

# The Jacobsburg Record

SOCIETY OFFICE 759-9029

JULY/AUGUST 1993

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## OPEN HOUSE PROGRAM

The Society Open House Program this year has given us a variety of artisans who have displayed their talents and given demonstrations of their personal interests. We have also had some individuals and groups, not scheduled, who gave us some interesting programs; there have been some very pleasant surprises. Listed below are the dates and scheduled events for the balance of the 1993 season:

- September 12 - Joan Vanover, Quilting
- Sept. 25/26 - Civil War Encampment, 96th Pa. Regiment
- October 10 - Leslie Mulliken, Spinner
- October 24 - Bob Chattin, Working Blacksmith  
William Heacock, Demonstration and display  
of miniatures.
- December 5 - Christmas Open House

A sincere thank you to all who have served as Greeters and Guides so far this year. It isn't too late to volunteer for any of the above dates and your help would be very much appreciated by those who devote so many of their Sunday afternoons to further the Open House Program. Please contact Kathryn Schlamp (759-0302) if you can help.

\* \* \* \* \*

AN UP-DATE in the saga of the new ROSE ARBOR in the John Joseph garden. Gerald Millheim has filled in the area to bring it up to level and has completed the brickwork at either end. The area has been seeded and the grass is growing nicely, and the roses that had been planted on the corners are high enough to reach the bottom crossbars of the Arbor. Two new benches that were built over patterns from parts of a bench found on the property have been completed and are now available to those who would like to sit and view the garden. Our hat is off to Bob Frick who is continually striving to win the battle with the weeds in the flower beds.

\* \* \* \*

Over the past winter we had accumulated a huge pile of trimmings from the apple trees, brush removal, tree trimming in general, all of which were stacked behind the John Joseph Barn. Thanks to a generous loan of a truck and brush chipper our grounds crew was able to reduce the massive pile to two truck loads of wood chips. These have been stored in the Homestead parking lot to be used in some of our flower beds.

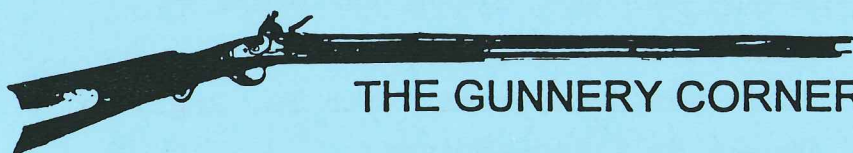
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The photostat to the right is a small representation of a bronze plaque which has been placed in the hallway of the John Joseph House between the living room doors. The Board felt this would be proper recognition of Mary Henry Stites' wonderful contribution to the Society. This plaque was donated by Dr. Gerald Millheim.

# # # # #

This house was built in 1832  
by John Joseph Henry. It was  
a gift to the Jacobsburg  
Historical Society in 1989 from  
Mary Henry Stites, the last  
family resident.



## THE GUNNERY CORNER

### NEW ACQUISITIONS

THE BALTIMORE GUN SHOW PROVED TO BE VERY LUCKY THIS SPRING WITH OUR GUNNERY COMMITTEE LOCATING SEVERAL UNUSUAL AND RARE "HENRY" FIREARMS. ALTHOUGH NO ARMS WERE PURCHASED AT THE SHOW, SUBSEQUENT FOLLOW UP CONTACTS HAVE PRODUCED FRUIT.

# 1 69 CALIBER COMMON WEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA (C.P.) CONTRACT FLINTLOCK MUSKET PATTERNED AFTER THE FRENCH MODEL 1763 CHARLEVILLE. THE HENRYS RECEIVED THIS CONTRACT IN DECEMBER 1797. THE CONTRACT WAS FOR 2000 MUSKETS. THE LOCK IS MARKED "HENRY" VERTICALLY AT THE REAR OF THE LOCK AND "CP" WITH CROSSED SABERS UNDER THE PAN. THE BARREL IS ALSO MARKED "CP". A RARE PIECE WITH FEW EXAMPLES SURVIVING IN THIS GOOD TO VERY GOOD CONDITION.

