

The Jacobsburg Record

Winter 2020

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 Upcoming Events
- 3 Past Events
Looking Back on Fall 2019
- 5 Out in the Community
- 6 In Loving Memory of
Richard Hujsa
- 9 Serving Up History
Harrison Cakes
- 10 Spirit of Boulton
- 12 Spring Grounds Cleanup Day
- 13 Membership Renewal
- 14 Original Henry Gun Raffle
- 15 Early American Craft
Classes



JACOBSBURG
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

*Where History
Lives*

The Jacobsburg Historical Society

P.O. Box 345, Nazareth, PA 18064

(610) 759 - 9029

jacobsburg@rcn.com

www.jacobsburghistory.com



The Jacobsburg Historical Society is a member supported non-profit organization dedicated to preserving and presenting the art and industry of early America and the character of the individuals and community that created and sustained that enterprise.

Executive Board

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 Adam Stephan, *2nd Vice President*
 Kaitlyn Mack, *Secretary*

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Gary Asteak	Rocky Schreck
Bobbie DiGerlando	Andrea Smith
Joe DiGerlando	Paul Split
Scott Gordon	

The Jacobsburg Historical Society Board of Directors meets each month in the Early American Craft Center, 402 Henry Road, Nazareth, PA.



The Jacobsburg Record seeks to provide the members of the Jacobsburg Historical Society with information relevant to its mission while creating a sense of community and connection.

If you are interested in contributing to our newsletter, please contact the society office.

Sarah White, Editor
Scott Gordon, Editor
The Jacobsburg Record

Upcoming Events...

Apprentice Gunsmith Class

Spring 2020: Sundays (9) from 12pm to 5pm
 Classes start March 1, 2020
 Instructor: Rocky Schreck, 610-533-9064
 Pre-registration required.

Spring Grounds Clean Up Day

Saturday, April 18, 2020 from 8am–12pm
 Great Earth Day Community Service project for students and Scouts. 8am refreshments!

Revolutionary War Weekend

Saturday and Sunday, May 16 & 17, 2020
 Revolutionary War Encampment
 Period displays, Sutlers, Music, Food
 Museums open 10am–4pm Saturday;
 12pm–4pm Sunday
 Annual Plant Sale: 9am Saturday

Basket Weaving Workshop

Early American Craft Center
 Saturday, June 13, 2020, 9:30am–4 pm
 Pre-registration Required

World War II Living History Weekend

Saturday and Sunday, June 27 & 28, 2020
 Tour Allied & German camps, Period Military Displays and Vehicles, Honor All Veterans.
 Battle Reenactment–WWII Vendors–Music–Food



Past Events

Looking Back on Fall 2019

Annual Dinner Meeting in new location: Stonewood Tavern in Nazareth. Oct. 10, 2019

We had such a great time and meal at the Stonewood Tavern for our 46th Annual Membership Dinner Meeting. Special thank you to Jim Wilson for his presentation on the conservation efforts of James Henry. Congratulations to all our basket raffle winners too!

Market Faire & Rendezvous. Oct. 26 & 27, 2019

We had a nice turnout of visitors this year with wonderful weather through Saturday. Sunday began with rain, but skies cleared up in the afternoon. Everyone enjoyed our rendezvous encampment, the early American crafters, the J. Joseph Henry House Museum, the Summer Kitchen, the Nicholas Hawk Gunshop, and the Pennsylvania Longrifle Museum. All of our event volunteers and museum docents did an outstanding job presenting the Henry family legacy to our guests.

Gun Raffle Winner

Congratulations to Frank Willis, who won the 2019 JHS Pennsylvania Longrifle Gun Raffle: a beautiful flintlock rifle built and donated by Master Gunsmith Rocky Schreck. The drawing was held at closing ceremonies of our annual Market Faire & Rendezvous on Sunday, October 27, 2019.

Volunteer “Pot Luck” Luncheon. Nov. 2, 2019

What a great time we all had at our JHS Volunteer Potluck Luncheon. A very special thank you to Jim & Tess Wagner for organizing this wonderful opportunity for all of us to get together. Great turnout and great food! All of us on the JHS Board are grateful for all of our volunteers at Boulton. Thank you all for your loving care of the Boulton Historic Site and for making “History Live” at Boulton for our visitors!

Victorian Doll House Winner

Emma Crosby is the lucky winner of our 2019 doll house. Emma purchased her tickets last summer and was very happy to learn that she was the winner just before her birthday! Thanks to all who purchased tickets. The proceeds benefit the J. Joseph Henry House Museum.



