

The Jacobsburg Record

SOCIETY OFFICE 759-9029

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1992

VOL. XX

No. 1

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 1992

At the January Board Meeting officers were elected for the 1992 term. They are as follows:

Robert Frick, President
James Shedlauskas, 1st Vice President
Mary Ann Van Norman, 2nd Vice President
Philip Schroeder, Secretary
John Schlamp, Treasurer.

All of the above were re-elected with the exception of Mary Ann Van Norman who is serving her first term. Mary Ann is well known for her dedication to our special events programs and has ever been "on call" whenever there was work to be done.

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DALLUM BLANDY RESIGNS

At the January Board Meeting announcement was made of the resignation of Board member Dallum Blandy. Dal has served as Chairman of Publicity for many years, an important position now left vacant. In expressing his pleasure of working with other members, he offered to continue to serve the Society in the future. His resignation was accepted with regret.

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HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

Our Christmas Party on Saturday evening, November 30th, followed by Open House the following day, was declared an unqualified success by all. As usual, Saturday evening's event was hosted by the Board members for our Volunteers, while Sunday afternoon was enjoyed by members and the general public.

The decorations and exhibits were the most ambitious ever undertaken for these events. Earl and Mary Ann Van Norman are to be commended for turning the Log Cabin Room into what appeared to us to be a toy shop, all items coming from the John Joseph attic. From

skates to puzzles, dolls with furniture and tea sets to Noah's Ark, and many other categories "too numerous to mention." In addition a country-type Cedar tree was most attractive with popcorn strings (made by Eric and Amber DiGerlando) and pretzels.

The Parlor corner cupboard displayed an early set of Nativity figures given to Mary Henry's Mother when an infant. This would give them a date of about 1875. Jim Shedlauskas made a plywood platform which completely filled the bay window on which was set up a Christmas Tree (donated by Mr. & Mrs. Peters). Beneath its branches was a Putz, created by Bob Frick, complete with moss fields and sandy desert. Children were delighted to search for the wild turkey hidden in the "woods."

The evening party was enhanced by wine, many food donations, a spectacular pyramid of gelatin filled orange sections, and decorations by John Morrow. The DiGerlandos set out luminarias which guided us from the parking lot to the front door.

Naturally, Jacobsburg Brew was served at the Open House on Sunday.

Our thanks is due to those who spent many hours in preparation for these events, in decorations, exhibits and holiday delicacies. The events were followed, as usual, by additional hours of cleaning up and packing away all those things that were utilized.

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WORK PARTIES

It is very cold as we write, but Spring is not that far away, believe it or not. In order to prepare for our ongoing programs and projects there is much to be done.

Both houses will need a thorough cleaning, including laundering and repair of curtains, polishing furniture and metal objects, washing of china, and so on. There is extensive work to be done in the garden, and the rebuilding of the arbor at its entrance. Office work is needed to file loose material, set up volunteer and program files, attend to correspondence and telephone requests for information.

WORK PARTIES (Cont'd.)

During the next two months we will set up days for volunteers to meet and establish what is to be done by whom, when and how. These programs will be pleasant as well as productive. Our year ahead will be an active one and we will make progress in proportion to the support given by our members.

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TOY COLLECTION ORGANIZED

When toys were gathered for the Christmas Open House exhibit they were culled from many nooks and crannies throughout the John Joseph attic. They came from drawers, chests, boxes and trunks - to which they were not returned.

In repacking the toys, similar items were placed in boxes according to established categories and a list placed in each box with a duplicate made for the curatorial file.

This is a long way from the task of cataloguing each item which must be done one day, but it is a definite step in the right direction.

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RESEARCH

At the November meeting there was a discussion on the aims, purpose and goals of the Society. This discussion evolved into a decision to emphasize the uniqueness of the Henry Gun Factory located in this part of Pennsylvania. Most people are aware of Connecticut being the heart of the gun industry during the 19th C. but we have a segment of it right here. This is one of the things that makes our Society different.

The last two months have seen great progress in research, centering on the Gun Works and the buildings, both existing and lost, lying within the Jacobsburg and Boulton areas. Spearheaded by Jim Shedlauskas, old photographs, documents and maps are being gathered, together with copies of the Historic American Buildings Survey (H.A.B.S.) from the Library of Congress, showing the Gun Works in detail.