# 2 40 CALIBER "DERRINGER" TYPE PISTOL WITH A BACK ACTION PERCUSSION LOCK. THIS IS TRULY AN UNUSUAL PIECE IN THAT THE HENRYS MANUFACTURED VERY FEW PISTOLS AFTER THE 1840s. THE LOCK IS A PHILADELPHIA STYLE BACK ACTION, THE BARREL IS MARKED "HENRY" ON THE TOP FLAT. THE BARREL IS OCTAGON TO ROUND WITH A WEDDING BAND AT THE TRANSITION. THE BARREL APPEARS TO THE WRITER TO BE ONE OF THE EARLIER HENRY UNDER-HAMMER PISTOL BARRELS CUT DOWN AND FITTED INTO A DERRINGER STOCK. THIS ACQUISITION IS IN VERY FINE CONDITION.

BOTH OF THESE NEW ADDITIONS WILL BE ON DISPLAY EVERY OPEN HOUSE FOR THE BALANCE OF THE SEASON.



CLEARING OF THE AREA AROUND THE SUMMER KITCHEN AND SMOKEHOUSE

All of the broken slate, gravel and rambling bushes have been removed. The Landscape Committee has prepared drawings of the area and are now working on drafting designs for a period herb garden in the space between the smokehouse and the grape arbor. This would give it close proximity to the Summer Kitchen where the herbs would be used. The DiGerlandos have built the frames and set them to provide a 2 foot path between the four beds. Joe DiGerlando has also weeded out all the poison ivy that had grown up into the grape vines.

Another portion of this project is to restore the grade to the ground behind the smokehouse and there to erect a wood chopping and wood storage shed to supply the cooking demonstrations being held in the Summer Kitchen. Thanks to Mary Ann Van Norman, Connie Unangst and Mark Amey, this year we have been fortunate enough to have cooking in the Summer Kitchen since the beginning of the Open House Season.

There are two remaining projects in this area: (1) to refurbish the root cellar. This would include shelving, storage crocks, improved lighting and possibly replacement of the stairs; (2) to reactivate the smokehouse. We are also in need of a volunteer(s) to paint the outside of the building. Contact Jim Shedlauskas, Matt Morris, or Bob Frick if you can help.

\* \* \* \* \*

REMINDER!!!

The Fall Dinner and Membership Meeting will be held on October 28th at the Stockertown Memorial Hall. Invitations will be mailed at a later time but mark your calendar now so you don't miss the date. Dr. David Valuska, Head of the History Department at Kutztown University, will be the speaker for the evening. Dr. Valuska is a well-known historian of the Civil War and a member of the 96th Pa. Volunteer Regiment Reenactment Group.

\* \* \* \*

SPECIAL TOUR RATES - Due to the time and work involved, it has been decided to charge a minimum rate of \$25.00 for any special tour for less than 25 persons. Groups of 25 or more will pay a special group rate of \$1.00 per person (for both houses).

GIFTS TO JACOBSTOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

-An early framed map of the eastern portion of North America has been donated by Robert Hujja. This piece is undated, but was drawn by D. Veelwaard and printed by A. Leusjer. The spelling points to a Dutch origin.

-A deed signed in three places by William Henry and dated 13 April 1797 has been presented by Mr. & Mrs. Walter Peters. This document is not only of value to us because of the signature, but also points to William Henry's service to the County as a Justice of the Peace.

These gifts will be added to our collection of documents and further enrich our research materials. We thank these good people.



