



**Turkeyfoot
Valley
Historical
Society**

PASS IT ON
Share our history

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Pass It On
is a quarterly
publication of the
**Turkeyfoot Valley
Historical Society**

Address:

**600 Logan Place
PO BOX 44**

Confluence, PA 15424

Email: tfvhs@tfvhs.com

Web: www.tfvhs.com

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From my viewpoint. . .

Welcome to another edition of the TVHS "Pass It On". By now, I believe most of us are getting pretty tired of this winter weather, especially the extra-cold temperatures. Don't get me wrong, I don't like to see snow and snow is important to the earth.

Our next meeting is March 20th, one day before Spring officially begins. We hope you will be able to attend that meeting.

I want to personally thank Janice Fike for all the work she has done for our Society in applying for a grant application. Hopefully, we will receive some funds, which will be used for insulation and other energy-saving options.

Thanks to everyone who has helped with this process and the support of our Society in whatever way you have contributed.

We look forward to seeing you at one of our meetings.

Ron Schaeffer

New Members

Karen and Richard Edmunds, Confluence

Larry Magid, St. Clair Shores, MI

Gary Ruane, Philadelphia

Donations

- Leslie reunion photograph from 1919 and other photos – Bob Percy
- Two framed photographs of Humbert – Betty Jane Conn
- Valentines, Ralph Hostetler's report card, various paper items – Ruth Parnell
- Casselman Valley Farm milk bottle, Pore's shoehorn, medicine bottles from Drs. Price and Kamons – Vivian Hall Estate
- Turkeyoughas from 1948 to 1951 – Pam Wable
- Boy Scout uniform – Bob Bowser
- Postal scale – Sam and Sandy Everhart
- Baby shoes – Neva Bowlin
- Postcard of Casselman River dated 7/12/11 – Don & Janice Fike

NOTE TO MEMBERS

If you are interested in receiving your copy of Pass It On electronically, please contact the Society at tfvhs@tfvhs.com.

**Robert Burow moved and didn't give us his forwarding address.
Does anyone out there have it?**

A Blast From the Past

The following photographs were found while looking through some old folders. Do you remember any of these people?



Elsie Spurgeon



Irvin Fortney



Edith Hyde



Harriet Black

Obituary of Thomas Robertson Edgar

Thomas Robertson Edgar died suddenly at his home in Confluence, at 8 o'clock Monday morning, January 6 (1919) at the age of 61 years, 9 months and 28 days. He had been sick with heart trouble since November 13, 1917, and, while confined to his house during those 14 months, he was able to be up most of the time.

Thomas Robertson Edgar was born at Benton, Wis., March 8, 1857. He was a son of Jacob and Mary Edgar. His mother lies buried in California beside an only sister. When about 8 years old, his father and he sailed for Australia and, when three days out on the Pacific, a storm came up and his father was killed by an accident on board. The boy was landed on Kanaka Island, one of the Sandwich group, where he was left for a year, and was then brought back to Plattville, Wis., where he was taken care of by an uncle.

He was twice married. His first wife was Mary Robinson, who died in 1889. Five children by this

marriage survive him. They are Mrs. Charles Kuhlman, Belden, Neb., William E. and George A. Edgar and Mrs. Charles Guise of Okoto, Kan., and Mrs. Elmer Locke of Summerfield, Kan. His second wife was Cora A. Bird of Addison, who survives him. One child preceded him to the grave 11 years ago. He is also survived by 11 grandchildren.

Mr. Edgar came to Pennsylvania 17 years ago and remained until his death, residing most of that time in Confluence. He was a devoted husband and father and a sincere Christian, being for many years a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in every walk of life, he was always honest and true in his dealings with his fellowmen. He was a member of the K.O.T.M. and the Junior O.U.A.M. At the time of his death, he was Deputy State Councilor of the local council of the latter order and also Treasurer.

The funeral was held at his late home at 11 o'clock Wednesday morning. Interment in Addison cemetery.

Death of Mrs. Sarah Cameron

Mrs. Sarah Cameron, for many years a resident of this place (Ursina), died on Thursday, April 15 (1926) at the home of her daughter, Mrs. A. J. Farling, in Rockwood, at the age of 78 years.

