

## Bios of Workshop Leaders

**Cheryl Statham** – Cheryl Statham has been the Director of Education and Programming at Quiet Valley since 2008. She has canned her own food for more than 20 years, which is also about how long she has made corn husk dolls and been a wheat weaver. She started making candles when she came on staff at the farm. She is also a retired homeschool mom, and looks back on those years fondly.

**Pamela Tabery** – Pamela is a retired college professor from Northampton Community College where she taught biology and microbiology courses for over 38 years. She has been a Quiet Valley Board member and volunteer for over 38 years.

**Janet F. Mishkin** – Janet was the former Executive Director of the Monroe County Historical Association. She recently retired as the director of Quiet Valley, but she still serves as its curator. She has also held a variety of positions for the farm over the past 30 years. She is also Adjunct Professor of History at East Stroudsburg University teaching Public History, and American and World History survey courses for the past 15 years. Other former professional positions include Adjunct Professor of History at Northampton Community College and Director of Camping Ministry for Lehigh Presbytery.

**Jennifer Keim** – Jennifer Keim has been on staff at Quiet Valley for four years as part of the farmer staff. Her responsibilities include animal care, as well as being an interpretive tour guide in our 1850 barn. She was born and raised on a local dairy farm, and she spent her youth taking care of the farm animals, as well as taking the time to explore the woods, go camping, ride horses and checking out the natural world. She is passionate about nature and the environment, and is even fascinated with owl pellets!

**Milton Mosier** – Milton Mosier has been on staff as the Farm Manager of Quiet Valley since 2009. He was born and raised on his family's dairy farm in East Stroudsburg. He raised and milked cows while living on the farm, as well as growing all of the food they needed. In addition to running the farm, he also managed the family store. Milton is a fisherman, hunter and knowledgeable in sustainable forestry.

**Meg Weinhofer** – Meg received a degree in art education from Kutztown College, and taught in Catasauqua and Northampton school districts. Her passion has always been watercolors and many other crafts. She is now learning hornwork and leather crafting, especially hunting bags, in order to preserve some of our past heritage.

**Sue Oiler** - Sue received a B.S. in Home Economics Education from Penn State University and was a Home Economics teacher for several years. She was the co-founder and manager of Quiet Valley Living Historical Farm for 40 years. She has been a spinner and weaver for more than 40 years and has taught many other people throughout the years. She is a member of the

Frances Irwin Handweavers Guild and attended the Coverlet College of 2014 at the National Coverlet Museum.

**Gary Oiler** – Gary received a B.S. in Agricultural Education from Penn State University and was an Agriculture and Horticulture teacher at Bangor Area School District for 34 years. In addition, he was the farm manager of Quiet Valley for 40 years. He has taken many classes since his retirement in areas such as blacksmithing, woodworking, wood carving, animal husbandry and apple grafting. He also teaches workshops on gardening, wreath making, and plant propagation.

**Donna Conto** – Donna is the mother of two grown boys and three grandchildren. She lives in Saylorsburg and volunteers for the Blue Ridge Fire Company, her church and Quiet Valley. She has been quilting since 1989, when she took her first class and got hooked. She has made more than 30 quilts and wall hangings along with other projects. Applique is her favorite style of quilting. Donna also likes to knit, read and bake.

**Deb Heilakka** – Deb has been a tour guide at Quiet Valley for 13 years, and the cellar kitchen is one of her favorite places to be. She has years of experience cooking over the fire. She is the mother of two grown daughters and extra mom for many young visitors to her house. She likes to spin, sew, play piano and rebuild engines with her husband.

**Ceal Yost** – Cecilia, aka Ceal became a resident of Stroudsburg after attending ESU. She recently retired after 35 years as athletic trainer and teacher at Stroudsburg High School and has been a Quiet Valley member since the mid-1980's. As a member of Quiet Valley she demonstrates sea weaving and oak split basketmaking and served on the Board of Directors in the 1990's. Currently she volunteers with the Quiet Valley Friends group on numerous fund raising activities. Additional interests include playing tennis, gardening and travel.

**Jillian DePeete-McMahon** – Jillian is a homeschool mom of two children, ages 10 and 6. Her family has been involved with Quiet Valley for years and they plan to continue doing so for many more. She is on the Friends of Quiet Valley Committee and her and her children participate in the Spring Volunteer Homeschool Program as well as volunteering in as many events as they can. She is looking forward to working with the children who are coming this year to 19<sup>th</sup> Century Days.

**Flora Schubert** – Flora is a homeschooling mother of two children. As a certified elementary teacher she currently enjoys being a homeschool evaluator, working for a homeschool curriculum company and volunteering in places dear to her heart. She has been volunteering at Quiet Valley since she was a little girl and now enjoys volunteering here with her own children. They participate in the Quiet Valley Spring Volunteer Homeschool Program every year, teaching and learning in the schoolhouse.

**Alexyss Schatzman** - Alexyss is a homeschooling mother of three children who graduated with a degree in Liberal Arts from Salve Regina University. She and her family enjoy spending most

of their time outdoors adventuring or cooking in the kitchen. Alexyss is also a certified yoga teacher teaching both adults and children's yoga classes. She has been involved with many different programs and activities at Quiet Valley for many years. It is truly one of her favorite places.

**Rebecca Costanzo** – Beginning as a homeschool mom volunteering in the schoolhouse, Becky Costanzo has been involved at Quiet Valley for twenty years. She has served as a tour guide and teacher of our preschool and various homeschool programs. Before homeschooling her three sons, she was a middle school band director and continues to teach music at Knowlton Fire Arts. Becky lives in Cherry Valley with her husband, Lucian, and son Thomas, and by the time you read this, will be a first time grandma!

**Katherine Muller** – Kat has been a blacksmith for over 5 years and specializes in decorative items. She first got into blacksmithing through her interest in archaeology. When she's not working at Quiet Valley, Kat conducts research on how ore is smelted into iron. Many times people are surprised to see a female smith, but there were many throughout history.

**Norallah Downing** – Norallah has a M.ed from Plymouth State University in New Hampshire. She has worked with children as kindergarten teacher at the Growing Concern for 25 years and now in a homeschooling program called Homney School. She has honed her storytelling and theatre skills at these programs as well as at Quiet Valley, Genesis Farm and the library.

**Darlene Repsher** – Darlene has been involved in Quiet Valley since she started in the homeschool program 17 years ago. She has worked at almost every possible job, but one of her favorites is weaving. She is famous for singing the Butter Song more than 100 times in one day.

**Kellcey Repsher** – Kellcey has almost 17 years of living history experience. She is a homeschool graduate and has been a tour guide at Quiet Valley for more than 10 years.