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<https://theheritagevillage.org/pa-heritage-festival> contact us: heritagevillage231@gmail.com

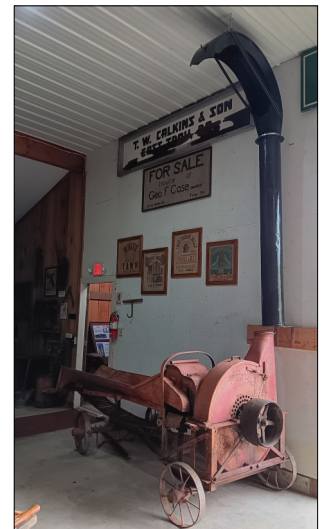
BCHA Party Line Volume 14 Issue 4 April 2024



The Tuesday work crew certainly got a lot done this month.

Windows installed in the front doors and doors repainted. Buildings cleaned and things put away. Work continues on the silo exhibit.

This silo pipe, cleaned, painted and donated by Walt Wittie was hoisted and anchored in the north end of the museum.



Beneath is a chopper-blower, it has no identifying notation, has metal wheels and is likely early 1900's.

Thankyou Mary Ellen and Ron Kunst for a most interesting power point presentation on the Junction Canal (Athens to Elmira). This privately built Canal of 18 miles (29 km) linked the North Branch Canal to the Chemung Canal, which led north to Seneca Lake and the Erie Canal. Through these connections, boats using the Pennsylvania Canal system were able to travel as far as Buffalo and Lake Champlain.

Towanda Connection: The extension of the North Branch of the Pennsylvania Canal to the New York line was begun in 1836. Despite a lack of funds causing suspension of work in the mid-1840s, the channel was finally completed in 1854. This connection improved access to markets for Towanda goods by linking Towanda with the New York State canal system.

Railroad Connection: The "North Branch Canal" (another name for the Pennsylvania Canal, North Branch Division) opened in Spring 1856. The **Barclay Railroad** began hauling coal in July of that year, delivering over 7,000 tons of coal to the canal boats in the first year.

The four basic steps in building a canal:

1. **Digging the Canal:** The first step is to excavate the canal. This involves creating an artificial channel to carry water from a river or reservoir. The canal's alignment and dimensions are determined during this phase.
2. **Crossing Rivers and Streams:** Canals often need to cross natural obstacles such as rivers and streams. Engineers design structures like aqueducts or bridges to allow the canal to pass over these water bodies without interruption.
3. **Overcoming Changes in Altitude:** Canals may encounter changes in elevation along their route. To address this, locks or other mechanisms are used to raise or lower the water level as needed. Locks allow boats and vessels to navigate between different water levels.
4. **Water Intake and Retention:** Getting water into the canal and maintaining its flow are critical. Intake structures divert water from the main reservoir or river into the canal. Proper lining and maintenance ensure that water remains in the canal. [For additional information about the Junction Canal please visit historicalechoes.weebly.com/junction-canal](http://historicalechoes.weebly.com/junction-canal)



Silo history continued

The Mound Builders and Incas in North and South America used jars similar to those of the Romans and ancient Egyptians in addition to pit silos for storing grain. The Indians of southwest Iowa utilized underground pit silos for the storage of corn, beans, and sunflowers. In 1976, archaeology students discovered silo pits in southwest Iowa dating back ten centuries. These pits were used for winter storage of grains until rodents or moisture destroyed their usefulness and they became refuse holes.



In 1707, in the citadel of Metz, France, a large quantity of grain was discovered that had been placed there in 1528 in one of the underground rooms. Though it had been stored for more than two centuries, it was so well preserved that the bread that was made from it was found to be very good.

In France in 1828, an excavation team discovered a silo in which corn, after being stored for 235 years, was partially preserved. This silo was filled in 1591 on the orders of the Duke of Savoy who was besieging Berre and was used for the storage of food for his troops.

2. Dry Grain Storage in Europe

Though the existence and usefulness of the silo has been recorded throughout the history of civilization, it was not until the nineteenth century that the use of the silo as a means of feed preservation became a subject for economic and scientific study.

