



THE JACOBSBURG RECORD

Henry Homestead museum construction project wraps up, museum exhibits project begins

2003 Calendar of Events

(Some dates may be tentative - Calendar updated with each newsletter)

February 22—Interpretive Ice Harvesting Program at the Henry Homestead

February 28-March 2—Henry Gun Exhibit at PA Expo Center, Allentown

April 26—Spring Cleanup at Boulton

May 17-18—Henry Gun Exhibit at Oxford Furnace, Oxford, NJ

June 14-15—Rifle Frolic at Boulton

July 23-25—Jr. Historians Day Camp, Jacobsburg National Historic District

October 4—Bushkill Stream Festival & Walk in Henry's Woods at JNHD

October 23—Annual Membership Dinner

October 25-26—Fur Trade Rendezvous at Boulton

November 15—Fall Cleanup at Boulton

Except for some masonry and landscaping jobs slated for this spring, most of the work involved with the ongoing museum construction and restoration project at the Henry Homestead wrapped up late last year. Two years of blood, sweat and tears and some \$200,000 went into renovating the Henry Homestead to house the Museum of the Pennsylvania Longrifle.

The nearly 200-year-old homestead is now a showpiece waiting to be furnished with museum exhibits and filled with visitors. A museum floor plan and storyline were developed some time ago and a professional exhibits manufacturer has been contracted for the exhibits project.

The first phase of the project will focus on the Log Cabin Room, where exhibits will



East view of the Henry Homestead while under restoration last summer.

tell the core story of the Pennsylvania Longrifle. The Forks of the Delaware Antique Arms Society has sponsored an anchor exhibit there, which is nearly finished and will be installed next month. The Kentucky Rifle Association is sponsoring a second exhibit, which is currently in design. Funding is being sought to complete exhibits and cabi-

netry in the Log Cabin Room and throughout the Pennsylvania Longrifle Museum.

The Henry Homestead will be open on a limited basis this year for public programs, the first of which is scheduled for February 22. Homestead open house events will be scheduled for later this year as well. Regular museum hours will be established once the Henry Homestead exhibits project is fully completed.

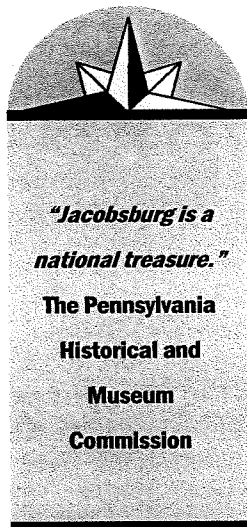
Ice industry historian, Rick Smith, will present *Winter Harvest* program at Henry Homestead on February 22

The history of local ice harvesting will be the topic of the Society's first community program this year at the Henry Homestead on Saturday, February 22 at 10:30 a.m. Ice industry historian, Rick Smith, will present the locally made-for-television video, *Winter Harvest*, and an impressive display of authentic ice harvesting tools, equipment and memorabilia.

Also on display will be a photo exhibit of the Boulton Ice Company, which the Henry family ran from 1894 to 1926 from the frozen shores of Henry's Dam.

Winter Harvest is free-of-charge and open to the public. Due to limited seating, reservations are required. To make your reservations, call Jim Wilson at 610-746-2809.

Society's archives and records management program receives state funding



The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) recently awarded \$3,887 to Jacobsburg to purchase archival supplies for the care and preservation of the Society's 12,000 photographic images. These images include prints, negatives, slides and contact sheets dating from the late 1860s to the present. They are key visual components to the Society's interpretive and educational programming efforts.

This photographic preservation project is based on the recommendations of a PHMC Technical Assistance Consultant for preserving, maintaining and making available for research the



Henry family on front lawn of Henry Homestead, circa 1880. State grant will help preserve this, and all photos in the Society's archives.

Society's photo collections. The end product will be a properly preserved and archived photo collection that is ready for cataloging, arranging and reproducing for interpretive programming. Properly preserved and archived photo collections will increase the Society's professionalism and provide better interpretive, educational and research services for the public.

PHMC funding was recently applied for to purchase archival supplies for the care and preservation of the Society's manuscript and book collections as well. Final word on that grant is expected late this year.

Boulton wayside exhibits design completed, fabrication and installation next

The long-awaited Boulton wayside exhibits project is that much closer to becoming a finished product. Begun in 1999, final designs for the 21 outdoor displays were approved late last year and electronic copies were received by the Society and Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center. They must now be forwarded to the Pennsylvania Bureau of State Parks for fabrication, which should occur early this year.

Once fabricated, the exhibits will be installed along the Boulton Heritage Walk, which con-

nects the Boulton Parking Lot to the Henry Homestead and John Joseph Henry House on Henry Road.

The beautiful, laminate displays incorporate photos, art and text to tell the story of the Henrys and their industrial plantation community at Boulton. Exhibit topics include the Boulton Gun Works, Henry's Dam, the Henry Homestead, the Henry gunmakers, orientation to Jacobsburg and the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor, and more.

The Jacobsburg Record gets new look, editor

After 12 years of faithful service to the Jacobsburg Historical Society, Estelle Shedlauskas recently retired as editor of *The Jacobsburg Record*. Estelle tirelessly arranged, edited and published the newsletter for well over a decade from her home in Whitehall, Lehigh County.

Beginning this year, *The Jacobsburg Record* will be edited by Jim Wilson, Jacobsburg Historical Society and Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center heritage program partnership staff, and will be published at the partnership's

heritage program office at the Boulton Visitor Center.

