

**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

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## **H.C. “Joe” Harned Scholarship Recipients...**

This year’s 2022 scholarship awardees are:



**Morgan Griffith** – Morgan is planning on attending California University of Pennsylvania. Her field of study will be to acquire a Bachelor’s degree in plant biology. Her activities at school include: Class President, National Honor Society, STEAM Club, and student council. Outside of school she has participated Garret School of Dance and Baton, 2022 Pennsylvania Maple Princess, Somerset County Mobil Food Bank, window-painting and entertainment for Pumpkinfest, and doing volunteer hours at the Historical Society.

**Jesse Culp** – Jesse is planning to attend West Virginia University to study Industrial Engineering. His activities at school include: Secretary in STEM Club, Vice-President in National Honors Society, Chess Master in Chess Club, Baseball and Weightlifting. Outside of school Jess has earned the Eagle Scout award in Boy Scouts, served as a trout unlimited volunteer, and has done volunteer hours at the Historical Society. Jesse was this year’s Salutatorian speaker.

Danny Conn (not pictured) also applied for a scholarship. However, the Ursina Church of God has awarded him the Joe Harned Scholarship. The Historical Society and the Ursina Church usually coordinates the scholarships since a student cannot double-up on these awards. Danny has been a member of the Historical Society for many years. We would like to recognize him as this year’s Valedictorian of his class.

Each year students submit applications for the scholarship. Besides being a member of the society, they must write an essay and provide 10 hours of volunteer service per year to the society during their college duration.

# Scholarship Essays

## *Morgan Griffith Turkeyfoot Valley Historical Society Scholarship*

4/10/22

What does Confluence mean to us? To the local residents, it means a livelihood encompassed by a community to share our bonds and grievances. However, there's a much deeper and historic connection that lies beyond the surface of our hometown. At the Turkeyfoot Valley Historical Society, our deep roots can be sourced from the rivers and mountainous terrains that have cultivated the lives of thousands of individuals since the first colonization of the United States. Among the first individuals to claim Confluence as their home and livelihood, the various Indian tribes played a crucial role in establishing our area and the relationships they upheld with our founding fathers.

While encircled by the Sioux, Crows, and Blackfeet tribes, Confluence thrived under the cultures that the Indians assimilated into the newly adjoined colonizers. These tribes acted as guides and messengers for the new colonizers of the great American plains. More specifically, they helped our most memorable founding father, George Washington, cross our remarkable rivers that define the identity of our hometown's legacy. Under their guidance, Washington was able to discover the full potential of our monumental landmark and be inspired to expand our country further west. As our president realized the prospective measures he could make to create our country, he made an impression on our area that has lasted ever since his first arrival. For instance, when Washington documented a map layout of our town, he recognized our river's uncanny resemblance to the shape of a turkey's foot. This legacy is what gave our school, Turkeyfoot Valley, its name and connection to the ingrained history of Confluence. With the dedication of Washington, the youth of our area were given a sense of uniformity to our community. This honorable notion must be remembered to help preserve the importance of education and reflect on our challenging upbringings as a town.

With the proactive efforts of the Turkeyfoot Valley Historical Society, the history and legacy of our hometown can be continued to be taught to further generations. As time progresses, we can assert our proud gratification to the tribes and founding fathers who risked their lives to construct the area we flourish in today. To conclude, their contributions to the formation of our country and the identity of our hometown will always be honored by our community members.

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## *The Importance of Turkeyfoot in American History*

*Jesse Culp*

The history of Somerset County began back during the French and Indian War in the 1750s when settlers of Pennsylvania carved their way through thick Pennsylvania forests in order to open passageways for settlement and connect them with newly made roads. In 1755, the now infamous General Braddock attempted to conquer Fort Duquesne, a French established fort during the war. The attempt failed but the trail that was carved became what is now known as Route 40, or the National Road. General Forbes launched a second attempt in 1758 and successfully conquered the fort, establishing Route 30. Immigrant settlers were an important part in the making of southwestern Pennsylvania, with most coming from northern,

western, and central Europe.

Somerset County was not officially organized until 1795, with the Turkeyfoot area being a part of Bedford County at the time. When the county was created, Turkeyfoot made up a sixth of the entire county. It shared the county with five other townships including Brothersvalley, Quemahoning, Milford, Elk Lick and Stonycreek townships. The new county was named after Somersetshire, a county in western England. The Turkeyfoot township was actually formed in 1773 before the creation of Somerset County, and adopted the name Turkeyfoot because of the merging of the Youghiogheny River, Casselman River, and Laurel Hill Creek. George Washington was thought to be the first white man in the area, and was the one who first noticed the confluence of the three rivers. Hence the town of Confluence was born, the largest town to occupy both of the Turkeyfoot townships.

The area continued to grow over the 1800s as more settlers came into the area mainly through Maryland, New Jersey, and Virginia. The area really began to grow in the 1870s, when railroads made their way to Turkeyfoot. The township was a large contributor in the shipping of coal and timber thanks to local mines. There were also a lot of things being shipped through Confluence due to its connection to Cumberland, Maryland and Connellsville, Pennsylvania. The coal and timber sustained the areas economy for a large part of the 1900s, and Confluence now has a variety of local businesses that help boost the area. In order to help preserve and document the areas history the Turkeyfoot Valley Historical Society was founded in 2002 and is now a very active organization that offers a great way to get a better understanding of our area and its rich history.

*Works Cited*

"Lower Turkeyfoot Township." *PA Roots*, <https://www.pa-roots.com/index.php/pacounties/somerset-county/392-townships-somerset-county/1451-lower-turkeyfoot-township>.

"History of Somerset County." *Somerset County Pennsylvania Chamber of Commerce*, <https://somersetcountychamber.com/about/history/>.

"Somerset County Pagenweb -- History of the County." [PA] *GenWeb*, <http://www.pagenweb.org/~somerset/history.htm>.

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## ***Turkeyfoot Valley Area's Importance in American History***

***Daniel Conn***

Each year, thousands of outdoor enthusiasts travel to the Turkeyfoot Valley region. The geography of the area provides the perfect setting for activities like hunting, fishing, and boating. With the completion of the Great Allegheny Passage rail trail, the destination has become particularly popular with bicyclists. The importance of the region's geography is not new but rather dates back to the forming of our nation.

