

HISTORY OF
**MONTGOMERY
HOUSE**

WARRIOR RUN AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Located in McEwensville, Pennsylvania



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We have Vallery Barnwell to thank for this very complete history of the Montgomery House Warrior Run Area Public Library located in McEwensville. She has given many untold number of hours of her time for many months working on this project. We also thank all others who have contributed in any way to this effort. Many prior articles and letters dating from the Library's inception have been combined with more recent material to bring it all up to date.

The two Montgomery sisters had a dream and they took steps for its fulfillment by generously bequeathing their home to McEwensville for worthwhile community purposes.

Their devoted niece, Mrs. Helen Cook, fully embraced their dream. She worked closely with many interested local persons, and this group finally decided on a library. Since then the property has been enlarged several times, making it an even more valuable asset for the entire area, including all of the area communities and their school systems. And an adjacent parking lot has been paved.

One of the earliest persons to support this library idea was Mrs. Elizabeth Wagner Sigel, and active McEwensville resident for more than 40 years. She also was a life-long friend of the Montgomery sisters, all have grown up together in Watsonstown. She and Mrs. Cook also formed a warm friendship.

To honor the memory of the Ms Jane and Margaret Montgomery, Mrs. Helen Cook and our Aunt Betty Sigel, her following nieces and nephews from four current generations of the Wagner family have enthusiastically contributed the funds for the printing of this book:



**Left to Right: Helen Cook,
Bernice Pike, Elizabeth Sigel**

Nancy Wagner Foresman & Family
Frances Thompson Reschovsky & Family
Robert E. Kear & son David Wagner Kear
Jane Hastings Thompson
William F. Kear & Family
Patricia (Patty) Wagner
Carolyn Thompson Patton & Family

*Submitted by Jane Hastings Thompson
May, 2003*

HISTORY OF MONTGOMERY HOUSE

WARRIOR RUN AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Located in McEwensville, Pennsylvania



This cottage library, located in an ordinary ranch house structure on Church Street, first opened its doors on June 12, 1967.

The name Montgomery comes from a well established and prominent family in the McEwensville region. The community facility was called the Montgomery House Library in honor of the Montgomery sisters, Jane and Margaret, who willed the building that houses the library to McEwensville in 1965. The sisters were the last of the Montgomery family surviving in this area.

The Montgomerys, who came to the McEwensville region in the 1700's can trace their family lineage back to the Norman conquest of England in 1066. The family came to America in 1737 when Robert and Sarah Montgomery emigrated from County Armagh, Ireland with their family, settling in Paxtang, Dauphin County. Their son, John was the great-great-grandfather of Jane and Margaret. After a short time, the family moved from Dauphin County to Paradise Valley, near Turbotville.

In 1758, John Montgomery was commissioned captain of the 2nd Battalion, Pennsylvania Regiment. On November 12, 1761, in Lancaster, he married the former Christiana Foster. They had a family of four sons and three daughters. On March 30, 1774, John bought a parcel of land measuring 636 acres for 500 British pounds from William and Esther Patterson. The land was in what is now part of Lewis Township. Montgomery built his homestead at the strong spring located on his land which forms the headwaters of the Muddy Run Creek. The homestead consisted of a small dwelling surrounded by a stockade. On July 28, 1779, the sounds of battle disturbed the rural peace of summer enjoyed by the Montgomery family.

Only four miles away, 100 British soldiers under the leadership of Captain John McDonald, with support from 100 Indians under the Seneca leader Hiokoto, were massacring the settlers at Fort Freeland (which was located on what is now the Warrior Run High School property) in one of the region's most notable historic events.

Hearing the sounds of gunfire, John Montgomery sent two of his sons to ride on horseback up over the hill to see what was causing the commotion. When his sons returned with an account of the battle, and that Fort Freeland had fallen to the British and Indians, Montgomery fled south with his family, warning neighbors on the way about the British and Indians. The family escaped to Fort Augusta, presently Sunbury, and then moved on to the general area of what is now Harrisburg.

In 1783, after the Americans and the British made peace, the Montgomerys returned to their homestead. They found Indians had burned down all the buildings. British Captain William Rice, with 40 German mercenaries hired by the British in the fall of 1779 to fight in the American Revolution, had built a neat two-story fort over the spring. The family made alterations to the structure and moved in to their new home. Their descendants remained at the homestead for generations. The remains of Fort Montgomery, also known as Fort Rice, can still be found at the headwaters of the Muddy Run Creek.

