

The Jacobsburg Record

MAY/JUNE 1986

VOL. XIV, NO. 3-

JOINT MISSION STATEMENT OF THE JACOBSBURG ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER AND THE JACOBSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The joint mission of the Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center and the Jacobsburg Historical Society is as follows:

(To promote)

--The discovery, collection, preservation, restoration, and display of artifacts, documents, structures, and related materials unique to the history of the Jacobsburg Historic District

(and to provide)

--The educational programs that convey knowledge and understanding of the unique history and culture of the Jacobsburg Historic District to the educational community, the general public, and organizations.

Signed by the committee: Matthew K. Morris,
Walter L. Peters, Hilton N. Rahn, Jr.,
Dallam Blandy, and Reginald M. Banks, Jr.

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TWILIGHT AT JACOBSBURG - 1986, FIFTH SEASON, SUNDAYS, 7:00 P.M.

June 15 - Calliope: Classical; 2 flutes and bassoon

June 29 - The Berbaums: Early Pennsylvania folk music

July 6 - Juggernaut: Traditional folk music, 7:30 p.m.

July 13 - Gina Bertucci Trio: Classical; flute, violin, cello

August 3 - Gerald Trimball: Celtic traditional music

August 10 - Bourrée: Classical; harpsichord, bassoon, violins, flute

The Express in cooperation with the Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center and the Music Performers Trust Fund again are sponsoring this concert series. The performances are being coordinated by Local 577, American Federation of Music, Bangor/Stroudsburg, in the Amphitheatre/Benade House area. Come to the Parking Lot, 1 mile west of Rt. 33. Coming from the South, take Belfast exit, go right, and at the Speck Plastics corner turn left, then straight ahead to Lot; coming from the north on Rt. 33. turn left from Belfast Exit to Speck Plastics corner, then left and straight ahead. Coming from the north on Rt. 115, turn right at Belfast Hotel and continue straight ahead to Parking Lot.

The Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center and The Express acknowledge their appreciation for the instrumental music to the U.S. Recording Companies that provide the funds, in whole or in part, through the Music Performance Trust Fund.

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The Board will not meet in June or July. The August 6 meeting will be held at the Homestead, 7:30 p.m.

BENADE HAUS REPORT

Earl Van Norman

More and more people are taking advantage of the nice spring weather at the Center and, as usual, many of them are discovering our jewel for the first time. Of course, all of our feathered visitors are returning too, and it was exciting to see a Cooper's hawk fly into the hemlocks the other day. I'm sorry to report that the bluebird box by the Spring House doesn't have an occupant yet. The bluebirds were here early in the season, but I have not seen them since. Some tree swallows looked as if they would set up residence, but even they are gone now. Perhaps we'll be favored with another species this year. At the time of this writing, I haven't seen any goldfinches or warblers.

Work is still progressing on the door at the Spring House. I have the wooden hinges nearly complete. No one has approached me yet about locks or hinges on the outside door, although I am still desirous (some say desirable) of obtaining 18th century hardware.

Mary Ann is still cooking in the Spring House, but with the coming of hot weather, that will soon cease--unless we decide to interpret outdoor cooking.

The flax has been planted by Don and Mike and seems to be coming up nicely. I think we must explain the flax planting and harvesting process every week. Of course, many of the questions and comments are stimulated by the tapes that Mary Ann has been producing on her solid cherry tape loom.

Another group of Cub Scouts came to the Center recently, and we spent an hour or more explaining about Colonial Jacobsburg. They were very much interested in the loading and firing process for my long rifle. The kids are not impressed with my explanation of a person's being referred to as a "flash in the pan," in explaining a flintlock, but the parents, who are familiar with the expression, are always delighted to learn how it came about.

Also, with the return of the warm weather, we will hear the nostalgic and wonderful sound of the anvil. We don't have a spreading chestnut tree for the village smithy to stand under, so I guess one of the walnuts will have to do. The blacksmith will probably be making or repairing some equipment for our good friends in the Northampton Militia.

The Militia have completed their "school of the soldier" at the Center. They spent two cool and rainy days training 32 men in close order drill, the manual of arms, uniform inspection, and the care and cleaning of the muskets and rifles. They also used the traditional "tow" for cleaning their weapons, and guess where it came from? You guessed it. The field by the Bake House that Mike and Don planted. We are very happy that the activities at the Benade House are not only informative and a delight to our visitors, but also extremely practical as well.

