

The Graystone Society brings you the newsletter of the National Iron & Steel Heritage Museum in the Lukens National Historic District.

Events

Bicentennial Celebration — 200 Years of Iron Making in Coatesville

Rebecca Lukens Award

We kick off our Bicentennial year 2010 with the Fourth Annual Rebecca Lukens Award Ceremony. This year we honor **Gladys Flamer**, who has lived and worked in the area for her entire 103 years, and is well-known for her involvement in the local community. The Award Ceremony will take place on March 18th at 5 pm in the Lukens National Historic District and will include refreshments and a champagne toast at the presentation of the Award.

For more information see page 3.

The Rebecca Lukens Award

has been established to honor individuals who exhibit the qualities of Rebecca Lukens.

- Resilience
- Loyalty
- Caring
- Practicality
- Insightfulness
- Tenacity
- Resourcefulness
- Patience

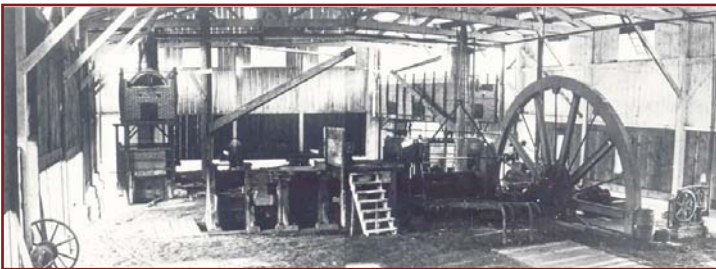


Rebecca Lukens

Bicentennial Commemoration

This year marks the 200th Anniversary of Iron and Steel production in Coatesville. We will be celebrating this remarkable achievement with a series of events starting in June, all of which are open to the public and many of which are free.

For more information see page 3.



Property

Phase Two Brandywine Mansion Restoration to Begin

Phase One of the reconstruction of Brandywine Mansion has been completed. With the removal of the Lukens Store, the size and design of original house can more easily be appreciated.

We've replaced the temporary fencing in front of the house with a more attractive permanent fence. This, along with the grading and grass planting, provides a more pleasant view from First Avenue.



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Lukens — The Early Years

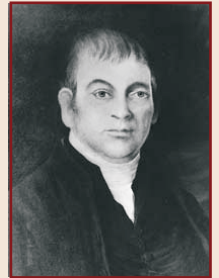
History

Corner

Isaac Pennock was the grandson of Joseph Pennock, who built Primitive Hall in 1738. Isaac sold his farm on Newark road in southern Chester County to buy the Federal Slitting Mill in the area now known as Rokeby. There he produced items such as barrel hoops wagon wheels and nails.

Isaac bought property in what is now Coatesville from Moses Coates in 1810. The date on the deed was July 2, the date we use to denote the beginning of iron and steel making in Coatesville.

The property included a sawmill, which Pennock converted to a small iron works called the Brandywine Iron Works and Nail Factory.



Isaac Pennock

Isaac's daughter Rebecca married Dr. Charles Lukens in 1813

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2010 Lead Sponsors

The
HustonFoundation
Coatesville
SavingsBank

Be a part of the Graystone Society!

It's easy — go to www.lukensnhd.org and click on the **Donate, Join** or **Sponsorship** tabs
or call today 610-384-9282.

We can't do it without you!

The Graystone Society is a 501(c)3 corporation registered with the Pennsylvania Bureau of Charitable Organizations.



Volunteer Day 2009

Our collections are the key to research, and the proper storage and inventory of the collections is very important. The goal of our first ever Volunteer Day held in November was to begin the process of archiving records from the Lukens Company Store. The process involved removal of the contents from the dirty boxes that had held the materials, documenting everything, and storing properly in archival boxes. State Representative Tim Hennessey attended the event and demonstrated his impressive skills at box folding.



Jonathan Fairoaks

At the end of the day we had filled about 100 boxes. These materials are now safely stored, ready for next round, which will mean finishing the boxing and documentation of the remaining Lukens Store records, and building shelves for storage.



John Graves and Greg Davis

Thanks to everyone who came out to help, we're looking forward to our next volunteer day in May of 2010.

A few words with . . .

John A. Forese

John Forese who is a life-long resident of Coatesville, has a long history with the Lukens Co-operative Store, which until recently was attached to Brandywine Mansion. John was born and raised in a house on South First Avenue just two blocks away, and in fact in 1981 he became the Manager and Board Member of the store, where he remained until it closed in 1992.

John has been involved in business life in Coatesville for many years, and is currently Chairman of the Board and CEO of Coatesville Savings Bank. He has also long been involved in the community, serving on government and non-profit entities such as the City of Coatesville Authority, the City Reserve Trust Fund Commission, and as President of the PA Association for the Blind.

Even with his busy schedule, John has still found time to work with the Graystone Society, and is now a Board Member of both the Graystone Property Committee and Brandywine Mansion Properties. His knowledge and experience are a great asset to Graystone, and in a way his involvement has brought him full circle in regard to Brandywine Mansion and the Lukens Store.