A Very Special Christmas at Boulton

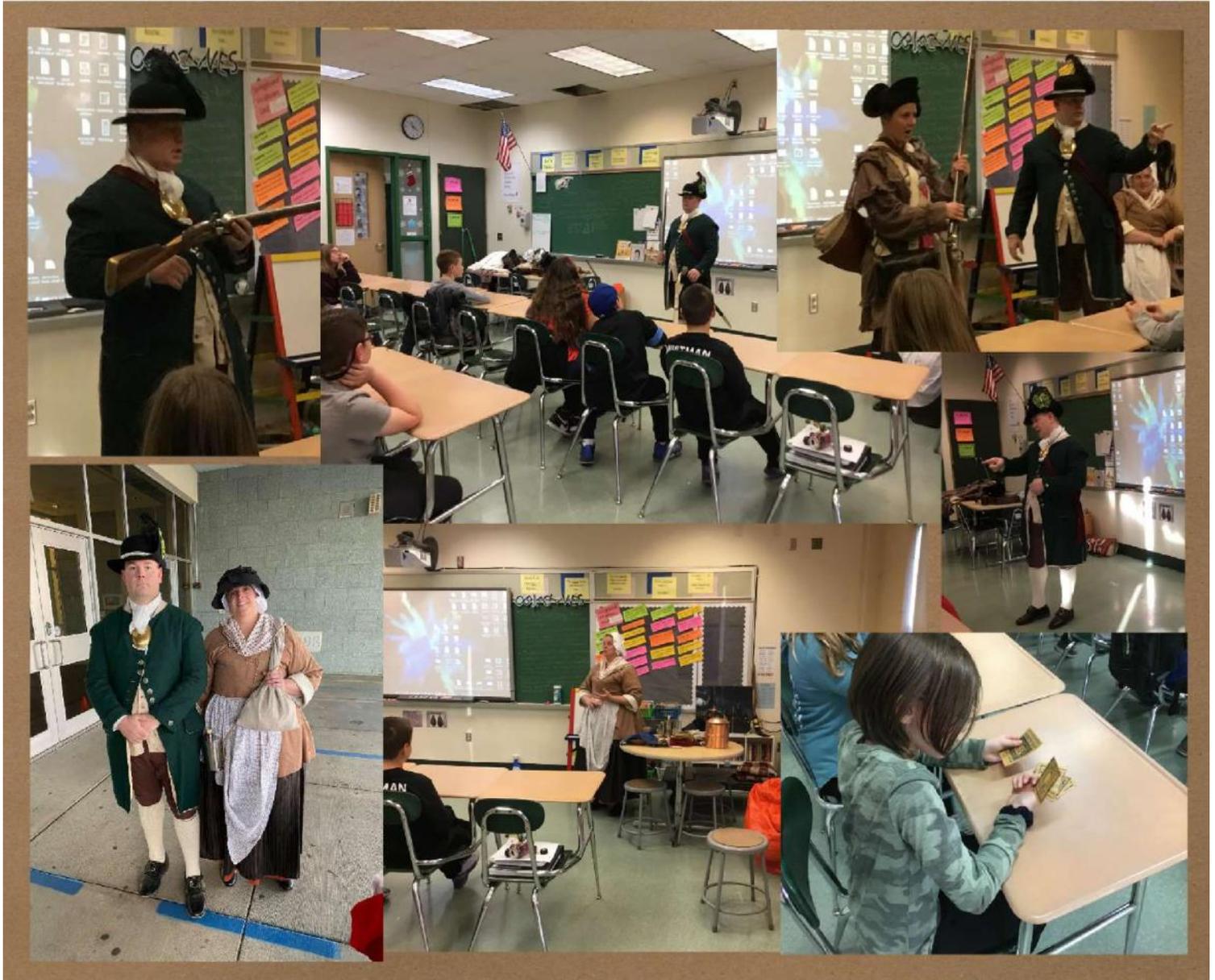
Saturday & Sunday, December 14-15, 2019

We had a wonderful weekend at Boulton, sharing our beautiful J. Joseph Henry House, Summer Kitchen, the Pennsylvania Longrifle Museum, gift shop, outdoor exhibits and displays with our visitors. Colonial Crafters and refreshments in the Craft Center were terrific, too. The front parlor in the JJH House was absolutely stunning this year. Many thanks to Kay Tomko for her wonderful decorating skills and to all our volunteers for keeping *History Live* at Boulton! We even had a special encore tour of the JJH House on Dec. 28, which was very well attended.



