

Newsletter

Fall and Winter 2024

warriorsmarkareahistoricalsociety.com

No. 12

Saturday Aug 3rd Raffle Drawing and Community Picnic

Join us at the Historical Society 11am until 2 pm. Chicken and Pork BBQ sandwiches, along with corn on the cob, potato salad, baked beans, watermelon and desserts. Bring a friend and help grow our membership.

Raffle Drawing at 1:00

Message from the President:

Dear Members, I would like to thank every one of you for your support. I know all too well with the cost of living today we are all mindful of where our money goes, so your continued support is very much appreciated. We certainly appreciate our members who support us from out of state. Currently we have members from as far as the state of Washington, California, Kentucky, Georgia, Virginia, Illinois and So. Carolina. So, I want to say "THANK YOU" to everyone who is near and far!

The Historical Society was established in 2018. With your help and support we can continue to preserve Warriors Mark and the surrounding area's history. Over the years we have worked hard to make improvements to the grounds and our one-room schoolhouse. This past summer we replaced the front doors of the building, in which they needed to be specially made. Over the years we had to remove some trees, so we planted a couple of new ones and put in some new shrubbery. We are currently working on installing electricity in the pavilion and in the shed.

We are always looking for ways to reach out to the community and try to get community involvement. This past Spring and Summer we had great guest speakers share local history with us, which was well received and attended. If you missed the speakers, you can go to our website and listen to them from there. Upcoming events include a community picnic on Aug. 3rd, Trick or Treat in October. and guest speakers lined up for Aug., Sept, Oct. and Nov. On October 14th we will have our Annual Enrollment with a meal provided at the Warriors Mark Grange. We hope you can join us along with your family and friends.... No charge!

As the year winds down, we hope you remember us and renew your membership, along with any tax-free donations and historical items you would like to donate. Without your help and support we couldn't do what we do.

May God Bless You!

~ Eileen Long

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*This past summer we lost one of our longtime residents **Bobby Oliver**. We send our heartfelt sympathy out to the family and dear friends. Bobby was a guest speaker last year so you can go to our website and enjoy his time with us. He will be missed.*

Board of Directors

Eileen Long – President

Phone 814-386-2774- e-mail ess122@psu.edu

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Paul Smith- Treasurer

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Docauto1229@gmail.com.

Directors: Terry Long; Linda Smith; Dan Durbin;

Tim Nowlin. Jesse Kulak;

Stewart Neff-Liaison to township supervisors.

Historians: Deddie Johnston and Sue Smith

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

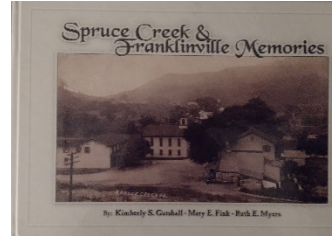
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Up Coming Events & Guest Speakers

All guest speakers will be at the Warriors Mark Grange, starting at 6:30 pm

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 in 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.

October 14th Samuel "Sam" E. Hayes Jr.

Sam is a 1958 graduate of Tyrone Area High School. Hayes held senior leadership positions in both the legislative and executive branches of the [Commonwealth of Pennsylvania](#). As a lawmaker and legislative leader in the [Pennsylvania House of Representatives](#), he served as the majority leader and whip. Subsequently, Hayes served as the secretary of agriculture.

October 14th

Annual Enrollment Dinner & Elections.

5:30 to 6:15 pm Dinner, Serving Chef Salad, Sloppy Jo's and Desserts.

6:15 Business meeting and election.

6:30 Guest Speaker

November 11th Sue Eyer Query

Sue is a lifelong resident of Warriors Mark. Sue grew up on the Eyer Dairy Farm that was on Ridge Road many years ago. The dairy farm bottled Eyer's Milk.

Trick or Treat – Time and date TBD.

Spruce Creek Twin Tunnels

By Debbie Johnston

The tunnels were built between 1850 and 1902 by the Pennsylvania Railroad. The railroad runs along the Little Juniata River.

The tunnels are part of the Pennsylvania Railroad District, also known as Conrail: Little Juniata River Bridges and Tunnels or Bridges and Tunnels of (Spruce Creek to Birmingham Section, Little Juniata River), and are in a national historic district located in these areas: Spruce Creek Township, Morris Township, Tyrone Township of Blair County, and Warriors Mark Township of Huntingdon County.

