

The Jacobsburg Record

SOCIETY OFFICE - 610-759-9029

JULY/AUGUST 1998

VOL. XXVI NO. 4

JACOBSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS A

“TEA PARTY IN THE GARDEN”

Saturday, August 29, 1998

10:00 AM to 2:30 PM

All Presentations will be made by Penn State Master Gardeners.

Light lunch & Refreshments will be served.

Program Topics will be:

#1 - Water Gardening -

Presented by - Arlene Niess

#2 - Setting up an Herb Garden -

Presented by - Pat Corey

#3 - Creating a Backyard Wildlife Habitat -

Presented by - Lois Prytherch

#4 - Gardening on a Window Sill -

Presented by - Pat Ojea

Registration Fee - \$10.00

Pre-register by August 20, 1998

Send Registration to: **Tea Party in the Garden**

Jacobsburg Historical Society

402 Henry Road

Nazareth, Pa. 18064

BOOK SALES AT SUMMER EVENTS

On Saturday, July 18th, Nazareth celebrated its annual “Nazareth Days.” Bob Newell, Don and Pam Repsher represented the Society by manning a table at which they sold our publications and made our activities known to the large gathering which this event always attracts. A new and very attractive sign made by Bob Newell was used for the first time. Don reported that they set up under a tree, to escape the heat-unfortunately the sun moved during the afternoon - but the tree didn’t.

We are much indebted to these loyal members for their volunteer hours spent in our behalf. Being represented at a local event lets people know we have an interest in the community, as well as having a chance to develop good public relations.

Book Sales (Cont'd.)

At an earlier date, Bob and Don had a table at the Moravian Historical Society Craft Fair. We were assigned an excellent space by Susan Dreydoppel, for which we express our appreciation.

Book sales at both events totaled nearly Five Hundred Dollars which was added to our Publication Fund.

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THE INTERPRETER'S CORNER

by Jim Wilson

In April, the Jacobsburg Historical Society and Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center partnership heritage program office opened for business in what will soon be the Jacobsburg National Historic District Visitor Center. The Bodine House (formerly known as Franklin Fort) has been converted for use as an interim Visitor Center. *Interim* because optimum plans call for the capital development of a Pennsylvania Longrifle Museum and Visitor Center Complex. Until such capital development occurs, the heritage program office and the visitor orientation room will occupy the ground floor rooms of the Visitor Center while the upstairs rooms will contain some of the Society's administrative operations. Essentially, the ground floor orientation room *is* the Visitor Center. Here, District guests will receive orientation information and interpretive overviews about the District through audio/visual media and exhibits. The Visitor Center will serve primarily as a staging area which will stimulate visitors to walk the trails and explore the District's historical landscape. The Society's curatorial staff is in the process of assembling artifacts for display and a local art group has been contacted about designing a large, colorful, "birds-eye-view" illustration of the District for visitor orientation services.

Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center maintenance staff completed a handicap-accessible boardwalk that connects the Visitor Center to the Boulton Parking Lot and constructed a large deck outside the ground floor entrances to the Visitor Center. Additionally, the maintenance staff cleared brush along the north side of Henry Road between the large Boulton entrance sign and the Visitor Center and erected several hundred feet of wooden, split rail fence along that same stretch of roadside. All this outdoor work serves to create an aesthetic sense of connectedness to the landscape surrounding the Visitor Center and aids in letting visitors know that they've "arrived."

Through grant monies awarded to the Society from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, a visitor orientation compact disc (cd) production is in the process of completion and should be ready for viewing at the Visitor Center later this summer. Porcupine Studios, an audio/visual production company in Easton, is producing the short, animated cd which will overview the natural and cultural heritage resources of

Interpreter's Corner (Con't.)

the District and summarize the capital development plans for recreating the Boulton Gun Works and creating the Pennsylvania Longrifle Heritage Museum and Visitor Center Complex.

A District wayside plan is currently in the drafting process. Waysides are outdoor exhibits that utilize graphics to interpret specific points of interest or orient visitors to a site. Waysides for the District's Boulton Industrial Complex will be the plan's first project. The Boulton wayside project will include site orientation exhibits at the Boulton Parking Lot and several exhibits along the trail that leads from the Boulton Parking Lot to the Henry Homestead. These exhibits will interpret the Boulton Gun Works, the milldam, pond and icehouses and the cultural landscape of the Henry Homestead. The District wayside plan should be finished by the end of this year and the Boulton wayside project should begin sometime next year. Things are happening at Jacobsburg!

1998 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- Aug. 29 "Tea Party in the Garden" See Page 1.
- Sept. 12-13 Western Fur Trade Rendezvous
- Sept., Oct., Nov. Basic Gunsmith Apprentice Program
Basic Blacksmith Apprentice Program
- Oct. 3-4 Civil War Days
- Oct. 24 Volunteer Fall Clean-up Day
- Dec. 5 Volunteer Holiday Get-together
- Dec. 6 Old Fashioned Christmas Open House

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JACOBSBURG RIFLE FROLIC

The Frolic was held June 20th and 21st with a good attendance in spite of the heat.

Featured this year was a display of Sporting Arms made in Philadelphia by John Krider and the Tryon Family. The Tryons and Henrys worked closely for almost 100 years and the similarities in their work were readily seen.

The Gunsmith Shop and Blacksmith Shop were active, displaying their skills and answering questions, while Hearth Cooking took place in the Summer Kitchen. The nearby herb garden and the formal garden added to the pleasure of visitors wandering over our well-kept grounds.

House tours were well-guided by volunteers, our refreshment kitchen was also busy, and then there were the volunteers who manned the out-of-sight parking and entrance tent. In fact, space does not permit naming each volunteer, there being in excess of thirty (30) working on the property prior to, during, and after the event.

