

The Carversvillian

HISTORIC CARVERSVILLE SOCIETY, PO BOX 41, CARVERSVILLE, PA 18913

CARVERSVILLE DAY

SAT. MAY 14, 2022 • 12:00PM TO 3:00PM

After a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic, we are happy to announce Carversville Day will return this year.

Our charming village sustained quite a bit of damage from Hurricane Ida that we are still cleaning up. In addition, the Carversville Inn and General Store are currently closed.

Due to these circumstances, we will be hosting a toned-down version celebrating Carversville Day as a local community.

Look forward to enjoying the following activities throughout the day:

Cookie Contest! To enter, prepare 4 dozen of the same cookie (all categories welcome!) for the contest and deliver to the Cookie Contest booth by 11:45am.

You don't need to limit yourself to one entry!

The Best Cookie by popular vote wins a coveted prize!

Live Music: We are excited to have a live music act this year. **David Stier** will be performing with a trio of jazz instrumentalists. What a treat for all!

The Prestigious Pet Parade will commence at 12:00pm. Dress up your pet and practice your tricks because you could win cash prizes!

Watermelon Eating Contest at 1:00.

Tug-of-War will take place at 1:30.

Our Annual Live Auction will commence at 2:00pm. We will be auctioning some fabulous items this year!

Raffle drawing and Cookie Contest Winners are announced immediately following the live auction.

Our raffle will be limited to 2 jars this year (one with cash and another with a big ticket item). You can buy your tickets at Carversville Day.

HCS grill: We will be serving burgers, hot dogs and beverages.

The Historic Carversville Society is always eager to share the long history of our village...so stop by the **Historic Society Booth** to see what's new and buy some Village merchandise to show your civic pride. This year, we will be selling items from previous Carversville Days. All proceeds support the HCS vision of preservation, scholarships and community events.

If you are interested in volunteering or have an idea, email us!

You can work a couple of hours in the booth or help in other ways. The day is not complete without the whole village getting involved.

Email us at events@carversville.com

See you in the Square...Save the Date...!

— Laura Viehweger

Mark Your Calendar



More details to follow via email

**Earth Day
Clean Up**

Saturday, April 23

**Summer
Films in the Field**

Look for details to follow via email

Thank you Susan Whitman and Mark Baum-Baicker!

We are grateful to Susan Whitman for her dedication to our community, serving as President of HCS. Susan led the Board for many years, organizing meetings, editing newsletters, and working on countless projects to promote our objectives. Also departing the HCS Board, Mark Baum-Baicker served as Secretary and contributed to Carversville Day by leading the Pet Parade, and our annual Caroling on the Square. We hope to continue to see Susan and Mark involved in HCS events. They are valued resources to our board and beloved community members.

New Board Members

Jim Davock recently joined the HCS board in January of this year. He and his partner, Tanner Graham, moved to the historic district in July of 2021 from New Hope. They discovered Carversville during the pandemic and spent many afternoons picnicking in the community garden and walking around the area. They fell in love with the rich history, natural beauty, and quaint village.

They live in the John Fluck House (c. 1867) with their two Persian cats named Carver and Black—an ode to the rich history of the town and original townspeople Thomas Carver and Jesse Black.

Jim is originally from Massachusetts and attended Saint Joseph's U in Philadelphia. He has spent the last 10 years of his career working at Johnson & Johnson across their consumer and pharmaceutical business in sales and marketing.

Jim is looking forward to promoting the values of HCS and continuing to create a sense of community through events that bring the community together and continue to make Carversville so loved and special.

Sarah Weikert joined the board of the HCS in January of this year, 2022. She and her husband, Dan Walters, moved to Carversville in July of 2019. They have two cats, Grayce and Iris. Sarah is a lifelong Bucks County resident. She grew up in the borough of Chalfont and graduated from CB West High School. Never moving too far away from her roots she is a third generation graduate of Penn State University. Sarah, who comes from a creative family, is herself an art teacher. She currently works at Agora Cyber Charter School. She also has a degree in Communication Design from Kutztown University. Sarah and Dan, who love to spend time outdoors gardening and walking, have very much enjoyed being part of the Carversville community and look forward to future involvement.

THE VOICE OF THE HISTORIC CARVERSVILLE SOCIETY

The Carversvillian

SPRING 2022



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Letter from the President

Greetings! I am pleased to introduce myself as the new President of HCS. And to be publishing our bi-annual newsletter after a two year hiatus.

The recent past has been trying on our community with the pandemic, the Inn and Store closures, and the Flood. I believe we all want to come together and find ways to celebrate all that we cherish about living in this special place. I have great appreciation for the history of our unique hamlet, and hope for the future of Carversville.

With Spring comes renewal. We have opportunities now to come out of our homes as the weather improves and the days grow longer. To stop on a bridge to chat while walking, or outside the post office in the Square to greet friends. To meet our many new neighbors, including two joining our board this year. As we plan for the coming seasons, we would like you as our members to share ideas of what you want HCS to focus on to foster the spirit of our special community.

We are providing an Events Survey and we hope you will respond. Please either scan the QR code below to complete online or return the form below in the enclosed envelope. We invite new members to join us and get involved and welcome new volunteers to help in the planning. HCS has not collected dues, nor had fundraising events for the past two years and we would appreciate you sending in dues now for 2022. We are bringing Carversville Day back as a locally focused celebration. I look forward to seeing you there!

