

The Exile Herald

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To Visit Three Cemeteries

The Spring Meeting of the Society will take the form of a pilgrimage to the cemeteries in which are buried a number of the Exiles.

The meeting will begin on Saturday afternoon, May 24, at 2.30 daylight time. The members will gather at the cemetery adjoining the Methacton Mennonite Meeting House in Worcester Township, a short distance northeast of Fairview Village.

To reach this cemetery go west on the Germantown and Reading Pike, from Norristown or Philadelphia, till you come to Fairview Village—top of long hill. Turn right on Route 363 leading toward Center Point (Worcester). After passing through a small stretch of woodland, about half mile from Fairview, turn left at the first crossroad. This leads direct to the Methacton Cemetery where lie buried Dr. Abram Wagner, his wife, and various members of the Abraham Beyer family. Christopher Sower, the Germantown printer during the Revolution, is also buried here.

After inspecting the graves in this cemetery, the members will proceed to the small cemetery on the farm of Oswin Kriebel, a short distance east of Cedars. To reach this cemetery go over Route 363 to Center Point, then west on the Skippack Pike to the first road leading to the right after passing the Wentz's Church. The cemetery is in a field a short distance from the road where it makes a sharp turn to the left. The time of meeting at this cemetery is 3.30.

This is known as the Hans Christopher Heebner Cemetery. Nineteen graves have been counted here.

After leaving this cemetery we shall retrace our route back to Center Point, go south on the Fairview Road about one mile to the road leading to the right, near a small Evangelical Church. Turn right here and proceed about one mile when we shall arrive at the farm of John K. Heebner, where the main meeting will be held.

On this farm is found a small cemetery known as the "Christopher Wagner Cemetery," as it contains the graves of some members of his family as well as the grave of Melchior Heydrick, a wagoner in the Revolution.

On the Heebner Farm, at 4.30, will be held the literary program. The speakers, besides the president, Dr. James M. Anders, will be:

Rev. Harvey K. Heebner, pastor of the First Schwenkfelder Church of Philadelphia, who will tell of the Wagner and Heebner Cemeteries. This farm is Rev. Mr. Heebner's birthplace. He will also recall some Revolutionary anecdotes connected with this section.

"A Pioneer Physician and Philanthropist, Dr. Abram Wagner," will be the title of an address by Dr. S. K. Brecht.

Following these addresses, refreshments will be served.

Wise and Otherwise

The entertainment committee has been requested to supply refreshments in keeping with the occasion—buttermilk, fresh from the place buttermilk comes from, apple butter perhaps, possibly doughnuts—there speaks an editor with a zinc-lined stomach!

This meeting will be different from any other we have ever held. These old cemeteries are crowded with history. They should not be forgotten.

We have twelve life members now! No more dues for them as long as they live, and the consciousness that they are helping to endow the society. Tell the treasurer you will be another!

Ex-Governor Martin G. Brumbaugh, a member of our Society, died recently. He was a charter member.

Two new members joined recently: Oscar Heebner Cassel, of Milbourne, Pa., and Mrs. E. Louise Thomas, Lansdale, Pa.

In case of rain! If the meeting day is rainy the speeches will be delivered just the same—in the big Heebner barn! Road to the farm is usable in rain. Come, rain or shine. If you have empty seats in your auto, report to Dr. Getelman. If you need a seat—say so, too!

How many are planning to go back to Silesia on the 200th anniversary? We descendants ought to plan some specially interesting meetings during the next three years. Who will finance another pageant? Plan to treat yourself and Friend Wife to a trip to Silesia!

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