In 1819, Count de Lasteyrie published a French work on the use of silos for dry grain preservation. The following two years, on the estate of Palerne, the corn harvests were stored in pit silos. These pits were not opened until the end of 1828 when prices had doubled. A small layer at the top, under the straw, was a little moldy, but the bulk of the grain was perfectly preserved. The proprietor was so satisfied with his success that he ordered other silos to be dug. Unfortunately, his death shortly afterwards put an end to his projects.

Mr. Ternaux at Saint Ouen set up a trial of the silo process, and the French Royal Agriculture Society appointed a commission to report on the experiment. The commission's report in December of 1826 was eminently unfavorable and for a considerable time discouraged any further attempts at the ensiling of corn. The failure was a result of the very porous sub-soil. No attempts had been made to waterproof the walls and the infiltration of water from the near-by Seine River destroyed the crop.

However, Mr. Deere was then commissioned by the French Government to investigate the preservation of other dry cereals in silos, particularly in Spain. His report was presented to the French Academy of Science in 1855 and published the following year.

Deere's research convinced him that the ensiling of corn was necessary for the welfare of nations. He contended that superabundant crops must be preserved for use during times of poor harvest. This would also benefit nations by stabilizing corn prices. According to his report, there were two natural obstacles to the preservation of corn; dampness caused spoilage; and insects caused considerable loss. He stated that in Egypt, where there is no rain, and in other countries where rain was rare, the problem was easily solved by the use of a pit silo lined with masonry and an inner layer of dry straw. After filling, a layer of dry straw should be placed on top of the grain and covered with masonry and a removable lid.

The report concluded that, though this type of pit silo was suitable for dry climates, in France and other northern countries, its use was hindered by the humidity of the soil. This problem, in Doyere's opinion could possibly be overcome by building above ground silos and employing the use of metals. His proposed system of construction involved the use of some very thin sheets of iron, preserved exteriorly from oxidation by an impermeable covering, and enveloped in concrete, which would sustain the whole weight. This type of silo, Doyere contended, would solve the problem of the humid French soil and insure that the silo would protect the grain from insects and fermentation. He also proposed that only dry grains, no more than 16% moisture, should be stored.

Doyere felt that underground silos offered advantages over the above ground granary by providing a low and constant temperature and protection from the open air, but that their use must be limited to dry climates.

To be continued.



The collection team meets weekly for several hours, keeping up with incoming donations and working on the backlog. It can be like a treasure hunt at times. Check out this miniature pun.

Recently donated, a collection of puppets from Chelsea Wagner. A nice addition to the toy exhibit. Can you identify these characters?



Puppet s left to right—Cinderella, Sleeping Beauty, Gus Mouse, Winnie Mouse, Wendy, Lady, Jimmie the Cricket



His Shadow

I have a little shadow that goes in and out with me.
 And what can be the use of him is more than I can see.
 He is very, very like me from the heels up to the head.
 And I see him jump before me when I jump into my bed.
 The funniest thing about him is the way he likes to grow.
 Not at all like proper children, which is always very slow,
 For he sometimes shoots up taller like an 'Indian rubber ball,'
 And he sometimes gets so little that there's none of him at all.

One morning very early before the sun was up,
 I rose and found the shining dew on every buttercup,
 But my lazy little shadow, like an arrant sleepy head,
 Had stayed at home behind me and was fast asleep in bed.

Robert Louis Stevenson



The museum is now open for the season. Tuesdays and Saturdays 11AM-3PM and by appointment.



Troy Town Cruisers

Join us Saturday May 18, 10AM-2 PM as the Troy Town Cruisers kick off their season with a Car Show & Swap Meet at the museum. This will be the 4th year the Cruisers have held this show to benefit the museum. Come see the cars, meet the owners and enjoy some lunch.



Looking for.....

