



Volume 15, Issue I Ist Quarter 2016

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

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NOTE TO MEMBERS

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



Markleton Sanatorium was originally a private hotel-like sanatorium where guests would visit for relaxation as well as treatment from every day "illnesses" like stress. The sanatorium would later be converted for use by the US Army as a tuberculosis sanatorium.

The sanatorium was situated on the main line of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, between Cumberland and Pittsburg. It was nestled among the mountains at an altitude of 1,700 feet, which shut it in on both the east and the west, and was, therefore, not exposed to the cold winds of the winter. Its main building was a five-story, steam-heated, brick structure, with north and south frame wings, each of which was 150 feet long. Water was supplied from numerous springs high up on the mountain side. The sanatorium had baths of salt, electric, Turkish, and vapor. The original building had a capacity of 150. The town of Markleton comprised, mainly, the railroad station, 2 stores, and about 20 small dwellings located along the railroad tracks to a coal mine about three-fourths of a mile distant. The nearest town of any size was Rockwood, about 7 miles away.

In January, 1918, the sanatorium was a in poor state of repair. It was offered to the Government, for lease or sale. A representative of the Surgeon General's Office inspected it, and, on February 5, the Surgeon General recommended that it be leased for use as a general hospital in the care and treatment of tuberculosis. The recommendation was approved, and the lease was executed February 25, 1918. Included in the transaction were the sanatorium, with its complete equipment, a laundry and cold-storage plant, a power plant, outbuildings, several farmhouses, and 100 acres of land, all obtained for a rental of \$20,000 a year. Under a separate agreement, some cottages were leased for use as quarters for nurses on duty at the hospital. The designation General Hospital No. 17 was giv-

en on March 21, 1918; it was opened in the following month, with a bed capacity of 186 and was soon filled.

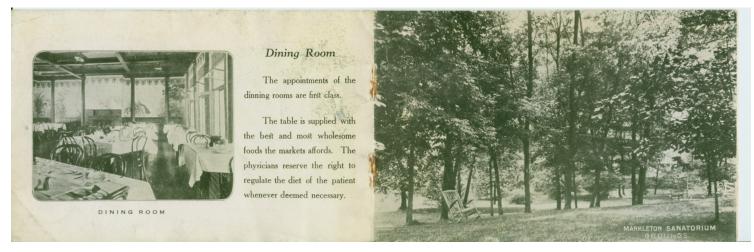
At the time General Hospital No. 17 was secured, the need for additional beds for tuberculosis patients in general hospitals was pressing, and it was exceedingly difficult to find suitably located places that could be used for the treatment of tuberculosis, and even more difficult to induce owners of properties to lease them: they were decidedly averse to the use of them for hospitals for the tuberculous. These almost insurmountable difficulties influenced the selection of the comparatively undesirable Markleton Sanatorium. It was not well suited to general hospital purposes; it was small and would not have permitted of an economical expansion by the construction of a sufficient number of buildings to constitute a hospital that would be on a par with the general hospitals then being provided. It was estimated that between 300 and 400 patients could be cared for; however, the subsequent history of the hospital, not unlike those of General Hospitals Nos. 13, 15, and 18, proved the fallacy of this estimate.

On March 4, 1918, personnel was sent to the hospital, and its renovation and alteration were begun. Following this, the construction of six tuberculosis wards, in the vicinity of the main building, was authorized and started. This temporary construction was stopped, however, after three buildings had been built. At one time, in the summer of 1918, the abandonment of the hospital was considered; but the entertainment of the idea was dropped: there was too much uncertainty regarding future military necessities. It developed at this time, too, that the lesson had been led to understand that the sanatorium had been leased for not only the period of the war, but one year thereafter, and that it was mainly because of this understanding that he had been induced to permit the discontinuance of the sanatorium, as such, and to enter into a lease with the Government.