During Colonial times, the mountainous and forested terrain of the Turkeyfoot Valley made travel difficult. In the spring of 1754, George Washington found himself advancing a regiment of approximately 150 men through the region on his way to confront the French at what is now Pittsburgh. At first, the young lieutenant colonel believed that the Youghiogheny River could provide an easier route. Halted by high water near the town of Addison, Washington and a few men headed downstream to explore the river (Weltz).

On the evening of May 20, the men reached the “Turkey-Foot” (the merging place of the Youghiogheny and Casselman Rivers and the Laurel Hill Creek in the town of Confluence) and camped overnight. The next morning, Washington drew up plans for a possible fort at the location then continued downstream. After paddling about twelve miles, Washington’s dreams of finding a water route suddenly came to an end. There he encountered Ohiopyle Falls and declared that the river could “never be made navigable” (Kent).

Abandoning any hopes of a water route, Washington continued his march by land. Warned by a Seneca leader known as Half-King of possible French troops in the area, Washington set up camp in a natural clearing called the Great Meadows. On the morning of May 28, Washington and about 40 of his men locate and surround the French camp. A shot is fired and a battle ensues. The injured Ensign Joseph Coulon de Jumonville is captured then murdered by Half-King, sparking the French and Indian War (Jumonville).

While war between the British and the French over control of the region was inevitable, this opening battle was likely the result of the lay of the land. If Washington would have found a viable water route, he would likely not have crossed paths with Jumonville, which would have at least delayed the start of the war.

#### Works Cited

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Kent, Donald H. “Contrecoeur’s Copy of George Washington’s Journal for 1754.” *Pennsylvania History: A Journal of Mid-Atlantic Studies*, Jan. 1952, <https://journals.psu.edu/phj/article/view/22160>.

Weltz, Anna. “George Washington Was Here: A Journey through the History in Pennsylvania’s Laurel Highlands.” *Visit Laurel Highlands, PA, Laurel Highlands Visitors Bureau*, 15 Jan. 2020, <https://www.golaurelhighlands.com/articles/post/george-washington-was-here-a-journey-through-history-in-pennsylvanias-laurel-highlands/>.

# Thank You!

To all involved with The Turkeyfoot Valley Historical Society,

Hello all, as many of you know my name is Caleb Butler and I had the pleasure of receiving The Harned Scholarship in 2018. I am writing to extend my sincere gratitude for you having invested in my education and future, and to update you all on where I am now and what my future plans are. With your support I have

completed four of my four and a half years of undergraduate studies in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at West Virginia University, keeping a 4.00 GPA throughout that time. My freedom to study and focus on my classes due to your support allowed me to land a recurring internship with GE Aviation. The first rotation was rocky (and forced online, in the form of an “intern academy” for the manufacturing and design of jet engines) due to COVID-19, but honestly, what wasn’t rocky during that time? My second rotation took me to Strother, Kansas where I started working in my field of interest, as an engineer for Department of Defense related production and design, on the T-700/CT7 engine production line for the United States’ UH-60 “Blackhawk” and AH-64 “Apache” helicopters. My third and final rotation will be this summer in Jacksonville, Florida working production and design for the engine igniters for those same engines. After my final semester this fall, I will graduate from WVU with two bachelor’s degrees in the aforementioned areas of study. Post-graduation I am considering pursuing an advanced degree in engineering, and most assuredly will be pursuing an MBA degree as it allows for a jump start into higher leadership roles in industry. In industry, my hopeful focus will be on weapon systems or countermeasures for the Department of Defense, then we will see where it goes from there. But again, I cannot thank you enough for allowing a “small town kid” like myself to get to the position where I am today.

Sincerely,

Caleb Butler  
Senior Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Student  
West Virginia University  
May 11, 2022

# Thank You! Thank You!

## ***HOW TO PRESERVE FAMILY PHOTOS***

***By Anita Hankinson***

For your own use and for pictures donated to the Historical Society, please do the following:

- ♦ Never write on the back of a photo with a pen. It will bleed into the front of the photo. Never write on the back with a pencil. It could emboss onto the front of the photo. They make a special pencil for marking your photos. Invest in one of them.
- ♦ Use a post-a-note. Put the name of each person, using their first and last name. Use the date, time, event and season, if you know that. Your pictures capture a moment in your life and your family's life. It is history that makes the picture precious and valuable. As we age our memory fades, but if we record the information and place it with the picture, it makes that picture extra special. You can go back and recall that moment in time at any time.
- ♦ Never store photos in the basement or attic. It will destroy them over time.
- ♦ **DO NOT USE MAGNETIC ALBUMS.** If you have special pictures in these kinds of albums remove them sooner than later. The photo will adhere to the page and you will not be able to remove it without destroying the picture.
- ♦ If your photos would get wet, separate them immediately and let them dry. Some may roll up after they are dry. Place them under a heavy book after they are dry. You can straighten them out that way most of the time.
- ♦ If you don't have names for pictures with just people in them, please do not give them to the Historical Society. Chances are if you don't know them, neither will we. However, flood pictures, and pictures of buildings or locations are more easily identified. So you can donate those. Again, use a post-a-note.
- ♦ Please do not put the post-a-note on the front of the photo. It does two things when we remove it. First, the post-note may take some of the picture off, or it could leave a sticky film on the front of the photo.
- ♦ Use acid free tape and paper. It will help to preserve the photo. If you buy albums, make sure that the pages are acid free. Never use scotch tape. The pencils, acid free paper and photo tape can be purchased at Walmart or Creative Memories.
- ♦ Newspaper articles you want to save should be photo copied onto acid free paper, as well. This will protect your articles against fading, cracking and yellowing.



*(Permission was granted to reprint the above article which was taken from the Berlin Fall Memos, 2021)*

**ADDED NOTE:** At this time we are only accepting articles that are directly related to our Turkeyfoot Valley. If the article does not pertain to our area, then please do not donate it to us.