One of John's sons, David, married the former Agnes Shaw, and they in turn had a son whom they named William. William married Jane Caldwell, Jane's grandmother for whom she was named. In the mid 1800's their son Robert married May W. Lowrie of Derry Township, Montour County; the couple had six children: William, Helen, Lowrie, Jane (Jennie), Fannie, and Margaret (Marge).



Jane Caldwell Montgomery

Jane was born November 15, 1870, near Turbotville. She was baptized in the Warrior Run Presbyterian Church (now called Historic Warrior Run Church), and maintained her membership there until her death. She attended Milton High School, graduating with the class of 1889. She also attended Hollidaysburg Seminary for Girls, and later studied institutional management at Columbia University in New York. Her studies led to her employment by the Hackettstown

Junior College in New Jersey, where she remained for many years, making many contacts and friends.

Her sister Margaret was born September 9, 1876, on the Montgomery farm and lived there practically all her life. Like Jane, she was baptized at the Historic Warrior Run Presbyterian Church and maintained her affiliation with the church all her life. Margaret attended Bucknell University, Lewisburg, Pennsylvania.

The sisters resided together after Jane's retirement staying either at the home near McEwensville or St. Petersburg, Florida.



Margaret Montgomery, center, and two unidentified friends.

In 1960, the sisters sold the farm to the Ralph Patton family, who still reside there. The Montgomery sisters then moved into the new home they had built on the edge of the homestead property, which skirted the east side of the borough of McEwensville.

Before Margaret's death she and Jane had agreed to bequeath their property to the community of McEwensville for "some worthwhile purpose." When Jane died on October 13, 1965, the estate was left in the name of her niece, Helen Marr Cook, daughter of her sister Helen and the widow of E. Fullerton Cook, a noted pharmacist and author. Mrs. Cook's father had been a pastor of the Warrior Run Presbyterian Church. In the will, she was charged with designating a specific purpose for the estate's use. Originally, the property was turned over to McEwensville for a community meeting place. Eventually, the estate trustees decided to establish a cottage library.

The original Montgomery House Library trustees were Fred Kitchen, president; Charles Kitchen, vice president; George Wesner, treasurer; Ruth Welliver, secretary; Elizabeth Sigel, Helen Cook and H. William Koch, directors.

Much work went on behind the scenes following the day in 1966 when Mrs. Cook approached Edna Walter for help in starting a Cottage Library. Because Edna's family enjoyed using the Milton Library for a number of years, Mrs. Cook and Edna went there seeking help. Mrs. Hassenplug, the Librarian of the Milton Library, gave a tour and explained how to stamp and accession books. Mrs. Cook bought an accession book that would contain 4,000 entries. She thought this would be sufficient for the Cottage Library. The first books were recorded in 1966.

Mrs. Blanch Baughman, a retired library worker, came to assist. It was through her that Helen and Edna went to the Lewisburg Library where they learned about circulation that included recording and filing names, addresses, etc. of patrons and using borrowers' cards. Mrs. Zoya Jenks from Lewisburg assisted in sorting books.

In order to catalog books, volunteers helped in printing up cards with title, author, publisher, and publication date. These cards were taken to Bucknell University Library, Lewisburg, where the volunteers used the card catalog and copied the Dewey Decimal numbers and headings. When the cards were brought back to Montgomery House, Ruth Welliver gave of her time to type them. After the library opened, Ruth often said, "I hope no one comes to borrow books when I'm on duty because I want to get on with my typing!"

In June of 1966 Mrs. Cook completed arrangements for the acquisition of the lot on the north side of the property to allow for any future expansion. On December 7, 1966 the Montgomery House Library was incorporated. In the spring of 1967 a wall was removed from between the two bedrooms. An entrance was made on the North side of the building and other changes were made to accommodate patronage to the Montgomery House Library.

**Many in the
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Many in the McEwensville community worked on the creation of the library. Bucknell University Library, with Larry Eshelman as librarian, lent a great deal of support. Also, assisting with library projects were Allen Wakevainen and Joseph Meyer of the State Library in Harrisburg, and Mr. Machinski of the James V. Brown Library of Williamsport.

