



## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**Dear Members,**

Those of us in the WTHS consider the Moland Gazette as primarily a place to inform you, our members, of all the wonderful activities coming up, and information about projects and improvements. Unfortunately, this time I must be the bearer of sad news, not once, but twice. On March 22, our former President and President Emeritus, Warren F. Williams, passed away peacefully in his home. He was 93. Warren was president of the Society for eight years during which much of the fund raising for the restoration of the Moland House and the actual construction was completed. His commitment, enthusiasm and tenacity were key to the success of the restoration. I'm not sure we could have done it without him. His obituary may be accessed at the Daily Intelligencer web site.

We have received a grant from the A.P. Kirby foundation allowing us to honor Warren in a special way. Fortunately, we were able to consult with him before his death. Using Warren's ideas, we, and Milan Kirby, representing the foundation, have begun to develop a plan for a permanent display that will depict the movements of Washington and the army in the area centering on the Moland House. Ed Price has done most of the research and recently presented a report outlining various possibilities for creating the display. We will keep you posted.

The second piece of sad news is that our former treasurer, Mary Lutz, passed away February 15 after battling cancer for over a year. We owe a

lot to Mary. When our long-time treasurer, Jackie Schneck, decided to give up the position, Mary stepped in and quickly learned the system. She was a whiz with computers and learned Quick Books in nothing flat. The job of treasurer is probably the most complicated and skilled position in the Society and we were lucky to have Mary step in when needed.

But, life does go on, and I now turn to some evidence of that at Moland. As usual, for this time of year, Gwyn Duffy and her crew hosted the Cabin Fever Craft Show and Sale at the Moland House March 18-21. She moved it back a week this year to try to assure better weather. As Robert Burns wrote, "The best laid plans of mice and men often go awry." We had five inches of snow on March 20! You just can't count on Mother Nature!

The winter has been fairly quiet as usual, mainly requiring keeping up with some mundane chores like trouble shooting the burglar alarm system and renewing our Crime Insurance Policy. What crime, you may ask. Although we have been 100% successful in keeping criminals off of the

*Please visit our website - [www.Moland.org](http://www.Moland.org) and "friend us" on Facebook*

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## *President's Message cont'd*

Board of Directors, we still must insure against the possibility that someone, perhaps driven mad by the snow and cold, raids the donation box and absconds to the Caribbean! Obviously I'm joking, but it is an example of one of the expenses regularly incurred in the process of running a non-profit corporation.

Also, I am happy to report that the update to our fire detection system to include the Carriage House requested by the Warwick Township Fire Marshall has been completed. I mentioned this in the Fall newsletter as a pending project. Of course we had one little glitch which resulted in a gathering of myself, who gets the alarm calls, several of our local fire personnel, and Murrie and Chaya Gayman who live directly across the street from Moland, at four o'clock one morning. One of the new detectors malfunctioned and the siren could not be turned off. Fortunately, the fire trucks were called off early enough to keep them from waking the entire neighborhood with lights and sirens! All in a days work.

Happy Spring! Dave

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## SPRING TEA



April showers bring May flowers and also this year's Spring Tea. The 2015 Moland House Tea is set for April 19th from 1-3:00 and we are delighted to have quilt enthusiast, Barbara Harrison, speaking with us about quilt-making in colonial times. We'll get a glimpse into the beautiful art work of the time. A scone expert, Megan Iomax, will be providing the food, so we'll look forward to delicious treats after Barbara's talk.

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## WRITER'S WORKSHOP



The Society of Children's Book Writer's and Illustrators Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter was delighted to host, along with the BucksMont Critique group, a writing workshop at the Moland House on March 7<sup>th</sup>.

Agent Marie Lamba of the Jennifer De Chiara Literary Agency, author Kay Winters, and author Debbie Dadey were the main speakers. Marie gave insight into first pages for the overflowing crowd. Debbie and the BucksMont critique group did a panel on mistakes that authors often make and things they can do to improve their chances of being published. An ask the experts panel took questions before Kay and Debbie took a large group on a tour of the Moland House, complete with tips on writing historical fiction.



*During the Neshaminy Encampment at the Moland House there were many notable men present. We will be highlighting some of those individuals in our Gazette.*

## **General Peter Muhlenberg**

**By Ed Price**



Peter's father came to America to head the Lutheran Church in America.

He first settled in what is now Trappe, PA. He had three sons. The second son was Peter, born on October 1, 1746. His father saw to the education of all three and trained them as clergymen. Peter was educated in the College of Philadelphia (now the University of Pennsylvania). He was ordained, in 1768, and then headed a Lutheran congregation in New Jersey. In 1770, he was married before moving to Woodstock, Virginia. In 1772, he was ordained in the Anglican Church so that he could preach in Virginia. He took a church in a Lutheran community.

