



CRAIGHEAD HOUSE

"What the Kennedys are to politics, the less famous Craigheads are to nature – a prolific and accomplished clan." – Kirkus Reviews

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE JOHN COYLE

I can't help myself. Just about anywhere I go I pick stuff up; when I walk on the beach or in the woods, or driving along the highway. There are so many INTERESTING THINGS in this world, and I can't resist bringing them home to show someone. Oh yes, and then keeping them forever, often on a dusty shelf. (See photo of my "museum shelf" taken the day I wrote this message.) It reminds me of an "I SPY" picture.



In my Jeep now are 2 turkey feathers, a red emergency flag, a pheasant tail feather, several interesting rocks, a live .380 cartridge, and some yet-unidentified leaves & seed pods... all of which I picked up in the last month. I'll bet those of you who have read "My Side of the Mountain", will recall how Sam Gribley used similar found objects to survive alone in the woods. It just goes to show you that if you expose yourself to the Craighead naturalists, you will be forever changed.

I have a dream that one day soon Craighead House will become something of a museum, displaying a variety of natural curiosities and artifacts useful in teaching about conservation, nature, and Craighead family history. The house is not yet ready to display them. But a fine climate-controlled basement storage room has been built by American Heritage Girl, Troop 0304 for Katie Anthony's Stars and Stripes Award. It will protect our early acquisitions.

Board Member Laurie Craighead Rudolph has agreed to chair the new Historical Archives Committee. She is presently sorting through hundreds of old photographs and will also be

responsible for collecting stories, books, letters, and all sorts of memorabilia from various Craigheads, friends and neighbors. Her committee's work will outlive all of us, safely preserved for all to see at the soon-to-be presentable-to-the-public Craighead House. Now is the time to begin collecting artifacts.

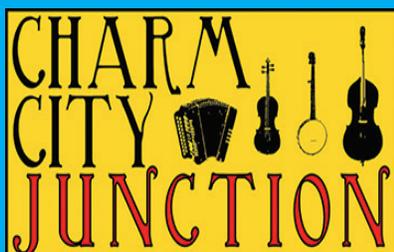


Here for your enjoyment is just one, possibly the most unusual thus far of Laurie's family photos: Grandma Myra Eby Craighead playing a ukulele on the outhouse roof!

Do you have something you would like to share?

Please contact Laurie at rudolphlaurie@gmail.com.

1st Annual Bluegrass on the Breeches Concert



Sunday, June 14

2 - 4 p.m.

Details on page 3.



Major Progress in 2019 and Hopes for 2020

Craighead House was built in 1886 and sheltered the Craighead family for more than a century before falling victim to neglect and disrepair. Today, it has been reborn as an education center on nature, the environment, literature, and local history.

Since 2012, a group of local volunteers, supported by hundreds of generous donors and numerous grants, has saved the house from destruction and helped to carry on the legacy of the Craighead family. In 2020 we hope to finish the interior restoration and achieve our goal of establishing a year-round educational and recreational resource.

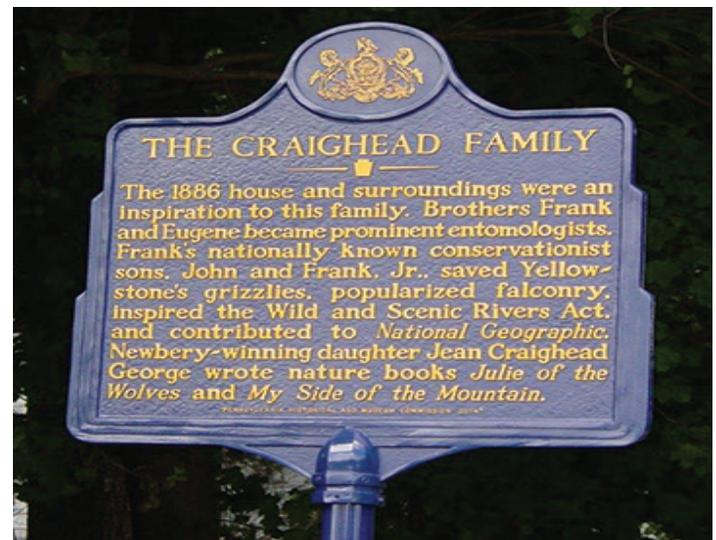
The Craighead House Committee, our volunteers and supporters achieved a great deal in 2019:

