

# HAYCOCK HISTORICAL NEWS

The Newsletter of The Haycock Historical Society • Spring 2014

## HAYCOCK AND THE YELLOWSTONE

By Dr. Jay F. Kirkpatrick

What can these two environs, 2,000 miles apart have in common? Seven years as a park ranger in Rocky Mountain National Park, in the thin air and Front Range of Colorado, and almost 40 years now, of rambling about the wilds of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem and the Absoraka Wilderness of Montana actually have their formative roots in the forests and streams of Haycock. Strange? Not really. I have a professional colleague with a Ph.D. in zoology and a rich background and career in wildlife behavior, who grew up in Queens, New York. He credits the existence of the Bronx Zoo and his childhood experiences there for setting him on his life's path. For me, a career dealing with wild horses, bison, grizzly bears, water buffalo and even African elephants had its beginnings in the shadow of Haycock Mountain and the waters of the Tohickon.

For many who have grown up in the changing landscape of Upper Bucks County, these wilds, which might be sniffed at by some who have roamed the Rockies, or the African savannahs, provided a rich array of outdoor experiences and they in turn formed a solid foundation for the future. In my own case, it all started barely out of sight of Quakertown, along the Tohickon, a shotgun in hand (earlier than the law allowed) during the pheasant season, traps during the winter months (earlier than the law allowed), and a fishing pole in the summer. As I got older, I traveled further down the stream, reaching the Girl Scout camp, and the covered bridge at Thatcher (where Bill Cramp taught me to trap and where I finally caught my first mink). At a much earlier age my dad and two of his friends, Bill Feigley and Rich Pancygrau, leased 88 acres and a cabin on the banks of the lake formed by Sterner's Dam. Here I learned to identify birds, use an axe, catch respectable sunfish in the rocky pools, hook some pickerel and bass and mammoth catfish and snapping turtles in the lake, and of course, run in terror from the water snakes. I swam in "the pool" formed by the rocks below the dam, with sunfish nipping at my legs. The chimney of that cabin still stands, long after the cabin burned down. Further downstream, beyond the rocky cliffs and the quarry at Sterner's Mill, and well beyond, the mysteries of this wild country became like a magnet. I found untold numbers of arrow points, chipped out hundreds and perhaps thousands of years before, in the plowed fields along the Tohickon. I climbed



**The lake caused by Sterner's Dam.**

**The lake contained bass, catfish and giant snapping turtles. I was about five at the time.**

Haycock Mountain and thought there could be nothing higher or wilder in the world. My parents were friends of Sim and Grace Weber, who restored a wonderful little farm next to the Peischel farm (where I pilfered hard corn for Halloween shenanigans). These were the beginnings.

By junior high school age I had teamed up with the Landgreen brothers, hunting pheasants and deer, sitting along streams at night listening to the baying of hounds chasing raccoons. It was they who introduced me to the colorful characters of the area, including Benny Surket and Earl Cope, now legends at the very least. Actually I had met these legends much earlier. My dad and his friends were frequent inhabitants of Maurice Block's Stage Coach Inn (or Blocky's, as the locals knew it back then) and they took me along, fed me orange soda and tuna fish sandwiches and let me play with Evie Block's pet skunk. I remember the Sunday clay pigeon shoots behind the inn, where an ever present keg of beer prevented most of the clay pigeons from even being nicked!! And then there was the opening day of deer season when, by eleven o'clock in the morning the unsuccessful hunters were all hunched over "Mahogany Flats" at Blocky's, lying about the ten pointer that got away. But there was civilized culture too, among the wilds of Haycock with the likes of artists, such as Jim Schucker and



**Jay F. Kirkpatrick**

Tom Schenk, and writers like Helen Papashvilly and her stone sculptor husband George. I can still hear George yelling "Son



**The Cabin, at Sterner's Dam.** This cabin, the lake and stream, and the 88 acres surrounding it became my true introduction to the great outdoors. I can still visualize the inside.

of a Beech" at an unplanned break of the stone.

Finally, two summers of working at the Haycock Block Works, for \$1.10/hr., taught me the virtues - and pains - of hard work and introduced me to more Haycock legends, like old Ezra Barndt, puffing his old pipe like some ancient steam engine. These were the beginnings and they formed the foundations for an entire life and career. Those of us fortunate enough to have Haycock in our youth will never forget what it gave to us, in experience and values. We were indeed, fortunate.



