

Chadds Ford Historical Society's  
Twenty-third Annual  
**CANDLELIGHT**  
CHRISTMAS 

## 2. The Historic Chapel of Dilworthtown

Part of the Dilworthtown Community Church  
A Branch Campus of Westminster Presbyterian  
1385 Birmingham Road, Birmingham Township

The serpentine chapel was built in 1878, thanks to contributions of land from Joseph and Emilene Dilworth, serpentine stone from Joseph H. Brinton's serpentine quarries on New Street, and major funds from Mary D. Biddle, a summer resident. In 1945, just before his death, R. Brognard Okie, the well-known Colonial Revival architect, rebuilt the Chapel's frame vestibule in stone. Visitors will tour the Chapel with its dormered stained glass windows by candlelight. **Parking for the shuttle to Willow Pond** and restroom facilities are available here. This year, the shuttle is courtesy of the Chadds Ford branch of Citadel Federal Credit Union.

## 3. Willow Pond

Home of John and Pat Steel  
Birmingham Township

Here, you'll find a modest but pristine fieldstone tenant house built in 1838 that was once part of a Brinton tract, later owned by Abram Huey, son-in-law of Edward Brinton. The main house of the farm complex still stands on the north side of Brintons Bridge Road. Appropriate to the period, *Willow Pond's* natural holiday decorations will be gathered on the property. The Steels' traditional Christmas tree will be right at home outside on the patio, to be enjoyed through the dining room window. The tenant house has been added onto over the years, on several levels given the terrain, and comfortably accommodates 21st century living. Visitors will be treated to cider and cookies on the second floor of the carriage house. **Please note:** Visitors are requested to take the short **shuttle from the Historic Chapel of Dilworthtown** due to lack of sufficient on-site parking.

## 4. The John & Ann Wyeth McCoy House

Owned by Tim Dewson  
851 Fairville Road, Pennsbury Township

Ann, the musician/ artist, and John, the artist/ teacher, lived their entire married lives here. They were part of the artistic heritage of the Brandywine Valley, and the decorating reflects their life style. Simple greens deck the halls as they did when they lived here, and there will be images of art and Ann's dolls, while her original music fills the air. Visitors will enjoy a sampling of wines from Paradocx Vineyard and hors d'oeuvres from Brandywine Prime at Chadds Ford. There are two significant historic outbuildings on the property: a large banked barn, believed to have been rebuilt in 1823, and an early springhouse/ smokehouse. The barn's loft will be open for the tour; the McCoy's creatively used it as studio space.

## 5. The Barns-Brinton House\*

U.S. Route 1, next to Chaddsford Winery  
Pennsbury Township

The Historical Society's own 18th century tavern, now a house museum, will be turned into a winter wonderland by the Brandywine Gardeners, with antique sleds, skis, and skates and winter-white foods to sample. From the cage bar, Chaddsford Winery will be offering visitors a glass of one of their favorite varietal wines and inviting them to walk from the tavern to the Winery next door for its Holiday Open House.

\*Listed on the National Register of Historic Places

## 6. The Barn Visitors Center

Creek Road, 1/4 mile north of U.S. Route 1,  
Chadds Ford Township  
Telephone: 610-388-7376

The Barn will open at 12:00 noon for ticket purchases and remain open until 6:00 p.m. for those wishing to shop or see the exhibit after visiting the featured sites. Restroom facilities are available here.

The *Christmas Shop at the Ford* will be open in the Barn, with its unique collection of artisan-crafted gifts and holiday decorations. Complimentary cider will be served.

It will also be the last opportunity for visitors to view our 40th Anniversary Art Exhibit, *The Historic Houses Through Artists' Eyes*.

### Advance tickets available at the special price of \$16.

Pick them up in person at our Barn Visitors Center, the Chadds Ford branch of First Keystone FSB, or the Chadds Ford branch of Citadel Federal Credit Union through Friday, December 5. Order by mail (with attached form) until Friday, November 21. Any cancellation due to weather will be announced by 9:00 a.m. on December 6 at 610-388-7376 and on [www.ChaddsFordHistory.org](http://www.ChaddsFordHistory.org). Tickets are nonrefundable.

**On the day of the event**, tickets may be purchased at our Barn Visitors Center beginning at 12:00 noon, at the Chadds Ford branch of First Keystone FSB from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, at the Chadds Ford branch of Citadel Federal Credit Union from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and at any of the featured sites during the hours of the event. Adult tickets are \$20; children 12 and under \$5.

Warm clothing and flat, sturdy footwear are recommended for all sites. Please no strollers, cameras, or backpacks. A flashlight is suggested for seeing the special displays. Directional signs will bear this symbol:



**ADVANCE TICKETS BY MAIL** - Orders must be postmarked by **Friday, November 21**. Tickets and map will be sent upon receipt of payment. Enclose stamped self-addressed business envelope.

Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Adults \$16 for all sites (\$20 day of event)  
Children 12 and under \$5

Mail to: Candlelight Christmas, Chadds Ford Historical Society, P.O. Box 27, Chadds Ford, PA 19317

Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Payment Method: Check (make payable to CFHS)    Cash    VISA/MC

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*This brochure was funded by generous support from the Davenport Family Foundation, and printed on recycled paper by The Country Press in Lima, Pa.*

A copy of the Historical Society's official registration and financial information may be obtained from the PA Dept. of State by calling, toll free within PA, 800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

**Chadds Ford Historical Society** is a private nonprofit corporation. It owns, operates, and maintains three 18th century restorations — the John Chads House and Springhouse and the Barns-Brinton House. Proceeds from this event help support the Society's educational programs for school children and the community at large and its ongoing research projects on the history of the Chadds Ford area.

Visit our website for more information:  
[www.ChaddsFordHistory.org](http://www.ChaddsFordHistory.org)  
or call 610-388-7376.

**24<sup>th</sup> Annual Candlelight Christmas**  
**Saturday, December 5, 2009.**  
**We look forward to seeing you again next year!**

Special thanks to the owners of the properties who have opened their doors for us: Robert and Maureen O'Brien, the Historic Chapel of Dilworthtown, John and Pat Steel, and Tim Dewson.

Chadds Ford Historical Society also appreciates the support of the Chadds Ford branch of Citadel Federal Credit Union for providing the shuttle; and the generosity of Paradocx Vineyard, Brandywine Prime at Chadds Ford, and Chaddsford Winery for offering samples of their wines and fare to our guests.



*in Chadds Ford*

**Saturday**  
**December 6, 2008**  
**1:00 to 6:00 p.m.**

*What's to enjoy*  
*on our early holiday tour?*

**1. Rossbeigh**

*Home of Robert and Maureen O'Brien*  
*1421 Pocopson Road, Pennsbury Township*

The stately yet warm and inviting Victorian mansard roof home of the O'Briens, *Rossbeigh* will awaken the wonder of yesteryear's Christmas holidays in you. The "Twelve Days of Christmas" are imagined anew, and antique musical instruments adorn a holiday tree. The home's recent renovation of its 18th and 19th century roots and additions, such as a gourmet kitchen and family room, abound in historic details and a horse-and-hound motif reflecting the owners' passions. Other design surprises await! Christmas design and decorating by Terri Sisson Truono of Simply Home, Inc., Wilmington, Delaware.