Lukens Reunion Barbecue and Service Pin Awards

On October 4th, the National Iron & Steel Heritage Museum was proud to host the Fourth Annual Lukens Reunion Barbeque in conjunction with the Lukens Veterans Guild at the Graystone Mansion. Staff, volunteers, and community members gathered to commemorate the contributions of steelworkers to the Coatesville operations, continuing in the spirit of the Lukens family.

The event featured delicious pork and chicken barbeque, hamburgers, and sides from Triple Fresh Catering, an award pinning ceremony for advanced years of service, and museum collections on display.

Steelworkers with 25 to 50+ years of service were honored in the Award Pinning Ceremony, where awardees names and years of service were announced along with photographs and congratulations from Charles “Skip” Huston III, former Lukens Steel Executive. All photographs are available to view on the NISHM website at www.steelmuseum.org.

Attendees also delighted in paging through NISHM’s collection of “Lukens Life” magazine, a periodical that featured photos of Lukens employees and community happenings in Coatesville from the 1930s until 1998. The collection is available to view and research during regular museum hours.

The Museum looks forward to continuing this growing annual event next year. Thanks to all who made it a memorable afternoon!

Coatesville Remembers 9/11 — 13th Anniversary Commemoration

"Remember the hours after Sept. 11 when we came together as one...It was the worst day we have ever seen, but it brought out the best in all of us," said then Senator John Kerry in 2004. At NISHM, September 11th is a day where community members, first responders, dignitaries and the public come together to honor the events of that day at the Coatesville Remembers ceremony, and to honor the heroes who perished that day in the line of service.

This year, the ceremony featured Peter Miller, former Senior Manager of the World Trade Center Archives and survivor of both the World Trade Center attacks in 1993 and September 11th, 2001. Mr. Miller shared his experience from that fateful day and his process of healing- an account that prompted an emotional response from many. Students from South Brandywine Middle School, local dignitaries and first responders, and other community members also spoke about the meaning of 9/11 and its effect on the nation.

Inside the Lukens Executive Office Building, selected pieces from NISHM’s Klaus Grutzka Art Collection depicted the Twin Towers as Grutzka saw them in the 1970s. Participating South Brandywine Middle School students’ artwork complemented the display, with visual representations of tolerance in a post-9/11 world. The project was guided by Dr. Lisa Doan-Harley, Social Studies Teacher at Brandywine Middle School.

Many thanks to all who participated in the program!
**PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE**

It is hard to believe that the end of the year is drawing near- I am looking forward to a fantastic winter season, filled with many exciting developments at NISHM!

This Fall witnessed many events at NISHM. On Oct. 2nd, Emily Cramer, Exhibitions Project Manager at the National September 11th Memorial and Museum, spoke on the construction of the World Trade Center, of which Lukens Steel played a role in fashioning the outer tridents. She also spoke about the construction of the Memorial and Museum at the site of ground zero after 9/11. Ms. Cramer’s presentation enhanced visitors’ knowledge of the site before our Fall Bus Trip to the museum, which took place on Oct. 16th.

Our second fall lecture of the year on Nov. 6th focused on the 50th anniversary of Hibernia County Park, with Ranger Tom Simek and John Ross of the Friends of Hibernia.

We continued to build our collections database on Nov. 15th at our Fall Volunteer Day, which took place on the grounds from 10am to 2pm. Volunteers assisted by cataloguing artifacts in the Lukens Executive Office Building and Terracina Mansion.

We will close the year with our annual Holiday Open House on Friday December 12th. Buildings will be decorated to fit the occasion, inspiring memories of holidays past. The event also serves as a food drive, which is always generously supported. The opportunity to visit with Santa, view the toy trains on display, and visit the kids area never fails to bring delight to visitors of all ages. And new this year is the pancake breakfast with Santa on Saturday December 13th. So gather the children and grandchildren, make up those wish lists, and join Santa for a fun filled, and filling day.

Be sure to follow the many ongoing architectural preservation efforts in the Lukens Historic District. The Brandywine Mansion preservation and restoration project will continue to gain momentum. We intend to install a new geothermal unit at Graystone Mansion in the near future. The museum gift shop will also continue to develop.

Many thanks to our supporters, members, visitors, and volunteers. None of this would be possible without your support!

**DEVELOPMENT**

**A Special Welcome To:**
- Our Newest Members:
  - William Handy
  - Ron Echoff
  - James Kauffman
  - Nina Frangieh
  - Geraldine Branson
  - Seth Drucker
  - Dorothy DiOrio
  - Melinda Williams
  - Claire McIlvain
  - Diane Ceribelli
  - Juliette Honsinger
  - LeAnne Zolovich
  - Mercy Ramsey
  - Erica Essig
  - Bob Coulter
  - Donald Van Horn

**Our Newest Sponsors:**
- The Williams Group
- Veteran Construction
- First Niagara Bank
- Harry’s/Sadsburyville Hotel
- West End Fire Company #3

**2014 Sponsors**

**Presenting Sponsors**
- The Stewart Huston Charitable Trust

**Partners**
- Charles & Barbara Huston
- Peter & Ruth Nunn
- Scott & Meredith Huston

**PROPERTY**

It’s been a busy fall for capital improvements at the Lukens National Historic District.