Later in the fall available bed space for the tuberculous became critical, and further construction at this hospital was requested, but, because of the armistice, was not consummated. The maximum bed capacity of the hospital was 200. This bed capacity had been attained by August, 1918, coincident with the number of patients under treatment. Both bed capacity and the number of patients remained at that figure until the hospital was closed on March 27, 1919.

Being a hospital for the treatment of tuberculosis, the development of physical reconstruction activities was attempted, but, due to the small size of the hospital, the results, as obtained elsewhere, were not secured.

http://www.asylumprojects.org/index.php?title=Markleton Sanatorium



Markleton Sanatorium Booklet Copy ~ Turkeyfoot Valley Historical Society

Member to Member

Hi,

My Name is Jim Gallert. My mom is a Colborn and is directly related back to Robert M. Colborn, Rev War vet. I have a lot of stuff relating to my mom's family. I've attached a copy of Robert's will. I loved the picture of James Buchanan Colborn and family in your newsletter, I had no idea what he looked like. I have a few photos of Colborn folks which I can send if you wish. have a Gallert tree in Ancestry.com It's public if you wish to view it. I recall my Uncle taking me to see the Colborn Farm but I was a young teen and had little interest. Does anyone have photos of Colborn related material?

Jim
www.detroitmusichistory.com
www.jazzstage.us

I am looking up history on a Benford house that was in Ursina. Around 1850 through the 1910. There was a tornado that destroyed the building at the beginning of the 20th century. -David Benford

benford541@comcast.net

SOMERSET COUNTY, SS.

By the TENOR OF THESE PRESENTS, I

Register for the probate of Wills and granting letters of administration in and for the county of Somerset, in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, DO make known unto all men, that on the day of the date hereof at Somerset before me, was proved, approved and insinuated the last Will and Testament of late of said county deceased, (a true copy whereof is to these presents annexed) having whilst lived and at the time of death, divers goods, chattels, rights and credits, within the said Commonwealth.

By reason whereof the approbation and insinuation, of the said last Will and Testament, and the committing the administration of all and singular the goods and chattels, rights and credits, which were of the said deceased, and also the auditing the aucounts, calculations and reckonings of the said administration, and a final dismission from the saine, to me are manifestly known to belong; and that the administration of all and singular the goods and chattels, rights and credits, which were of the said deceased any way concerning last Will and Testament was committed to the said last Will and Testament named having been first Whitness to the said deceased, and make a true and perfect Inventory thereof, and exhibit the same into the Register's Office at Somerset, on or before the day of next, and to render a just and true account, calculation and reckoning of the said administration on or before the day of day of next ensuing.

In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and the scal of the said county of Somerset, this day of in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty.

I Themmel Register.

I am looking for information about my father's family. He was born in Confluence on 5/24/1912. His name was Bruce Lafragiola. His mother was Cora Fisher, daughter of Alfred Fisher, both of Confluence. Cora and her husband, an Italian immigrant, named Albert Lafragiola, both died the same day in 1918 of the Spanish flu, as did Alfred Fisher. My father - age 5 - and his 3 siblings were sent to an orphanage and lost all contact with each other and family members in Confluence. Any information would be helpful. I can find the family in the 1900 and 1910 census, but cannot find birth or death records.

Thanks for your help! Sharon Lafragiola Kroeber

SKroeber@stanfordhealthcare.org

Our products are manufactured in a facility that processes dimamon, egg products, milk, soy, nuts, peanuts, and wheat.

Once again the Turkeyfoot Valley Historical Society is having a Pie Sale Fundraiser.

Please return form and money to Kurt Miller by **Friday, March 11, 2016**.

