



# NEWSLETTER

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*Photo: the Cresco Station Museum*

## Barrett Township Historical Society – Time, Place and Purpose

By Jacqueline Magann

The time was July 30, 1993, 7:30 PM. The place was Barrett Friendly Library in the Children’s Room. The purpose was to establish a Historical Society in Barrett Township. Jake Sengle presided over the meeting. It was a positive YES by the residents attending to the question “Shall we establish a Historical Society in Barrett Township?” All present signed the back of a flyer advertising the meeting. It was voted to consider all who joined the Society by December 31, 1993, to be charter members. By December 31 there were

66 charter members. It was decided to name the society after the township, and we agreed that dues should be \$10.00 a year. (continues on page 8)

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**Happy Birthday** to the Barrett Township Historical Society  
 30 Years 🎂

## Presidential Message

I have found sitting at the Cresco Station Museum a marvelous way to spend a relaxing Sunday afternoon. Greeting visitors and listening to the stories of those that either once lived here or visited family years ago a wonderful way to travel down memory lane. Quite a few stop by because they see the sign announcing the Museum and Library and Research Center are open, the latter of which hosted a fabulous exhibit of paintings done by local artists Jenny Shoemith and Edna Palmer Englehardt during the month of June.

The Cresco Station Museum and Library and Research Center are manned each week by the dedicated volunteers of the Barrett Township Historical Society. I am proud to call myself one of them. How fortunate we are to have a vibrant historical society here in Barrett Township. Making archival records and artifacts available to all with an interest in knowing more about the places we call home is just one example of the diverse services BTHS provides the greater Barrett Township community. All of this is possible due to the work done by BTHS founders 30 years ago.

Yes, 2023 marks the Society's 30th anniversary and we will mark this auspicious occasion with a celebratory dinner on August 4 from 6-8 pm. We will be honoring the founders and the charter members of BTHS as part of the festivities. There is so much to celebrate and we hope you choose to join us.

Darryl Speicher, President, BTHS

Factual information regarding the Corona Virus, and your actions to stay safe can be obtained at the CDC's website at [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

~\("/)\_/\_/~ whoops, a mistake...or two

### Corrections to the APRIL 2023 Newsletter

Whoops, the financials were not reported on page 3 of the April newsletter as planned. This was an oversight on the part of the treasurer. On page 13 of the April newsletter, in the 2004 Maple syrup candy recipe, it claimed that "I" would become opaque if stirred, instead of the maple candy, that "I" should have been an "It". If there are corrections to the July newsletter, (since I am just filling in for Alesia as she adjusts to her new title of Mommy) please let us know by sending an email to the [stationmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:stationmuseum@gmail.com) and it will be forwarded to the editor, Alesia Gallo.

Thanks.

**2023 Board of Directors**

Shirley Lansdowne      Jayne Blair      Mary Price      Marie Guidry      Claudia Stuart

**2023 Executive Officers**

President                      Darryl Speicher  
 Vice President              Marie Guidry  
 Recording Secretary        Ellen Davis  
 Corresponding Secretary    Hannelore Gaupp  
 Treasurer                      Claudia Shoemith-Fox

**Treasurer's Report**

Claudia Shoemith-Fox, Treasurer

DATE:                      06/12/23

Checking                      \$5,536.77

Money Market                \$162.89

CD ESSA (June 2023)        **Not reported**

Investment                    \$41512.03

CD ESSA (June 2023)        **Not reported**

Total                         \$47,211.69

**2022 Executive Committee**

Archivist for LRC & CSM      Consolidated in LRC & CSM activities  
 Cresco Station Museum      Mickey Miller & Joanne Seese  
 Curator for LRC & CSM        Joanne Seese  
 Finance                         Claudia Shoemith-Fox  
 Historian                        Jacqueline Magann & Laurie Dunlap, Co-Chair  
 Hospitality                      Open  
 Information Systems          Open  
 Library Research Center      Jacqueline Magann & Joanne Seese  
 Membership                    Jackie Speicher  
 Newsletter                      Alesia Gallo, Editor & Jacqueline Magann, Co-Editor (MaryKate Reeves-Hoche this edition only)  
 Oral Tradition                 Christina Raley  
 Programs                        Mary Price & Malinda Bender, Co-Chairs  
 Publicity                        Marie S. Guidry  
 Research                        OPEN  
 Ways & Means Committee    OPEN

**30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee: Malinda Bender, Laurie Dunlap, Jackie Magann, Mary Price, Darryl & Jackie Speicher**

**Exec Committee Meeting Dates**

Executive Committee meetings are held on the 2nd

Monday at 3 pm monthly at the LRC.

