

# The Jacobsburg Record

SOCIETY OFFICE 759-9029

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Our Open House Program for 1993 is well under way. So far this year we have had many visitors tour the Society properties and view the demonstrations.

Our standard displays and interpretation for the season are the Henry Gun Collection at the Henry Homestead and a variety of open hearth cooking demonstrations in the Summer Kitchen at the John Joseph Henry House. In addition, the following artisans are scheduled as listed below:

- June 13 - Bob Winters, Flintknapper. Makes gun flints, arrowheads and spear points. Display of early trade beads and Indian beads.
- June 22 - Bookbinding demonstration.  
Ron Edelheiser - makes small wooden houses.
- July 11 - Bruce Moyer - Exhibit of Pennsylvania-made long rifles.
- July 25 - Nancy Shelly - Scherenschnitte. German paper-demonstration and exhibit.
- August 8 - To be announced.
- August 22 - Flax-to-linen demonstration. Brothers Johannes and Christian of the Christiansbrunn Kloster in Mahantonge Valley, Central Pennsylvania, will demonstrate the technique.
- Sept. 12 - Joan Vanover - Quilting
- Sept. 25/26 - Civil War Encampment, 96th Pa. Regiment.
- Oct. 10 - Scout Dancers.
- Oct. 24 - Bob Chattin - Working Blacksmith
- Dec. 5 - Christmas Open House

It takes a minimum of eight people to man the two properties for an Open House and there is a great need for volunteers to serve as Guides, Greeters, etc. If any of our members or friends would be willing to serve in this capacity once or twice per year it would relieve some of the regulars who are there almost every Open House. If you are interested, please contact Kathryn Schlamp, 759-0302.

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ON THE ROAD!!!

May 9th was Mother's Day, Open House, and also a Road Show. The Jacobsburg Historical Society displayed a portion of the Henry Gun Collection at the Forks of the Delaware Gun Show at Agricultural Hall in Allentown. It was a tremendous success! This was the initial showing of our newly developed display and it drew a lot of attention to the Society. Many people from several states who were not aware of the location of the Henry Factory received an education on the Henry place in history and the Society's work in preserving that place. One of the features of the display was the newly acquired Henry Underhammer, along with another Underhammer on loan from a collector. These pieces were a source of a great deal of attention due to the fact that most collectors associate underhammer weapons with the New England industry, not Pennsylvania. A number of local Henry collectors have offered to display their collections at the Open House programs.

We received a trophy and a financial prize for our display. The trophy will be on display at the Homestead Museum.

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A NEW YOUTH ADVENTURE

A new Explorer Post is being formed in the Greater Nazareth area. Sponsored by the Jacobsburg Historical Society, Post 1776 will specialize in historical activities of the mid 1800's. Society members and other volunteers will have seminars and training sessions on the crafts and living skills used in the prime iron and gun making era of the Henry Gun Factory, 1820's - 1860's.

Blacksmithing, iron working, cooking, clothing making, farming and gardening, wood working, ice making, and particularly gun making, were all an important part of the Henry era legacy. These and other topics will be offered and explorers will have ample opportunities to pursue individual interests and apprentice under the watchful eyes and direction of recognized experts.

Exploring is a scouting program of the Boy Scouts of America, open to boys and girls ages 14 through 20, and is an opportunity for youth to learn leadership skills and decision making.

The first meeting of Post 1776 was held on Saturday, May 29, at the Henry Homestead.

For further information about Post 1776, contact Chris or Charlotte Miller (759-5288), Joe or Bobbie DiGerlando (759-7239), or Minsi Trails Council of BSA (264-8551).

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SOCIETY SPRING DINNER

Our Spring Dinner was held on Thursday evening, April 29th, at the Stockertown Memorial Hall. Some 64 members enjoyed the "Social hour" before sitting down to the usual delicious country-style dinner. Although we have met elsewhere on occasion, all agree that the Stockertown bill of fare cannot be matched either for taste or price. The table decorations were the product of Board member John Morrow's horticultural class students from whom the Society has obtained them for many years.

