



# Leesport Lock House Foundation, Inc.

27 East Wall Street • P O Box 231 • Leesport, PA 19533

February 2021

Greetings to our members and friends,

Our November Holiday Open House was a little different this year due to Covid-19 restrictions. We started the day with a dedication of a roadside marker which states "LEESPORT LOCK HOUSE HAS BEEN PLACED ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES IN 1977 BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR. Faith Ann Jones, founding member and wife of founding vice-president Robert Jones and Elaine Strause, President of the Lock House Foundation, unveiled the sign. Elaine filled in for Anne Goda, daughter of founding President Barb Goda. The Wm. G. Pomeroy Foundation of Syracuse, N. Y. funded the grant of \$1,100 that covered the cost of the marker and pole. PA Senator Judy Schwank presented a Senate Proclamation and spoke to the audience along with State Representative Barry Jozwiak. Our past President, Beverly Miller, and Leesport Mayor Granville Sandridge also said a few words. Pastor Kirk Marks of Bethany E.C. Church made the invocation and benediction.

Tickets were sold for the drawing of the annual quilt that was made by the Hopewell Quilters. Member Donna Paff won the quilt. Many other prizes were raffled. We appreciate and thank all who donated the items for the raffle. It was a very nice day.

We were able to hold a Redware Pottery Workshop in December with 13 people participating. The finished products were ready in time for gift giving at Christmas. Our fun filled year starts on Saturday, April 10 with a Redware Pottery Workshop. Seating is limited and reservations are a must. Our first "Open for tours at the Lock House" will be Saturday, May 1, from 10 am to 2 pm.

As a 501(C) 3 non-profit, historical educational, charitable organization, we depend upon the gracious un-paid work of our volunteers and the generosity of our partners. We are striving to preserve the house and the history surrounding the Schuylkill Navigation Company and the canals and locks in our area. The historic value of the lock tender's house is not only important to Leesport or Berks County. The transportation of coal fueled the industrial revolution of Eastern United States.

We have been enjoying the beautiful flowers that were planted near the new fence rail by Troop 160 Scout Thomas Lukawski. Gabe Kichline, of Leesport Scout Troop 160, has built a wood storage shed at the back yard and is preparing birdhouses to encourage birds to nest as his Eagle Scout project. Damage from a woodpecker to the side of the Lockhouse prompted this project.

We are looking for people who love gardening to help with our herb garden and flower gardens.

Our calendar of events is enclosed which includes a wish list of items needed and volunteer opportunities printed on the back. We hope to see you at upcoming events.

Please help continue to preserve the Leesport lock tender's house and to provide educational and preservation programs. Your memberships and contributions are crucial to the success of the Lock House Foundation.

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