted until our members vote on them at our Annual Dinner in November. Members are invited to review these revisions and offer comments before then. Please visit <https://www.fooa.org/about-us/by-laws/revision-of-by-laws> to review the changes.



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Please note that your MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DATE can be found in the line above your name and address on this issue of The Landmark. Please send your dues and address change to Rachel Noll, 1673 Louser Road, Annville, PA, 17003-8856. Questions? Call Rachel at (717) 867-2137.

Individual & Student \$ 5.00 Family (2+ persons) \$ 10.00 Business \$ 25.00 Friend of FOOA \$ 50.00 ★
Benefactor \$ 100.00 § Founder \$ 250 ❖

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