Dear Turkey-Foot Valley Historical Society - I am researching my ancestor, Shadrack Hyatt, who lived in Turkey-Foot prior to the Revolutionary War. When the War broke out, he enlisted in Old Town under Capt. Michael Cresap. His Revolutionary War pension application of 8 November 1832 (when he was 83 years old and living in Montgomery Co., KY) describes his service. Most interesting to me is that beginning in May 1777, he re-enlisted in the Turkey-Foot Settlement under Capt. David Noble for a term of 3 years. Being a blacksmith, Shadrack was attached to a Pack Horse Company to shoe horses. They packed provisions for the Army from the Eastern side of the mountains to the New Store in the fork of the Youghagany and Monongahaly rivers and to Pittsburgh. He mentions that Capt. Cornahan, Capt. Cormack, Capt. Mark Handris and Capt. Whitesides each commanded a brigade of horses. He shod horses for about 18 months - - until some time in the early part of 1779 when from extreme exposure and fatigue he was afflicted with a gathering in his head and an almost entire loss of hearing. "Without any application on his part, his commanding officer gave him a discharge before the expiration of his 3-year

commitment." I've read the remarkable story of the 1,500 pack horse brigade that used the Turkey-Foot road to supply the Western Revolutionary efforts of the War. I am most interested in finding records of my Shadrack Hyatt in early Turkey Foot (before the War). Can you tell me where I might find land or probate records? I've tried the usual places at the MD State Archives without luck. Any help you can provide would be much appreciated! Thank you.

Nancy Jones  
nkjones33@gmail.com  
Annapolis, MD

I am supposed to be a decedent of Meshach Hyatt. There were apparently brothers called: Shadrach, Meshach and Abendigo as in the bible. A man has a FB "Hyatt Heritage" presence. He has been helpful for me. According to what I have the three brothers were a son of Seth Hyatt, Sr, who was a son of Charles Hyatt II, son of Charles Hyatt, Sr, son of Thomas Hyatt from Oxfordshire England, a son of Charles Hyatt (born 1563). I can't say for certain that this line is correct, just some info I've researched and been handed down by my mother. Here are some links...

<https://www.geni.com/people/Meshach-Hyatt/6000000021873910340>

[https://www.werelate.org/wiki/Person:Shadrach\\_Hyatt\\_\(2\)](https://www.werelate.org/wiki/Person:Shadrach_Hyatt_(2))

<http://sites.rootsweb.com/~gaheard/family/hyatt.htm>

<https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Hyatt-710>

yasmith@verizon.net

Cindy

What fun! Very cool that a Hyatt descendant is living in Confluence today! Yes, my lineage corresponds perfectly to "yasmith's". There were four sons born to Seth Sr. and Alice (Davis) Hyatt: Seth Jr., Shadrack, Meshack and Abednego; and two daughters, Avarilla (m. John Prather) and Neome (m. Neale Clarke). Meshack's son, Shadrack was born 1749 in Calvert County Maryland to Meshack Hyatt and Sarah Bremfield/Broomfield. It was this Shadrack who lived in the Turkey Foot region prior to the Revolutionary War. He enlisted under Capt. Michael Cresap at Old Town, MD. I've been fascinated by the book *The Turkey Foot Road*, by Lannie Dietle, that describes the importance of the Pack Horse Brigade of 1,500 horses that transported Revolutionary War supplies from VA to Pittsburgh on the Turkey Foot Road from Old Town, through McKeesport (today) on to Pittsburgh. Lannie Dietle was born in the Turkey Foot Valley and now lives in TX. The road and the Pack Horse Brigade basically enabled the Continentals to end the attacks from the Indians and British on the Western front during the War. I have attached my transcription of his Revolutionary War pension file that describes his service. It is wonderful to connect with you two, in the very Turkey Foot Valley I've learned so much about. And, how special that Shadrack's descendant lives there! I so admire our earliest American ancestors! Nancy

From: Nancy Jones, nkjones33@gmail.com

Shadrack Hyatt's

U.S. Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application and Subsequent Payment to Shadrack's Widow Phebe

Source: Ancestry.com, U.S. Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files, 1800-1900.

8 November 1832

Shadrack Hiatt - Pension Number - S 13361

"State of Kentucky, Montgomery County

On this 8th day of November 1832, personally appeared in open court before James H. Wells, Levy W. Millsbaugh, Walker Bourne, Justices of and constituting the County Court of Montgomery County, now sitting, being a Court of record, Shadrack Hiatt, a citizen of Kentucky and a resident of the County aforesaid, aged 83 years on the 15th day of last August, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

In the year 1776, about the first of June of that year, he entered the service of the United States under Captain Michael Cresap



at Old Town in the State of Maryland. That he entered as a volunteer, and marched under said engagement in haste to New York Sound - The regiment commanded by Col. Smallwood, and marched to Long Island - - was there under the command of Gen. Sullivan and Gen. Sterling and was encamped at Brooklin. That he was in the battle that took place on Long Island, sometime in August 1776. The Americans were attacked early in the morning by the Hessians who came down the Flat Bush road. The British, under Clinton, came round in the rear, and the Americans were forced to retreat - - but not until after a pretty severe conflict - - a mill pond and marsh lay in way - - this applicant retreated through the water, and saw some of the men stuck in the mud and was killed - - he made his way to camp although in the action he had received a wound in the leg from a musket ball - - a large portion of his company was killed or taken prisoners. After the retreat of the battle, Gen. Washington arrived with a reenforcement. The American Army retreated in the night across East River to New York - - that he continued in said service until about the last of November 1776, when he received his discharge, given he thinks by Gen. Washington, but which is lost - - and returned home to what was called the Turkey-foot settlement in the Allegany mountains in the state of Maryland.

