

The Jacobsburg Record

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1978

Vol. VI, No. 6

THE
JACOBSTURG HISTORICAL
SOCIETY
WISHES EVERYONE A
VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A
HAPPY NEW YEAR!



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Our members and friends are kept so well informed of our activities in the bimonthly issues of the Jacobsburg Record that I seldom feel it necessary to write a special paragraph. But this past year has been very special and I feel I must thank all of you for your hard work and cooperation.

In addition to regular activities, everyone worked hard and contributed liberally to our effort to raise \$65,000 for the restoration of the Henry Homestead. To date, we have about \$56,000 in cash and pledges. This assures us of the \$40,000 to match the grant from the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission. We are approaching our goal and will keep on with the follow-up until it is reached. A Committee is now going over the recommendations of our architect in an effort to get a report ready for approval of the Board of Directors. It is all very thrilling.

We are also making plans for 1979. We will continue to have our Summer Festival. Our archaeological Committee is making plans to dig a new site. Our Research Committee has plans to present the genealogies of families in the Jacobsburg area. It is my hope we can soon put together some good slide and tape programs and perhaps publish some of our historical research.

Everyone has helped in many ways, and we are counting on your continued support.

To those many nonmembers who assisted in our campaign--soliciting and contributing--we hope you will become members this year and follow through in your interest. We need you!

--Catherine S. Beers

HENRY HOMESTEAD CAMPAIGN REPORT

The little red engine said, "I can do it!" and we think we can too. We will keep after all those outstanding cards--after all, we have hit the \$56,000 mark and surely we can make it to \$65,000 and possibly beyond. We can do it!

As of 11/29, the latest official report reads as follows:

146 people have pledged	\$28,236
414 people have given in cash	<u>27,860</u>
	\$56,096

We are waiting to hear from 700 outstanding cards.

Campaign manager Matthew Morris again sincerely expresses his appreciation to the captains and chairmen and workers for all their hard work and effort in the campaign. To all donors too, we say a big, big thank you!

Incidentally, can some of those donors be turned into new members? Everyone is welcome!

- - - - -

BOARD MEMBERS ELECTED FOR 1979

At the annual dinner meeting on October 24, Stockertown Memorial Hall, the following Board of Directors, including four officers, were elected to serve for the year 1979:

Mrs. Lewis S. Beers, President, Easton
Joseph DiGerlando, Vice-President, Bushkill Township
Hilton N. Rahn, Jr., Secretary, Bethlehem
Miss Margaret H. Taylor, Treasurer, Easton
Mrs. Ronald J. Audenried, Nazareth
Mrs. Joseph T. Bortell, Nazareth
Mrs. Geary A. Gum, Nazareth
Joseph A. Lopresti, Stockertown
Matthew K. Morris, Nazareth
Charles M. Sandwick, Sr., Easton
Miss Mary Henry Stites, Boulton
Albert M. Toth, Belfast

Committee chairmen will be appointed later.

REMINISCENCES AND RECIPES FROM THE BOULTON COOKBOOK

Mary Henry Stites

With Thanksgiving past, Christmas will be here before we know it. Thanksgiving--considered to be a New England holiday--was never given much attention at Boulton. Only in more recent times, since its proclamation by Lincoln in 1863, has it been observed throughout the rest of the country.

Christmas was a different story--cakes and cookies, pies and puddings, visitors and visiting!

On Christmas Eve the family always attended church services and then gathered at the old homestead for an oyster supper and all the good things that went with it, Sally Lunn among them (a small biscuit said first to have been made by a woman of the same name and sold in the streets of Bath, England). The Sally Lunn were buttered and eaten hot.

The oysters came from Philadelphia, a gift from one of the Jordan cousins--one hundred for each member of the family. How they were shipped and kept fresh on the journey I have no idea, but the family was fond of oysters and these had no chance to lose their deliciousness!

The supper table was laid in the dining room on the lower level--at that time divided into two rooms, a kitchen and a dining room. The centerpiece was always a "pyramid" built by Aunt Clara on a wooden frame. Hemlock twigs covered the frame and small beeswax tapers ringed it; polished apples red and shining gave color.

The dishes used were an old black and white Pomeranian set (German china)--a service for 24 that had been a wedding present to John Joseph and Mary Rebecca. These were stored over in the brick house (now M.H.S.'s) and gotten out for the occasion, then carried back to be used for the family dinner on "second" Christmas Day, December 26. Then once again they were carefully returned to the closet shelf in the house across the road to await the next Christmas season.

On Christmas Day each family stayed quietly at home--this allowed the various helpers to be with their own families. Then, as now, the children enjoyed their own trees and toys. Each family built a putz lighted with beeswax candles. Moss from the woods, a nativity scene, and in the front a play space with seashore sand and small toys were provided. That was Christmas Day.