**Below the dam was a jumble of boulders, which created wonderful swimming holes. Each hole was home to sunfish and bluegills and they were big enough to make a meal. There were tons of water snakes too.**



**Dr. Jay F. Kirkpatrick**

Jay F. Kirkpatrick grew up in rural Bucks County, and graduated from Quakertown High School in 1958. His younger days were spent in the hills and fields of Haycock. After graduating from East Stroudsburg State College, he taught at Bucks County Community College for a few years. After that Dr. Kirkpatrick earned the Ph. D. in reproductive physiology from the College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University in 1971. For 23 years he taught physiology at Montana State University-Billings and for seven of those years he served as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Along the way of this career Dr. Kirkpatrick worked as a park ranger for the National Park Service for seven years, in Rocky Mountain National Park, carried out post-doctoral studies at the colleges of veterinary medicine at the University of Pennsylvania and the University of California at Davis, and at the Center for Reproduction in Endangered Species at the San Diego Zoo. He also held an academic appointment as adjunct associate professor in the Department of Population Health and Reproduction, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of California at Davis from 1992 to 2005, and is currently the Director of the Science and Conservation Center in Billings. Dr. Kirkpatrick has served on the National Animal Damage Control Advisory Committee for the Secretary of Agriculture. He is a member of the Contraceptive Advisory Group for the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, and has served on the Montana Wolf Management Council.

For the past 39 years Dr. Kirkpatrick has carried out research on fertility control for wild horses and other wildlife, and on non-capture methods for studying reproduction in free-ranging wildlife species through the use of urinary and fecal steroid hormones. He is the author of more than 100 scientific papers and book chapters. He is also the author of *Into the Wind: Wild Horses of North America*. In 2001, the reproductive biology laboratory of the new veterinary center for Kruger National Park, in South Africa, was dedicated in his name. In 2002, he was the recipient of the National Park Service's Researcher of the Year for the Northeast Region, in 2004 he was awarded the Montana Academy of Science's Mershon Award, and in 2005, Dr. Kirkpatrick was inducted into the Wild Horse and Burro Exposition Hall of Fame.

Dr. Kirkpatrick lives with his wife Kathie in Billings, Montana, with their dogs Molly and Bella, and cat Savannah.

Mailing address: The Science and Conservation Center, 2100 South Shiloh Road, Billings, MT 59106; phone (406) 652-9719; fax (406) 652-9281; e-mail [jkirkpatrick@montana.net](mailto:jkirkpatrick@montana.net).



**Applebachville One-Room School 1954-55**

**(LAST YEAR OF THE ONE-ROOM SCHOOLS IN HAYCOCK)**

**Top Row:** left to right-David Guttman-Nancy Stoeckle-Jean Anne Foster-Marjorie Goldthorp-Shirlann James-Florence Lapping-David Sheridan

**Second Row Down:** Richard Hallman-Jean Deily-Bonita Whitham-Charles Mauge-Richard Willauer-Richard Gieseke-Christopher Hampton

**Third Row Down:** Carol Graham-Rosemary Dovey-Joseph Bickley-Juris Ukstins-Robert Cope-Kenneth Diehl-Emil Sveilis

**Fourth Row Down:** Patsy Queen-Dace Celmins-Sally M.-Nancy Mandic-Barbara Millen-Patricia Johnson-Karina Sturman

**Bottom Row:** Oskars Rieksts-Russell Dimmick-Roger Kressler



**Applebachsville One-Room School 1940-41**  
**(From Loretta Belac—her husband Ivan Belac’s primary school photo)**

**Top Row: left to right:** Bud Gieseke- George Norris-John Mandic-Naomi Vokrot-Mildred S.-Josephine Ross-Lucille Norris-Betty Shuman-Katherine Halewich

**Second Row Down:** left to right-Lorraine Gieseke-Florence Laskoski-Stella Nale- Q. Carroll-Gloria Gieseke-Helen Kiniuk

**Third Row Down:** Mrs. Cramp-Walter Kiniuk-Bill Barndt-Richard Peischel-Freddy Ross-Kathryn Kiniuk-Pauline Barndt-Dorothy S.

**Bottom Row:** Philip Vokrot-Orvil Barndt-Orvis Barndt-Paul Miller-Edwin Miller-Ivan Belac-Pearl Kiniuk-Suzanne Ross-Jimmy Angstadt-Walter Laskoski



## MARK THATCHER ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

Born in Haycock Township, Bucks County, Pa., November 19, 1891, the youngest of four sons of Charles and Ellen W. Thatcher.