Jacobsburg out in the Community....

Nazareth Area Intermediate School, History Club presentation on Wednesday, January 8, 2020



The Jacobsburg Historical Society and Adam Stephan would like to thank The Nazareth Area Intermediate School and Mrs. Kilpatrick for inviting us and Donna Glazier to offer a presentation on the Henrys during the American Revolutionary War. The history club students were an excellent group of youngsters who were very interested and asked a lot of good questions. Great job, Adam and Donna!

In Loving Memory

RICHARD F. HUJSA



April 14, 1934 - November 25, 2019

*“When a great man dies, a library burns.
But when an epic man dies,
the university is reduced to ashes.”*

Memorial, by Dave Ehrig

JHS has lost an iconic member. Rich “Jake” Hujsa left our midst on an early Monday morning, as each of us began the daily responsibilities of our earthly home. It was quite a shock to hear from his wife Linda that the man who cared so deeply for all of us had suddenly departed us for his heavenly home.

Rich’s father died early in his life and left the family responsibilities to Rich and his older brother Bob. “Take care of your mother,” he had said. The 1930s were a desperate time in America as our country emerged from the Great Depression. Money was scarce, as was food. Brother Bob and Rich sharpened their shooting skills in the basement of their Allentown home. “We shot CB cap .22s to increase our accuracy, and then went hunting,” Bob stated at the Memorial Service on Friday, November 29, 2019.

The service at the Hamburg Burke & Dricscoll Funeral Home witnessed a full house as family and friends gathered to pay respects, as did members of JHS, the Kentucky Rifle Association, the Blue Mountain Muzzleloaders (Shartlesville), the Pennsylvania Federation of Black Powder Shooters, the Honourable Company of Horners, and the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association.

Rich began his journey into the world of muzzleloading arms in the 1950s, long before many of our members even knew of their existence. His self-taught skills with hand tools, woodworking, and metal craft soon won him favor with competitors at local black powder shoots in Bath, Shartlesville, Topton, and elsewhere. In his basement shop he began working on antique arms and remaking them into safe and accurate rifles. Word quickly spread that his genius could restore historic arms into such mint condition that few experts and collectors would be aware of changes.

Hujsa would often comment about eighteenth- and nineteenth-century arms and armor that appeared in

museums and estate sales: “Yeah, that stock’s wrist was broken” or “The thing is, the lock was originally a flintlock and it was changed, maybe even by the Henrys, so that it would appeal to the shooters of that era. But don’t worry; they’ll never know who made it the way it originally was supposed to be!”

Rich’s knowledge of historic arms influenced hundreds, if not thousands, of muzzle loading rifle/pistol/trade rifle gunsmiths’ recreations. But his knowledge went beyond gunsmithing tools to the technologies employed in the eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries. Rich Hujsa joined the Jacobsburg Historical Society early in the 1980s and he was instrumental in the restoration of the original Henry Homestead (which became the Pennsylvania Longrifle Museum). He continued his engineering excellence in helping to resurrect “the horse barn,” the John Joseph Henry House, the two rental properties, as well as the “Duck House” forge and its later addition. He also worked on reconstructing the Nicholas Hawk Log Cabin Gunshop and reinventing the Eighteenth-Century Craft Center.

Never working alone, Rich inspired others to help shape these reconstructions into something meaningful for the next generation. Besides getting his hands dirty with plumbing, sewage systems, roofing, heating systems, water systems, flooring, electrical work, security systems, and much more, Rich had another side: he loved instructing others in early eighteenth-century crafts—that is, the building of Pennsylvania longrifles, fowlers, pistols, trade guns, and accoutrements. Rich felt rewarded in helping people build powder horns, leather hunting pouches, knives, tomahawks, horn combs, horn boxes, and any accoutrement of the fur trade. He also used his woodcarving skills to carve beautiful songbirds and gamebirds that were truly works of art.

Rich Hujsa’s dedication to the Jacobsburg Historical Society was amazing. Not only did he selflessly contribute experience and direction in reconstructing the





badly need infrastructure of the buildings and grounds, he was always present to get his hands dirty doing the projects. A tireless exhibitor at the PLRM, the Eighteenth-Century Craft Center, the Nicholas Hawk Log Cabin Gun Shop, and at the Jacobsburg Rendezvous & Market Faire, Rich also was a key contributor of time and talent at off campus exhibits.