The southern bore of the tunnel was built in the mid-1800s. The northern bore was 950 feet [290m] long, which was completed in 1899. To accommodate container trains the second bore was enlarged in 1994. The original bore was discontinued in 1994. So a collapse on the western end of the original bore in spring of 2010 did not impact train traffic. (2)

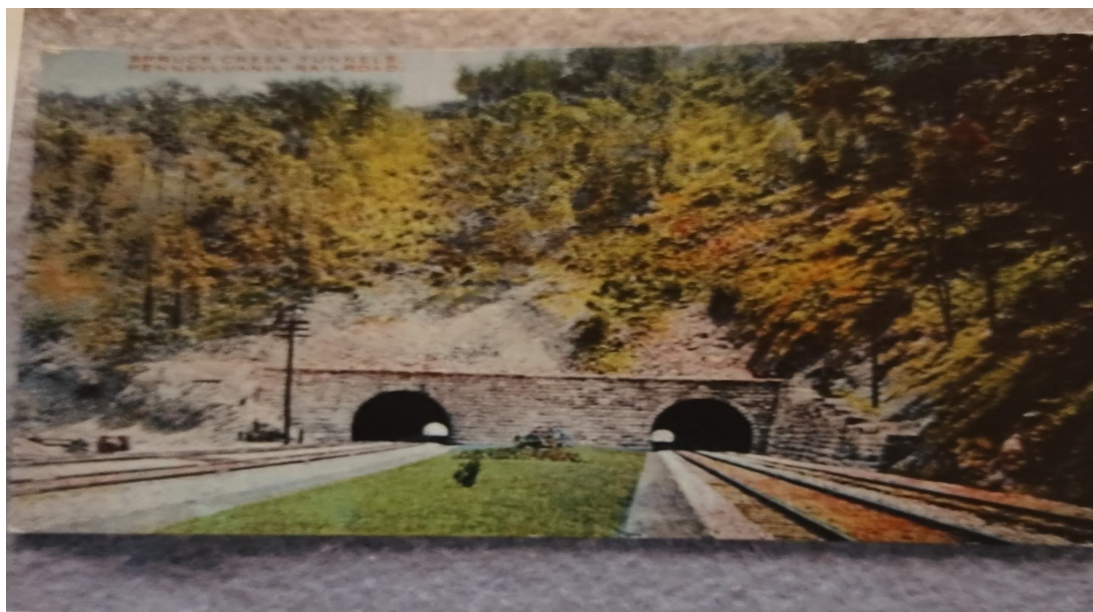
The small town that housed the tunnel railroad workers was called Tunneltown. Many of these men were immigrant workers and some had families that lived in the town. (3)

A brick Signal tower was built after 1936. There was an inch to spare between the right of way and the location of the tower. The signaling system was discontinued because it was too labor intensive. The tower was removed.

During WWI troops were assigned to guard the tunnels. They were housed in tents along the railroad.

Submitted by Debbie Johnston. Information taken from Library of Congress <https://www.loc.gov/>; <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ashlar>

1. ["National Register Information System". National Register of Historic Places. National Park Service. July 9, 2010.](#)
2. <http://industrialscenery.blogspot.com/2023/12/nspennsy-spruce-creek-tunnel-west-of.html>
3. *Spruce and Franklin Memories. Pages 62 to 68.*



***Malena Company:
A Warriors Mark Factory
By Sue Smith,***

The Malena Company was the brainchild of Chauncey F. York. During the Spanish-American War, it was located in Warriors Mark, PA. In 1910, York opened a spacious new factory in Detroit, MI and moved his whole operation there. The local Huntingdon County Pennsylvania paper, fondly recalling the history of Warriors Mark a hundred years later, noted that York "became a millionaire" only after he moved the operation to Detroit.

York was born in New York City in March 1850. In 1876, he graduated from Penn State located in State College, PA, and by 1880 had settled with his wife and infant son, Henry, born in 1879, in Warriors Mark, not far from Penn State. The Malena Company manufactured the basic compound Malena, meant to be used either as an ointment or salve, and later added Malena Liver Pills, Pills, Worm, and Blood Tablets, as well as Gu-Ma Gum - "the best chew for a cent." The pitch for the Liver Pills, a laxative, was stark and straight forward: "Constipation leads to death. Use Malena Liver Pills and don't die."

