

# The Jacobsburg Record

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1983

VOL. XI, NO. 6

## INVITATION!

Every one is invited to the Henry Homestead Christmas Party, 1-4 p.m., Sunday, December 4.

This year we are featuring dolls, doll furniture, sets of electric trains, and various early wind-up toys. One item is a baby grand Schoenhut piano and stool about 12 in. high.

Mrs. Robert Sigafos of Nazareth is lending a wooden doll carriage with its original Horsman doll and a child's wicker rocking chair.

These items are coming in from Lansdale, Danielsville, all the way through to Phillipsburg. There are no games this time--just toys not on display before.

Mrs. Phyllis Bechtold, buyer only and collector of dolls and more dolls, will exhibit some of her lovelies. She is bringing 15 different versions of Santa Claus and will also show a black leather doll carriage.

Speaking of dolls, Eva Smith will be present with her corn husk dolls to show how it's done.

Henry rifles will be on exhibit with our two knowledgeable gunmen, Jim Wright and Bob Newell, on hand to explain the history.

Virginia and Joe Lopresti will be out in the Carriage House talking about the artifacts from the Jacobsburg digs. Their story is always a fascinating one.

Dorothy Law and Matt Morris have been in charge of assembling the exhibits. Kathryn Schlamp, Lois Doyle, Peggy Pagni, Mary Henry Stites, and Aimee Trbuza are in charge of decorating. Matt Morris will set up a small putz, formerly the responsibility of Louise Young, now ill. Get well in a hurry, Louise!

The tantalizing scent of hot cider and herbs will fill the Homestead with Christmas cheer. Refreshments are in charge of Althea Neuner, Mary Banks, Betty Morris, and Peggy Shuttleworth.

Mary Henry Stites can tell delightful winter tales of yore. She remembers scooting down "the big hill" between her house and the Homestead, her Mother holding her, on one of those old "unsteerable" sleds--they managed to make each curve, for they started up at the very top, even the one onto the bridge and up the incline! No cars to watch out for--just horses and wagons! The problem was to keep youngsters in rubbers--toes and heels soon wore out.

To get to the Homestead: From the South, take Rte. #33 to the Belfast Exit; turn left, and just beyond the bridge, turn right into the Parking Lot. From the North, at the Belfast Hotel on Rte. #115, turn right; take the first left fork at Speck Plastics, and continue to the bridge, then right into the Parking Lot.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, Everybody!



1983 Field Journal  
Virginia Lopresti, Archaeologist

It was about the Ides of March that Park Superintendent Dale Prinkey told Joseph and me that if we wanted to dig around the Benade House, it would have to be done soon. The end of the restoration of the interior was almost complete, and the crew wanted to do the outside of the building before Memorial Day. This work had been ongoing during the winter. A contractor had already dug trenches around the outside of the stone structure. The repointing of the stones was about to begin, and the masons would start at the lowest possible level.

One of the first objects to be dug up was a portion of a Moravian tile (roofing). Of course, we immediately began to fantasize. The Benade House had a tile roof in the late 1700's. We would find another boxful of pieces of tile, but days and hours of digging later, our dreams came to naught.

However, we eagerly went through the piles of dirt piled about 3-4 ft. from the east wall. We found some early English ceramics and a few nails. The west wall was even more disappointing--mostly ashes and a few more nails. The trench along the north wall produced sand and more ashes.

The south wall area was to be our main base of archaeological investigation. It was at a level with the doorsill of a large door and at the level of the ground floor. The south wall looked very like a picture of the Benade House taken in the 1870's. The Park restoration had replaced a porch roof over the doorway.

While trenching near the southwest corner, the contractor had hit a brick floor. A 5-ft. square was dug up to a depth of 1 ft. The brick path extended to the west and across the front of the house, we discovered, as we dug another 5-ft. square to the east and one to the west. A 5-ft. square to the south revealed a stone wall at a right angle to the building, and the bricks were 8 ft. from it.