And that about the first of May in the year 1777, this applicant enlisted in the Turkey-foot settlement in the state of Maryland, under Captain David Noble, into the service of the United States for the term of three years. And after he had entered the service of the United States under this engagement, he being a blacksmith, he was attached by his commanding officer to a Pack Horse Company to shoe the horses, which belonged to the United States and were branded "U.S.". This applicant shod the horses - - The shoes and nails being furnished by the government, ready made. At that time the pack horse service was carried on the by the United States directly but afterwards as this applicant understands, the system was changed and that service was let out by the government to contractors. This applicant was so employed not under any contract but by the command of his officer under his regular enlistment and never received any compensations. That they packed provisions for the Army from the Eastern side of the mountains to the New Store in the fork of the Youghagany and Monongahaly rivers and to Pittsburgh. Capt. Cornahan, Capt. Cormack, Capt Mark Handris and Capt. Whitesides each commanded what was called a brigade of horses - - That he was engaged shoeing the horses for this service for near 18 months: that he was subsequently in the regular army and served against the common enemy until some time in the early part of the year 1779 when from extreme exposure and fatigue he was afflicted with a gathering in his head and an almost entire loss of hearing and without any application on his part his commanding officer gave him a discharge even before the expiration of the 3 years for which he had enlisted. He received said discharge in Berkley County, Virginia. He recollects that it was handed to him by Capt. Noble but cannot say whether it was signed by Noble or someone else the discharge being lost. He knows of no witness living by whom he can prove his services - - That he is upwards of 83 years of age and about 30 years since he moved to the State of Kentucky and at present resides in Montgomery County.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. Sworn to and subscribed in open court on the 8th day of November 1832 - - Signed Shadrack Hiatt. Sworn to and subscribed in open Court on the 8th day of November 1832 - M. Harrison.

We, Joel Parker, a clergyman residing in the County of Bath, Kentucky and Clement Conner residing in Montgomery County, Kentucky hereby certify that we are well acquainted with Shadrack Hiatt, who has subscribed and swore to the above declaration That we believe him to be 83 years of age, that he is reputed and believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the Revolution and that we concur in that opinion. Sworn to and subscribed in open Court November 8th 1832 - Signed M. Harrison, Joel Parker, Clement Conner.

The Court then propounded the interrogatories prescribed by the War Department to which, severally, the applicant answers:

- 1 - Born in St. Mary's County, Maryland on the 15th day of August 1749.
- 2 - I have no record of my age; my Father had a record of it but I have not seen it for many years.
- 3 - When called into service I was living in the Turkey-foot settlement in the state of Maryland - about 30 years since I moved from there to the state of Kentucky - I then moved to Indiana but in a few years moved to Kentucky again and reside at present in Montgomery County Kentucky.
- 4 - The first tour I volunteered in the second I enlisted.
- 5 - Col. Smallwood, Gen. Washington, Gen. Sterling, Gen. Sullivan and Capt. Noble
- 6 - I received a discharge from each service. The first given I think by Gen. Washington - The second was given to me by Capt. Noble but by whom signed I cannot say positively
- 7 - I refer to Maj. Charles Glover, Walker Bourne, Benjamin Jones, William Nelson, Tho. Moseley Sr., Clement Conner, and Hon. Henry Daniel his Rep. in Congress who can testify to my character.

And the said court do hereby declare their opinion after the interrogation of the matter, and after putting the interrogatories prescribed. State of Kentucky, Montgomery County.

17 January 1833

"Brief in the case of Shadrack Hiatt County of Montgomery in the State of Kentucky (Act of 7th June, 1832)

1. Was the declaration made before a Court or Judge? Court
2. If before a Judge does it appear that the applicant is disabled by bodily infirmity?
3. How old is he? 83
4. State his service as directed in the form annexed.



Period - Vol. in 1776 1st June. Enlisted 1777 1st May. Duration of Service not stated previously. Rank - As a Private. Names of General and Field Officers under whom he served: Capt. M. Cresap, Col. Smallwood, Generals Sullivan and Sterling, Capt. David Noble.

5. In what battles was he engaged? Long Island

6. Where did he reside when he entered the service? Old Town Maryland

7. Is his statement supported by living witnesses, by documentary proof, by traditionary evidence, by incidental evidence, or by the rolls? Traditionary

8. Are the papers defective as to form or authentication? and if so, in what respect? The declaration is not attached to the Clerk's seal as required

I certify that the foregoing statement and the answers agree with the evidence in the case above mentioned. Signed F. Waugh Examining Clerk, Jan 17th 1833.

I will take in Hiatt for twenty months. The papers are genuine. Signed H. Daniel.

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4 March 1834

Kentucky

"Shadrack Hiatt, Montgomery County in the State of Kentucky who was a Private in the Company commanded by Capt. Cresap of the Regiment commanded by Col. Smallwood in the Maryland Line for 20 months.

Inscribed on the Roll of Kentucky at the rate of 66 dollars 66 cents per annum to commence on the 4th day of March 1834.

Certificate of Pension issued the 6th day of March 1833 and sent to Hon. H. Daniel.

Arrears to the 4th of March 1833 - \$133.32

Semiannual allowance ending September 1833 - \$33.33

Total - \$166.65

Revolutionary Claim Act June 7, 1832

Recorded by Jno Cromwell Clerk

Book D, Vol. 9, page 43."

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11 March 1835

State of Kentucky, Montgomery County, March Circuit Court 1835

"Satisfactory proof was this day made in open court by the oaths of Wm. Cox and A.J. Ewing that Shadrack Hiatt late a Pensioner of the United States departed this life on the 9th day of March 1835 and that the said Shadrack Hiatt was the identical person named in an original certificate now here shown in Court bearing date the 6th day of March 1833 and signed by Len Cass (?) Secretary of War granting to the said Shadrack Hiatt a pension of \$66.66 per annum and numbered 6639. And it was further proven to the satisfaction of the Court that Mrs. Phebe Hiatt is the widow of the said Shadrack Hiatt and that she is now living. I James Howard Clerk of the said County do certify that the above is truly transcribed from the records in my office. In testimony whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the seal of my office the 11th day of March 1835. Signed James Howard."

