

# Society Journal

*News from the Bradford County Historical Society*

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## Stay Connected to BCHS on Facebook

The Bradford County Historical Society is always looking for new ways to connect with the public. Now you can connect with us by becoming a member of the BCHS group on Facebook.

When you connect to our Facebook page, you can read and respond to messages left by BCHS staff, fellow researchers or just local history fans. Stay informed with regular updates about projects being completed, upcoming events, and much more.

If you have a Facebook account, simply search for "Bradford County Historical Society" and then click "Join" at the top of the page. If you don't have a Facebook account, go to [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and create one. It's free and easy.

### BCHS WEBSITE

Don't forget about our other online resources including our website, [www.bradfordhistory.com](http://www.bradfordhistory.com), which features a vast amount of information about the type of material that you can access in our research library.

Don't miss the history poll question that changes on the first of every month. Test your local history knowl-

edge by casting your vote!

When you click on "Gift Shop" on our website, you will be taken directly to our eBay store where you can buy Bradford County history books. Christmas is coming and now is a great time to order your book. Also watch for special gift box auctions during December where you can bid on an entire set of Bradford County history books.

### CURATOR'S BLOG

Many people continue to follow the Curator's Blog and it has had nearly 2,000 hits this year. The blog gives you a little more in-depth look behind the scenes at BCHS and is a great place to get the most recent news.

### EMAIL LIST

Our Email List is also popular and allows you to receive notices, press releases and other information.

If you are not connected to BCHS through one of these resources, why not consider doing it today. Visit [www.bradfordhistory.com](http://www.bradfordhistory.com) for more information.

*Check Out What's Happening at BCHS...*

### COMING EVENTS

**BCHS Annual Holiday Book Sale**  
Variety of Christmas decorations also for sale!  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6 - 11 AM TO 3 PM

### BCHS NEWS

**LIBRARY WILL CLOSE**  
January through March, 2010 - See Page 3.

# Library Reorganization Increases Efficiency

Thanks to a grant received during the past year, we were able to make some changes to the Research Library that have greatly increased the efficiency of the facility.

The first and most important change included the replacement of the Library Clerk's desk with a larger L-shaped desk. This created an ergonomically correct work environment while also creating more work space at the same time.

All of the equipment that is used by the Clerk was moved to the desk, including a computer, credit card terminal, etc.

We also changed the sign-in pro-

cedure when you visit the library. The sign-in book and donation box are located at the Clerk's desk so that all business can be conducted from that location.

In order to fit the new desk into the library, it was necessary to rearrange furniture. The computer workstation was moved out into the middle of the library and other cabinets, tables and equipment were moved. This has resulted in more space for library patrons, volunteers and staff to move around.

A new microfilm reader/printer was purchased for the library to replace some outdated equipment.

This important piece of equipment was purchased with funding provided by our members during the 2008 Annual Appeal.

We are also currently gathering funds to do a large digitization project that will make the use of old newspapers for research much easier.

It is with the support of our members and patrons that we are able to complete these projects.

We are continually working to make our research library the best that it can be for everyone involved. If you haven't checked it out, stop by today.

## RECENT GIFTS

The following gifts were recently added to our collection. We thank all those who have contributed to BCHS.

Ford & Pratt genealogies - compiled and given by **Beverly Thornton, Rockford, IL**

Le Nord-Est 2008, yearbook, given by **Northeast Bradford High School, Rome, PA**

"Invisible Indians, Native Americans in Pennsylvania", compiled and given by **Prof. David J. Minderhout, Bloomsburg, PA**

Collection of Civil War letters sent to Margaret Jackson by her husband Isaiah; "Social Studies in Bradford County, PA", by Willard Long; court order creating Standing Stone Township, 1841; given by **Willard Long, Towanda**

Chase Family Records, by J. M. Seaver, given by **Marjory Horton, Athens**

"The Irish are Coming, Sligo to Scranton, 1850-1900", compiled and given by **James Dolan, Sayre, PA**

History of William Matchette and photo of Cold Springs Lodge, given by **Nelson D. Mathias, Burbank, CA**

Wysox Church History, by Victor Charles Detty, given by **Lackawanna Historical Society, Scranton, PA**

"A Frontier Trianon - The True Story of Azilum Village", by Elsie Murray; given by **Union County Historical Society, Lewisburg, PA**

Trophies, tins, trivet, pitcher set and various correspondence for the McFarlane family, given by **Mrs. Edward McFarlane, Florida**

