



Lake and Legacy

Building Eagles Mere: Cottage architecture

Eagles Mere is a small resort community where many of the homes, cottages, churches, and commercial buildings date to the late 19th and early 20th century. It was the time of grand Victorian homes and the beginning of other architectural styles that are reflected in our early buildings. It is difficult to imagine today what many buildings looked like when they were built since additions have changed their appearance.

A predominant number of the homes, cottages, churches, and commercial buildings are of Shingle style architecture. These are wood-framed, wood shingle construction often built on stone foundations. They have porches, balconies, and large windows that allow one to interact with the out-of-doors. The roof would be covered with shingles and are often in a hipped style, where all sides slope down to the walls. Inside is an open



Shingle

floor plan with a central living room, a large stairway, many windows, exposed-beam ceilings, wooden arches, stained glass, massive mantles, and an abundance of bedrooms. Eagles Mere

Avenue has some large shingle style cottages that are set back behind stone walls on large lots.

A Folk Victorian building is less elaborate. It is relatively plain, smaller, and embellished with trim. These buildings were often built from "pattern books" provided by architectural companies that included plans with layouts drawn to



Folk Victorian

scale showing front and side elevations but not the details of a blueprint. The shape of this style building is usually a square or a rectangle with horizontal lines, gables, and porches, but no turrets, bay windows, or other complicated construction. Often the trim was prefabricated and could easily be shipped anywhere. These embellishments showed up as brackets under roof eaves, spindled posts, porch railings, and trim. The porches tend to be a single story.

A Craftsman style home or cottage was a reaction to the eclectic Victorian over-decorated style and was typically one to one-and-a-half stories high with a low-pitched gabled roof. (A gable is the triangular portion of a wall between two roof sides.) This style embraces simplicity, excellent workmanship, and fine

details. Large, open porches have overhanging beams and tapered

square columns that support the roof. Windows are four-over-one



Craftsman

or six-over-one. Inside walls are paneled to chair-rail height. Materials are glass, wood, and metal. Earth tones were prevalent, more than pastels or strong colors. These structures often have more space-saving built-ins than a yacht! The oak woodwork often demanded oak furniture.

Another style found in Eagles Mere is the Prairie style that tried to be integrated with its surrounding

landscape. The shape was a square or rectangle with a



Prairie

horizontal emphasis. It would have a large front porch under overhanging eaves, was two stories high, and often had a one-story projection. A secluded entrance was also a feature. The roof was low pitched and rows of a window were featured. The floor plan

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President's Message

We need you to "build" our museum

Introducing Walk-and-Talk Wednesdays

Let me start by saying, I am NOT a numbers person and my husband will attest to that.

But this time, I was right. Last year I truly "felt" that the overall number of people in and around Eagles Mere seemed down. Sadly, according to our records, we were down almost 500 guest-book visitors or 16 percent compared to 2016. Thankfully, this same percentage decline did not hit our membership as hard, but we did lose almost 10 percent in 2017.

Visitor decline is not a new story in the history of Eagles Mere as many of our old hotel newspapers can attest to in their articles. The hotels are now gone and our needs, wants, and concerns regarding Eagles Mere continues to change. The museum plays a key role in our community by preserving our unique story. Your membership is key to our

museum's future success.

With that said, we need to know what we can do to bring our Gen Xers and Millennials, into the museum. Your perspective and ideas are not only welcomed but needed.

How do we do that? One thing I do know is when walking with friends we always seem to "solve" the problems of the world as well as resolve some of our own personal ones ... it must be the Eagles Mere air. So, I am proposing *Walk & Talk Wednesdays*. I will greet you on the front porch of the museum at 9 am. We will walk – and talk -- for no more than an hour. Each week the route will be a bit different, going to a little-known historical spot in Eagles Mere.

I look forward to your insights concerning the future of our museum and how it can enrich your life as well as your families. Our walks will be Wednesdays from July 11 to August 15.

— Joan Werner

Building Eagles Mere: Cottage architecture

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was open and flowing.

One more style around the lake is the Queen Anne style. This style has one to three stories, is often asymmetrical, and



Queen Anne

most likely has a steeply-pitched roof that may have irregular shapes as

well as prominent forward-facing gables. Spindles, bay windows and bump outs, corner towers, and wrap-around porches are common. More is never too much in Queen Anne.

Not every building fits exactly into a single style. There are, of course, other styles that appear on Eagles Mere's landscape but these were the prominent ones at the turn of the century.

Eagles Mere's architecture, activities, and traditions survive, making evident Eagles Mere's historic significance.

