

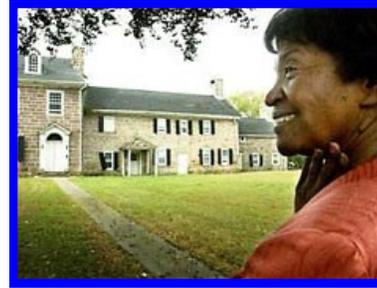


Thomas Rutter Foundation

# GAZETTE



Thoughts  
From the desk of  
Our President...



## Pine Forge – An American Treasure

By Patricia Bratton

My name is Phyllis Mitchell and I have been President of the *Pine Forge Historical Society* and the *Thomas Rutter Foundation* since 2007.

The *Pine Forge Historical Society* was started in 2004 by a group of people who wanted to make a difference in the Pine Forge community by recognizing the work of one man, Thomas Rutter and the contributions he made.

There have been many programs in association with the Rutter Manor House including **Pine Forge Day**, which happens each year on the first Sunday in May. People come to tour the grounds and learn about Colonial history. During these events there are reenactments of Colonial times and stories are told about the activities in and around Pine Forge including the much talked about and legendary Underground Railroad tunnels.

There is a volunteer staff of individuals from our **FRIENDS OF THOMAS RUTTER** group who support our programs. They are a dedicated team who work tirelessly to make our programs successful.

Our newest program for children and youth began last November. This is an educational program for children of ages 5-12 in colonial history, present events and most recently the study of Archeology.

We invite families to come, to play and to work together in our study of the past and present. We meet every 3rd Sunday of the month from 2 pm until 4 pm.

**All are welcome!**

Pine Forge, originally called Rutter's Forge, was named after Thomas Rutter, a Quaker who emigrated from England to Philadelphia, a part of the Colony of Pennsylvania in 1684. The Colony of Pennsylvania was founded by William Penn in 1681 as a religious refuge, based on religious freedom for the English Quakers. That why Thomas Rutter came to America.

Rutter, a blacksmith by trade, first lived in Philadelphia then moved to Germantown and eventually to Pine Forge. It is believed that William Penn encouraged Rutter to migrate to the Pine Forge area because it was rich in the iron ore that was needed to build up the colony of Pennsylvania.

Being a blacksmith, Rutter, understood the young colony's need for iron and possessed the skills to make iron. In 1715 he brought land in what was then the back country of Pennsylvania – along the Manatawny and tributary of the Schuylkill River. The land had iron ore, water for power and a forest for fuel. By 1716 the bloomer forge was built and Rutter operated the first forge in Pennsylvania.

Rutter, a preacher and a staunch abolitionist spoke out against slavery. Because of his belief, that having and selling slaves was against the teachings of his Quaker religion, he signed one of the first antislavery documents published in the Colonies. *Continued bottom of page 3*



By Carlton Gillis Sr.

Hi I'm Miss Karen (Karen Douglas), of the Pine Forge Historical Society, and also a local of the Pine Forge Community. We have been having an awesome time in the last 9 months.

We have a Children's Program on the 3rd Sunday of every month and we are learning so many things. We've seen Harriet Tubman's story come alive in a dramatic presentation of her experiences bringing slaves to the north and to their freedom.

We learned about growing a 3 sister's garden from the Lenape Indians. We've learned more history about our country and about the early settlers in Pennsylvania than I can tell you about right here.

We met a man who shook Dr. Martin Luther King's hand while marching for civil rights. Right now we're studying archeology and learning what it's all about. We actually searched the grounds around the Rutter Mansion for artifacts last month and we're hiked into the woods and found many interesting things. Each month brings new and exciting reasons to explore. We can hardly wait!

You should come join us there's always room for one more! If you can't make it this month remember our program is on the 3rd Sunday each month from 2-4PM. We'll be looking for you!



The 3rd Sunday of each Month

## What We May Become

have you lately watched a caterpillar crawling on a limb?  
there's one thing he is after, that means the world to him  
he simply wants to find a leaf, to settle down and eat  
this action will facilitate his trading in his feet

he'll grow to be a certain length, then settle down to rest  
when he completes his cycle, his color's at its best  
as nature runs its course, lo there's a big surprise  
this worm that used to crawl along,  
now spreads its wings and flies

so if a silly worm declares where butterflies come from  
then maybe there's a dream in God,  
of what we may become  
he'll lead us to His tree of life,  
because He knows what's best  
we'll eat until our hearts intent reflects His righteousness

though we may not appreciate the similarities  
of man, made in God's image,  
and things that crawl in trees  
if you take time to ponder,  
just where that worm came from  
then you can trust God's vision, of what we can become

An Original Poem created for the Gazette by

*Carlton L. Gillis Sr.*



- ◆ Do you like the poem above? Well, Carlton will be teaching us how to write poetry in the next few months.
- ◆ University of Pennsylvania *Professor Joel Webb*, will be joining our staff to work with the teens 13-18. He wants to help enrich their growing teen years.
- ◆ Our events are the 3rd Sunday of each month from 2-4 PM. The events for the rest of this year 2014 are: September 21st, October 19th, November 16th and December 21st, 2014.