Among the many good things to eat were mince pies and plum puddings made well ahead and allowed to ripen. In one of the old cookbooks on the kitchen dresser, interleaved with blank pages appears this recipe for mince meat in my grandmother's handwriting with the notation that it was her mother's. It is the one we use

and like. Packed and sealed in pint jars, the mince meat keeps until we are ready to use it. In the old days it was packed in gray stone jars and carefully covered to hold in the flavor.

Mince Meat

2 lb. boiled meat (beef)	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. citron cut in pieces
1 lb. suet	2 nutmegs grated
3 lb. apples (peeled and cut in pieces)	1 oz. cinnamon grated
	juice and rind of one orange
2 lb. raisins	1 pint wine
2 lb. currants	1 pint brandy or whiskey (or
2 lb. brown sugar	a little more!)

Hints: It cuts down on the labor if you buy 2 lb. of round steak ground and cook it gently in a little water. Drain, and it's ready for use. It also helps to have the butcher grind the suet. Mix all ingredients together and pack in jars; seal tightly. Let ripen for 10 days or longer, and then it's ready for the pie shell. The recipe may be halved with equally good results.

DID YOU KNOW--

--That in the Bushkill Creek area near Belfast there were gun factories at three locations: Nazareth, Jacobsburg, and Boulton?

--Margaret Stocker's clever representations of Boulton buildings were on display in October in the lobby of the Valley Federal Savings, Easton?

--That Albert Toth et al. have cleaned out and boarded up the Homestead barn and that new slate have been put on the roof?

--That John Dickey is proceeding with ideas for landscaping, parking and road facilities for the Homestead restoration?



BENADE HOUSE PLANS

Dale Prinkey, Superintendent of the Jacobsburg State Park, has come up with an intriguing idea for the Benade House based in what he saw at the National Park Service's Franklin Court townhouses in Philadelphia. With donated materials and weekend labor donated by Dale, Claude Jones, and Mickey Toth, the best part of the project is that it can be accomplished with minimal monetary cost.

The idea is to roof over the building with corrugated steel, partially to gut the building but keeping the steps between floors, and then build catwalks around the walls with protecting rails. On the walls in framed sections covered by Plexiglas will be interpreted various elements of the House design and construction such as the milk paint, the whitewash, and the plaster used between the stone construction. This is a unique presentation and promises to be most interesting. For the present, the House door and windows will be further protected against vandalism and the weather. It is hoped in 1979 the entire Pastor Benade's property will be ready for exhibition.

It is planned that the basement of the building when on exhibition might possibly house archaeological artifacts.

- - - - -

FOR THE ARCHIVES

--The Museum Historic Research Center, University of Pennsylvania, gave to the Society in 1977 the write-up of the Jacobsburg Tract change-of-hands, dating from May 1788 when Jacob Hubler had patented to him 432½ acres of land in what is now Bushkill and Plainfield Townships. The Loprestis of Stockertown were the principal investigators in work made necessary at the time Pennsylvania State delineated the boundaries of the Jacobsburg State Park.

We mention this now because we want to acknowledge the tremendous contributions of Joe and Virginia Lopresti who researched old deeds and painstakingly tracked down records and maps of the area. Anyone who has read through the report cannot help being impressed by the evident attention to historical detail. We quote from the Center's preface: "For the exhaustive efforts of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Lopresti in tracking down, copying, and forwarding these documents, the Center is deeply grateful. The Loprestis provided yeoman service to the cause."

--A thank you to Mrs. Charles Maxwell who has presented to the Society a copy of "Penna Dutch Line Drawings of Early Americana" by William A. Reagan. The 1961 original paper is in the Northampton County Historical Society. Reagan, now deceased, was a well-known blacksmith in R.D. Wind Gap, a man interested in antiques and the folklore of the area. He must also have been a talented draftsman, for his free-hand drawings of blacksmith and farm items are indeed excellent.

Important for us is Reagan's explanation of rifle barrel making in 1790.

Reagan also has preserved for posterity the Pennsylvania Dutch farming, as well as blacksmithing and woodworking, terms:

Hoga-blugh--A plow for working new land
Shlafe--A special skid to drag plow to field
Vee-ket--Cow tie chain with swivel
Kols-shlidda--The all-purpose sled. With a box on, it provided the family sleigh ride
Slose-bolg--The bellows necessary to give a forced draft to the charcoal in a blacksmith's shop
Zushlack-kommer--Sledge hammer
Drick-bora--The press drill used mostly in gun shops
Micka-schwans--Horse tail fly switch trimmed from dead animal and tacked to a short handle. Used to keep flies from horses' legs during shoeing
Drum-sage--Cross-cut saw
Shpaids-ax--Thick ax for splitting rails
Pushta-bora--Used by two men for boring fence posts

MR. ROY BARNHART, COIN COLLECTOR

If you had stopped by Roy Barnhart's coin collection at the Summer Festival, you would have seen, for example, reproductions of Chinese money, heavy metal pieces, some of them 1½ in. wide and 3 in. from top to bottom, in use from three to six hundred years B.C.