— Lori White



HCS Events Survey Spring 2022

This survey is intended to:

1. capture community interest in our traditional HCS events,
2. solicit ideas for new events, and
3. assess your willingness to volunteer

Kindly rate your interest in supporting the following events:

	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	Neither Support/Oppose	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose
Carversville Day					
Films in the Field					
Pumpkin Carving					
Caroling on the Square					
Clean Up Day					

Kindly rate your interest in supporting the following new events:

Road Rally					
Farm To Table					
Sips & Suds on the Square					

Please share your ideas for new HCS events:

Please share your interest in volunteering to support any of these events:

Historic Carversville Society Scholarship

For many years, the Historic Society has been presenting at least one, if not several scholarships to a graduating senior from the New Hope-Solebury High School. Over the past two years, despite the pandemic, we have been able to hold interviews over zoom and choose candidates for these awards.

This award is presented to a student or students going on for further education, who have shown civic involvement, historic concern and/ or have been involved in community volunteer work. Applications are submitted through the New Hope-Solebury High School Guidance Department and are reviewed by the Historic Society each spring.

For the Senior Class of 2020, we gave the scholarship to **Ryan Viehweger**, who was raised here in Carversville. We were so pleased to be able to present it to him. Ryan is currently at the University of Colorado in Boulder as a Sophomore. He spent his growing up years helping with all Carversville events and activities- Clean-up days, Pumpkin carving, Films in The Field, Carversville Day and more, and has shown a real love and concern for this community. His business, “The Carversville Cutting Crew” was such a presence in Carversville for mowing, clean-up, and snow removal, but unfortunately had to shut down with him being in school.

Last year for the Senior Class of 2021, we chose 5 students, but our 1st choice, **Erin Firth** ended up going to Air Force Academy, so we gave her a small token. Additionally, we gave scholarships to: **Grace Hanley**, going to University of North Carolina and volunteering at Fisherman’s Mark, and the library among other places; **Morgan Miele**, going to Ithaca College, who was an EMT for the New Hope-Lambertville Rescue Squad; **Davis Nagg**, a Jr. Firefighter for NH-Lambertville Squad, and an Eagle Scout; and **An Binh Tran**, who studied at Middle Bucks Institute of Technology while in HS, volunteering at Bowmans Hill and the playhouse, and going to the University of Pittsburgh.

It always feels good to support these young people in the hopes that they will continue to volunteer as they grow older. This is one of the many areas that we as a Historic Society are proud to be able to sponsor. You can directly support this at any time by giving a donation to be used specifically for this scholarship.

– Susan Hollander Whitman



n September 1, 2021 the remnants of Hurricane Ida unleashed a flash flood in our area rivaling the impact of the legendary flood of 1955 that tore up the Carversville village square dislodging the gas pumps and tearing the top off the stone bridge leading into the village. Unlike 1955 and subsequent major flood events such as Hurricanes Floyd, Irene, and Tropical Storm Lee, towns along the river including Lumberville were largely spared from major river flooding. It was the creeks and streams that inundated our communities. Especially hard hit in our area were Carversville and Lambertville, NJ.

In Carversville the three forks of the Paunacussing Creek, which converge at the village, were all overwhelmed as rainfall estimated in the 8”-10” range hit dead center. Over the course of only 20-30 minutes between 6 and 6:30 pm the streams burst their banks and the North Fork, for example, which runs along Carversville Road, became a 3-5 foot deep river 100 feet wide. The culvert under Wismer Road was wholly inadequate to handle this torrent of water that carried not only logs and personal possessions, but hundreds of tons of rock and stone from the surrounding hillsides. It is estimated that the flood waters rages for at least 2 to 3 hours.

The homes located near the lowest point in Carversville, close to the intersection of Carversville Rd. and Wismer Rd., were all flooded. Eerily the power stayed on throughout the flooding and 2nd floor silhouettes of 103 year old Brenda Meredith and Dave Linehan’s homes were among the last images of these long time residents, who following the storm left the community to find other residences.

Of the commercial buildings in the village center, the General Store, which had been closed for an extended period due to the pandemic, and the post office, took on water up to the windowsills. Remarkably, although the combined South Forks of the Paunacussing were splashing over the sidings of the Carversville Rd. stone bridge, Dr. Barsky’s dental office and the closed-for-renovation Carversville Inn building suffered relatively little damage, especially compared to the residences on the other side of that bridge.

Water rescue boats active in Carversville did not fare well, one ending the night nestled against the side of one of these severely impacted residences. The feeder lines from at least two liquid propane gas tanks were ruptured as the storms dislodged the tanks sending clouds of gas skyward into the rain.

A walk through the village early the next morning revealed the extent of the destruction with roadways torn apart by fast moving floodwaters and massive deposits of rock, stone, and other debris. Residents below the Village on Fleecydale Rd. also suffered the wrath of the surging Paunacussing Creek, with more water and debris cascading down the valley walls.

At daybreak, we came upon an unidentified woman returning to her car that was still parked on the hump of the stone bridge on Fleecydale. Despite being caught in dangerously high waters throughout her journey home the night before, her car started right up the next morning! The returning driver described 4 hours of being stranded on the bridge in horror watching debris including other cars being swept downstream. She recounted her gratitude for the local rescue authorities and their several failed attempts at her water rescue before finally being saved from the swollen river that had filled the valley.

More broadly, along the valley wall leading down to the Delaware River, every stream and rivulet from Point Pleasant down past New Hope became a fast moving torrent carrying tons of debris and tearing up every paved road leading down to the river. River Road suffered serious damage both north and south of Lumberville, which itself was only accessible for a time via the pedestrian bridge over the river. Interestingly the unpaved sections of these same roads suffered far less damage.

The spontaneous and generous community effort to assist the worst effected homeowners quickly began and continued for many long days that followed. This is one of the many reasons we love Carversville. – Robert and Kathy Stein, Carversville residents since 1991