— Barb James

Eagles Mere on the National Register of Historic Places

When did this happen? Almost 22 years ago some very thoughtful people, much like the original builders of Eagles Mere, felt Eagles Mere was special and wanted to acknowledge its uniqueness by putting us on the National Register of Historic Places. After all, we are an intact late 19th- and early 20th-century resort community of architecturally-varied cottages, boathouses, commercial buildings, churches, and out buildings. Our district includes Eagles Mere Beach, hiking trails, pristine wooded areas, and former hotel communities.

How did we begin? The syndicate, a group of men who wanted to preserve the lake but also help establish a community with many activities, decided they needed someone to manage their holdings and layout building lots. In 1886 they hired civil engineer E.S. Chase. His love for the lake was exhibited by his many contributions over the next 36 years.

Who built our homes? Many of the Shingle -style homes were built by A.C. Little, an "architect" and builder from Picture Rocks. He erected almost three-quarters of the cottages in Eagles Mere. (Be sure to check out our exhibit this summer to learn more about the Littles).





Lake and Legacy

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The Eagles Mere Museum is a function of the Borough of Eagles Mere, and contributions are tax deductible.

Annual memberships are \$35. The membership form can be found on page 6. Please send donations to PO Box 276, Eagles Mere, Pa. 17731.

EAGLES MERE MUSEUM BOARD

President
Joan Werner

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Barbara James

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Museum Mission

To discover, collect, preserve, exhibit, and interpret the historical and cultural heritage of Eagles Mere and to provide educational opportunities for residents, schools, and other museums through programs of historical interest.

Thank you , Eagles Mere Foundation!

We cannot thank the Eagles Mere Foundation enough for their continued support in many of our initiatives. With Foundation grants we have been able to make improvements in technology, programs, and restoration that not only benefit us but also the community at large.

This year our grant will help us to provide a special place downstairs to view some of our old videos as well as programs presented upstairs.

We're building our 2018 events

We kicked off this year's architecture theme with a program about Eagles Mere churches and their windows at New Year's to follow up last year's focus on glass. I hope you enjoyed the write-up in the *Sullivan Review* of our first 2018 museum event. Don't miss out on any more!

"Birdhouse Make & Take"

Saturday, June 23, 11:30 a.m.

Learn a little bit about different types of birdhouses and some Eagles Mere architectural embellishments. Then create your own, one-of-a-kind birdhouse in our upstairs gallery. All are welcome. Children under age 6 may need parental help. Limited space, so please call to reserve. Cost \$8 donation.

"What's a Stickley anyway?"

Saturday, June 30, 7 p.m.

DeWire Center

Museum members and their guests are invited to a special program on American architectural styles, with special emphasis on the architecture of our cottages and other buildings in Eagles Mere. Enjoy this journey "through" our cottages with Bryan Van Sweden of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission's State Historic Preservation office. Bryan has been an instructor in architectural history and styles at local colleges, and has given walking tours and presentations as part of the PA's Humanities Council's Commonwealth Speakers Bureau.

This evening program will be followed by a dessert reception and silent auction. Attending this program also entitles you to join Bryan Sunday morning with a follow-up architectural walking tour. The cost to members and their guests is a \$15 donation per person.

(The Sunday tour will meet in front of the museum at 11:15 a.m. with a start at 11:30 a.m. Wear your walking shoes.)

"House Hunters"

A July summer hunt, July 2-31

Your mission, if you choose to accept it, is to find specific architectural styles in and around Eagles Mere, Laporte, and Sonestown. All completed hunts will receive one 20 percent discount on one item in the Eagles Mere Museum shop.

Complete the hunt individually or as a family/group of no more than four people. Sign up in the museum to receive your "House Hunter" packet with a \$5 donation. Happy hunting!

"Our Williamsport Connection"

Saturday, October 13

Spend a fall afternoon touring four Victorian homes built by the lumber barons of North East and North Central PA, many of whom spent their summers in Eagles Mere or visited the mountain by train. Your Victorian adventure starts at the Peter Herdic House Restaurant for a private gourmet lunch including a beverage of choice followed by the tours of these rarely-opened Fourth Street mansions.

Museum member cost is \$38 per person, non-member \$40 per person. Participants will provide their own transportation. Please reserve your place by October 8.

Other happenings in the village and at the museum:

Butterflies and moths

Saturday, May 12, 1 p.m.

Enjoy a Mother's Day special event with a speaker from the Tunkhannock Nature Center on butterflies and moths in the upstairs gallery. Children might also enjoy making their own butterfly to take home.

Gardening and wildlife

Saturday, June 16, 1 p.m.

Celebrate spring with everything you ever wanted or wanted to know about gardens and/or flowers. The museum is hosting a speaker on "Gardening and Wildlife" in the upstairs gallery at 1 p.m. The talk is a free event, followed by a make-and-take potpourri of various herbs and flowers for a \$1 donation.