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11 March 1835

"Know all men by these presents, That I Phebe Hiatt Widow of Shadrack Hiatt Revolutionary Pensioner of the United States, do hereby constitute and appoint James Finley my true and lawful Attorney for me and in my name to receive from the Agent of the United States, for paying Pensions in Lexington, State of Kentucky, the pension due me in right of my deceased husband from the 4th day of September 1834 to the 9th day of March 1835. Witness my hand and seal, this 11th day of March 1835. Phebe Hiatt her mark. "

State of Kentucky, Montgomery County

"Be it Known that on the 11th day of March 1835, before the subscriber, a Justice of the Peace in and for said County, personally appeared Phebe Hiatt above named and acknowledged the foregoing Power of Attorney to be her act and deed. In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand the day and year last above mentioned. Signed L. Millspaugh."

State of Kentucky, Montgomery County

"I Micajah Harrison Clerk of the Court of Montgomery County certify that L. Millspaugh is a Magistrate as above and that the foregoing signature to be his. Signed M. Harrison, Clerk of the Court, Montgomery County, 11 March 1835."

State of Kentucky, Montgomery County

"Be it Known that on the 11th day of March 1835 before the subscriber, a Justice of the Peace in and for said county, personally appeared James Finley the Attorney named in the foregoing Power of Attorney, and made oath that the same was not given him by reason of any sale, transfer, or mortgage of the pension, or arrears of pension, therein authorized to be received by him. Signed James Finley."

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21 March 1835

Office of the Bank of the United States, Lexington

"Received of John Tilford, Agent for paying Pensions, thirty four dollars 18 cents being for 6 months 5 days pension due to Phebe Hiatt, Widow of Shadrack Hiatt, deceased, from the 4th day of September 1834 to the 4th day of March 1835 for which I have signed duplicate receipts under the Act of 7th Jun 1832.

Signed James Finley Atty. March 21, 1835."

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#### NOTES:

- Shadrack Hiatt's birth date of 15 August 1749, as he indicated on his pension application, is corroborated by St. Mary's County, MD's Colonial birth records transcribed in [genealogytrails.com/mary/stmarys/births.html](http://genealogytrails.com/mary/stmarys/births.html). According to that record,





Shadrack's parents are Meshack and Sarah (Bremfield) Hyatt. And, Meshack has a brother John Hyatt, born in 1747, according to the same record.

- "Old Town" Maryland is in current Allegheny County, MD. A MD Historical Marker states: "Old Town (King OPESSA's Town) - Fording place for "Great Warriors Path of the Five Nations" from NY to the South. Thomas Cresap built a Stockade Fort here in 1741. Used as Refuge during French & Indian War after Braddock's defeat. George Washington was here on his first visit to MD 1746 and often thereafter."

- Shadrack Hiatt married Phebe Smith August 1806. Source: ancestry.com, "Shadrack Hyatt in the KY, U.S., Compiled Marriages, 1802-1850.

- Shadrack Hiatt's Revolutionary War service is memorialized on a Montgomery County, Kentucky Courthouse Plaque honoring Patriots buried in Montgomery County.

The Military Origin of the Turkey Foot Road per Lannie Dietle in his book The Turkey Foot Road.

"In 1778, Americans were outraged by massacres committed by Tories and Indians at Wyoming Valley, PA and Cherry Valley, NY. In January 1779, Quartermaster General Nathaniel Greene advised George Washington to respond by launching a two-pronged attack against the food supply of the hostile Indians with one division marching from a desperately undersupplied Fort Pitt. In preparation for the attack, Washington asked Greene and Commissary General Wadsworth to improve the transportation of supplies from the 'frontiers of Virginia' to Fort Pitt. Greene contacted Col. George Morgan, who was the purchasing Commissary for the Western department. Morgan assigned Captain Charles Clinton and Colonel Providence Mounts to cut a new, shorter pack horse road from the town of Fort Cumberland to supply Fort Pitt. Clinton lived at Fort Cumberland, and Mounts was a miller living at the site of Connellsville. The supply situation was so bleak that Washington cancelled Fort Pitt's role in the campaign. The new road changed the supply situation and Washington's mind. By putting 1,500 pack horses on the new road, Fort Pitt was adequately supplied by June 24, 1779. Major General John Sullivan led the primary attack from the Wyoming Valley on July 31, 1779, destroying at least 40 Indian villages in NY. Colonel Daniel Brodhead led a successful parallel campaign from Fort Pitt on August 11, 1779 with 605 combatants and 100 escorts for the campaign supplies. Brodhead marched north as far as the upper Seneca towns destroying a number of Indian villages and over 500 acres of associated crops and returned to Pittsburgh on Sep 14, 1779. The twin campaigns were followed by an exceptionally harsh winter, which was devastating to the now underprovisioned hostile Indians. The new road passed through the southern end of what is now Somerset county to take advantage of forage in the "two plentiful settlements" located there. North of Turkey Foot, the route passed through property in the vicinity of Mill Creek reservoir that was surveyed for Morgan and his brother in 1776. Morgan located his wartime "bullock pens" on this property. The pens were used for holding livestock that was being driven to Ft. Pitt. The new road was some 20 to 25 miles shorter than Braddock's road and drier because it remained on the eastern side of the Youghiogheny River. The military origin of the Turkey Foot Road, briefly summarized here is proven by military correspondence that is detailed by articles in the 2012 and 2013 issues of the "Casselman Chronicle", a publication of the Springs Historical Society.

#### Alleghany County, MD

Supplies for Fort Pitt were brought to Cumberland from Virginia via Skipton which is now known as Oldtown, MD. From Cumberland, the Turkey Foot Road followed the west side of Wills Creek through the Narrows and northward to Corriganville, MD, to today's McKeesport, PA, and on to Pittsburgh,

Source: Fayette/Westmoreland Forgotten History; "The Turkey Foot Road", Feb.1, 2014; Guest Blog Lannie Dietle the author of "In Search of the Turkey Foot Road." Released by the Mount Savage Historical Society in 2011. Mount Savage Historical Society, Box 401, Mount Savage MD 21545. In 2011, contact is Becky Korn, Secretary of the historical society 301-707-1114. bkorns@mtsavage.info. OR www.mtsavage.info. See histbuffer.com (I searched on turkey foot settlement maryland Researchers Lannie Dietle, Michael McKenzie and Nancy E. Thorig, Pittsburgh Post Gazette 2 Jan 2011.

