

The Jacobsburg Record

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1995

VOL. XXIII

NO. 1

1995 OFFICERS

At the January 1995 Board of Directors Meeting the Nominating Committee, comprised of Robert Frick, Matthew Morris and Earl Van Norman, presented the following slate of officers:

A. James Shedlauskas	President
Mary Ann Van Norman	1st Vice President
Timothy Lubenesky	2nd Vice President
Philip Schroeder	Secretary
John Schlamp	Treasurer

Since there were no further nominations from the floor, the slate was unanimously elected to these positions.

* * * * *

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Here we are at the threshold of 1995, full of resolutions and good intentions, and plans for the new year. Sounds like the same old story over again, doesn't it? Well, I hope not for us. Your Board of Directors have been working hard during December and January planning for the coming Public Season.

For the past five years we have been having an open house program on the second and fourth Sunday afternoon of each month from April through October. This year we have decided to move to a new format. We will sponsor a Saturday and Sunday Festival once each month starting with May and running through October. It is also planned to have the Christmas program on the first weekend in December, with private tours during the following week.

These monthly festivals will be quite different than our previous open house programs. Although they will include most of the interesting events we have included in the past, some areas have been expanded to include many exciting and interesting items. Each festival will have a particular theme and the two-day program will be built around this theme. At the present time we have firm dates and commitments for four out of six monthly programs, the other two are pending, for further development.

1. In May, our first 2-day event will be known as the Kentucky Rifle Frolic.
2. June is still under development but it will center around a display and sale of period crafts.
3. July has been designated the month for the Iron Mongers Festival.

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Cont'd.)

4. The August program has not yet been committed.
5. September is a joint venture with the Bushkill Conservancy.
6. October will be a Civil War Show and Encampment.
7. The first weekend in December will be our Christmas program with private tours during the following week.

* * * * *

CHRISTMAS PAST

On December 3rd at 7:00 P.M. the annual Christmas Party for Volunteers was held in the Henry Homestead. In spite of unpleasant weather, a good crowd was in attendance. As usual, Mary Ann Van Norman's committee provided an excellent repast in the lower room which was elaborately decorated for the occasion. Mark Amey produced one of his well-known colorful Colonial desserts to add to the festive evening. Outside, the neighborhood of Boulton was aglow with window candles in the Stone House, the J. Joseph Henry House and the Robert Henry House, as well as The Homestead.

The Christmas Open House the following afternoon attracted some three hundred and fifty visitors. This event is always our "Christmas Gift" to the community without admission fee. The theme was "Antique Christmas Ornaments."

Mark Amey filled the Log Cabin Room with a variety of objects from small toys, straw-woven items, miniature village houses and the red paper bells so admired by our Victorian forebears. There were even metallic silver trees with a revolving colored flood light, from the mid-nineteen hundreds. Dominating the display was a splendid Christmas Tree trimmed with hand-made ornaments. All this was provided by Mark with contributions from the Van Norman and Shedlauskas families.

In the Taylor Room were exhibited a variety of Christmas Tree ornaments. These included Kugels (heavy glass Christmas Tree balls), objects in spun glass and spun cotton, and a variety of tree candle holders, both of the weighted and clip-on variety. Henry Family Christmas cards were also on display. Visitors were surprised to see the variety of Moravian stars both in type and color.

As usual, Mrs. Granville Henry's Putz figures (c. 1875) were shown in the corner cupboard. The Putz, designed and created by Robert P. L. Frick, filled the bay window and featured a background of old tree stumps against a blue cloth sky. These came from Joseph Morris, a famous Bethlehem Putz builder. As usual, children delighted in hunting for the small wild birds and animals hidden among the greens. The Peppell family furnished the moss. Bob Frick and Bill Goble were the contributors to this display.

The overall exhibit in both rooms contained curious, valuable and rare objects, which provided an instructive as well as an interesting display.

* * * *

SPRING CLEANUP
April 8th @ 9:00 AM

For the past several years, in order to get our houses ready for the summer Tour Season, it has fallen on the shoulders of a very few (3 to 4) people to get the grounds ready for visitors.

The houses have been cleaned by professional house cleaners, with some individuals doing certain projects such as washing and repairing curtains, changing furniture arrangements, and rearranging displays, touch-up painting and so forth

This year we would like to try a different approach. On Saturday, April 8, 1995, starting at 9:00 A.M., we will have a spring cleaning party open to all members, their families and guests. If this program is successful we can save the nearly one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) that professional house cleaning has cost us in the past (this is based on 1994 prices).

Think about it...how better can you get to really see all the nooks and crannies in the John Joseph House than by dusting, washing, and polishing all the items we have in your house museum?

Those who prefer outside work or are not disposed to handling dainty furnishings can help us get the hedges trimmed, the garden cleaned and edged, and trimmed, lawns raked and winter debris disposed of.

The Society will provide lunch--continuous coffee and tea for all participants.

Now, mark the date and time on your calendar, line up your rakes, brooms, buckets, sweepers, dusters, mops, Murphy's oil soap, and join us for an important project and get acquainted with your fellow volunteers. House cleaning is needed on April 8th, rain or shine. The rain date for the outside crew will be April 22nd, same time and place.

