

# THE GRETNA Chronicles

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## Conflagration: A Brief History of Mount Gretna's Earliest Fires and the Fire Department by Curtis Royer

*Did you know Mount Gretna's past includes accounts of numerous fires and those who battled the blazes? The fires often started with the misuse of a stove in a wood frame cottage. The flames quickly spread to other cottages that were close-packed. Narrow roads and the lack of organized fire prevention-service apparatus created obstacles for anyone trying to extinguish the flames.*

*The Lebanon Courier and Semi-Weekly Report laments "the lack of firefighting agencies and lack of an organized fire department head with authority, who might have saved some of the cottages."*

*Today, the Mount Gretna Fire Dept. is located at 41 Boulevard Ave. Their fire prevention apparatus, far more advanced than predecessors, includes seven response vehicles. In 2017, Gretna firefighters responded to 231 calls.*

THE EVENING OF SUNDAY, November 27, 1949 began peacefully in Mt. Gretna. The freezing late-autumn weather allowed for a light snowfall in the wooded community. Most of the seasonal visitors had returned home at the end of summer, leaving less than 100 families in the area. Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Myers occupied one of two remaining households in the Campmeeting block enclosed by Third Street, Fourth Street, Otterbein Avenue, and Markwood Avenue. The Myers lit their stove, presumably for warmth or cooking, sometime during the night. Not long after, the stove overheated and set the cottage aflame.

The fire spread rapidly in the block which was tightly congested with frame cottages. To make matters worse, a tank containing fuel exploded and sparks

dispersed over a half mile area. The sparks were stopped thanks to a combination of snow-covered roofs and firefighters. Eleven area fire companies responded to the call. Extremely cold temperatures caused hose lines to freeze, curious pedestrians blocked roadways, and narrow streets provided firefighters with quite a

*"Most of the early fires follow an eerily similar sequence..."*

challenge. According to one newspaper, however, "In that tight area firemen stood their ground and stopped the flames." The Campmeeting fire of 1949 razed seventeen cottages, burnt seven others, and caused an estimated \$75,000 in damages. It was the worst fire in Mt. Gretna to date. Yet, it was by no means

the first nor the last conflagration to challenge Mt. Gretna's firefighters.

Terrace Hall, a men's dormitory in Chautauqua, experienced a small fire in 1892. There are not many existing records of the incident except for the fact that Terrace Hall survived and was converted into a

*continued on page 2*

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*Above: a Dissinger & Leshner postcard showing Mt. Gretna Fire Company No. 1's base of operations circa 1911. Contemporary residents now know the structure as the Community Library.*

# Conflagration: A Brief History of Mount Gretna's Earliest Fires and the Fire Department *continued from page 1*

hospital. Whatever damage occurred in the 1892 fire paled in comparison to the Campmeeting fire of 1899.

On the night of August 6, Mrs. William F. Miller mistakenly placed a container of kerosene on the stove. The combustible fuel instantly exploded leaving Mrs. Miller with serious burns and a scorched cottage. Firefighters rescued her from the flames, but she succumbed to her wounds soon after. Eleven cottages were destroyed and five were damaged on the block bounded by Fifth Street, Sixth Street, Otterbein Avenue, and Glossbrenner Avenue. According to the *Lebanon Courier and Semi-Weekly Report*, the loss was "estimated at \$6,000, with partial insurance."

The Campmeeting fire of 1899 established a pattern for many Gretna blazes in decades ahead. After the initial fire becomes uncontrollable, it then spreads quickly to the next cottages due to the tightly packed nature of Gretna summer homes. Finally, outside fire companies must be called in due to the lack of "an organized fire department head with authority."

Most of the early fires, including the Chautauqua fire of 1923, follow an eerily similar sequence. First, the improper use of a cookstove sets the initial cottage ablaze. In 1923, Martha J. Snyder purchased the Lake View cottage on Princeton Avenue. Her family, including her son and daughter, were visiting the summer home. On Sunday, May 13, Mrs. Snyder's children attempted to light an oil stove which was installed on the property. A burst of flames quickly set the rest of Lake View on fire. When Mrs. Snyder, who was on the second floor at the time, heard the "excited cries of the children" and "saw her stairway escape cut off, crawled through a window to the porch and jumped to the ground, sustaining severe bruises." The Chautauqua and Campmeeting firemen arrived on the scene but they "proved entirely ineffective. It is said that the Chautauqua engine house had to be broken into before the hose cart could be secured, and rusty connections delayed attachment to the fire plugs."

