

The King of Prussia Gazette

Preserving Upper Merion's Past to Enliven its Future

Volume IX, Number Two

Summer 2020

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Dave Montalvo

It is with a heavy heart that we note the passing of Dr. Carl Schultheis. Not only was Carl a pediatric doctor who took care of so many of the children of King of Prussia, he was also a pillar of the community and the last president of the King of Prussia Historical Society before its period of dormancy from 2003 to 2012. Throughout the 1980s and 1990s, Carl fought to preserve the King of Prussia Inn at a crucial moment when, stranded in the medial strip of US 202 since the 1950s, it had decayed almost to the point of no return. Carl organized clean-ups, floated ideas for access from US 202, and finally helped to organize the Home for the Inn campaign with Al Paschall. The result of that effort lives on in the minds of all of us who witnessed the engineering marvel of Upper Merion's most historic building being moved in August of 2000 to its current location on Bill Smith Boulevard.



Of course, the work of the Society continues apace, even during this time of quarantine. We are exploring a partnership with Tredyffrin-Easttown Historical Society and the Valley Forge Alliance to present a speaker series via Zoom meetings.

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We wrote a letter of support for the successful BCA grant awarded to the township's Economic and Community Development Committee and the township's Historical Commission to fund a new engineering study of the Moore-Irwin house with the hope of clarifying what it would take to save another of our few remaining, precious historical buildings.

The Society has also been awarded a BCA grant to begin the work of digitizing issues of the King of Prussia Courier. Between our collection of Couriers and the bound issues kindly loaned to us by the Radnor Historical Society, we look forward to sharing many insights into the history of the township from the 1950s to the 1990s in the coming months.

