

Shenandoah County Historical Society
P.O. Box 506 Edinburg, VA 22824

<http://www.shenandoahcountyhistoricalsociety.org>



Winter 2009

Quarterly Meeting

March 10, 2009

At our late winter/early spring meeting, Don Silvius of the Shenandoah County GenWeb Project web site, will speak about the beginning, growth and development of Shenandoah County genealogy resources online, including how a small group's passion for area genealogy resulted in the creation of an annual event, "Shenandoah County Heritage Day", now in its seventh year.

The program will be held at St. Paul's UCC, 106 S. High St. Edinburg at 7:00 PM. High Street is one block west of the Valley Pike. Parking is available on the street and in the Shentel parking lot which can be entered from High St., Center St. or Saum's Way.

Join us for history, fellowship, and refreshments.

More Morrison

The Morrison exhibit that was scheduled to be installed at the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley after the retirement of the Jedediah Hotchkiss exhibit in May has been postponed until sometime in 2010.

As announced in last newsletter, in the planning stage is the production of a Morrison video program. The Society will partner with Oak Tree Productions (Wayne Bronson, producer) to create an episode for the popular series, "Road Trip to History". Many of our readers have seen this series, featuring local towns, on PBS. (Various of our members have had major or minor roles in these productions.) The new episode will feature Morrison's career and present his photography as a record of the history and culture of Shenandoah County. The video is not yet in production but it is expected that it will be completed this year.

**Preserving History While
Living in the 21st Century: Another
Plea to Sign Up to Receive this
Newsletter Electronically**

One of the missions of the Shenandoah County Historical Society is, obviously, to preserve the history of the County. Nonetheless, not only must we learn to live with evolving technology, we must learn to use it to our advantage.

First class postage is scheduled to go up in May from \$0.42 to \$0.44.

Six 8 1/2 x 11 inch pages weigh exactly one ounce. The Society's Board of Directors decided not to increase the size of the newsletter and kick it up to the next higher category.

To be fiscally responsible and to properly husband the assets of SCHS, it would behoove us to send out as many newsletters as possible electronically. To this end, if you would like to receive your quarterly newsletter by e-mail, please send me your e-mail address at pmurphy1@shentel.net.

Letter from the President

I'm sure most of you are anxiously awaiting the end of a cold winter, as I am. And all of us on the board are glad that we've changed our winter meeting date to March so we aren't on pins and needles about the ever present possibility of rescheduling due to bad weather. Our volunteers continue their work on the Morrison Photo Collection and have recently placed the 35th album in the library. That takes us to 17,619 photographs available for your enjoyment! We owe a thank you to C.F. Wagniere, who has become our own tech guru. With his guidance and help we have recently purchased a new scanner and will soon be acquiring new computer equipment to create an index system for the Morrison photos. C.F. is heading up this project, which will finally allow us to easily find identified photographs and search for images (whether identified or

not) organized by categories. Don't forget to check out the SCHS website. Janet Wagniere is diligent about keeping the site up-to-date with current events, SCHS past programs and other history related articles plus much more. Hope to see many of you on March 10 for a very interesting and informative program.

Lost Covered Bridges

By Barbara Adamson

When I check SCHS phone messages I never know what awaits me. Last month, I learned that there was an organization called the Covered Bridge Society of Virginia and that they wished to feature Shenandoah County and it's covered bridges on their website for the month of February. The group's purpose is to foster an appreciation of covered bridges and document those bridges that have been lost. They have societies in many states

Their website address is www.indianawyattbridge.com. They asked SCHS to be a local contact in an effort to learn about our own lost covered bridges and their history. Here in our county, if you don't ask, you might think that the Meems Bottom bridge is the one and only, past or present, covered bridge. Not so. There were many such bridges in the county. We've received a photo of a covered bridge on Rt. 11 at Toms Brook and will be getting one of a bridge over Mill Creek where it

flows into Smith Creek at Mt. Jackson. We hope to gather more photos and information. If you have any information to share about a covered bridge in the county, or know of someone who may, please call us at 984-7842.