Fire companies from Lebanon, Manheim, Palmyra, and Annville among others helped extinguish the flames. Even Captain William Hicks and his troops from the Pennsylvania National Guard aided in dousing the Chautauqua Fire of 1923.



*Firefighters battling the Campmeeting Fire of 1949 with a firehose.*

Mt. Gretna lacked a full-time and well-organized firefighting organization until the later half of the twentieth century. In 1909, Chief Edward E. Ewing of Mt. Gretna Fire Company No. 1, established in Campmeeting, lived in Harrisburg most of the year. Ewing's job consisted of extinguishing fires with a small chemical cart and giving it "a thorough overhauling."

Dr. George Bender, representing the Campmeeting Association, purchased the Biggs chemical engine from E.O. Hartman of Lebanon in May of 1904.

This equipment was replaced in 1923 with a motorized chemical truck from the Keystone Truck and Chemical Engine Co. of Columbia, Pennsylvania. The cost of the vehicle was \$1,000. Membership dues, collected by Chief Frank Shillow, and donations from the Ladies Auxiliary helped pay for the truck.

In the 1940s, the fire house moved to another small structure that once stood where the Mt. Gretna United Methodist Church parking lot currently exists.



*The aftermath of the Campmeeting Fire of 1949. Today, a small park on Markwood serves as a reminder of the event.*



One modest fire company did not meet the needs of the entire Gretna community. Before the Chautauqua Fire of 1923, Chautauqua residents arranged another part-time firefighting group. However, this small band of individuals was quickly replaced in August of 1926. The *Lebanon Daily News* reported:

*At a well-attended meeting of the Men's Club of Mt. Gretna, the organization of what will be known as 'The Mt. Gretna Fire Company' was effected ... Although Mt. Gretna is well supplied with fire-fighting equipment, this is the first time that there has been formed an organized group of fire fighters.*

The Mt. Gretna Fire Company, better known as the Boro Fire Co., became the full-time firefighting organization in Gretna. The individuals selected to run the operation were President Morris E. Brightbill, Vice President William D. Block, Secretary J. R. Beetem, Assistant Secretary Ira Bennetch, Treasurer Adam Saylor, and Fire Chief George Martin. The first hosemen of the Boro Fire Co. included Andy Dagneau, Abraham L. Kauffman, and five members of the Pennsylvania National Guard Rifle Team.

On October 10, 1929, a third-story fire started in Mrs. J. Harlacker's cottage on Muhlenberg Avenue. The *Lebanon Daily News* noted Mt. Gretna Fire Company No. 1 and the Boro Fire Co. "answered promptly" and "[s]oon after their arrival the flames were extinguished."

In the aftermath of the Campmeeting Fire of 1949, Mt. Gretna discovered more changes needed to be made. However, even today no two organized fire companies could extinguish a blaze of that magnitude in close quarters alone. President William G. Harbaugh of the Mt. Gretna Fire Company No. 1 "thanked the firemen for their valiant work and stated that had it not been for their magnificent response to the call, and their fine work at the scene of the great conflagration 'there would be no more Mt. Gretna.'"

Despite the odds, Mt. Gretna and its fire companies endured.

*(This story is to be continued ...)*

Curtis Royer is an historian who has worked part-time this summer at the Mount Gretna Area Historical Society.

## Mount Gretna Fire Chronology

- 1892:** A fire destroys Terrace Hall, a men's dormitory, in Chautauqua
- 1899:** The Campmeeting block encompassed by Fifth and Sixth Streets and Otterbein and Glossbrenner Avenues is razed
- 1923:** Eight cottages burn on Princeton Avenue in Chautauqua
- 1925:** A fire destroys Woodcliff, a women's dormitory, in Chautauqua
- 1926:** Residents organize Mount Gretna Borough Fire Company
- 1949:** Mount Gretna's largest fire starts when a stove overheats in Campmeeting
- 1954:** Dedication of the current fire hall
- 1963:** Seven fires burn in a matter of three days
- 1978:** Campmeeting and Mount Gretna Borough Fire Companies merge
- 1982:** Fred Kleinfelter is fatally injured when his fire truck slides off an icy road

### Sources:

Bitner, Jack. *Mt. Gretna: A Coleman Legacy*. Bloomington, IN: AuthorHouse, 1990.