Please come to share in our activities and bring your friends.

SOME DESCENDANTS OF CHRISTIAN FREDERICK BEITEL

By Charles M. Sandwick, Sr.

In the last article, among the descendants of Christian Frederick and Maria Salome (Fetter) Beitel, were listed seven children of their son Friedrich Wilhelm Beitel (called Fritz) and his wife Maria Magdalena, whose maiden name was Frey. Their fourth child was Friedrich Wilhelm Beitel, Jr., who was called William.

WILLIAM BEITEL

Friedrich Wilhelm Beitel, Jr., was born at Christian's Spring 12 Jun 1818 and died at Schoeneck 8 Aug 1853. He married at Schoeneck, 25 Apr 1841, Emilie Lisette Steiner, later called Amelia, who was born in Bushkill Township 14 Mar 1823, daughter of Peter and Anna Salome (Clewell) Steiner. So far as we know, there are no descendants of William and Amelia Beitel living in this area, but wherever they are, they have numerous cousins of various degrees hereabouts, some of whom are surnamed Beitel, Clewell and Steiner. After William's death, the widow Amelia (Steiner) Beitel married the widower Herman Oppelt, of Filetown.

At least five children were born to Friedrich Wilhelm, Jr., and Emilie Lisette (Steiner) Beitel. (1) Albert Peter, born 10 Nov 1841; married 3 Jan 1864 Sarah A. Hesky, of Nazareth, according to the Easton Argus. They are said to have moved to Texas. (2) Benjamin Frederick, born 17 Jul 1844; married Josephine Miksch; moved to Grace Hill, Iowa. They had eleven children. (3) James Alexander, born 15 Nov 1848; married Susan Meyers; moved to New Portage, Ohio. They had nine children. Granville Amelius, born 28 Mar 1850; married Mary J. Sparks; moved to Avalon, Pa. They had ten children. (5) Ann Mathilde, born 25 Aug 1852, died 29 Jan 1859.

GEORGE LEIBERT BEITEL

George Leibert Beitel was born in Bethlehem 12 Mar 1800 and died in Schoeneck 11 Feb 1879, son of Christian Frederick Beitel and his second wife, Catharine (Leibert) Beitel. Versatile in mechanical skills, George L. Beitel was called at various times a plumber, tin-smith, locksmith, tinker and farmer. He married at Nazareth, 21 Aug 1823, Anna Stotz, who was born 24 May 1800 and died 27 Dec 1882, daughter of Joseph and Anna Juliana (Eigenbrodt) Stotz.

Although listed as a farmer, the household of George and Anna Beitel was enumerated in Nazareth Borough in the census of 1850. The household included George Beitel, 50, farmer; Anna, 50; Augusta, 20; Sophia, 16; Herman, 13; Sidney, 11; Catharine, 7; George Wahl, 38, born in Germany; Reuben Studts, 11. All except Wahl were born in Pennsylvania. Herman, Sidney and Catharine Beitel, and Reuben Studts, had attended school during the year.

George L. and Anna (Stotz) Beitel had ten children, the first of whom was born in Bushkill Township, and the rest at Schoeneck. (1) Maria Louisa, born 23 Apr 1824, died in New York City 23 Mar 1892, married at Schoeneck 5 Dec 1844 Carl August Zoebis, who was born at Neukirchen, Saxony, 9 May 1824. (2) Julius Theodor, born 23 Aug 1825, married at Schoeneck 30 May 1848 Emma Louise Troeger, daughter of

Georg Friedrich and Magdalena Elisabeth (Rondthaler) Troeger.
(3) Josephia Georgine, born 9 Jan 1828. (4) Auguste Henriette, born 20 Mar 1830. (5) Joseph Friedrich, born 30 Mar 1832, died 1 Sep 1832.
(6) Sophia Mathilda, born 15 Nov 1833. (7) Hermann Lucius, born 19 Nov 1836. (8) Eugene Alexander, born 5 Nov 1837, died 5 Mar 1838.

The next child of George L. and Anna (Stotz) Beitel was (9) Sidney Benjamin, who was born 31 Oct 1838 and died 17 Sep 1908. He married at Schoeneck, 12 May 1867, Sabina E. Bauer, who was born in Bushkill Township 21 Apr 1847 and died 15 Nov 1924. Their great-grandson, John William Beitel, of Forks Township, had a prominent role in the preparation and publication of History of The Clewell Family in the United States of America, Volume II, 1907-1978, which was published in 1978. Sidney and Sabina (Bauer) Beitel had five sons and one daughter.

