

The Graystone Society brings you the newsletter of the National Iron & Steel Heritage Museum in the Lukens National Historic District.

## Collections

### Staff and Volunteers at Graystone Learn About Collections Management

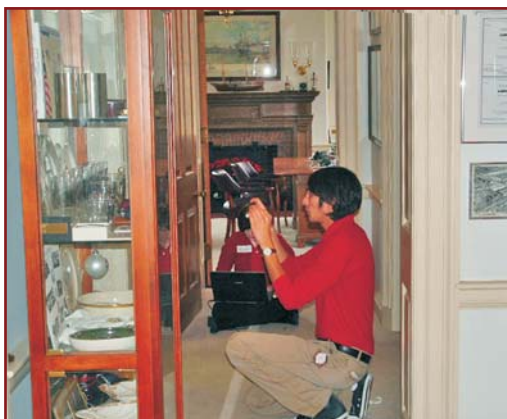
*PastPerfect* is computer software designed specifically for museums that makes it easy to track such things as membership and donations. What sets *PastPerfect* apart from other database software is the way it also helps museums manage their collections.

The staff of *PastPerfect*, which is based in Exton, PA, are experts on the software, but decided that it would be a helpful to get real-time experience. Instead of a having traditional Holiday Party this year, they decided to volunteer at a local museum and use their skills to do some actual object accessions.



*PastPerfect* staff explaining how data is input to Graystone volunteers.

We were fortunate that they chose to come to Coatesville and work with the Graystone Society. Our staff and volunteers had the opportunity to learn how collection objects are properly accessioned — how to handle, the objects and input the information into the computer database.



Taking photographs of objects in the Executive Office Building. Photo files are uploaded to the computer and are added to the collections database.

After an initial orientation and lunch, the *PastPerfect* staff broke into teams and worked with volunteers and staff from Graystone on objects in the Lukens Executive Building, and Terracina. Another team went to the Tenant House to learn how to input data on the computers.



Precise measurements are taken, and all information is added to the collections database.

More than \_\_\_ objects were accessioned, but more importantly our staff and volunteers gained invaluable experience and knowledge about collections management.

## Events

### Rebecca Lukens Award Ceremony to Honor Barbara Travaglini

The Third Annual Rebecca Lukens Award ceremony will take place on March 19th at Graystone Mansion. Our honoree this year is **Barbara Travaglini** author of the book about her father: *Gunnar O. Carlson, Blacksmith Entrepreneur*, who founded G.O. Carlson Inc.

Starting at 5 pm on March 19, Graystone Mansion will open for light fare and presentation of the Rebecca Lukens Award. The award plaque is permanently housed in The Lukens National Historic District, mounted to a scale replica of Rebecca's original rolling mill. A commemorative etching with each recipient's name is affixed to the plaque.



#### The Rebecca Lukens Award

The Rebecca Lukens Award has been established to honor individuals who exhibit the qualities of Rebecca

- |                     |                        |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Resilience</b>   | <b>Insightfulness</b>  |
| <b>Loyalty</b>      | <b>Tenacity</b>        |
| <b>Caring</b>       | <b>Resourcefulness</b> |
| <b>Practicality</b> | <b>Patience</b>        |

invitation-only give us a call at graystone@lukens.com

### Executive Director Retires

Eugene L. DiOrio, one of the founding members of the Graystone Society, has announced his retirement as Executive Director. Mr. DiOrio, a lifelong resident of Coatesville and former employee of Lukens, is well-known for his interest in and knowledge of local and industrial history, especially as relates to The Lukens Steel Company.



The Graystone Society is fortunate in that Mr. DiOrio will remain on the Board of Directors of the organization, and will continue in his advisory role. The members of the Board of Directors would like to express their sincere appreciation for the many years of dedicated service Mr. DiOrio has provided, and wish him all the best in all his future endeavors.

### Be a part of the Graystone Society!

It's easy — go to [www.lukensnhd.org](http://www.lukensnhd.org) and click on the **Donate, Join** or **Sponsorship** tabs or call today 610-384-9282.

We can't do it without you!

*The Graystone Society is a 501(c)3 corporation registered with the Pennsylvania Bureau of Charitable Organizations.*



The Graystone Society  
 in the Lukens National Historic District  
 The National Iron & Steel Heritage Museum  
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## 2008 Holiday House Tours

The 2008 Holiday House Tours were a huge success with a doubling of the attendance we had in 2007. People of all ages toured the buildings in the Historic District decorated for the holidays. Terracina was decorated in Victorian fashion and featured the only Santa in town. Once again the Lukens Band played at the Executive Office Building, also the site of our annual can drive to benefit the Coatesville Food Cupboard. This year over \_\_\_\_\_ food items were collected for distribution to needy families in the area.



Middle School Choir singing in Graystone Mansion.

### Programs

#### Upcoming Events in the Lukens National Historic District

**March 19, 2009 — Rebecca Lukens Award Ceremony**  
 Presentation of the Third Annual  
 Rebecca Lukens Award.

**May 7, 2009 — Spring Lecture # 1**  
**Carol Siri Johnson, author of**  
*The Language of Work —*  
*Technical Communication of Lukens Steel,*  
*1810 to 1925*

**June 5, 2009 — Spring Lecture # 2**  
**A. Diue Pyle**

**July 11, 2009 — Victorian Ice Cream Festival**

### A few words with . . .

#### Fred Smith

Fred Smith has always cared deeply about the Coatesville community, so when Charles L. "Skip" Huston III asked him to become a member of the Graystone Society's Property Committee, he agreed to serve. He has been on the committee for several years, and has contributed a great deal to advancing the mission of the Society.

Fred Smith spent five years in the Army with the Corp of Engineers. When he left the Service in 1970 he went to work for Lukens Steel, and stayed there for 29 years. He spent most of his there in Operations Management, working in industrial engineering, melting, maintenance, purchasing, just about everything except for sales. He concluded his career at Lukens as Vice President of Operations.

When asked what his hopes are for the future of the Graystone Society and the Lukens National Historic District, Mr. Smith replied "I hope for a successful historical site in Coatesville that will reflect the pride of the steelworkers who worked in this community. I want the Historic District to provide an anchor for Coatesville to grow and become a thriving and prosperous community into the future."



The Lukens Band in the Lukens Executive Office Building.



Some of the food items collected for the Coatesville Food Cupboard under the tree.

### Interested in the The Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania ?

Even if you have only a casual interest in railroads, you will still enjoy a trip to The Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania. The museum contains one of the finest collections of artifacts related to the history of railroads, including books, and photos, plus over 100 historic engines and cars.

Many of these have been restored to their original appearance

The museum also frequently features special exhibits and offers educational programs for groups, individuals, and especially children.

As the first to roll boiler plate for steam engines, Lukens played a significant role in the development of the railroads of our country. Lukens rolled boiler plate for Baldwin

Locomotives for the Pennsylvania and many other Railroads.

The Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania is located in Strasburg, Lancaster County. Directly across the street is the Strasburg Railroad, where visitors can take a ride on a real vintage steam train.



An ad for the Union Pacific and Lukens Steel. The benefit of a single sheet can be seen here. Seams where two plates are welded together are weak spots.

Your Donation is Tax Deductible

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