Hujasa exhibited and judged rifles and accoutrements at every one of the 30-plus Gunmakers Fairs at Dixons Muzzleloading Gun Shop in Kempton. He was an active craftsman for more than twenty years at the JHS Kutztown Folk Festival exhibit tent. Rich assisted Dave Ehrig's Continuing Education Course on building the Pennsylvania Flintlock Long Rifle at Muhlenberg College and at later continuing rifle building classes in the basement of the PLRM at Boulton.

Always lending his skills and enthusiasm, Rich was a noted keynote speaker at the Landis Valley Village & Farm Museum, Lancaster, which is administered by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. Hujasa also was a valued member of the JHS team of members that exhibited at the Kutztown University Pennsylvania German Heritage Center.

While the list of Rich Hujsa's volunteerism efforts is endless, suffice it to say that he was a great man who was always willing to share his good humor and tireless efforts to help others.

"The thing is ..." (to quote Rich, who always began a sentence with that phrase), you will be missed our dear friend.

Serving Up History

Harrison Cakes

In 1840, the Democrat incumbent, Martin Van Buren, ran against William Henry Harrison from the Whig party. At this time in American history, the economy was depressed, almost ensuring the victory of Harrison, a popular war hero. During the campaign, this cake was created in his honor.

The cake's ingredients were formulated to be reminiscent of Harrison: old-fashioned, frugal and underrated. The popularity of this cake further indicates how the American population felt about Mr. Harrison. The cake is described as dense and spicy with a rich molasses flavor.

The recipe appears in the cookbook used in the Henry family kitchen, *Cookery from Experience* by Sara T. Paul.

Mix like pound-cake, leaving out a little flour for the fruit; add the milk and soda last; then stir in the fruit and bake all in one, or in square flat tins.

(Modern adaptation:
Bake at 350° in a Bundt pan)

President Harrison's term as the 9th President was short-lived. He died 31 days into his term of typhoid.

Sources:

Election Confections: Emily J. Arendt, "Harrison Cake and Other Historical Political Treats," June 7, 2016, <https://www.nypl.org/blog/2016/06/07/harrison-cake-history-recipe>

Ingredients

5 cups of flour
5 eggs
1 1/2 cups of butter
1 1/2 cups of sugar
1 cup of molasses
1 cup of milk,
with one teaspoon of soda dissolved in it
1/2 cup of brandy
1 pound of raisins
1/2 pound of citron
1 teaspoon powdered cloves
1 teaspoon cinnamon

Spirits of Boulton

By Joe DiGerlando

Volunteers have often been asked whether Boulton is haunted. My answer is always an emphatic “No!” because of the negative connotations of the word *haunted*. I do not like ghosts and have no desire to meet with their dark side. There is nothing evil or scary at Boulton. The Henry family has always had the highest reputation for doing good works for their family, for the community, and for their associates.

That being said, I certainly believe that the spirits of the Henry family are present at Boulton. So many of our volunteers have had experiences that cannot be otherwise explained away. Things seem to appear, as we need them or can best display them for our visitors.

Our House Committee volunteers were working on displays one day and one of them had questions about some of the items they were finding. No one there had an answer at that time. The next day that they were there, they found an old note on the floor in the hallway. It contained the answer to their questions.

On another occasion, our Mondays at Boulton crew was working in the Boulton barn and I was asked about an old wooden machine that was in the loft under a tarp. We determined

that it appeared to be used to make mortise joints, probably for furniture. Later that morning, we were moving shelves in the basement of the mansion and something fell off the shelf next to where I was standing and landed in my hands. No one had touched that shelf or anything on it. The item that

Preserving history and supporting education are part of the Henry legacy.

fell was a paper that offered detailed information about the mortising machine, including when and from where it was acquired, and what it was used for.

The Henry families were very religious and were active members of the Moravian community and supporters of professional and social organizations. Mary Henry Stites and her mother Mary Adeline Henry were members of the Northampton County Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and she was so proud to sponsor Bobbie DiGerlando into the DAR. She was

also the Secretary of the Northampton County Medical Association for many years in support of her father, Dr. Thomas Stites. Preserving history and supporting education have always been part of the Henry legacy. Mary Henry Stites was also the Secretary of the Moravian Historical Society for many years.