The last child of George and Anna Beitel was (10) Catharine Julianne, who was born 7 May 1843 and died 4 Sep 1908. She married, 14 Jan 1866, Albert Christian Giersch, a cigar maker, who was born at Filetown, Bushkill Township, 7 Oct 1840, and died 27 Oct 1912, son of Charles William and Eleanor (Clewell) Giersch. They had seven daughters.

JACOB BEITEL

Jacob Beitel was born at Christian's Spring 12 Oct 1803 and died in Bushkill Township 6 Mar 1885, son of Christian Frederick and Catharine (Leibert) Beitel. He married first, at Schoeneck, 12 Mar 1826, Anna Louise Steiner, who was born in Plainfield (now Bushkill) Township 12 Mar 1803 and died in Bushkill Township 14 Aug 1853, daughter of John and Magdalena (Giering) Steiner. He married second, at Schoeneck, the widow Susanna (Keller) Hefley, who was born in Plainfield Township 22 May 1821 and died in Allentown 3 Nov 1898, daughter of Jacob and Catharine (Hahn) Keller, and twice a widow, first of Francis T. Clewell (1818-1847), son of J. Samuel and Catharine (Hahn) Clewell, and second of William Hefley whom she married about 1848 and who died in Upper Nazareth Township in 1850.

Jacob and Anna Louise (Steiner) Beitel had nine children, all born in Bushkill Township. Their first child, (1) Cornelia Merriette, was born 20 Dec 1826. (2) Carl Andreas, born 25 Jul 1828, died 1 Jan 1829. (3) Florian Brena (a son), born 13 Jan 1830, died 18 May 1830. (4) Mariane Catharina, born 27 Dec 1832, died 24 Jul 1833. (5) Carolina Magdalena, born 28 Aug 1834, died 21 Dec 1834. (6) Ellen Louise, born 5 Dec 1835. (7) Jacob Andrew (called Andrew), born 7 Jun 1839. (8) Henry Benjamin, born 5 Jan 1842, died 2 May 1842. (9) Anna Lorrette, born 5 Nov 1844, died 17 Aug 1853, three days after the death of her mother.

The 1850 census of Bushkill Township listed the household of Jacob and Anna Louise (Steiner) Beitel as follows: Jacob Beitle, 47, lock-filer; Anne, 47; Ellen, 15; Andrew, 11; Loretta, 5; Magdalena Steiner, 81; all born in Pennsylvania. Andrew had attended school during the year. Magdalena Steiner, of course, was Jacob's mother-in-law.

By his second wife Susanna, nee Keller, Jacob Beitel had seven more children. (10) Joseph Henry, born 6 Mar 1855, died 21 May 1862.

(11) Charles Friedrich, born 22 Jan 1857, died in Millgrove (now Aluta) 19 Jun 1862. (12) Amanda Susanna, born 24 Apr 1859, married first, 13 Aug 1881, Edwin Tilghman Roth, who was born at moorestown 14 Jan 1856, son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Seifert) Roth; married second, 13 Jun 1888 Benjamin Long, born near Bethlehem in 1862, son of Frederic and Hannah (Dilhard) Long. (13) Beata (it should have been recorded as Beatus), an unbaptized son who died at Schoeneck 15 Jan 1862. (14) Lucinda Olivia, born at Schoeneck 30 Jun 1863, married first, 4 Jan 1881, Morris Schleppe, who was born at Schweppsville (?), Lehigh Country, 15 Jan 1857, son of Lewellin and Louise (Siegfried) Schleppe; married second a mr. Beidler. (15) Harrison Lewis, born 10 Jul 1865, died 19 Feb 1867. (16) Emma Servilia, born 28 Apr 1868; married 27 Dec 1887 William Charles Roth, who was born in Allentown 12 Sep 1866.

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OPEN HOUSE EXHIBITS

Plans for Open House exhibits are announced by Margaret Peters and Betty Morris. On all dates, Henry rifles will be on display by our experts, either Bob Newell or Jim Wright. Times will be 2-5 p.m. on the fourth Sunday, except for the Christmas Party the first Sunday in December when the time is 1-4 p.m.

