

## 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.

**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.

**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.

**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 varies 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 Phymouth 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.

**Allen Price** – Allen is 75 years old and has been retired since 2009. He served for 20 years in the United States Air Force and then worked at Tobyhanna Army Depot for 26 years in the electronics area. Allen is an active volunteer at Quiet Valley and loves to spend time with our two horses, Gunther and Wilhelm.

**Emily Stewart** – Emily loves history, art and sharing the skills she has with others. She especially loves everything about the fiber arts and is a regular visitor to the area Fiber Fests. She has been working at Quiet Valley as a tour guide for almost three years.

**Douglas Pitchell** – Doug is a retired Real Estate Appraisal and a teacher of Real Estate at Raritan Valley College. He is an avid French and Indian War re-enactor and is the Founder of the New Jersey Muzzleloading Association and a Founding Member of the New Jersey Frontier Guard. Doug loves history and lectures extensively about local history and French and Indian War history at historical societies, museums and schools, as well as being the past chairman of the Blairstown Historical Preservation Committee.

**Tina Matuic** - Tina is a long-time volunteer at Quiet Valley and a soap maker for the past 8 years of her life at Pocono Soap. She loves to make soap and she loves to teach other people how to make great skin care products.

**Peter Heilakka** – Peter grew up in the 1960's playing Cops and Robbers, Cowboys and Indians, and Army. The game of Army is what started his love affair with maps. Christmas Day on 1970 was the date that he received his first book about orienteering, written by Bjorn Kjellstrom. Peter has completed numerous long distance hiking trips, organized searches for downed drones and aircraft and mapped areas in the federal parks. Peter is an avid orienteering person and is anxious to share what he know.

**David Schatzman** – David is a homeschooling father of three children. He grew up in this area and enjoyed coming to Quiet Valley as a child. He now loves attending farm events with his own children. He loves to spend time outdoors snowboarding, hiking, kayaking and adventuring.

**Bill Watson** – Bill is a retired journalist who became a student of the Civil War during his first visit to Gettysburg National Military Park in 1957. He became a re-enactor in 1990 when he joined Company D of the Seventh New Jersey Volunteer Infantry, which was the same company that his great-grandfather joined in 1861. He has served as a private to a brigadier general, has helped organize many events that emphasized authenticity in depicting the war and has conducted multiple training workshops. He is currently a member of Company G of the 142<sup>nd</sup> Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry.

**Reyna Vincent** – She is a college student planning on majoring in history. Her first exposure to the farm was as a volunteer in the spring homeschool program, and since she graduated from high school, she has worked as both a spring and summer tour guide.