*Harrisburg Telegraph* (July 7, 1909)

*Lebanon Courier and Semi-Weekly Report* (August 23, 1899; May 11, 1904)

*Lebanon Daily News* (September 5, 1923; August 28, 1926; October 10, 1929; December 21, 1949)

*Lebanon Semi-Weekly News* (May 14, 1923)



*Left: Hand-drawn map, dated 1941, of areas of accessibility and inaccessibility for the chemical truck. The map also shows the location of the Campmeeting fire house, pumping station, and fire pond.*

*All of these images in this story are part of the MGAHS permanent collection. Visit our research library for more information on these items.*

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THE MGAHS MUSEUM is open Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend, 1-4pm, or by appointment.

We offer school and group tours, summer walking tours, and research assistance on an appointment basis throughout the year.

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From Our Board of Trustees

## A New Website for MGAHS

by Sue Hostetter

WE RECENTLY updated our website to better serve and promote the Mount Gretna Area Historical Society. With this upgrade we have added the convenience of making online donations and membership renewals. These features are becoming the standard and we want to make them available to our membership. As we begin to launch and promote these new features, we want to start with you - our members.

We want to emphasize that you are under no obligation to use the website for this purpose. If you like the idea of the online options but still prefer to pay with a check, you can still do that by selecting "Check payments" at checkout and follow the instructions.

Be on the lookout for an email from us entitled, "New Account Information." If you would like to take advantage of our online Membership, Newsletter Archive and Shopping features, that email will provide you with your login instructions. Again, this is an option that you can elect to use. So:

- If you use email, watch for an email to create member login
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Our new website at <https://mtgretnahistory.org> was underwritten by a generous grant from the Lebanon County Commissioners.

Once you have logged in, you will be able to see your Membership Renewal date and renew directly from the website. From the "My Account" page, click the «Memberships» tab and «View Billing.»

If, after having received your email renewal notification, you have not renewed within one month of your renewal date, you will receive a renewal notice via US mail.

Our website is a work in progress, so test it out. We value your feedback. 🌱

Sue Hostetter is Chair of the Mount Gretna Area Historical Society Board of Trustees.

## MGAHS Events



On July 13, Linda Campbell presented "Campmeeting Chronicles," an overview of the Campmeeting movement in the U.S. and Mt. Gretna, as part of the Mt. Gretna Guest Speakers Series.



On Saturday, July 14, Ron Hontz led a History Walk of Conewago Lake, Soldiers' Field and the Pennsylvania National Guard Sites.



On July 27, Sue Bowman and Lois Herr presented "The Farmers Encampment," held in Mt. Gretna from 1890 - 1916. This later became the Pennsylvania Farm Show.



Fred Buch and Bill Stober hosted a "History on the Porch" series of historic talks on Saturdays on the MGAHS porch.



## Did You Know?

DID YOU KNOW President Benjamin Harrison, the 23rd President of the United States, visited Mount Gretna on July 24, 1890? Secretary of War Redfield Proctor, Postmaster General John Wanamaker, Attorney General William H. H. Miller, and other dignitaries joined the President on his trip. The executive party traveled across the Cornwall and Lebanon railroad via a Pullman hotel train car. The President was greeted with “[a] cheer that ascended to Governor Dick” upon his arrival to the Pennsylvania National Guard Encampment. He then commenced reviewing the troops. This was a front-page news article in *The Lebanon Daily News*, Lebanon, Pa., on Thursday, July 24, 1890. (at right). 🌿

DID YOU KNOW the Pennsylvania National Guard camped in Mount Gretna from 1885 to 1939? General John P. S. Gobin selected Mount Gretna due to its natural characteristics, “excellent railroad facilities, and a sufficient distance from any town to remove ... the temptations incident to camp life when located near a town.” The site was used as a rifle and artillery range and included a “Soldier’s Field” for inspections, grand reviews, and parades. Many dignitaries visited the Mount Gretna encampment including numerous Pennsylvania governors, President Benjamin Harrison, General Phillip Sheridan, and General John J. Pershing. 🌿



*Erected in Mount Gretna about 1890, the Range House provided marksmanship trainers a birds-eye view of the Pennsylvania National Guardsmen honing their skills. Transported to Fort Indiantown Gap in the 1930's and restored in 2004, the House is open to the public as part of the Fort Indiantown Gap Military Museum.*

### REVIEW DAY.

### Presidential Party Arrives.

### A Magnificent Spectacle at Camp Yesterday.

### INSPIRING SIGHT AT GRETNA

Nearly 9,000 Men in Heavy Marching Order, Pass Gov. Beaver in Review.