Article in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, "History buffs team up to document Turkey Foot Road's past" by Len Barcoucky. History buffs Lannie Dietle, Michael McKenzie and Nancy E. Thorig have written the book "In Search of the Turkey Foot Road", just released by the Mount Savage Historical Society, Allegheny County, MD. Collaboration began over a friendly disagreement over the course of the Road. The source of the name is the three waterways that come together in the area of Confluence today - Casselman River, Laurel Hill Creek, and Youghiogheny River, which resemble the three-toed turkey foot. George Washington makes the first written references in 1754 to "Turkey Foot" for the area around present-day Confluence. It's also the name given to a trail, then road, through the Allegheny Mountains that linked Confluence, Somerset County with what is now Cumberland MD. While the road continues on to Pittsburgh, the book concentrates on the SE section of the route - from Fort Cumberland to the North Fork of the Youghiogheny. Mr. McKenzie has lived his entire life along the PA-MD border. Mr. Francis Bridges of Mount Savage, an amateur historian, helped Dietle and McKenzie delineate the route. When Bridges did a sweep with a metal detector along one portion of the road in Allegheny County, he turned up a bucket of horseshoes. Mr. Dietle said they provide evidence supporting an oral tradition that portions of the Turkey Foot road had been a stagecoach route."

My name is Tharron Forquer, and I have spent the last 10 years tracing my family lineage and history on each side of my family. The one I have found most interesting is my direct paternal lineage for the Forquer family. I have traced it all the way back to 1793-4 when my 6x Great Grandfather was born. John Forquer/Forker. His mother was Julia/Ann McNair (Armstrong) of Lower Turkeyfoot Township who married Edward Harned shortly before or after John was born so she wouldn't have to raise her two kids alone. Here is where I am stuck. There is no record of John's birth, only his death in Preston, WV. There is no record of who his



father is, though I have my speculations after speaking with the Preston County Historical Society and looking at relative's and friend's records. I was curious, if you guys had records, deeds, birth or death certificates, photos, etc. for a man named Samuel Farquhar/Forquer who died in Lower Turkeyfoot Township around 1793 just before, or immediately after John Forquer's birth. I have heard stories of Julia leaving her husband George Armstrong for Samuel but have had no evidence or records to support these two actual had a child together, just stories and speculation. The closest I have come is John Forquer having land transferred to him from Julia/Ann (His Mother) before her death, and several documents stating that the Harned Children were half brothers to John Forquer. There are rumors that George Armstrong and Samuel Farquhar/Forquer got in a fight after George found out where his wife was. Supposedly, George killed Samuel in the altercation and ran. So if there are any records of that fight, or the search for George after it happened, that would be awesome. I just need something, some record that shows who John Forquer/Forker's father was, and some shread of proof that Samuel was a real person. I know records that far back are hard to come by, but I figured the Historical Society where this all took place, may be able to point me in the right direction.

Tharron Forquer Tharron@gmx.com

I am trying to develop info on Moses Collins and his brother, John Collins, that came to Lower Turkey Foot Twp prior to 1794. They both moved to Springfield (Salt Lick) Twp. Fayette Co soon after 1794. They may have immigrated from NJ?

In Lower Turkey Foot Twp, Moses lived on the place known as the Jennings place; He sold out to two Skinner brothers-date unknown. Don't know birth or death dates. He had a son Henry and both are buried on the Mowry farm south of Mill Run. John Collins moved to Uniontown, PA. (1741-1813) where he died. Here is some added information that may help. I found that John Collins was a 1796 taxpayer in Lower Turkeyfoot Twp. I presume Moses Collins refers to Jennings farm was Benjamin Jennings per attmt, patented July 13, 1786? I don't know who David was-presume a son of Benj. I have access to a 1785 map of warrants in Lower Turkeyfoot Twp that shows all the warrantees up to nr Draketown, PA. I have checked with Bedford Co for late 1700s deeds that would give us clues on John & Moses Collins whereabouts in Lower Turkeyfoot Twp with NO success. I can't check Somerset co deeds for same which would help. Hopefully you might be able to check there. I found Moses Collins was on Turkeyfoot tax lists from 1785-1789. He then appeared in 1790 in Bullskin (probably Salt Lick-now Springfield) Fayette Co. He must have left Somerset Co by 1790? I wasn't able to find any tax lists for Turkeyfoot before 1785. I just checked with Bedford Co archivist and was advised that Moses Collins doesn't appear on any tax list before 1785! This would indicate that he came to Turkeyfoot Twp after 1784, probably from NJ, as some records indicate.

The Bedford Co, PA Hist Soc just advised that 1789 tax list for Turkeyfoot Twp shows Moses Collins having 150 ac, 2 horses, 2 cows assessed 6 Shillings, 7 pences. The archivist advised there probably wasn't any deed as this was during the time that land was being opened up after the Rev War. Moses didn't apply for a warrant & Bedford Co Archives doesn't show any deeds. They confirmed that Moses wasn't on tax list prior to 1785. Moses's neighbors in 1785 were John Reed, Reuben Skinner, Samuel Skinner & Nathaniel Skinner. All of these obtained warrants & patents except Moses. Moses must have been a squatter which often happened during this time period. Please advise any information on this family or suggest where I might get more info.

Jerry Masters

jmastersrc@hotmail.com

Naples, FL

239-498-9280

This is Thom Wood, I'm the GM and co owner of the Confluence Cafe. We are looking to create a mural based on a photograph of how our building looked in roughly 1930, around the time of its construction, back when it was a local gas station and garage. We have two low quality prints provided by Johnny Tressler, however we seek the originals. Would you perhaps have any leads? The photos we have are currently at the Cafe, and are provided for reference.

