

THE JACOBSTURG RECORD

Box 345
Nazareth, Pa. 18064
Society Office – 610-759-9029

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Stewardship

Stewardship is the act of giving and is usually defined in terms of time or money.

To paraphrase a Revolutionary writer, now is the time for all good members to come to the aid of their Society. The Jacobsburg Historical Society is in need of volunteers for the following areas:

- a) Fundraising – individuals with the knowledge or ability to assist our current team in their efforts to raise revenue for the future development of our grounds.
- b) Event Volunteers – individuals who can assist with our current weekend events. In the long term, we will also be seeking individuals to assist in the Long Rifle Museum and the J.J. Henry House once tours begin.

If anyone is interested or would like more information, please contact me at 610-253-5162.

CLEAN UP TIME

A wide selection of Society members made themselves available for our semi-annual cleanup, giving a total of 52.5 man-hours. I would like to give a personal thank you to Ms. Gabrielle Caronia and Ms. Cara Drago, members of a local High School Key Club, who spent part of their active Saturday with the Society.

While a lot was accomplished, the Fall clean up will need extra help. With Museum work almost completed, we will have more area to be cleaned. This Saturday, Oct. 19, is Fall Clean Up Day, with a rain date of November 2nd, as we prepare the area for the Fur Trade Rendezvous on October 26 and 27.

See you there!

Howard White

The Jacobsburg Record

The Interpreter's Corner

by Jim Wilson

September-October 2002

On August 24th, 2002, Jacobsburg Historical Society and Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center entered into a historic treaty with the Lenape Nation and the Delaware River Greenway Partnership. The Lenape Nation consists of several hundred Native Americans of Lenape (or Delaware Indian) ancestry who reside in the greater Delaware River Valley and nearby Mid-Atlantic States – the traditional homeland of the Lenape. The Delaware River Greenway Partnership is a bi-state, public/private cooperative involving more than 100 non-profit organizations, government agencies and individuals dedicated to promoting the stewardship of the Delaware River Watershed. The signing of the ***Treaty of Renewed Brotherhood*** took place at Pennsbury Manor, the former estate of William Penn in Morrisville, Bucks County following a two-week-long canoe trip billed as ***The Rising Nation Sojourn*** on the Delaware River, from its headwaters in Hancock, New York to Philadelphia.

The river sojourn and treaty signing marked a renewed brotherhood between the Lenape and the people who neighbor the Delaware River. Environmental organizations, churches, historical societies and sincerely committed individuals who wish to actively support the Lenape culture and help sustain the people, language and way of life, were invited to sign the ***Treaty of Renewed Brotherhood***. The brotherhood that is being renewed is that which existed between the Lenape people and the one the Lenape called *brother*, William Penn. By all accounts, Penn's dealings with the Lenape were good and fair. Jacobsburg was invited to sign the treaty based on our record of offering Lenape cultural history presentations as part of our community program series, which has included Lenape guest speakers in the recent past. What's more, is Jacobsburg's very own hallmark story of brotherhood between the William Henry family and the Lenape family of Killbucks, which spans at least five generations and personally parallels the principle and prelude of the treaty, "*In the spirit of Chief Tamenend and in the spirit of William Penn, let us restore the Brotherhood.*" The touching story of the Henry-Killbuck friendship has been well documented in several sources, and Jacobsburg's archives contain a number of personal letters between several generations of Henrys and Killbucks.

The Lenape were the first tribe of Native Americans to sign a treaty with the United States and they were the first tribe to have reservation land set aside for them by the early American government. Over a period of some 250 years, many Lenape people tread their own trail of tears west to Wisconsin and Oklahoma, and north to Canada. But a good number of Lenape families remained in their eastern homelands, assumed a more Anglo-American lifestyle, but continued the traditions of their ancestors in the privacy of their own homes. The signatories of the ***Treaty of Renewed Brotherhood*** recognize the importance of the Lenape as not only a part of Pennsylvania and American history, but also as a living culture of today. This is a critical time for the Lenape. Much of the existing culture is in peril. Several dialects of the Lenape language survive, but as the elders who speak the language pass away, a precious aspect of this living culture is in danger of being lost forever. Of equal importance for cultural preservation are the oral histories of the Lenape that have yet to be recorded, and the Lenape's sacred stoneworks and burial grounds that still exist on the landscape today, but have yet to be recognized and documented by the professional archaeological and academic communities.

Through the ***Treaty of Renewed Brotherhood***, projects and programs will emerge that will serve to preserve and interpret the cultural history and human story of the Lenape for all people – Indian and non-Indian alike. By signing the treaty, Jacobsburg has pledged to continue to bring awareness of the Lenape history and heritage to the public by continuing to provide interpretive and educational programming services about the Lenape – a Native American people with whom the William Henry family and Jacobsburg are intimately and forever connected.

Treaty of Renewed Brotherhood

**(Signed by 24 signatories, including Jacobsburg, August 24th, 2002 at
Pennsbury Manor, Morrisville, Bucks County, Pennsylvania)**

In the spirit of Chief Tamenend and in the spirit of William Penn...

We the undersigned do openly recognize the Lenape Indian Tribe as the original inhabitants of eastern Pennsylvania. We acknowledge the Lenape people as the indigenous stewards of their homelands and also as the spiritual keepers of the Lenape Sippu, or Delaware River.

And we do hereby commit to actively supporting our Lenape sisters and brothers in whatever way we are able to, for a term of four years, helping to maintain the cultural identity of Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey and southern New York.

We will support the Lenape people in one or more of the following ways:

Hosting cultural/educational programs; creating support for a Lenape Cultural Center; assisting in displays/exhibits of Lenape culture; helping the Lenape people to obtain and/or protect sacred land sites; encouraging updated curriculum in public schools; attending Lenape functions; volunteering service and support; distributing information; financial assistance.