### NOW THE BRIGADES WILL BREAK CAMP.

Enthusiastic Spectators Applaud the Companies as They March Through the Ravine—Picket Duty Continued Last Night on the Mountains—A Brilliant Scene—Governor Dick an Attractive Point—The Order of March—Breast Works Thrown Up and Rifle Pits Dug—Gossip at Camp.

Yesterday was “Governor’s Day” at Camp Hartman, and the bright morning was consumed in brigade and battalion drills. There was another influx of excursionists, who watched with interest the evolutions of the guardsmen. Gov. Dick was an attractive point, the cars on the Narrow Gauge road being well patronized during the day. A cool breeze blew over the parade grounds, and at intervals clouds of dust arose, settling thick on hats, white dresses, coats and other apparel.

A BRILLIANT SCENE.

Yesterday afternoon was witnessed a scene of military splendor that compared favorably with any yet seen in this country since the war. The entire National Guard of Pennsylvania and a large detachment of United States Regulars, in heavy marching order, passed in review before Governor Beaver, and the air resounded with the cheers of enthusiastic spectators. The Brigades formed at a point near the park, the troops being organized in lines of four, and the Regulars occupied a position in the rear. The latter appeared with infantry, cavalry and artillery combined. Governor Beaver was mounted on a surr horse and his dress consisted of a sombre suit, with high, light-colored hat. His staff was resplendent in full uniform. As the Governor rode down the long lines he was saluted, arms presented and colors dipped. The bands rendered “Hail to the Chief” during the interval, and it was a beautiful picture—enhanced by the sun’s rays as they fell upon the countless sabres and bayonets. At the completion of the inspection, the Governor, followed by his staff, galloped to the hill top a half mile away, and took up a position under a spreading shade tree. Then the bugle sang “Forward,” and the army was seen advancing, changing into company front, and as they moved through the ravine there was continued applause. The Governor reverently raising his hat as now and then the flag of the Union passed. The order of march was as follows:

Brigade United States Army, Colonel H. G. Gibson commanding—Infantry Battalion, two companies of the 11th Regiment, Lieutenant Colonel E. G. Bush; Artillery Battalion, Major Wm. Sinclair; Light Battery C, 1st Artillery and Light Battery C, 3d Artillery; Cavalry Battalion, Major Lewis H. Carpenter; Troop B, 4th and Troop B, 8th Cavalry.

Third Brigade, Brigadier General J. P. S. Gobin, commander—Ninth Regiment, Wilkesbarre, Colonel Morris J. Keck; 8th Regiment, Wrightsville, Colonel Frank J. Magee; 4th Regiment, Allentown, Colonel S. D. Lehr; 13th Regiment, Scranton, Colonel E. H. Ripple; 12th Regiment, Williamsport, Colonel J. B. Coryell.

PRESIDENT HARRISON.

## THEN and NOW

John Cilley, erector of the Gretna Playhouse and the Campmeeting Tabernacle, began construction on those buildings after his service in the Civil War. Along with building the Playhouse and Tabernacle, he also built numerous Mount Gretna cottages. They are characterized by their tower, semi-circular porch, and gables. He erected his own cottage around 1898, located next to the Playhouse.



*Cilley Cottage in 1898.*



*Cilley Cottage today.*

Both the “Did You Know?” and the “Then and Now” features were written by Curtis Royer. Curtis is an historian who has worked part-time this summer at the Mount Gretna Area Historical Society.



# Historic Research with “Early” Social Media

by Kristi Donahue

IMAGINE READING today's social media posts in 2050 or 2080. What details will they offer to historic researchers? What did Mount Gretna look like in 2018? What kinds of entertainment did guests enjoy? What were the community issues of the day?