Mrs. Cameron was born in 1848, in Turkeyfoot Township before the township was divided. She was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Rush, and lived in her native township most of her life, her residence in Ursina being near the J. B. Davis store. She married John Cameron, a native of Canada, in 1874. Her husband died some years ago. She is survived by one son, Jacob Cameron, of Akron, Ohio, and three daughters, Mrs. Ruth Sellers and Mrs. J. Wade Riffle of Connellsville, and Mrs. A. J. Riffle of Rockwood, and six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. She is also survived by three brothers who are living in the West and one sister, Mrs. Riffle.

The funeral took place at 1:30 on Saturday, April 17, Rev. Logsdon officiating; interment in the Rockwood cemetery. The following from Ursina attended the funeral: Mesdames Fred Younkin, Nora Hoyt, Ida Parker, J. A. Critchfield and Miss Pearle Levy.

Crane Kills Man

Crushed between two cars of a log train, Paul Hunter, aged 23, of Confluence was hurt fatally at 11 o'clock Saturday morning. He was a son of Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Hunter of Confluence. Hunter was engaged in coupling cars at a siding of the Boswell Lumber Company when a boom of a crane used in logging operations struck him.

Besides his parents, young Hunter is survived by a brother, Harry Hunter, and five sisters, Mrs. William Hall, both of Boswell; Mrs. Helen Roderick, Mrs. Bessie Gunderman and the Misses Opal and Alice Hunter, all of Confluence.

Funeral services will be held Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. Burial will take place in Addison Cemetery.

- Somerset Daily Herald, 7/1/29

JOB OPENINGS

Election of officers and directors for 2014-2016 will be held this summer. Now is the time for all good members to step up and offer their assistance to the Turkeyfoot Valley Historical Society. If you are interested in serving as an officer or director, please contact President Ron Schaeffer at 395-5168 or Vice President Josh Sechler at Somerset Trust Company.

William Bower

William Bower died in the Community Hospital, Somerset, on Monday evening, January 16, at 7:30 o'clock. He was aged 79 years, 7 months and 29 days. He had been in the hospital since January 8, but his condition did not appear very serious until a few days before his death.

William Bower was born at Kemptville, Province of Ontario, Canada, May 17, 1848. When he was a young man, he became a resident and citizen of the State of New York, and being an expert in the creamery and butter-making business, he was employed by the late Russell Sage, who at that time was extensively engaged in the creamery business.

In 1876, he came to Somerset County from Oneida County, N.Y., and with Russell Sage started a number of butter and cheese factories in this county, with headquarters at Somerset. In 1893, Mr. Bower, in company with J. S. Hartzell, established a creamery in Confluence, where he bought a property and located with his family. In

1896, he moved back to Somerset and engaged in the grocery business, in which business he remained until 1920, when he retired and moved again to Confluence, where he purchased a home and lived until 1924, when he went back to Somerset.

After coming to Somerset County, Mr. Bower was married to Miss Venie Wendell, of Friedens, who died three years ago. He is survived by one son, William S. Bower of Confluence, and one daughter, Miller, wife of F. R. Holbrook of Somerset, with whom he made his home since the death of his wife. He is also survived by nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren and three brothers, Samuel, Jasper and James Bower of Kemptville, Ontario.

Mr. Bower became a citizen of the United States soon after coming to this country from Canada. He was a patriotic citizen and far above the average in intelligence. He was a sincere Christian, being a member of the Lutheran Church for 42 years, and an earnest worker in church and Sunday school and supporter of every movement that had for its object the glorification of God and the uplift of mankind.

The funeral took place at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 19, at the home of his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Holbrook, 428 West Patriot Street. Interment in Husband cemetery.

On Display at the Historical Building

The exhibits at the TVHS Building are constantly being changed – with newly donated items being added and others being moved to storage. The Orthophonic Victrola pictured below was donated by the Vivian Hall Estate.



Robert Samuel Butler

Robert Samuel Butler was born near Confluence, July 3, 1877, died near Warren, Ohio, May 8, 1903, aged 25 years 10 months and 5 days. The sad news reached Confluence Saturday morning, May 9th, where it caused universal sorrow, as he was a young man of many excellent qualities. The writer knew him all his life, even from the time he first entered school, which was the Rockville school in Henry Clay township, and since that had been associated more or less with him until the last year or so; he had a most loving heart in him, always solicitous of the welfare of his parents, sister and brother, and it seemed to be one of his chief pleasures to grant a friend a request.