Barnhart, and you will remember Mrs. Barnhart was there, too, in the background, brought to the Festival items from his own personal collection as well as many examples of interesting "for

sale" coins and paper money. He approaches his exhibits from an educational and historical viewpoint. He is available for school talks, and for the past several years has given coin lectures to two combined fifth grades in Nazareth. However, he and Mrs. Barnhart in early December pack up all the exhibits for deposit in a local bank and take off for four months in Florida. Lucy, the watchdog, goes along too.

Youngsters hear the lecture and watch the demonstration with the warning they will be quizzed with 10 questions, and shame on the youngster who calls the one-cent copper coin a "Lincoln penny"! It is pointed out the English have a penny, but our coin is a one-cent coin. The quiz winner is started off with coins as an encouragement to go into a rewarding hobby.

Barnhart has reproductions of pre-Revolutionary paper money from Rhode Island, Connecticut, etc., to point up the monetary anarchy we would have if States hadn't given up their individual monies.

For 60 years Barnhart has been a coin collector. Retired about seven years ago after 28 years at Bethlehem Steel, he and Mrs. Barnhart have been residents of Northampton County for 37 years. They are natives of Franklin County. They have two children and three grandchildren.

Barnhart became a member of the American Numismatic Association 40 years ago and now holds a life membership. Honesty and trustworthiness are the marks of dealers allowed to join the AMA. In these days he is called in as an expert appraiser by both banks and estate settlers. Roy Barnhart is a Nazareth personage, and he says both he and Mrs. Barnhart are looking forward to coming to our Summer Festival in 1979.

- - - - -

BOULTON BRIDGE PLANS

Park Superintendent Dale Prinkey also has an idea to enhance the usefulness of the bridge at the foot of the hill approaching the Henry Homestead. The steel crossbeams extend out on each side. On these he plans to put down boards to give pedestrian walkways. His ideas for the Benade House and for the bridge must get official approval from the State, but PENNDOT has already given tentative approval for the bridge plans.

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

JACOB HUBLER OF JACOBSTOWN AND HIS FAMILY

By Charles M. Sandwick, Sr.

Jacob Hubler was born in Germany about 1711, son of Hans Jacob Hoobler. He arrived in Philadelphia and qualified as a citizen on 24 Sept. 1737, giving his age as 26. About 1740 he settled in what later became Plainfield (now Bushkill) Township, Northampton County. By warrant and purchase he eventually accumulated a tract of 432 acres which he called Jacobstown. Later, this name was given to the settlement on this tract where, about 1740, he had built the first log cabin.

Probably before 1742 Jacob Hubler married Barbara, of whose maiden surname we are uncertain. Some have suggested that her name was Baker. We are also investigating the possibility that she was a Bachman. Jacob and Barbara had eight children born in Jacobstown. Church records pertaining to their family are strangely and unfortunately lacking.

In 1754 Jacob Hubler was the first of eleven landowners who signed a petition for the erection of Plainfield Township. (Incorporation was finally effected in 1762). In 1763 he took the oath of naturalization. On 2 Oct. 1775 he was elected to the Committee of Observation of Northampton County, a patriotic service which is acknowledged by his being listed in the DAR Patriot Index.

Just when Jacob Hubler built the Jacobstown Inn is not known. It was built no later than 1785, probably much earlier.

Jacob Hubler died in May 1789 and was buried in an unmarked grave on his Jacobstown farm. His widow, Barbara, died in Lower Mt. Bethel Township. Her will, dated 17 June 1795, was proved 16 Jan. 1796.

Jacob Hubler, Jr., their eldest child, was born 2 Oct. 1742. He died in Moore Township, this county, 19 Oct. 1811, the result of having fallen from a tree nine days earlier. His wife, Catharine, whom he married sometime before 1772, died in Moore Township 7 Mar. 1813. Of their children, John Jacob, born 30 Apr. 1772, died young; another John Jacob was born 11 Dec. 1777; Susanna, born 12 Dec. 1786; and Daniel, born 11 Mar. 1789. There may have been others. Catharine's maiden name is not known, but there is some evidence that it may have been Fass or Faas.

