

FORECAST

158th Annual Dinner Meeting

On Friday, April 22, 2016, the Luzerne County Historical Society will hold its 158th Annual Meeting and Dinner at the Westmoreland Club in Wilkes-Barre. Attorney Charles Petrillo and Chester Kulesa, site administrator of the Anthracite Heritage Museum will do a presentation on the Knox Mine Disaster and Aftermath. Charlie is a board member at the Anthracite Heritage Museum and the duo have done a number of community outreach programs. This will be an illustrated program. It will feature 15 minutes for an introduction to the disaster and a ten minute documentary film. Charlie will focus on a multi-media illustrated program on the end of deep-coal mining in the Wyoming Valley after the Knox Mine Disaster of January 1959. The program will also include a 1966 film of the last substantial deep-mine coal operation in the Wyoming Valley at Wanamie in Newport Township and a brief PowerPoint on the last remaining deep-coal operations through 1975. It will be a half-hour program. Cocktail Hour for the annual event begins at 5:30, dinner will be at 6:30, and the presentation will be immediately thereafter. Tickets are \$65 for LCHS members and \$75 for nonmembers. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 570-823-6244 ext. 3 or emailing reservations at luzernehistory.org. All reservations must be made by April 18.

Sixth Annual Classic Car Show

The Luzerne County Historical Society will hold its Sixth Annual Classic Car Show from 9 am to 3:30 pm, on Sunday, May 1, on the grounds of the Historic Swetland Homestead at 885 Wyoming Avenue, Wyoming. The show will be open to any vehicle: classic cars, race cars, muscle cars, tuners, trucks, motorcycles, choppers, bicycles, etc. If it has wheels, we want it! Entry fee is \$15.00 per vehicle and free for spectators. All proceeds will benefit the LCHS and the Homestead. The show will feature DJ Steel Dragon, a 50/50 drawing, raffle prizes, and some great food. The Swetland Homestead will be open for tours for an additional fee. Registration is from 9 am to noon. Judging will take place from 12:30 to 2:30 pm. Trophies will be awarded at 3 pm to the Top 30 entries as well as Best of Show and People's Choice. Dash Plaques and goody bags will be given to the first 100 entries. Don't miss one of the biggest events of the season. Last year over 160 cars graced the Swetland lawns! Rain Date will be May 15. Preregistration is encouraged but not required. For more information, or to pre-register a car, call 570-823-6244 ext.3



Scene at a previous year's car show

From The Roaring 20's Exhibit



The Roaring 20's Exhibit

The Luzerne County Historical Society will hold an opening party for its newest exhibit, "The Roaring '20s" at our museum at 69 South Franklin Street in Wilkes-Barre from 5 to 7 pm, on Friday, March 4. Come and see articles covering all the major trends of the Gilded Age, art, entertainment, Prohibition and Bootlegging, criminals, as well as the famous music and dances of the era. In addition, a wide variety of pieces representing the fashion of the era will also be on display. Most of the items came from one large private donation, and the LCHS is proud to keep these pieces together, as they were received, so they can best tell the story of this famous time period. The exhibit opening will include drinks and light fare in a "Great Gatsby" style opening reception. Period dress is encouraged but not required. Come out for a fun and an enlightening look at one of America's deepest and most storied decades. Cost is \$20 per person for LCHS members, \$30 for nonmembers. Reservations can be made by calling 570-823-6244 ext. 3 or by emailing reservations@luzernehistory.org. We'll see you there old sport!

Annual Appeal Update

The Luzerne County Historical Society Annual Appeal raises funds to augment membership fees all of which help continue the vital role the Society plays in preserving our historical properties and archives, educating the public, and assisting with research.

Gus Genetti, our Annual Appeal Chairperson, Carl Rosencrance, LCHS President, and the entire Board of Directors and Staff of the Historical Society wish to thank all of our donors for supporting our 2015-2016 Annual Appeal. If you have not contributed to this year's Annual Appeal, there is still time! Our fiscal year ends on June 30th.

Again, THANK YOU!!!

Tish McCarthy Last

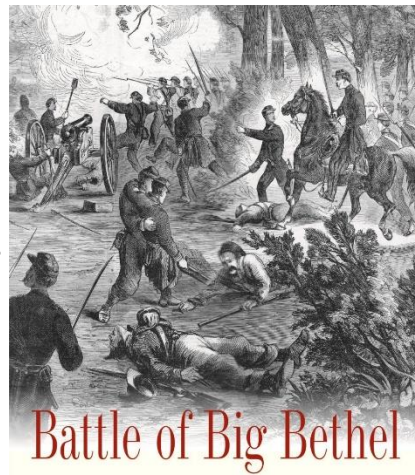
NEPA Civil War Reenactment

The 143rd Pennsylvania Volunteers will be hosting an event at the Swetland Homestead in Wyoming, PA on June 17-19. Enjoy the sights and sounds of a Civil War camp, talk with soldiers, and hear the roar of the muskets!

Weekend events will include:

- Civil War Hospital Demonstrations
- Authentic Civil War Camps
- Tours of the Swetland Homestead
- Weapons and Drills Demonstrations

There will be Battle Scenarios Saturday and Sunday, June 18 and 19. This year's scenario will commemorate the 155th Anniversary of the Battle of Big Bethel which took place on June 10, 1861. During the battle scenario, much of the confusion that would plague the armies at Manassas will also be seen here. One such instance was the friendly fire between two Union regiments. Casualties as a result of the battle were 76 men on the Union side to only eight men on the Confederate side.



Calendar of Events

February 1- 29 LCHS Closed to Public
March 4 Roaring 20's Exhibit Opening
March 12 National History Day at
Misericordia (LCHS acts as Judges)
April 8-10 Civil War Encampment
at the Swetland Homestead
April 14 Titanic Book Relaunch and Signing
April 22 158th Annual Dinner Meeting
May 1 Sixth Annual Classic Car Show
at the Swetland Homestead
May 1 -14 Fine Arts Fiesta (LCHS has booth)
May 12-13 Civil War Encampment
at the Swetland Homestead
May 29 Denison Opening Sunday
Early June (tentative) Sixth Annual Stars
of the Valley-Jimmy Spencer

June 17-19 Battle of Big Bethel
Re-enactment at Swetland
July 4 138th Annual Commemoration
of the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming
July 9-10 Battle of Wyoming Walking Tours
August 19 Giant's Despair Exhibit Opening
October 2 (tentative) Denison Harvest Festival
October 21-22 Downtown Wilkes-Barre
Ghost Walks
October 28-29 Swetland Death and Mourning
October 28 (tentative) Second Annual
Denison Superstitions Weekend
December 1-3 Swetland Candlelight Christmas
December 2-3 (tentative) Afternoons of
Colonial Hospitality at Denison

The mission of the Luzerne County Historical Society is to preserve and promote the collective history and heritage of Luzerne County, Pennsylvania.

Luzerne County Historical Society

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Give the Past a Future

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Luzerne County Museum
Swetland Homestead

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