



"Not to live in the past, but to have the past live through us"

West Pittston Historical Society Newsletter

Volume 4, Issue 1

info@westpittstonhistory.org

February 2007

Sesquicentennial Update Meeting

Sunday February 18, 2007
First Presbyterian Church
Exeter Avenue



1857 West Pittston
Sesquicentennial 2007

Now that our Sesquicentennial year has arrived, plans are gearing up for the WPHS Sesquicentennial events.

We will be meeting to share committee reports and update activities for the up-coming West Pittston Sesquicentennial celebration. The public is invited to share ideas and plans for this exciting event in our borough's history.



Our Next Program

The Hitchner Biscuit Company in West Pittston

SUNDAY MARCH 4, 2007

2:00 PM

WEST PITTSTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
EXETER AVENUE

Our upcoming program will feature Boyd Hitchner speaking on the history of the Hitchner Biscuit Company in West Pittston.

Mr. Hitchner, a resident of New Jersey, is a descendant of the Hitchner brothers who founded the business over a century ago. The company's Creso crackers were known as the biscuit that made

West Pittston famous.

The presentation will feature information on the company's history as well as selections from Boyd's collection of Hitchner memorabilia.

Take this opportunity to explore part of West Pittston's industrial history.



Boyd Hitchner touring the old Hitchner plant on Exeter Avenue last year.

As we plan for our 150th anniversary celebration in West Pittston, it is interesting to look back at the planning for the West Pittston Golden Jubilee 50th anniversary in 1907. The following excerpts are taken from the Pittston Gazette June 10, 1907.

West Pittston Getting Lively

Wednesday and Thursday will be Greatest Days in Borough's History.

This morning ushered in Jubilee week and almost every family which claims a flag among its possessions is displaying the National colors. Several residences are being made conspicuous by

A Look Back...

the absence of flags or any decorating...

The chairman of the Fantastic Ball wishes it clearly understood that everybody will be made welcome at the Fantastic Ball on Thursday night whether in costume or not.

There will be no hitch with the Jubilee fireworks. Two tons of fireworks material arrived at the West Pittston station of the Lackawanna Railroad this morning and they will be in readiness for the display on Thursday night.

Harris, the photographer was noticed about town this morning taking photographs of some of

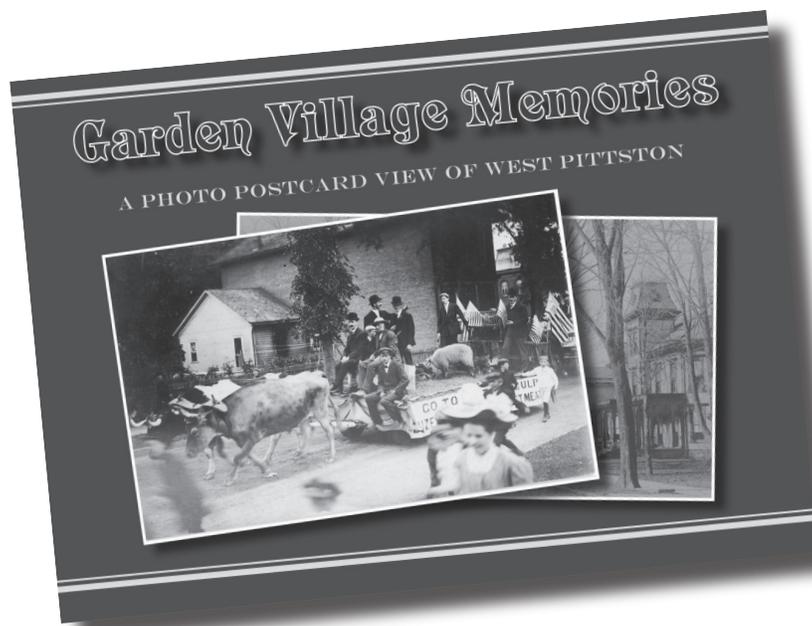
West Pittston's handsomely decorated residences. He expects to have a fine line of Jubilee postcards.

Miss Runyon's class of trained little waitresses will be helpers in the Exeter Club where the Dial Rock Chapter will keep open house on Wednesday and Thursday during the Golden Jubilee celebration. On Thursday afternoon the whole class is expected to be present. This may be suggestive especially to women who are trying to solve the problem of domestic service in our homes.

A fine flagpole is being erected this afternoon on the river bank

in front of the Glennon residence. The Jubilee committee has ordered a beautiful flag which will be raised on the pole at the opening of the historical exercises on Wednesday morning.

Among the finest arches being erected, it is anticipated that none will surpass that of the West Pittston Hose Co. which arches Spring St. in front of the borough properties. The framework is already up and decorators are at work upon it. Adding especially to its beauty will be the illumination. C. C. Garrison will do the wiring of the arch gratis, while the Citizens' Electric Illuminating Co. furnishes the power without charge. The arch will be lighted with over 1000 incandescent lights...



Garden Village Memories

The West Pittston Historical Society is pleased to announce the publication of our Sesquicentennial book, *Garden Village Memories*, a collection of vintage photographs and postcard views of the borough with historical notes.

This limited edition publication includes town views, the great ice flood of 1904 and the 1907 Golden Jubilee.

Pre-order your copy of *Garden Village Memories* now for March delivery.

Checks should be made payable to the *West Pittston Historical Society*

Please detach and return this form with payment to West Pittston Historical Society c/o Sandra Panzitta 914 Susquehanna Ave. West Pittston, PA 18643

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

Email _____

_____ Number of books @ \$25.00 each

Total _____

You will be contacted for delivery in March once the books have been published.