

NEWS FROM:

Schuylkill Township
111 Valley Park Road
Phoenixville, PA 19460

November 1, 2008

FOUNDERS DAY TO BE CELEBRATED

Schuylkill Township will be celebrating its 182nd anniversary as a township on Saturday, November 8, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. at Moore Hall at 1001 Valley Forge Road. Moore Hall is one of the oldest homes in Schuylkill Township and visited by General George Washington during the encampment at Valley Forge. You are invited to join the Schuylkill Township Board of Supervisors, the Historical Commission and friends and neighbors to mark Founders Day. Light refreshments will be served.

A Distinguished Citizen of Schuylkill Township will be honored. She is Joanne Campbell Brown. Brown has lived in Schuylkill Township her whole life with the exception of her early years of marriage. Joanne and her family returned to Schuylkill Township in 1958, and in 1959, they purchased the original 1870 Schuylkill School on Valley Forge Road (adaptively re-used as a private residence) where she still lives today.

Joanne's roots in Schuylkill Township go deep. In 1928, her parents and paternal grandparents (the Campbells) purchased Meadow Brook Farm. They began to develop it into a residential community known as Meadow Brook Place. They also developed a portion of the farm into a miniature golf course, chip and put course and tennis courts. With the arrival of the depression, the remaining land was developed into a 9-hole golf course, which it remains today.

In the mid-1970s, Joanne worked with Estelle Cremers to research Meadow Brook's history and have it placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Meadow Brook served Washington's army while at the Valley Forge encampment.

Joanne also worked to inventory properties in the Borough of Phoenixville which created the Phoenixville Historic District. She worked on the Historic Resource List for Schuylkill Township, is a charter member of the Historical Society of the Phoenixville Area, an active member of the Phoenixville Hospital Auxiliary since the 1960s, a member of Friends of Schuylkill School and Questers.

Also being honored this day is Taylor Rental located at the intersection of Valley Forge and White Horse Roads in Schuylkill Township. This is also historically known as Corner Stores. They are being presented with an award for its outstanding preservation project. They took a former service station and adaptively reused it as part of their growing business. This decision not to tear down a structure is an important aspect of preservation. It provides a greener environment for all of us. In addition, Total Rental

uses and preserves an historic house across from the center. This is one of the remaining original houses of the Corner Stores complex – a commercial area that dates back to the 18th century. We commend Taylor Rental for preserving a part of Schuylkill Township history.

Schuylkill Township was formed in 1826 when the Chester County courts decreed Charlestown Township be divided and the eastern portion be known as the Township of Schuylkill.

For more information please call the Township Office at 610 933-5843 or e-mail Schuylkilloffice@aol.com. Additional historical information can be searched at www.schuylkilltp.org.

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