In the top 6 in., we found nuts and bolts and bits of parts to iron farm machinery. In the next 6 in., we found bits of early English ceramics and part of a yellow clay pipe. Underneath the bricks, we found sand such as was used in a forge and a few pieces of slag. Thus we have proof of the three stages of use of the Benade House. Matthew Henry wrote in his history of the Lehigh Valley that he tended his father's forge and was at the mercy of his housekeeper! He lived here before his marriage to his cousin Ann Catherine Henry in May 1819. Frank Messinger of Messinger Manufacturing--Tatamy was the owner in 1906. Perhaps he also made some of his farm machinery there. We know the owners in the 1920's and 1930's repaired farm machinery at the spot.

We then moved under the new porch roof (many thanks to the Park crew!). It was April by this time, and it snowed! We dug 1 ft. under the doorsill. The 5 ft. to the west told us the brick level ended where the roof began. The 5 ft. to the east proved to be a treasure chest. Close to the doorway, we found 9½ buttons, a thimble, a pie-crimper with a bone handle, and many lovely colorful bits of very early English ceramics. As we moved to the outer edge of the roof, we found large pieces of slate as if they had formed a patio in some forgotten past. At the southern edge of our excavated area, we found a brass check stamped "Bethlehem Steel Company - Lehigh Plant - D P 137." Later in the summer, it was borrowed by the Bethlehem Steel Plant, recorded by them, and dated 1911. The summer issue of their newspaper featured an article on brass checks used during the years. The fall issue declared the Jacobsburg check was different from any reported.

## THE GOLD FAMILY IN BUSHKILL TOWNSHIP

By Charles M. Sandwick, Sr.

The baptisms of all seven children of George and Rosina (Ernst) Gold were recorded in Book Two of the registers of Schoeneck Moravian Church. Each entry identified George as a Schreiner, i.e. carpenter and joiner, residing in Plainfield Township which then included the present Bushkill Township. The baptisms were listed with those of fremder Kinder, children whose parents were not members of the congregation. One wonders why George and Rosina had not retained their Moravian membership. Both of them were born to Moravian parents and were brought up in the Nazareth congregation. The parents of both were buried in the Moravian cemetery at Nazareth.

George Gold, Jr., was born in Old Nazareth 19 May 1766 and died at the former Rose Inn in Bushkill Township on 29 May 1831, son of George and Anna Maria (Roth) Gold. He married before 1795 Anna Rosina Ernst, who was born in Bethlehem 11 July 1768, eldest daughter of Conrad and Catharina (Knauss) Ernst. The date and place of Rosina's death are still unknown to us, but we know that she outlived her husband.

Descendants have claimed that George Gold and Rosina Ernst were married 11 June 1788, but where and by whom is not stated. We have found no evidence to support this claim. On the other hand, a record of the First Reformed Church of Easton states that Mr. Cold, of Dryland, was united in marriage 23 Nov 1794 with Miss Ernst, daughter of Conrad Ernst. We suspect that this is the correct marriage date of George and Rosina.

The birth and baptism of their first child was recorded in both Book One and Book Two of the Schoeneck Moravian registers. There is an overlap of recorded information in the two books for the period from 1792 to 1796. On page 202 of Book One, under the Heading of Auswaertige Kinder Getauft, in 1795, is this entry (as translated): "June the 19th to the young people George and Anna Rosina Gold (her maiden name was Ernst) a little son was born, and on Sunday 26 July in their house a mile and a half from here, was baptized into the death of Jesus by Bro. Philip Jacob Reizenbach, with the name Johannes. The sponsors were the Geschwister Johann Christian and Maria Dorothea Rothrock. (The title Geschwister indicates that the Rothrocks were both members of a Moravian congregation.) The entry in Book Two locates the Gold family in Plainfield Township. The distance of a mile and a half from Schoeneck places them within that part of Plainfield which in 1813 became Bushkill Township.

