

Paradise Past

VOLUME 41 • Winter 2026

THE NEWSLETTER
OF THE

PARADISE



Historical
Society

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



On a cold and sunny December 14, 2025, the fifth-generation owners of the Ace Store welcomed members of the historical society to a warm and cheerful holiday gathering. Susan and Pat Newman have done a terrific job maintaining the building's character — the Ace Store is hardly changed from the 1970s. Thank you, Susan and Pat!

This issue of the newsletter recaps fall meetings and also looks forward to 2026 and celebrating the semiquincentennial (what a word!) of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. We hope to see you at our next meeting in April and wish you a very happy new year.

Al Johnson
Al Johnson, President

KEOKEE CHAPEL CEMETERY

A Guided Walking Tour with Sandy Dietz

Sometimes just the word "history" can make people's eyes glaze over. But never when you're listening to Sandy Dietz, and especially as she takes you for a walk through Keokee Chapel Cemetery — a walk through the history of Paradise Township.

Sandy is the Genealogy Chair for PHS. Finding, learning about, and sharing information about people who came before is her passion.

On Sunday, October 5, 2025, she introduced us to dozens of neighbors we never knew, members of the earliest European families to move from the Nazareth area seeking opportunity in Paradise Valley — the Naumanns, Wagners, Boorems, and Dornblasers.

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winter

COLLECTING, PRESERVING, & DISSEMINATING PARADISE HISTORY



Celebrating Our REVOLUTIONARY WAR PATRIOTS



If you are a lineal descendant of a Revolutionary Patriot...
you are eligible to be recognized by the Barrett and Paradise
Historical Societies on **Patriot Recognition Day: July 12, 2026**.

BY Sandy
Dietz

To qualify, your lineal ancestor would have been unfailing in loyalty to the cause of American Independence. A Patriot would include service as follows: Signers of the Declaration of Independence, military service, civil service, and patriotic service which would include signers of Oath of Fidelity and Support or Oath of Allegiance.

You can use the following free websites as resources:

- www.dar.org
(Daughters of the American Revolution)
- www.sar.org
(Sons of the American Revolution)

If you have a Patriot ancestor and wish to be recognized, please complete the



G.W. Nauman's great-grandfather
served in the Revolutionary War

application which may be found at www.paradisehistorical.org. At our home page, scroll down to the section titled "Celebrating Our Revolutionary War Patriots" and click on the red PDF icon. Download the application form, fill it out electronically, and email it to paradisehistorical.genealogy@gmail.com.

Or, if you prefer to complete the application manually, please return the form below to Paradise Historical Society, P.O. Box 94, Henryville, PA 18332.

Deadline for submission is April 15, 2026. If you have questions, contact genealogy chair Sandy Dietz at paradisehistorical.genealogy@gmail.com

PHS



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To qualify, your lineal ancestor would have been unfailing in loyalty to the cause of American Independence.

**DEADLINE TO APPLY IS
APRIL 15, 2026**

Fill out this application form, and mail to:
**Paradise Historical Society
PO Box #94, Henryville, PA 18332**

OR, scan the QR code below,
download the PDF file and open it in
Adobe Acrobat, fill out the application
electronically, and email it to
paradisehistorical.genealogy@gmail.com



Ancestor's Name: _____

Ancestor's Date & Place of Birth: _____

Brief Description of Ancestor's Service: _____

Cemetery (if known): _____

A PARADISE TOWNSHIP ICON

It was a standing-room only crowd at our November 2, 2025, meeting for Peter Gonze's well-researched program titled the Story of Henryville House, Trout, and Fly Fishing.

This old inn has welcomed travelers, locals, and fly-fishing enthusiasts for generations. Once a stop for mule-skinners taking loads of coal to the canal in Easton and sportsmen chasing trout in the cool Pocono streams, the Henryville House was owned and operated by six generations of Henrys.

The Henryville House was demolished in 2002, but many people in the audience had worked there or attended school events, weddings, din-

ners, and other gatherings over the hotel's more than 150 years of serving locals and travelers. Using newspaper clippings, postcards, maps, Facebook postings, and other sources, Peter pieced together the history of the buildings and owners over the years — and also made the case that Henryville's location on the Paradise Creek was key to the birth and growth of fly fishing in America.

Many fascinating images and artifacts were shown. An image of the hotel from the eastern side of the Creek shows a countryside far different from today. The hills were clearcut, and instead of the forest we see today, cultivated fields and orchards filled



Gone, But Not Forgotten

the view. A dam and saw mill were large, important features on the creek. The nearby Henryville railroad station welcomed droves of city people every season seeking fresh air, clean water, and good fishing.

Peter shared photos of the Cardinales, a couple from New Jersey who celebrated their wedding here — and

then returned over the decades with their growing family, ultimately celebrating their 50th anniversary at the Henryville House. One audience member spoke up to say she worked at the hotel and knew the Cardinales!

To listen to the presentation and view the images Peter shared, go to www.paradisehistorical.org, and click on Meeting Recordings. **PHS**



SAW MILL ON THE CREEK



HAY RIDE

KEOKEE CHAPEL CEMETERY

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The earliest interments included George Adam Dornblaser, a veteran of the War of 1812 and son of a Revolutionary War Patriot, several Dornblaser infants and children, and George E. Dornblaser who died a prisoner of war in Salisbury Prison, North Carolina, during the Civil War. Later gravestones marked the resting places of relatives, friends, and local celebrities well-known to many in the large group who attended — Jabaras, many Naumans, Henrys, Golls, and DePues. Artist Edna Palmer Englehardt and Spanish poet

A Guided Walking

Juan Penalver Laserna are buried here. Members of the Hill family — including actress Leila Hill, Rosalie Baker Osbaker, and George Koerner a WWII pilot and later superintendent of the cemetery — are also here.

Sandy's talk included details on the founding of the church and even how to protect and clean gravestones you may be responsible for. You can find an audio of the presentation and extensive notes on other, now permanent, residents of Paradise Valley on the PHS website www.paradisehistorical.org. **PHS**



Paradise Historical Society
P.O. Box 94
Henryville, PA 18332

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: Programs Planned Through 2026

Because winter weather can be challenging we do not hold meetings in January, February, or March.

But check out the interesting and informative programs in the works for the rest of the year.

Note that these are tentative — check the Spring 2026 newsletter for the final lineup.



APRIL:
Dempewolff House presentation
MAY:
History of
National Drug/Slee Labs
(now known as Sanofi Pasteur)
JUNE:
Picnic & Ice Cream Social
at the Roof
JULY:
Memorytown/Dutch Farm presentation

AUGUST:
Hunter Farm & Family History
SEPTEMBER:
Community Picnic
(No PHS meeting)
OCTOBER:
Lenape Discussion
NOVEMBER:
Trunk Show
DECEMBER:
Annual Holiday
Celebration

PHS

Become a
Member
Today!

YOUR MEMBERSHIP COUNTS!

Please help Paradise Historical Society collect,
protect & share the interesting history of our area.

- Student or Senior (65+) - \$10.00
- Family - \$25.00
- Individual - \$10.00
- Corporate - \$50.00
- Couple - \$20.00

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____

Email: _____

Please send the completed form and check (no cash) to:

Paradise Historical Society,
P.O. Box 94, Henryville, PA 18332

The Directors & Officers of
Paradise Historical Society are:

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Sandy Dietz Genealogist

Bruce Estell Treasurer

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Newsletter design by

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Winter 2026