The Newsletter of The Haycock Historical Society • Winter 2020

REMINISCENCES OF MY HAYCOCK HOME

By Carrie Elizabeth Harner Kletzing

As told to her son, Rev. S. Dennis Kletzing

ou can't go home again" is a phrase that has passed from literature into common usage. The saying came from the Australian-British journalist Ella Winter. In a conversation with the American writer Thomas Wolfe, she remarked: "Don't you know you can't go home again?" It became the title of one of his books, and is an observation based on experience. If you go back home to where you grew up, the place will be different. It is never the same, because hometowns change. People move on and small towns get big.

But what if moving to a new home feels like you have finally come home? That is what happened to my mother, Carrie Elizabeth Harner Kletzing. Mother was born on December 28, 1928, in Hagersville in a house on Old Bethlehem Road. Her mother, Carrie Elizabeth Crouthamel, was born on May 31, 1905, on a farm just off the Ridge Road near Kellers Church, Bedminster Township. Mom's father, Samuel Bealer Harner, was born on February 4, 1903 and grew up in Keelersville. His parents, Elmer and Ellen Harner, owned and operated the Keelersville Hotel.

Although Mother was close to Haycock Township, she did not live there... yet. That changed in July 1933.

Mom and her family lived on the Ridge Road in Bedminster Township in the house that eventually became the site of Jake Vargo Farm Equipment. It was on the north side of the Ridge Road about half way between Old Bethlehem Road and Elephant Road. Unable to complete the purchase of that house, they had to move. It was the middle of the Great Depression and money was tight especially for a family with five children. Mom was child #4, preceded in birth by older sister Anna, brother Samuel, and sister Grace, and followed by younger sister Ellen. What were they to do? Her maternal grandmother, Annie Elizabeth Crouthamel Crouthamel, offered them her farm in Haycock Township. It was her inheritance from her parents, Cornelius Crouthamel and his wife, Sara Ann Frantz Crouthamel. It was a dream home: a stone farmhouse on 19 acres on Old Bethlehem Road in Haycock Township. They accepted the offer.



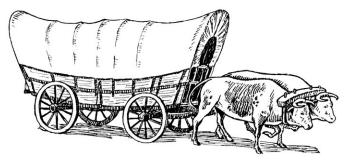
Crouthamel House in Haycock -standing left to right: Cornelius and his wife Sarah Ann Frantz Crouthamel; Pierson and his son Oscar; Pierson's wife, Sarah Ann Catherine Koch Crouthamel, and her two brothers.



Edwin and Annie Crouthamel family. Standing left to right: Mamie, Paul, Carrie. Seated: left to right: Edwin, Gladys, and Annie Elizabeth

How did a large family in a rural community move during the Great Depression? Friend and neighbor Calvin

Drumbore had a hay wagon and team of horses. He moved all their furniture in one load to their new house. I wondered what kind of antique farm wagon Mr. Drumbore had that could hold all their furniture. I showed Mom some pictures and she picked out a Conestoga Freight Wagon. Conestoga wagons were built by Mennonite craftsmen along the Conestoga Creek in Lancaster County to haul farm products to cities and commodities back to rural communities. They had a concave floor to prevent the contents from tipping and shifting. She remembers it as a "very big wagon." Including its tongue, the average Conestoga wagon was 18 feet long, 11 feet high, and 4 feet wide. It could carry up to 12,000 pounds of cargo. Although the seams in the body of the wagon were caulked with tar in case they had to cross a



Conestoga Freight Wagon

river, the Tohickon Creek was no threat. For protection against bad weather, a white canvas cover could be stretched on hoops across the wagon. It was a sunny day in July when they moved. There was no danger of a flat tire with iron rimmed wheels on the freight wagon. Regular usage of the Conestoga freight wagon ended after the Civil War. Since the wagons were so well made, they lasted indefinitely if stored in a wagon shed or threshing floor of a barn. They were perfect for bringing in hay before baled hay was common. So, Mom moved to their new home in a Conestoga wagon that probably dated to the mid 1800s.