The children of George and Rosina (Ernst) Gold were as follows. (1) Johannes, b 19 Jun 1795 (bap 26 Jul; sponsors, Johann Christian and Maria Dorothea (Dreher) Rothrock; d 9 Feb 1864 (bur Forks Church cem); m Maria Magdalena Stocker, b 16 Dec 1799; d 23 Jun 1889 (bur Forks). John Gold was a farmer in Plainfield Tp in 1850. They had eleven children. (2) George Thomas Gold, b 29 Jan 1797 (bap 26 Feb; sponsor, Conrad Ernst, the child's grandfather); d Jacobsburg 14 Aug 1854 (bur St. Peter's cem, Plainfield Tp); m 13 Feb 1822 Ann Christina Knecht (Christine, Christiana), b 2 Oct 1804; d 24 Dec 1892 (bur St. Peter's cem); dau of Jonathan and Margaretha (Hauser) Knecht. Christina m(2) John Bender, widower, of Belfast. Thomas Gold was innkeeper at Jacobsburg

twenty-three years, 1831 to 1854. No children.

(3) Maria Dorothea, b 16 Sep 1799 (bap 3 Nov; sponsors, Mathaeus and Benigna (Partsch) Krause; Anna Maria Gold, grandmother; Dorothea Gold, single); m between 1819 and 1826 Abraham Kind (pronounced Kindt), possibly son of John and Rosina Kind. Abraham and Maria (Gold) Kind had three sons baptized at Plainfield Reformed Church: John, b 26 Jan 1827 (bap 4 Mar; sponsors, John and Maria Gold); William Richard, b 13 Jan 1829 (bap 29 Mar; sponsors, Thomas and Christine Gold); George Peter, b 2 May 1831 (bap 19 Jun; sponsors, Daniel and Sarah Kind. They had other children, including at least one daughter, Catharine, who is mentioned in the will of Thomas Gold. Maria D. (Gold) Kind was the only daughter of George and Rosina (Ernst) Gold.

(4) Jacob, b 21 Aug 1801 (bap 11 Oct; sponsors, Friedrich and Anna Rosina (Gold) Schaefer of Nazareth); d 29 Oct 1878 (bur Forks Church cem); m(1) by 1827 Elisabeth Willauer, who died in the interval 1832-'34; m(2) by 1834 Eva Abigail (Breidinger) Messinger, b 11 Feb 1802; d 7 Apr 1887 (bur Forks Church cem); dau of Peter and Anna Maria (Glass) Breidinger, and widow of Philip Messinger who died 18 Feb 1828. By his first wife Jacob had two children. By his second wife he had five children.

The next two children of George and Rosina were twins who were bpatized at home. (5) Christian, b 25 Oct 1803 (bap 22 Nov; sponsors, John and Susanna (Staut) Roth); d Bushkill Tp 23 Apr 1859 (bur old part of Belfast Union cem); farmer and lumberman; his home in 1855 was about one mile west-southwest of Jacobsburg Inn and about one eighth of a mile east of the road from Mill Grove (now Aluta) to Bushkill Center; m Elizabeth Knecht, b 2 Jan 1807; d 2 Feb 1880 (bur Belfast); dau of Jonathan and Margaretha (Hauser) Knecht. They had twelve children. (6) Daniel, twin brother of Christian, b 25 Oct 1803 (bap 22 Nov; sponsors, Nicholas and Susannah (Ehrenhardt) Seyfried); d 27 Mar 1805 (bur Schoeneck Moravian cem). (7) David, b 29 Jan 1806 (bap 9 Mar in the parents' home; sponsors, Jacob and Anna Barbara (Ranke) Schnall of Old Nazareth); d McEwensville, Northumberland Co, PA 15 Mar 1876 (bur Union cem near there); m Maria Rismiller, dau of Daniel Rismiller. The first seven of their thirteen children were born in Northampton County, the last six in Northumberland County.

George Gold, Jr., never became a Moravian communicant. Anna Rosina Ernst, however, was enrolled in the Nazareth congregation 22 Aug 1784; was confirmed 30 Aug 1785, and received Holy Communion on 4 Sep 1785. Although their children were baptized by ministers of the Schoeneck Moravian congregation, neither they nor their children became members. On Easter Sunday in 1814 their son John (Johannes) was confirmed in the Evangelical Lutheran congregation of Plainfield Township. John later attended the Salem Union Church in Forks Township, as did his brother Jacob. Thomas Gold, representing the Lutheran Church, was one of the founders of the Union Church at Belfast, serving with Lewis Michke of the Reformed Church and John Joseph Henry of the Moravians on the original board of trustees, elected 24 Feb 1828. David, who "shopped around," having three children baptized at Forks, two at Schoeneck and two at Belfast, eventually affiliated with the Lutherans.