The first Montgomery House Library Committee was formed, with Orrin G. Cocks, Jr. as chairman. Other committee members were Samuel Cooper, Alice Gold, Lois Swartz, Gladys Reed, Blanche Baughman, and Ruth Welliver.

Volunteering their assistance at this time were Ruth Moore, Marjorie Taylor, George Wesner, Larue Yost, Vallery Barnwell, Fred Kitchen, Charles Kitchen, Elizabeth Sigel, and Edna and Paul Walter. Many others not mentioned in this history helped with donations of money, books and their time

Books were received from various sources. Many were donated by interested persons and Mrs. Cook brought car loads of books discarded by libraries in the Philadelphia area. Two hundred volumes were bought from the overflow of James V. Brown Library of Williamsport. These books cost ten cents each, and the \$20 used in the purchase was donated. Orrin Cocks, Samuel Cooper, Ruth Welliver and Edna Walter went to Bro-Dart in Williamsport and purchased used books that had been part of a rental collection. Many of these were from the Best Seller list. Mrs. Cook suggested they read all the books received so that only nice ones would be put on the shelves.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony was held to mark the library's opening on Saturday, June 10, 1967, with H. William Koch, who was the attorney for the estate of the Montgomery sisters, serving as master of

ceremonies. The ribbon was held by youngsters, Denise Barnwell, Janet Reed, and Lisa Taylor and it was cut by Helen Marr Cook. One hundred-twenty five residents from McEwensville and the surrounding area attended the event.



When the library opened on June 12, 1967, there were 3,000 books on the shelves. **Edna Walter was the first volunteer librarian.** The original hours for the library were weekday nights 7 to 9 p.m. and Wednesday afternoons from 2 to 4 p.m. All services were free with no registration fees and the library was staffed with volunteers.

One month after the library opened the directors rescinded the rule allowing only one book to be taken out of the library at a time. Instead, due to growing circulation, patrons were allowed to sign out an unlimited number of books. At that point the library had increased its number of books to 4,000.

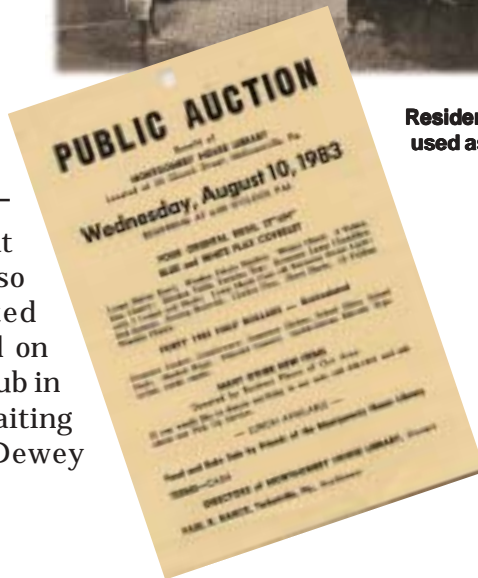
After one year, more than 3,500 books had circulated and the library had 148 registered adult members and 64 juvenile members.

During the summer of 1968, the garage attached to the building was converted to a bedroom with an attached powder room to accommodate a live-in librarian. The Montgomery House Library had hired Bernice Pike as their resident librarian for one year. She was hired to work with the staff to train them to better organize the library. At the end of that year the residential section of the library was used as a social area. The room featured a large field-stone fireplace, Persian rugs, antiques, a piano and antique stuffed chairs. The kitchen was fully equipped. Nearly all of these items were sold at an auction on August 10, 1983 to make room for further expansion.



Residential livingroom used as a social area.

By September 1968, books at the library had become so numerous that unsorted volumes were being placed on boards laid across the bathtub in the residential section awaiting proper marking in the Dewey Decimal system.



Upon Mrs. Edna Walter's resignation as librarian, Lois Berger Swartz was hired May 21, 1969. Edna remained on staff as a consultant volunteer.

"Friends of the Montgomery House Warrior Run Area Public Library" was organized on May 8, 1969. Among the original members were Elmer Enterline, president; William Pratt, vice president; Ruth Moser, secretary; and Margaret Diehl as treasurer. The mission statement of the organization is ***to encourage understanding and appreciation of the library, to build up greater realization of the importance of the library to the future of the community, to attract bequests and gifts of books, manuscripts, money and other appropriate material beyond the resources of the library's budget.***

Lois Berger Swartz, librarian from 1969 to 1975 is quoted in a newspaper article dated November 1971 that *"their function (Friends) is just to enjoy, encourage and pamper the library in the same manner as a loving grandparent."* The Friends are all of that and much more. They do fund raisers and yearly contribute money to the operations of the library. One of the first projects was a canvas tote bag with a line drawing of the library. The drawing was done by Michael Woodland, a Warrior Run High School student and grandson of Paul and Edna Walter.