- ✓ Hosted a 100th anniversary celebration of Jean Craighead George's birth with activities featuring local organizations and Jean's children.
- ✓ Coordinated four *Weekday Walks* focusing on local sites associated with the Craighead family.
- ✓ Presented numerous educational programs both on- and off-site for adults and children.
- ✓ Were chosen as one of the projects for the Leadership Cumberland Class of 2020, which will upgrade social media and online presence.
- ✓ Installed educational signs about native and invasive plants as part of a program with the Penn State Master Gardeners.
- ✓ Upgraded the parking area with funding from PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, PA Department of Community and Economic Development, Cumberland County Planning Dept., and Cumberland Valley Visitors Bureau, Carlisle Barracks Spouses Club, Carlisle Garden Club, Penn-Cumberland Garden Club, Foundation for Enhancing Communities, Yellow Breeches Watershed Association and individual donors. The project includes accessible parking and walkway, landscaping, and an ADA-compliant outdoor comfort facility.
- ✓ Replaced and/or refurbished 29 shutters on the house with funding from the Cumberland County Housing and Redevelopment Authority, Iron Forge Questers, and individual donors.
- ✓ Installed outdoor canoe racks (a volunteer Eagle Scout project) and a basement storage room (an American Heritage Girl Stars and Stripes project).

The year 2019 was capped off by generous grants from the G.B. Stuart Charitable Foundation, the The Donald B. and Dorothy L. Stabler Foundation, and individual donations for interior improvements. HVAC systems and and electri-



Craighead House Comfort Station facilities will open annually in March for trout season and remain open during daylight hours through October 31st.



cal wiring will be addressed first. Remaining work, which will enable Craighead House to obtain an occupancy permit and present programs and activities year-round, includes interior plumbing, carpentry, and plaster work.

Craighead House Board President, John Coyle summarized our hopes for 2020:

“The generosity of the Carlisle community, Craighead supporters from across the country, foundations, and local and state agencies has helped us to take major steps toward our dream of having the house completely renovated in 2020. We invite everyone to visit the house and grounds to enjoy our lovely spot on the Yellow Breeches and to learn about nature and the Craigheads’ achievements.”

Leadership Cumberland Project Update

In the final quarter of 2019, the Leadership Cumberland (LC) fellows who have committed the next year to Craighead House have begun work on the development of a coordinated website and social media campaign. The intention is to focus primarily on engaging donor support and community participation in Craighead House programs and events.

LC is a non-profit organization that serves the county by developing individuals to become effective leaders in the workplace and community. Since its inception in 1989, more than 500 individuals have graduated from Leadership Cumberland's Fellows Program. Fellows, as participants are called, represent a diverse group of emerging leaders of all ages from a variety of industries such as education and nonprofits. While differing in age, background and profession they share one common trait - the motivation and desire to take on greater responsibilities in the community and at work.

We welcome their efforts and as we look forward to the upcoming year, we are truly inspired and grateful for their commitment to Craighead House.

For more information about Leadership Cumberland, you can visit their website.

www.leadershipcumberland.org

1st Annual Bluegrass on the Breeches Concert Announced

On Sunday, June 14, 2 - 4 p.m., Craighead House will host an afternoon of bluegrass music featuring Charm City Junction, one of the country's outstanding traditional music ensembles.

Charm City Junction, a Baltimore-based bluegrass/Irish/old-time string band, is known for captivating, dynamic performances - from old time rhythms and foot stomping Irish melodies to hard-driving bluegrass.

Davis Tracy, founder and coordinator of the popular Dickinson College Bluegrass on the Grass event, secured the band and has volunteered to produce the event. Davis has already raised funds to help underwrite costs so that all proceeds will benefit Craighead House.

Tickets for the event are limited, so reserve yours early! A \$20 donation per ticket is requested. And make sure to bring your lawn chair or canoe!

Gates will open at 1 p.m. Concert will be held rain or shine!

For more information, you can email us:

craigheadhouse@gmail.com

Further details will be available on the Craighead House website and FB pages as information and tickets are available.

Craighead House Committee Corporation Board

Dr. David Masland, *Founding Member 1923-2014*
Dr. Johnson Coyle, *President*
Ann Benjey, *Secretary/Treasurer*
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Melinda Downey Shultz, *Communications Coordinator*

The Craighead House Committee Corporation was established to provide an educational and recreational resource that focuses on nature, literature, history, and respect for our environment as exemplified by the life's work of the Craighead family of naturalists.

