



Inside this Issue:

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Cornwall House Tour | 1 |
| Site Administrator's Letter | 5 |
| Taste of Summer | 6 |
| Blast Sponsor Thank Yous | |
| Membership | 7 |
| Program Listing | 8 |
| Contact Numbers | |
| Website | |



Pennsylvania
Historical & Museum
Commission

**Cornwall Furnace is
administered by
The Pennsylvania Historical
and
Museum Commission.**

**Tom Wolf, Governor
Nancy Moses, Chairman
Andrea Lowery, Executive
Director**

The Ledger

Volume XXX No. 3

November 2018

2018 Christmas at Cornwall House Tour

The 23rd Christmas at Cornwall House Tour scheduled for Saturday, December 1, will include its share of mansions and private residences this year in Cornwall, Lebanon and Mount Gretna. The annual event begins at 10:00 a.m. and closes at 4:00 p.m. It features Cornwall Iron Furnace, Buckingham Mansion and Paymaster's Office, both on the campus of Cornwall Manor Retirement Community across the street from the furnace, as well as five houses in the Lebanon area and five in Mount Gretna.

Tour tickets may be purchased for \$15 in advance at the following locations: Cornwall Iron Furnace, Cornwall Manor office, Bluebird Inn, all in the Cornwall area; the Mount Gretna Craft Brewery, Campbeltown; Visit Lebanon Valley office at the Lebanon Farmers Market building and Inn 422, both in Lebanon, the Franklin House in Schaefferstown, the Batdorf Restaurant in Annville, and Hairmaster Styling Salon in Myerstown. Tickets will be \$20 on tour day and will be available only at the Cornwall Iron Furnace.



Cornwall Iron Furnace

The historic Cornwall Iron Furnace operated from 1742 until 1883. This furnace is the only cold blast charcoal burning furnace to survive intact in the Western Hemisphere. Guided tours will be offered during the tour day. Light refreshments will be offered at the Visitor's Center during the tour hours and the museum store will be open for discounted purchases. A local craftsman will also be selling handmade wooden cooking utensils.

The Buckingham Mansion at Cornwall Manor is a beautiful and important historic landmark in Lebanon County. The original home was built around 1773 by Curtis Grubb, son of Peter Grubb who founded the Cornwall Iron Furnace. Robert Coleman took ownership of the property in 1798, beginning the Coleman legacy in this area. In 1865 William Coleman, Robert's son, extensively remodeled the 19-room home to befit one of America's wealthiest and most prominent families. A library, billiard room, two upstairs lounges, a spacious drawing room, elegant dining room, summer kitchen and numerous storage areas were added to the home.

The last descendant of the Coleman family to occupy the home was Mrs. Margaret Coleman Freeman Buckingham. Her



Buckingham Mansion

Our Mission Statement

"Friends of Cornwall Iron Furnace is dedicated to supporting the historical preservation, maintenance and educational programs of Cornwall Furnace."

House Tour con't.

wish for her estate to be used for a philanthropic purpose was fulfilled when the estate was sold by her nephew, William Coleman Freeman, to a group of Methodist clergy in 1949. They developed the property into a retirement home which is now Cornwall Manor Retirement Community.



Paymaster's Office

The mansion underwent an extensive renovation in 1996, creating seven apartments, a music and reading room. The tour will include the public rooms on the first floor and a second floor apartment known as Mansion 4.

The Paymaster's Office was built by the Colemans in the 1860s and served as the office for the Cornwall Iron Furnace's paymaster and clerks. Before the refurbishment and renovation in 1993, the building had not been used for decades and had fallen into a state of disrepair. Every effort was employed to retain the building's integrity, while also making it useful for the Manor's residents. It is currently used as a resident art studio on the campus. Many historic features still exist, such as the former vault (now a restroom), the boot scraper outside the

entrance and the "cage" at the front entrance where employees would enter to claim their pay.

From Cornwall it's just a short ride to Mount Gretna and the Mount Gretna Inn at 16 Kauffman Road. Abraham Lincoln Kauffman built this house as his private home in 1921. Kauffman admired and implemented the clean and simple architectural style of Gustav Stickley's Arts and Crafts Movement when he built his home. He initially purchased land adjoining the Camp Meeting grounds in 1907 and began construction of his own resort which he named "The Willows". A store and hotel appeared as well as Kauffman's home, which became the Inn in 1985. Unfortunately, his dream was short-lived and the bank foreclosed on his property.

The Arts and Crafts style bed and breakfast inn is furnished with an eclectic mix of styles representing the past 10 decades.