- May 25 - Joanne Campbell, Nazareth. Button collection--buttons handed down for generations and displayed on easels made by Joanne's late father, Edward Kern
- June 22 - Moorestown Garden Club, Mrs. Walter D. Easterday, president. Floral arrangements in period containers.
- June 27 - Robert W. Kostenbader, Bushkill Township. Bob will show his Belgian draft horses. Bring the youngsters to learn all about the tackle and gear of a horse in harness
- August 24 - Mrs. Walter Haupt, Nazareth, will share items from her many historical memorabilia
- September 28 - Richard Keck, talented carver from Delaware, originally from Nazareth, will exhibit carved and painted decoys.
- (October 23 - Stockertown Memorial Hall, Annual Dinner Meeting
- October 26 - William Gold, Nazareth, will bring in his miniatures of Nazareth historical sites in the Nazareth Square.
- December 7 - William Gold, among our regular exhibitors, this time will show his H-O gage model train
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VIRGINIA AND JOE LOPRESTI ARE ON THE GO

On Wednesday, April 2, Virginia Lopresti showed slides of the Jacobsburg Inn digs to the Schuylkill Valley Chapter 21, Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology. The 35 members present marveled at the unusual artifacts found inside and outside the 1780 stone structure during 4 years of investigation. On Tuesday, April 8, Virginia presented the same program to a small number of members of the Gov. Wolf Historical Society. She has a future speaking engagement with the same group.

CHITCHAT

We say goodbye to Althea and Ellis Neuner who are leaving this summer to make their home in the Lancaster area. We appreciate their long quiet service and solid background workings in the Society. They have been an integral part of Homestead activities. Willis was always available for work at the Homestead, and Althea has been managing the food department when refreshments were called for. They are charter members, friends, and long-time neighbors, living as they had in one of the Henry homes on Henry Road. Thank you, Althea and Ellis, for your devotion and best o' luck and much happiness in your new surroundings.

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During Open House on April 27, George Dech showed tools for inscribing on brass. He also exhibited the Henry rifle he restored to its original flintlock ignition. This rifle is the one described by Bob Newell on page 5 of our May/June 1984 issue. Bob thought the rifle date was probably of the late 1820's, possibly early 1830. It is one of our earliest pieces and had been changed to a percussion-type Kentucky long rifle with a 50-cal. rifled barrel of slightly under 39 in. in length. This is the gun marked "J.J. Henry Boulton."

We are extremely grateful to George Dech for accomplishing the first aid Bob said the rifle needed. This was the one fitted with an iron ramrod, you remember, when civilian firearms of this period normally had ramrods of hickory. Thank you, George, for restoring one of our prizes!

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This summer promises to be a busy one for Hope Luhman and the Loprestis plus PIC helpers. Hope is working on her doctorate in archaeology at Muhlenberg and is the professional intern hired by the Center. The group will be working in the Carriage House to wash and catalog the literally thousands of Jacobsburg items the Loprestis have recovered in the past four years.

To make room the Henry carriage now in the Carriage House and the sleigh donated to the Society are being temporarily stored in the Center's storage facilities.

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While we are speaking of reorganizing, we say a large thank you to Beatrice Schlamp for beginning her work as office manager in the Homestead. There are a number of stored items to be sorted. We are grateful to Betty Morris for moving a dehumidifier to the office to prevent our envelope flaps from sticking prematurely.

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We also acknowledge the work of Doris Kennedy, publicity chairman, not only for getting us into the papers, but also for getting out a Jacobsburg calendar of dates we can keep in our wallets.

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Material for July/August newsletter should get to the Editor by July 14. Date for September/October will be set at August 6 meeting.

This Editor is also looking for a replacement, beginning 1987. Please volunteer yourself or suggest names to Matt Morris or any member of the Board.

JACOBSSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Officers and Board of Directors, 1986

OFFICERS

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Dallam E. Blancy, 2nd Vice President	Bethlehem	867-6849
Elizabeth L. Morris, Secretary	Nazareth	759-0751
Reginald M. Banks, Jr., Treasurer	Nazareth	759-6696

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Term expires end of 1986

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Term expires end of 1987

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Joseph A. Lopresti	Stockertown	759-1580
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Term expires end of 1988

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Earl Van Norman	Easton	252-6579

Emerita Members of the Board

Mary Henry Stites
Margaret E. Taylor

----- MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FOR JACOBSSBURG 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 Jacobssburg Historical Society. Send to P.O. Box 345, Nazareth, PA 18064. All contributions are tax deductible to the extent provided by law. Canceled check is your receipt.