— *Kathy McCorkle*

Museum hours

Memorial Day – Labor Day

10 a.m. – 5 p.m. daily

Off-season

Stories wanted

Folks have great stories about Eagles Mere, and we'd love to hear them.

The museum is building a collection of oral histories telling of remembrances and traditions about our special place.

If you have a story to tell and would like to talk about the possibility of recording it for the museum, please email Mary Anne Grabarek at magrabarek@mindspring.com

Like us on Facebook to find out what's happening at the museum!



Story behind our Lewis Glassworks exhibit addition

This pitcher, attributed to the Lewis Glassworks, was purchased by an antique glass collector and dealer at a family farm/estate sale in central Ohio. The owners of the farm said they were descended from a family who brought the pitcher with them when they moved from Sullivan County to Ohio in the early 1800s.

Although we can't be certain exactly how a pitcher attributed to the Lewis Glassworks came to be in Ohio, one very tantalizing possibility exists.

That possibility ties the pitcher not just to the glassworks and Eagles Mere, but also to families still living in our area and active in the life of Sullivan County and the Village of Eagles Mere.

In September 1804, a number of the residents of Granville, Mass., in response

to land becoming available for purchase and in search better farmland, formed a syndicate and purchased 29,000 acres in Licking County, Ohio. Upon their arrival in Ohio in November 1805, they established the town of Granville.

Among those making the trip was a man named Samuel Bancroft and his family.

Samuel's brother, Azariah, a farmer and a carpenter, began the journey to Granville in 1809.

En route to Ohio and in need of work and funds, they stopped in Eagles Mere, then Lewis Lake, where Azariah and his oldest son, Gerard, found work helping to build the glassworks and the village. Excerpts from letters that Azariah wrote to his brother in Ohio detail the construction, activities, and glassmaking

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Thank you!

Three cheers for the docents, train engineers, and all the volunteers who keep our Eagles Mere Museum a vital, informative and fun place to visit. Guests from Camp Hill wrote in our guest book that the volunteer was well informed, pleasant, and helpful — just what we want to hear.

We thank these docents for working many weekend hours: Susan Glaubitz, Carol Feese, Barbara Swinick, Lois McConnell, Lee Middleton, B.A. Moyer, Arnie Dahm, Mary Gibbs Smith, Marj Byrne, Linda Roman, and Anne Hoopes. Thank you's are also due for Dale Hastings, Lu Anne Ecker, Barbara James, Susie Simpkins, Karen Gardner, Kathleen Deasy, Marjorie Engel, Judy Huhn, Ann Klotz, Judy Melzer, Gail Meyer, Cathy Wise, Diane Spahr, Marria Walsh, and Leslie Druschel.

Everyone loves visiting the train room. Our train engineers are a dedicated group giving the museum

many volunteer hours. They clean the tracks, keep over-enthusiastic children under control, add extra historical information – in other words, make the train room a lively, exciting, and educational place to visit for both young and old. Many thanks go to Tom Burkholder, Phil McDermott, Peter Glaubitz, Peter Hodgson, Rick Liebert,

*We couldn't do it
without you!*

Rich Melzer, Jim Moyer, Linda Roman, Joe Bird, George Freeland, H.H. Heistand, and Fred Weeman. Besides working many hours, special thanks go to Bob Grabarek, who has agreed to take over the staffing and running of the toy train exhibit. Technical advice and labor are furnished by Larry Keller, a toy train enthusiast from Williamsport.

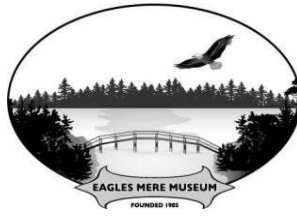
When we think of thanks we want to

include Beth Schetroma who does the layout and edits this newsletter. The museum secretary, Lisa Frey, does all our paperwork and keeps the museum running smoothly year long. Madison Glinski and Morgan Randall are our dedicated shopkeepers. Bridgett Reed, who is finishing up her sophomore year at Bryn Mawr, will not be returning this year after four years of her smiling face and endless help and support in the shop.

Of course, it takes financial help to keep your museum open and growing. Our thanks to all who have become members and to those who have given extra donations. During 2017 donations were made in memory of Bob Klarsch and Ted Larson.

A family from Houston wrote, "we keep coming back". We certainly want our visitors to feel that way. Give me a call at 570-525-3276 if you wish to help us keep the visitors coming back.

—Trudy Whitmoyer



Eagles Mere Museum Membership Form 2018

Our blueprint for success is YOU!

Help build Eagles Mere memories and become a member

Events to look forward this summer include an architectural lecture and tour of Eagles Mere cottages, an architecture mystery hunt, and a trip to Williamsport making architecture connections.