## POINT OF VIEW

By Donte' Douglas

Hey, everybody, you really need to come to Pine Forge Historical Society Children's program, it is AWESOME!

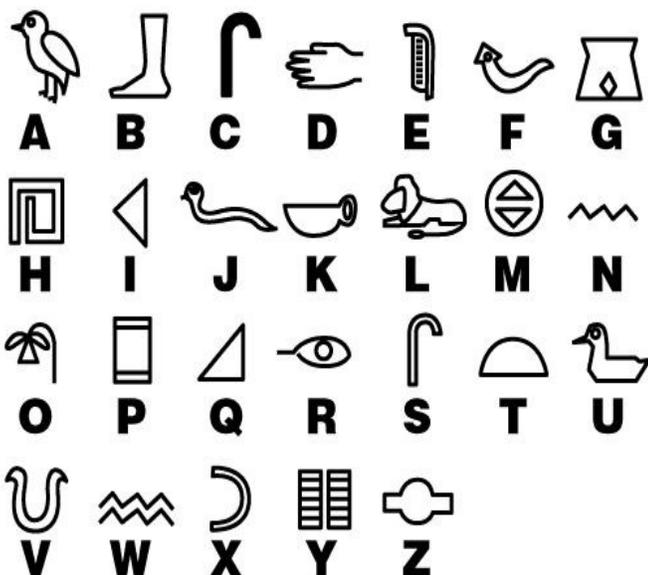
We learn things about people in history, we make crafts, we learn about African Americans, Indians, Quakers and more. And when its almost done, we have snacks.

At our last program we learned about archaeology. Me and my friends found things everywhere. We want you to experience that, too.

On July 20th we explored the Manor House grounds for treasures and we found quite a few. We will continue our exploration on August 17th with gravestone etchings.

So come on down and learn some history, we do new and exciting things every month!

### ANCIENT EGYPT HIEROGLYPHS



Write your name in hieroglyphics

## Pine Forge – An American Treasure

*Treasure continued from page 1*

At the Pine Forge Mansion, overlooking the Manatawny Creek, the Rutters spoke out against slavery and turned their home into a stop on the Underground Railroad network that helped thousands of African Americans find freedom.

The Pine Forge Historical Society was established for the sole purpose of protecting the historical treasures of Thomas Rutter's Manor House, the Caretaker's Cottage, the Grist Mill, the Iron Forge and the Underground Tunnels on Pine Forge Academy campus. These treasures are for the future generations to learn about the courage, dedication, foresight and value that the early settlers placed on freedom for all men.

One of the crowning glories of the ***Manor House Industrial Site*** is that it has been recognized as an **American Treasure by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and placed on the National Register of Historic Places.**

 Pine Forge Mansion and Industrial Site (added 2004 - - #04000191)

Also known as Rutter's Mansion

Pine Forge Rd and Douglass Dr., Pine Forge, Douglas Township

Historic Significance: Event, Person, Architecture/Engineering

Architect, builder, or engineer: Okie, R. Brognard

Architectural Style: Federal, Early Republic

Historic Person: Rutter, Thomas

Significant Year: 1800, 1918

Area of Significance: Industry, Architecture

Period of Significance: 1925-1949, 1900-1924, 1875-1899, 1850-1874, 1825-1849, 1800-1824, 1750-1799, 1700-1749

Owner: Private

Historic Function: Agriculture/Subsistence, Domestic, Industry/Processing/Extraction

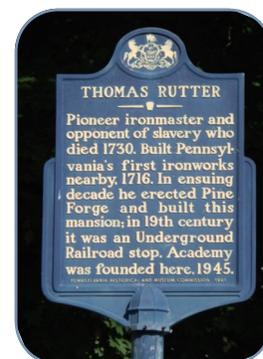
Historic Sub-function: Agricultural Outbuildings, Manufacturing Facility, Single Dwelling, Storage

Current Function: Education, Vacant/Not In Use

Current Sub-function: School

Visit the web site for more information:

<http://www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com/pa/Berks/state2.html>



## Pictures from our Photo Gallery!



Mrs. Mitchell giving a tour.



Thomas Rutter's relatives with volunteers.



Harriet Tubman reenactment!



Children doing crafts!

*Pine Forge Historical Society*



**Thomas Rutter Foundation**

P.O. Box 303

Pine Forge, Pa. 19548

610-367-7881