

Newsletter

Spring and Summer 2024

warriorsmarkareahistoricalsociety.com

No. 11

Sharing Your Family Photos and Stories.

Our latest addition to our website.

We are asking our members to consider sharing photos and stories of your family.

If you are able and willing, please provide a short writeup about your family history, include the connection to the Warriors Mark Area, and provide a caption at the bottom of each picture with a description. Details could include dates, who is in the picture or what the picture is of. If the picture is of a person, include their name and the years of their life (if possible).

We can place your family photos and stories on our website so other people can enjoy them. These can also serve as connections to other family members with whom folks may be looking for.

Email or mail us your stories and photos and watch it all come together. If you have questions call me at 814-386-2774. This is just another opportunity for us to help ourselves in preserving our Warriors Mark history.

UP COMING EVENTS

Community Roundtable

Join us May 15th to Oct. 2nd Every 1st and 3rd Wednesday morning, 9 AM to 11 AM: A new Community Roundtable will take place at the Historical Society under our new pavilion. We will have coffee and pastries for anyone who would like to join us in sharing stories from the past as we make new memories.

Raffle Tickets

Once again, we are asking for your help in selling tickets. We have enclosed 5 tickets and a return envelope. Tickets are available for you to purchase or to sell for us. Whatever you can do to assist us is greatly appreciated.

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday March 22nd 11:00 am @

Warriors Mark Methodist Church in Warriors Mark.

Anyone wishing to help fill eggs or donate towards the candy please contact one of the board members.

Saturday Aug 3rd Raffle Drawing and Community Picnic

Will take place Historical Society 11am until 2 pm. Chicken and Pork BBQ along with corn on the cob. Bring a friend and help grow our membership!

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Board of Directors

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Paul Smith- Treasurer

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Directors: Terry Long; Linda Smith; Dan Durbin;
Tim Nowlin. Jesse Kulak;

Stewart Neff-Liaison to township supervisors.

Warriors Mark Area Historical Society

The Warriors Mark Area Historical Society Museum is located at 1826 Centre Line Road, Warriors Mark, Pa 16877. The mailing address is PO Box 54 Warriors Mark Pa 16877.

Newsletters: Published bi-annually (Spring & Fall)

Mission: To awaken in the residents of the area an interest in an appreciation for the historical past of Warriors Mark and surrounding areas.

Warriors Mark Area Historical Society (WMAHS) is a tax-exempt, not for profit, educational organization as described in section 501 (c) (3) of the internal Revenue Code, Gifts, and deductible for income tax purposes.

Tax ID # 83-1272728.

Board Meetings are normally held the second Monday of each month between March and November. Meetings are held at the Warriors Mark Grange and start at 6:00 pm. We encourage you to come and bring a guest. Feel free to call ahead to verify date, time, and location. (Sometimes during the summer months we'll meet at the Historical Society and have a cookout during our meeting).



Museum Hours

May 15th - October 15th

Wednesdays 9 am to 11 am - Sundays 1pm to 3 pm

For Appointments Call

Eileen @ 814-386-2774

Paul @ 814-919-2041

Linda & Larry @ 814-632-8465

Address: 1826 Centre Line Road

Warriors Mark, PA 1687

Our business meetings start at 6:00 pm and guest speakers follow the meeting around 6:30 pm. All these meetings will be held at the Warriors Mark Grange

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Up Coming Events & Guest Speakers

April 8th, George Lake-

George's career encompassed 30 years of Marine Corp service as a jet pilot & 25 years as a commercial airline pilot. His wife Christy was an elementary teacher at the Warriors Mark Franklin School. George and Christy raised their family on their farm, and he is continuing to farm raising sheep and beef cattle in Franklin Township.

May 13th, Wayne Harpster

Wayne is back with us with part two of his life growing up in Warriors Mark. Wayne has a wealth of information that he will be sharing, including the time spent with President Jimmy Carter when he would visit and spend time fish. When Wayne was with us last year, he was only able to cover the first 20 years of his life. Join us to hear part 2.

