



Middletown Township Historical Society

MIDDLETOWN MONDAYS 2017

Lectures begin at 7:00 p.m.

at Lima Estates, 411 North Middletown Road, Media, PA 19063

Free and open to the public, no registration required.

Monday, September 18

PRELUDE TO BRANDYWINE: THE MARCH OF GENERAL SIR WILLIAM HOWE AND THE BRITISH ARMY SEPTEMBER 8 THROUGH 10, 1777

by Walt Chiquoine, Hockessin, DE, resident and local historian

Join us to hear how Walt solved a mystery that had baffled scholars for almost a hundred years – the location of the Daniel Nichols house, used by Howe as his headquarters on the days preceding the Battle of the Brandywine. With that knowledge primary accounts of this march, involving over 16,000 troops, can now be understood in a new light. Walt will give some background on the Philadelphia Campaign, will discuss his search for the Nichols house, and will tell the tale of the British army and the profound impact they had on the local population as they took what they needed and lived off the land.

Monday, October 16

HOW THE LINE BETWEEN PENNSYLVANIA AND DELAWARE CAME TO BE

by Brian Cannon, Lead Interpreter, New Castle Court House Museum, New Castle, DE

Delaware and Pennsylvania are the only two states who share a curved boundary. In spite of the fact that we have been neighbors since William Penn arrived in 1682, our common border wasn't agreed upon until 1921. Why so long? Why a curved border anyway? Where is the center? Have you ever heard about the "Horn" and the "Wedge"? Get the answer to these questions and more.

Monday, November 20

BENJAMIN HAYES SMITH: STUDENT, SOLDIER, SURVEYOR, SCIENTIST

by Kathy Hornberger, Curator, Delaware County Institute of Science

Dr. Hornberger will discuss her research on Delaware County native Benjamin Hayes Smith, mapmaker, surveyor, collector of specimens and land researcher who prepared twenty-seven manuscript maps for the *Atlas of Delaware County 1703-1880*. Benjamin Smith was an incredibly productive and talented individual but because he was so humble, he is not as well-known as his father, Dr. George Smith, a founder and long-time President of the Delaware County Institute of Science, and his older brother, A. Lewis Smith, a well-known Media attorney and the first president of the Delaware County Historical Society. Come hear about Benjamin's important contributions to DelCo.

In case of inclement weather or changes in the schedule please visit our website www.mthsdelco.org or call 610-316-5620.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1 - SPECIAL CEMETERY TALK & TOUR

At Historic Cumberland Cemetery, 447 Middletown Rd, 2:00 to approximately 3:00 p.m.

DR. CORNELIUS C. V. A. CRAWFORD: THE MAN WHO SAVED LINCOLN

by Barbara Selletti, local historian, genealogist and Neumann University librarian

Bring your lawn chairs or blankets for a talk by the grave of Dr. Crawford a Civil War Army Surgeon who grew up in Philadelphia and was in the wrong place at the wrong time for him, but not for Abraham Lincoln. Hear the tale of how Crawford took the bullet meant for the President in the 1864 Battle of Fort Stevens. He survived to marry and practice medicine as a "country doctor" first living in Aston and then Chester Heights. Following Barb's talk join Mary Anne Eves, Vice President of the Middletown Township Historical Society, on a short tour of Cumberland's other residents important to the history of Delaware County and the region.

PLEASE NOTE: In case of heavy rain the talk will be moved to Lima Estates and the tour will be cancelled. A representative will be at the Cemetery to inform you if the location has changed. There are no rest room facilities available at the cemetery. No one will be permitted to sit on any of the monuments.

Questions: email info@mthsdelco.org or call 610-316-5620.