4 ledgers: Junction Canal payroll, 1853-54,

Wysox Store, 1857, Check Roll, 1862, and Wysox School Monthly Reports, 1861-66; given by **the children of Esther Pipher**

3 copies of the Saturday Evening Post, 1916-17; given by **Gertrude Bull, Towanda**

Fanning Family Reunions Ledger, given by **Eudora D. Bovier, Troy**

Set of 10 photos of the Towanda Victory Ship christening and 9 of the Maston Lumber Yard; given by **Ellen Kirwan Brown, Blairsville, GA**

Trunk that belonged to Sister Rose de Lima who taught at St. Agnes, baseball items and church sign; given by **St. Agnes in Towanda**

Framed drawing of the Holy Family given by **St. Joseph's Church, Athens**

Card table with Wysox/Towanda business names on it, given by **Verne Griffis, Williston, FL**

Christmas cards and stamps, WWII ration book; given by **Lois Crandell, Troy**

"Teaspoon Holder & Napkin Rings", by J. Lewis Schanbacher; "Abstracts from Charles Eugene Parke Diaries, 1862-1916"; given by **Janet Ordway, Troy**

Two oversized scrapbooks of Senator Roger A. Madigan, given by **Senator Gene Yaw's office, Towanda**

Ledger from store in Sugar Run, given by **Wayne Morrow, c/o Mary Skillings**

Mary Matchette Mathias Collection of report cards and scanned photos, given by **Nelson Mathias, Burbank, CA**

Silas Hoadley Clock with wooden works, was in the Bouse family for 200 years, given by **Richard Webster, West Chester, PA**

"Daddy-O's Journey into the Bygone Years, William G. Lee: A Memoir", given by **Ralph Froelich, Columbia Cross Roads**

"West o' Clare", Pat Kane bus tour video for 1996, Troy booklets and scrapbook pages given by **Janet Ordway, Troy**

Photos and yearbooks from the Robert & Dorothy Forrest Estate, given by **Leah C. Bailey, Ulster**

South Waverly commemorative plate and anniversary books, various newspapers; given by **Maria Tymoski Glaser, Cape Elizabeth, ME**

Copies of photos from the album of Anna Blakeslee Withey, from her neice, **Marjorie Templeton, Payson, AZ**

Photo of Helen N. Crandell, 1912, Towanda School teacher, given by **Nelson D. Mathias, Burbank, CA**

"The Men Who Robbed Brink's", by Bob Considine; "The Crime of the Century", by Stephanie Schorow, & Brink's Robbery file, compiled by Guy Abell; given by **Guy Abell, Rome**

"Pottsville General Store", compiled and given by **Sarah Edsell, Rome, PA**

I.O.O.F. pendant belonged to Victor Hugo VanNess, given by granddaughter **Lois Crandell, Troy**

Two piece ladies suit of crocheted cotton, made by Percy Rogers of N. Orwell, given by **Virginia Rogers, Rome**

## NOTES FROM THE CURATOR **Matt Carl**

### LAQUIN PROGRAM A HUGE SUCCESS

On November 7th, I presented the program, "Laquin: Behind the Photos," at the Rialto Theatre in Canton for the benefit of the Historical Society.

This is the second outreach program that we have done this year. The purpose of such programs is to reach out to communities around Bradford County with educational events in order to get people interested in their local history.

The Rialto Theatre has 154 seats. We estimate that approximately 240 people showed up to fill those 154 seats. Additional chairs were added to increase the capacity.

When the theatre was completely filled, there was still a line going out the door, down the street and around the corner. A quick meeting was held with the theatre staff to determine whether we could fit a second show in for the people that couldn't get in. Thanks to them, we were able to present the program a second time that afternoon for another 40 people who came back. Unfortunately some were not able to attend the second presentation.

The hour and 20 minute program took the audience on a journey through the streets of the town of Laquin. Using over 150 photographs, aerial photography, and maps, the story of Laquin was presented in such a way as to allow people to have a complete understanding of the town, inside and out.

Somewhere around 25 Barclay Mountain books were also sold during the event.

For those who didn't get in, or for those who were unable to attend, we will be scheduling more events for next year in different locations. This time, we will sell tickets in ad-

vance so that everyone is guaranteed a seat.

I would like to thank all those who attended the program. We look forward to more of these events in the future.

