

HAYCOCK HISTORICAL NEWS

The Newsletter of The Haycock Historical Society • Fall 2025

THE GROVE FAMILY AT STOKES

by

Andrew Grove

We moved into the Stokes House in the summer of 1978. My oldest daughter Jennifer was 4 years old, and our second daughter Christina was 4 months old. Our son Albert was born in July of 1979. I was the resident ranger of Lake Towhee for Bucks County Dept. of Parks & Recreation. We moved out in the fall of 1992.



Andrew Grove

Of course, this was taken a few years ago. I started my Ranger career in 1975 after serving in the US Navy. I retired in 2009 after three decades of service at the age of 55. We moved to Shiloh, North Carolina where I drove for a bus for a transit service for 9 years. The extra pension certainly comes in handy nowadays.

Our children grew up learning about nature firsthand as my wife Nancy would pull them in a wagon down the maintenance road to the park with books about trees and wildflowers. As they grew older, we walked them to school (Haycock Elementary), about one mile, as there was no bus service in Applebachsville.

They also learned about nature living in a house that was built in the 1700's. There were mice gnawing and running through the walls at night. There was a family of flying squirrels living in the attic. We had a falcon nesting in the attic. There was a large black salamander with yellow

spots in the basement. A large toad lived under the wall on the front porch that we rescued once from the jaws of a garter snake. We had wood ducks nesting in one of the trees in the front yard. There were always deer in the back yard and side field which loved to raid our garden which was the size of a football field. We grew our own vegetables which Nancy canned. We raised turkey, meat chickens, egg laying chickens and ducks. Lightning struck a walnut tree approximately 25 feet from the front left corner of the house at 11:00 at night. (That will make you jump out of bed). Lightning also hit one of the twin maple trees that were approximately 15 feet from the front door one day while we were carrying groceries in from the car.



Winter was always fun. The first big snow we learned what it was like when snow slid off the slate roof in one big sheet and landed on the front porch and the ground out back. We thought we were having an earthquake. Not quite as frightening as the lightning though.

Something died under the floor in the powder room which was large as the smell lasted for days until we pulled up the floor and put a cement base in to keep other critters out. I pounded through the wall next to the bathroom door into the attic of the summer kitchen, framed it out and put up drywall to create another bedroom. We installed a Franklin Stove in the summer kitchen to help with heat in the winter. Floor vents and floor fans helped circulate the hot air through the house. The County had to install a holding tank which

pumped liquid sewer up to a sand mound in the field as the septic drain field had collapsed and sewage was running into the swamp. There is an alarm system in the basement if something goes wrong.

One snowy evening we came home to find our bed wet in the master bedroom. We found a mound of snow in the attic. It only happened once and could have been just from the direction of the wind during the snowstorm although in the daytime one could see sunlight poking through some areas of the roof.

Halloween was a bit of a problem. No one would walk down the driveway at night, so we had to go up the driveway and shuttle the neighborhood kids down to trick or treat at our house.

We will always have fond memories of our years at Stokes House.



We always had a live cut tree at Christmas. Friends of ours owned a tree farm in Huntington Mills. We would spend the weekend after Thanksgiving there every year. I would help cut trees to put out on the lot, while Nancy would help make wreaths. You can see it's in the corner of the living room



Easter egg hunts were always fun



There were always plenty of leaves for the kids to jump into in the front yard. (Albert Grove pictured)



Of course, this is looking out the back door. The deer would sometimes be so close, it seemed they were curious to see what was going on inside the house.

Grown-up, Albert Grove has an excellent video on YouTube, titled “Homesteader’s Day at the Historic Stokes House in Haycock, PA-Revisiting the House I Grew Up In.”



**Left to right seated: Alfred Werner-Douglas Aspinall-
Marguerite Funk. Left to right standing: Ron Murray-
Arlene Fleck Eichlin-David Funk**

The Haycock Historical Society's Coffee Hour at Stokes is in hibernation for the winter months. But with special thanks to Charles and Margie Fulp for hosting and organizing, the final coffee klatch was a rousing success. Six of the remaining Bedminster Township children displaced by the creation of Lake Nockamixon, were reunited.

They relived old memories and dreams from 65 years ago. The attendees were Ron Murray, David and Marguerite Funk, Arlene Fleck Eichlin, Douglas Aspinall and Fred Werner. All lived on the south side of Tohickon Creek (Bedminster Township) in the 1950's and shared common events. The creation of the state park altered their lives and sent them in different directions. This was a chance to remember those glorious childhood years. **Alfred Werner**



**Our freshly painted headquarters
The Stokes House**



Highland Farm, home of Oscar Hammerstein



October speaker Julie Flack

Julie, a board member of the Oscar Hammerstein Museum of Theatre and Education Center, gave an interesting presentation on the life of Oscar Hammerstein and his Highland Farm in Bucks County.



September speaker Barbara McLaughlin

Barbara gave a presentation on old items from the past whose purposes have become obscure. Her talk was followed by a quiz to see how many of us could recognize some interesting items.



A Nature Artist

Featured artist of the 2025 Kringle Christmas Shoppe, Anne Landis will present her floral and nature watercolor creations in a display titled "Endless Summer."



For Anne, painting is a passion which creates lasting scenes of nature to be enjoyed throughout the year, not just in winter! As an artist, Anne is energized by images that reflect her concern for the preservation of the health and beauty of our natural surroundings.

Being best known for her detailed floral watercolors, especially the popular, award-winning zinnias, Anne has reproduced these in note card sets and matted prints.



These paintings reflect Anne's artistic beginnings during summers spent on her grandparents' Connecticut farm where her grandmother taught her the names of weeds and flowers and inspired her fascination with color.