Our speaker was Mr. Rex Norman, Supervisory Park Ranger at Valley Forge National Historical Park. Mr. Norman addressed the group in authentic Free Trapper's garb, and spoke on the Fur Trade of the early 1800's. The methods of both the great fur companies and individuals were explained, and the part played by the American Indian made clear. While Society members are familiar with the contract between John Jacob Astor and the Henry factory at Boulton for Indian trade guns, the speaker brought life to the lives of the people involved in the fur trade and the Indians who were the recipients of Henry guns.

In addition to Ranger Norman's beautiful elk-skin garments and various objects pertaining to the trappers' gear, Mr. Norman's enthusiasm was relayed to the audience and "a good time was had by all." Although the gathering was much pleased with the evening program, we regret that many members were absent, some having never experienced the pleasure of this annual Society function.

Plan now to attend our Fall Dinner Meeting which will be held on Thursday, October 28, 1993.

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WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS who have joined the Society since October 1992:

Robert E. Frankenfield  
Douglas McBride  
Ruth Condit  
Richard L. Nge  
Marguerite Mizerck  
M/M Michal Horowski  
Richard F. Hujisa  
Matthew J. Morris  
M/M Michael Ahern & Family  
Gloria J. Grover  
Brian Kish  
Stephen M. Lange  
Larry Righi  
Morris S. Uhler  
M/M John H. Strouse

M/M Richard E. Stoeltzing  
M/M Roger Huth  
M/M John J. Somerville  
M/M George W. Schmeal  
M/M Michael Stoner  
Charles Chumas  
Michael Jones  
M/M Robert H. DeHart  
Nate Koval  
Evelyn S. Hofit  
William Bernhardt  
Kenneth Klump, Jr.  
M/M John Legath  
Tracy Strohl  
M/M Kyle Young

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HOMESTEAD HEMLOCK

The large Hemlock growing next to the Homestead has been a source of concern for some time. While for safety some feel it should be removed, sentiment won out, and other treatment was called for.

All dead limbs have been removed, including one crown killed by lightning years ago. As many branches over the roof were eliminated as could be done and yet not denude that side of the tree. As an additional safety measure, two cables were installed to tie the double trunk together.

We now feel that danger to the house in case of a bad storm has been mitigated, and the additional sunlight on roof and dormers will be of great benefit to their preservation.

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NOTES OF INTEREST

Thanks to the Hujsa brothers, we now have two apple trees which have been pruned and trimmed back to a productive state. The Hujsas have promised to continue to care for the fruit trees in our orchard this coming winter.

The Forks of the Delaware Garden Club has planted three Climbing Cecile Brunner roses on three corners of the new Arbor at the John Joseph Henry House. A Clematis by the fence that once enclosed the Summer Kitchen has been transplanted to the fourth corner of the Arbor.

With cooking demonstrations scheduled for each Open House, a supply of firewood became necessary. By gathering wood left about both places after tree cutting, this need has been met, as well as making our grounds more tidy. Enough of our own wood has been split to serve us for some time.

VOLUNTEER HOURS AND VISITORS IN 1992:

	<u>Volunteer Hours</u>	<u>Visitors</u>
Homestead	529.25	768
John Joseph Henry Hse.	455.5	548
Maintenance	<u>879.0</u>	<u>      </u>
	1,863.75	1,316

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JACOBSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OFFICERS - 1993

A. James Shedlauskas, President	Whitehall	435-4509
Mary Ann Van Norman, 1st Vice President	Easton	250-0204
Timothy Lubenesky, 2nd Vice President	Coplay	262-8171
Philip Schroeder, Secretary	Nazareth	759-0551
John Schlamp, Treasurer	Nazareth	759-0302

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Class of 1993

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Estelle Shedlauskas	Whitehall	435-4509

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(Detach Here)

YES, I would like to be a Volunteer. My interest is \_\_\_\_\_.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail to JACOBSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Box 345,  
Nazareth, Pa. 18064,  
or call Matt Morris at 746-1089.