June 10th Elmer Nearhoof

Elmer grew up on the family farm on Ridge Road.

He attended Warriors Mark Elementary and Tyrone High School. He taught 34 years of English and Earth & Space Science at his Alma Mater (Tyrone).

Lifelong resident of Warriors Mark Area.

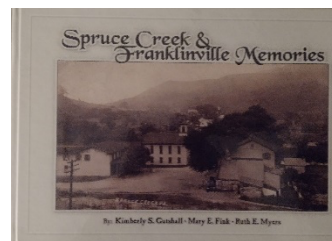
Past Active Officer of Warriors Mark Franklin Volunteer Fire Chief.

July 8th 6:30 pm - Cook-out at the Historical Society.

Bring a guest and a covered dish. We will have hamburgers, hotdogs, drinks, and table settings. Rain or shine.

Aug 12th Mary Fink

Mary "Myers" Fink grew up in the Spruce Creek Valley area on the family farm.



Franklinville Memories.

She attended Warriors Mark Elementary and Tyrone High School.

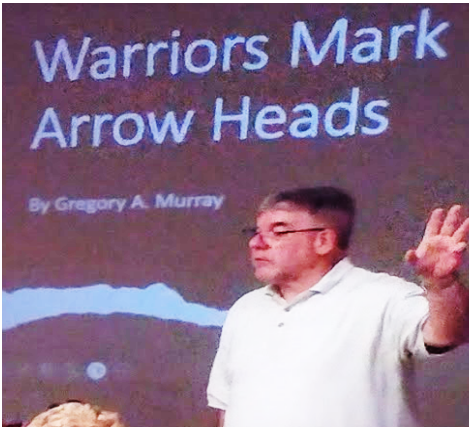
Mary and her sister-in-law researched Spruce Creek Valley History and published Spruce Creek &

Sept 9th Aden Wertz III

Aden was born and raised in Spruce Creek. His grandfather purchased Indian Cavern in 1928. Aden, his father "Bear" and his grandfather owned the cave until it was sold a few years ago to PA Conservancy. Aden will share stories of his family, the Cavern, and growing up in Spruce Creek. Aden retired 2016 after 32 years as a United Methodist Pastor. He is now doing mission work for a group called NOMADS. Join us as Aden shares his and his family history.

Guest Speakers for, Oct 14th TBD & Nov 11th TBD.

Guest speaker for October 9th 2023 – Grag Murray



Grag spoke about the Indians who lived in the Warriors Mark area as well as his time growing up in the area. He talked about his family's collection of Indian arrows heads and tools they found. He stated that arrow heads can still be found today and described how to look for them.

Grag shared his experiences from working at Indian Caverns as a teen, as well as some of the history of the cave.

He talked about the opportunity of meeting the Native Americans at the Pow Wow, located at DelGrosso's, and having the chance to learn some of their history and customs.

He finished by talking about some of the families he knew in Spring Mount and Warriors Mark.

A video of Pat was posted on the WMAHS webpage. Thank you Grag!

Guest speaker for November 13th 2023 – Pat Voyzey

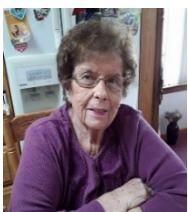
Pat and Frosty Voyzey



Pat Voyzey spoke about the history of the Telephone company in the Warriors Mark community and township. The company first started as a party line, and later when it changed to a private line followed by all the owners over the years. He showed two samples of phones that were used, the candlestick and rotary dial. He explained that the early phones went through an operator to connect with other parties and described how you had to go through the operator to make long distance calls. Pat shared that his dad started with the company after he left the service. The work he performed included installing phones, replacing batteries, and repairing the phone lines. He said, "you could tell who listened in on party lines, because their batteries needed changing sooner than others". He recalled the times while growing up when he used to go with his dad and help with service calls and repairs. He

talked about the railroad lines and the stations in the area. Before finishing, Pat took time the time to answer questions. A video of Pat was posted on the WMAHS webpage. Thank you, Pat!