This is so vast a subject that a more detailed report cannot be made here. It is exciting to know that Jim is making small wood scale

RESEARCH (Cont'd.)

models of all existing buildings as well as the Boulton Works and some Jacobsburg structures. These models, laid out in their correct locations will allow a visitor to have a bird's eye view of the entire historic district and see the relationship of one area to another. This will give us a superb interpretive tool which will increase in value as more information comes to light.

This interest is not limited to the Board members and Committee. Anyone and everyone in the Society who is interested, has information, or wants to learn about the industrial complex of Jacobsburg/Boulton should get in touch with us.

"GET INVOLVED --- ENJOY YOUR SOCIETY"

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TREE TRIM

Another great tree has received professional care through the generosity of an anonymous donor. The Horse Chestnut standing close to the John Joseph kitchen wing had many dead branches and was so formed as to contain several weak portions in its several trunks. Due to its proximity to the house, this condition was hazardous and was corrected by placing four cables in its upper branches. The work was done by Burns Tree Care and the cost underwritten by an anonymous donor.

Several other trees are now looking for adoption. Call the office for information on this important program.

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THE SMALLEST GOOD DEED IS BETTER THAN THE
GRANDEST INTENTION.

JACOBSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OFFICERS - 1991

Robert Frick, President	Bethlehem	691-6233
James Shedlauskas, 1st Vice President	Allentown	435-4509
Mary Ann VanNorman, 2nd Vice President	Easton	252-0204
Philip Schroeder, Secretary	Nazareth	759-0551
John Schlamp, Treasurer	Nazareth	759-0302

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Term Expires end of 1993

Bobbi DiGerlando	Wind Gap	759-7239
Joseph Lopresti	Stockertown	759-1580
Timothy Lubenesky	Coplay	262-8171
John D. Morrow	Phillipsburg	201-859-2498
Charlotte Sayre	Nazareth	746-1163
John J. Schlamp	Nazareth	759-0302

Term Expires end of 1992

Dallam E. Blandy	Bethlehem	867-6849
Joseph DiGerlando	Wind Gap	759-7239
Virginia Lopresti	Stockertown	759-1580
Walter L. Peters	Nazareth	759-1530
James Shedlauskas	Allentown	435-4509
Mary Ann VanNorman	Easton	252-0204
James A. Wright	Nazareth	759-9119

Term Expires end of 1991

William Henry Atherton	Stockertown	759-7710
Robert Frick	Bethlehem	691-6233
William C. Goble	Macungie	966-3864
Matthew K. Morris	Nazareth	746-1089
Robert N. Newell	Nazareth	759-5423
Kathryn Schlamp	Nazareth	759-0302
Philip Schroeder	Nazareth	759-0551
Earl VanNorman	Easton	250-0204

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FOR JACOBSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Student	\$2.50	Sustaining	\$10.00	Contributing	\$15.00
Individual	\$5.00	Family	\$12.50	Organizations	\$25.00

NAME CONTRIBUTIONS

Tannery Club	\$100.00	Boulton Club	\$500.00	Henry Rifle club	\$1,000
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NAME AND ADDRESS _____

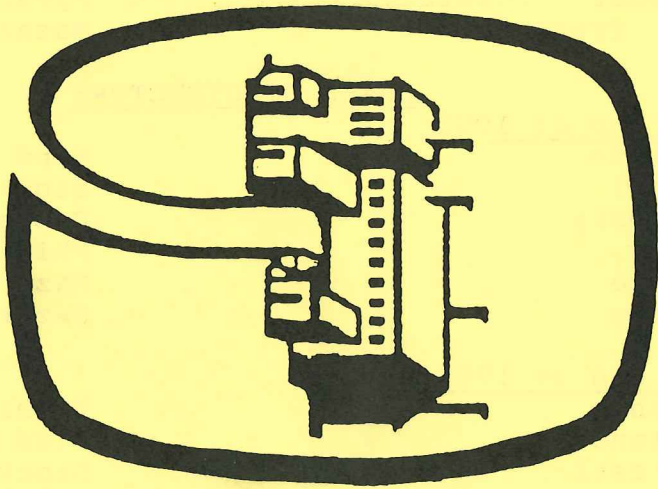
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Please return this slip with your check, payable to Jacobsburg Historical Society. Send to P.O.Box 345, Nazareth, PA 18064.

All contributions are tax deductible to the extent provided by the law.

Cancelled check is your receipt.

JACOBSTURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY



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