

Website: dingmansferryhistoricalsociety.org
Email: dfhistorical1735@gmail.com

Dingmans Ferry – Delaware Township Historical Society Newsletter

Fall, 2026

Editor: Susan Ridyard

President's Message

Hello everyone,
It's been an exciting year so far, with more to come! Fall is just around the corner, and our Society season will not end until the beginning of December. We hope you will join us for our Living History at the Museum on September 20, Members Only Luncheon in November and our last program, Dickens' Christmas Carol on December 6.

As a matter of information, Museum visitors totaled 108 people as of August. Total attendance at our presentations this year is 249 people. Your Board is discussing future presentations and is considering increasing 2027 programs with topics on local Dingmans Ferry history, while still providing professional reenacting programs of National historical events and people. This concept was solidified at the August 16th program with Ted Parsell's presentation on the earlier times of Dingmans Ferry. The attendance was 123, the largest recorded attendance of any of our prior programs. The information was exciting and our guests were riveted to their seats. Our 2027 program schedule will be listed in our Winter newsletter.

Our major event of the season will be held on Sunday, September 20th at our Museum in Akenac Park; the "Living History Tour of Dingmans Ferry" and is sponsored by the Smith-Orr Foundation." As you visit our display rooms, you will meet reenactors portraying local people who had a role in our history. You will learn about the local native inhabitants and the changes of the area due to settlers coming to this rich and fertile land, as told by Andrew Dingman. Learn of the development of the village and the tourist/hotel trade. Visit our General Store and learn of its importance to all residents. See the tools used by local tradesmen in the construction of homes and businesses. Go back in time to a "one room schoolhouse" and meet a schoolmarm. Talk to Marie Zimmerman and her brother while exploring their contribution to the area. Visit our "Tocks Island Project Room" and hear from Ted Parsell, a local resident, about the demolition of our beloved Village.

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Keep in Touch!

Check out our Facebook page: **Dingmans Ferry - Delaware Twp Historical Society**

Be sure to add our email to your address book so our emails to you won't be marked as spam: *dfhistorical1735@gmail.com*



Dingmans Ferry- Delaware Township Historical Society Museum at Akenac Park

- Free with 10 rooms of over 3,000 artifacts
- Watch out for our banner announcing open days. In addition, we may be open when Akenac Park has an event.
- Open from 11am-3pm, typically on the 2nd Saturday and 4th Sunday of each month. Self-guided tour with Audio Recording
- The upcoming fall dates are: **September 12, 20 and 27, October 10 and 25, November 14 and 22.**
- Visit our table at Akenac's Harvest Fest on **September 19.**
- **New Merchandise at the Museum General Store**. The T-Shirts are $20, and 2X/3X are $25. Hats are $25.

Executive Board

- President: Tim Singleton
- Vice President: Skip Meyerhoff
- Treasurer: Diane Meyerhoff
- Recording Secretary: Patrice Singleton
- Corresponding Sec: Robert Gibbons

Upcoming FREE Programs:

Time: 2pm for all Programs Unless Noted

Location: Delaware Township Building – 116 Wilson Hill Rd. Dingmans Ferry, PA 18328

- **Sep 20:** ***Living History – At the MUSEUM in Akenac 11am-4pm***
- **Nov 15:** ***Members Annual Luncheon***
  Members*: Look for your email in October and be sure to RSVP.*
- **Dec 6:** ***Dickens' Christmas Carol***

Board Meetings

Board meetings are held the **first Saturday** of each month at **10am** at the museum.

These meetings are open to all. We encourage your feedback and participation.

President's Message (continued from page 1)

At our Living History at the Museum program on September 20th, be sure to also browse the Veterans room that is dedicated to all those residents who risked it all to defend our country while serving in the military during conflicts involving this nation. These conflicts include the French and Indian War, Revolutionary War, World War I, World War II, Korean War, Vietnam, and various Middle East conflicts.

On November 15th, we will host our ***Annual Meeting and Members Only Luncheon.*** Look for more details and RSVP deadlines in a Members Only email to be sent in October.

