



## Baltzer Meyer Historical Society

624 Baltzer Meyer Pike, Greensburg, PA 15601

Ph. (724) 836-6915

Baltzermeyer.com

I would like to take a few moments to review this past year. We started off the year receiving money from our Go Fund Me and Giving Tuesday on Facebook, for a total of \$2200. We also received a donation for 1,000 for tech equipment from the Tuscano Agency Inc. In February we worked on changes in the bylaws to help us meet our future needs. Lori Myers was working on the Bovard Book for reprint and Seton Hill University sent two students to help in the library. In March we were delighted to be the host for the Westmoreland Chamber of Commerce. More than 40 members were our guests and toured our Center and the Schoolhouse. We also hosted the Westmoreland Heritage, a group of the Historical and Cultural nonprofits, which meets every four months within the county. This meeting was a great success and helped us to display our collections to like-minded groups in the county. In April we held our annual Open House, and the Tribune Review newspaper did an article and video of the event. This event was great a great opportunity for those local to the area to visit and we had a great turn out. Rob Myers gave a presentation on Cemetery maintenance and tombstone care, and Lori Myers sent books all the way to Australia! In June, Brian Butko, author of a book on Isaly's stores, gave a presentation on our new video display to a nice crowd of people.

With the upcoming 250-year anniversary of Westmoreland County and Hempfield Township I was asked to be on both official committees to represent the Society in the planning and presentations for 2023. In August we held our annual Ancestry Day event. We opened the library to the public for a free research time and provided tours of the Schoolhouse. In September the NAPS group held a fundraiser event in our hall, and they plan to host another in the spring of 2023. In October, Rae Kayhart gave a presentation on Victorian Mourning traditions. This was a fascinating presentation on that era in history. There will be an election for board members and the executive board in December.

Over this past year we have held weekly digitizing work evenings every Wednesday, monthly board meetings and we have a team who has work party days every Thursday. The library is open on the first and third Saturday of each month from April through December or by appointment.

Personally, I attend monthly meetings for the Chamber, Westmoreland Heritage, Westmoreland Community Foundation, as well as various other non-profit organizations as well as have personal meetings with our local and county officials. Along with the administration of the Society, I also handle the admin for our Facebook page as well as those for Across Westmoreland and Greensburg: Then and Now. Our Facebook page sees about an average of 10K people per month in addition to other pages where we share our daily posts.



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Each year I meet with the Hempfield School District to negotiate the yearly contract to rent the schoolhouse for all of the third-grade classes. This year we added hosting of painting classes several times a month. We recently posted the plans to renovate the center which will include a large community room for rental events, a new location in the building for the library and the start of the Plischke Memorial Museum, which will tell the stories of former citizens of the county. The plans and pictures of these proposed renovations can be seen on our Facebook page. Along with our plans for next year's 250-year Anniversary, we will be very busy and could use volunteers to help us secure our future survival. I love what I do and am looking forward to 2023 and the exciting things we will be doing.

Tom Harrold

President BMHS