In November, Graystone Mansion had a boiler replacement, which included a Weil McLain Ultra 399 high efficiency gas boiler and controls, completing a conversion from oil to natural gas heat.

Also in November a new heating and air conditioning system was installed in the Tenant House. An 80% gas furnace was replaced with a Carrier 92% furnace. Installed at the same time was a Carrier 13 SEER air conditioning unit.

At Terracina, the front porch metal roof will be removed soon and replaced with a 16 oz. Freedom Gray Terne coated copper standing seam roofing system.

**COLLECTIONS**

**PENNOCK FURNISHINGS RETURN**

Thanks to the generosity of Mrs. Clifford Vaughn of Bozeman, Montana, The Graystone Society has received an important collection of furniture, pictures, silver and other household and decorative objects for placement and use at Terracina. Mrs. Vaughn, a granddaughter of Charles E. Pennock, owner of the Valley Ironworks, North of Coatesville, resided at Terracina in the early 1900’s. The furnishings just received were in Terracina at the time of the Pennock occupancy. The Graystone Society is indebted to Mrs. Vaughn for her thoughtful interest in having these items returned to Coatesville and Terracina.
On October 16th, attendees gathered bright and early at NISHM for our Fall Bus Trip to New York City. Attendees were excited to visit the Intrepid Sea, Air, and Space Museum in addition to the newly opened National September 11th Memorial and Museum.

A riveting presentation by Emily Cramer, Exhibition Project Manager at the September 11th Memorial and Museum, on the construction of the World Trade Center and the museum after 9/11, further inspired attendees.

Thankfully, predictions of rain favored the group, allowing for the viewing of several outdoor exhibits throughout the day. The group began at the Intrepid, enjoying tours of the submarine Growler, learning about the extreme conditions of crew members aboard various ships and airplanes, and perusing the Enterprise, the prototype NASA orbiter that paved the way for the space shuttle program. Lukens Steel played a role in the development of many similar aircraft and ships, connecting our local history to these renowned artifacts.

The group then traveled to lower Manhattan to the site of the 9/11 Memorial and Museum, which recently opened in May. The museum is built on the same site as Ground Zero. The Memorial consists of twin reflecting pools within the footprints where the Twin Towers once stood, nearly an acre in size and featuring the largest manmade waterfalls in the North America. Inside the museum, attendees were graciously assisted by guides in the exhibits, which took the visitor on a journey through the time before, during, and after 9/11. The guides, who had previously visited NISHM and the Steelworkers’ Memorial but were not scheduled to work the day we visited, graciously offered to guide the group upon hearing about the trip. A heartfelt thank you from NISHM!

Many changes are coming in our bus trip offerings for 2015- stay tuned!
Melinda Williams, Development Manager

Melinda Williams has been a part of The National Iron & Steel Heritage Museum since its inception (and previous to that, the Graystone Society). She came on board with the Exton company she manages, The Williams Group, as a specialist in Public Relations. Williams’ ideas helped spark the first Rebecca Lukens Award, which has since become a fixture in the museum’s event programming.

She was also credited with organizing the wide publicity the World Trade Center steel “Coming Home To Coatesville” event generated in 2010. Recently, her background in sales (as a veteran of The Philadelphia Inquirer’s advertising/marketing team for 18 years) was noted and she was asked to head-up the museum’s development program.

As Development Manager, Melinda provides leadership and overall management of fund raising activities through administering: the annual appeal and membership drives with the delivery of benefits; solicitations to Foundations, Corporations, and Government entities; assisting in Special Events; and assisting board committees in fundraising.

Williams is a native of Delaware County, and she graduated from The Academy of Notre Dame in Villanova and Syracuse University. She has made Chester County her home since 1990, with her photographer husband (also a 25-year Philadelphia Inquirer alum), Robert Williams, and their son, Gregory, a chef.

2015 Rebecca Lukens Award - A Call For Nominations

It is that time of the year again- preparations for the 9th Annual Rebecca Lukens Award are in full swing, and we need your help! Do you know of a local person of distinction that you would like to nominate for the award? Let us know! In order to nominate a candidate, write a brief resume and a description of the candidate, including your reasons why the candidate should receive the award.

The principles of Simplicity, Peace, and Equality are based on the Rules of Discipline espoused by the Society of Friends (Quakers). Rebecca Lukens employed these principles, not as a theology, but applied them in a practical manner as a means of regulating her business and personal life. In the same spirit, NISHM has adapted these principles to designate qualifications for the Rebecca Lukens Award: For an individual to be eligible, they must demonstrate the principles of Leadership, Resilience, Courage, and Strategic Outlook.


The deadline for nominations is December 1st. We look forward to hearing from you!