Aug 14

Sept 11

Oct 9

Nov 13, Dec 11

There will be a combined meeting of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee on the quarterly dates of September 12, and December 12, 2023.

**General Membership Meeting Dates**

NOTE: Change in Time of Meetings

Venue: Friendly Community Center

July 21 at 7:00 pm

Aug 4 Anniversary Dinner 6 – 8 pm

Sept 11 at 7:00 pm

Oct 9 at 2:00 pm , Nov 17, Dec 15

**Committee Reports:****Cresco Station Museum** Mickey Miller & Joanne Seese

The Cresco Station Museum is on summer schedule: We are open every Sunday from 1 pm – 4 pm through the summer. Volunteers are needed to help greet guests.

**Excursion Train**

A great day was had by all! The predicted rain held off and the sun welcomed 159 visitors arriving at the Cresco Station Museum. They were welcomed by Darryl Speicher, Society President, while Doug Smith's Dixieland All Stars played Jazz under the tent with seating. Antique cars were on display, and the food truck and ice cream stand were ready and waiting for customers. Both the Cresco Station Museum and the Library Research Center were open for visitors. The LRC offered a display of the art work by Edna Palmer Engelhardt and Jennie Shoemith and was viewed by many. Volunteers for the day included: Malinda Bender, Jim Bibber, Barbara Brown, Ellen and Skip Davis, Andrew Davis, Laurie Dunlap, Marie Guidry, Gale Knapp, Jackie Magann, Mickey Miller, Mary Price, Dave and Ginny Rogers and Jackie and Darryl Speicher. We thank them all and encourage more of you to participate in the next Excursion Train visits on Sunday, August 28 and Sunday, October 15 or come be a docent at the CSM or LRC any Sunday. Call Mickey Miller at 570-595-7390 or message [stationmuseum@verizon.net](mailto:stationmuseum@verizon.net)

**Archivist & Curator for LRC & CSM** Joanne Seese

No report

**Finance** Claudia Shoemith-Fox

For the current year, Our Total Income to date is \$ XXXX.

Our Total Expenses to date are \$ XXX.

Please note our financials on page 3.

**Historian** Jacqueline Magann

A slide show covering the last 30 years was developed to be shown at the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary dinner.

**Hospitality** OPEN

This is an open position. One of the behind-the-scenes persons we need just now is someone to coordinate & line up people willing to provide event refreshments, especially during membership programs. Call Ellen @ 570-517-4778 if you can help.

**Information Systems** OPEN

If you are a techie, we would love to have your help with setting up and maintaining our equipment in the LRC. Please reach out to Darryl Speicher to volunteer.

**Library Research Center** Jacqueline Magann

A big “thank you” to all who donated art work of Edna Palmer Engelhardt and Jennie Shoemith to the Barrett Artists Display held the month of June at the Library Research Center. We were able to collect and display 38 combined paintings of Edna and Jennie under one roof, a first. The LRC was transformed into an explosion of color everywhere, an unforgettable sight to behold. We are indebted to all who helped put this display together including: Malinda Bender for Program Booklet; Laurie Dunlap, who helped me catalogue the collection; and Darryl Speicher, John Bender and Jessica Dunlap for hanging the show. Darryl organized the power point of paintings too large to hang in the display. A special thank you to all those who were docents during the display including Jean Bibber, Laurie Dunlap, Mary Price and Darla Williams; and to all who attended.

The LRC is open every Tuesday 10 am – 2 pm, and Sunday 1 pm – 4 pm during the summer. We still need volunteers; please consider it! Call Joanne at 570-460-9279 or Jackie at 570-595-9233 or 570-994-3880 or leave a message at the Library and Research Center at 570-481-4622.

**Membership** Jackie Speicher

Normally, the cutoff for membership dues is April 1<sup>st</sup>. However, there are still members who have not renewed their dues for 2023. We welcome them to continue their membership to the Society as well as any new members who wish to join at this time. The



membership form can be found on the last page of the Newsletter.

Another behind the scenes person is Jackie Speicher who compiles membership lists & updates info annually.