Name or Business ink stamps to fill the Banking Exhibit stamp holder

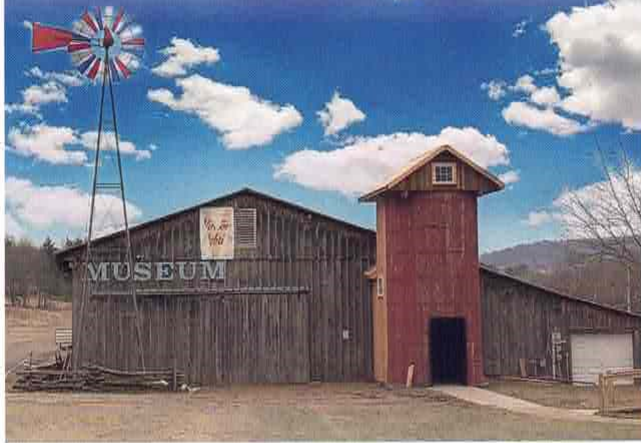


Important contact information—

Postal Address- B.C.H.A PO Box 265 Troy, PA 16947
 Physical Address— 231 Gate #2 Lane, Troy, PA 16947
 Email— heritagevillage231@gmail.com
 Web page— www.heritagevillage.org, (includes info about the museum and Heritage Village, Farm Days, Heritage Festival)
 Face Book— Heritage Village and Farm Museum

Thankyou— to everyone who renewed their membership and /or donated financially to the museum thus far in 2024. And to the folks who placed an ad in the Museum Guide now available at the museum and featuring the history and pictures of silos.

2024 SILOS OF BRADFORD COUNTY



HERITAGE VILLAGE & FARM MUSEUM

TROY, PENNSYLVANIA

DEDICATED TO PRESERVING THE HERITAGE OF BRADFORD COUNTY

Managed by The Bradford County Heritage Association

**MUSEUM OPEN
MAY-OCTOBER
TUES & SAT 11AM - 3PM**


Admission Fee Charged to Enter Museum

**HERITAGE FESTIVAL
SEPT. 21 & 22, 2024**

Alparon Park, 231 Gate 2 Lane
TROY, PENNSYLVANIA

Located a half mile north of the intersection of Routes 6 & 14 in Troy, PA.
Visitors should enter Alparon Park Gate 2.

570-297-3410 • heritagevillage231@gmail.com

www.theheritagevillage.org  @TheHeritageVillage

Funded in part by The Bradford County Room Tax Grant. Only Service Dogs allowed on the grounds.

*All pictures shown are for illustration purpose only.

SEE OTHER SIDE



**Group
Tours
Available**




Check out our newest exhibit of this 20th-century wooden silo donated by Pauline Swingle.

Then proceed through 10 buildings, representing the bygone eras of yesteryear in the Heritage Village!

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SEE OTHER SIDE

Did You Know- (Why Do We Say That?)



'Put a sock in it'

Meaning: to be quiet; stop talking

Origin: Gramophones, the predecessors of record players, had large horns used to amplify the sound. Since they had no volume control, if the sound was too loud, listeners were forced to stuff a wadded-up sock inside the horn.

2024 BCHA Board of Directors

President- Karen Tworsky Vice President- Helen Mickley
Treasurer- Marie Seymour Secretary- Barbara Barrett
Deb Lutz, Roberta Wood, Walt Wittie, Dale Palmer, Ralph & Priscilla Knapp, Mike Kelly, Terren Smith, Sue Conner, Val Baker, Casey Smith

The **Heritage Garden Club** of Troy devote hours to a variety of projects, the downtown flower baskets, the flower beds that adorn the 'Welcome to Troy' signs entering town, the flower beds of Alparon Park and the Heritage Village. And assist with the Floral arrangements at the Troy Fair.

Please consider helping them out with this recycling project.

Contact Caroline Hall 570-262-0550 for pick up or drop off

NexTrex Recycling Challenge

What is accepted, All plastic must be clean, dry and free of food residue.



Grocery bags



Bread bags



Bubble wrap



Dry cleaning bags



Newspaper sleeves



Ice bags



Plastic shipping envelopes



Ziploc & other reclosable food storage bags



Cereal bags



Case overwrap



Salt bags



Pallet wrap & stretch film



Wood pellet bags



Produce bags

The end result is this bench