George Gold was one of about a hundred subscribers who, in the years 1808 to 1813, contributed to a fund to build the Forks Church. Like many others, he probably contributed far more in skilled labor than in cash. His brother-in-law, Daniel Ernst, was also a contributor. Between 1817 and 1848, thirteen grandchildren of George and Rosina Gold were baptized at the Forks Church, and they were the sponsors of three of them. Although George's inscription can no longer be found in the Forks Cemetery, it was found there by John Eyerman in the late 1890's and was published in his Graveyards of Old Northampton.

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#### EXPANDED BOARD FOR 1984

At the October 20 annual dinner meeting at the Stockertown Memorial Hall, the following new Board was elected. Remember this is the year we try for a revolving Board with some members serving a possible three years, some two years, and some one year. It was all decided by pulling names out of a hat:

##### 1-year terms

Barbara DiGerlando, Joseph A. Lopresti, Elizabeth Morris, Charles M. Sandwick, Sr., Jessie Sandwick, Charlotte C. Sayre, John J. Schlamp

##### 2-year terms

Janet A. Gum, Matthew K. Morris, Ellis Neuner, Robert N. Newell, Kathryn Schlamp, Aimee Trbuza, Louise K. Young

##### 3-year terms

Reginald M. Banks, Jr., Donald P. Burley, Joseph DiGerlando, Virginia Lopresti, Walter C. Peters, Hilton N. Rahn, Jr., James A. Wright

New members of the Board include: Reginald M. Banks, Jr., Donald P. Burley, Barbara DiGerlando, Walter C. Peters, Jessie R. Sandwick. Congratulations to all!

The above report came from the nominating committee: Charlotte Sayre, Ellis Neuner, Robert Newell, Aimee Trbuza, and Louise Young.

More than 80 members and friends attended this 1983 affair-- in large measure to honor Margaret H. Taylor, who becomes our second Emertia Board member. Our first is Mary Henry Stites.

Hilton N. Rahn, Jr., a personal friend of long standing acted as toastmaster, Betty Morris pinned on the corsage of two lovely orchids, and Margaret was presented with a framed "In Appreciation," written by Charles M. Sandwick, Sr., and done in Script by Louise's son, Andrew Young: "Eleven years ago a small group of residents of this county sensed a danger that the development of Jacobsburg State Park as a recreational area might further obscure the natural, social and industrial history of the region. Still fresh in their minds was their dismay at the destruction wrought by bulldozers, a few years earlier, in the village of Jacobsburg itself. The Jacobsburg Historical Society was formed to preserve and nurture the threatened values.

We pause at this time to pay tribute to one of our members who has served us faithfully as treasurer since 1972. Miss Margaret Taylor was one of the pioneers who organized the Society. Many early meetings of our directors were held in her home. She was one of the most trusted

aides of our Founding President, Catherine Beers.

"The members of the Jacobsburg Historical Society take this opportunity to honor our colleague, Miss Margaret Taylor, for her loyal and devoted Service, and hereby the Board of Directors elects her a Director Emerita.

Signed, John J. Schlamp  
President,  
Jacobsburg Historical Society"

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#### OFFICER NOMINATIONS FOR 1984

President, John J. Schlamp  
1st Vice President, Matthew K. Morris  
2nd Vice President, Hilton N. Rahn, Jr.  
Secretary, Elizabeth L. Morris  
Treasurer, Reginald M. Banks, Jr.

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#### NOTES AND NEWS FROM THE BOARD

One of the cherished dreams of the Society has been that we should start a publications program, particularly to publish Charlie Sandwick's pieces on the history and families of the Jacobsburg area.

Through the most generous offer of Margaret and Walter Peters of Nazareth to underwrite this initial hard-bound book, the Society is embarking on an exciting project. The working committee includes Hilton N. Rahn, Jr., Matthew Morris, Walter Peters, Charles M. Sandwick, Sr., and Charlotte Sayre.

At the November 2 Board meeting, Charlie and Jessie Sandwick each contributed \$100 to begin what we hope will be a revolving fund that will support future publications.

