



June 14, 2017

### **TOURING SULLIVAN COUNTY'S MUSEUM . . . while dusting**

In 1985, J. Wilson Ferguson compiled a listing of the then known cemeteries of Sullivan County. Since that time, more have been uncovered, sometimes quite literally. So in 2014 Wilson, along with Jack Igoe and a Garmin device went to each known cemetery today. Jack then instituted a Microsoft Access program with the GPS data in the museum's main computer. Copies of an index of all cemeteries and individual maps are now available at the museum. It is organized by municipality as is reflected in the table of contents. There is also an alphabetical index by place name included. The new compiling of cemeteries will be helpful to people in search of ancestors burial locations which is very often the end of a family search on a genealogy discovery of their roots. Please keep in mind that publication of this information about a burial place does not constitute permission to visit it. Some are private and closed to all but close family and so should be respected by first obtaining permission. Such cemeteries are clearly marked in this publication. If you are unable to view these maps in the museum, you may obtain a copy of a complete set by mail for \$10, plus postage by contacting the museum either by email at [museum@scpahistory.com](mailto:museum@scpahistory.com) or visiting our website at [www.scpahistory.com](http://www.scpahistory.com)

To both Wilson and Jack, the Sullivan County Historical Society is indebted to you for your effort and time in accomplishing this task for to help all those wishing to stand at the gravesite of an ancestor who has passed on. We so often take for granted the blessings we have, including the lives we spend here on earth. But those who wish to remember ones who've gone before keep a memory alive and you, gentlemen, have helped each one of them have day dreams fulfilled: Many Thanks.

For an appointment or further information, you may phone the museum at 570-946-5020. We are on summer hours of Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 1 to 5 p.m. That is, if we've the volunteers to man the museum. Volunteerism seems to be on a decline and whether this is a generational thing or just another sign of the times, it is a condition that we've sometimes found ourselves in that we've not enough volunteers to have the buildings open when we say we are. For that reason, we've posted a sign in the window of the main building which reads: "Should you

find that we are not open on a regularly scheduled day, then it is very likely that we don't have a volunteer to open the museum. Please telephone any of the numbers listed on the green sign to make a future appointment. We are very sorry to have inconvenienced you and would hope to see you at another time." This, folks, is not what we desire for visitors to see when coming to visit YOUR museum but there are times when conditions warrant simply because we don't have enough people volunteering. We're officially open for 39 days this summer at the museum and 4 more days at the Sullivan County Fair. If you should feel so inclined to consider volunteering, please know that you'd not serve alone – someone knowledgeable would be with you. Some days it is possible that no one will come in and others when you'd wonder where in the world they parked that bus . . . but alas, every day is different and every day is what you make it. So, how about it folks: are you willing? Phone the museum, or call Melanie Norton at 570-924-3027 to sign up on days of your convenience.