John noted "I was there when the demolition crew pulled the wall of the Co-op Store away from the original building. In all the years I lived and worked here I had never seen the north side of the original building. I can tell you it was a very strange feeling. However I believe this is a positive step in the revitalization of not just the Historic District but the entire City."

Continued Support for Our Mission

Here at the Graystone Society we wish to express our gratitude to everyone in the community who have continued to support us. 2009 was a challenging year economically for nearly everyone, and as with most other non-profits our receipts were disappointing last year. However our Membership has remained strong, which will prove to be more important for our long-term success.

We did receive grants from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission in 2009, but the State budget is likely to remain tight for the foreseeable future, limiting the amount of support we can expect from that source.

We also enjoy the continued support of our sponsors in 2009. Our thanks go out to the Stewart Huston Charitable Trust, the Huston Foundation, and Ranier and Company for their continued assistance. Special thanks also to Trisha St. George for her interest and support in the upkeep and continuing operation of Graystone Mansion.

	2008	2009
Membership	204	177
Membership Receipts	\$13,969	\$7,910
Annual Appeal Receipts	\$5,391	\$6,057

President's Message

An Exciting 200th Anniversary

Looking back at the year just past, we have many achievements of which to be proud. Our various programs continue to evolve and expand. We were pleased with the continuing success of the Rebecca Lukens Award, and look forward to celebrating with this year's recipient.



Scott G. Huston

Our 2009 lecture series featured interesting speakers presenting on diverse topics, and we've already put together a lineup of fascinating speakers for 2010. These programs help us tell the story of iron and steel production in Coatesville, as do the large artifacts in our collections. We are actively pursuing more such artifacts, which highlight some of the products made here.

We're also excited about the restoration of Brandywine Mansion, and we're working toward the creative adaptive reuse of Graystone Mansion, a building with promise and possibilities for the right user, and to the creation of the National Iron and Steel Heritage Museum.

This will be an exciting year in the Historic District. 2010 marks the 200th Anniversary of iron and steel production in Coatesville. There will be a great deal of celebrating this remarkable milestone, I look forward to everyone participating.

What is truly important is our commitment to the community of Coatesville. Our aim is to expand our educational programs and outreach, especially toward children, and to make Coatesville a better place to live and work. This is a worthwhile and appropriate goal, particularly in this 200th Anniversary year.

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Rebecca Lukens Award continued from page 1

Gladys Flamer, born in 1906, grew up in Coatesville and Parkesburg, and currently resides in Coatesville. She has been involved with many local community groups including the Coatesville Senior Center and local NAACP. She has long been active in local business and politics, and is a pillar of beloved Bethel UAME Church. Gladys is well known around Coatesville for her vintage red and white 1979 Cadillac.

The Graystone Society is proud to honor Gladys Flamer for her outstanding service to the community of Coatesville. Her name will be added to the Rebecca Lukens Award plaque, which is permanently housed in Coatesville and is mounted to a scale replica of Rebecca's original rolling mill. If you wish to attend please reserve your place by calling 610-384-9282 or email graystone@lukensnhd.org. The tickets are \$40.



Bicentennial Celebration continued from page 1

Our Bicentennial celebration will start on June 26 with a Marker Dedication at Brandywine Mansion. This event will also include various exhibits and refreshments (cost \$50). We will commemorate 200 years of Iron and Steel on July 2, the actual Anniversary date — for more details see *History Corner*, page 1. The public is welcome and encouraged to join us for this celebration.

The final event is of course the Coatesville Rotary Ice Cream Festival on July 10, followed by the Coatesville Community Concert & Fireworks. Make plans now to be a part of this historic series of events.

Brandywine Mansion Restoration continued from page 1

In addition, during our Volunteer Day held in November we pruned shrubs around the building and removed some of the doors.

Phase Two of the Restoration will include grading the back of property and installing a fence behind the building. We will also be upgrading the electric. The Graystone Society is currently in the process of raising funds to secure the exterior envelope of Brandywine Mansion, including the roof, walls, windows and cornices, as well as the back porch and front portico.



Greenhouse Nears Completion

Visitor to the Historic District may notice a new greenhouse being built behind Terracina. The construction is an Eagle Scout Project headed by Vince Smith of Boy

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History Corner continued from page 1

and the couple moved to Brandywine Mansion in 1816 and took over control of the rolling mill. Charles was the first to explore new markets and by December 1818 they had begun rolling boiler plate. This was an important decision as boiler plate was essential for the production of steam engines, which were then beginning to revolutionize transportation and Industry in America.



Dr. Charles Lukens

In 1825 they rolled the iron for the hull, ribs and boiler of the *Codorus*, the first iron-hulled vessel built in America. The Brandywine Iron Works & Nail Factory was the genesis of Lukens Steel.

In 1824 Isaac Pennock died, and the following year Dr. Charles Lukens also died. Rebecca, 31 years old, pregnant with small children at home, was left to run the mill. In an era when women weren't even allowed to vote, she steered the mill through many challenges, including the Panic of 1837. Rebecca revamped the mill in 1834, and gained ownership in 1844. At the time of her death in 1854 the mill was being run by her sons-in-law Abraham Gibbons and Dr. Charles Huston..