Obituary FREDA P. SEEGER



Freda P. Seeger, 83, of Warriors Mark, passed away on Saturday, Nov. 4, 2023. She was born on Jan. 22, 1940 in Shade Gap, daughter of the late Ernest Crawford and Hazel Mae (McMullen) Parsons. On Sept. 30, 1961, at Spring Mount Church of the Brethren, she married Gerald C. Seeger Jr., who preceded her in death in 2005.

Freda leaves behind two sons, Gerald "Jerry" (Patty) and Gregory "Greg" (Barb); grandsons, Michael Aaron, Kyle Christian, Logan Alton and Ryan Christian Seeger; a brother, Ralph (Peg) Parsons. Along with her husband, she is preceded in death by an infant son, and sisters, Lorma Catherman and Violet Taylor

Freda was a member of Spring Mount Church of the Brethren and was a graduate of TAHS class of 1958.

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Warriors Mark Depot

Tyrone- Lewisburg Railroad

Built 1881

The Lewisburg and Tyrone railroad was a single track, wide gauge, built by the Pennsylvania Railroad around 1875. The laying of the original track had to be done by hand. There was no possible way to get machinery into the area until woods had been cleared. Wagons were used to bring the rails to the area after a clearing was made. The railroad entered the township in a northeastern direction.

The tracks were repaired by men who used a hand car called a "mickie on the tracks." The car was powered by pumping the handle up and down. It carried the tools to fix the rails, lay new ties, spiking the rails down by hand with a spike hammer, plus burning the old ties.

The track has been raised and the rail bed is grown over with brush. Several trestles remain at the writing of the Echoes of Warriors Mark and Surrounding area. One is at Campbell's near Stover Station and one near Leon Cox's farm. The one at Charles Ferguson's (Edna Hutchison Neff) was torn down and the earth that obstructed the view to town was removed as far back as Eddie Neff's house and barn.

The train made daily trips to Warriors Mark from Tyrone and went through to Scotia where the big iron mine as operated by Mr. Carnegie. On the way to Scotia the train passed through Dungarvin where the Red Ore Bank and the Dry Hollow Ore and Sand Mine were located. The trains left Tyrone in the morning and in the afternoon to make its rounds.

The trains consisted of a chugging steam engine fired with coal and wood, a water and coal car (the coal on top and the water underneath), a box or flat car (there could be several of these) and a passenger coach on the end. A caboose was attached only to the freight trains. The usual personnel included the fireman, engineer, conductor, brakeman and flagman. In 1893 the Tyrone Herald reported: "Two engines were required to haul the freight over the Lewisburg and Tyrone Railroad. "

Depots or station houses were built in Warriors Mark, Dungarvin, Marengo, and Pennsylvania Furnace. Warriors Mark station was just south of town. Dungarvin was located at the Dry Hollow Sand and Ore Mine. Each depot had a waiting room, ticket office, and warehouse. The depot in Warriors Mark was built in 1881.

There were little "flag" stations along the route at which the conductor would stop if a passenger "flagged" him down. These were small open shelter houses with a long bench. The time schedule did not list the Eyer Station. It stood where John E. Walls house stands near Pennington, on the original Peter Grazier land.

The fare of a passenger, as remembered by "Bill" Sellers was 30 cents one way from Dungarvin to Tyrone.

Baileyville held a popular, yearly all-day picnic. About eight to ten extra coaches were added to the train to accommodate the large crowd. There was a ball game in the afternoon.