Your membership helps us to complete our mission:

- Collect and preserve our outstanding collections
- Educate the public about our community's rich history
- Expand, develop, and continue programs, events, and exhibits

Member privileges include:

- Invitations to member-only receptions and events
- 10 percent discount on purchases in the museum shop
- Discounts on special events
- Annual newsletter

Check for future events on our website, www.eaglesmeremuseum.com, or on Facebook.

2018 Membership Application (January 1—December 31, 2018)

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Email _____

Phone _____

Innkeepers Circle (\$1500)

Cottager (\$250)

Lewis Glass Guild (\$1000)

Friend of the museum (\$100)

EMRR Engineer (\$500)

General member (\$35)

Membership includes spouse/partner and children under 20 years old

Would you like to receive the newsletter via email? Yes No

Would you like to volunteer? Docent Publicity Exhibits Events

(please check one or more)

Membership Collections management

Eagles Mere Museum members

EMRR ENGINEERS

DiCarlo/Plank, Dana & Scott
Feigles, Joy & Ron
Godley, Kathleen & Rick
Marden, Helen & Bruce
Olsen, Susan

COTTAGERS

Bass, Judith & Carl
Basselgia, Nancy
Burkholder, Laurie & Tom
Byrne, Marj & Frank
Eater, Joanne & Charles
Freeland, Rita & George
Gaul, Brian
Holmes, Fred
McCorkle, Kathryn & David
Moore, Charles & Judith
Moyer, Jim
Powers, Barb & Bruce
Schreckengaust, Susan & Ray
Simmons, Nancy & Zach
Stoeffel, Jim & Lisa
Vauclain, Edwina F.
Wise, Tami & Bob

FRIENDS OF EM MUSEUM

Allen, Richard
Antram/Hillner, Shaun & Katrin
Bailey/Buford, Susan & Scott
Barth, George
Besecker, Laura & Don
Brand, Dorrie
Cimmet, Wendy
Close, Steve & Lisa
Clothier IV, Isaac H.
Conn, Joann & Walter
Detwiler, Martha & Jack
Devine, Jim & Eileen
DiRocco, Matt & Yvonne
Ecker, John & LuAnn
Ecker, Denise & Herb
Ecker, Rob
Estey, Amy & John
Freeman/Shanfelter, Richard & Noreen
Frey, David
Gardner, Charles
Gardner, Karen & Kevin
Gesell, Margaret & Leslie
Goodall, Casey & Amos

Gosliner/Lurie, Kathy & Joseph
Hansen, Christina & Hardy
Hirsch, Carolyn & John
Hodgson, Eva & Peter C.
Hoopes, Anne & Frank
Hopkins, Ruth Ann & Barry
Housenick, Nancy
Hunger, Barb & Doug
Jenkins, JoAnn & George
Jensen, Barbara
Johnson Markevitch, Liz
Kassab/Johnson, Ed & Jan
Kirkpatrick, Crawford
Kocher, Inc., Donald
Leo, Claudia & Jack
Lewis, Marc & Diane
Liebert, Nancy & Richard
Lucas, Lynn & Donald
Lyon, Flossie & Ray
McElheny, Dee & Thomas
Milligan, Marty & Pat
Neiderer, Philip & Kelly
Olsen, Doris
Pendleton, Newton
Piper-Smyer, Drs. Mick & Pat
Roberts, Kenneth
Rutledge, Anne
Ryan, Priscilla & Bob
Schetroma, Beth & Frank
Shively, Rev. Deane & Jeanne
Shively, Wilma
Smith, Mary
Smythe, Bryn
Snively, Gladys & Jim
Stauffer, Julie
Walkup, Rich
Walsh, Marria O'Malley
Weber, Joanna
Whitmoyer, Trudy

MEMBERS

Adams, Bonnie & Marlin
Aman, Elizabeth & John
Anderson, Catherine & Ronald
Aurand, Dorothy
Beaugard, Betsy & Mark
Beeson/Mitchell, Rob & Laurie
Berger, Ted & Lori
Bidelspacher, Elaine & Rob
Borish, Linda & Arnie

Brass, Peggy & Paul
Brizuela, Hernan
Brown, Debbie & Jamie
Budd/Roman, Linda & Will
Carson, Dave & Sherry
Clemente, Ellen & Michael
Comfort, Frank
Craig, Sally
Dahm, Susan & Arnold
Deasy, Kathleen & Dick
DeWire, Emily
Drobile Jr., Cindi & Jamie
Easton, Linda & John
Ezdebski, Barbara & Paul
Farruggio, Joseph
Feczko, Linda & Jim
Feigles, Charlotte & Sam
Ferguson, Wilson
Fetrow, Brad & Bernadette
Fleming, Constance
Gass, Ruth & Clyde
Glaubitz, Susan & Peter
Grabarek, Mary Anne & Bob
Hackney, Anne Bailey

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LIFE

This category was established in 1999-2002 to help with the start of museum. We thank you for your continued support and donations.

