

# Sewickley Valley Historical Society

# Signals

XXXVII, Number 2

October 2009

## The Western Pennsylvania Frontier and the Eastern Woodland Indian

An illustrated lecture by  
Michael Tomana & Dr. Stephen Glinsky  
Wednesday, October 21, 2009  
7:30 p.m.  
Old Sewickley Post Office

The Sewickley Valley Historical Society is pleased to present Michael Tomana, J.D., and Dr. Stephen Glinsky, who will make a joint presentation about the Western Pennsylvania frontier during the period 1750 through 1800 and the interaction between settlers and the Eastern Woodland Indians. The presentation will include a display and discussion of Mr. Tomana's collection of period arms and artifacts as well as a display of the art of noted local painter Robert Griffing, whose images will be incorporated into the narrative.

Mr. Tomana is a life-long resident of the area and a graduate of Yale University and Boston College Law School. At Yale, he was a student of noted American historians C. Van Woodward, Howard Lamar, William McFeeley, Donald Kagan and Patricia Nelson. He is Chief Executive Officer of Redleaf Group and RLI Partners, Chairman of the Board of Amperion, Inc., and a Director on the Board of LucidMedia, Inc., as well as a Director of SVHS and several other non-profit organizations.

Dr. Stephen Glinsky is a resident of Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania, and has lectured frequently on the Eastern Woodland Indian utilizing the narrative art of Robert Griffing. Dr. Glinsky's work is made possible by a grant from the Venango Center for Creative Development, Pennsylvania Partners in the Arts, a Program of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, and sponsored by Paramount Publishers, Inc., and Robert Griffing, artist.



*The Seneca Chief Cornplanter*, by Frederick Bartoli, 1796  
(in the collection of the New York Historical Society)

Cornplanter led raids on American settlements in northern Pennsylvania during the American Revolution, then spent decades seeking a peaceful resolution of disputes between the United States and the Six Nations. In 1791, the Pennsylvania General Assembly awarded Cornplanter a land grant in Warren County, the last Indian-owned land in Pennsylvania.

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*The mission* of the Sewickley Valley Historical Society  
is to promote interest in and to record, collect, preserve, and document the history of the Sewickley Valley.

# The Women's Suffrage Movement in Sewickley

"What you want, I suppose, is to vote just like the men do."

"Certainly not," replied Mrs. Baring-Banners.

"If we couldn't do any better than that there would be no use [in] our voting."

(Quoted from the *Washington Star* in *The [Sewickley] Herald*, Vol. XII, no. 8, October 10, 1914)

The movement in Pennsylvania toward women's suffrage began with meetings as early as 1848. The State Women's Suffrage Association, formed in Philadelphia in 1869, campaigned for over fifty years for women's right to vote. Many well known American feminists were from the state, including Lucretia Mott, Florence Kelly and Susan B. Anthony.

The Pennsylvania General Assembly had approved amending the state constitution to give women the right to vote in 1913, but the (male) voting public rejected it. The legislature was to vote again in 1915.

In support of the 1915 vote, women took over the editorship of the October 10, 1914, issue of *The [Sewickley] Herald*, which was entitled "Woman Suffrage Edition: Victory Pennsylvania 1915." Adele Shaw was editor-in-chief, and her staff included Elizabeth Congdon Barron, Mary E. Bakewell, Eleanor Willard George, Cornelia Shaw, Anne Davis Leggate, Euphemia Bakewell, Eleanor Drynan and Lucy E.

Haworth. The edition was issued under the auspices of the Sewickley Branch of the Pennsylvania Woman's Suffrage Party, and all departments of the paper were placed unreservedly in the hands of the editorial staff. A note from the *Herald* management states, "It is their paper, and all the credit that accrues to it belongs to them. Viewed from the standpoint of progressive journalism, it is a splendid paper, and [we feel] a sense of pride in co-operating with the Sewickley Suffrage Party in the publication of this issue."

For this special issue, the women gathered statistics on the number of women landowners in local boroughs and the value of their properties. They interviewed members of the borough councils and gave a rundown on how each was leaning on the suffrage question. The opinions of local clergy were recorded. The head librarian at the Sewickley Public Library presented an annotated list of books supporting suffrage for women. There is a piece on suf-

frage work in Sewickley, naming pioneer local suffragists. Thought-provoking articles included "Women as Factors in Our Municipalities," "Feminism," "Women and Peace," "Woman and the Home," "War and Women." An article called "Woman Suffrage in the United States" is illustrated with a map of the country showing the extent of suffrage by state. There is a poem by Euphemia Bakewell called "When Women Vote," and there is a photograph of author Mary Roberts Rinehart with the caption "An Active Worker in the Pennsylvania Woman Suffrage Campaign."

While the suffrage amendment passed in the Pennsylvania General Assembly in 1915, it was again rejected by the voters in the November election, and the women of Pennsylvania didn't have the vote until after Congress finally passed the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution on June 4, 1919. Pennsylvania became the seventh state to ratify the amendment, and it became law on August 18, 1920.

This tongue-in-cheek piece, "Style—Anti-Suffragist Literature," was published in the August 26, 1916, edition of *The [Sewickley] Herald*.

## NO BATHS FOR WOMEN!

Bathing is not a right, but a privilege. It would also double the expense; twice as much water, twice as many towels, twice as much soap.

A great many women don't want to bathe. Do you see as many women as men at the beaches? If women wanted baths, they would prove it by washing their hands and faces oftener.

Why cannot man represent women at the bath?