Frederick Hubler, the second child of Jacob and Barbara, probably was born about 1745. His wife was Mary. They were living in 1791 in Limerick Township, Montgomery County, Pa.

Christina Hubler, the third child of Jacob and Barbara, was born 14 June 1747, and died in Lower Mt. Bethel Township, 11 April 1813. In 1766 she married Michael Glass who was born in the Palatinate, 19 Aug. 1736, and died in Lower Mt. Bethel Township, 19 April 1808. Michael and Christina (Hubler) Glass had thirteen children: Anna Maria (1768-1843) m(1) Peter Breidinger (1756-1806), m(2) Philip Deily (1754-1843); Maria Barbara (b 1771) m Michael Schwartz; Regina (b 1773), possibly the same as Rachel who m Samuel Jones; Maria Magdalena (b 1774) m James Jones; Elisabetha (1776-1856) m Michael Deal (1767-1834); Maria Christina (b 1777, d before 1781); Maria Catharina (1778-1875) m Adam Meyers (1776-1844); Christina (b 1781) m Leonard Kester; Maria Margaret (1782-1857) m 1802 John Frey (ca 1780-1838); Lewis (b ca 1783) m Elisabeth Sevely; Rosina (1785-1806) m --- Stocker; Eva (b 1788) m Frederick Deal; and Michael (1789-1790).

Because our information regarding the family of Michael and Christina (Hubler) Glass is so detailed and extensive, we have purposely condensed it in the foregoing paragraph.

Gottlieb Hubler, the fourth child of Jacob and Barbara, probably was born about 1748. He was living in 1795 in Allegheny County, Pa.

Rosina Hubler (also called Rosanna), the fifth child of Jacob and Barbara, was born in 1749 and died 6 Sept. 1828. She married, sometime before 1776, Christian Hellmen who was born in Germany in 1735 and died in this county in April 1815. Among the children of Christian and Rosina (Hubler) Hellmen were Johannes, born 9 July 1776; Anna Maria, born 17 June 1779; Rachel (1786-1875) who married Nicholas Miltenberger (1781-1856); and Abraham (or Abram), born 6 Jan. 1788, died 1839, who married Catherine Driesbach (1792-1865), daughter of Jacob and A. Margaretha (Beaver) Driesbach.

John Hubler, the sixth child of Jacob and Barbara, probably was born about 1755. He was living in 1795 but we have no further information about him.

Abraham Hubler, the seventh child of Jacob and Barbara, was born 20 Feb. 1761, and died in Lower Mt. Bethel Township, 23 Dec. 1838. Sometime before 1798 he married Susanna, whose maiden name we haven't learned. There is some evidence that her name may have been Hill. Abraham and Susanna Hubler had two daughters: Elisabeth, born 16 Feb. 1798, who married Jacob Becker (or Baker); and Catharine, born 26 July 1800, who married Joseph Scheimer (or Shimer).

Isaac Hubler, the eighth child of Jacob and Barbara, was born about 1763 or 1764. He was killed by a bolt of lightning, 16 Aug. 1794 at the age of 30. According to a record of the First Reformed Church of Easton, Pa., he was buried in the English churchyard at Mt. Bethel.

Both sons-in-law and two grandsons-in-law of Jacob and Barbara Hubler were soldiers in the Revolutionary War and are listed in the DAR Patriot Index. The sons-in-law were Michael Glass and Christian Hellman. The grandsons-in-law were the two husbands of Anna Maria Glass, namely Peter Breidinger and Philip Deily.

Matthew S. Henry, writing about 1851 concerning the early settlement of Bushkill Township, had this to say: "The first settlers of this part of Plainfield are supposed to have been Jacob Hubler, George & Frantz Clewell, Leopold Obitz and Jacob Engles. The first of these settled at Jacobsburg & the compiler yet remembers the Small log Dwelling house he put up here in 1740, at a Spring near the Minnisink Road (as it was then called) leading from Nazareth to the Wind Gap. When he arrived here he was poor but in a few years raised some grain which he carted to the Mills near Philadelphia in order to get the highest price, being one of the early pioneers he was obliged to be as economical as possible, the Harness of his horses was made up of ropes & Hickory withes & even in later years he generally drove his Team to Philadelphia & home again without expending a copper at a Tavery & such was his hurry that his poor horses were fed only once during the whole Journey. To save funeral expenses he was buried in one of his fields, over which his sons afterwards many a time guided the plough." (M. S. Henry, Manuscript History of Northampton County: page 141). Of course, by the time Matthew Henry heard these tales they had already passed from the realm of history into folklore.

- - - - -

There will be a Board meeting on Wednesday,
January 3, 1979