Children's Area, former Social Room

Other monies raised by the Friends organization comes through membership fees, book sales, sale of canvas bags and other means to support the library needs. In 1969 they contributed money as well as two children's and one adult rocking chair, and board books for the children's section. Over the years they have contributed items such as a book cart, a book charging machine, several kick stools, blinds for new windows, book cases and a video stand for the continually increasing video collection.

By the fall of 1969 13,734 books had been checked out by 8,614 patrons.

On October 15, 1969, the board approved plans for an addition. Construction of the addition began May 24, 1971 and lasted into the fall. The library remained open and served the public during this time. On October 4, 1971, the new room was opened to the public. The completion was celebrated with an open house and dedication ceremonies on November 20, 1971. Presiding at the ceremonies was Elmer E. Enterline, president of Friends of the Montgomery House Library. A dedication



**Students of the Warrior Run area
often use the library.**

address was made by Dr. Otto Reimherr, professor of religion at Susquehanna University. Remarks were given by George S. Wesner, Ronald O. Doan, Warrior Run Area High School librarian, and Mrs. Helen Marr Cook, library benefactress and niece of Jane and Marge Montgomery.

With the added space a much needed copier was purchased for public use. The library provided a meeting place for organizations such as the Friends of the Montgomery House Library, the McEwensville Senior Citizens and the McEwensville Garden Club. In addition, the facility has become a cultural center for the area. Historical items were acquired and displayed by the library, such as an heirloom quilt, a baptismal gown, and receipts and records dating back to 1852 when the McEwensville Academy was constructed. Other displays offered by the library have included dolls, Easter eggs, and memorabilia of "The Wizard of Oz." Art exhibits have been offered to the public as well, and featured works by area artists as well as students. In addition the library has offered film programs, lectures, lawn festivals, summer reading clubs, reading contests, Easter egg hunts, craft shows and seminars.



Hal Pratt, storyteller entertains children during the 35th Anniversary celebration.

A popular program of the library is story hour. The first story hour was held April 26, 1969, for children from two years old to students in the sixth grade. The event was attended by 129 children plus their parents. Since then, a story hour has been offered to both preschool children and elementary school students on a seasonal basis.

In 1971 the Montgomery House Library received its first state aid.

Pushing the library to continued excellence, Lois Berger Swartz submitted her resignation in a letter dated December 4, 1975 as head librarian and coordinator.

Excerpts from her letter read:

“The Board of Directors of Montgomery House Library, McEwensville, PA. Each in our own way, you and I have proved our love for Montgomery House Library. Submerged somewhere deep in that love has been a concern that could be expressed in the question “What will become of the library after certain key persons are not able to serve?” Then, because we do not want to face the problem of assuring its greatness, we push the thought to the back of our consciousness.

We have to face the future sometime; why not now while we who care so much are still able to plan?

Therefore I am here submitting my resignation from the position of head librarian and coordinator of Montgomery House Library. Following my replacement by a new head librarian, I would like to continue serving the library as a volunteer staff member. We have developed the prestige and service of Montgomery House Library to a point where people of the community recognize its contribution and where a qualified librarian should be proud to head it. It is now up to the board and the community to provide the means for the continued development of this library.

Together, we'll plan and together, we'll make sure that this library will live on in its greatness whether you or I am here to see it or not."

While the Montgomery House Library has continued to offer the same services over the years, it has also had to change in many ways in order to accommodate the community. For instance, since it first opened, the library has expanded its hours. During its first year of operations, patrons had access to the library for a total of 12 hours per week. This was increased to 37 hours a week. And today, it is open 41 hours a week.

To expand service to the area, deposit libraries were opened in Turbotville during the summers of 1974/1975 and in Watsontown from 1976 to 1985. Sadly due to lack of volunteers the deposit libraries closed.

In 1985 the Friends of Montgomery House Library purchased a book charger and a 16mm film projector in memory of Lois Berger Swartz who died April 13, 1985.

