Graystone Society Looks Forward to Annual Garden Party

An annual tradition returns to the Lukens National Historic District on June 22, 2013 from 6–8pm. Our much-anticipated Garden Party will feature the President of Lincoln University, Robert R. Jennings, Ed.D., as our keynote speaker. This year Lincoln University will debut a new satellite campus in Coatesville offering business courses for students with some college experience to advance their degrees, and as it grows will introduce more diverse courses and opportunities.

The most anticipated part of our Garden Party is the awarding of the Charles Lukens Huston Scholarship Award. Named after the innovative grandson of Rebecca Lukens, two $1,000 scholarships are distributed every year to graduating Coatesville seniors pursuing degrees in the science and engineering fields. This year’s recipients are Ms. Sydney E. Coppadge and Mr. Nathaniel Henderson. Both will be pursuing degrees in Mechanical Engineering; Ms. Coppadge at Penn State University and Mr. Henderson at the University of Pittsburgh.

In addition to highlighting these two young scholars, the Garden Party affords us the opportunity to celebrate a museum volunteer who has rendered exceptional service to our organization. The recipient of this year’s Eugene L. DiOrio Volunteer of the Year Award is Richard H. Scott. Dick Scott has been a dedicated volunteer for almost five years and has logged over 1,500 volunteer hours during his time with us. In addition to his service to our museum, he also volunteers at Hopewell Furnace and until recently at Hagley Museum in Wilmington, Delaware. Always ready to greet visitors with a smile, his favorite spot in the historic district is the mansion, Terracina. “It has so many stories to tell, and visitors always want to know about it. The more questions they ask, the better I like it!”

Guests at the Garden Party will enjoy light summer fare by Perfect Setting Caterers, as well as an open bar and music by harpist Harmony Mooney. Tickets are $75 per person, and can be reserved by phone at 610-384-9282 or online at www.steelmuseum.org.

Rebecca Lukens Award a Great Success

More than 100 guests attended our 2013 Rebecca Lukens Award ceremony honoring Coatesville’s own Regina Horton Lewis. The fine weather and beautiful venue — Coatesville Country Club — contributed to a general feeling of celebration as guests enjoyed the fine food and drink provided by the Country Club and viewed paintings selected from the museum’s collection of original artwork by Klaus Grutzka. The highlight of the evening was the riveting speech by the guest of honor herself, as she spoke about her childhood, her devotion to community and her struggles to achieve success in the male-dominated business world. Regina Horton Lewis personifies the resilience, courage, leadership and strategic outlook to which we all aspire, and serves as a fantastic example of the true heart of the people of Coatesville.
It’s hard to believe what a busy spring we’ve had, but I am proud to say that the National Iron & Steel Museum is growing in ways I could not have predicted even one year ago. This spring we welcomed Regina Horton Lewis, Executive Director of Chester County Community Dental, to the ranks of our Rebecca Lukens Award recipients. Regina represents everything Rebecca would have admired — tenacity, compassion, strength beyond belief, and unparalleled business acumen. I look forward to working with Regina and her husband Harry Lewis (who has just joined our Board of Trustees) on future projects that not only tell the story of Coatesville’s past, but of its brilliant future.

Here in the historic district, “past” and “future” can quite proudly mean very similar things. One example is the central reason for our annual Garden Party, which features the presentation of the Charles Lukens Huston Scholarship Award to two worthy Coatesville High School graduates who have chosen to pursue science and technology in college. Both recipients this year — Sydney Coppadge and Nathaniel Henderson — will be working toward degrees in Mechanical Engineering. My great grandfather, Charles Lukens Huston, was passionate about science and learning, as was his grandmother, Rebecca Lukens. He was awarded several patents for his inventions to improve steel mill technology. He would have been very happy to see how we continue to foster the love of science that he and my great-great-great grandmother shared.

In much the same way that the mill today never stops rolling, we here at NISHM continue to explore new and better ways to engage audiences and educate the public about America’s iron and steel heritage. On July 7th we will participate in “Celebrate Coatesville” day with a bit of good old-fashioned ice cream making, and July will see a canning and preserving workshop as well as a Science Explorers day camp. On September 11th we will once again bring our World Trade Center trees out for the public to see, touch, and remember.

To see our full calendar of events, please visit our website at www.steelmuseum.org, or better yet become a fan of our Facebook page, which is updated almost daily with new events, information, and historical tidbits. And thank you for your support!

The 2013 Membership drive is continuing, and through the end of April we have had 60 members renew and 11 new members join the NISHM family donating $8,285.00 and bringing us 30% of the way towards our goals of 257 members giving $27,000.