“Earth Day at High Acres” – Laurie Dunlap, Mary Price, Jacqueline Magann representing the Society

**Newsletter**

Alesia Gallo, Editor & Jacqueline Magann, Co-Editor

While Editor Alesia is on maternity leave, see page 15, MaryKate Reeves-Hoché, former editor, living in California, has graciously stepped in for Alesia for this issue, and we are grateful to her for doing so.

Deadline for submission to the Oct 2023 Newsletter is Sept 26<sup>th</sup>. Send information to Alesia at [alesiagallop@yahoo.com](mailto:alesiagallop@yahoo.com) or call (570) 972-6422.

**Oral Tradition** Christina Raley

Nothing to report

**Programs** Mary Price & Malinda Bender

All programs are/were held at the Barrett Friendly Community Center unless otherwise noted.

Our program in April was the **History of Monroe County** presented by Amy Leiser, Executive Director of the Monroe County Historical Association. She had numerous pictures and post cards depicting the rich history of our area starting with the Lennie-Lenape nation consisting of three clans – the Wolf, the Turtle and the Turkey. She explained “The Walking Purchase” and spoke about Nicholas DePuy who was the first settler in Monroe County coming here from upstate New York in 1725. Jacob Stroud was instrumental in the forming of Stroudsburg. Her narration took us up to the present day and ended with speaking about the expansion to the Stroud Mansion in order to safely preserve all of the many artifacts they house and continue with educational programs for all to participate in. They are well on their way to achieving this goal but still are not quite there. It is a huge undertaking and they would love hearing from you.

**Fun Facts:** There were originally 4 forts in Monroe County. On July 5, 1968, the perfectly preserved bones of a mastodon were found in Marshalls Creek and are now housed in Harrisburg and do you know who Monroe County was named after? Thanks to Amy for “educating” us!

Our program for May was the **History of Monroe County Resources** presented by Roger Spotts from the Kettle Creek Environmental Education Center. He took us on a journey starting with the Ice Age 15,000 years ago. Glaciers only covered about 30% of Pennsylvania. The furthest the glacier sheet got was around Brodheadsville. As the glacier started melting and receding about 13,000 years ago many changes became evident in the contour of the land. The plateau looked like tundra. Hills and valleys were formed and materials such as boulders, sediment and other debris were left behind. Trees started changing into the forests that we have today with 20% wetlands and 95% forests. The animals of the Ice Age also underwent changes as well becoming much smaller in size. The 1700’s and 1800’s saw the start of decimating the natural resources such as timber which then affected other ecosystems such as wildlife, etc. Today our last resource here is the environment which developed the resort industry. Water is the best natural resource so today we have the “water parks”. Key in the future is to maintain functional ecosystems and a sustainable resource base while accommodating growth.

**Fun Facts:** During the Ice Age there were huge animals here including bears weighing 2,000 pounds, beavers weighing 200 pounds and mastodons. Also, the 1990’s saw more deer here than any other time after the Ice Age. Thanks to Roger Spotts for a very interesting program.

Our program for June was a “**Pre Lego Day**”. This program was done in conjunction with the Barrett Paradise Friendly Library and was held in the Weiler Family Room. Children gathered for an afternoon of fun playing with old time toys and games including Tiddlywinks, Jax, Wooden Puzzles and Tinkertoys to name a few. They also were challenged to build structures with Lincoln Logs, Blocks of all kinds and even an Erector Set. Prize winners for the “Best Builders” were Carter Labar, Leon, Miles Stahl, and Peyton Hilfiger. Everyone participating was treated to a “goodie bag”.

Thanks to all parents and grandparents who took the time to bring their children and grandchildren to the program. A big Thank You to Miss Chelsea (who had a great time learning to play all the games with the children). Photos at the end of the newsletter.

### Upcoming Programs:

**July 21, 2023 @2 7 pm “Silent Legacies by John H. Abel.** Who killed the Reverend Horatio Howell, a minister from Delaware Water Gap and chaplain of the 90th Pennsylvania Regiment, during the Battle of Gettysburg? Why would a Confederate soldier intentionally shoot a Union chaplain? This is the latest book authored by John who also wrote “The Murder of Theodore Brodhead”. We are happy to have John back to do a presentation on his latest book. Also, as with “The Murder of Theodore Brodhead”, John will have copies available for purchase and would be happy to personally sign your copy. Refreshments will be served.