Who of us hasn't wondered about the persons who built our cottages and lived there at the turn-of-the-century? Thanks to today's technology, we can access historic “social” media in the form of Personal Notes and Social Columns of early newspapers.

Today's technology (along with hard-working production staff) has brought historic documents, in fully-searchable form, to our desktops. And early newspapers are a treasure trove of information about Mount Gretna. Social columns detail the comings-and-goings of owners and guests at particular cottages (often with cottage names), and of clubs and civic events held at our cottages.

The MGAHS now has a subscription to **Newspapers.com**, allowing access to and searching within early news accounts of Mount Gretna.

The names of former owners, along with a historic cottage name, can be a starting point for actually discovering the stories of your cottage ... and of Mount Gretna.

At right and below are early examples of social news from Mt. Gretna, as found in Newspapers.com. 🌸

Kristi Donahue is a part-time staff member at the University of New Hampshire and is a year-round Campmeeting resident.

**MT. GRETNA**

Mt. Gretna officials are making arrangements to make Labor Day one of the greatest in the history of the resort. Tyrrell's Military Band has been run from surrounding cities.

Mrs. A. B. Scott, of Philadelphia, who writes for the North American and demonstrates at Gimbel's, will be in Mt. Gretna for several weeks' vacation at her cottage on the Chautauque grounds.

Mrs. Sarah Tyson Rohrer, the noted food and menu expert, who has been summering at Mt. Gretna, left for New York.

Reading Times, Sept. 7, 1914

**THOUSANDS AT SOLDIERS' CAMP**

**Mount Gretna Was Thronged With Visitors Yesterday**

Mount Gretna, July 21.—Thousands of visitors thronged the National Guard encampment at Mount Gretna yesterday, the early morning excursion trains depositing their crowds of passengers at this mountain station without delay or friction. The regular routine of the camp did not commence until to-day. Sunday morning company inspection took place and in the afternoon the dress parade was witnessed by thousands of visitors and cottagers.

The services in the Chautauqua auditorium, Sunday morning were conducted by the Rev. Joseph Stockton Roddy, of Harrisburg, chaplain of the Third regiment. He chose for his theme "What I Have Not Seen, Teach Thou Me."

The Governor's Troop arrived on the grounds Saturday afternoon, having rode from Harrisburg by the way of Hummelstown and Campbellstown. Their camp is most advantageously situated along the banks of Lake Con-

Harrisburg Daily Independent,  
July 21, 1913

**DEPARTMENT WELL FILLED.**

**MOUNT GRETNA CHAUTAUQUA SCHOOL GROWING IN POPULARITY.**

The influx of people from all parts of the state and country to Mt. Gretna continues and the several departments of the Chautauqua school are well filled with students. The weather has been delightfully cool, making the mountain settlement an ideal spot for those searching after knowledge and rest at the same time.

The first public event yesterday were two platform talks by Professor G. F. Mull, dean of the Chautauqua faculty, and Dr. Enoch Perrine, head of the department of literature, who gave excellent talks relating to their work.

Last evening Dr. A. T. Clay of the University of Pennsylvania delivered a lecture on the "Bible and the Assyrian monuments," presenting some new facts as to the disclosures which the monumental inscriptions give confirming the correctness of the Bible. The lecture was profusely illustrated.

Allentown Leader, July 11, 1900

**MANY ATTENDED THE U. B. CAMP**

**Mt. Gretna Was Thronged With Visitors Yesterday**

Special to Star-Independent.

Mount Gretna, Aug. 12.—Pleasant weather favored the United Brethren campmeeting yesterday and the morning trains were filled with men, women and children who came to Gretna to attend the services. The country people for miles around drove to the grove and the hitching park at the upper end of the grounds was filled with vehicles of all descriptions.

The large auditorium, whose seating capacity is almost two thousand, was filled at all the services. Three eloquent sermons were preached during the day, the one in the morning being by Bishop G. M. Mathews, D.D., of Chicago, Ill. In the afternoon the sermon was by the Rev. Dr. C. J. Kephart, of Dayton, Ohio, and in the evening Dr. Nathan C. Schaeffer, Superintendent of Public Instruction, addressed a large audience.