Fordor Model A Ford

On the day of the move, her dad drove their Model A Ford behind the hay wagon as they made their way west on the Ridge Road, and then north on Old Bethlehem Road. Ellen was 10 months old and

sat on her mother's lap. Mom, Anna, Samuel, and Grace sat in the back seat of the Fordor as their father followed the wagon at a horse's pace from Bedminster to Haycock. The house was about a half mile down the hill from the Mountain House Hotel on the same side of the road. The kids loved the place built by their great-grandfather Cornelius Crouthamel. Cornelius and his wife, Sarah Ann Frantz

Crouthamel, raised their family here and now their greatgrandchildren would roam the same fields and woods.

Cornelius Crouthamel first built a log house on the site. Their two children, Pierson and Annie, were born here. Pierson was born on September 7, 1861 and Annie Elizabeth was born on February 2, 1871. With the help of Enos Yost, Cornelius also built the log school his children attended, Stover's School. Later, Cornelius built the stone farmhouse that is now 425 Old Bethlehem Road, Quakertown. (The log house was still standing when Mom's family moved into the main house.)

Sarah Ann Catharine Koch (b. August 4, 1863, d September 19, 1947) outlived her husband by many years. Pierson died of rheumatic fever on December 31, 1898. They had three children: Oscar C. Crouthamel, Flora Mabel Crouthamel (Yost), and Raymond Stanton Crouthamel. Oscar was born in 1884 and married Hannah Martin, Sylvester Martin's sister. Sylvester Martin was the blacksmith on Old Bethlehem Road. Oscar and Hannah had one son, Norman. They lived on a farm on the same road as the Andy Palmer farm. Flora Mabel Crouthamel was born in 1889 and married Enos Sine Yost. They had five children: Edith Sara Yost (Slifer), Mildred Mabel Yost (Frei), Esther Yost (Hager), Willard Yost, and Elaine Yost (Hager). Raymond Stanton Crouthamel was born in 1894 and married Mabel Smell. They had two children: Ruth Irene Crouthamel (Weaver) and Paul R. Crouthamel.

When Mom and her family moved into her grandmother's home place, Annie Elizabeth Crouthamel came and gave her a tour of the farm: orchard, meadow, hazel nut bush, and woods. Mom has a rolling pin made from one of the native cherry trees on the property. Mom loved the house. She remembers the kerosene ceiling lights in the kitchen, dining room, and living room. All the other rooms were equipped with standard hand held kerosene lamps. There was a wood stove in the kitchen and a parlor stove in the dining room. (These were the only source of heat in the house.) In the photo of the house, Anna and Grace had the upstairs room to the left. Her brother Samuel had the room in the middle, and Mom and Ellen had the room on the right. Her parents had the rear bedroom. Cornelius left his name on a rafter in the attic and the log house for the kids to play in.







Kitchen Lamp

Dining Room Lamp Living Room Lamp



Kitchen Range



Parlor Stove

Not long after they moved in, their grandfather, Elmer Harner, bought them a horse for plowing a garden and a cow for milk. Mom's mother milked the cow and her brother Samuel plowed, harrowed, and cultivated the garden with the horse. Mom's job was to lead the horse, and she soon learned to step out of the way of those big feet. Taking care of the garden was also on the list of chores, but there was time for fun. In the winter, Sam would round up the sisters and take them to the barn. He opened the barn door and pulled a one horse sleigh on to the barn bridge. He told the girls to hop in and he would be the horse to get the sleigh going down through the meadow. When the sleigh was in motion, Sam threw the shafts up and hopped in, too.



Harner Family at Home in the Haycock: left to right: Front row: Grace, Samuel, Carrie (Mom), Ellen. Back row: Father (Samuel), Mother (Carrie), and Anna.