**August 4, 2023 from 6 – 8 pm “30th Anniversary** Plans for the 30th Anniversary Dinner are well underway. You should have received an invitation by now and have a return in the mail. The dinner will be held at Evergreen Community School in Cresco starting at 6 pm and catered by Cook’s Corner. Hope to see you there.

**September 15, 2023 @ 7 pm “Tocks Island: Damned If You Do” by David C. Pierce** This is a book which chronicles the grassroots movement that coalesced in opposition to the project, which was first proposed in 1962 and sputtered to defeat years later after repeated studies, prolonged budget and political fights, spiraling costs and the discovery that the project could not be supported geologically. He will have copies of his book available for purchase and signing.

**October 20, 2023 @ 2 pm “Post Card Presentation”**

As we are always open to suggestions for upcoming programs we would be delighted if you could contact me: Malinda Bender @ 570-595-3222.

Come and join in the fun!

**Publicity** Marie S. Guidry

Follow the Barrett Township Historical Society on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Barrett-Township-Historical-Society-814825878582400/> or on our website at [www.barretthistorical.org](http://www.barretthistorical.org)

**Research - OPEN**

**Ways & Means Committee – OPEN**

A new ways & means committee will need to be formed due to the majority of the last committee membership moving across state, or out of state. Please reach out to anyone on the board.

**Barrett Township Historical Society – Time, Place and Purpose (continued from front page)**

Things moved along quickly. Mabel Schneider published our first newsletter in December 1993. A Mission Statement was adopted, By-Laws, Policies and Procedures were written, and we had our first election in 1994. An Executive Committee was formed and a corporation status was established.

A contest was held to find a logo and Doris Price Fellows won. Her design was made into a quilted wall hanging by Jacqueline Magann. It is the same logo we use today.

We moved from the Barrett Friendly Library to a larger meeting place across the road in the Mountainhome United Methodist Church.

Let me give you some highlights of Society activities over the past 30 years.

- On June 1, 1998, the keys to the Cresco Railroad Station were turned over to the Society by Karl Weiler. The Railroad Station became the Barrett Township Historical Society Cresco Station Museum.
- Karl Weiler became our first “Life Member”. Karl was given the “Citizen of the Year Award” by the Rotary.
- The Weiler Family Foundation and the Cresco Station Museum were given the P.P.E. award (Preserve, Protect and Enhance) by the Monroe County Historical Association.
- A quarterly Newsletter is published and today some of our newsletter articles are published in The Village View.
- A presenter or speaker does a program at each general meeting.
- Participated on the Steering Committee for the Barrett Township Sesquicentennial and were part of all the activities sponsored by the Committee
- Partnered with the Barrett Elementary Center in their Sesquicentennial activities and put on a program about local history.
- Ran an essay contest about local history and awarded a scholarship in the name of Jake Sengle, donated by his wife Kathleen.
- Over the years have raised money in many ways – dinners, raffles, flea markets, Society calendar sales, recipe books, note cards and such.
- Applied for grants and received monies from the Monroe County Commissioners that was collected from the Tourist Tax Revenue.



- Sponsored a plaque that was placed at the site of the Gravity Railroad in Buck Hill, initiated by John Styk and Wolden Magann.
- Were instrumental in a letter writing campaign to other historical societies in the area encouraging them to write to the County Commissioners to partner with the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission in a matching funds grant to be able to open a Monroe County Archives and hire an archivist after we had seen the deplorable conditions in the Monroe County Courthouse attic with valuable papers laying on the floor. The letter writing was successful. We now have a Monroe County Archives and often use their valuable resources.
- Sponsored the first dig of any historical society in Monroe County at the Charles Boyer Pottery site on Tom Widing's property in Buck Hill. The dig was led by Wolden Magann and John Styk. Loretta Quarmley found the first shard of pottery which is now the treasured property of Mr. Widing.
- Created a website for the Society. [www.barrethistorical.org](http://www.barrethistorical.org)
- The Research Committee has taken on many projects over the years. Early on Wolden Magann began collecting U.S. Census information for Barrett Township at the U.S. Census office in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The work was continued by the Research Committee and now there are indexed Census Records from the first Census in Barrett in 1860 to the present day. It is information visitors continue to find valuable when searching for family information.
- Participated in the Barrett Township Annual Halloween Parades and won "Best of Parade" in 2007.
- Produced a commemorative coverlet for the Sesquicentennial depicting the "Village of Barrett".
- Along the way the meeting place was moved to the new Friendly Community Center, the old Barrett Friendly Library.
- Participated in a History Fair at East Stroudsburg University by giving a PowerPoint presentation on the Early Settlers in Barrett Township.
- Research Committee interviewed local WW II Veterans living in Barrett Township and how local citizens living at home were affected by WW II. Al Hall led the interviews through a Veteran's Oral History Project sponsored by the Library of Congress. In addition, the Committee collected WW II memorabilia for display at the Cresco Station Museum. At present there is a display at the Library Research Center of the uniform and accessories of Gordon Starnier, a local WW II Veteran and father of Marie Guidry, a lifetime society member.
- The Research Committee under the guidance of Jim Berger researched the Flood of 55 and placed a permanent sign about the flood on the site of the Library Research Center, an outreach to the community. Plans are in the works to put a sign at the Cresco Station Museum outlining the history of the Station.

