

# Nicholson Heritage Association News

## WELCOME CORNER!

Dear Friends:

Welcome Back! It's been a busy six months since our previous newsletter. We are excited to share our latest news with you.

It is with great pride to let you know that we are in the process of purchasing the DL&W Railroad's Nicholson Station on Route 11. We anticipate bringing this historic building "back to life" with major renovations. This not only depends on the Heritage Association, but it will take the money, effort and time of many people to bring this project into a reality.

At this time we are starting a major fund raising project. We understand that there are many important fund raising events going on, but we do ask for your help so that this will be accomplished as quickly as possible.

We are pleased to list events of local organizations and events on our Web site. Please let us know if you have an event to list.

In addition, if you have a question let us know by going under the "Contact" page of our Web site. We have had some very interesting requests and will always do our best to answer your questions accurately and promptly.

Please consider joining us and attending one of our meetings. The meeting dates and location are listed on our Web site.

Thanks for your support and time.

- Marion Sweet, Chair

## DL & W RAILROAD'S NICHOLSON STATION



Station - Turn of the 20th Century

The Nicholson Heritage Association is raising funds to purchase and renovate the former Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad's (DL&W) Nicholson Station, located right off Route 11. This landmark has been a virtually unchanged fixture for more than 160 years.

Built in 1849 by the Liggett's Gap Railroad, one of DL&W's predecessors, the railroad station was the first station built on the Scranton to Great Bend, PA line. Before being used as a freight and passenger station, the building was used to house and feed transient workers. In 1855, the local U.S. Post Office was moved to the station, at which time the name of the settlement was changed from Baconville (sometimes also referred to as Bacontown) to Nicholson. In May 1878, the first telephone service in Northeastern Pennsylvania was opened between the station in Nicholson and the DL&W station in Scranton, about 21 miles south. Nicholson would not be the same once the railroad was built.

Until the completion of the Clarks Summit-Hallstead Cut-off in 1915, Nicholson was the low point on the rail line and four

locomotives were kept here at all times to push trains out of the valley. After the Cut-off was finished in 1915, the railroad station only handled freight service and passenger service was then provided from the new station built on the hill near the recently completed Nicholson Bridge, or the Tunkhannock Viaduct.

In addition to donations, we want to encourage innovative partnerships and approaches to the historic preservation of this station with local, state, and federal partners and other organizations. By working together, we can preserve this historical, cultural building and promote commerce within our town and region. We are excited about this initiative and working with local, state, and federal partners and other organizations to make this a reality.

Should you wish to make a tax-deductible donation, our mailing address is P.O. Box 496, Nicholson, PA 18446. Alternatively, you can make a donation through PayPal, please visit our Web site for more information: [www.nicholsonheritage.org](http://www.nicholsonheritage.org).

We hope you will consider donating to this cause. Thank you for your support!



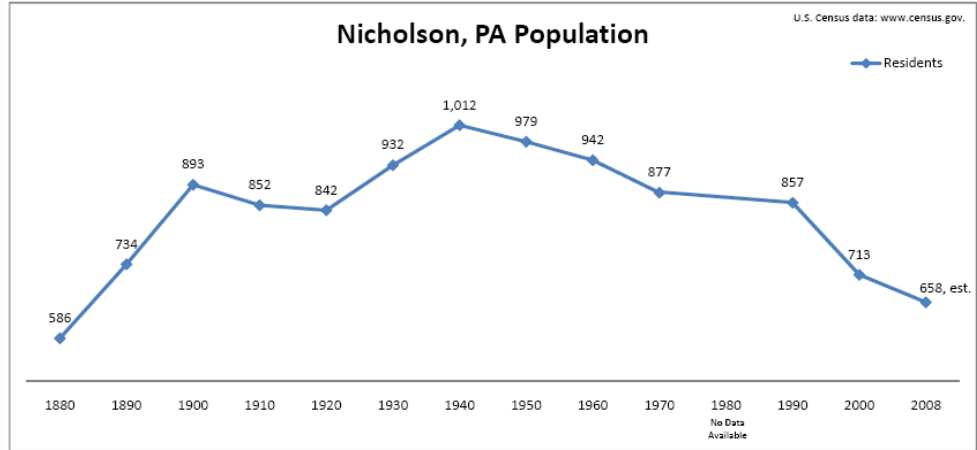
Station - 2009

Keep Up To Date By Checking Out Our Web Site at: [www.nicholsonheritage.org](http://www.nicholsonheritage.org).

## P O P U L A T I O N   O F   N I C H O L S O N

Nicholson was incorporated by a charter granted on August 23, 1875. Just five years after being incorporated, there were 586 residents in Nicholson, according to the 1880 U.S. Census.

As you can see from the adjacent chart, the rural community's population peaked in 1940 at 1,012., while the U.S. Census estimates the number of permanent residents in 2008 at 658. This estimate of residents is similar to the actual population between 1880 and 1890. From



the historical perspective, it's interesting to review and ascertain why the number of residents that lived in Nicholson in a particular year. The 2010 U.S. Census is currently underway.

## N I C H O L S O N   B R I D G E   D A Y

On September 12, 2010, Nicholson Bridge Day will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Main Street in Nicholson. Organized by the Nicholson Women's Club, the day's activities will feature live music, food, a pet show, vendors of crafts and collectibles, and displays. For more information, please call 570-942-6747 or 570-942-4443.

Nicholson Bridge Day has been held every year since the Nicholson Bridge 75th anniversary celebration, organized by the Nicholson Heritage Association, in 1999. The Nicholson Bridge, also known as the Tunkhannock Viaduct was built by the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad in 1912 and was completed, dedicated and ready for use on November 6, 1915.



Main Street – Nicholson, PA

Nicholson Heritage Association  
 P.O. Box 496  
 Nicholson, PA 18446  
 570-871-0510

Marion Sweet – Chair  
 George Barbolish – Vice Chair  
 Richard Lochen, Jr. – Treasurer  
 Joan Irion Jenkins – Secretary  
 Josh Stull – Editor/Webmaster

[www.nicholsonheritage.org](http://www.nicholsonheritage.org)



## B R I D G E   S T A M P   U P D A T E

We received a reply from the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee (CSAC) stating that they had considered the subject of the Nicholson Bridge's 100th anniversary at a previous meeting and determined that it is not eligible to be a commemorative stamp.

While this is disappointing, the CSAC does recommend that we resubmit the proposal after one year, which

we intend to do, as the 100th anniversary will not be until 2015.

In the meantime, we urge all supporters to continue to submit letters of support either to us or the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee directly at:

c/o Stamp Development  
 U.S. Postal Service  
 1735 North Lynn St., Suite 5013  
 Arlington, VA 22209-6432

The Nicholson Heritage Association Holds Monthly Meetings, We Hope You Can Attend.