### BCHS HOSTING BRADFORD COUNTY VETERANS HISTORY PROJECT

The Bradford County Historical Society is now housing the office of the Bradford County Veterans History Project. The project is connected to a nationwide effort through the Library of Congress.

According to the website: "The Veterans History Project of the American Folklife Center collects, preserves, and makes accessible the personal accounts of American war veterans so that future generations may hear directly from veterans and better understand the realities of war.

"The Project collects first-hand accounts of U.S. Veterans from the following wars:

- World War I (1914-1920)
- World War II (1939-1946)
- Korean War (1950-1955)
- Vietnam War (1961-1975)
- Persian Gulf War (1990-1995)
- Afghanistan and Iraq conflicts (2001-present)

"In addition, those U.S. citizen civilians who were actively involved in supporting war efforts (such as war industry workers, USO workers, flight instructors, medical volunteers, etc.) are also invited to share their valuable stories.

"The United States Congress created the Veterans History Project in 2000. The authorizing legislation received unanimous support and was signed into law by President William Jefferson Clinton on October 27, 2000."

We are pleased to provide a home for this project.

## Research Library to be Closed January through March

The Bradford County Historical Society announces that the Research Library will be closed January through March, 2010. No appointments for research or group tours will be scheduled during this period.

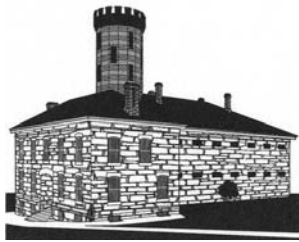
BCHS closed the library last winter as well in an effort to save on utility costs.

As a county historical society, BCBS has relied on a small operations grant from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. Due to state budget cuts, the BCBS Board of Trustees expect that little to no funding will be received next year.

Closing the library during the coldest months of the year makes it possible to save dollars for operational costs later in the year. Staff will still be available to answer phone calls, emails and research letters during the three month period.

### HAVE YOU TRIED THE BCBS RESEARCH SERVICE?

Let our volunteers research for you! Our highly trained volunteers will research the materials in our holdings. We have a high level of success with most requests, however we cannot guarantee results. Our researchers are volunteers and cannot promise an instant reply, but we try to have an answer within a reasonable time. All requests are handled in the order that they are received. The non-refundable fee of \$50.00 per surname must be received with the request. Photocopies and postage costs are extra.



*Bradford County Historical Society*  
109 Pine Street, Towanda, PA 18848

Non Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
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## BCHS Holds 2009 Annual Meeting

The 2009 Annual Meeting was held on the afternoon of Sunday, October 11th at the Bradford County Historical Society.

The Society Board of Trustees decided to try something a little different this year by eliminating the dinner that has been a tradition for several years. A variety of desserts were furnished instead and the event was free both to members and also nonmembers.

A program about Dr. Donald Guthrie was provided by Henry G. Farley and a Bradford County history quiz was also featured. Reports were distributed and Managing Curator, Matthew Carl, gave an overview of 2009 highlights. He reported that attendance in the museum and research library has doubled over the past two years.

Participants enjoyed touring the museum and visiting with each other during the afternoon. BCBS considers this event a success and has received several compliments on the new Annual Meeting format.

**BARCLAY  
MOUNTAIN  
*A History***

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**350 PAGES  
400 PHOTOGRAPHS  
INDEXED**

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**\$40.00  
\$2.40 PA TAX  
\$5.00 SHIPPING**

**Society Journal**

Quarterly Newsletter  
of the Bradford County  
Historical Society

Matthew T. Carl, Editor & Designer

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**RESEARCH LIBRARY HOURS:**  
Wednesday-Friday, 10 am - 4 pm  
First Saturday Monthly, 10 am - 2 pm  
Closed January - March

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**WINTER MUSEUM HOURS:**  
Closed

*Do your Christmas shopping at BCBS!*

**PIONEER AND PATRIOT FAMILIES OF BRADFORD COUNTY**

by Clement Heverly, reprint with index  
\$40 Tax - \$2.40\* Shipping - \$8.00

**OUR BOYS IN BLUE (BRADFORD COUNTY IN THE CIVIL WAR)**

by Clement Heverly, reprint with index  
\$42.50 Tax - \$2.55\* Shipping - \$8.00

**BRADFORD COUNTY HISTORY - 1995**

by Bradford County Historical Society, 1995  
\$70 Tax - \$4.20\* Shipping - \$8.00

\* - PA residents only