We also recognize that this Treaty is good for a term of four years – August 24th, 2002 until August 24th, 2006; at which time a new Treaty may be entered into.

May these partnerships serve to heal the past, give direction for today, and brighten the future as we move forward, learning from the mistakes of some of our forefathers and may we, together, bring to light the cultural and geographical significance of Pennsylvania, preserving this natural history for all of our children.

May the Creator of all things embrace us as we move ahead.

Nanalakesh.

Jacobsburg's Treaty Signatory Speech

(Presented during the signing of the **Treaty of Renewed Brotherhood** on August 24th, 2002 at Pennsbury Manor, Morrisville, Bucks County, Pennsylvania)

*"My name is Jim Wilson and today I sign this treaty on behalf of Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center and Jacobsburg Historical Society, a state park/local non-profit partnership situated on nearly 1,200 acres of public, open space in the upper Bushkill Creek Watershed, in the heart of Northampton County, about 10 miles north of Easton. The Jacobsburg Partnership endeavors to preserve and interpret the natural and cultural heritage resources of the Jacobsburg reach of the Bushkill Creek Valley and throughout the greater Delaware River Watershed through quality community and educational programming. Today it is both an honor and a privilege for me to sign this **Treaty of Renewed Brotherhood** between the Lenape Nation, the Delaware River Greenway Partnership and the people who neighbor the Delaware River.*

In recognizing the aboriginal culture of our corner of the world, Jacobsburg has, for years, sponsored programs that reflect the significance of the Lenape in local, Pennsylvania and American history. The hallmark behind Jacobsburg's Lenape cultural connection is the human story we share with the Lenape people, which continues to this day as part of the Lenape's living history. Jacobsburg's most famous family in the 18th and 19th centuries was the William Henry family of early American riflemakers. Sometime during the French and Indian War, a lifelong friendship was forged – against all odds – between the Scots-Irishman, William Henry and the Lenape warrior, Gelelemend, also known as Killbuck. So strong was this friendship, that Gelelemend adopted the first and last names of his friend as part of his own name, so that William Henry Killbuck became the progenitor of generations of Lenape children who were born, and who continue to be born today, with the Henry name.

The William Henry family and the William Henry Killbuck family continued a chain of friendship that lasted for at least five generations. Jacobsburg's archives contain a national treasure of letters from the Henry Killbuck family written to several generations of the William Henry family. The Henry Killbuck letters are chock full of the respect, love and admiration these Anglo American and Native American families had for each other. Over 260 years later and in a very real sense, the story of William Henry and William Henry Killbuck personifies why it is we have all gathered here today.

By signing this treaty, the Jacobsburg Partnership pledges continued support of the Lenape and their culture by continuing to sponsor interpretive community programs with Lenape guest speakers in an effort to bring awareness to the past, present and future of the Lenape. And by signing this treaty, we will support the Lenape by including their human story of land use and their lifeways in our educational programming by incorporating the oral traditions that exist, even to this day, among the Lenape.

*In closing, I'd like to quote George Catlin from his **Letters and Notes on the North American Indians**, which he wrote after traveling about the American frontier between 1832 and 1839. In reference to the Lenape, Catlin wrote, "No other tribe on the Continent has been so much moved and jostled about by civilized invasions; and none have retreated so far, or fought their way so desperately, as they have honorably and bravely contended for every foot of the ground they have passed over." Today we celebrate the Lenape spirit and acknowledge the Lenape as the indigenous and continued stewards of their traditional homelands here in the East, on "the ground they first passed over," and on which they have always lived. In remembrance of that, let us always honor that courageous contingent of Lenape ancestors who refused to tread their own trail of tears west, as so many Lenape were forced to do, but who remained here in the Delaware River Valley and who kept alive a culture for us all to appreciate today and to preserve for tomorrow."*

Jacobsburg Historical Society

Annual Fall Meeting and Family Dinner

Thursday – October 24, 2002

Cash Bar at 5:45 pm - Country Style Dinner at 6:30 pm

Great Food, Good Time, Wonderful Hospitality, Easy Access !!!

Holy Family Club

Mauch Chunk Street, Nazareth, PA

Don't miss **21 months of insanity (almost)**

... will be presented by **Tim Lubenesky** – former Society president and the **project manager** for the Henry Homestead Restoration / Reconstruction project. This has been the first major project that the Society has undertaken in recent memory – and what a project it has been. The job is almost complete – Tim is very thankful. He has come to know every stone, timber, pipe, and piece of lumber. Keeping the craftsmen on schedule and watching the costs has been very intensely time consuming, but the results are fantastic. We have been very fortunate to have someone of Tim's caliber to willingly volunteer his time.

Tim will describe this tremendous undertaking with a multi-media presentation that will take you on a virtual behind-the-scenes tour of the past 2 years worth of team effort by many members and caring workers. The results are stunning and something that will make our community and region proud.

Report of Nominating Committee

The following are being presented for consideration for election / reelection to the Board of Directors

Bobbie DiGerlando

Tim Lubenseky

Howard B. White

Ron Gable

Bob Sadler III

Damian Siekonic

- Please Confirm your reservations **As Soon As Possible** to **Bobbie DiGerlando**:
by **E-Mail** – **ismdigerlando@enter.net** or by phone (610) 759-7239
(leave your name, phone #, and the number attending)

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Adults: _____ @ \$16.75

Children under 12: _____ @ \$5.00

Return Reservation and Payment To:

Jacobsburg Historical Society

P.O. Box 345

Nazareth, PA 18064

- **We are sorry that this mailing was unavoidably delayed**