Attended the rural schools of Haycock Twp., and one year in Quakertown High School. Entered Franklin and Marshall Academy, Lancaster, Pa., in 1909, and was graduated head of school in 1911. Was graduated by Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa., in 1914, with the degree of Bachelor of Philosophy. Entered University of Pennsylvania Law School in 1915, and after two years' absence, while in the army, was graduated thereby in 1920 with the degree of Bachelor of Laws.

Attended two terms of lectures on Constitutional Law, International Law, Criminal Law, Conflict of Laws, Torts, Evidence, Real Property, Equity and Civil Procedure, by the Council of Legal Education at the historic Inns of Court, London, England.

Taught public school at Applebachsville, Haycock Township, Pa., during the school year 1907-1908, and in the grade schools of Quakertown Borough, Quakertown Pa., during the school year 1908-1909. Taught Mathematics and Modern Languages at Franklin and Marshall Academy during

senior year in college and for one year after graduation.

Enlisted in Ambulance Co., No. 111, of the 28th Division, in May, 1917, and served therein overseas during its entire participation in the World War, serving in the Champagne-Marne; Aisne-Marne; Oise-Aisne; and Meuse-Argonne offensives and in the defensive sector before Metz.

Married Meda K., only daughter of Leidy T. and Annie E. Ahlum, of Haycock Township, Pa., in 1918, with whom he shares parenthood of three living children: Charles, aged six, and Thomas and William, aged three.

Entered the practice of law in 1920, and admitted to practice in the County, Superior and Supreme Courts of Pennsylvania and the District and Circuit Courts of Appeal of the United States.

Appointed Assistant United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania in July, 1927.

Borough Solicitor for Perkasio and Sellersville.

Member of St. Stephen's Reformed Church, F. and A. M., Lehigh Consistory, Knights of Pythias, B. of A., P. O. S. of A., Sellersville Kiwanis Club, American Legion.

## DR. M. E. WEAVER

Doctor Weaver was born at Applebachsville, Pa., April 6, 1881, attended the public schools at Applebachsville, graduated at State Normal School, Kutztown, Pa., in 1899, enrolled in the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Baltimore, Md., and graduated in 1904. From June, 1904, to December, 1904, was resident physician in the City Hospital, Baltimore, Md. December 24, 1904, started to prac-

tice medicine at Limeport, Pa. In 1908 moved to Perkasio and practiced medicine at 119 South Fifth Street, and seven months later moved to South Perkasio, and practiced medicine until September, 1918, and from there moved to Wind Gap, Pa., where he remained until June 3, 1925, when he again moved to Perkasio and located at Fifth and Walnut Streets, the present location.



**IN MEMORY OF**  
**Edward C. Bauer**  
**January 9, 1934 - May 11, 2014**



**IN MEMORY OF**  
**John Landgreen**  
**April 3, 1937 - December 5, 2013**

**NEW WILDFLOWER PATH AT STOKES**

On April 19, we had a wonderful wildflower walk with Paul and Brenda Teese as guides. The Skunk Cabbage and Spring Beauties were emerging from the long winter along with the Trout Lilies. We walked along the service road to the playground and were able to see many of the early wildflowers. Brenda and Paul have now staked out a path going from the front yard of Stokes to the back yard with another path going towards the lake. With these paths we will have better access to the wildflowers and foliage in the ravine and eventually when the path to the lake is complete we will have access to the lake shore.

Thank you Paul and Brenda.

**THANKS TO CLEANUP GROUP**

I would also like to thank all the members who came out for cleanup day April 5th. Great job done by all. Stokes is looking good thanks to all.

Pat DeWald, president



**Trout Lily**



**THANK YOU**

To Lester Goldthorp for donating and painting this rocking chair, and thank you to Monroe Hunsberger for caning the chair free of charge.

**THANK YOU**

Haycock Township, for a generous \$2,500 donation to our group.

**MEETINGS**

Sept. 18 - to be announced

Oct. 16 - to be announced

Nov20 - to be announced

Meetings are held at the Bucks County Latvian Baptist Church in Applebachsville and begin at 7 p.m.

The deadline for the Summer newsletter is August 15. Articles and items of interest are welcome, contact Margie Fulp.

**KRINGLE FEATURED ARTIST**

Ron Bevilacqua will be the featured artist for Kringle in December!