Mount Gretna Inn

The Hanna home at 206 Lancaster Avenue in Mount Gretna, was built in 1950; the owner describes the exterior as "resembling mid-century". It has a deep front porch and warm interior, quintessential Gretna. Renovation began in 2013 after the house had been vacant for some years. The wood paneling had been untouched by previous owners and the wall to wall carpeting revealed well-protected chestnut floors when they were uncovered.

The original house had six bedrooms and 1 ½ baths. The renovated home now has four bedrooms and 2 ½ baths. Ms. Hanna says that after a long journey from California, she has found sanctuary here.



Christine Hanna Home

Elizabeth Hummer's home at 14 Muhlenberg Ave. in Mount Gretna, was built in 1903 by Adolph Herrmann, a partner with Frederick Aukam in Herrmann, Aukam & Co. They were manufacturers of textiles, primarily handkerchiefs, with one of the largest plants in Lebanon.

The Lebanon Evening News in 1917 noted that the Staten Island and Lebanon factories were the largest of their several mills, the Lebanon plant employing "1,800 hands". The Lebanon plant also had satellite plants in Mt. Joy and Annville. The company was reputed to have been the largest manufacturer of handkerchiefs in the U.S.

Herrmann built his Mount Gretna home as a place to entertain guests in the country. Guests entered the cottage through the front door into two open loft-like rooms, the living room and dining room. It has one of the largest porches in Mount Gretna. Rumor has it that the cottage was designed on the back of a napkin by the famous architect Stanford White. Much of what Ms. Hummer has learned about the home was from the previous owner Jack Bitner, a Mount Gretna area historian.

In the past few years every room has been lovingly renovated, including a new cook's kitchen, according to Ms. Hummer, and the renovation is ongoing.



Elizabeth Hummer Home

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Lynn Davies Home

Nestled into the South Hills of Mount Gretna, "The Sweet-in-Between" at 3 Muhlenberg Ave. was built at the end of the 19th century. The current owner, Lynn Davies, purchased the cottage in 2013 from Elizabeth Hummer (14 Muhlenberg), during the time Christine Hanna (206 Lancaster) was enjoying the cottage for a quiet respite. As a result, these cottages and their inhabitants share an intertwined history and deep friendship.

The "Sweet-in-Between" is more spacious than it appears at first glance and has several delightful surprises. The large wraparound porch was enclosed, allowing the space to be enjoyed year-round. The original French doors add both charm and the ability to keep in the warmth of the well-used original fireplace in the wintertime. Newer renovations include the addition of a laundry area on the east side of the porch and the removal of a wall at the bottom of the stairs to allow more light into the living room. The large leaded glass window in the living room was a find from Cherry Acres in Lititz and extends the living room into the outdoors all year. The back yard boasts a wonderful "secret garden" created by The Garden Keepers of Schaefferstown. The porch, living room, dining room and kitchen all have more than one entrance, allowing for easy mingling when family and friends gather. The third floor has three cozy bedrooms and a sleeping porch converted to a dressing room. Enjoy!

Jan Morrissey's home address is 500 Woodland Drive, Manheim, but the location is just a short distance south of Mount Gretna. The owner of the property listed on the 1899 atlas of Lancaster County was Henry Moyer. The center part of the house was the original structure. It was a basic 2 ½ story building with stone walls in the basement. In the late 1970s an addition was built onto the east and west sides of the original house. The thickness of the walls between the kitchen and the sides demonstrates the depth of the outside walls of the original structure.



Jan Morrissey Home

Ms. Morrissey moved to her home in November 1996. It is located on a cul-de-sac and surrounded by woods. Instead of covering her windows with draperies, she decided to focus on interior decorating with quilts. Some of the quilts were made by her, some purchased at local Lancaster County sales and some were made by family members. One of the quilts was made by her great aunt Annie, who passed away in 1959. Her love of fabrics began early, with garments which her mother made for her as a child. The Singer sewing machine in the foyer was her mother's and the machine on which she learned to sew as a young girl.

As an adult Ms. Morrissey broadened her love of fabrics to the love of quilting. She prefers snowman winter wall hangings, with which she decorates December through March.



Matthew and Jessica Hess Home

The remainder of the tour of homes are located in Lebanon and vicinity. Beginning on the east end of Lebanon is the Hess home at 20 East High Street. Matthew and Jessica are the fourth owners of this lovely stone Tudor Revival home built in 1932 by Charles Brooks, assistant treasurer of the Lebanon Steel Foundry, and his wife Lillian. It was subsequently bought by Harry and Pauline Worrilow Ehrgood. Pauline was a daughter of William H. Worrilow, whose family helped to establish the Lebanon Steel Foundry. Dr. Jay and Carol Morris were also previous owners of the home.