Why was Coatesville chosen as a location for an iron rolling mill? There were several factors: For one, it was near the Philadelphia and Lancaster Turnpike, which had been opened by George Washington in 1794, provided ready access to markets in both Philadelphia to the east and Lancaster to the west. Coatesville is also located on the west branch of the Brandywine River. This branch has a large enough flow to provide the power needed to operate the mill. The third factor was Coatesville's proximity to iron plants to provide the raw ingots. They were north of the mill, and included Hibernia, Hopewell and Marianne furnaces.

In our next Newsletter we will follow the story of Lukens from the Civil War to World War I.

Scout Troop 181 of Berwyn, and should be completed before Spring begins. We plan on using the greenhouse to demonstrate the growing processes used in the early 1800's, exhibiting the type of plants grown both for decorative purposes and for the dinner table.

Gazebo Reconstruction

Joel Baldwin from Boy Scout Troop 16 of Coatesville is in the process of recreating the gazebo that stood behind the C. L. Huston house before it's demolition. The original was built in the Rustic Style, and parts of it still exist, but are unusable due to their condition, therefore the gazebo will be new construction. Plans are for a completion date sometime in June.



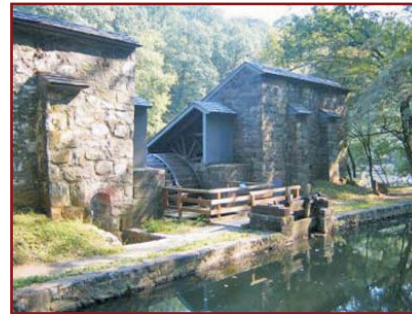


www.LukensNHD.org

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Interested in the The Hagley Museum and Library

The Du Pont Powder Mills were founded in 1802 along the Lower Brandywine, just down river from the Lukens Rolling Mill in Coatesville. The two companies share a comparable history, due in large part to their similar needs of access to transportation to markets and proximity to water for power.



Hagley is located on the site of the original gunpowder works. Along with the home and gardens of the Du Pont family, it is also a remarkable example of an early American industrial site. The museum includes restored powder mills and workers' community.

The Hagley Museum and Library is an incredible resource for study of early American Industrial History. Of special interest in this collection is the Lukens Steel Company Photograph Collection. It contains almost 900 images from between the years 1810 and 1973. Content includes early woodcuts, interior and exterior views of factory buildings, machinery and employees.

The Hagley collection is considered one of the finest of its kind in the world, and the research collections are open to the public.

To find out more about the museum or for help in planning a trip to Hagley visit their website at <http://www.hagley.lib.de.us/index.html>.



Programs

Upcoming Events in the Lukens National Historic District

- March 18, 5 to 8 pm — Cost - \$40
Fourth Annual Rebecca Lukens Award Ceremony
Honoring Gladys Flamer
- March 25, 6:30 pm — Free Event
Slide show by Eugene L. DiOrio: Touring Rome
- April 21, 8:30 am - 1pm — Free Event
Field trip to Hopewell Furnace
- May 6, 5:30 to 7:30 pm — Free Event
Spring Lecture #1: To be Determined
- May 21, 10:30 am to 3:00 pm — Free Event
Volunteer Day: Collections Management
- June 3, 5:30 to 7:30 pm — Free Event
Spring Lecture #2: Paul Paskoff, LSU
Trade Associations, Tariffs & Technology
and the American Iron and Steel Industry
- June 26, 6 to 10 pm — Cost \$50
Bicentennial Commemoration: 200th Anniversary Event
- July 2, 10 to 11 am — Free Event
Bicentennial Commemoration — Cocktails, Food,
Marker Dedication, Object Exhibit and Film
- July 10 — Free Events
10 am to 5 pm: Coatesville Rotary Ice Cream Festival
6 to 10 pm: Coatesville Community Concert & Fireworks
- September 11, 8:15 - 11:15 am — Free Event
World Trade Center Commemoration
- September 22, 6:30 pm — Free Event
Slide show by Eugene L. DiOrio:
Cruising the Mediterranean
- October 7, 5:30 to 7:30 pm — Free Event
Fall Lecture #1: To be Determined
- October 20, 8 am to 3pm — Free Event
Field trip to Cornwall Furnace State Historical Site
- November 4, 5:30 to 7:30 pm — Free Event
Fall Lecture #2: To be Determined
- November 19, 10:30 am to 3:00 pm — Free Event
Volunteer Day: Collections Management
- December 11, 4 to 7 pm — Free Event
Santa, Holiday Tours and Food Drive

Events

Holiday House Tours

Over 120 people attended the Holiday House Tour in December. Both Terracina and The Lukens Executive Office Building were decorated for the season, the Lukens Band entertained with holiday favorites, and Santa was on hand to greet the children. This year also featured a new model railroad display. Even more importantly, we collected 362 food items for the Coatesville Food Cupboard.

