

The Jacobsburg Record

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1981

VOL. IX, NO. 1

REMINDER--DUES ARE DUE FOR 1981!

The fiscal year for the Jacobsburg Historical Society is the Calendar year. Therefore, please send dues to our treasurer, Miss Margaret Taylor, 733 Paxinosa Ave., Easton, PA. 18042. Fill in the subscription form from the last page of this issue. Dues have not been increased, but we are encouraged to up our class of dues. Be a Henry Rifle Club contributor! All contributions are tax deductible to the extent provided by law. Your canceled check is your receipt.

MARY HENRY STITES MADE HONORARY BOARD MEMBER

Board members at their meeting on January 28, at the suggestion of Janet Gum, were happy and pleased to confer on Mary Henry Stites the title of "Directress Emerita." Soft-spoken and gentle in every way, this lady, it was felt, could only be designated the honor in the feminine. It is meant as a sincere tribute and an appreciation for her many past and on-going contributions to the Jacobsburg Historical Society. It is she to whom we turn for our background history of the Henry family and the doings that surrounded the Homestead. Hers are the opinion and council we seek and cherish. Withal, Mary Henry is fun-loving, upbeat, and gay (Victorian debutante sense), and in conferring this title, we are only doing ourselves an honor as well.

SEE LAST PAGE FOR COMPLETED NEW DIRECTORY

John Schlamp, president, announces his committee appointments and lists the new Board for 1981. The new first four officers were listed in the previous issue. We welcome Ellis Neuner, Boulton, and Louise K. Young of Nazareth to our Board as new members, although they have been real workers heretofore. Dorothy Law of Bethlehem and Albert Toth of Nazareth, consultants in years past, have now been assigned committee roles. We welcome Joy A. Betz of Nazareth who has consented to handle our correspondence.

President Schlamp asks that each Board member enlist a back-up person to be trained in his/her office.

The next Board meeting will be on February 25 with the following meeting to be held April 1. These are Wednesday night dates. Board members, ring them around on your calendars.

Mike Jones, Interpretive Education Head, Jacobsburg State Park, and assistant to Superintendent Prinkey, when requested, is planning to bring school classes to the Homestead for instruction in local history. The Society was pleased to grant him permission.

Mike is also planning a self-guided tour within the Park of the various iron making sites in the areas of Jacobsburg and Boulton. He will put up 4 x 4 ft. enclosed cases to show the processes.

CONTINUATION OF 1980 FIELD JOURNAL, JACOBSBURG

Virginia Lopresti

The sawed-off box elder growing on the south wall of this early mill had sprouted many 3 in. in diameter branches since the power company had cut it many years ago. The leaves gave us much needed shade for our summer's activities so that we were very reluctant to remove it. There was a small walnut tree growing on the window sill in the north wall and a larger walnut tree growing on the east wall that provided us with a small amount of shade in the early morning. The tall trees to the west of the mill were too far away for protection. This was the scene for 33 days' work and all but two of them were without rain-- there was no whole day to rest and no time to wash or mark artifacts.

As we dug west along the north wall, we soon discovered another 4 ft. wide window about 4 ft. from the first window. The wall was 3 ft. thick while the east wall so far exposed was 2 ft. deep. The rocks that had tumbled from the walls were mixed with rusted cans, tubs and buckets, glass bottles, whole and broken. All the debris was moved to the outside of the north wall. The stones were kept close to the wall for reinforcement. We noticed there were practically no slate slabs used as building material in this end of the building. As we tried to work evenly across the structure, we soon discovered a wall 8 ft. from the north wall, running east and west. The south and east corners were not discernible. Rocks were laid for a dry wall to keep the dirt on the outside from coming in.

The second week of digging we encountered much shale in the north bay area. We assumed the brown gray material had been used as fill after this area was no longer used during the operation of the mill. It was approximately 4 ft. thick. It could not have been put there by mother nature.

On Tuesday of the third week while removing garbage between the interior wall and the south wall, a beautiful mill grinding stone was uncovered. The top of it was 18 in. higher than the window sill in the north wall. It was $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. thick at the edges and 8 in. in the center. The diameter of the center opening was $7\frac{1}{2}$ in., and the diameter of the stone was $36\frac{1}{2}$ in.

Two days later another mill stone was discovered in the disturbed area where the east wall should have been. It was located 6 ft. from the southeast corner, 5 ft. above the window sill and completely outside of the mill. It was broken, but the diameter was $36\frac{1}{2}$ in. The outside edge was 7 in. thick, the center was $9\frac{3}{4}$ in. thick with the cut-out area 8 in. in diameter. There were four keyway notches in one face of the stone; one face was grooved.

The same day a representative from the Bethlehem Globe Times (Ron Stumph) photographed the first stone. The Jacobsburg crew (State Park employees) removed the larger stone and placed it outside the Park Office door. The smaller stone was put inside the Park Office.

(To be Continued)

Virginia and Joe Lopresti are looking for amateur, but professional-in-approach, archaeologists to take over from them the careful and back-breaking work at the digs. Talk it over with them. They live in Stockertown, 759-1580.

BETHLEHEM GLOBE TIMES CALENDARS FOR 1981

If the photo on these calendars at first casual glance seemed familiar, we are sure everyone was pleased quickly to recognize the Henry Homestead. Yes, Editor Strohmeier used the photo by Matthew Morris to grace this year's gift to subscribers. Needless to say, we are proud the Jacobsburg Historical Society Henry Homestead was chosen as the subject and we are proud of Matt's presentation as well. Congratulations! We are delighted to have the publicity, and a big thank you to John Strohmeier.

