

The Jacobsburg Record

SOCIETY OFFICE - 610-759-9029

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SPRING IS HERE!!!

By the time many of you see this, Spring will officially be here. Now, with this time of year comes the awakening from Winter doldrums, dark gloomy weather, and hibernation.

Jacobsburg Historical Society has the cure for your "Cabin Fever." Saturday, April 12, 1997 has been designated as the *ANNUAL CLEAN-UP DAY*. For the past two years this has been a highly successful operation. Remember, we have no paid staff and depend solely on volunteers to get the property ship-shape and ready for visitors. This year, we anticipate more visitors than ever before.

The emphasis for this project will be on getting our vast grounds ready. It means a lot of raking, and piling and picking up the winter debris, not only on lawns and walkways, but around the buildings too. If you can, bring your rakes and gloves. We will have projects for everyone. For those who prefer inside work, both the J. Joseph House and the Homestead need to be swept, dusted and arranged.

Start time is 9:00 A.M. Lunch will be served, and hot coffee, cocoa and soft drinks will be available all day.

We hope you can spend the day but, if not, we will surely appreciate every hour you can give us. The amount of work that can be accomplished on a day like this is amazing! It's also a great time to renew acquaintances with those you have not seen over the winter months, and to meet some new faces. So...bring the family, friends, neighbors, etc. Everyone is welcome!!!

If you have any questions or suggestions, call Jim Shedlauskas at 435-4509.

SEE YOU THERE!

April 12, 1997, 9:00 A.M.

Rain Date - April 27, 1997

1997 PROGRAMS

| | |
|---------------|--------------------------------|
| June 14 & 15 | Rifle Frolic |
| Sept. 13 & 14 | Bushkill Creek Festival '97 |
| Oct. 18 & 19 | Civil War Encampment |
| Dec. 6 | Volunteer Holiday Get-together |
| Dec. 7 | Christmas Open House |

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members who have joined the Society in the last few months:

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| John Joseph Albright | Mr. & Mrs. William Drior |
| Josh & Lillian Bartholomew | Paul Fischer & Family |
| Scott S. Bowers | Catherine Gava |
| Robert Buffman | Carol K. Labar |
| Ryan Scott Cortez | Arlean M. Pritchard |
| Robert C. D. Dressell | Morgan D. Vance |

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THE JOHN JOSEPH HENRY HOUSE

This past winter, although relatively mild, did bring its share of problems for our "mansion" in the woods. The house sustained moisture damage in several areas on the second and third floors. Not as serious as the problems encountered in the ice storms of a few years ago, some damage was done around a chimney on the third floor where our book cataloging is done, and a ceiling in the small bathroom on the second floor.

A climbing inspection of the roof from the outside revealed a number of problems not visible from the ground. As a result more than twenty damaged and missing slates were replaced. In addition, the flashings and mortar joints on the east side chimneys were repaired, once again making our roof watertight.

As this article is being written, a climbing inspection of the Homestead roof is underway. More on those problems and solutions in the next issue.

A. J. Shedlauskas, Property Manager

REPORT, DOCUMENTS AND ARCHIVES

The process of sorting and transcribing documents continues. Along with other voluminous correspondence relating to the Henrys of Boulton, we also have transcriptions of the following:

* Documents and correspondence relating to James Henry of Detroit, from 1791 to his death on December 29, 1812 (including correspondence with his brother, "our" William Henry of Nazareth, plus correspondence relating to other Henry descendants in Detroit up to 1910). This is important primary source material for any serious study of early frontier history in the Western territories, and how the Henry family was related to them.

* Journals of soldiers who were with William Henry of Nazareth's brother, John Joseph, on the winter 1775-1776 expedition of American patriots from Cambridge, Massachusetts to Quebec, some if not all of which have never before been published. It is now assembled in booklet form, transcribed from documents in the Historical Society of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia. Added to this is a letter in our own archives telling of a journey in 1905 which located the blazes left on trees along the trail in 1775.

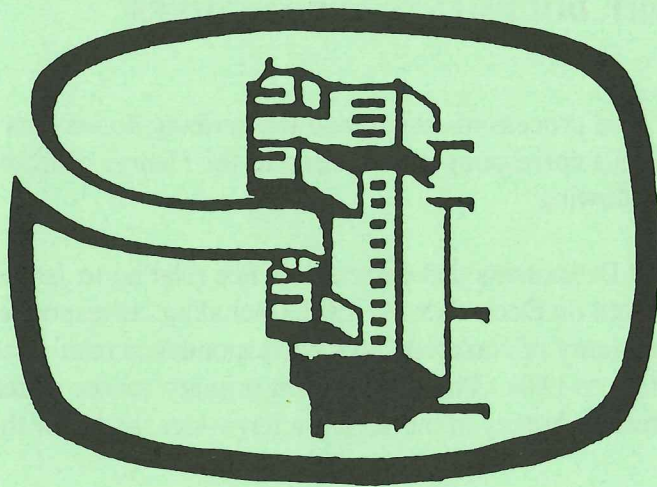
* A transcription of the Government contract dated February 16, 1814, between George Harrison, agent for the U. S. Navy, John Joseph Henry of Philadelphia and (subsequently) Nazareth, and George W. Tryon for 20 swivels and 200 muskets, for \$6,600 and to be delivered in three months.

* Correspondence between Edward Armstrong and William Henry III in 1840, relating to the opening of a coal and an iron forge business in what is now Scranton, and the correspondence of Henry W. Drinker with William Henry III from 1840 into 1850, relating to building the railroad between Delaware Water Gap and Pittston at the Susquehanna River.

* Stories of life in "old Nazareth," ranging from 1740 to 1850, written by William Henry of Nazareth's great-grandson, John Woolf Jordan in 1894, and published in that year by the "Nazareth Item," re-arranged, edited, and indexed.

...Don Repsher

JACOBSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY



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