In 1986 a Canon copier was purchased to replace the 15 year old copier available for public use.

The Board of Directors made plans for future improvement to the facility. The first phase of the improvement project was enclosing the back porch. The second phase was remodeling the facility's social room area to expand the library services. The third phase was construction of an addition when funds were available.

The first phase began the summer of 1988 enclosing the back porch to provide storage space for resource materials. Board members, Thornton "Sonny" Moser, Charles Fahringer and Scott Gold did the work. They also converted the social area into a children's section of the library which completed the second phase of their improvement plans. They performed all of the labor, with no expense to the library. Materials were paid for from funds raised by the Warrior Run Women's Club. The McEwensville Garden Club financed papering and painting.

Shelving, built by Sonny Moser and Don Strouse, was expanded to accommodate 24,000 books and materials, and space had been provided to allow programs and story hours to take place in an open atmosphere. The shelving in the area for children was built by Carl Berger, father of Lois Berger Swartz. A section of this part of the library was reserved for meetings and public education. Renovation was completed in September 1988.

In addition, a ramp to make the library handicapped accessible was installed in memory of Elmer Enterline, and the restroom was remodeled to meet handicapped accessible requirements. This work was also done by Sonny Moser.



Sonny Moser



Don Strouse

The opening of the new section of the library was celebrated with an open house and ribbon cutting ceremony on September 22, 1988, with H. William Koch as the speaker.

Since 1990 the library has been known as the Montgomery House Warrior Run Area Public Library. This should help to eliminate being confused with the Montgomery Library in Montgomery, PA. Since its beginning, Montgomery House Library has served the entire Warrior Run Area.

Books are not the only selections available at the library. There are newspapers, magazines, video tapes, cassettes with books, puzzles, and records. All services are free with no registration or usage fee.



On May 14, 1990, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 8206, Turbotville, presented an American Flag and pole to the library. Taking part in the dedication ceremony were Arthur Bentley, librarian; Mary Reynolds, Americanism chairwoman of the post and mistress of ceremonies; Ruth Webb, president of the library board; Jane Zarr, Post 8206 Auxiliary president; Lee Rearick, post commander; and Lloyd Zarr, member of VFW post. Representative Merle Phillips was the guest speaker.

The exterior of the building was upgraded with siding in 1991, and in 1992 the main entrance was renovated and new carpet was installed. A new lighted sign built and installed by Sonny Moser and painted by Donna Moser was placed at the front of the building.



On June 13, 1992 the Montgomery House Warrior Run Area Public Library celebrated 25 years with an Open House.

Eileen Berger, a local author was the keynote speaker. Credit for the successful completion of 25 years of library service goes to many people and organizations. Ruth Webb, President of the Library Board was the mistress of ceremonies and gave a tribute to all volunteers. Four women: Alice Gold, Gladys Reed, Marjorie Taylor and Edna Walter were honored for volunteering at the library from its beginning. A special thanks went to The Friends of the Library, the Warrior Run Women's Club, Representative Merle Phillips and Senator Edward Helfrick.

On June 14, 1997, the 30 year celebration was held with an Open House.

Arthur Bentley, Librarian, said one of the things that struck him when he first came to Montgomery House was that the building committee members were also the builders. He expressed appreciation to volunteers, organizations, and all who supported the library. He also commented on the community spirit of the area. The Friends of the Library served cookies and punch and an Amnesty Week was held from June 9 through June 14. Amnesty Week is held to show appreciation of patrons and is a "fine free" week.

**On April 1, 2000, an Open House was held
to show the public the new addition.**



The third and final phase of plans made by the Board of Directors in 1988 began in July of 1999 when groundbreaking took place for a study/reference room addition on the northeast side of the building. The addition was made possible by

grants from the Degenstein Foundation, the Scott & Bessie Guyer Foundation, and the Williamsport-Lycoming Foundation-Northumberland Trust. Additional money came from the Warrior Run Women's Club, AAL of Messiah Lutheran Church in McEwensville and local individuals and businesses. The 557 square foot reference computer room houses three computer stations, two with Internet connections and one reference/word processor, tables and chairs, reference books and the Pennsylvania Collection.

At the January, 2001, meeting the directors discussed the wet basement and whether the gutters were part of the problem. The gutters always fill with leaves and the rain water ran over the top. A contractor was hired to dry out the basement. To alleviate the gutter problem, it was decided to remove the trees in the front of the property. As spring came, more thought was given to tree removal, the directors changed their mind and had the trees trimmed back away from the building. By July 18, 2001 it was reported to the board that the basement work was completed.