Some years ago, my wife Patrice and I attended a program presented by Jonathan Kruk. This was the first time I had met him or seen his work. The program that was presented was "A Christmas Carol." Jonathan portrayed all the characters; his performance was captivating. After the program, I was able to speak to him and obtain his contact info. If you are regular guests at our programs, I am sure that you have seen Jonathan perform for us. I must say that "A Christmas Carol" is one of his all-time best renditions. DON'T MISS IT! It is being held December 6th, at the Delaware Township Municipal Building, 116 Wilson Hill Road. Dingmans Ferry. The show starts at 2pm, doors open at 1:30pm. Hope to see you all there!

Sincerely, Tim Singleton, President



Storekeeper at the General Store/ PO



School Marm

Special September Program at the Museum at Akenac

Sep 20 from 11am-4pm "*Living History at the Museum.*" Join us at the **Museum** to see historical figures from Dingmans Ferry come to life. Meet Andrew Dingmans, a School Marm, and as well as many other people important in our local history. Refreshments will be available. The program will run continuously and groups will move through the museum with costumed tour guides in the rooms to explain the history.

This interactive program was made possible by our generous grant from the Smith/Orr Foundation.

Upcoming FREE Program at Delaware Twp. Bldg.



Dec 6 at 2pm. "***Dickens' Christmas Carol***" The Dingmans Ferry-Delaware Township Historical Society presents a FREE dramatic retelling of Dickens' renowned story The Christmas Carol. Through costumes and voices, Jonathan Kruk makes the story come to life, retelling this epic Christmas story for the delight of young and old.

Jonathan Kruk, Master Storyteller from the Hudson Valley, has appeared on television, radio, public events, private presentations and electronic media. Jonathan uses a treasure trove of voices to create over thirty characters. Kruk employs his legendary eloquence, transforming into Ebenezer, Bob, and Marley, complete with period garb, lively dialogue, and concise gestures and expressions.

2027 Membership:

Membership begins annually each **January** An email will be sent to members by the end of the year when the 2027 form is available and posted on our website. Be a supporter of local history and join.. **Please volunteer for committee as help is always needed and appreciated!**

Your member benefits include:

- Annual meeting & luncheon
- Private tours of our museum

Our Mission:

The Dingmans Ferry-Delaware Township Historical Society, Inc. was founded in 1994 to preserve the rich history of our area.

The Historical Society is dedicated to preservation of the records of early settlers, and to the commemoration and preservation of artifacts, institutions and landmarks that constitute the history of our area.

The repository for the artifacts, books and files is the Society's Headquarters and Museum located at Akenac Park, Route 739 in Dingmans Ferry, PA.

It's been a busy year for the Historical Society. We've covered: Local Revolutionary Battles, George Washington, James and Dolley Madison and the Birth & Death of Dingmans Village!









Meet Our Living History Interpreters on
September 20, 2026 at the Museum from 11am-4pm





Some of the Living History Cast: Skip Meyeroff, Evan Freymuth, Elaine McCarthy, Patrice Singleton, Bob Gibbons, Jim Sheridan and Ted Parsell.



Patrice Singleton, a colonial housewife, shops at Gabriel Layton's General Store. Skip Meyeroff portrays Gabriel Layton.



Evan Freymuth portrays John B. VanAuken, a local blacksmith and wagon maker.



Bob Gibbons portrays Dr. Philip Fulmer, local doctor and owner of the High Falls Hotel.



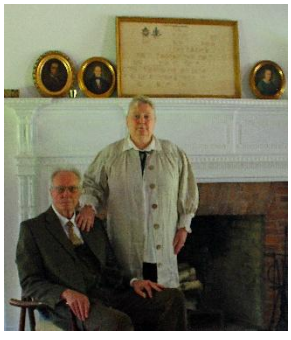
Elaine McCarthy portrays a resident School Marm teaching children of all ages in a one-room schoolhouse.



Ted Parsell portrays himself, a longtime resident of the Village of Dingmans Ferry.



Jim Sheridan portrays GI Jim, relating facts about local residents serving in wars and conflicts from the Civil War through the Gulf conflicts.



Max & Johanna Brinson. Johanna portrays Marie Zimmerman; Max portrays her brother John. They will engage in dialogue that focuses on Marie's career as a renowned artist.



Tim Singleton portrays Andrew Dingman, owner and operator of the Dingman's ferry and founder of Dingmans Choice later known as the village of Dingmans Ferry.