Albertini, Kate
Celestino, Joan & Chip
Clark, Susie & Jack
Godley, Mary & Fred
Hallgren, Audrey & John
Humes, Beth & Graham
James, Barbie
Johnson, Leslie Knox
Klotz/Orbach, Anne & Seth
Larson, Jane & Ted
McDermott, Marie & Phil
Noone, Barry & Barbara
Norbeck, Suzanna
Reighard, Louise Kirk
Robson, Lance & Peachy
Smith, J
Westphal, Jeff and Jeni
Wilkinson, Jay & Laurie
Wise, Joanne

Artifact donations to the museum in 2017

3" X 11" photo of Crestmont Inn & Lake — *Kate Albertini*
Playhouse programme — *Elizabeth Bell*
60 forest Inn keys + blank bills — *Frank & Marj Byrne*
Charge sheets for services — *EM Ambulance Association*
History of Keystone Mountain Park — *EM Conservancy*
4 Early EM photos, Pine Manor Brochure
Cottage tags from Rental Office — *EM Museum purchase*
23 advertising posters — *EM Friends of the Arts*
DVD of 474 photos around EM — *Charles Gardner*
Caricature of J. Thomas Heistand
Letter to Raymond Hotel musician — *Helena Griffith*
Original cottage porch light — *Dale Hastings*
Crestmont menu, spoons, linens, photos — *Paula Holcombe*
2017 Regatta t-shirt and medal — *Barry Hopkins*
4 enhanced photos of Lady Ledger — *Jack Igoe*
Early cottage fire grenades — *Ceci King & John Estey*
Photo of Lady Ledger at the Museum — *Ray Lyon*
4 Eagles Mere Books by local authors — *Carter Mahon family*
Cottage books — *Phil & Marie McDermott*
Railroad billboard box car
Heisler brass locomotive — *Don McNeil*
MacKay ashtray souvenir — *Doug Mooberry*
Postcards, Playbill — *Bonalyne Mosteller*

DVD of warrants and maps of area — *Ruth Rode*
Lakeside wastebasket — *Julie Stauffer*
EMRR stock certificate, EMRR passes
Hotel brochures, FI phone charge pads — *Harry Valentine*
2 Funeral programs — *Edwina Vauclain*
Nails from EM General Store shelves — *David & Joan Werner*
Coffee bag from Kehrers Store — *Dorothea Wickersham*
Coin box for the porch scale — *Jay Wilkinson*
Lakeside Hotel flyer — *Jan Yordy*

Curator's report

We are in need of some help this year. The museum has a collection of newspaper articles to sort through and check for duplicates. If anyone would like to give us an hour a week (Monday, Wednesday, or Friday) to help with this project we would appreciate it.

Secondly, we are looking for someone who may need a senior project or a similar type report. The museum has research and photos on Hunter's Lake and needs someone to write up the information in a readable fashion.

Please call the museum (570.525.3155) or Barbie James (570.525.3632) for more information.

— Barbie James

Eagles Mere Museum members

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Haman, Lindsay
Hannan, Elizabeth
Hastings, Dale
Hays, Betty & Lee
Henkel, Glenn
Heyn, Gail & Pinchas
Howanitz, George & Cynthia
Huhn, John & Judy
Hutchinson, Linda & Bill
Klarsch, Ellen
Klink, Bill & Nancy
Koppels, Missy & Rene
Fitzpatrick & Lambert Inc., Leo
Leibowitz, Patricia & Lewis
Lewis, Josephine
Lingenheld, Betsy & Ted
McConnell, Lois
Meyer, Gail
Middleton, Louise
Montgomery, Bob

Moon, Kim & Thomas
Morrison, Betty & George
Mosbrook, Joe
Moyer, Betty Ann
Myers, Nancy & Boak
Olejarz/Crayton, Karen & John
Palmer, Anne-Steuart & Charlie
Perkins, John
Ranck, Fran & Terry
Reeder, Deborah
Repke, Carolyn & Scott
Rode, Ruth N
Ryan, Steve K. & Janney
Scarry, Andrea & Mike
Schaffer, Margo
Schneider, Dick & Peggy
Sciortino, John & Dee
Selby, Homer & Janet
Setzer, W. Scott
Shannon, Cathy & Tom

Sims, Jane C.
Skibitsky, Dorothy & Joe
Solot, Evan & Vicki
Sonies, Barbara
Spahr, Bob & Diane
Spritzer, Sherri & Ron
Starkletter, Mary
Stoudt, Jamie & Geoff
Swinick, Barbara & Peter
Switzer, Martha
Valentine, Jo Ellen & Harry
Walheim, Mary Jo & Joe
Ward, Elizabeth & Mark
Werner, Joan & David
Wetzel, Mary & Bob
Wever, Robert & Jane
White, Bethany
Wilson, Kay & Ray
Writt, Renee
Zuckerman/Bernstein, Allen & Rita

Earth — Fire — Water — Air were on display

You may think I'm referring to the grouping of the twelve astrological signs, but actually, it is about the content of our 2017 exhibits.