He was elected to the House of Burgesses in 1774. One day, as the Revolution was heating up, he gave his Sunday sermon, "To everything there is a season". As he ended the sermon, he spoke of the need for support of the Revolution, and it is said that he opened his vestment to display himself in a full military uniform. With this, he announced that he would be joining the fight for independence. That vestment is said to now be in a museum. It is also said, as he left to join the Army, about 300 men went with him from the community. Peter had been authorized to establish and head the 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment as part of the Continental Army. His brother, Frederick, did not approve of Peter joining the Army until the British burned down his church in front of him. Frederick then also joined the Army. A flag from the 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia was sold at Sotheby's in 2006.

Muhlenberg's 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia was first sent south. In the spring of 1777, the regiment was then sent north to join Washington. Muhlenberg was at the Moland encampment, and there he attended the Council of War. His brigade was camped on the top of Kerr's Hill, in what is now Jamison. When the orders of the day were written, a special copy was made to help his German troops understand them. He was a Brigadier General and saw service in the Battles of Brandywine, Germantown, and Monmouth. After the Battle of Monmouth, most of the Virginia Line was sent south, while General Muhlenberg was assigned to the defense of Virginia, using mostly militia units. At the Battle of Yorktown, he commanded the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade in Lafayette's Light Division.

In 1783, at the end of the war, he was brevetted to Major General and settled in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. Muhlenberg was also an original member of the State Society of the Cincinnati of Pennsylvania. Muhlenberg was then elected to the Supreme Executive Council of the Commonwealth in 1784. He was elected Vice President of the Council, a position comparable to that of Lieutenant Governor, in 1787. He was then elected to the 1<sup>st</sup> U.S. Congress in 1789, representing Pennsylvania as a representative at-large.

His brother, Frederick, was the Speaker of the House in that first Congress. Peter again served in the 3<sup>rd</sup> U.S. Congress from 1793 to 1795, and then in the 5<sup>th</sup> Congress from 1799 to 1801. He was elected to the U.S. Senate by the Pennsylvania Legislature in 1801. He resigned that same year.

Peter died in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, on October 1, 1807. He is buried at the Augustus Lutheran Church in Trappe, PA. Peter Muhlenberg's statue stands at the United States Capitol building.

## STORY TELLING FESTIVAL



### *New Festival Coordinator Needed.*

*Don't let the oral traditional of storytelling die! For the past three years, the Moland House has hosted a Story and Music Festival on the fourth Sunday of June. It will not happen this year*

*unless a new storytelling lover steps up to host it. Please consider keeping storytelling alive in Bucks County and being our champion by contacting [events@moland.org](mailto:events@moland.org).*



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## A Family Story – John Moland is My Ancestor

We were delighted to receive an email from Adam Boyd, a direct descendant of John Moland's son William. He gave us this brief biographical summary of William Moland. The information has also been shared on our website.

Mr. Boyd has indicated he has plans to visit the Moland House in the fall.

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“MOLAND, William, born 5 Nov 1749 in Philadelphia; lost his father at the age of eleven; educated in the field of medicine; said to be a man of culture and talents; married Hannah Noble 19 Oct 1773 in Pennsylvania; served as a surgeon in the Revolutionary army; said to have been present with General George Washington in several of his most important battles; went to Philadelphia in the spring of 1778, when it was under the control of the British, and sailed to the West Indies seeking financial assistance from his brother; returned Aug 1778; attainted of high treason 8 May 1778 by the Pennsylvania

Supreme Executive Council; listed in the sixth class of the militia in Plumstead Township, Bucks County 19 May 1781; recommended for pardon to John Dickinson, whom his father had trained in law, 28 Jul 1783; referred to at the time he was recommended for pardon as an imprudent young man who cared little about the cause of the Revolutionary War; granted a pardon 5 Sept 1788; owned 110 acres in Warminster Township in 1785; worked as a physician and had, at one time, a lucrative practice; divorced 20 Mar 1811 by an act of the General Assembly of Pennsylvania; said by his wife to be a man of intemperance who mistreated and abused her; driven by alcoholism to life at the alms house, where he is said to have died a miserable death; died 24 Apr 1826 at the alms house in Warwick Township; interment in a private graveyard in Bucks County. “

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*If you would like to read more about the Moland Family, we found the following link via Ancestry.com. The article starts with the year 1745 and lists births, deaths, marriages, etc. of the Morland (Moland) family.*

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~colonialamerica/pennsylvania-morlands.html>  
*William Moland is mentioned throughout the above Ancestry link.*

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## Landscape Team

Finally Spring is here, but along with the joy and sunshine comes a busy season for the Landscape Team. We now have five volunteers who will each be taking responsibility for individual sections of the Native Garden. A “Big Thank You” goes to Nancy Crowther, Karen Horn, JoAnn Robbins, John Robinson and Joy Snyder.