A special welcome to New Members:
- Norman Alexander
- Kathi Cozzone
- Charlotte Fiske
- Gary Gill
- David & Jean Grace
- Jennifer Green
- Bettina Heffner
- Harry & Regina Lewis
- Donald & Susan Luce
- Richard & Debra Phillips
- Arthur Tucker

In November 2012, The Graystone Society took ownership of the entire collections of industrial artist Klaus Grutzka. Grutzka was a prolific artist and publisher in the style of Industrial Precisionist. While a large portion of his works are related to the steel industry, he also painted a wide range of industrial subjects. This collection contains approximately 5000 pieces. To date, 715 Grutzka pieces have been photographed, measured, recorded and properly stored. You can now become a part of the story of this collection by adopting one of his works. Your donation will help The Graystone Society in their efforts to properly curate this important collection.
Bus Trip Commemorates Gettysburg Sesquicentennial

On May 16th, the National Iron & Steel Heritage Museum hosted a bus trip to Gettysburg, PA, which everyone knows as the site of a pivotal battle in the Civil War that took place July 1-3, 1863. Being the 150th anniversary of the battle, it seemed a perfect time for a visit by our museum. While the regular annual visitation to the Gettysburg National Military Park is around 1.2 million, that number is expected to jump to between 3-4 million in 2013, so we were thrilled to have gotten our reservations in early!

After leaving from the steel museum bright and early, we arrived at the Gettysburg National Military Park visitor center at 10:30am and were able to tour the fine exhibit they have about the Civil War and the battle. The historic Dobbin House Tavern, built in 1776 (another historic year), provided us with an exceptional lunch in two of their beautiful colonial-era dining rooms.

After lunch, we returned to the visitor center and picked up our licensed battlefield tour guide, Dave, who rode with us on our motor coach on a two-hour tour of the battlefield. Stops along the tour included The Eternal Light Peace Memorial; The North Carolina Monument (on the Confederate Line facing Cemetery Ridge); Little Roundtop; Seminary Ridge; The Pennsylvania Memorial; and The Angle (site of Pickett's Charge.) After the battlefield tour, the group was treated to a viewing of the historic Cyclorama, a 360 degree painting of the battle done by artist Paul Philippoteaux in 1884.

We look forward to our next trip to Annapolis on October 17th to visit the United States Naval Academy Museum. Other details will be announced soon!

STORE CORNER

Great Lakes Freighter 264

If you enjoy making boat models, this is your Holy Grail! Modeled after the bulk cargo vessels that plied the Great Lakes, this museum store item celebrates the history of the limestone, iron ore and coal trade that not only made the Great Lakes region an economic powerhouse, but made it possible for mills like ours to get the raw materials needed to make steel. One of the most famous of the oreboats was the ill-fated S. S. Edmund Fitzgerald, which sank during a storm on Lake Superior in 1975. For nearly twenty years, the “Mighty Fitz” was the largest ship on the Great Lakes, and set seasonal haul records six times.

Featuring die cut wood frames, PVC Sheet planking, and laser cut super structure, this 1/96th scale boat measures 45” long. The additional 6V electric motor (#2004 available from www.dumasproducts.com, not included) will render this model seaworthy. For sale now in the NISHM museum store for $275.00.

Harry Lewis

Track star, social worker, teacher, coach, principal, community leader, Graystone Society Board member — we are lucky to have a man of such distinction.

Mr. Lewis has worked in education for 41 years. His service to the community has been recognized with numerous honors and associations including: National Alliance of Black School Educators, Board of Trustees for Brandywine Health Foundation, Jaycee Past President, recipient of the Mile Stone award, and Rotary’s Paul Harris Fellow. He was Pennsylvania’s Man of the Year in 1986 & 2000. In 2012, he was given the Coatesville Community Education Foundation’s Lifetime Achievement in Education Award.

He spent 36 years as Coatesville High’s track coach with 22 All American and Penn Relay athletes, 15 undefeated seasons, 23 Chesmont Championships and a State Championship team.

Mr. Lewis’s unwavering commitment to his community is a great asset to the Society.

Summer Events

June 22
Garden Party, Scholarship Presentation & Volunteer of the Year Award Presentation

July 7
Celebrate Coatesville Day: Open for Tours & Colonial Ice Cream Making

July 13
Old Time Saturday at Terracina: Canning Tomatoes & Preserves

July 22-26, August 5-9
Science Explorers Youth Camps

August 15
Chester County Town Tours & Village Walks
SAVE THE DATE!

JUNE 22nd
Garden Party, Scholarship Presentation & Volunteer of the Year Award Presentation

JULY 7th
Celebrate Coatesville Day: Open for Tours & Colonial Ice Cream Making

National Iron & Steel Heritage Museum
50 South 1st Avenue
Coatesville, PA 19320

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

2012 Garden Party

The Klaus Grutzka Collection may be the most comprehensive essay of America’s great industrial past. Today, more than 90% of the structures no longer exist. They are preserved, however, through this extraordinary art.

Select pieces from this collection are available for adoption at $500, $1,000, $2,500, $5,000, to benefit conservation efforts for the entire collection. A brass plaque on display with the painting will recognize your generosity.

A special thank you to Mrs. Huston and Mr. & Mrs. Nunn for their support.

Adopt-A-Painting

Rebecca Lukens Award

2013 Annual Meeting

Peter and Ruth Nunn

Barbara Huston