Fire & Earth: The combination of sand and fire created our early history with George Lewis' glass factory. Bob and Ginny Coniff's lifelong 19th-century glass collection was a perfect complement to our year-long focus on glass. Thank you, Cathy, for sharing your parents' beautiful assortment.

Water: This element was embodied in the Hardly Able exhibit celebrating our launch's 100th birthday. Thanks to the Eagles Mere Lake Association for allowing us to display parts from the original launch and dock. A special thanks to Will and Doug (and their muscles) who not only shared stories but dug around the boathouse in search of items for us to exhibit.

Air: This little exhibit took flight with a historical timeline showing the correlation of flight in the world and flight here in Eagles Mere. Blueprints of the Eagles Mere airfield along with photographs of its construction from our archives were on display during the fall season.

According to astrologists, these four elements each contain their own unique properties that work simultaneously to

create one universe. It is similar to the Chautauqua movement that combined literary and scientific circles together with activities that were aimed toward one's own intellectual and moral growth.

Our Chautauqua exhibit answered many questions involving the movement in Eagles Mere as well as some unique artifacts. Thanks to Rob Bidelspacher for sharing some inside information about his grandfather, Charles Bidelspacher, who was the bell ringer and gatekeeper for the Chautauqua complex.

For 2018, our main gallery displays will focus on Eagles Mere's architecture and cottage life, including those who played an important role in the "Building of Eagles Mere".

— Joan Werner



Part of this year's "cottage life" exhibit

Treasurer's report

Being newly-appointed as treasurer for the museum I would like to start by thanking our manager and former treasurer Nancy Liebert for keeping such accurate records. This was evident during our recently completed audit.

The attached graph shows expenses for last year. Income totaled \$56,073. Expenses came in at \$54,269. We ended 2017 in the black with \$1804 to start the new year.

Careful management and talented personnel keep the museum running by trimming expenses and operational costs where they can.

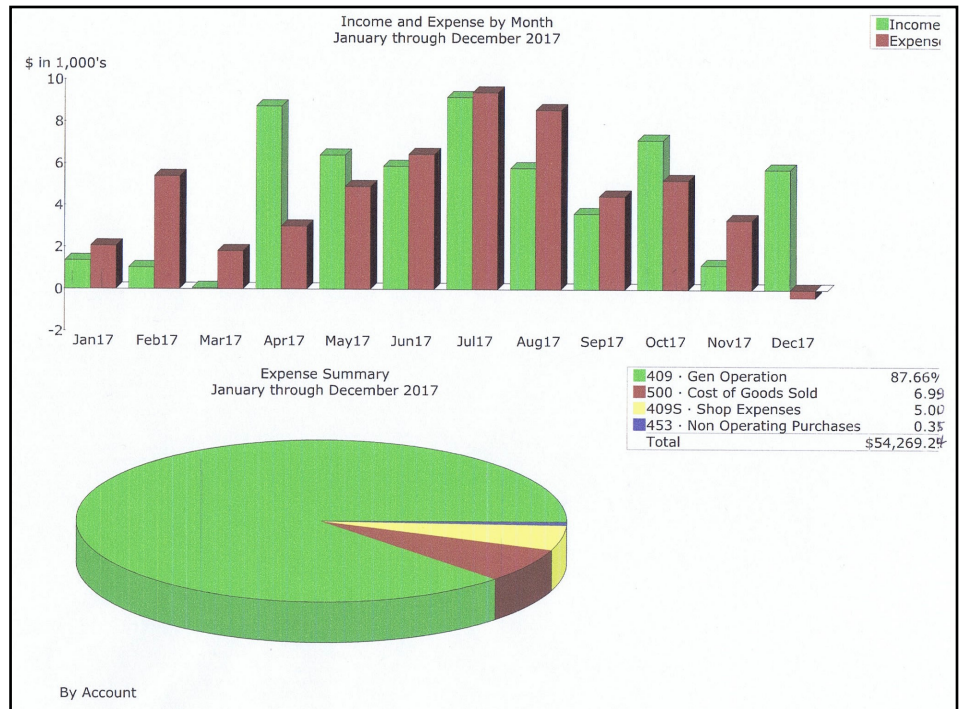
We rely heavily on donations and fundraisers. The community has always been generous in preserving the history of Eagles Mere and for that we are grateful.