IMPORTANT DATES

Spring Meeting - April 22

Summer Craft Festival - July 12

Probably in May we will begin to schedule Open House at the Henry Homestead one Sunday a month for the next six months. Those dates will be announced.

Special groups have scheduled visits to the Homestead as follows:

Monday, May 11 - 10:00 a.m., women from First
Presbyterian Church, Bethlehem

Saturday, May 16 - 10:00 a.m., 27 Girl Scouts, Nazareth

Tuesday, June 16 - Study Group, Nazareth Women's Club

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Charles Sandwick, chairman of the Research Committee, has scheduled a committee meeting at his home Monday night, 8 o'clock, February 16.

Charlie has not been feeling well so that we do not carry his regular history presentation. We miss it, but certainly hope to carry on the series with our next issue.

ICE UNDERFOOT AND NOT IN THE PUNCH BOWL

Our refreshment duo of Judy Sandercock and Peggy Shuttleworth was temporarily knocked out of commission by half when Judy in early January slipped on the ice. She is home from the hospital now nursing a broken elbow and a pelvis broken in two places. We wish Judy a most speedy recovery and a complete one.

Dale Prinkey, Superintendent of the Jacobsburg State Park, shows artistic talent in his pen and ink sketches of buildings associated with Jacobsburg and Boulton. We plan to run some of them in future issues, and the Society will have them on sale in various sizes at the Homestead. Watch for them.

HOW NICE TO HEAR FROM OLD FRIENDS!

We excerpt in part a letter dated 1-5-81 to Margaret Taylor, treasurer, from Arthur J. D. Oplinger, Nazareth:

My daughter, Nancy Schneider, Albuquerque, N.M., came East the first two weeks in October. She was homesick to see Pennsylvania in the fall. While here she walked all of the marked trails in Henry's Woods. As a Girl Scout, she spent two summer camping sessions along the creek. She says once during high water, the girls spent a night on top of the tables.

Mr. Oplinger goes on to say he spent most of 1980 in St. Luke's Hospital, and he encloses a generous check for the Jacobsburg Historical Society. We wish him a healthy 1981 and appreciate so much his contribution and this word from him.

P.S. Since returning home, Nancy has sent us a membership check. Welcome to this former Girl Scout now living in Albuquerque!

CAY BEERS MEMORIAL FUND

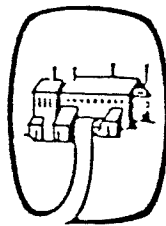
To date, the treasurer reports \$1510 in the Cay Beers Memorial Fund. The Society values this expressinn of esteem for our late president and is searching for an appropriate gift to make to the Society.

MISS CLARA, JACOBSBURG CORNHUSK DOLL

Eva Smith, our expert in cornhusk dolls, is busily filling on-hand orders. Deliveries will be made just as soon as Barry Jones can make up the little printed explanation to go with each doll. Each one is \$20 and orders can be given to Mary Henry Stites, Boulton, or to Margaret Taylor, treasurer. Please make out checks to Jacobsburg Historical Society and send to the treasurer, 733 Paxinosa Ave., Easton, Pa., 18042.

SANDWICK GIFT TO THE SOCIETY

Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Sandwick, Sr., present to the Society a book, "The Art of Building the Pennsylvania Longrifle," 180 pages. Authors are Dave Ehrig, Dave Miller, and Chuck Dixon; sketches have been done by Dave Miller. We express our appreciation for this gift, the material of which is so close to the hearts of the Jacobsburg Historical Society members because of the Henry rifle and its connection with the Henry Homestead family. Thank you, Sandwicks.



JACOBSBURG
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

C O M M I T T E E S

GUNNERY

Albert M. Toth, Chrmn.
Claude Jones
Mike Jones

HOMESTEAD

Kathryn Schlamp, Chrmn.
Peggy Pagni
Ann Marie Trbuza
Peggy Jarrett
Margaret Taylor
Betty Morris
Louise Young
Lois Doyle
Shirley Frey
Kay Munger
Susan Krause
Mary Ellen Walton
Marjorie Peters

MAINTENANCE

Ellis Neuner, Chrmn.
Matthew K. Morris
Claude Jones
Jon Benfield

CURATORS

Dorothy Law
Albert M. Toth

GARDENS

Beatrice Pritchard, Chrmn.
Mary Henry Stites
Jane Gilbert

MUSIC IN THE WOODS

Dale Prinkey
Mike Jones

SUMMER CRAFT FESTIVAL

Hilton N. Rahn
Arthur Stasiqk
Mary Lou Audenried
Carolyn Hickernell
Margaret Taylor

PROGRAM

Janet Gum

HERB GARDEN

Diane Warner, Chrmn.
Peggy Pagni
Ann Marie Trbuza

BY-LAWS

Mary Henry Stites, Chrmn.
Dominick Ferraro
Charles Sandwick, Sr.
Matthew K. Morris

HOSPITALITY

Judy Sandercock, Chrmn.
Peggy Shuttleworth

ARCHAEOLOGY

Joseph Lopresti
Virginia Lopresti

JACOBSBURG RECORD

Charlotte Sayre

CATALOGUER

Betty Morris

RESEARCH

Charles Sandwick, Sr., Chrmn.
Joseph DiGerlando
Dr. Lee Graver
Joseph Lopresti
Virginia Lopresti
Gladys Marhefka
Robert Newell
Jessie Sandwick
Charlotte Sayre
Margaret Stocker
Bryon Stocker
Catharine Strodach
Albert M. Toth
Louise Young

PUBLICITY

Louise Young

MEMBERSHIP

Margaret Taylor