From its factory in Warriors Mark, as well as the "medicines" themselves, the company poured forth scads and scads of colorful trade cards birds, great variety of designs ranging across the gamut of traditional Victorian subjects, such as cheerful, chubby, dewy-cheeked children, cuddly kittens and puppies, landscapes, flowers, birds and assorted combinations of the foregoing. On the back of each trade card, the products were relentlessly touted. Malena, itself was advertised to remedy neuralgia, rheumatism, stiff joints, rough or chapped skin, cuts, burns, scalds, blister, bruises, bites, stings, sore lips, mouth and throat pain, corns, dandruff, and warts. The idea seemed to be to persuade people to apply as much of the compound as possible at every moment. The graver the illness, the more product ought to be applied. The company also issued short story

booklets, precursors of the comic books of a later age, with product plugs and testimonials woven in among the pages of the story.

Son Henry followed in his father's footsteps and graduated from Penn State in 1900. He received his M.D. from the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York City in 1904, and opened a medical practice in Warriors Mark, where he married in 1906 and began his family. The elder Chauncey soon moved on from central Pennsylvania. By 1908, he had relocated to Detroit and had a new, younger wife. In the 1910 Census, he reported an infant son with his new wife. He soon acquired an estate, which he named Malena Park, in central Michigan near Clark Lake in Columbia, MI. Henry moved to Detroit in 1910 and became the manager of the relocated company. In the 1914 edition of the local Who's Who, Henry, now called Harry, listed himself as a Democrat and a Methodist. He was a member of the Detroit Chamber of Commerce and a Mason. His hobbies were hunting and fishing.

In 1915, Chauncey launched a new career. He became an author, publishing a book of stories called the Overlook Farm Books, which he stated, "give a vivid description of the early, backwoods pioneer life and are replete with thrilling pioneer stories intensely interesting and instructive to everyone, especially the boys and girls." A random excerpt from the book reads as follows:

"The landlord replied, 'Over there sits your man,' pointing toward me. 'He is not a regular guide but knows the north woods and has as much horse sense as anyone else around here, I reckon.' 'He engaged me at once. We were over three weeks on our way up from Augusta to the place known to the old settlers as PEG CABIN 'Peg Town.' As soon as Mr. Lee (that was the name of the young man) saw the amazing beauty of the surrounding country lie said, 'Here is the place I will pitch my tent for the balance of the summer.'"

If you mailed in a stamp, you could receive not only a sample copy of the booklet, but also free samples of the Malena line of products. In 1925, Chauncey sold his Michigan estate to the local township to use as a park and retired to Florida. He died in Tarpon Springs, FL in 1928.

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Malena continued to be advertised until the

end of the 1920s and disappeared during the Depression. Harry York seems not to have returned to medicine. A last random record closes present internet knowledge of his whereabouts. In 1942, a registration card which he filed in connection with the 4th Michigan Draft for World War II, covering men "born on or after April 28, 1877, and on or before February 16, 1897," listed him as living in Detroit and employed by Rose Jewelers in Grand River, MI. Today, Malena's principal legacy seems to lie in all of the advertising generated to sell it.

Special Thanks to Henry York IV, Tyrone Herald, Huntingdon Daily Herald, and Huntingdon Historical Society for the information in this article.

Pill Box



Example of the "Overlook Farm Book"
(Front Cover)

MA-LE-NA CURES

Chapped, Cracked and Rough Hands and Face;
Cuts, Burns, Blisters, Bruises, Sores, Scalds,
Eruptions, Sunburn; Sore Lips, Mouth, Throat;
Cold Blisters, Catarrh, Ulcers, Boils, Galls and
Chafes, Piles, Warts, Corns, Bites and Stings
of Bees and Insects, Tetter, Salt Rheum and all
Common Skin Diseases.

It Alleviates the intense itching, burning and smarting occasioned by Measles, Scarlet Fever, and all other eruptions.

Relieves the Baby when troubled with the breaking-out commonly called "Prickly Heat," and any chafed or irritated condition of its tender skin. It is harmless, antiseptic, soothing, cleansing and healing.

Removes Blotches, Blackheads and Pimples, and produces that delicate, velvety smoothness of the skin so much desired and admired by the ladies. Used after washing, scrubbing, house cleaning, etc., it keeps the hands from getting red and rough.

TRY A BOX. ONLY 10 CENTS.

Sold by the person from whom you received this booklet, or a box will be sent by mail, postage paid, on receipt of the price, in silver or postage stamps.

