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# The Jacobsburg Record

JACOBSBURG  
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*Jacobsburg — Where History Lives!*

## Saving a Shrine: Restoring the Nicholas Hawk Gun Shop at Boulton

Early this summer JHS realized a dream four years in the making: reconstruction of the original 200-year-old work shop of master gunsmith, Nicholas Hawk. The restoration process has its own story, with an element of romance and excitement befitting such a unique historic structure.

### The History

Nicholas Hawk (1782-1844) is without a doubt one of the finest and most talented makers of early 19<sup>th</sup> century Kentucky rifles. Hawk rifles and swivel breech guns, with their elegant, flowing lines and jewelry-quality engraving, are distinct works of art. Remaining examples of Hawk's work are highly prized and are numbered among our nation's heirlooms.

Hawk was born in Gilbert, Pennsylvania, on March 23, 1782, and died there March 25, 1844. His wife Catherine was born July 24, 1794, and died October 1, 1855. They had two sons, Peter and Carl. Nicholas Hawk and his wife are buried in the Gilbert cemetery in Moore Township, Pennsylvania.

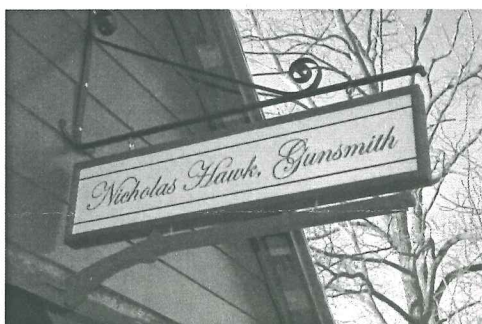
On December 16, 1801, Nicholas Hawk purchased the original Hawk family homestead in Gilbert from Richard and Thomas Penn. The homestead and gun shop were located just across the Blue Mountain from the site of the Henry Gun Works at Boulton. Hawk purchased rifle barrels from Boulton, and some believe that he may have apprenticed in the Henry shop.

### The Vision

Hawk's original gun shop still stood behind the family

homestead until 2003, when the last of the Hawk family, the granddaughter of Adam Hawk, who was Peter Hawk's son, sold the property. The new owner of the homestead and gun shop offered to give the shop to the Jacobsburg Historical Society, provided the Society move it off the original property.

To those unaware of its history, the little 12'3" x 15' 3" shop wouldn't have looked like much more than a rapidly deteriorating old farm tool shed. But to the members of JHS's gunnery committee, the little



The Nicholas Hawk Gun Shop makes its opening debut at the Rifle Frolic, June 2008.

log cabin represented nothing less than the original artist's garret of a revered master. Their vision was to restore the work shop on the grounds of Boulton, appropriately locating it behind the estate home built by gunsmith John Joseph Henry. Through exhibits and live demonstrations by gunsmiths, visitors to the reconstructed Shop would discover how the Henrys and other gunsmiths learned and

Continued on Page 6



## 1832 JJ House Gets a Makeover

The elegant parlors of the 1832 John Joseph Henry House museum received a facelift this spring. These restorations and other improvements to the old estate house comprised the final phase of a multi-year project to maintain and renovate the historic museum facilities operated by the JHS. The project was funded by a grant (\$110,000) from the Two Rivers Greenway Initiative of the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor. Maintenance and repairs included shoring up the masonry of the JJHouse summer kitchen (Saul Restoration Artisans) and replacing appliances in the mansion's modern kitchen.

The historic architectural firm of Frens & Frens (Philadelphia) guided project efforts to restore the parlors by supplying elevation and floor plan drawings and extensive photographic documentation of the JJHouse, as well as by making suggestions for interpretation and conservation of historic artifacts and architectural elements. Two major jobs to be tackled were the installation of museum lighting and new carpeting. The beautiful old ingrain carpet had been badly damaged by water and use over time and therefore had to be replaced. Just Born volunteers assisted in carefully removing all the furniture and objects from the parlors to other locations on the first floor and then pulling up the old carpet. Zeiner and Sons moved the Chickering square piano. A high-quality carpet that closely matched the original in color and pattern was chosen and installed by P.C. Curry Floor Covering (Kimberton). A team of volunteers from Moravian Academy replaced the furniture according to a slightly modified interpretive design suggested by Frens. For the finishing touch, JHS member Sybil Marsh made new draperies and added a single Victorian-style drawback curtain between the pocket doors, which divide the two parlors.

To light the parlors, JHS turned to NoUVIR, Delaware-based museum lighting engineers who have illuminated such grand historic homes as the Leland Stanford Mansion (California) and exhibits of such national treasures as Jefferson's handwritten draft of the Declaration of Independence at the Library of Congress, as well as displays of the Dorothy's sparkling ruby slippers at the Smithsonian and Babe Ruth's uniform at the Baseball Hall of Fame. To light the John Joseph Henry House NoUVIR used fiber optic luminaries, which emit stone-cold, pure-white light with absolutely no ultraviolet and infrared energy. Thus, the true colors and textural details of the artifacts and architectural elements may be seen without fear

of the usual devastating photochemical damage.