The Encampment which was set up on June 19th in one of our pastures was another feature of the Frolic. This group portrayed an early gathering of settlers, pre-1840, with tents, camp gear and clothing of the period. Mike Jones was Booshway, or person in charge, with David Algard as Segundo, or Assistant. There were forty (40) camps occupied by one hundred twenty (120) people. Activities included rifle target shooting, primitive fishing for participants, woods walks, archery, knife and tomahawk throwing, baking contest and special events for the children.

A new feature was a seminar tent where the following subjects were presented:

Dream Catcher Making - Tori Milburn

Protecting the Pa.-N.J. Border (French & Indian War) - The N.J. Frontier

Guard, who also presented the topic "Primitive Trekking in the North East"

Pipes and Tobacco, 18th & 19th Centuries - Mike Jones.

A Camp Feast was held Saturday night and closing ceremonies at 3:00 P.M. Sunday. At this time awards were announced and prizes given, which were donated by Suttlers (store-keepers) and friends. This segment of the Rifle Frolic called for another twenty (20) volunteers whom we fear to mention by name lest someone is overlooked.

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VOLUNTEER FALL CLEAN-UP DAY

October 24, 1998

9:00 A.M.

PLEASE MARK THIS DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

This year we have added a Fall Clean-up Day to our schedule of events. On this day we hope to get a head start on the grounds preparation for the 1999 program year. It will be mostly outside work -- raking, sweeping, clipping and trimming, etc., before Winter sets in.

Plan now to come out and spend a Fall day at the Plantation with old and new friends. Lunch will be served. Coffee, tea and soft drinks will be available all day.

In the event of inclement weather, the Rain Date will be October 31st.

C'mon out! We work hard, but we do have a good time. Please join us!

Jim Shedlauskas, Property Manager

AMERICAN FUR TRADE RENDEZVOUS

September 12 & 13

Encampment

A pre-1840 Primitive Encampment will be held September 12 & 13 in the J. Joseph Henry pasture. It will portray camp life of the Fur Trade period, as well as demonstrations of knife and tomahawk throwing, primitive archery, Black Powder shooting, primitive fishing, and crafts and trades of the period.

Museum

At the same time, our Museum (The Henry Homestead) will exhibit Fire Arms of the American Fur Trade with accouterments and trade goods of the Traders and Trappers. In the Gun Shop, Henry Rifles will be reproduced and the Blacksmith will be active in his shop. Some of his wares will be available in the Gift Shop, along with books relating to the period.

Historic House

During the Rendezvous, there will be tours of the 1832 J. Joseph Henry House where one can see how the Henrys lived in their Philadelphia style residence, the furnishings being all original to the dwelling. In their Summer Kitchen hearth cooking will be carried on as of yore.

American Fur Trade Rendezvous (Cont'd.)

Gardens

As always, the gardens and grounds welcome visitors. There is both an herb garden and a formal flower garden to enjoy, as well as many fine trees-some old and rare.

This event is unusual in that it offers a variety of programs on the same day. The Encampment exhibits a piece of living history, while the Museum enlarges understanding of the Henry industrial interests. The antique lover will see a house containing its original furnishings as lived in by many generations of the same family. For those who prefer a quiet day in the country in a beautiful setting, the grounds at Boulton are at their best.

OUR ANNUAL CIVIL WAR EVENT AT JACOBSBURG

October 3 & 4 1998

This event will be held in cooperation with the **96th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, Company G and other select units**. Take a step back in time with us - The **Civil War 1861 - 1865**. They will portray Military Camp Life, Skirmishing, Drilling, and special battle scenes will be reenacted. Join a war correspondent on the battlefield and feel the living history!

Pennsylvania Longrifle Heritage Museum

An extensive display of the Long Arms, Pistols, Swords & Artifacts of the Civil War can be viewed, along with a display of Henry Family Civil War artifacts.

J. Joseph Henry House

On display will be *Suellen Tatrai's* fabulous collection of Civil War era civilian clothing. At least fifteen ladies dresses will be on display on mannequins posed throughout the House. Included will be a gown worn by Ann Reynolds at President Lincoln's second Inaugural Ball, plus men's and children's clothing

Suellen is a noted Conservator and her personal collection is worth seeing. Don't miss it!

At the Chickering Piano, *Helen Beetle*, a Civil War era concert pianist, will be joining us on Sunday afternoon only to play period music in the Parlor. Helen is a very accomplished pianist who tours the U.S. performing Civil War era music.

U. S. Sanitary Commission

This is a new addition to our program. See what the U.S. Sanitary Commission did on the home front and the field to support the soldiers during the Civil War.

Civil War Event (Cont'd.)

Summer Kitchen

See and smell our 18th and 19th Century Hearth Cooking demonstration.

Gunsmith Shop

Our Master Craftsmen and their Apprentices will be reproducing the Henry Rifles of the Civil War period.

Blacksmith Shop

Hear the ringing of our Blacksmiths' hammers hard at work producing hardware for the Boulton Plantation, or our customers. (Check out the Gift Shop.)

Gardens

Visit our 19th Century gardens and talk with our Gardeners. We have both a formal flower garden and an herb garden.

Both the American Fur Trade Rendezvous on September 12 & 13 and the Civil War Event on October 3 & 4 will be open to the public from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. daily.

Admission for each event - \$3.00 Adults

Children under 12 - Free

Jacobsburg Society Members - Free

For additional info call Jim Wilson at the Visitor Center - 610-746-2809

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**JACOBSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY
1998 OFFICERS**

President	Timothy Lubenesky
1st Vice President	Mary Ann Van Norman
2nd Vice President	Donald Repsher
Secretary	A. James Shedlauskas
Treasurer	Wendy Totani