Summers in the Haycock brought strawberry picking at Victor and Florence Fluck's farm. On the way, Sam enjoyed talking to World War I veteran Walter F. Drube, who lived on the corner of East Thatcher Road. He was in the navy and always wore his navy hat. Mom's brother joined the navy in World War II. Maybe it was just

coincidence. Mr. Drube is buried at the Haycock Mennonite Church cemetery. Summer was also Vacation Bible School at the Haycock Mennonite Mission. Sam took Mom fishing along the Tohickon Creek by Sheard's /Clymer's Mill. That was also where they bought their flour. Her Mom baked every day and used the flour sacks to make pillow cases, dish towels, and sun dresses for the girls.

No farm would be complete without a flock of chickens and a rooster to intimidate the kids. This rooster protected his hens by flying onto the shoulders of the Harner kids. Since the kids did not appreciate that kind of attention, Sam and Anna took matters into their own hands. They killed the rooster and buried him in the manure pile. When their Dad came looking for the rooster to have chicken for Sunday dinner, he asked the guilty bunch what they did with him. The kids also thought their Mom never noticed them picking rhubarb from the garden and sneaking inside to dip the stalks in the sugar bowl. Then one day, their mother told them to leave her enough rhubarb to bake a pie. The looks on their faces begged the question: how did you know? Their mother said that was easy. There was sugar all over the floor to the back door. Moms are so observant!

One day, when the kids were on the way home from school, a team of horses hauling logs got spooked while coming down the hill from the school. Everyone shouted that the kids should get out of the way. They scrambled onto the banks along the road. The teamster finally got the horses under control at Davy Ahlum's Corner, otherwise known as the crossroads of Thatcher and Old Bethlehem roads. No one knows what spooked the horses or why they suddenly stopped at the cross roads. Sylvester Martin was just glad that his clients' horses were stabled when the team went wild.

Mom's Christmas memories were rather special. Early one Christmas morning, there was a loud knock on the door. My grandfather got out of bed, pulled on his trousers over his union suit, and went downstairs. No one was at the door. The children asked who was at the door. Their Dad Belschnickel. Belschnickel was the German answered: name for St. Nicholas's partner who delivered gifts to children at Christmas. Belschnickel crossed the ocean with the German immigrants who settled in Pennsylvania. Evidently he was still active in the Haycock. The next time there was a knock at the door, my grandfather jumped out of bed and ran down the steps in his union suit. There stood Mike Schultz, their neighbor, with another bag of delights for the children: oranges, apples, English walnuts, and hard-tack A lively conversation ensued in German/PA candy. German between the two men.

Mom has many memories of Stover School Days. She was very fond of her first and second grade teacher, Lena Bleam. Her next teacher was Mike Schultz's daughter, Ellen, who married August Werner. August built a sand box for the kids and made sure the stove was warm before the



This is Mom's 1937 School Picture.

Names are left to right. Front Row: Raymond Neimey, Leroy Baringer, Jackson Wenhold, Kenneth Martin, Helen Rogers, Mary Yeakel, Elaine Yost. Second Row: Dorothy Baringer, Eleanor Miller, Carrie Harner, Stephen Daniger (trying to hide), George Martin, Allen Wenhold, Willard Yost, John Snyder, Parker Slifer, Samuel Harner, Alex Neimey. Third Row: Florence Baringer, Florence Daniger, Grace Harner, Laura Pinkina. Back Row: Esther Yost, Alice Bender, Anna Harner, Althea Labs, Pauline Knapp, Nicholas Knapp, Albert Faix, Herbert Wenhold, Earl Snyder, Roger Wenhold, Elmer Anders.

students arrived. He also helped his bride with her snow boots! Mom's mother, also Carrie Elizabeth, used to bring hot soup to the school for her children in a red express wagon. Blankets and her youngest daughter, Ellen, kept the soup warm.