Glowing in the new light are the newly re-installed fireplace tiles in the front parlor. For an untold number of years, furniture was placed in front of the fireplace to hide the ugly white plaster that covered the opening. Then Phil Schroeder stumbled on a small cardboard box in the barn that contained all but one of the original decorative fireplace tiles, produced by the Trenton Tile Company sometime between 1880 and 1938. All the original tiles were re-installed, and an antique tile manufactured by the same process was purchased to replace the one that was missing. The unique center tile, a silhouette of a little girl with flowers in her hand, is reminiscent of all the Henry daughters who called Boulton their home.



Front parlor fireplace, before and after fireplace tile restoration.





## JHS Members Honored as Penn Ambassadors

Phil Schroeder, JHS board secretary, and Rich Steiner, JHS past president, were nominated by Senator Patrick Browne to serve as 2008 Penn Ambassadors, and on March 10 they attended the annual briefing at The State Museum of Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania State Archives, which are both bureaus of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC). Each year Pennsylvania state legislators nominate citizens from their respective districts who have an active interest in preserving and promoting Pennsylvania's heritage to serve as Penn Ambassadors. This year, 26 nominees attended the briefing, including civic leaders, historical society officers and members, preservation planners, educators, and community volunteers.

The Pennsylvania Heritage Society hosted the Penn Ambassadors and legislators for breakfast followed by the briefing. PHMC Executive Director Barbara Franco welcomed the group and discussed the agency's initiatives and programs. Penn Ambassadors were also given a chance to view a special annual exhibit at The State Museum featuring the original 1681 Charter to William Penn. State Museum and State Archives staff provided "behind-the-scenes" tours for the Penn Ambassadors, offering glimpses of collections storage and curators and archivists at work.

### Meet Penn Ambassadors Rich Steiner and Phil Schroeder

Rich Steiner serves on the board of directors as chair of the finance committee. He and his wife, Roberta, grew up in the Nazareth area. As a boy, Rich recalls racing down Henry Road on his bicycle on a lazy summer day, then stopping at the bottom to drink a soda under the shade of great hemlocks where he marveled at the grand homes and wondered about the lives of those who lived there in years gone by. After completing his education at Syracuse University and Lehigh University, Rich made his professional career with Air Products. His work required several moves through the years, but ultimately he and Roberta returned to Nazareth, where they became actively involved with Jacobsburg Historical Society. Rich's vision is for Boulton to become a unique heritage educational laboratory focused on early American gunsmithing and Henry family life.

Phil Schroeder is a seventh generation Pennsylvanian

with roots in York and Adams Counties, although his childhood years were spent in upstate New York. After many years of annual visits to the family home in Gettysburg, and spending many pleasant hours learning about family connections to the Revolution and the Civil War, he returned to Pennsylvania to attend Gettysburg College. After pursuing graduate studies at Cornell, Phil returned to Pennsylvania and served for 36 years on the staff at Lafayette College, most recently as Executive Assistant to the President and Administrative Secretary to the Board of Trustees, until his retirement in 2005.

Phil joined JHS in the 1970s after participating in a tour of the Society's Jacobsburg archaeological digs given by Virginia and Joe Lopresti. In 1986, he moved to Boulton across the street from the 1832 John Joseph Henry House into a home which was built in 1883 by Robert W. Henry (1848-1921), the youngest brother of gunsmith Granville Henry.

About his appoint as Penn Ambassador, Phil comments: "My wife and I have traveled to many historic sites

across and around Pennsylvania, particularly those developed so ably by the PHMC, and we are convinced that no other state in the USA has a more interesting and important place in the history of our nation. Especially in these times of high energy prices, Pennsylvanians are very fortunate indeed to have the wonderful historic resources that PHMC has fostered and developed over the years right here in our own backyard."



Left to right: Phil Schroeder, PHMC Director Barbara Franco, and Rich Steiner.

The programs, events, staff, and museums  
of the Jacobsburg Historical Society  
were generously supported throughout  
2008 by a grant from the  
Pennsylvania Historical and  
Museum Commission



