

**8th Annual River
Heritage Day Celebration!**

Date: Sat., October 17, 2009
Time: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Place: Washington Boro Community Park
(@Intersection Rt. 999 & Rt. 441)

Parking: FREE
Note: FREE tractor wagon shuttles
provided from field parking

Attractions:

Wide range of Craft Vendors & Artisans
Antique Tractors & Farm Equipment displays
Manor FFA-operated Tractor Pull
Kids' FREE Barrel Rides
Kids' FREE Pedal Tractor Pull: 11:00 AM
(go to basketball court)
Many more FREE fun options
being planned for all ages!

Tasty foods available for purchase

Heritage Day Contacts

**Artisans & Craft
Vendors:**
to reserve a space, please
call
Patty McKonley 471-8634
-or-
Charlie Douts 684-9542
-or-
www.bluerockheritage.com
(click on *Vendor Application*)

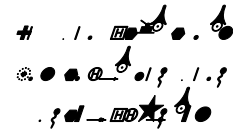
**For Manor FAA
Tractor Pull
Registration:**
please call
Jim Harnish 285-0763
-or-
Glenn Hess 872-2898

**Our mission is to promote and conserve the rich
history of the Lower Susquehanna River Valley
through education preservation and restoration;
and to increase public awareness of its archeological
and historic resources features and buildings and
their unique inter-relationship with and access to the
local ecological systems.**

**WBSSRH
Collector Series
Heritage Calendars**

These fund-raiser calendars
document our past
by circulating
previously unpublished
private photographs which
showcase
Washington Boro history.

**2009 was our sixth calendar
published**



**2009 calendars
and calendars from some
previous years will be
available
at WBSSRH**
Contact Glenn Henry 475-4542
-or-
Charles Douts 684-9542

REMEMBER

**Washington Boro's
Annual
Tomato Festival**

Sat. July 11th
and
Sat. July 18th

Food / Fun / Music & Neighbors

Come by & say "HI"
at the WBSSRH booth
both nights.



Do you wish to receive our newsletter by e-mail?

Visit our web site www.bluerockheritage.com and send your request.

Our Ramp to nowhere?

The phrase, "It looks like a ramp to Nowhere," has been the sense of some who have admired the newly built ramp which was Grant Elledge's Eagle Scout Project. The ramp, for those who haven't seen it yet, connects two levels of the path running behind the Heritage Center.

Elledge, who lives in Washington Boro, chose his project to benefit the local area and submitted plans for the ramp to WBSSRH for approval. Well, maybe right now it *might* look a little like a ramp to Nowhere but there is a simple explanation that changes everything.

The ramp is actually Phase 1 of projected pathway plan that will ultimately permit easy and safe access from the parking area to the Heritage Center. Grant Elledge's ramp involved significant engineering skill matched with proficiency in labor and time management.

WBSSRH continues to be grateful as well for all the others who pulled together on this project: private citizens and Boy Scout Troop 268. LASA, as has previously been reported, supported community efforts by supplying ramp materials and supplies. Once again in America, a Scout has led the way. Elledge's ramp is the impressive centerpiece of a larger plan.

Did you know?

During WWII an observation tower was built on Shultz Road and residents served as spotters looking for enemy aircraft.

In the 1930-40's a sand quarry operated on Second Street.

Reeder Young was a part-time chauffer for Caroline Peart. On several occasions he drove the Pearts to Harrisburg for dinner with Governor Pinchot.

Are You Upgrading?

If you are upgrading electronic equipment at your house, WBSSRH can put to good use up to six flat screen televisions and up to six DVD players. Equipment should be in good working condition. All will be used in conjunction with displays at the Heritage Center.

Please contact Glenn Henry, 475-4542 or Charles Douts, 684-9542, or speak to any WBSSRH member.

LOOKING AHEAD!

WBSSRH submits to its friends and neighbors the following list of projects currently underway or being planned:

1. Renovation of the Hog Barn at the Witmer barn. You will no doubt have already noted the new windows added to the barns forebay by our skilled local senior craftsmen.
2. Renovation of the ground floor in the Heritage Center, focusing primarily on the areas of flooring and lighting.
3. Continuing Planned Pathways Project from the parking lot to Heritage Center.