If you have any questions, call Jim Shedlauskas at 435-4509. If you just want to let us know you will be there, please call the Society Office at 759-9029 and leave your name on the answering service.

Jim Shedlauskas

* * * * *

HENRY ARMS ACQUISITION FUND DRIVE

As of December 31, 1994, the Society has received the following:

Pledges	\$7,725.00
Cash Received	\$7,125.00

This fund has grown enough to purchase the six rare underhammer pistols and this acquisition has been made. This is an open and operating fund. Donations can be made at any time and should be sent to Treasurer John Schlamp, Box 345, Nazareth, Pa. 18064.

* * *

VOLUNTEERS

As the Society grows and establishes larger and longer range goals, it gets harder and harder to arrange and coordinate volunteer availability and special skills for the various needs of the Society. These include curatorial, inventory, maintenance, lawn and grounds care, painting, housekeeping, new programs, period craft shops, mechanical repairs, and so on. We do have people volunteer their time and skills but we are not always able to get them together with the job.

The point of this message is that we are becoming desperately in need of a person or persons to do this very necessary and important chore. The Volunteer Coordinator position is extremely important if we are to continue to grow. This will really function as a Manager of our human resources.

The Volunteer Coordinator would be the central point of contact for people who have time and/or skills to offer the Society and also the person whom the chairpersons and project managers would keep apprised of what help they need and when it is needed.

I would appreciate it if all interested persons would contact me at 435-4509 as soon as possible.

A. J. Shedlauskas, President

* * * * *

NEW MEMBERS - As of January 15, 1995, we welcome the following new members into the Society:

Karen Adams
Kenneth Adams
Robert J. Buffman
M/M Wilson F. Bullivant
Scott Moore
Jerilyn Smith

Sherri Ann Vasquez
Morris S. Uhler
William J. Zavacky
Evelyn Houck
Charles A. Hildenbrandt
M/M Robert A. Sadler III

* * * * *

LOOKING AHEAD.....

At various times we report on projects in progress and/or completed. Perhaps it would be of interest to the general membership if we listed some of the jobs and projects that need to be done, or would enhance our property if they were done.

In no particular priority order, here are some of the items under way or being planned:

- Construction of new basement window well covers - J. J. House.
- Scraping and painting of J. J. House shutters.
- Repairs to the J. J. House side porch floor.
- Painting the J. J. House wood trim.

LOOKING AHEAD....(Cont'd.)

- Stabilize the Homestead barn floor.
- Repair the Homestead Barn siding.
- Convert the J. Joseph House Garage into a period carpenter's shop.
- Installing ceiling insulation, sheathing, and air vents in the Homestead Carriage House.
- Paint the exterior of the Carriage House.
- Removal of wall paper, cleaning & sealing the plaster, and painting the Blue Room - J. Joseph House.
- We are presently waiting for two Eagle Scout Projects to get started. One project is to convert the Duck House into a working Blacksmith Shop and the other is to clear the brush and debris from around the Gun Factory Foundation.

Volunteers for all of the above projects are needed and most welcome. Please call me at any time for more information.

A. J. Shedlauskas, President

* * * * *

WISH LIST - The Society is still in need of an inexpensive 35 MM point and shoot camera.

* * * * *

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1995

Joseph DiGerlando
Kenneth Fenske
Virginia Lopresti
Gerald Millheim
Walter L. Peters
A. J. Shedlauskas
Mary Ann Van Norman

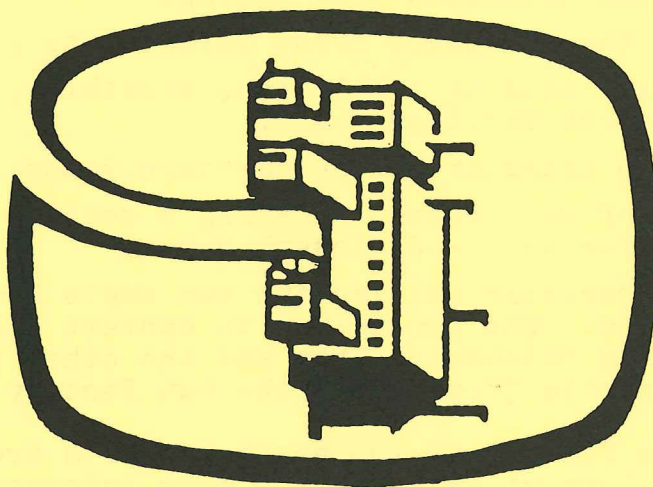
1996

Bobbie DiGerlando
Ronald G. Gabel
Timothy Lubenesky
Charlotte Sayre
John J. Schlamp
Estelle Shedlauskas

1997

William H. Atherton
Robert P. L. Frick
William C. Goble
Matthew K. Morris
Robert N. Newell
Kathryn Schlamp
Philip Schroeder
Earl Van Norman

JACOBSTURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Jacobsturg Historical Society
Box 345
Nazareth, Pennsylvania 18064

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
Nazareth, Pa.
Permit No. 10