Mom still delights in telling stories about the boys. When small game hunting season came, the boys were disappointed that they had no day off from school to go hunting. Fortunately for them a dead skunk showed up in the school room. School was canceled for the day, and the boys went hunting. Hmmm. The boys also got in trouble for setting the woods on fire around the school. They received a stern admonition, but missed no school. She remembers the day when everyone traveled to the Applebachsville school to see Chief One Star, his wife, and some braves do Indian dances. The boys rode their bikes and the teacher drove the girls to the event.

One of the more interesting chapters in Mom's life was when she came down with erysipelas, a bacterial

infection of the outer layer of skin. It can be quite serious. It seems as though the doctors were having a hard time treating it, so her grandmother Annie Crouthamel was summoned. She was a Braucher, which is Pennsylvania German for Pow Wow practitioner. Grandmother Annie learned the traditional German Folk remedies from her mother Sarah Ann Frantz Crouthamel. Since they were devout Lutherans, the practice of folk medicine was mostly herbs and Biblical prayers and verses used as incantations. The exterior blinds were closed and Mom and her grandmother sat in a darkened living room. For an hour, Grandmother Annie recited Bible verses and prayers for her healing. Mom held her grandmother's watch while Annie moved her hand across Mom's face. The erysipelas left and all were thankful for her healing.

The other amazing person in their lives was their minister. When they lived on the Ridge Road, they were baptized into the Christian faith by Lutheran minister Rev. Edward H. Trafford. Pastor Trafford was the pastor of the



Rev. Edward H. Trafford

Lutheran congregations at both Tohickon and Kellers Church. When they moved to the Haycock, Pastor Trafford became the stated supply for St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Applebachsville. So, the Harner kids had the same pastor. Pastor Trafford drove the kids home from church and was often a guest for Sunday dinner at the Harner home. He was a bachelor with a most interesting background. From his birth in Lebanon, PA, to India where he was a missionary, to serving a Lutheran Church in Brooklyn, NY; Pennsylvania German Pastor Trafford brought another world to Haycock Township.



Haycock Boy Meets Haycock Girl

The other person who had some roots in Haycock Township was my father, Stanley F. Kletzing. After his mother died, my Dad and his sister lived with their maternal Mennonite grandparents on a farm in Telford. When their father remarried, they lived with him on the Franklin Wolfinger farm. Ed Bauer showed us where it was some years back. The buildings have fallen down and the lane reverted to woods and brush. Dad and his sister walked to the New Harrisburg School around 1933. They returned to Telford and finished their schooling there.

Mom carries a piece of Haycock with her. This picture that she painted of the Stover School hangs in her bedroom. She painted it in 1980 while taking art lessons from Florence Fluck.



Note: All photos not part of our private family collection are in the public domain. Old photos were restored by my youngest daughter, Rebecca Kletzing Gavalek.



HARRISBURG SCHOOL REGISTER

1870 - 1877

FROM ALICE S. FREED (1921-2012)

This Teacher's Monthly Reports Register from the New Harrisburg School for the years 1870 -1877 was found in the home of Natalie Nichols, Strawntown Road, in 1977, by Anna Mae Landis. She gave it to me, knowing I was a long-time friend of Natalie and her sister, Zena Platoff Ahlum, asking me to keep it safe.

I phoned the Haycock Township Building in 1977 to ask if they had a place to keep it. I was told they were planning a reorganization (in the late 1940's I substituted at the New Harrisburg One-Room School for Mrs. Meda Thatcher, and wanted to be sure this valuable book would be safe).

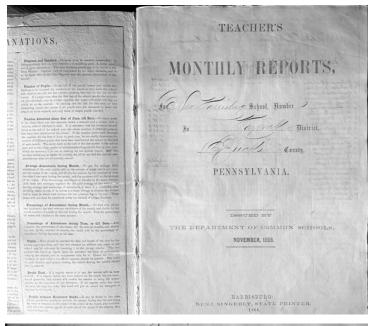
When my husband, Kenneth Freed, read of the Haycock One-Room School Reunion being held July 25th, we knew we had finally found the place for this book.