Harrisburg Daily Independent,  
August 12, 1912

**MANY FROM CITY AT MT. GRETNA**

MT. GRETNA, July 6.—Mrs. H. H. Seidel and Mrs. E. L. Rinkenbach entertained their sewing club at the Onoko cottage Thursday. The guests were Mrs. W. H. H. Baker, Mrs. Minnie Buchner, Mrs. Russell Sayford, Mrs. Bowman, Mrs. Ira Stewart, Mrs. Howard Wolford, Mrs. S. Haines, Mrs. William Froehlich, Mrs. Minnie Tittle.—Mr. and Mrs. Howard Cochran, of Harrisburg, spent the Fourth as guests of Mrs. J. X. Quigley, at her cottage on the Campmeeting grounds.—Miss Mary Seidle will spend the summer at the Hamilton Cottage.—Mrs. L. M. Fisher had as her guests over the Fourth Mrs. Ebby Boozer, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Kelly, of Steelton, and Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Gilbert and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Harclerode, of Harrisburg.

Miss Jane McMullen, of Harrisburg, is spending the week with Miss Gertrude Enck, at the Woodleigh

The Harrisburg Evening News,  
July 6, 1934

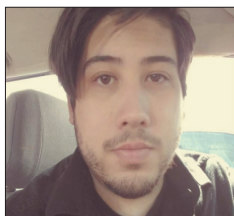


# Mount Gretna School of Art: Creating History

by Curtis Royer

*Oral Histories: Former Mount Gretna School of Art Students  
Talk About the School's Impact on Mount Gretna History*

MOUNT GRETNA SCHOOL OF ART (MGSoA) is certainly not yet a “historic” phenomenon by those who would maintain that fifty years is the cutoff line for historical interpretation. The school was founded on September 10, 2012 and remains active. Currently, its mission is to “provide intensive art instruction to talented and motivated students in harmony with the community.” Yet, there is a sense of urgency among historians to document the present while memories are fresh and individuals may still be easily contacted. With this fact in mind, Mt. Gretna Area Historical Society reached out to former students of MGSoA to aid future historians in their understanding of the significance of the art school to Gretna.



MIGUEL CRUZ-CUEVAS  
FORMER MGSOA STUDENT  
INSTAGRAM.COM/M.CRUZARTLANC

*How did the historical nature of Mt. Gretna influence your art?*

I don't think Mt. Gretna influenced my art in terms of the subject of my paintings. But being in a place with so much history and culture was motivating and inspirational. It was exhilarating to see long-time Gretna residents who were excited and enthusiastic about having painters in their neighborhood. Overall, I think that being part of Mt. Gretna's history inspired me the most.



MARISA SMITH  
FORMER MGSOA STUDENT  
WWW.MARISASMITHART.COM

*What do you think MGSoA's impact will be on Gretna history and what sort of legacy will Mt. Gretna leave with the art students?*

The presence MGSoA is shaping the history of Mount Gretna today through the education and culture of the teachers and students. Their words, ideas, and pictorial language influence and capture Mount Gretna in its current form. The mission of the MGSoA parallels the very essence of the Chautauqua movement. Being in Mount Gretna was a pleasantly overwhelming experience. The conservation of lush greenery really appealed to me and influenced my art while attending MGSoA's Intensive Program.

For more information about Mount Gretna School of Art, visit [www.mgsoa.org](http://www.mgsoa.org). The School of Art currently has twenty students in its seven-week program. In summer they can be found around any corner of Mount Gretna, painting historic buildings and cottages, illustrating our scenic outdoors. Be sure to welcome them and ask about their work.

Curtis Royer is an historian who has worked part-time this summer at the Mount Gretna Area Historical Society.




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Thank you for already supporting the Mount Gretna Area Historical Society and for considering this opportunity to further support us.

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IMAGINE what Robert Coleman would think if he could see Mount Gretna today? Many of our greatest community assets exist because someone thought it important enough to bequeath funds to develop and sustain them.

For more information on leaving a legacy gift to the Mount Gretna Area Historical Society, contact us ([info@mtgretnahistory.org](mailto:info@mtgretnahistory.org)) or call us at (717) 964-1105.

Consultation with a legal or financial adviser can help you to take advantage of any savings in inheritance tax.

Our Mount Gretna Area Historical Society representative will help you through the process and the details. 