Worrilow built Brasenhill, located in the same neighborhood at 104 East Walnut Street, for his family home. The construction materials, craftsmanship

The official registration and financial information of the *Friends of Cornwall Iron Furnace* may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State.

The toll-free number is 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

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Thursday
through
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9 – 5

Sunday:
noon – 5

Other dates and times
by appointment

and careful execution of the design make this home impossible to reproduce today. The unusual construction features and the unique appointments all reflect the true spirit of Jacobean England.

It is built of Foxcroft stone and brick with decorative timbering. The entryway features a brick and stone with dark wood timbered roof and balustrades, built-in brick wall seats and a large custom wood door and richly-paneled sunken foyer. The magnificent wood staircase is a copy of one in the Philadelphia Museum of Art. The large living room is a copy of Haddon Hall in England, with paneled walls, leaded glass windows, Italian carved plaster molding and beams, marble fireplace and imported English iron wall sconces.



Brasenhill



Hess Law Firm

Traveling a little farther west in Lebanon you may visit the home/office facilities of Pier Hess and the Hess Law Firm at 8 East Chestnut Street. Ms. Hess purchased this Tudor style property built in the early 1900s from an elderly couple and has done a great deal of renovation, including the installation of a completely new kitchen. Every room was redone, from flooring to ceiling and the house was set up to run as office rooms and private living quarters. The first and second floors will be open for touring. The first floor includes a conference room, dining

room, waiting room and living room, plus the kitchen, which can be closed off with an antique barn door, when clients arrive. The second floor includes two offices and a library with a small balcony. Refreshments by Café Panache will be available.

The Cooper Spa at 418 Chestnut Street will be another stop on the tour. This Colonial Revival home was built just after the turn of the century and was known as the Light Mansion on Park Place for many years. It was owned by Warren and Elizabeth Light from 1913 until the 1940s.

Current owner Cleide Cooper states that the home was restored in 2004. The residence includes 7,500 square feet of living space, including 3 kitchens, 6 baths, 2 half baths and 13 bedrooms. Some of the unique features of this home include original crown molding throughout, original hardwood floors, a wrap-around porch, vestibule with beautiful glass doors and a grand front porch on the second floor overlooking Chestnut Street. The home is both private residence for Ms. Cooper and her business, Cooper Spa.



Cooper Spa

The final house for you to tour is located just west and north of Lebanon City at 3118 Tunnel Hill Road. Owners Greg Allwein and Shannon Ream tell us their home was built in 1948. The traditional yellow brick Cape Cod style house originally consisted of center living quarters with a two-car garage on the right side of the house with an open breezeway between the buildings. Over the years the garage on the right was converted



Greg Allwein and
Shannon Ream Home

into living space, the breezeway was enclosed and a new garage was built on the left side of the house. The couple purchased the home in 2013 and renovated the home to give it a traditional cozy cottage feeling with warm wood floors and warm white interior walls throughout. Their furniture consists primarily of family heirlooms and lovingly-restored antiques. All original paintings are from Lebanon County artists. A 25-year collection of Santas will be on display.

Site Administrator's Letter

The summer of 2018 has been one for the record books. Southeastern Pennsylvania received more rainfall this summer than any other in recent history. The previous record holder was the summer of 1972 when the torrential rainfall of hurricane Agnes inundated the area and closed the mine at Cornwall.



Spring rain helped to uncover an interesting archeological feature, a stone-lined tunnel containing a four-inch cast iron pipe that appears to run between the rear of the furnace to the paymaster's office and perhaps beyond (see photo). Rain also came as an unwanted visitor to the site's Blast event in August. Despite the rain, guests were treated to good food, wine, beer, spirits, music, conversation, and camaraderie. Financially, this was the most successful Blast to date. Thank you to all who attended, and I hope that you spread the word about this great evening event at the furnace.

This has been a busy summer with many visitors, tours, and ever-growing grass. The CIFA financially supported a summer seasonal worker who helped with many tasks. David Deysher, our seasonal employee, returned to St. Joseph University in Philadelphia for his senior year in August. We wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.



Visitors to Cast Iron Cooking event not only enjoyed a beautiful fall day but also wonderful food. Volunteer Cavi Miller will chair the event next year.

The 23rd annual Christmas at Cornwall House Tour will take place on Saturday, December 1st. The committee has assembled a delightful grouping of homes clustered in Mount Gretna and Lebanon. I hope that you and your family will be able to attend the tour and that this becomes part of your holiday tradition.