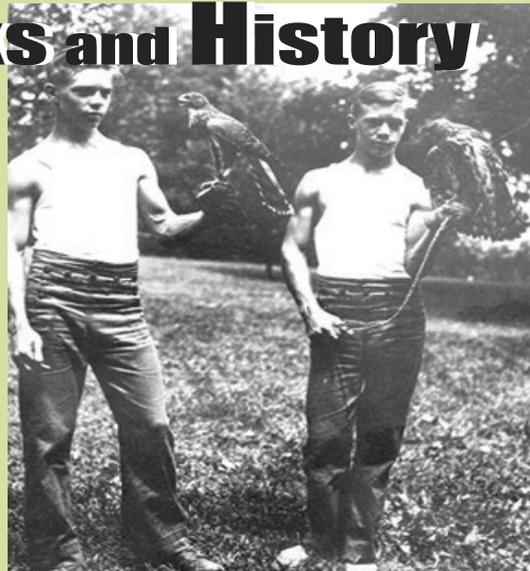
Craighead House Committee, P.O. Box 335, Boiling Springs, PA 17007
CraigheadHouse@gmail.com
A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

www.craigheadhouse.org



Trains, Grains, Hawks and History

Rich farmlands and surrounding forests, coupled with Scots-Irish determination, helped generations of Craigheds to preach, prosper, fail, refocus and endure for centuries on the banks of the Yellow Breeches Creek. But, as Tom Benjey notes in his book, *Glorious Times, Adventures of the Craighed Naturalists*, "... fertile land and forests weren't the only thing of value in the Cumberland Valley." ⁽¹⁾



Iron ore, water, ample lumber and railroad-driven commerce enabled the Craighed clan in 1868 to firmly establish Craighed Station, or "Craigheds", as it became known, an unincorporated hamlet of family enterprises including a store, feed and planing mills, a train siding and station plus other businesses.

Post-Civil War expansion of the iron ore industry at Pine Grove Furnace and elsewhere allowed John Weakley Craighed to negotiate a right-of-way over a mile long through his land with the South Mountain Railroad (SMRR) so it could connect with the Cumberland Valley Railroad (CVRR) in Carlisle, near where Wenger Meats and Ron Estep's electric motor repair businesses are today. "They paid John Weakley \$6,000 or \$1.095 per linear foot or \$576,000 in 2010 dollars, a princely sum for 1868." ⁽²⁾

¹ Benjey, Tom. 2016. *Glorious Times: Adventures of the Craighed Naturalists*. p25. Missoula: University of Montana Press.

² *ibid*. p27.

| Gettysburg & Harrisburg Railway | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------------|---------------|---------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Between Carlisle and Carlisle Junction | | | | | | | | | |
| Miles | Southbound | | Weekdays only | | | | | | |
| | Train Nos. 21-23 | | 21 | 201 | 23 | 95 | 97 | | |
| .0 | Carlisle Lv. | a m | 6.37 | 8.12 | p m | 3.02 | p m | 5.06 | 7.41 |
| 2.0 | Bonny Brook . . . " | | f6.40 | f8.15 | | f3.06 | | f5.10 | f7.45 |
| 4.4 | Craigheds " | | f6.48 | f8.21 | | f3.11 | | f5.15 | f7.50 |
| 6.0 | Carlisle Junction Ar. | | 6.55 | 8.25 | | 3.15 | | 5.20 | 7.55 |
| 6.7 | Mt. Holly Springs " | | | 8.37 | | | | | 8.07 |
| Northbound | | Weekdays only | | | | | | | |
| Train Nos. 92-94 | | 92 | 48 | 12 | 24 | | | | |
| .0 | Mt. Holly Springs Lv. | a m | 6.54 | p m | 2.15 | p m | 5.22 | | |
| 0.7 | Carlisle Junction " | | 7.10 | | 2.30 | | 5.40 | 8.05 | |
| 2.3 | Craigheds " | | f7.14 | | f2.35 | | f5.44 | f8.10 | |
| 4.7 | Bonny Brook . . . " | | f7.19 | | 12.40 | | f5.50 | f8.15 | |
| 6.7 | Carlisle Ar. | | 7.23 | | 2.44 | | 5.54 | 8.19 | |

The South Mountain and Gettysburg & Harrisburg lines merged July, 1891. Exact fare is unknown, but 2 – 3 cents per mile was the State guideline. The ride from Craigheds to Carlisle was approximately five miles. (Our thanks to Randy Watts for this information.)



Help Wanted!

Unemployment at all-time lows and the stock market at all-time highs make this the perfect time to help finish the job at Craighed House. The exterior work was completed in 2019. Very generous grants from local foundations for heating and cooling systems kicks off work on the interior.

However, plumbing, plaster/drywall ceilings, wall repairs, a new kitchen floor, and some other things

are needed to qualify for an occupancy permit. Please donate now to complete the work and open Craighed House to the public in 2020.

Please mail your check today to Craighed House Committee, PO Box 335, Boiling Springs PA 17007 or donate on-line at www.CraighedHouse.org.

Thank you for your generous support!