## THE GUN MAKERS FAIR AT DIXON'S

JULY 30,31 & AUGUST 1, 1993  
" ON THE ROAD AGAIN "

THE SOCIETY'S RETURN TO THE GUN MAKERS' FAIR WAS A TRULY DELIGHTFUL WEEKEND. THE WEATHER WAS PERFECT. THE ATTENDANCE WAS FABULOUS, (OVER 5,000) AND THE INTEREST AND CONCERN OF THE SOCIETY WAS/IS GRATIFYING. OUR 20' X 20' TENT WAS BRIMFUL OF HENRY ARMS , 61 PIECES IN ALL , PLUS A WIDE VARIETY OF GUNSMITHING TOOLS . AMONG THE UNIQUE DISPLAYS WERE SEVEN ( 7 ) UNDER HAMMER ARMS: 5 PISTOLS AND 2 RIFLES BUILT BY J.J. HENRY IN 1836-1839. SEVERAL OF THESE PIECES ARE BEAUTIFULLY ENGRAVED WITH FINE INLAYS. ALSO ON DISPLAY WAS A HENRY-MADE WAR OF 1812 SWORD, A HENRY NORTHWEST GUN MADE FOR THE AMERICAN FUR COMPANY AND SEVERAL FANTASTIC PENNSYLVANIA LONG RIFLES.

MANY THANKS TO THOSE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS FOR ALLOWING US TO BORROW THE ARMS AND THEIR TIME IN ERECTING AND MANNING THE DISPLAY ALL WEEKEND AS "A LABOR OF LOVE".

SPECIAL THANKS TO BOB NEWELL FOR PUTTING ON HIS SLIDESHOW IN THE THEATER TWICE ON SATURDAY AND ONCE ON SUNDAY. IT WAS WELL RECEIVED AND MANY VISITORS TO OUR TENT COMMENTED ON THE CONTENT.

FINALLY THANKS ARE EXTENDED TO CHUCK, SHIRLEY AND GREG DIXON FOR HAVING INVITED US INTO A TRULY ONE-OF-A-KIND EVENT THAT DRAWS MUZZLE LOADING ARMS BUILDERS AND ENTHUSIASTS FROM ALL OVER THE UNITED STATES. THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND UNDERSTANDING.

"ON THE ROAD AGAIN" NEXT STOP IS:

POTTSTOWN GUN SHOW - *Nov. 13-14*  
SUNNYBROOK BALLROOM  
POTTSTOWN, PA.

SEE YOU THERE!!!!

TIM & TERRI LUBENESKY

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EXPLORER POST 1776 is formed and active. Meetings are held at the Homestead, 10 A.M. - 12 Noon on the 1st & 3rd Saturdays of the month. Post 1776 specializes in Historical Reenactment and is open to boys and girls, age 14 to 20. For more information call Joe or Bobbie DiGerlando, 759-7239.



# JACOBSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## OFFICERS - 1993

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Philip Schroeder, Secretary	Nazareth	759-0551
John Schlamp, Treasurer	Nazareth	759-0302

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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 \_\_\_\_\_.

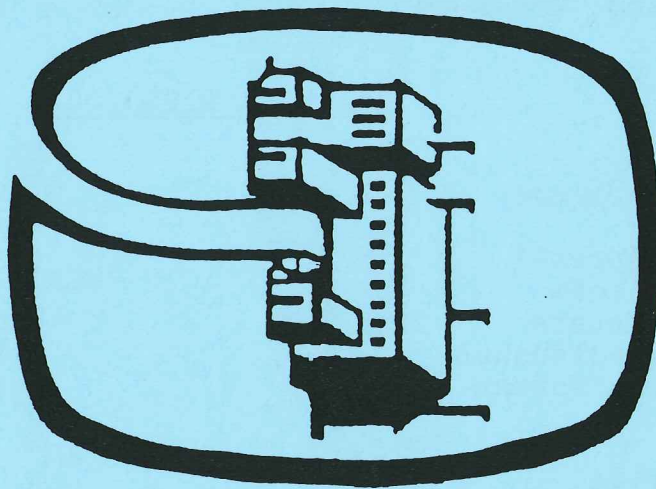
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

JACOBSTURG  
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