Also at this meeting Vallery Barnwell was elected to a three year term as a director, replacing Scott Gold the former Delaware Township Representative.

By the spring of 2001 the library was fully automated.

On September 19, 2001 a charity auction was held to benefit the library, Mike Weaver and his auction service donated their time, and the board of directors did the soliciting for new items from area businesses. Lutheran Brotherhood and Aid Association for Lutherans through Messiah Lutheran Church, McEwensville matched funds in the amount of \$1,500. The profit from this venture amounted to nearly \$5,000 which was used to meet a PA state funding requirement to show the community's support of the library.

October 17, 2001 the Annual Meeting was held at the Watson Inn, Watsontown. Bill Kear and Michael Goldman were elected as directors for a three year term replacing Mary Harrison and Hall Williams. Bill will be a director at large and Mike will represent Watsontown Borough.

A goal for off street parking became a reality in the fall of 2001. Through grants from the Guyer and Smith Foundations work was able to begin in the fall and paving was done in the spring. May of 2002 the parking lot, located at the north side of the library, was completed with ten vehicle parking spaces with cement bumpers. One handicapped parking space is located to the front of the library. These grants also provided for recent repairs of the original roof of Montgomery House.





The first newsletter was published June of 2002. It introduced to the public the summer reading program as well as information about the growth of the library. The celebration of the 35th Anniversary was announced to be held the week of August 12, 2002.

A teen area was organized as the community service project of Amy Miller, a Warrior Run High School student. A generous donation from Ronald Callenberger in memory of James Wesner has contributed many new titles to this collection.

Many donations by the families and friends in memory of Hilda Parker and James Sheatler have been used to purchase biographies and sporting titles. Additional donations from individuals and community service groups such as the Lions, Lionesses, Warrior Run Women's Club, and many others continue to enhance the services and collections of Montgomery House.

The 2002 Summer Reading Program was a magnificent success! Fifty-three children attended the first week of activities celebrating the theme "Spotlight on Reading - Be a Star at Your Library." This year the library is partnering with the Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit Family Literacy program to provide stories, crafts and activities which encourage parents and children to read and enjoy the library together. The CSIU has also provided the library with a \$5000 grant for the



purchase of library materials for the children's and teen collections. Now that the basement area of the library is dry, it is being used for much needed archival storage. The Aid Association for Lutherans and Lutheran Brotherhood of Messiah Lutheran Church, McEwensville, and AAL of Zion Lutheran Church,

Turbotville, washed and painted the walls. The Zion Lutheran Disaster Relief Team finished the room with doors and ceiling. The Lutheran Fraternal Benefit organizations provided \$1,800 and Zion Lutheran Church provided manpower for this community project. The balance of money needed will come from a \$5,000 grant from Representative Merle Phillips.

**The week of August 12, 2002,
Montgomery House Library held a 35 year Celebration**



Ruth Moser, retired teacher and volunteer, displays Montgomery House Library memorabilia at the 35th Anniversary Celebration.

During this celebration, another full week of amnesty for overdue books was held, along with a variety of demonstrations, educational events and displays.



Monday was Children's Day, with afternoon and evening story telling, crafts and a fish pond. Kids were asked to take a small photo or small item to include in the five-year time capsule to be opened at the 40th anniversary celebration.



Wednesday was Adult Day with introduction to computer training classes. An organizational meeting for the first book discussion group sponsored by Montgomery House was also held.

Thursday the public was invited to the program which began with the welcome by William Kear, treasurer. Comments on the history of the library, which is being collected for a permanent record, and recognition of former librarians was by Vallery Barnwell, director. Jeane Weigel, president and Hannah Klein, committee member, presented certificates of appreciation for financial support from the boroughs and townships. The program closed with music by "The Heart Of Pennsylvania Chorus." An ice cream social sponsored by the Turbotville Bank was held on the lawn with approximately fifty people attending.



What Do You Have in Your Attic?

Poke around in your attic or basement, dig out that old chair or doll or train set. You may have a valuable antique—or it may be junk. The May 10, 2003, Antique Appraisal Fair was very successful and the library thanks all of the volunteer appraisers and other who helped. Those attending were encouraged to take their valuables for a formal appraisal.