MALENA COMPANY, Manufacturers, WARRIORSMARK, Pa.

LIVE LONG

BY TAKING

Ma-Le-Na Stomach-Liver Pills

The Best Vegetable Tonic-
Laxative and Blood Purifier.

THEY

Cure Constipation.

Back page of the booklet. Pg. 5

My Greatest Moment

These are the events leading up to what my father, Harold Aden "Bear" Wertz, Jr. described as "My Greatest Moment."

By Bear Wertz

It was Thursday morning, June 4th, 1941. We had our 1936 Dodge sedan all packed for our return trip to Indian Caverns in Spruce Creek. There were many last minute things to do before we pulled away from Hallandale, Florida.

Dad had already arrived at the cave. He left a week or so before in our 1939 Ford panel truck taking most of our household things and the inventory from the Trading Post. We operated the Trading Post, which was located along the Federal Highway, through the winter and spring. Then we moved back to the cave and the Indian merchandise was sold as souvenirs during the summer and fall. Dad went ahead to open the cottage and office and to mow the grass before Memorial Day weekend. This was a routine thing we all did from 1930-1941 to survive during the depression.

We packed last minute things, closed the place in Hallandale and said goodbye to friends and neighbors. We pulled away about mid-afternoon and drove as far as Titusville, Florida before stopping at a hotel for the night. The car was packed full, even half the rear seat was loaded leaving room for one passenger on the right rear side. Jitterbug, our pet monkey, was in a wooden cage that was lashed on to the left front bumper of the car.

Peggy, my sister, was a good driver at age 20. Believe it or not, I was also a good driver at age 14. (One could get a Florida drivers license at age 14.) We took turns driving the car north.

The next morning, Friday, June 5th 1941 we ate breakfast and started on our way. On U. S. 1 North there was a detour near Jacksonville. Peggy was driving, mother was riding in the front seat and I was in the right rear along with our boxes on my left.

About halfway along the detour, which was desolate for miles, there was a Safety Cab vehicle parked on the right side not quite off the paved surface of the highway. Peggy passed the stopped vehicle only to see a log truck traveling toward us at a high rate of speed. The truck was weaving back and forth. Then, I guess, a chain broke or gave way just as he approached us. Several of the poles he was carrying came in our direction. I remember that Mother yelled, "Lookout!" which was the last word she ever spoke.

The left front bumper of the truck struck the left side of our car near the front tire. It wasn't a head-on collision for Jitterbug, our monkey, survived the crash. The impact sent our car in the air, doing a complete flip and landed on all four wheels in the middle of the road and then burst in to flames.

This is where I think Divine Providence took over. When I awoke after the impact, the trunk lid of the car was also in the middle of the road about 30 yards from the car. The back of the backseat was on top of the trunk lid and I was lying on the back of the backseat. I often wonder just what happened to all the stuff that was in the trunk? How did I survive the impact? How did I wind up there? Someday I may learn all the answers.

I looked ahead and our car was blazing. The driver's side door was sprung open. Peggy was laying half on the car seat and half over the running board of the car. Her left ear was almost severed and her hair was starting to burn. Mother was killed instantly; the top of her scalp was missing above the eyebrows. I rushed toward the car and at first was driven back a step or two because of the extreme heat. Then I grabbed Peggy's left arm and pulled

her out of the car onto the road. A fellow appeared from nowhere and we carried her to the side of the highway. Then the car exploded. Soon an ambulance arrived and loaded Peggy on a stretcher and into the back. I rode with her to St. Vincent's Hospital at Riverside, Jacksonville, Florida. They treated the right side of my face and my right arm for burns I had received, getting Peggy out of the car. They took me to a phone, and I called Dad to tell him about the accident. It was a tough assignment to tell him of Peggy's injuries and that mother didn't make it. All our lives were instantly changed. Dad came to Jacksonville and was at Peggy's bedside daily. After a week or so, I felt like a fifth wheel. I said to Dad, "How about I go up and run the cave this summer?" He replied, "Why you are only 14 years old!" I said, "I know how old I am, how about I go up and run the cave?" So, arrangements were made, and I came north for the summer. Thinking back, I feel that this was my greatest moment - when I dragged Peggy from the car. If I hadn't done that, her three daughters would be nonexistent, their seven children and all the grandchildren from now to eternity would also be nonexistent. What a comforting feeling it gives me to learn of the new little ones being born. I think to myself, "Thank you, God, for using me in that life changing moment!"