The Board expresses its own feelings and the deep-down appreciation of all members to the two couples of Peters and Sandwick for their forward-looking actions.

We note that the Publications Fund is an open fund to which it is suggested all members contribute. A publications program can only add authenticity and stature to the work of the Jacobsburg Historical Society.

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The date of the 1984 Craft Fair under the chairmanship of Aimee Trbuza, has been moved to June 2. Invitations to crafters will go out in March. In April the Volunteer Sheet will go out with the Patron Letter.

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The purchase of metal shelving was approved for the Society Office on the second floor of the Homestead.

# 1983 DIRECTORY

## Board of Directors

John J. Schlamp, President  
 Matthew K. Morris, 1st Vice President  
 Hilton N. Rahn, Jr., 2nd Vice President  
 Elizabeth L. Morris, Secretary  
 Margaret H. Taylor, Treasurer  
 Joseph DiGerlando  
 Janet A. Gum  
 Joseph Lopresti  
 Virginia Lopresti  
 Ellis Neuner  
 Robert R. Newell  
 Charles M. Sandwick, Sr.  
 Charlotte C. Sayre  
 James Wright  
 Louise K. Young  
 Mary Henry Stites, Emerita

Nazareth 759-0302  
 Boulton 759-0751  
 Bethlehem 868-1789  
 Boulton 759-0751  
 Easton 252-1315  
 Wind Gap 759-7239  
 Nazareth 759-1862  
 Stockertown 759-1580  
 Stockertown 759-1580  
 Boulton 759-1764  
 Nazareth 759-5423  
 Easton 252-1290  
 Easton 253-9516  
 Nazareth 759-9119  
 Nazareth 759-4610  
 Boulton 759-4693

## Committee Assignments

Acquisition - Mary Henry Stites  
 Archaeology - Joseph and Virginia Lopresti  
 Colonial Craft Festival - Hilton N. Rahn, Jr.

Boulton 759-4693  
 Stockertown 759-1580  
 Bethlehem 868-1789

Encampment - Matthew K. Morris  
 Homestead - Kathryn M. Schlamp  
     Cataloguer - Elizabeth L. Morris  
     Curators: Contents - Dorothy Law  
                 Gunnery - Albert Toth  
     Exhibits - Virginia Lopresti  
     Gardens - Beatrice Pritchard  
                 Mary Henry Stites  
     Herb Garden - Diane Warner  
     Maintenance - Ellis Neuner  
 Hospitality - Althea Neuner  
                 Peggy Shuttleworth  
 Jacobsburg Record - Charlotte C. Sayre, Editor  
 Jacobsburg State Park - Dale Prinkey  
 Meetings, Annual and Spring - Janet A. Gum  
 Membership - Margaret H. Taylor  
 Photography - Reginald M. Banks, Jr.  
 Publicity - Louise K. Young  
 Research - Charles M. Sandwick, Sr.  
 Corresponding Secretary - Joy A. Betz

Boulton 759-0751  
 Nazareth 759-0302  
 Boulton 759-0751  
 Bethlehem 866-7910  
 Nazareth 759-2153  
 Stockertown 759-1580  
 Nazareth 759-4905  
 Boulton 759-4693  
 Nazareth 759-3555  
 Boulton 759-1764  
 Boulton 759-1764  
 Easton 252-4078  
 Easton 253-9516  
 Nazareth 759-7616  
 Nazareth 759-1862  
 Easton 252-1315  
 Nazareth 759-6696  
 Nazareth 759-4610  
 Easton 252-1290  
 Nazareth 759-3507

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FOR JACOBSTOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Student	\$2.50	Sustaining	\$10.00	Contributing	\$15.00
Individual	5.00	Family	12.50	Organizations	25.00

### Name Contributions

Tannery Club	\$100	Boulton Club	\$500	Henry Rifle Club	\$1000
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NAME AND ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TEL NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this slip with your check, payable to Jacobstown Historical Society. Mail to Miss Margaret H. Taylor, 733 Paxinosa Ave., Easton, PA 18042. All contributions are tax deductible to the extent provided by law. Cancelled check is your receipt.