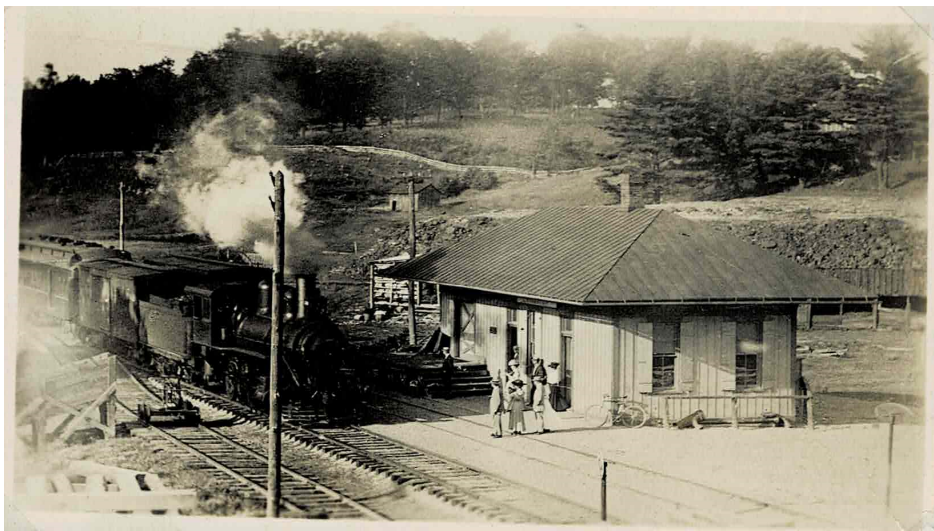
In 1894 the Tyrone Herald reported "Five bushels of chestnuts were shipped to New York." Other goods hauled by the train were wheat, feed, freight and coal, "props" and passengers. The props came out of the woods and were loaded into empty cars, which stood on side tracks, then added to the train. The following locations had side tracks: Warriors Mark, Dungarvin, Loveville, Marengo, Pennsylvania Furnace and Nealmont. When the train brought coal from Sandy Ridge via Tyrone, the farmers would go to the depots nearest them and transport the coal to their houses. About 1925 when the railroad stopped, coal was brought over the Alleghenies by truck Martin Chronister made this part of his business

The train needed water for its steam engine, tanks had to be available along the route. A large one was located in Warriors Mark near the Henry Haggerty (now Eddie Neff) home and another at Pennsylvania Furnace. The water for the Warriors Mark tank was pumped from the Warriors Mark Creek by the elder James "Jim" Murray. The water was pumped at first by hand, later a motor was added. One winter the pump motor froze and Samuel L. Lucas, the "boss" track foreman for 39 years built a fire which got out of control and caused the wooden water tower to burn down. The foundation remains and was not rebuilt, the trains took on water at Pennsylvania Furnace.

In 1873, tax reports list H.C. Beamer as a Railroad Contractor, he may well have been the person who was in charge of the track laid here. In November 20, 1885, the Huntingdon Globe carried this item: Harry Chamberlain shipped Gondola wood from Warriors Mark."

In 1918, there was a tragic train wreck at the Harpster's crossing, west of Warriors Mark. A. Clair Carper (1891-1918) was killed when a special pay train struck his Model-T Ford. He was carried into the home of David Baney where he died. He was a son of Adam and Annie (Whippo) Carper and the father of Lester of McKeesport.

Submitted by Debbie Johnston. *(Information taken from the Echoes of Warriors Mark, Pennsylvania and Surrounding Areas, pages 60 to 66). Pictures from Warriors Mark Area Historical Society collection.*



David Boal Biddle & Hannah Ann Spanogle

David Boal Biddle married Hannah Ann Spanogle at Warrior's Mark on 8 Nov 1859. By 1870 they and their first six of ten children and had moved almost 1,000 miles west to Montgomery Township in Hickory County, Missouri.