T-Shirts & Calendars

WBSSRH T-shirts and calendars will be shown on our web site. If you wish to make a purchase and are not able to attend one of our events, visit our web site www.bluerockheritage.com and send an email request.

We will be able to ship the item(s) to you.

Washington Boro Society for Susquehanna River Heritage
P.O. Box 6, Washington Boro, Pa 17582

www.bluerockheritage.com

WBSSRH Seeks Scout and Community Groups Involvement

As reported in the June 10 edition of *The Millersville Advertiser*, WBSSRH is talking with scouts and other community groups interested in specific projects at the Heritage Center. The building of a partial longhouse to represent the way our local Susquehannock Indians lived while they were in this area from mid 1500's through the 1600's. Disney concepts are colorful, but often less than accurate. Manor Township kids benefit in understanding how earlier civilizations lived in the very same locations where they and their families now live. How better to teach than by presenting a model that can be seen and touched?

Also under discussion is the concept of developing small sample garden plots featuring flowers and vegetables grown by two groups: our Susquehannock Indians and early Lancaster settlers. Many herbs and other plants were used medicinally here in the era when physicians lived long distances away by wagon or horseback. Consequently the entire topic of "growing" offers a fertile area of development to interested groups. Does this concept fit your group's mission statement for local benefit?

Either Glenn Henry, 475-4542, or Charles Douts, 684-9542, would like to hear your ideas, or you can contact any WBSSRH member.

Please share your interest area with us by noting on coupon as many as apply:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scout group involvement | <input type="checkbox"/> Renovation of original Hog Barn addition |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community group involvement | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personal or family involvement | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Partial Susquehannock Longhouse | <input type="checkbox"/> Continuing renovation of lower level Heritage Center: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Early Manor Township Garden Plot | <input type="checkbox"/> Flooring |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medicinal Herbs/Plants Plot | <input type="checkbox"/> Lighting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation of Pathway Project | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Projected Picnic Area | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Projected Gazebo | |

In what other area do you have interest?

Name: _____

Address: _____
(Street)

(Town) (Zip Code)

E-Mail Address: _____ @ _____

Telephone: _____

(WBSSRH will never publish or sell any list of contact names.)

Please clip coupon and send to:
WBSSRH P.O.Box 6, Washington Boro, PA 17582

-or-

Give to any WBSSRH member

Could the mystery be solved?

"Bury the hatchet" is an Indianism, (a phrase borrowed from Native American speech). The term comes from an Iroquois ceremony in which war axes or other weapons were literally buried in the ground as a symbol of newly made peace. The Susquehannocks separated from the Iroquois Nation prior to 1525.

According to tradition the Iroquois leaders Deganawidah and Hiawatha convinced the Five Nations, (the Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga, and Seneca), to stop fighting amongst themselves and form a confederacy. This probably happened before Columbus sailed.

To celebrate the new peace, the Iroquois buried their weapons under the roots of a white pine. An underground river then miraculously washed the weapons away so the tribes could never use them against each other again.

European missionaries and settlers took note of the tradition in the seventeenth century. French records from 1644 relate that the Iroquois visiting Quebec "proclaim that they wish to unite all the nations of the earth and to hurl the hatchet so far into the depths of the earth that it shall never again be seen in the future" [translation from Thwaites' monumental *Jesuit Relations*].

Non-Iroquois tribes were practicing the ceremony by the end of the French and Indian War. In 1761, after the French surrendered Canada, their traditional allies the Micmac (an Algonquian people) buried the hatchet with the British. In the decades after American independence, Congress buried the hatchet with several tribes, many of which (like the Chickasaw) were not Iroquoian.

The opposite of burying the hatchet is taking it up, which occurs in English as early as 1694. Variants include "dig up," "raise," etc. But these war-making phrases are now much less used than "bury the hatchet."