The museum gift shop also provides much-needed income for wages for our docents who keep the museum open and also pays for the inventory we sell there.

Events, grants, and exhibits provide other income that helps fill in the gaps. We look forward to another successful

year and hope you will come visit us.

— Kay Wilson, Treasurer



Early Mount Lewis connection

George Lewis was baptized in the Earl Street Presbyterian Church, Maidstone, Kent, England on 16 November 1756. He was the fourth son and fifth child of the Reverend W. Israel and Jane (Drew) Lewis.

It is not clear when George Lewis sailed for America; however, he was operating an importing house in New York City: George Lewis & Company in 1789. In September 1794, Lewis bought 10,217 acres of land in Muncy and Loyalsock townships, Northumberland County, from Charles Wolstoncraft. He spent July and August 1803 in "Mount Lewis", and married Drusilla Howlett in about 1805.

George Lewis was a close friend of Brig. Gen. Horatio Gates (hero of the first battle of Saratoga during the Revolutionary War). Gates employed George Edkin Jr. as his gardener or landscape manager. (George Edkin immigrated from England apparently to escape prosecution for violating poaching laws.)

According to Egle's *Notes & Queries*: *George Edkin Jr. became a student of horticulture and gardening while in the employ of General Gates and gave considerable attention to introducing new varieties, cultivating mulberry trees and the products of raw silk. He established an extensive nursery within a few years after his arrival in Lycoming County and devoted his time largely to this business for over 30 years.*

Gates died in 1806 and George Edkin stayed in the employ of Gates' wife, Mary Valence Gates. Mrs. Gates made her will in 1806, naming George Lewis as one of the co-executors and providing "Mr. George Edkin, my faithful steward, if he shall be in my service at the time of my death, I bequeath all my stock and farming utensils of what kind soever, which shall be



The Lewis-Smith family

on, or belong to the farm (Rose Hill) on which I now live." She died in 1810.

In the course of settling the Gates estate, George Lewis offered employment to George Edkin Jr. In about 1810 the Edkin family settled on Lewis lands south of the lake near Robert Taylor (in what is now known as Broad Horizons or Keystone Observatory).¹

By the early 1800s George Lewis was actively involved in establishing a small town to support the workers needed for his glass factory operation at Mount Lewis. He employed Azariah Bancroft to construct the glassworks and many of the buildings associated with it. Thomas Bennett worked in Lake Lewis for several years, then moved to the outlet of Hunter's Lake where he tended Lewis' gristmill for several years. Thomas Bennett's brother, Joel (wife Sarah Bird), worked in Lewis Lake from about 1820-26, then purchased land from Lewis adjoining George Edkin. Robert Taylor obtained land on Rock Run from Lewis, who agreed to take all of the food he could supply in payment until the debt was paid. William Smith Jr. was secretary and overseer. John Garrison Holmes was manager of the glassworks boarding house, while George Lewis's

brother-in-law, Charles Howlett (married Martha Craft) operated the Lewis Lake store and was caretaker of the property at different times during Lewis's absence. All of the children of Theophilus Little were farmers in Shrewsbury Township near Lake Lewis and likely provided some provisions to the Lewis Lake community.

In the summer of 1808, George Lewis's housekeeper, Priscilla Forwood², bore him a son named William Lewis (who later married Mary Jane Casterline – they have many descendants in Lycoming

County). In about 1809, Priscilla married Joseph Coleman and had two daughters. After Joseph died Priscilla married Abraham Woolever and they had a large family. Priscilla Forwood was the daughter of Jacob Forwood and Martha Warner and the granddaughter of Benjamin Warner and Sarah Ely.

The glass-making operation, which "ranked among the first in the United States as to quality and output" flourished from 1812 through 1817 and then gradually declined for a number of economic reasons.

George Lewis' older brother, Leyson Lewis, remained in Maidstone. Two of Leyson's children became associated with George in Mount Lewis: Israel Harris Lewis moved to New York City in 1808 and was employed at the Lewis business, then moved to Mount Lewis in 1809 to work for George there. Israel's younger sister Elizabeth married Joshua William Alder in about 1808 or 1809, probably in New York City. In 1811, George Lewis hired Alder to supervise Mount Lewis operations (including a saw mill at the outlet of the lake, a grist mill at Hunter's Lake, and a potash manufacturing operation as well as farm operations and a store). Joshua and

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Lewis Glassworks pitcher

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at Mount Lewis. The letters were published in the Muncy Historical Society's *Now and Then* journal.

Azariah and his family remained at Lewis Lake until at least September 1814. Prior to their departure, Gerard married Jane Elizabeth Polhemus Little, daughter of Thomas Little and granddaughter of Revolutionary War Maj. Theophilus Little.