David, Hannah and William Biddle c1863

BIDDLE & BOAL HISTORY

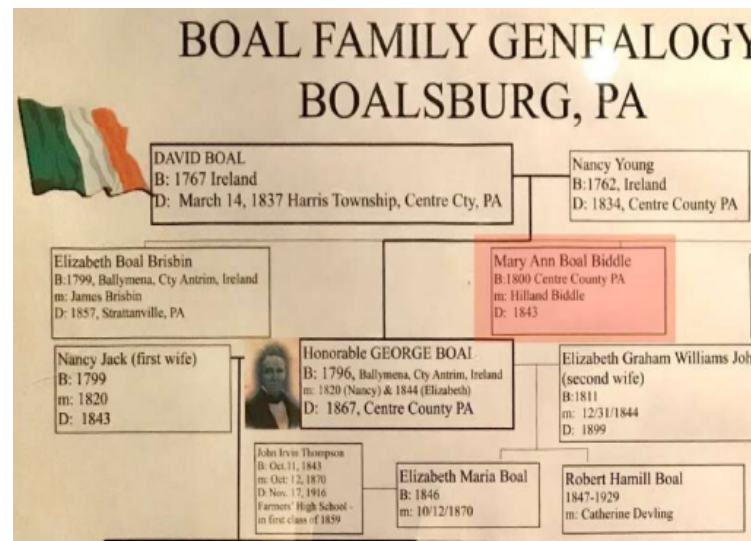
David Boal Biddle (1833-1903) was the son of Hyland (aka Hiland) Biddle II (1801-1860), and Mary Ann Boal (1800-1843). Hyland was originally from Cecil County, Maryland and Mary Ann was from a well-known family of Centre County, Pennsylvania.

The Biddle lineage in America began in Maryland with the arrival from England of John Biddle (1661-1734) in 1687. Three generations later, Hyland Biddle II was born to Hyland Biddle I and Rebecca Price in 1801. In 1816, Hyland II joined his brothers Abraham (1780-1829) and Isaac (1785-?) in a journey west from Maryland to Centre County Pennsylvania, most likely via the Susquehanna and Juanita rivers.

The history of the Boal family in America begins with David Boal I (1739 -1814), who was born in Ireland and immigrated to America around 1790.

David Boal II (1767-1837) was born in Ireland and married Nancy Young (1762-1834). By 1800 they were living in Centre County, Pennsylvania where a daughter, Mary Ann Boal, was born.

David Boal Biddle & Hannah Ann Spanogle



Source: Boal Mansion Museum. Photo taken and cropped by David A Biddle 201

By 1829, Hyland II had married Mary Ann Boal and in 1833 Mary Ann gave birth to David Boal Biddle. No records have been found of their lives leading up to Mary Ann's death in 1843 when she was 43 years old and David was 10.

Hyland II remarried twice after Mary Ann's death, Nancy Hunter in 1843 who died in 1848 followed by Sarah Sedwick in 1849 who outlived him by 44 years. Hyland II died in 1860 one year after David married Hannah Ann Spanogle.

SPANOGLE & FUNK HISTORY

The Spanogle lineage also began in Maryland with the arrival of George Spanogle (1743-1820) from Germany. While he and his wife (name unknown) lived together in Maryland, they had a son, John Spanogle (1761-1852). After George died in Maryland, John and his mother moved to Warriors Mark Township in Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania.

John served in the Revolutionary War. He entered the service on 23 Jun 1777 and was appointed Corporal on 10 July 1777. Served in Captain Mordeci Morgan's Company of the 1st Class of C. County Militia

Regiment on Foot, in the service of the United States, Commanded by Colonel John Hannum.