- Supplied “Buck Hill Memorabilia” for use in a Pop-Up-Museum display for “A Century in A Weekend” that was held at the old bowling alley at Buck Hill Falls. The Pop-Up-Museum was sponsored by the Buck Hill Conservation Foundation, the Buck Hill Falls Community, the Foxhove Association and the Lot and Cottages’ Association.
- The Barrett Township Supervisors called upon the Society when they were bequeathed with the Gunderson Farm in Mountainhome, Pennsylvania. They asked the Society to look into the possibility that the Gunderson house could be historic. We found it did not meet the requirements to be on the historic house register. Today the building is used by the Boy Scouts, Troop #89, and community groups.
- In 2017 another door of opportunity opened for us when Karl Weiler turned over the keys to the Weiler Wellness Center building. The building has been renamed the Barrett Township Historical Society Library and Research Center. Fund raisers were held to purchase equipment and such.
- Several displays have been hosted at the Center:
  - “Quilts of Barrett”, “The 55 Flood”, “Quilts of Valor”, “Bridal Gowns Through the Ages”, and most recently “Barrett Artists”, paintings by Edna Palmer Engelhardt and Jennie Shoemith. The Cresco Station Museum and the Library Research Center are the depositories for the Barrett archives and we welcome donations.



*Pictured are the recipients of the “Quilts of Valor” and paintings from the “Barrett Artists Display”.*

- Purchased a large screen TV for the Library Research Center and have presented several PowerPoint programs, lately showing paintings of the Barrett artists too large to display at the Center.
- Produced several Society-related pins, most recently a pin depicting the Society Logo. The pin was made to celebrate our 30th year coming up July 30, 2023

- Permanent display case at the Barrett Paradise Friendly Library purchased with monies from the Barrett Township Sesquicentennial Funds. The changing displays are on loan to the Society and coordinated by Ellen Davis.
- The Cresco Station Museum Committee is a busy group...to put it mildly! They are at the Museum on Sundays from 1:00 PM to 4 PM and other days by appointment. They give tours of the Cresco Station Museum and answer questions on local history and genealogy. They also host schools, scout groups, other historical societies and Excursion Trains complete with live music, food, ice cream, antique cars and the Horseless Carriage Club. In the past the Cresco Station Museum has been a stop on the Inn Tours. A familiar face at the Museum is "Cresco Annie" whose stories are told by Joanne Seese in our quarterly newsletters.
- The Library Research Center is open Sundays from 1 PM to 4 PM and other days by appointment.
- Plays have been presented by our own "Frogtown Players".
- Participated in "Colonial Days" at East Stroudsburg University.
- Produced a first-class stamp, "Christmas at Cresco". The photo for the stamp was taken by Don Sack.
- Participating in High Acres "Earth Day" and "Fall Festivals".
- Produced a Cresco Station Museum cancellation stamp designed by John James.

We are most grateful to our benefactors, The Weilers', for enabling the Barrett Township Historical Society to carry out our Mission Statement and goals which are to "preserve information, promote historical research and collect archival materials". These goals were written by Jake Sengle 30 years ago.

May our next 30 years be as productive. They will be with everyone's participation. Do volunteer!



## Barrett Paradise Friendly Library Display

During May and June, the Barrett Township Historical Society display case at the Barrett Paradise Friendly Library was southwestern Native American crafts loaned by new members of BTHS. The display included dolls, jewelry, pottery, and weavings.