Editor's Corner

The first battle in Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson's 1862 Valley campaign was the first battle of Kernstown, March 23, 1862. This was a tactical defeat but a strategic victory for Jackson. After the battle, Jackson retreated up the Valley. Jackson was pursued by the troops of Maj. General Nathaniel P. Banks. Peter Cozzens, in *Shenandoah 1862: Stonewall Jackson's Valley Campaign* (Chapel Hill, NC: The University of North Carolina Press, 2008) records the impressions of Union troops when they reached Strasburg, as follows:

Strasburg left the Federals singularly unimpressed. The abolitionist chaplain of the 2nd Massachusetts thought it the "dirtiest, nastiest, meanest, poorest, and most shiftless town I have yet seen in all the shiftless, poor, mean, nasty, dirty towns of this beautiful valley." A Wisconsin lieutenant who had admired Winchester called Strasburg a "miserable-

looking hole [that] does not merit the importance which this war has given it." Indeed, agreed a private of his company, "Strasburg was a 'dirty town.'"

I think Strasburg is somewhat better now.

Upcoming Events with the Shenandoah County Historical Society

Remember, we've changed the date of our winter meeting. No longer in February, it's now the second Tuesday in March.

SEVENTH ANNUAL SHENANDOAH COUNTY HERITAGE DAY

**SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2009
11 AM TO 3 PM**

WOODSTOCK AMERICAN LEGION HALL, S. MUHLENBERG ST.

This year featuring the Smith Creek Watershed in the Southeastern corner of the county including Alpine, Borden, Cedar Grove, New Market, Pine Forge and Shavertown. You'll see old photos, artifacts, Civil War stories, Bible records, and family histories. Bring records and photos to copy, scan and photograph for placement in the Truban Archives of the Shenandoah County

Library. Call Jean Martin at 984-8200 for more information.

The Annual Dinner is scheduled for May 12th. The featured speaker will be Jean Martin, who will present a program on frakturs. More details will be provided in the next newsletter.

Summers-Koontz Monument Restoration

Restoration of the Summers-Koontz monument, to which SCHS contributed funds, has been completed. The monument is on the east side of Route 11 approximately midway between Mt. Jackson and New Market. The rededication ceremony is Scheduled for Saturday, June 27th. Below is a photo of the restored monument.



Pat Shelton's Post Cards

Society Secretary Pat Shelton collects old post cards of Shenandoah County and has made them available for

inclusion in the newsletter. Some will be for the purpose of identification; others will be for amusement and nostalgia only.

In the fall newsletter, the following postcard was published:



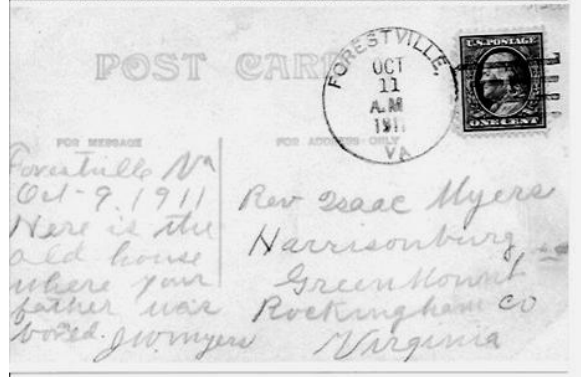
With respect to this post card, Vicki Mongold has provided the following information:

The house still exists on route 42 just outside of Forestville on the way to Timberville. It is situated on the east side of the road near the limestone quarry and in the vicinity of Flat Rock Church of the Brethren.

According to *The Brethren in Virginia*, by Roger E. Sappington, published in 1973, the photo in question is of the Michael Wine house and the Annual Meeting was that of the Brethren in Virginia. Quoted from page 34: "The first was held in 1794 in the bounds of the Flat Rock congregation and met in the home of Michael Wine, who had built a house in 1782 in which both floors could be used for church meetings. One Brethren present at the

Meeting is supposed to have commented later: 'There were so many present that they ought to have preaching both upstairs and down.' evidence seems to indicate that the Annual Meeting of 1800 was held a second time in the Flat Rock area, probably in the Michael Wine home."