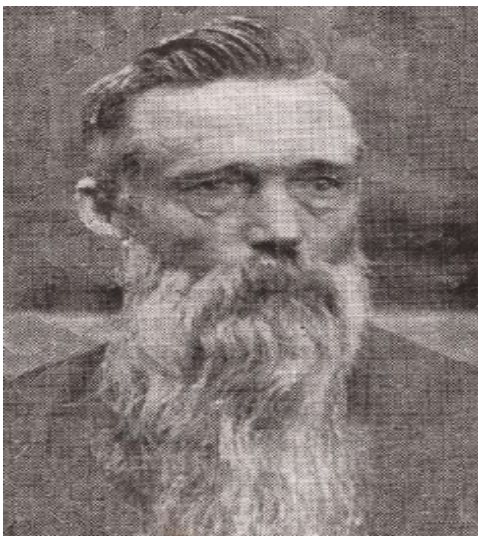
After the war, John returned to Warriors Mark with his wife Anna Eavey Avey (1763-1846) from Maryland. John became a farmer and soon owned three farms. He was an active member in the Church of the Brethren. He and Henry Nearhoof were the first ministers of the Warriors Mark congregation. John and Anna raised ten children, one of which was Henry Spanogle (1792-1862). Sometime around 1817 Henry Spanogle married Margaret Funk (1796-1884), daughter of Martin Funk (1761-1849).

BIDDLE & SPANOGLA HISTORY

David Boal Biddle (1833-1903) and Hannah Ann Spanogle (1837-1917) were married in 1859 when David was 26 and Hannah was 22. The first four of their ten children were born in Warriors Mark; William Wesley Biddle (1860), John Adam Biddle (1861), Mary Luella Biddle (1863) and Beaumont Biddle (1866).

David would most likely have met Hannah after he arrived in Warriors Mark from his home in Patton Township and became a teacher there. Records indicate that he was a teacher at Warriors Mark from 1859 to 1868.*

In 1868, David and Hannah moved to Montgomery County, Missouri. The reasons for leaving Warriors Mark are unknown and I have not found any information regarding their journey. However, it must have been a challenge relocating a family with five children with the possibility of Hannah being pregnant at the same time.



David Boal Biddle c 1900

It appears that the family enjoyed a good life in Missouri including opportunities for David to become involved in his community while he and Hannah added to their family.

The 1880 Census lists David's occupation as "farmer". It appears that his sons William Wesley (1860-1921) and John Adam (1861-1957) were involved in farming as well. By this time the family had grown to nine children and the farm income was most likely needed to supplement David's teacher's salary.

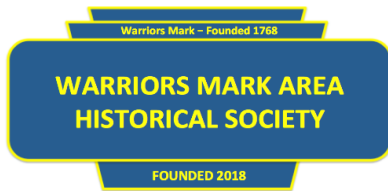
David was a teacher in Montgomery County Missouri until the family moved to Cole Camp, Missouri around 1884. David continued as a teacher in Cole Camp and was soon referred to locally as "Professor Biddle". In 1891 he was elected to Benton County Missouri Commissioner of Public Schools. By 1900 David was no longer teaching and became a Hotel Keeper in Benton County, Missouri.



Hannah Ann Spanogle Biddle c 1900

**Article submitted by
David Biddle**

**Read the rest of the family history on
our website:
warriorsmarkareahistoricalociety.com**



*PO. Box 54
Warriors Mark, Pa 16877*

To:

Supporting Business and Organizations

*Warriors Mark Township
B & D Acres- Bill & Deb Hoover*

*Town & Country Animal Hospital
Spring Mount Church of the Brethren
M & T Bank*

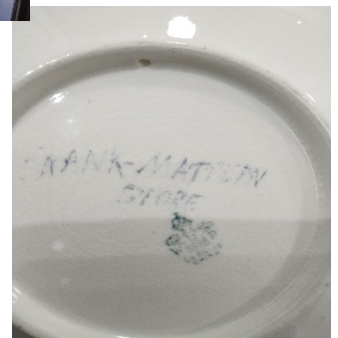
*Simondale Excavating
Martin Oil Company
Warriors Mark Grange*

*Fry's Construction
SK Smith Consulting
John G. & Karen K. Gilliland*



*Plate dated 1908 from
Frank Mattern Store.*

*Donated by
Bill Taylor
Spring Mount, Pa*



Many Thanks To All of Our Supporting Members