A good mother has no time for bathing. Women should be mothers, not mermaids. It would consume too much of their time that should be used for house-keeping.

The husband might want the tub at the same time as the wife. This would cause dissension in the home.

The husband is stronger and could get the tub if he wanted it. The plumber is stronger and could refuse to carry out orders.

Men by nature are coarse and sturdy and can stand baths, which would injure the delicate, sensitive fibre of women. Men exercise more than women and get warmer, follow all the active pursuits, and golf, and they need baths. Women only do house-cleaning and stand over stoves; they do not need baths. Baths would wash off their bloom.

Only in a comparatively small region of the world, where there are advanced, unproved ideas, do the women take baths.

**VOTE AGAINST IMPOSING ON  
WOMEN THIS ADDITIONAL  
BURDEN.**





In 1911, several state antisuffrage associations merged, creating the National Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage (NAOWS), headquartered in New York City. By 1916, NAOWS coordinated the activities of 25 state organizations. This photo is from the collection of the Library of Congress.

The following is from a pamphlet entitled *Household Hints*, published by the National Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage.

Votes of Women can accomplish no more than votes of Men.  
Why waste time, energy and money, without result?

**Vote NO on Woman Suffrage**

- BECAUSE** 90% of women either do not want it, or *do not care*.
- BECAUSE** it means *competition* of women with men instead of *co-operation*.
- BECAUSE** 80% of the women eligible to vote are married and can only double or annul their husbands' votes.
- BECAUSE** it can be of no benefit commensurate with the additional expense involved.
- BECAUSE** in some States more voting women than voting men will place the Government under petticoat rule.
- BECAUSE** it is unwise to risk the good we already have for the evil which may occur.

Lecture scheduled on  
*History of the Sewickley Valley  
Found in Sewickley Cemetery*

On Tuesday, November 3, 2009, at 7:00 p.m., in the Community Room of the Sewickley Public Library, the Sewickley Cemetery will present Harton S. Semple, Jr., Executive Director of the Sewickley Valley Historical Society, who will talk about the history of the Sewickley Valley found in Sewickley Cemetery, the subject of a booklet recently published by the cemetery. The booklet will be available free of charge at the event.



*First Interment, Sewickley Cemetery, Lidie J. Fundenberg, October 12, 1860,*  
by Melody Lockerman

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*Thanks to the following, who have generously supported the Sewickley Valley Historical Society with gifts in addition to membership dues:*

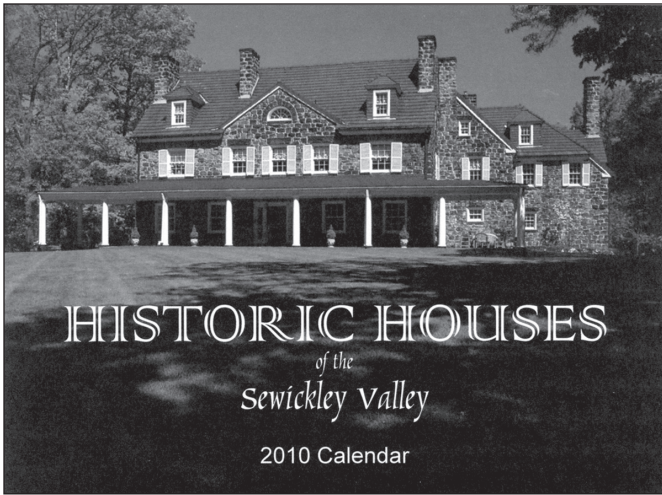
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## 2010 Historic Houses Calendar available soon!

Edgeworth Preservation's 1996 book *Historic Houses of the Sewickley Valley* may be out of print, but thirteen of the glorious William J. Penberthy photographs of Sewickley Valley houses can be yours in the Sewickley Valley Historical Society's second *Historic Houses of the Sewickley Valley Calendar*. This large format (12" x 9"), full color 2010 calendar, printed on heavy stock, will be available by mid-October for \$12 at Historical Society Headquarters.

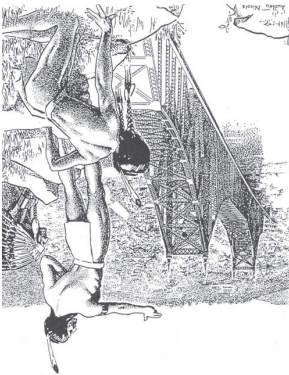
## Calling All Quilts!



The Beaver County Historical Research and Landmarks Foundation (BCHRLF) has undertaken a project to document and publish the quilts of Southwestern Pennsylvania before this valuable piece of women's history is lost. Each quilt will be photographed and measured, and details about its history, ownership and design will be noted. Any type of hand-made quilt is welcome: patchwork, appliqué, embroidery, crazy quilts, whole cloth quilts, quilt tops that have never been completed as finished quilts. BCHRLF will have pattern and fabric dating resources available but will not appraise the quilts. Once completed, the intention is to submit the collected pictures and information to the Michigan Quilt Index, which is in partnership with The American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress, for inclusion in their nationwide database.

On Friday April 9, 2010, you can bring your quilt treasures to the Old Sewickley Post Office (Sewickley Valley Cultural Center) for inclusion in this project. There will be no fee for the documentation. DETAILS WILL FOLLOW!

*Signals* is designed and edited by Susan C. Holton. Visit our website, [www.sewickleyhistory.org](http://www.sewickleyhistory.org) — e-mail us at [sewickleyhistory@verizon.net](mailto:sewickleyhistory@verizon.net) — or call us at 412-741-5315. We're open 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, or by appointment.



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