Thom Wood

lembasandjam@gmail.com

Confluence Cafe

412-513-6284



I am looking for information on and old one room school house named the Rhodes school around the 1900's in Markleton PA, I believe. Actually looking for a picture Hoping you can help me.

thanks

Evelyn Lindeman

evelynmarie1@comcast.net





**Nancy A. Koontz**, 85, Ursina, passed away Friday, **October 8, 2021** at UPMC – Somerset. She was born November 10, 1935, a daughter of Harry C. and Madalyn (Geyer) Koontz. Her parents, brother, Harry J. and sister, Louise preceded her in death. She is survived by a sister-in-law, Sandra Koontz, Lexington, OH, nephew, Harry J. Koontz, Jr. and wife, Jackie, Clinton, MS, niece, Gretchen Bobst and husband, Scott, Mansfield, OH and a family friend, Wanda Suter, Addison. She was a member of the Confluence United Methodist Church and UMW and attended Ursina Community Church of God and WSCS; member of Kingwood Grange, Great Crossings Chapter, DAR, New Centerville Vol. Fire Co. Ladies Auxiliary and a former of member of the Confluence Womens Civic Club. She also volunteered at the New Centerville Farmers and Threshermans Jubilee for a number of years. Nancy was a graduate of Turkeyfoot Valley Area High School and West Penn Hospi-

tal School of Nursing in Pittsburgh. She received a master's degree from the University of Maryland and was a professor of nursing at West Virginia University School of Nursing for many years. Following retirement from WVU, she volunteered at a hospital in Cumberland, MD and as a substitute nurse at Turkeyfoot Valley Schools. Friends will be received from 2-4 and 6-8 PM Friday at the Humbert Funeral Home in Confluence where a service will be held at 11 AM Saturday with Rev. Valerie Stark and Rev. Dean Hay, Jr. officiating. Interment in Addison Cemetery. There will be viewing one hour prior to the service on Saturday.

**Thomas G. Beggs**, 95, Confluence, PA passed away Monday, **November 8, 2021** at the Heritage, Simon's Lake View Estate, Somerset. He was born June 18, 1926 in Confluence, a son of Elliott and Lucy (Lenhart) Beggs. His parents, sisters, Sarah Lane Ambrose and Janet McMillan and sister-in-law, Dorothy Beggs preceded him in death. He is survived by a brother, William Beggs, Largo, FL and nieces and nephews, David Beggs, Thomas Beggs, Deborah Lucas, Charles Ambrose, Douglas McMillan, Patricia McMillan, Richard McMillan and Nancy McMillan Mahard; also his adopted family, Ron and Connie Conway and Jeff, Danni and Madi Conn. Tom was a graduate of Confluence High School and Indiana State Teachers College (IUP). He was a lifelong member of Trinity Lutheran Church, Confluence, Confluence Vol. Fire Dept. for 69 years, Somerset Lodge #358 F. & A.M. for over 60 years, Confluence Lions Club for 67 years and a Melvin Jones Fellow, Old Petersburg-Addison Historical Society and the board of directors of the Addison Cemetery Assoc. He owned and operated Beggs Bros. Printing in Confluence for over 40 years. Friends will be received from 2-4 and 6-9 PM Thursday at the Humbert Funeral Home in Confluence, where a service will be held at 11 AM Friday with Rev. Ed Devore and Rev. Dean Hay, Jr. officiating. Interment in Addison Cemetery on Monday, November 15th at 1 PM. Viewing one hour prior to the service on Friday. Memorial contributions may be sent to the Confluence Vol. Fire Dept., PO Box 11, Confluence, PA 15424.

**Charles E. Walters**, 62, Confluence, passed away Wednesday, **December 1, 2021** at UPMC Mercy, Pittsburgh. He was born on March 31, 1959 in Waynesburg, a son of James A. and Theresa (Zappone) Walters. His father, a son Michael, and brother Jimmy preceded him in death. He is survived by his wife Dawn (Wirsing), his mother, a son, James C. Walters and fiancé Kendall Martin of Hickory, NC; sisters Barbara Walters and husband Sean Malloy and Laura Walters and husband John Bailey, all of Carmichaels. Chuck was a past President, EMT, and volunteer with the Crucible Volunteer Fire Department, a volunteer with Tri-County Toys for Tots, a volunteer with the Greene County Special Olympics, and a teacher at Turkeyfoot Valley Area Schools for 26 years, where he impacted many students' lives and was named Teacher of the Year for the 2012-13 school year. He attended Carmichaels High School and California University of PA, where he graduated with honors. Chuck was also an avid marathon runner and ran over 120 marathons, including 17 Boston Marathons, 16 consecutively, the New York Marathon, Philadelphia Marathon, and the Pittsburgh Marathon among others. He was an animal lover, an ardent fan of the Cleveland Indians, the Pittsburgh Steelers, and the Cleveland Browns, and an Air Force veteran. Friends will be received from 2-4 and 6-8 PM Sunday at the Humbert Funeral Home in Confluence. A private family service will be held Monday with Rev. Dean Hay, Jr. officiating. Interment will follow in Addison Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to the Confluence Vol. Fire Dept., PO Box 11, Confluence, PA 15424.

**Susan Webster**, passed away **September 23, 2021**.

**Elaine C. Koontz**, 95, Confluence, passed peacefully with family present into the hands of God on **January 4, 2022** at the House of Journey's Rest, Somerset. She was born April 23, 1926 in Unamis, a daughter of Elwood Bruce and Lydia Esther (Cramer) Bowser. Her parents, first husband Scott Koontz, second husband Donald O'Neal, sisters Lydia Marie Swayne, Thelma Richter, beloved twin Eloise Harned, and brother George Bowser preceded her in death. Elaine is survived by two daughters, Sandra Everhart and husband Sylvester of Southern Pines, NC, and Beverly Hall and husband Gerald of Confluence; grandchildren Leslie O'Brien (William), Sean Everhart (Laine), Lisa and Jennifer Hall; eight great-grandchildren; and a special niece Pamela Boehm. Elaine was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Confluence, where she played the organ for many years and was involved with the Ladies Church Group. She was a life member of D.A.V. Auxiliary, and a charter member of both the





American Legion Post # 946, Ursina and VFW Post # 7250, Confluence. During her lifetime, Elaine worked for Beggs Brother's Printing, Humbert Furniture and Humbert Funeral Home in Confluence. Funeral services in care of Humbert Funeral Home will be private with Pastor Ed DeVore officiating. Interment in Somerset County Memorial Park. The family gives special thanks and appreciation for UPMC Somerset visiting nurses, the In Touch Hospice program, nurses, staff, and volunteers at the Hospice House, and a heartfelt thanks to her beloved family doctor of many years, Mark Yaros. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Elaine's name to either Trinity Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 64, Confluence, PA 15424 or In Touch Hospice, 1474 N. Center Ave., P.O. Box 1173, Somerset, PA 15501.