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During July and August 2023 the display will be a combination of the Society's 30th Anniversary memorabilia and collected items from the Cresco Station Museum and the Library Research Center in Cresco. Among the items will be the original Edna Palmer Engelhardt sketches used in the Peggy Bancroft book, "Ringing Axes and Rocking Chairs".

Just a reminder when you are at the Barrett Paradise Friendly Library to take a moment and check out the display. We are rotating items every 2 months. If anyone has a collection of something they would like us to display, please contact Ellen Davis at [belle45@ptd.net](mailto:belle45@ptd.net). The next display will be for the months of September and October.

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## What's new with COVID-19?

By Mary Kate Reeves-Hoché

According to the WHO, COVID-19 continues to circulate in high levels around the world, and continues to mutate to create variants. The WHO tracks these variants, their phenotype and their impact on countermeasures. Countermeasures are things we as humans are doing to stop the virus such as getting vaccinated, wearing masks, and washing our hands.

Most of you probably have stopped thinking about COVID-19 and not necessarily keeping up with your booster shots. Fortunately for us, the WHO and its members continue to monitor and tract COVID-19 all around the world so that this fall, you will have access to the latest booster that will be updated against the current circulating variant of COVID-19 (but more about that in the fall newsletter).

If you received a COVID vaccine, it may have saved your life or that of a loved one. COVID may have died down in the news but as mentioned above, it is still present. As are the bacterial and viral infective agents that have plagued us for centuries; for example, pneumonia. Did you know that streptococcus pneumoniae, the bacteria that causes pneumonia can also cause ear infection in children? But for those over 65, it can cause devastating pneumococcal illness. Streptococcus pneumoniae has over 100 known serotypes all of which could cause disease, but fortunately only a minority produce the majority of the disease (pneumonia and ear infections).

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Vaccines are the best way to prevent pneumococcal disease. The CDC recommends pneumococcal vaccination for:

- All children under 2 years old
- Older adults 65 years old or older
- Older children and adults who are at increased risk for pneumococcal disease

There are two kinds of pneumococcal vaccines available in the United States:

- Pneumococcal conjugate vaccines (PCV13, PCV15, and PCV20)
- Pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine (PPSV23)

Childhood recommendations:

CDC recommends PCV13 or PCV15 for all children younger than 5 years old and children 5 through 18 years old with certain medical conditions that increase their risk of pneumococcal disease.

CDC also recommends PPSV23 for children 2 through 18 years old with certain medical conditions that increase their risk of pneumococcal disease.

Talk with your child's doctor if you have questions about pneumococcal vaccines.

Adult recommendations:

For those who have never received any pneumococcal conjugate vaccine, CDC recommends PCV15 or PCV20 for adults 65 years or older and adults 19 through 64 years old with certain medical conditions or risk factors. If PCV15 is used, this should be followed by a dose of PPSV23.

Adults who received an earlier pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV13 or PCV7) should talk with a vaccine provider to learn about available options to complete their pneumococcal vaccine series.

Adults 65 years or older have the option to get PCV20 if they have already received PCV13 (but not PCV15 or PCV20) at any age, and PPSV23 at or after the age of 65 years old.

These adults can talk with their doctor and decide, together, whether to get PCV20, based on their medical risk. If you have never had a pneumococcal vaccine and you are over the age of 65, you only need one vaccine, PCV20. Get it now, it may save your life.

Sources:

WHO Tracking SARS-CoV-2 Variants <https://www.who.int/activities/tracking-SARS-CoV-2-variants> accessed June 8, 2023

CDC Pneumococcal Vaccination <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/pneumo/index.html> , accessed June 8, 2023



## Historical Recipe Side by Side: Frosted Grapes

By: Mary Kate Reeves-Hoché

Sometimes I get inspiration for meal ideas from magazines or the food section of the Newspaper. This past weekend, I attended an art reception and admired the lovely “glass” grapes adorning the centerpieces only to realize that they were real grapes that had been “frosted” in sugar. Inspired, beautiful, and a recipe from the past, but, how far in the past?

Research into the newspaper archives (thank you Ancestry.com) gleaned these recipe highlights from various society pages or food sections depending on the decade.