Providing a community center and lifelong learning environment for the municipalities served by the library is an ever-growing role for Montgomery House.

Children, teens and adults, young and old, will find selections for recreation and resources for education and information, from printed materials to online databases and the Internet. Through storytime and summer reading programs, interlibrary loans, computer training and more, Montgomery House Library will continue to strive for excellent library services for the patrons of the Warrior Run Area.

Throughout the history of the Montgomery House Public Library, the mission to provide the Warrior Run Area with comprehensive, free library service has continued to thrive. During 2002, 29,000 patrons borrowed nearly 30,000 items. The collection of materials has expanded to over 30,000 cataloged items, now including DVD's, computer software, books on CD, and access to Power Library databases through the library's five public access computers. Development for automation of circulation services, and the catalog, began in 2000 with a grant from Commonwealth Libraries, and was completed in 2001. A new Internet connection through DSL provides fast and reliable service to patrons. The library's home page, available at www.ncldistrict.org/mcewensville, can be used by registered patrons to access the extensive databases of Power Library, a commonwealth of PA initiative to connect libraries to extensive reference resources.

The hours of operation have been expanded to 41, with the employment of a professional librarian and four part-time staff members serving the needs of community residents. Volunteers continue to dedicate time and resources to Montgomery House programs and services. Programs of continuing interest are offered regularly, including computer training for adults, a book discussion group, storytime for preschoolers and other special occasion programs for children. The Friends of the Library, contributing to the library through the purchase of equipment and materials, opened a permanent bookstore in the renovated porch area in March 2003.

Even as the “cottage library” continues to expand to meet the growing needs of its patrons, the original spirit of a community library dedicated to service, remains a hallmark of the Montgomery House Warrior Run Area Public Library.

**Today the library is offering
programs and services such as:**

- Book Discussion Groups • Storytimes
- Adult Computer Classes • Discovery Packs
- Special Video Collections • DVD's
- Large Print Books and Audio Collection (Books-on-Tape)
- Software Loaned on CD-ROM • Language Resources
- And more!

MISSION STATEMENT

**Montgomery House Warrior Run Area Public Library
October, 2002**

The mission of the Montgomery House Warrior Run Area Public Library is to serve the informational, educational and recreational needs of all the residents of the Warrior Run Area for which its governing body, Montgomery House, Inc., is responsible, by providing free access to an organized and currently useful collection of printed items and other materials and to the services of staff trained to recognize and provide for these needs.

2003 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Directors of the Montgomery House Warrior Run Area Public Library as of the current date are:

Jeane Weigel, *President*
Priscilla Yost, *Vice President*
Rozalyn Yannaccone, *Secretary*
William Kear, *Treasurer*
Vallery Barnwell
Michael Goldman
Pam Shuman

Past living library directors are the following:

Charles Fahringer
Scott Gold
Mary Harrison
Dianne McCormick
Thornton Moser
Ruth Webb
Hall Williams
Jeanne Williamson

A special thanks to Charles Fahringer, Scott Gold and Thornton "Sonny" Moser, who not only served many years as Directors of the library, but were builders who did renovation and remodeling. Also, a special thanks to Christopher Foust, the attorney for Montgomery House, his advice is priceless.

LIBRARIANS

These persons served as librarian:

1967-69 Edna Walter
1969-75 Lois Berger Swartz
1975-77 Kathy Dalius
1978-79 Donna Greenawalt
1979-80 Dianne McCormick
1980-88 Patricia Dutton
1988-89 Dean Slusser
1989-98 Arthur D. Bently
1998-01 Marian H. Keister

PRESENT STAFF

Karen E. Litterer, *Librarian*

Part-time employees:

Cindy Batdorf
Fay Hass
LaRue Schlegel
Joan Webb

VOLUNTEERS

Greatly appreciated are those who have assisted the public and worked behind the scenes to make the library function. They are too numerous to list here.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY OFFICERS

Amy Rickert, *President*
Tiffany Beltz, *Vice President*
Carolyn Frontz, *Treasurer*
Mildred Sheatler, *Secretary*
Don Rickert, *Membership*



Study/Reference Room addition on the northeast side of the library building. April, 2000





LIBRARY HOURS

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 1-8PM

Tuesday and Friday 11AM-6PM

Saturday 9:30AM-3:30PM

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