Beginning with pastels, Anne later transitioned to water colors, capturing stunning landscapes, flowers and still-life treasures that can be enjoyed year-round.

In her watercolors, Anne applies multiple layers of transparent paint to capture the desired intensity of color. She carefully designs each image to save spots for the white of the paper to show through creating contrasts of light and shadow.



Miniatures are one of Anne's specialties. These are tiny originals which must measure 25 square inches or less and depict one-sixth of actual size. The Snow Goose Gallery in Bethlehem is one of her favorite shops and framers. During May-June annually, the gallery produces one of the largest international miniature exhibits in the country, including close to 100 artists, by invitation only, and some 400 miniature works of art. Anne is proud to be included as an exhibitor for the past six years.

Anne participates in numerous juried art shows throughout the year, including Haycock Historical Society's Kringle Christmas Shoppe, where these miniature paintings of wetlands and rain-gardens can be found and enjoyed year-round. Anne offers a wide selection of note cards and prints displaying these scenes of preservation that she has discovered during her travels.

Also displayed are a variety of note cards and prints based on Anne's signature watercolor "Weeping Sunflower-Midnight in Ukraine." The painting was inspired by the Ukrainians' passion for freedom and self-governance following the brutal invasions they have suffered.



Colorful varieties of sunflowers, their national flower, are also represented with a series of oil paintings on miniature canvases



The monarch butterfly is a symbol of rebirth during its life cycle, and perseverance through a most challenging annual migration. Anne captures the monarchs in original watercolor paintings as well as note cards and prints available in many sizes.



Now retired, after a 31-year career teaching special education in the Quakertown School District, Anne continues her love for teaching by leading an art therapy volunteer program at the Good Shepherd Home in Allentown. She also works as a hospice volunteer for St. Luke's Grandview Hospital in Sellersville, building on her life-long love of caring for a special-needs daughter. Her other varied interests include enjoyment of walking and photographing outdoors, watching favorite sports and mysteries on TV, reading, writing, word puzzles and all kinds of music.

You will have an opportunity to meet this special artist when Anne visits the Kringle Christmas Shoppe on Saturday, December 6, and Sunday, December 7, from 12:00 to 4:00.

By Bernie DuBois

Haycock One-Room School Reunion August 23, 2025



Seated: Margie Goldthorp Fulp-Karina Sturman Rilling-Peggy (Cecilia) Johnson Casey-Larry Grim

Standing: Inta Sturman Stepanik-Bob Landgreen-Jane Clayton Cope-Dan Ritter-Ilze Celmina Diaz-Raymond Cope-Barry Grim-Ann Hubner Grim-Kenny Fox-Rich Landgreen

The group at this reunion attended the Haycock one-room schools during the 1940s and 50s. At that time there were four schools in use: Applebachsville, New Harrisburg, Stover, and Mt. Airy. The ages of those in this photo range from 78 years old to 90 years old. The two 78-year-olds were in second grade in the last school year, 1954-55, of the one-room schools in Haycock Township. I was in fifth grade at Applebachsville School, from where we students could watch the construction of the new modern school on the other side of Old Bethlehem Road. I started sixth grade at the new Haycock Elementary School when it opened in the fall of 1955. **Marjorie Goldthorp Fulp**

BOOK SIGNING

There will be a book signing by Marla Burke for our book, "Haycock Township ~ Through Nature's Lens" at Kimberton in Ottsville on Saturday, December 13th, and Sunday, December 14th, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Stop by....say hello, and grab a beautiful last minute gift if needed. Happy Holidays to All.

THANK YOU

Thank you, Alfred and Nancy Werner for the plot map of **Haycock Elementary School**.

KRINGLE 2025

Dec. 5th, 10:00 - 7:00
Dec. 6th, 10:00 - 6:00
Dec. 7th, 10:00 - 4:00

This year at **BENNER MEMORIAL HALL**
1260 East Cherry Road, Quakertown PA 18951

FRIDAY MORNING COFFEE

Friday coffee at Stokes will resume each Friday from 10 a.m. until noon, on April 3, 2026. Members and visitors are all welcome.

FREE ACCESS TO PENNSYLVANIA RECORDS ON ANCESTRY

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

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

November 20, 2025: 7 p.m. “Lenape” presented by Carla Messinger, Turtle Clan Lenape, and Director of Native American Cultural Heritage Programs.

March 19, 2026: 7 p.m. To be announced

April 16, 2026: 7 p.m. To be announced

May 21, 2026: 7 p.m. To be announced

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.

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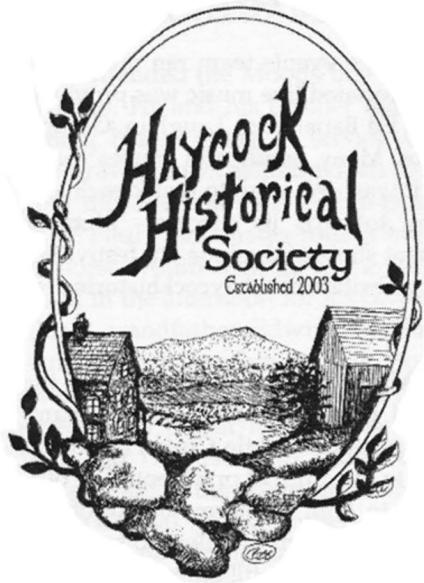
Please submit material for the newsletter or suggestions for interviews to Margie Fulp. (267-772-0711) or margiefulp@gmail.com

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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 _____

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SEND APPLICATION ALONG WITH CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO HAYCOCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO:

P.O. Box 715, Quakertown, PA 18951