**William C. "Bill" Knight**, 83, Confluence, passed away Sunday, **January 30, 2022** in Uniontown Hospital. He was born October 9, 1938 in Confluence, a son of the late Arthur and Agnes (Matthews) Knight. He is survived by his sister, Mary Lou Muto and husband, Pat, Pittsburgh; nephew, Rod Martin and wife, Debbie, Markleysburg and nieces, Pam Foster and husband, Ken, St. Augustine, FL and Belinda Maloney and husband, Mike, Pittsburgh. Bill was a lifelong resident of Confluence and a member of the Confluence Vol. Fire Dept., Confluence Lions Club, Turkeyfoot Valley Historical Society, Kingwood Grange, Kingwood I.O.O.F. Lodge 1010 and the Confluence United Methodist Church. He retired from Turkeyfoot Valley Area School District after a long career as a custodian. Friends will be received from 2-4 and 6-8 PM Wednesday at the Humbert Funeral Home in Confluence, where a service will be held at 11 AM Thursday with Rev. Valerie Stark officiating. Interment in Addison Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial contributions to the Confluence United Methodist Church or Confluence Vol. Fire Dept.

**Judith Anne McClintock**, 86, Confluence, beloved wife of Rev. Samuel McClintock, took her place in the heavenly choir on **March 21, 2022**. She was born July 26, 1935 in Vandergrift, a daughter of Glenn and Mary (McConnell) Mohny. Her parents, a brother Glenn, and sister Kimberly King preceded her in death. She is survived by her husband; children Neil McConnell (Gwen), Annandale, VA, Christy Shively, Tarrs, Beth Augustine (Bruce), Addison, and Gerald Baker, Confluence; grandchildren Jason Augustine (Ashley), Jenette Johnson (Adam), Ashlie Black, April Black, Cassandra Shively, and Allison McConnell; great-grandchildren Kaytlynn Firestone, Kamry Augustine, Kendyll Augustine, Airionna Townsend, and Neva Hill; also adopted "granddaughters" Scout and Addie Best and special cousin John "Skip" Burns. She was a member of Addison United Methodist Church, where her rich soprano voice enhanced the choir, a member of the United Methodist Women and the Gleaners Club. She was a founding member of the Seldom Scene Players, where her unique sense of humor really stood out. She loved picnics and travelling with her husband. They camped all over the area. Judy's ability as a baker was legendary in the community, especially for her bread and cinnamon rolls. Her friendly and outgoing personality made her instant friends and her giving and generous nature made her loved by all who knew her. At Judy's request, there will be no viewing. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, March 26, at 11 AM in the Addison United Methodist Church with Rev. Valerie Stark officiating. A luncheon will immediately follow the service. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests a donation to the charity of the donor's choice.

*If you have any obituaries you would like published, of our faithful members, please email them to [tfvhs@tfvhs.com](mailto:tfvhs@tfvhs.com) for publishing in our newsletters.*





*Monthly meetings  
3rd Monday at 6:30pm*

# Membership News

THANK  
YOU

Thank you for the following corporate sponsors for this past 2021-2022 year:

Confluence Tourism (Silver)  
Hanna House Bed/Breakfast (Bronze)  
Sechler Sugar Shack (Bronze)  
TMI Group LLC (Bronze)  
Trustmont Group (Bronze)

## Welcome New Members

Jesse Culp  
Morgan Griffith  
William Tressler



In memory of—  
We receive several  
donations in memory of  
Susan Webster.



## Volunteers Needed

If you would be willing to come and sit for an hour or two, this would help keep our building open for visitors. Please check with Pastor Ron Schaeffer if you can help out. Home phone: 814-395-5168 or cell 814-233-0117 and leave a message.

## Meetings

**June 20th @ 6:30pm**

**July 18 @ 6:30pm—The Last Words of George Washington—Journal of Tobias Lear**

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## Turkeyfoot Valley Historical Society

### Officers and Directors Nomination

Current President:  
Current Vice President: Lisa Hall  
Current Treasurer: Ronald Schaeffer  
Current Secretary:  
Current Director: Neil Bender  
Current Director: Ginny Halverson  
Current Director: Jerry Hall

2022-23 President: \_\_\_\_\_

2022-23 Vice President: \_\_\_\_\_

2022-23 Treasurer: \_\_\_\_\_

2022-23 Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_

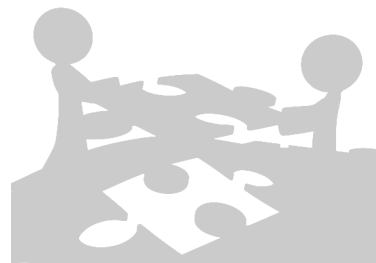
2022-23 Director: \_\_\_\_\_

2022-23 Director: \_\_\_\_\_

2022-23 Director: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please return by June 30, 2022*

# Renew your Membership



We rely on you for support! Please use the form below to renew your membership today. Our new fiscal year begins on July 1, 2022 and runs through June 30, 2023.

***Thank you for all your support!***

Included is our membership form below. Our new fiscal year begins on July 1st. We encourage you to send your membership dues to PO Box 44, Confluence, PA 15424, along with your completed membership form. Any additional contribution at this time will be greatly appreciated.

This new year is also an election year for our officers and directors. On the back of the membership form you will see the nomination form for Officers and Board of Directors for the fiscal years of July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. We need interested individuals to help run our organization. Membership, nomination and voting forms are on our website. Please nominate by email to [tfvhs@tfvhs.com](mailto:tfvhs@tfvhs.com), return this form or complete the online form at [www.ffvhs.com](http://www.ffvhs.com). Thank you for all your cooperation. —Lisa

## TURKEYFOOT VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION – 7/1/22 to 6/30/23

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 with this form 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.