I spent many hours of my childhood with Mary Henry Stites at Boulton, learning about the family history and so much more. She told me about seeing a “Lady in White” near the Jacobsburg Inn area. She related that she had seen her several times when she took her mother for car rides in the evening. Mary Henry Stites was not sure who or what she was seeing, but she would not want to go near there when riding her horse with Bobbie.

We have pictures and letters about the many Henry family picnics and gatherings. Friends and relatives were always welcome for visits, some lasting for weeks. They Henrys worked very hard but loved their social time. The Society sponsored several summer tea parties and more than one guest reported feeling a “warm welcoming presence” there, which they could not explain.



Probably the most significant event for me was the private wedding of Richard Dotta and his late wife Susan. This wedding was held in the double parlors and attended only by their children and Judge Elmo “Jake” Fry, Jr. Bobbie and I were sitting on the stairs and, just as the bride and groom were saying their vows, we heard a slow thumping sound coming from the hallway above us. Bobbie asked why the heat was on in the summer: it sounded like radiators thumping. But the heat was not on and the house does not have radiators. I immediately recognized the familiar sound of Dr. Tom Stites’s shuffling walk with his cane, because of his Parkinson’s disease. I feel that Dr. Stites gave his blessing and approval because Richard Dotta has been a great friend of the Society and Susan was a great preservationist and local historian, mainly in Monroe County.

I have never seen a spirit at Boulton, but I always feel a very comforting warmth when I am there. I welcome any information or stories that you are willing to share at joe@digerlando.com.

“Item from the Collection”: Update

In our Fall 2019 newsletter, our featured “Item from the Collection” was an automated apple peeler, which had been found above the garage next to the Pennsylvania Longrifle Museum. Member Tom Kashetta from Lewisburg, PA, looked closely at the picture in the newsletter and realized that our apple peeler was missing the metal cap piece for the main mechanism. Tom visited us during Rendezvous and surprised us with a replacement for the missing part.

Thank you, Tom, for taking notice and for taking the time to make our peeler complete. The peeler is on display in the J. Joseph Henry House Museum. It may be viewed in the pantry area of the original kitchen.

Jacobsburg Historical Society

Invites you to participate in our annual

Spring Grounds Clean Up Day

Saturday, April 18, 2020 from 8am - 12 Noon



**Great Earth Day Community
Service project for students
and Scouts!**

**Help us welcome in our new
2020 museum season.**

8 am Refreshments!

All volunteers are greatly appreciated!

Bring a rake and gloves!



Located just off the Belfast exit of Route 33 at 402-403 Henry Road, Nazareth PA

Email: jacobsburg@rcn.com Office: 610-759-9029

WWW.JACOBSBURGHISTORY.COM

Time to Renew Your JHS Membership!

MAKE HISTORY LIVE AT BOULTON - BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!

Thank you to all of our members that have already renewed for the 2020 season!

We are an all-volunteer organization and we would love to have YOU take part in our programs and volunteer your time with us. All of our events, activities, educational programs, and outreach efforts are provided by volunteers who give generously of their precious time and resources. We provide programs for churches, schools, community groups, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, and we participate in many other types of outreach events.

Annual Member Benefits

Our members enjoy free admission to our Pennsylvania Longrifle Museum, the John Joseph Henry House Museum, Summer Kitchen and Grounds including the Nicholas Hawk Gunshop.

Members also enjoy free admission to our events; **Museum Season Opening Weekend** in May; our two annual Living History Events: **WWII Weekend** in June; **Market Faire & Rendezvous** in October; and our very special end of year Open House, **Christmas at Boulton** in December.

Corporate and Sponsor level members also receive recognition in our public event programs and on our website.

Annual subscription to our newsletter, **The Jacobsburg Record**

Members receive regular communications about our special events, programs, and craft classes.

10% discount in the museum gift shop on select JHS Logo items and an invitation to our annual meeting of the Jacobsburg Historical Society.

Jacobsburg Historical Society runs on **VOLUNTEERS!**

Please consider becoming a volunteer. We have many areas of interest including Genealogy, Henry History, Local History, Gardening, Docents for the John Joseph Henry House and the PA Longrifle Museum, Early American Craft Education, Event Coordinators, Gift Shop and so much more!

Please indicate your areas of interest below:

Jacobsburg Historical Society Membership Form

Name _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone/Cell Number _____

Email * _____

** By providing your email address you are authorizing Jacobsburg Historical Society to add your email to our electronic distribution list for future newsletters, upcoming events, special programs and craft classes.*

Additional Members' Names: _____

Complete this membership form and return with your check or credit card information to:

Jacobsburg Historical Society

P.O. Box 345

Nazareth, PA 18064

Make History Live at the Boulton Historic Site Become a Member Today!