Alice S. Freed

*I believe I substituted in 1952 for Meda.

THANK YOU

We thank **Jane Cope**, of the Haycock One-Room School organization. Jane passed the Register on to the Haycock Historical Society in 2019.



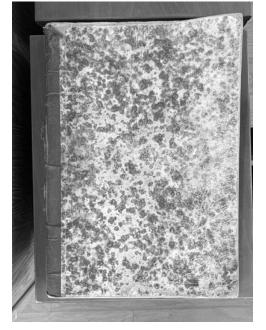
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Perkasie News Herald January 12, 2020 IN RETROSPECT

100 Years Ago

Haycock Mountain Forest Preserve

A famous spring where water bubbles up as though boiling, attracted considerable attention. This spring is at an ideal location, suitable for camping purposes, one of the ends to be attained through the project...The fine variety of trees, hickory, walnut, maple, chestnut and others, was admired by the Commission, who considered it altogether worthwhile to preserve them.





IN MEMORY OF Samuel Streapy 1925-January 7, 2020

Reflections of 2019 Kringle

By Chris Handschin

To all members and friends who helped at our annual fundraiser, Kringle Christmas Shoppe, a big thanks to you! A few more volunteers stepped forward and helped with set up and parking this past year!---Your effort made such a big difference—Let's keep that spirit alive and growing in time for December of 2020 when the event will be held- 12/4, 12/5 & 12/6!

Kringle drew a crowd of over 1450 guests, with overall revenue almost exactly the same as in 2018. *Friday 12/6/19 witnessed the highest totals for one evening!* Our participating artisans were happy, as their sales come in handy before the holidays! Over the three day event, the raffle ticket sales netted over \$2000.00, thanks to vendor and area business supporters with gifted items & certificates in our prize baskets.

Thanks to member Tom Schnabel, who organized the musical line-up, and also performed with his Riverfront Blues Band. Fantastic music filled the hall throughout the entire event, with a few new talented performers added to our Haycock line-up.

Thanks to the expert help of Pat DeWald, Kringle Christmas Shoppe now has its own website linked to our Haycock Historical Society site. www.kringlechristmasshoppe.org If you haven't already done so, please take a moment to look it over. All our vendors and sponsors are listed though-out the year. If you have questions, suggestions or comments about Kringle, or would like to join as a Kringle Elf on the Committee (meetings held between September and December), please email: kringleshoppe@gmail.com

With each passing year we anticipate the hall will become an even more enticing venue as construction inches toward completion. This year, Haycock Historical Society Officers voted to donate \$2000.00 to Haycock Fire Company to help with the cost of overhead lighting (their next step toward completion of the hall). The Haycock fire company will gladly accept help from carpenters, electricians, drywall installers (retired or not!) – They work on the hall every Tuesday evening.

Exciting news about The Stokes House.

Dear Members,

In 2010, one of our members became aware that the old house in Towhee Park was vacant and the county had not found a renter. For two years the house sat vacant and was beginning to show signs of neglect. The grounds had become over grown and the trim on the house was in need of paint. It did not present itself in a very inviting way.

In 2011, HHS took the plunge and signed a one year lease for the house, in hopes of saving it from abandonment by the county. With help from many HHS members who cleaned up the yard, cut back brambles, trimmed trees, cleaned and painted the inside of the house, the house began to shine and in 2012 the society decided to ask the county for a 30 year lease. The county offered the society a ten year lease and we took it.

I think everyone can attest to the fact that the Stokes House has a beautiful setting. We are fortunate to have the old farm house almost looking like it did in 1740, and the grounds around are reminders that it was a farm.

Old houses, as any house, need to be kept up. The slate roof on the house is now at the final end of its life. We believe it was put on in 1840, so the roof has lasted a good long time. Since slate roofs are of considerable expense, the board members started looking for grant money to help with the cost. The most significant grant was one from the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, but one of the requirements for this grant is that the structure be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. So with membership support, we would like to began applying to have the Stokes House listed on this registry. The house represents the architecture of 1740, and was one of the earliest houses in the area. Later, the farm was owned by General Applebach, a prominent citizen of Haycock Township, and the developer of Applebachsville. All of these things are pluses for National Historic Registration.