# Thank You Thank You Thank You

## NEW MEMBERS (October 2017-August 2018)

Welcome to our new members who have made a special commitment to support the ongoing programs and projects of the Mt. Gretna Area Historical Society:

Donald Brown	Catherine Hugo
Yasmin Brown	DJ Landis <b>Thank You</b>
Russ & Cheryl Burke	Nancy Landis
Paula Clark <b>Thank You</b>	Lorraine Light
Sylvia Cueto	Heidi Abbey Moyer
Carlton & Linda Dodge	Jean Seibert
Philip & Kathleen Forney	Kimberly Sluss
Jeff & Karen Fry	Cynthia Thompson
Joanne Gingrich	Rebecca Woodhouse
Carolyn Hefter	

Many thanks to all of our members, donors, and volunteers. You make our community shine!

## Join The Mount Gretna Area Historical Society and receive

- \* *Gretna Chronicles* newsletters
- \* Notice of all MGAHS events
- \* Discounts on events, books, DVDs and commemorative items

Yes, I want to support the Mt. Gretna Area Historical Society

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☐ \$75 Business Membership

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Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

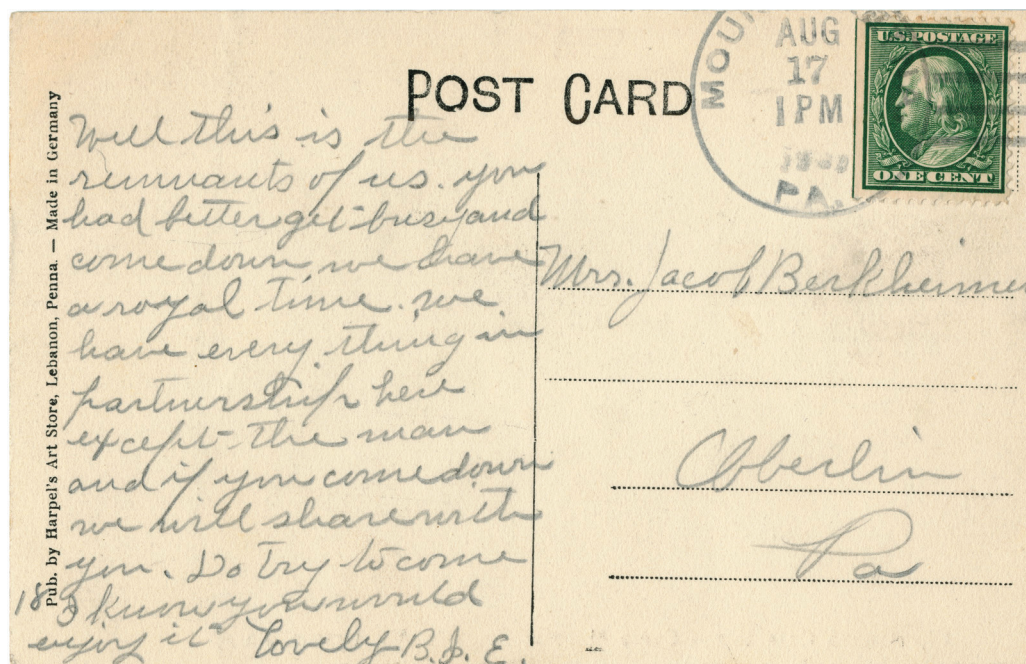
Mail completed form to: The Mount Gretna Area Historical Society  
P.O. Box 362, Mt. Gretna, PA 17064



## A Text Message from Mt. Gretna...



*This postcard with an image the of Chautauqua Gate to the Campmeeting Grounds was published by Harpel's Art Store, Lebanon, Pa.*



*The mailing date is August 17, but the year is not clearly stamped on this cancellation mark.*

*Postcards with a divided back were permitted in the U.S. beginning on March 1, 1907, so we know this postcard was published sometime after March 1, 1907.*

OUR MOUNT GRETNA HISTORICAL SOCIETY RESEARCH LIBRARY holds many images and descriptions of early Mount Gretna artifacts. Volunteers are working on adding items and descriptions to our searchable database of historical society artifacts.

If you wish to do research on a Mount Gretna topic, contact the MGAHS and set up an appointment for research help. Our hours and contact information is listed on our website at <https://mtgretnahistory.org>

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