Individual \$25.00

Family \$45.00

Lifetime (Individual) \$500.00
Lifetime free admission to Museums/Events

Patron \$75.00
4 Season Passes for Museums/Events

Corporate \$100.00
6 Season Passes for Museums/Events

Sponsor \$250.00
10 Season Passes for Museums/Events

Support us with a donation!

Amount of Gift \$ _____

My Company matches. Form is enclosed.

Special Instructions: _____

This gift is in honor/memory of: _____

Please send an acknowledgement to: _____

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Check# _____ Visa MasterCard AMEX

Credit Card # _____ Exp. Date Mo/Year _____

Signature _____ 3 Digit Code _____

WWW.JACOBSBURGHISTORY.COM

Volunteer Opportunity Available on our Board of Directors

Jacobsburg Historical Society is seeking local community business professionals to serve on our board. If you have an interest in fundraising, grant proposals, finance, or strategic planning, we would love to have you join us as we preserve and present the history of the Henry family and the Boulton Historic Site.

Please send an email to Jacobsburg@rcn.com to express your interest and we will be happy to contact you with more information .

Help Support Jacobsburg Historical Society!

OWN A PIECE OF HISTORY

ORIGINAL J. HENRY & SON HALF STOCK FOWLER



PRODUCED AROUND 1850 IN THE BOULTON GUNWORKS

**IRON MOUNTED
PERCUSSION
20 GAUGE/62 CALIBER
LOCK & BARREL ENGRAVED
J. HENRY & SON**



\$5 PER TICKET

OR

\$20 FOR 5 TICKETS

***ALL PROCEEDS TO SUPPORT THE MISSION OF
THE JACOBSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY!***

**DRAWING WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2020 AT 2PM DURING
CLOSING CEREMONIES OF THE 2020 MARKET FAIRE & RENDEZVOUS
DO NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT TO WIN - MUST BE 18 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER**

**Raffle tickets will be available in the PLRM Gift Shop
throughout the season until the drawing on October 25, 2020**

Early American Craft Center



Build a Pennsylvania Longrifle



Gunsmith Apprentice Program



Craft a Powder Horn

Beginner & Advanced



Create a Leather Hunting Bag

From Pattern to Stain



www.jacobsburghistory.com

Gunsmith Apprentice Program

Build a fine representation of an historic PA Longrifle from parts:
lock, stock, & barrel.

*Classes available in the spring.
Sundays, 12 - 5 pm for 9 classes
Pre-registration is required*

Instructor: Rocky Shreck: 610-533-9064.

Craft a Powder Horn

Create an Early American style powder horn, a storage container in which our forefathers carried gunpowder.

*Beginners: 4 classes in January
on Saturdays, from 12-5 pm.
Advanced: 2 classes in June
Saturday & Sunday, 9am-5pm.
Pre-registration is required.*

Instructor: Frank Willis: 908-246-8935.
Sponsored by the Honorable Co. of Horners.

Create a Leather Hunting Bag

From making the pattern to staining the final piece!

*Classes available in the fall,
Wednesdays from 6-9 pm for 4 classes.
Pre-registration is required.*

Instructor: Frank Willis: 908-246-8935.

**For more information, please contact
Program Coordinator Frank Willis, or
visit our website, www.jacobsburghistory.com**

The Early American Craft Center at the Jacobsburg Historical Society

Request for Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number(s): _____

Email: _____

Classes I am interested in: _____

The Jacobsburg Record

MUSEUM HOURS

Pennsylvania Longrifle Museum

Noon—4:00 pm Saturday and Sunday on the third weekend of each month in July, August, September 2020.

Open for special events in May, June, October, and December; Saturday 10 am—4 pm and Sunday Noon—4:00 pm.

John Joseph Henry House Museum, Summer Kitchen, and Grounds

Noon—4:00 pm on the third Sunday of each month
In July, August, September 2020.

Open for special events in May, June, October, and December; Saturday 10 am—4 pm and Sunday Noon—4:00 pm.

Group tours are available.

*Please contact the Society Office at 610-759-9029
or email jacobsburg@rcn.com to schedule a visit.*



Find us on Facebook!

At “Boulton Historic Site
and Jacobsburg Historical Society,”
and visit our website at

www.JacobsburgHistory.com



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