If there is agreement with the members of the historical society, we will be asking the county to support our application to the National Register of Historic Places for the Stokes House and to give us a guarantee that HHS will be able to renew our lease for another ten years.

There is no cost involved when applying for National Historic Registration.

For more information on the National Historic Register view the website

https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/index.htm

Please, if there are any questions, suggestions or concerns, send them to either

Dave Long or myself, Pat DeWald.

dlong@haycocktownship.com wdewald@verizon.net



THANK YOU

We thank **Dan Ritter** for donating his Haycock Fire Company wallet badge. Dan received this badge for his participation in the Haycock Fire Company from the Early 1960's to 1968.

EVENTS

House organization at Stokes: Sunday, March 22, 2020: 9 a.m. to Noon

HHS NEEDS A WEBMASTER

Is there a member who is interested in maintaining the HHS website?

FREE ACCESS TO PENNSYLVANIA RECORDS ON ANCESTRY

https://www.phmc.pa.gov/Archives/Research-Online/Pages/Ancestry-PA.aspx

2020 DUES REMINDER

Our annual dues for 2020 are due by the end of December. If you have an annual membership and have not renewed yet, you should find a renewal form with this newsletter. Please note any changes in your information and return with your dues. Thank You.

Past years' issues of our Newsletter are available on our web site. www.haycockhistoricalsociety.org

"Our Lost Tohickon Valley" and "Haycock Township and Eddie Bauer" are available as E-Books on Amazon

PRINT VERSIONS

"Haycock Township and Eddie Bauer" is available at Stokes Headquarters, Haycock Township Building, and Margie Fulp

"**Our Lost Tohickon Valley**" is available at Sines 5&10, Stokes Headquarters, Haycock Township Building, The Treasure Trove in Perkasie, and Margie Fulp

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MEETINGS

Thursday, March 19, 2020: 7 p.m. "The Importance of Hedgerows in Rural and Suburban Landscapes. Presentation by David Hughes, landscaper and owner of WeatherWood Design in Doylestown.

Thursday, April 16, 2020: 7 p.m. "Meet Henry Mercer." Mercer reenactor Jamie Bradley will give the story behind famed historian, tile maker, and architect Henry Chapman Mercer.

Sunday, May 17, 2020: 1.p.m. to 3 p.m. "Homesteaders Day at the Stokes House." There will be Frontiersman Stew cooked over an open fire, a muzzleloader (long gun) demonstration by Steve Applegate, and opportunities to fire the muzzle loader, shoot hand-made wooden bows, and do axe throwing. There will be NO Thursday meeting in May.

Third Thursday meetings are held at the Haycock Community Center, formerly the Haycock Elementary School, at Old Bethlehem Road and Sawmill Road, in Applebachsville. The meeting room is Community Room West.

The Thursday meetings begin at 7 p.m.

OFFICERS

President: David Long cadklong@verizon.net

V. Pres: Andrea Silvestri asilvestri@haycocktownship.com

Secretary: Nancy Stemler grandmom42@comcast.net

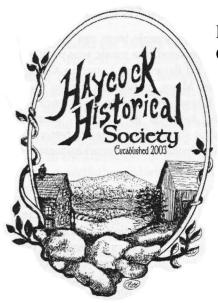
Treasurer: Chris Bauer cbauer@haycocktownship.com

Ad Hoc:: Pat DeWald wdewald@verizon.net

Ad Hoc: Chris Handschin chandschin@verizon.net

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

HHD USA



P.O. Box 715 Quakertown, PA 18951

www.haycockhistoricalsociety.org

AN INVITATION TO MEMBERSHIP
YES, ENROLL ME AS A MEMBER OF THE HAYCOCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY!
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
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