Maj. Little had joined George Lewis in purchasing 9500 acres in Sullivan

County to add to his significant holdings in Shrewsbury Township and New Jersey. Maj. Little and his sons were instrumental in the early development of Sullivan County. It is said that it was Maj. Little who named Shrewsbury Township, which at that time encompassed almost all of what is now Sullivan County. Theophilus and his wife, Mary Polhemus Little, are buried in the Eagles Mere Cemetery.

When Azariah's family moved to Ohio, Maj. Little's son and Jane's father,

Thomas Little, moved with them. Jane's brother, Theophilus Little III, also moved to Granville in 1814-15.

The pitcher attributed to the Glassworks on display at the museum is slightly different in style than the only other two pitchers known to have been made at the Lewis Glassworks, both of which date to approximately 1817-18. Therefore it is likely that its provenance dates to the early years of glassworks production in the period 1812-14.

—Kathy McCorkle

Mount Lewis

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Elizabeth Alder lived at Mount Lewis until around 1817. In 1817 Joshua Alder and his brother-in-law, Israel Lewis, erected a brick building and established the first store in Muncy which they successfully operated until 1821 when Joshua decided to concentrate on running his farm in Muncy. Israel Lewis decided to return to England.

On 26 August 1829 George Lewis sold the 10,217 acres of land bought from Wolstoncraft and another 3600 adjoining purchased from Joseph Priestly and others to brother-in-law William Elliot of Washington, D.C., and Ithiel Town of New York for \$40,000. On 27 August 1829, George Lewis signed an agreement whereby 12,200 acres of land in Pennsylvania bought from Charles Wolstoncraft and another 7500 acres in Franklin County, N.Y., were conveyed to William Elliot and Ithiel Town for \$1000 down payment and another \$600 due in four months. Elliot and Town were to sell the lands as best they could, keeping all proceeds above \$55,000 for themselves.

George Lewis sailed home to Maidstone in 1830 where he drew up his will dated 28 May 1830 devising all his property to wife Drusilla. The executors named were wife Drusilla Howlett Lewis, William Elliot of Washington "late of Patent Office", Pennsylvania senator Jonathon Robert, and Ithiel Town of New York City. Lewis died in September 1830. His will was probated in New York City on 19 September 1831.

In a public auction in Philadelphia on 13 June 1831, John J. Adams purchased 2000 acres for \$6000. Drusilla Lewis later argued in court that her estate interest in the 2000 acres did not pass to John J. Adams by the 1831 sale, and she agreed to sell her interest to Adams for a consideration of \$3000 recorded in a Lycoming County deed on 14 May 1832.

Drusilla Lewis continued to live in New York City until her

death in February 1860 and her estate was administered by her sister Mary Howlett and Horton H. Burlock. She was buried in St. Andrews Episcopal Churchyard in Manhattan.

William Elliott was married to Sophia M. Howlett, younger sister of Drusilla Lewis. William Elliot was a mathematician and astronomer. He was the Surveyor of Washington, D.C. The United States Naval Observatory was established in his private observatory behind his home at 222 North Capitol Street (it was later moved to a location in Foggy Bottom in 1844). In his 1837 will he bequeathed "all my estate in fee in Shrewsbury Township, Lycoming County Pennsylvania, with the grist mill, saw-mill, house and about 2000 acres" to the children of his son, John B. Elliot. The will also stated: "*Should the school for the promotion of Virtue and Knowledge be ever established in Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, agreeably to the charter which I procured, I bequeath to said school, all my books on science and all my mathematical and astronomical instruments.*"

— Jack Leo

Sources available upon request.

Notes:

¹ *Eagles Mere area descendants of George & Deborah (Marby) Edkin include Andrews, Bartow, Bennett, Bigger, Bradley, Carl, Crawley, Croman, Fiester, George, Golder, Houseknecht, Hurst, Kissinger, Krause, Little, Mudrick, Myers, Palmatier, Park, Rine, Secules, Smith, Snyder, Speary, Stroup, Taylor, Wilson, and Worthington.*

² *Three grandchildren of Priscilla's cousin, John Warner, would much later become Eagles Mere cottagers: Louisa Warner Parker (Starbuck Cottage on Laporte Avenue), Anna Gertrude Parker (Lakeview Cottage on Eagles Mere Avenue), and Lindley Ellicott Parker (Parker Cottage on Laporte Avenue).*



Eagles Mere Museum
PO Box 276
Eagles Mere, Pa. 17731

The museum shop offers Eagles Mere blankets (soft on one side, waterproof on the other), glassware, plates, and various original promotional brochures. There is a new t-shirt design for 2018 and architecture-related products.