Sept 29, 1917 *The Toledo News-Bee*

Frosted Grapes

Dip grapes in frothy egg whites then in granulated sugar. Lay on rack to dry a few hours. Garnish serving dish or individual plates.

May 13, 1956 the *Milwaukee Sentinel*, has a similar recipe, but the grapes are dipped in cream then granulated sugar.

Feb 6, 1966 *The Miami News*, suggested frosting grapes with egg whites and then sprinkling the grapes with powdered lime gelatin to garnish a Valentine’s Day cake.

After a little experimentation on my own trying to frost some grapes, here is my version of the recipe:

June 11, 2023 Mary Kate’s Frosted Grapes

Step 1. Wash and Dry grapes. Keep in small clusters on stems if using on individual plates, or larger clusters for a centerpiece.

Step 2. Froth one egg white to which 1 teaspoon of Vodka has been added (note: the Vodka will be a drying agent and add in the drying). Beat just until frothy, not to the point of making whipped egg whites or meringue.

Step 3. Dip the grape clusters in the egg whites.

Step 4. Using a spoon, sprinkle granulated sugar all over the grape cluster, front and back.

Step 5. Set the grape clusters on parchment to dry.

Step 6. Decorate plates, stemware, deserts, salads, or centerpieces with the frosted grapes.



Enjoy these frosted grapes this summer during your festive occasions, or as a change-up from the routine.

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## Welcome and Fond Farewell

### Welcome

Congratulations to Alesia and Jim Gallo on the birth of a baby girl, Aria Evelyn Gallo. Alesia is editor of our Newsletter.

### Fond Farewell

Best Wishes to Pat Malin, wife of Stu Malin, past treasurer for the Society, who is moving out of town. We wish her all the best and thank her for all her contributions to the Society, especially working on the Grand Opening of the Library and Research Center. Pat helped proof the recipe book of "Barrett's Brownies and Bar Cookies". It continues to be a fundraiser for the Society. Her new address will be in the next newsletter.

## Condolences and Obituaries

~\*~

Sincere condolences are offered to the family and friends of Eileen Owens and Gertrud Raemisch-Schumm.

### **Eileen Owens** Obituary

OLD FORGE — Eileen E. (Eutermarks) Owens, age 88, originally from Newfoundland, Pa., died Tuesday, May 9, 2023. Private arrangements are under the care of the Thomas P. Kearney Funeral Home, Inc., 517 N. Main Street, Old Forge.

Eileen was very active in the Barrett Township Historical Society Research Committee, especially in the Civil War Research. She supported all the fundraising events, particularly the dinners where she can be seen in society photos wearing her red apron. We wish condolences to her family.

### **Gertrud Raemisch-Schumm** Obituary

Gertrud Raemisch-Schumm, of Cresco, PA, passed away on May 26, 2023, at the age of 93. She was born February 25, 1930 in Hamburg Germany to her parents Margarethe (Ulenbrook) and Paul Raemisch. She was married to the late Fredrich Schumm.

Gertrud was a member of Mountainhome United Methodist Church. She came to America as a child and resided in New York City. She met her husband, Fred Schumm, at the sculpture center in New York. She was an artist who made beautiful paintings, oil and watercolors, ceramics, pottery and free hand carving. She also created tapestries and wrote haiku.

Gertrud was predeceased by her parents and her husband. Gerturd is survived by her son, David Schumm (Candi); David's brother, Tim Schumm and family; her grandchildren, Kristy Breshears (Kerry), Ryan Buchanan (Robyn), Taylor Schumm, engaged to Amber Swerbenski; and great-grandchildren, Harvey David Buchanan, and Madison Grace Breshears.

Gertrud will be remembered fondly for her exquisite creative wall hangings and her haiku which she shared with us in several newsletters. She led a full life in her cottage in the woods enjoying nature in its fullest. She was an avid gardener and loved music.



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## CRESCO ANNIE

### Chapter 5

Dear Reader,

Oh my, I have so many things to tell you. If you recall when last I wrote in my Journal, I had been kidnapped by train robbers but escaped and met "My John" coming to rescue me. We were so glad to see each other. I quickly asked him where "Baby" was and he said he had left her on the train with a nice lady. We returned to the train and were greeted with applause and squeals of delight (from Baby, of course).