Although there is work to be done any day of the week, and you will frequently find a member of the team at work on any given day, We are always looking for help; please join us any Monday or Tuesday morning between 9 a.m. & noon.



## UPCOMING EVENTS --- MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Are you looking for an activity for yourself and/or your family? How about a visit to the Moland House.

The following is a list of special events and open house activities for January – October 2015. Please contact a Board member if you would like to help with any of the listed activities.

Visit [www.Moland.org](http://www.Moland.org) or [www.Facebook.com/molandhouse](http://www.Facebook.com/molandhouse) for the latest updates.

Date	Special Events & Proposed Open House Activities
April 12*	Revolutionary Ghostbuster
April 19	Spring Tea
April 26*	Bring your own needlework to share
May 10*	Mother's Day and Spring Photo Op
May 24*	Bring your own picnic (we have 2 new stationary charcoal grills)
June 14*	Flag Day Ceremony
June 28*	Story and Music Festival
July 4	Picnic Day
July 12*	Open House
July 26*	Patriot or Torey Event
August 9*	Open House
August 15	Reenactment of the Neshaminy Encampment
August 22	Reenactment Raindate
August 23*	Open House
Sept. 13*	Teacher Appreciation Day
Sept. 27*	Scout Day
Oct. 11*	Fall Picture Day
Oct. 25*	Cemetery Crawl
*Open House is on Sunday from 1 – 4 p.m.	



**Annual Revolutionary War Reenactment  
August 15, 2015 10:00 am to 4:00 p.m.  
Rain date August 22, 2015**

*Our annual reenactment again needs your support.*

Besides being a fun filled educational day it is our most important fund raiser of the year. Our profit from the Reenactment helps pay the utilities for The Moland House. There are no grants available to pay for these expenses. Please consider being a patron of this great reenactment by returning the Patron Form found in this Gazette.

We celebrate Washington and all the men and women of the revolution who fought for our independence with the 5<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Regiment encampment and other reenactors that engage in skirmishes and representations of colonial life. We will again have 18<sup>th</sup> century music, blacksmithing, spinning, woodworking, 18<sup>th</sup> century children's toys and games, puppet shows, folk painting, powder horn making, and other activities.

**A FEW MEMORIES FROM PAST REENACTMENTS --- Your support will help us provide the chance for hundreds of people to learn about a part of history that is too often forgotten.**



## Patron Form – 2015 Reenactment

Patrons will be acknowledged at the following levels:

Executive level – over \$100.00

General -- \$100.00

Colonel--\$50.00

Major -- \$25.00

Captain -- \$15.00

All patrons will be acknowledged in the WTHS newsletter, on our website, [www.Moland.org](http://www.Moland.org), and in the program for the day.

For \$50 your name or the name of your business will be placed on a star plaque which will be displayed at the event in addition to a listing in the program.

For \$100 your name or your business name will be placed on a George Washington plaque which will be displayed at the event in addition to a listing in the program.

Over \$100 your name or business name will be placed on a Moland House plaque which will be displayed at the event in addition to a listing in the program.



*Please fill out the following form and return it by July 25, 2015 to be included in the program.*

Name or business name for listing \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Circle patron level.    Executive    General    Colonel    Major    Captain

Please make all checks payable to WTHS. Send your contribution to: WTHS PO Box 107, Jamison, PA 18929 attn: Reenactment.

## *Have you visited our Nature Trail???*



Are you and your family looking for a relaxing place to take a walk on a sunny spring afternoon. Try our nature trail. We have been hearing from visitors that they enjoy looking for plants, animals and birds along the trail which meanders goes through a wooded area, wetlands and along the Neshaminy Creek.

We would like to thank Stephen Staedler for posting this picture, on the Moland Facebook page, of a pileated woodpecker that he saw during one of his nature walks through Moland Historic Park.



Would you like a quick link to our website? Do you have a 'smart' phone? Just scan this QR code with a phone's scanning app and you will be taken directly to the Moland House website.

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Warwick Township Historical Society  
P.O. Box 107  
Jamison, PA 18929