Finally, the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission (the branch of state government that operates and maintains the museum) is embarking on a new program called 21st Century Museums. The end goal of the program is to encourage everyone to visit the treasures of the Commonwealth that are our Pennsylvania museums by reducing the traditional barriers of museum attendance. Staff have attended meetings and I serve on the state committee. Cornwall has always been a diverse place and we must ensure that diversity is included in our interpretation and that all feel welcome when they visit.

If you have not visited the museum in some time, please feel free to stop by and take a tour. I would love to meet you and to discuss our museum.

Sincerely,

Mike Emery

Historic Site Administrator

Furnace Selected for “Taste of Summer” Event

The Lebanon Valley Chamber of Commerce held its annual after hours “Taste of Summer” event July 19, 2018 at Cornwall Iron Furnace. This social event featured appetizers and cocktails from regional restaurants and breweries throughout the Lebanon Valley competing for a piece of the \$1,200 cash prize. The 10 establishments from the surrounding areas represented were: The Annville Grille, Courtyard Marriott on Chocolate, Franklin House, Franz’s Tavern, The Foundry, The Gin Mill, Holiday Inn Harrisburg/Hershey and QUEST Inc. Mount Gretna Brewery and Snitz Creek Brewery were also on hand and served a selection of craft beers.

More than 130 people enjoyed the wonderful ambience of the site and a cool breeze under the connecting shed on a warm July late afternoon. Attendees were given “tip” money to vote for their favorite food and drink as they sampled each establishment’s cocktails and appetizers. The Franklin House took first place in the appetizer category with their Jacked Shrimp Cocktail, winning \$400 and a trophy. The Courtyard Marriott came in second with their Tuna Tartare for a prize of \$200. The Courtyard Marriott won first place in the cocktail category with their Bourbon “Double Trouble” Squeeze, also winning \$400 and a trophy, while the Holiday Inn received second place and \$200 for their Orange Ginger Crush.

Funds raised by ticket sales for this Women in the Marketplace event were applied to Chamber of Commerce scholarships that provide assistance for women in their quest for further education in a new career path.

The Cornwall Iron Furnace Associates would like to thank our business sponsors and partners for underwriting and supporting Blast 2018.

PRL Industries

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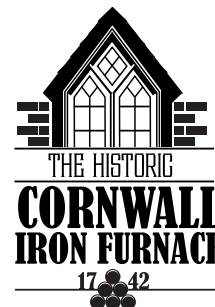
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Membership

There are many ways to support the Furnace, but keeping your membership current is most vital. Joining CIFA keeps you better informed of the news and events happening at the site. Please maintain your membership and consider inviting others to do the same. Check the mailing label on your Ledger for your membership expiration date and please renew in a timely manner.



Benefits of a membership include: unlimited free site tours, reduced rates for guests, and a 10% discount on most Museum Store purchases.

CIFA Membership categories are:

- Individual \$30
- Family (two adults and all children under 18 years of age) \$50
- Senior (60 years of age +) \$25

For an additional fee, members may join the Pennsylvania Heritage Foundation. In addition to your membership to CIFA, you will receive four issues of the award-winning Pennsylvania Heritage magazine and free general admissions to PHMC's 25 historic sites and museums.

CIFA / PA Heritage combination membership categories are:

- Individual \$60
- Family (two adults and all children under 18 years of age) \$100
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Friends of Cornwall Iron Furnace, CIFA, Inc. is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization

Check your preferred membership:

CIFA

- ☐ Individual (\$30)
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Make checks payable to: Friends of Cornwall Iron Furnace, CIFA, Inc. and mail to: Box 251, Cornwall, PA 17016

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Please accept my additional contributions to further support:

☐ Friends of Cornwall Iron Furnace \$ _____

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**Friends of
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Fax : 717-272-0450
Email : memery@pa.gov

Cornwall Iron Furnace
Hours of Operation
Thursday
through
Saturday: 9:00-5:00



Upcoming Programs and Events

| | |
|------------------|---|
| December 1, 2018 | Christmas at Cornwall House Tour |
| January 2019 | No Lecture |
| February | No Lecture |
| March 10 | Charter Day – Free Admission |
| March 12 | Lecture by Susan Boardman – Gettysburg Cyclorama |
| April 9 | Lecture by Doug Powell – The Greenhouse at Cornwall Manor |

** Lectures are open to the public and held in an accessible facility at 7:00 p.m. in Freeman Hall Auditorium at Cornwall Manor.*



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