Two new postcards are being published for your identification and amusement:



If you have questions, suggestions, or complaints, please feel free to contact the Editor, R. Patrick Murphy, at (540) 856 4073 or pmurphy1@shentel.net

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CIVIL WAR			
6th Virginia Cavalry	\$ 21.00	\$ 20.00	
6th Virginia Infantry	\$ 21.00	\$ 20.00	
Wounding of Jackson	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.00	
The Burning, a DVD motion picture based on the book by the same name of the late John Heatwole	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00	
CHURCH HISTORY			
Davidsburg Church Baptisms (New Market VA 1785-1845)	\$ 11.00	\$ 10.00	
Faith in the Valley:			
Volume I--Jacobs Church/Swover Creek	\$ 16.00	\$ 15.00	
Volume II--Powder Springs Union Ch./ St, James at Hudson Crossroads	\$ 16.00	\$ 15.00	
Volume III--St.Paul's Lutheran, Jerome & Stoney Creek Ch. Of Brethren	\$ 16.00	\$ 15.00	
Volume IV--Zion Church English Records, 1827-1890 (Intro 1764)	\$ 16.00	\$ 15.00	
Volume V--United Brethren Chs. of old Edinburg Circuit (1796-1949)	\$ 16.00	\$ 15.00	
Hebron Church Register, Vols, I & II (Madison,VA, 1750-1825)	\$ 21.00	\$ 20.00	
History of Mt. Hebron Church	\$ 21.00	\$ 20.00	
Lutheran Zion-Pine Church Records, Vols I & II	\$ 21.00	\$ 20.00	
Old Pine Church Baptisms (1783-1828)	\$ 11.00	\$ 10.00	
Record of Hawksbill Church (1788-1850))	\$ 10.00	\$ 9.00	
Reformed Zion-Pine Church Record	\$ 10.00	\$ 9.00	
Smithfield Lutheran Register (Jefferson Co., WV, 1792-1826)	\$ 10.00	\$ 9.00	
Solomon Church Baptisms	\$ 11.00	\$ 10.00	
Strasburg Lutheran German Records (1768-1829)	\$ 13.00	\$ 12.00	
Valley Churches (Michael J.L. Greene)	\$ 21.00	\$ 20.00	
Tax is included with these prices			
Shipping Instructions: Provide Name and Address where items are to be sent.		TOTAL	
		SHIPPING AND HANDLING (See Below)	
NAME: _____		TOTAL CHARGE	
ADDRESS: _____ _____ _____			
PHONE: _____			

Shipping & Handling: \$5 for total purchases less than \$50;
\$10 for total purchases of \$50 or more. Should shipping charges exceed this amount, SCHS will notify you prior to shipping your order.

Make checks payable to

Shenandoah County Historical Society, Inc.

Mail to:
SCHS

P.O. Box 506

Shenandoah County Historical Society: An Invitation

The Shenandoah County Historical Society was founded in 1985 by a group of citizens interested in preserving and sharing our County's heritage. Now, more than ever, we need you! Our activities include:

- Quarterly meetings
- Newsletter
- Genealogical research services
- Morrison Studio Photographic Collection project
- Involvement in local historic preservation issues
- Collecting and sharing information about local history, family histories, etc.
- Publication and sales of local history books
- Community outreach (County Fair booth, Heritage Day, other public events)

We welcome participation on our Committees. On the reverse side of this form you will find a brief description of our Committee activities. We encourage you to volunteer – without your support we can't accomplish our goals. Please fill out and return the form below if you would like to volunteer, renew your membership or join SCHS if you aren't already a member.

Check applicable items:

- I wish to help with SCHS projects or serve on a Committee _____
- I have old documents, family histories, books, photos, etc. to share
- I want to donate to further SCHS work
- Genealogical research/\$20 per hour, plus postage and copying.
- I want to join or renew membership in SCHS. Dues enclosed.
Single - \$10. Family - \$15. Lifetime (individual) - \$200.
Lifetime (family) - \$300.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Below is a brief description of some of our Committees and their activities:

History – involved in the collection, preservation and research of local historical material and artifacts. Serves as a depository and reference center for these materials.

Preservation – identifies, surveys and catalogs sites, landmarks, structures and other physical objects that are worthy of preservation. There is considerable overlap and cooperation between this Committee and the History Committee.

Program & Hospitality – works to provide programs and meetings that are interesting and entertaining and that encourage the public to learn about local history through lectures and exhibits. Plans our annual May dinner meeting. Provides refreshments for meetings.

Public Relations – publicizes SCHS activities. Promotes the use of historical materials collected by the Society.

Genealogical – promotes genealogical study and research. Upon request conducts family research (fee for service).

Finance – sponsors book sales and other special fund raising projects.

Nominating & Membership – not standing Committees, these provide assistance to the Board when needed.