Submitted by
Adan Wertz

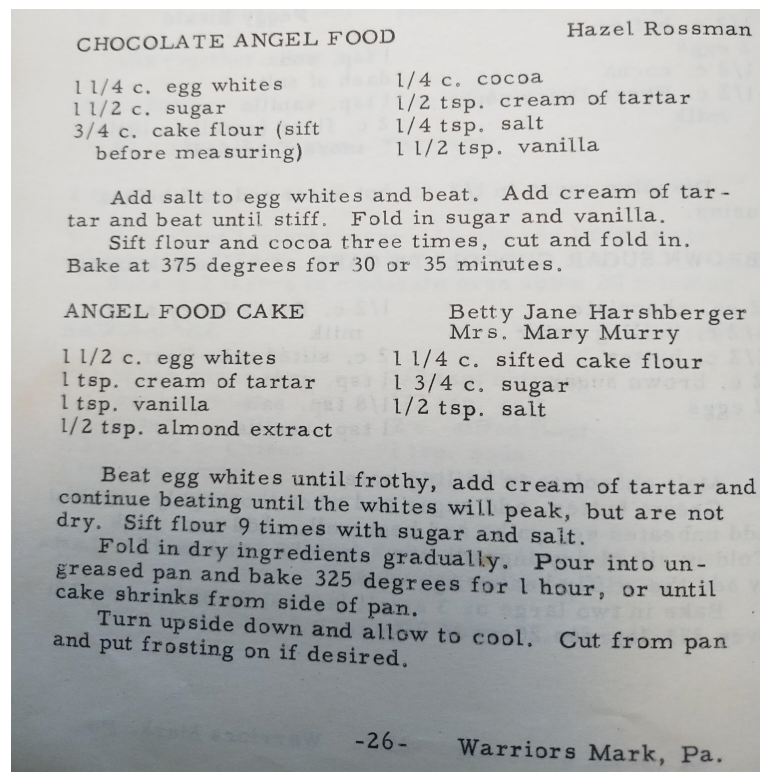
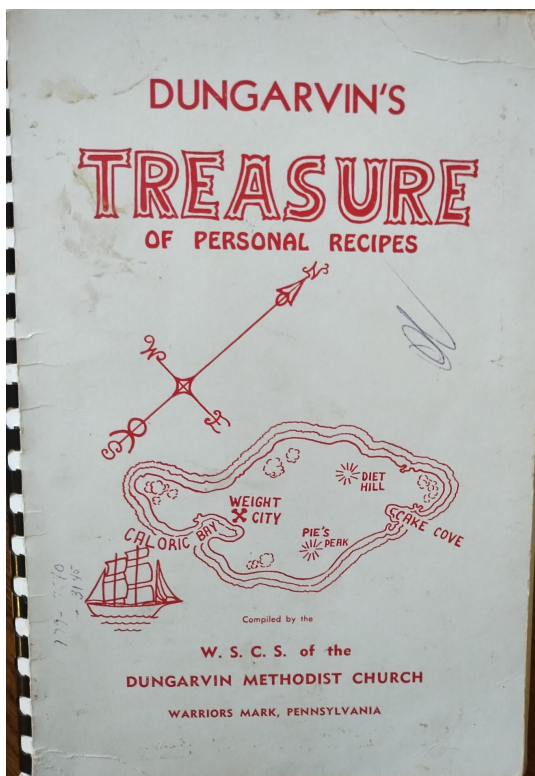


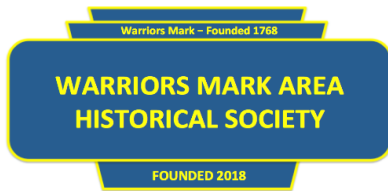
Cookbook Corner

Dungarvin's Treasure is a small cookbook with local resident's recipes.

We would like to dedicate a section in the newsletter to share some of your family recipes and if you have a story to go with it, I'll take that too. Email them to me at ess122@psu.edu or mail your recipe to the Historical Society address.

LOOKING FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU!





*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

Warriors Mark Grange

Fry's Construction

Country Side Nursey, Gatesburg

SK Smith Consulting

John G. & Karen K. Gilliland

Leidig's Farm

Martin Oil Co.

Warriors Mark Water Authority