**KATHY DRIVER**  
*Account Executive*

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**ACTIVITIES**

**July 20 - HHS Picnic - 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Stokes**

Horseshoes and croquet games, along with music and really good food. Put the date on your calendar, bring a covered dish.

**Stokes House is open 10 a.m. until noon, every Friday through October.**

**SOCIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE DIRECTIONS FOR 2014**

As we concentrate on improvements to our Stokes House, we are beginning to project the headquarters as a viable place to host events, including fundraisers. Last year we saw an amazing amount of progress there. Signs were erected, a parking lot dug and graveled, improvements to the house façade were made, the front lawn was leveled and seeded after standing dead trees were cut and removed. This year we plan to add a pull-off to the long drive and add stone to make it more accessible to visitors. Partly because of this redirected effort as well as conflicting schedules of many of our committee members this particular year, our Country Marketplace at the Haycock fire house will not go on as planned in 2014.

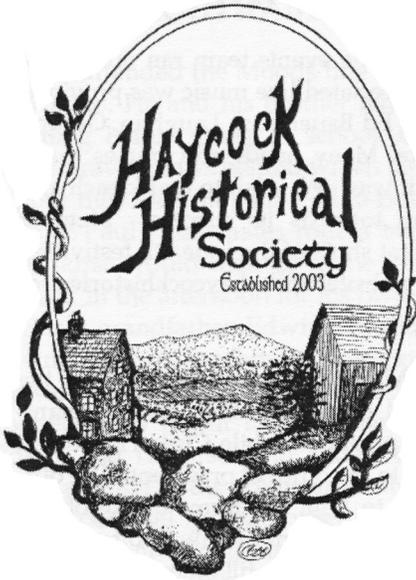
The next up-coming event will be our annual covered dish picnic at Stokes House on Sunday, July 20 from 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. If you have not yet been out to see the place, this is the time!

Beginning in September, the Social Events committee will meet to plan Kringle Christmas Shoppe XI, set for December 5th, 6th and 7th this year. Members interested in joining this great sub-committee for “hands-on” involvement before and during the event plus an opportunity make a huge difference (while discovering wonderful friendships with neighbors!) are welcome to join the team. This group meets 7 – 10 times prior to the event. Typically the meetings are held on Thursday evenings between September and November. Please contact Chris Handschin: (215) 536 – 0364 or chandschin@verizon.net for meeting dates and times beginning this fall.

**OFFICERS**

- |               |                  |                          |
|---------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| President:    | Pat DeWald       | wdewald@verizon.net      |
| V. President: | Margie Fulp      | m_fulp@hotmail.com       |
| Secretary:    | Nancy Janyszeski | ncj@epix.net             |
| Treasurer:    | Paula Laughlin   | pmlreader@yahoo.com      |
| Ad Hoc:       | Chris Handschin  | chandschin@verizon.net   |
| Ad Hoc:       | Diane Vosburgh   | dmvosburgh@gmail.com     |
| Ad Hoc:       | Joe Rumsey       | joelovesbarb@verizon.net |

Please submit material for the newsletter or suggestions for interviews to Margie Fulp. (215-257-7472) or m\_fulp@hotmail.com



P.O. Box 715  
Quakertown, PA 18951

[www.haycockhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.haycockhistoricalsociety.org)

## AN INVITATION TO MEMBERSHIP

YES, ENROLL ME AS A MEMBER OF THE HAYCOCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY!

I WANT TO BE PART OF RECLAIMING OUR HISTORY AND PRESERVING IT FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

- Individual Membership - \$20/year**  
Receive quarterly newsletter and attend all special functions this year – Jan. thru Dec.
- Family Membership (Parents & Children in household) - \$30/year**  
Receive quarterly newsletter and attend all special functions this year – Jan. thru Dec.
- Corporate Sponsor - \$100/year**  
Gain advertisement in our newsletter by yearly sponsorship (ad size smaller than business card)
- Corporate Patron - \$200/year**  
Gain advertisement in our newsletter by yearly sponsorship (ad is full business card size)
- Lifetime Individual Membership - \$200**  
Receive honorary lifetime status, receive quarterly newsletters and attend all special functions
- Lifetime Household Couple Membership - \$250**  
For just \$50 more, join as a household and enjoy all the benefits of lifetime membership

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

SEND APPLICATION ALONG WITH CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO HAYCOCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO:  
P.O. Box 715, Quakertown, PA 18951