Soon the train continued on its trip back to Cresco and we all settled down to talk about the happenings of the last few days. I was very tired from my hostage ordeal and the gentle motion of the train soon put us all to sleep. I became aware of the train slowing down and other passengers gathering their belongings ready to leave. Baby and I joined them and as I stepped off the train, I was amazed by what I saw. There in front of me was my wonderful station; with a new coat of green paint and red trim.



Cresco Annie

As I stood there marveling at the sight and trying to figure out what had happened and how I had returned to my station, I heard someone behind me. I turned and there stood my John, patiently waiting for me to notice him. He seemed more puzzled than I but told me he had to leave with the train. He promised to come back on the next trip through Cresco and he would stop and stay awhile so we could get reacquainted. We kissed good bye and he tenderly touched Baby on the cheek and returned to the train. I waved when the train left, shedding more than a few tears and wondered if I would see him again.

The station was very quiet and seemed deserted for all its fresh paint glory. I was still trying to figure out what had happened and how I had come back to almost the same time as when I left when I



heard cars stopping in front of the Station. Several people got out and someone unlocked the doors. It was my Historical Society friends and I realized they were coming to get ready for the new season.

What a buzz and chatter when they saw that Baby and I were missing. While they were busy searching inside the Station, I noticed an unlocked door at the end of the building and quietly slipped in, hoping they would soon find us. But someone slammed the door without looking and we were plunged into darkness. We waited for what seemed like a very long time; almost as long as when I was found in the barn and dumped in that closet.

We must have been in there for months, maybe a year or two, when I heard banging on the door and finally a shaft of sunlight lit my prison and I was able to see where I was... It was the old men's room at the Station and they were getting ready to rearrange things and turn it back into an indoor privy.

You can imagine their surprise and delight when they found me there. They carefully brought me out and took me inside. If you noticed, Dear Reader, I did not mention Baby for she was not with me and this did not seem to bother them at all. They stood me in the corner and began discussing where they would put me this season. As I looked around, I realized my kitchen was no longer there. In its place was a wonderful store with everything anyone could ever need on display. They finally decided that, for now, I could be the store keeper so I was put in the corner of the store with a potato bag covering my lack of hands. Oh dear, oh me, oh my; what had happened to my hands for I was again without them?

Finally, everything quieted down and after a bit, they started to pack up and get ready to leave. I wanted to ask someone if they had seen my baby but they were all too busy. And besides, I'm not sure they realized I could talk.

After they left, I had time to look around my "home" and decided I liked it very much. It looked like a real old country store and I knew I would enjoy using some of the things on display. Suddenly from the next room I heard someone talking softly, then a bit louder: "Momma, Momma is that you?" Walking down the hallway toward me was a beautiful young woman and holding her hand was a lovely little girl. Startled, I could only stare at them. "Who are you?" I asked. "Momma, don't you recognize me? Around here, they just call me "Baby" and this is my little girl."

"Cresco Annie, you're a Grandmother!"

There is so much more to tell, questions to be answered. Would I ever see John again? Could I have been locked in that little room all those years? How could all of this have happened? I knew my Baby and I would have time to sort it all out but for now, I must leave you. There are customers in my store and the lady wants to buy some needles. I know they're around her somewhere, and my granddaughter wants a peppermint stick.

~ \* ~

Picture Collage from Pre-Lego Day Program with the “Best Builders” and children at play.





Children and family members at play during the combined BTHS/BPFL family pre-lego program. Children played with Lincoln Logs, pick-up sticks, Jacks, tiddlywinks, an erector set, and other blocks to build structures. They had fun using toys that were invented long before Legos.

## 2023 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Please cut out the membership form below, and send your check made out to the Barrett Township Historical Society to PO Box 358, Mountainhome, PA 18342

### Barrett Township Historical Society

PO Box 358, Mountainhome, PA 18342

#### Membership and Dues Information – 2023

Last Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ First Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_

Family Members on membership: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_ . \_\_\_\_\_

#### Regular membership

- Individual \$20  
 Family \$30  
 Business/Organization \$50

#### Sustaining membership

- Friend \$51 - 99  
 Patron \$100-249  
 Angel \$250 - 499

#### Lifetime membership

- Lifetime \$500 & up

Additional donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed

Check here to OPT OUT of receiving the newsletter via email (using email above)

Would you like to volunteer for the BTHS? Please circle your choice:

- At the station museum
- Library and Research Center?
- Committee member: education, hospitality, research, newsletter, collections
- Other (tell us)