Delivery date is Wednesday, March 23 before noon to the Turkeyfoot Valley Historical Society Building. Thank you all for your support! Turkeyfoot Valley Historical Society

EASTER 2016 ORDER FORM (For sales delivered March 16-26, 2016)

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Leonard Warren saws Addison 3754	Newman Ward C Williams St 4863	Richards John H Jr Addison
Leslie Alvin E Fort Hill	Nicholson Jacob R Addison5812	Richter H°C Hugert St
	Nickelson Carl RD I	Riley R G Page St. 3953 Ringer Dwane E Williams St. 4741
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Linderman Charles Williams St3151	Nicklow Park Addison3734	Ringer Howard R Jr Irwin St4155

2016 PROGRAMS

March 21 - Monthly meeting

April 18

"The Fate of Four of Pittsburgh's Founding Fathers"

~Four signers of the Declaration faced severe financial struggles after the Revolution by the Senator John Heinz History Center Ambassador Program Outreach

May 16 - Monthly meeting

June 20

"The Golden Years - Working the Connellsville Seam" ~by Jim Oglethorpe

July 18 - Monthly meeting

August 15

"Growing Up with Baseball in Pittsburgh"

~ A look at baseball history from the city that created the first World Series by the Senator John Heinz History Center Ambassador Program Outreach

September 19 - Monthly meeting

October 17

"Pittsburgh on the Eve of Civil War"

~ Advertisements and articles from the newspapers offer a glimpse of everyday life by the Senator John Heinz History Center Ambassador Program Outreach

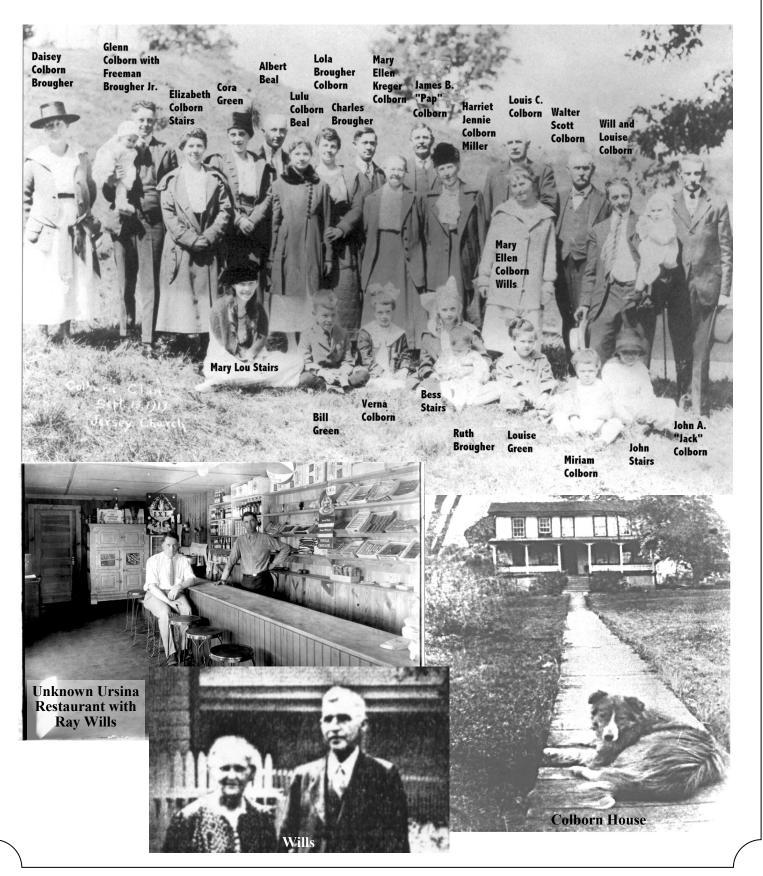
November 21 - Monthly meeting

December 19 - Christmas Open House

All meetings and programs start at 6pm at H. C. Harned Center unless otherwise noted.



Photos from the files of Cliff Groff...



Corporate Members

Silver Members Somerset Trust Company

Bronze Members

Hanna House Bed & Breakfast River's Edge Café The Smokehouse

A HUGE COLORFUL thanks to the talented and civicminded Trail Town Quilters for their efforts on behalf of The Confluence Creative Arts Center and the Turkeyfoot Area Historical Society. Thanks also to all the individuals and businesses who helped sell tickets. The total collected was \$801.





Some photos from our activities in 2015

TURKEYFOOT VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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 \$	