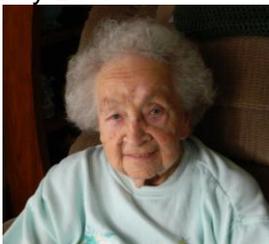
A great part of his life was spent in the immediate vicinity of Confluence, except the last few years, which he spent down about Pittsburg and a while in Michigan, and a year ago he moved with his parents to Warren, Ohio.

Some time ago, he contracted mumps and was getting well again, but being of a very industrious nature, went to work before he was really as well as he should have been. He was employed in a milk depot and soon after going back to work, one day lifted something heavy which caused an hemorrhage of the stomach which finally resulted in his death.

They shipped the body from Warren Saturday noon, May 9th, and it arrived at Confluence on No. 10 at midnight, accompanied by his only sister. He was buried from Johnson Chapel church of which he was a consistent member, on Sunday, May 10th at 2 o'clock. He was laid to rest in the cemetery close by the church where he awaits that great day when the trumpet shall resound and the grave shall give up its dead.

Condolences

In our Second Quarter 2013 newsletter, we carried an article written by Keith Russell about Edna Criss of Addison. At the time, Edna was 97 years old. We are sad to report that Edna passed away on February 20th.



David Hyatt

David Hyatt, one of the old substantial residents of Lower Turkeyfoot Township, died at his residence between the Jersey Church and Draketown in the above township April 26 (1911), aged 63 years and 3 months, being born February 1848.

The deceased was a son of the late Otho and Thankful (Moon) Hyatt, both of whom were direct descendants of one of the pioneer families that settled in the vicinity of the Jersey Church about the time of the Revolutionary War. He was born on a farm near what is now know as Fair Oak school house and always followed the occupation of farmer.

There were 12 in the family, all of whom, with the exception of Andrew J. of Humbert, and John B. of Draketown, preceded him to the grave. He married Miss Mary Anne Wills, who, with three sons and one daughter survive. The surviving children are Mansfield on Connellsville, Lloyd of Draketown, Ira who lives at home, and Mrs. Minnie Conn of Humbert.

The funeral took place a 2 o'clock Friday, April 28, from the Jersey Church, Rev. Ball, pastor of the Church of God, Ursina, preaching the funeral sermon. The pallbearers were J. B. Colborn, F. S. Kregard, John Enos, E. B. Lenhart, F. W. Dull and John Huff. Interment in the Jersey Cemetery.

2014 TENTATIVE PROGRAM SCHEDULE

April	Fred Will, "The Early Pennsylvania Dutch Homestead"
May	Josh Sechler, "History of the Independent Order of Oddfellows"
June	John Josselyn, "Buzz One Five" – History of the B-52 Crach near Salisbury
July	Currently open – maybe the Society Picnic or a PHC Speaker
August	James Monticue, "Civil War Weapons"
September	Currently open – maybe a PHC Speaker
October	Matthew Dodd, "History of American Roads"
November	Marcy Kalaski – a history of her grandfather's military service

Quote from Abraham Lincoln: "Be sure to plant your feet in the right place, then stand firm.

Quote from George Washington: "It is better to be alone than to be in bad company."

Quote from Thomas Jefferson: "Do you want to know who you are? Don't ask. Act! Action will delineate and define you."

Quote from Theodore Roosevelt: "Believe you can, and you're half way there."

Quote from Alexander the Great: "There is nothing impossible to him who will try."

TURKEYFOOT VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION – 7/1/13 to 6/30/14

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

____ Individual - \$15.00

____ Husband & Wife - \$20.00

____ Youth 12-18 - \$5.00

____ Child Under 12 – Free

____ Bronze Corporate - \$50.00

____ Silver Corporate - \$200.00

____ Gold Corporate - \$500.00

____ Platinum Corporate - \$1000.00

____ Additional financial contribution of \$ _____

Please make checks payable to Turkeyfoot Valley Historical Society and mail to the Society at PO Box 44, Confluence, PA 15424.

NOTE: We are a non-profit 501(c)(3) exempt organization. Donations are deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