The Jacobsburg Historical Society thanks Estelle Shedlauskas for a job well done for a dozen years. Many thanks, Estelle!

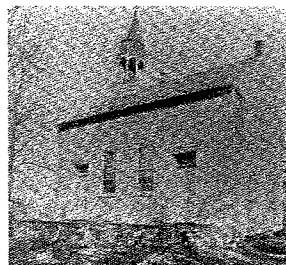


Estelle Shedlauskas, editor, *The Jacobsburg Record*, 1990-2002

Henry's Church celebrates 175 years as house of worship throughout 2003

This year marks the 175th anniversary of old Henry's Church—today's St. Luke's United Church of Christ. Three Henry brothers, John Joseph, Matthew and William III, were key players in the organization and construction of the church in 1828 on the road between Belfast and Jacobsburg.

The church was first built as a Union Church for local Moravian, Lutheran and Reformed congregations. It was called Henry's Church because of the Henry brothers' influence on its development, and because so many of its parishioners were employed in the Henry's gun and iron works nearby.



Henry's Church, circa 1880—the first incarnation of today's St. Luke's UCC, which is celebrating the chapel's 175th this year.

Henry's Church was gutted in a spectacular five-alarm fire on February 29, 2000. But the tenacious St. Luke's UCC congregation persevered, and rebuilt the church within a year's time, and within plenty of time for this year's 175th anniversary celebration.

Father Sawitiski and all of St. Luke's UCC 175th Anniversary Committee have graciously invited Jacobsburg Historical Society members to commemorative

Sunday services this year on March 2, March 16, June 22 and December 21. The Society wishes St. Luke's the very best, and many more years of worship in old Henry's Church.

Partnership education program focuses on Jacobsburg reach of the Bushkill Creek watershed

The Jacobsburg Historical Society and Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center heritage program partnership is developing an educational unit on the Bushkill Creek watershed for school students. *Bushkill Portfolio* will be a resource based education program for students in grades 6-12.

The program will connect students with the Jacobsburg reach of the Bushkill Creek to study historical and current impacts of the wa-

tershed. When developed in full, *Bushkill Portfolio* will include folders of information and standards based lesson plans on natural and human history, land use issues, archaeology, cultural geography and field trips to Jacobsburg.

Bushkill Portfolio will be a unit of education within Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center's *Watershed Education* program. With a focus on the Jacobsburg reach of the Bushkill Creek, students will learn about the entire watershed.

1834 John Joseph Henry House undergoes some rehab and repair work, slated for more

The John Joseph Henry House is in serious need of major maintenance, repair and preservation work. Late last year, the dirt basement of the JJ House was excavated and a concrete floor was poured. Rain gutters and downspouts were replaced on the top and side roofs, water lines were replaced on the first floor and new HVAC and electrical systems were installed throughout the house.

This year, basement water lines will be replaced, roofs will be repaired on the front and west side porches, and basement staircases will

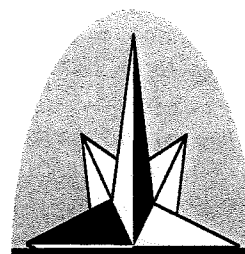
be replaced.

Funding will be sought this year for a Historic Structures Report of the JJ House. The report will help define repair and preservation

needs and recommend appropriate actions and priority procedures.



1834 John Joseph Henry House is slated for more repairs, preservation this year.



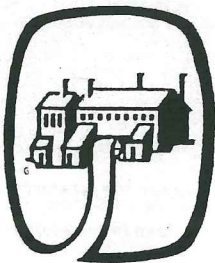
"We are truly rejoiced to see the interest you take in the eternal welfare of so great a number of persons in your employment, and therefore highly approve of your intention of providing Christian education for them..."

From a letter to the Henry brothers from the Moravian Church in Bethlehem on the construction of Henry's Church in 1828

Jacobsburg Historical Society

Boulton Visitor Center
441 Henry Road
Nazareth, PA 18064

Phone: 610-746-2809
Fax: 610-746-5601



JACOBSBURG
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

We're on the Web!
www.jacobsburg.org

Phil and Barb Schroeder
394 Henry Road
Nazareth, PA 18064-9128



JACOBSBURG,
WHERE HISTORY
LIVES!

Mission, goals and programs of the Jacobsburg Historical Society



Jr. Historians find and inspect artifacts found in Bushkill Creek during the "Creek Walk" part of the Jr. Historians day camp program last summer. Jr. Historians is sponsored annually by the Jacobsburg Historical Society and Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center. It's the most popular program among the Center's four youth summer programs.

The mission of the Jacobsburg Historical Society is to preserve and present the art and industry of making early American firearms, and the character of the individuals and community that created and sustained that enterprise.

The Society was founded in 1972 to preserve and interpret the historical Henry family estate and early industrial properties, the families gun and iron making heritage, and to help establish the Jacobsburg National Historic District.

The goals of the Society are to tell the historically significant story of the Henry family and the people, places, products and processes associated with its water-powered industries to a diverse audience using vari-

ous interpretive mediums, such as museum and wayside exhibits, educational programming, publications, lectures and more.

The Society's program is currently presented to the public via visitor center exhibits, an historic house museum, living history encampments, school programs, a monthly community lecture series, a youth history day camp, a number of publications and early American gunsmithing courses. Later this year, the Boulton Heritage Walk and the Museum of the Pennsylvania Longrifle at the Henry Homestead will be completed projects that will add to the rich diversity of the Society's interpretive and educational program.

For further information about Jacobsburg and its programs, contact Jim Wilson at the Boulton Visitor Center at 610-746-2809 or send email to jacobsburg@fast.net.