## Old Henry Homestead Pond Receives an Eagle's Touch

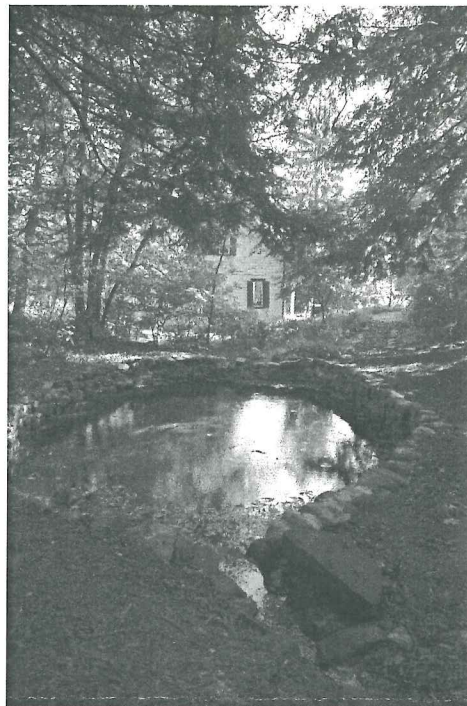
This summer Michael William Popp, a member of Boy Scout Troop 44 in the Forks of the Delaware District (Minsi Trail Council), repaired and restored the original man-made pond located behind the Old Henry Homestead (Museum of the Pennsylvania Longrifle). The pond is built on a natural spring and was the water source for the Henry family. However, when Michael first saw the pond last fall, it was all overgrown with vegetation, its algae covered wall was crumbling, and the springhouse was leaking. After discussing the situation with JHS board member, Tim Lubenesky, and executive director, Jan Ballard, Michael knew he had found a project worthy of an Eagle Scout.

In fall 2007, Michael began planning the project, dividing it into three phases: the springhouse leak, the pond, and the surrounding landscape. He spent over 20 hours refining the plan, carefully considering procedures, safety, and needed supplies. As soon as weather permitted in spring 2008, he led teams of scouts and scout leaders in restoring the pond. They began by removing the section of the wall that was leaking and then draining the pond. Over a dozen scout volunteers dredged the pond, removing more than 100 wheelbarrows of debris and silt.

Once dredging was complete, Michael and his volunteers moved on to repairing the wall. The scouts raked out excess vegetation from the pond, scraped moss off the spillway, then carefully removed, cleaned, then repositioned the stones into the wall and cemented them into place—a process Michael likened to "a massive game of Tetris." With the wall completed, Michael finished the walking path leading up to the pond. His work crew leveled the path, laid down weed barrier paper, lined the path with rocks, and spread mulch donated by a local nursery in the path. Several days later, Michael and his father constructed a mosquito barrier screen for the springhouse opening. After devising a solution to patch unanticipated leaks in the springhouse foundation, the pond restoration was completed. Visitors now have quiet place in Boulton to go and reflect on the Henry heritage.

In his final report, Michael commented on what he'd learned: "Over the course of this project I have experienced how life in the real world will be for me in the near future. It has taught me new and important life lessons such as organizing and directing a group of workers to get specific job done, which I found to be at times quite difficult. I also learned how you should never expect anything to go as it was originally planned due to some kind of predicament or issue that you will encounter causing delays. It also taught me to use the vast amount of resources that are out there, and to ask for other people's input as well. Overall, I think this Eagle Project was full of surprises and was also lots of fun. It really brought to my understanding just how hard life in the real world is, and how the ideals of Scouting play a fundamental role in society today."

Congratulations, Michael, on your achievement. JHS thanks you for a job well done.



Michael Popp restored the Old Henry Homestead Pond to fulfill his Eagle Scout requirements.



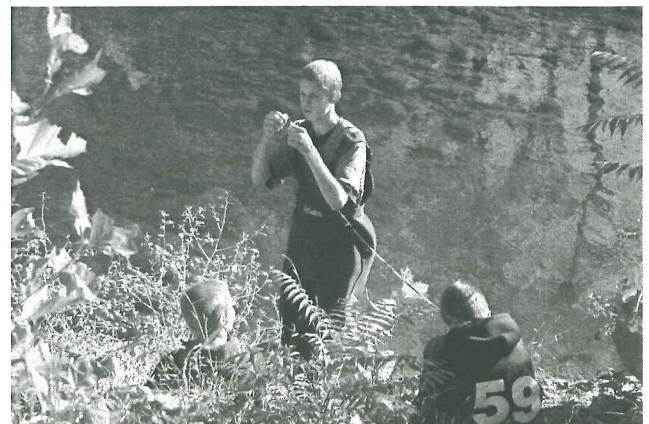
## JHS Hosts Boy Scout Camporee

Over 350 boy scouts and their leaders converged on the grounds of the 1834 John Joseph Henry House on September 19-21 for the North Valley District (Minsi Trails Council) 2008 Fall Camporee. The event was jointly hosted by JHS, Neffs Troop 57, and the Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center.

Volunteers drawn from participants in the Society's bi-annual primitive living-history encampments offered scouts a taste of the fur trader's life during the colonial and pre-Civil War eras. Fur trappers and Roger's Rangers helped scouts try their hand at throwing tomahawks, starting fire with flint and steel, and shooting black-powder rifles. Scouts witnessed demonstrations of blacksmithing, black-powder cannon firing, and gunsmithing in the newly erected Hawk gun shop. Scouts discovered the historic contributions of the Henry family by guided tours of the Pennsylvania Long Rifle Museum. Through \$5,000 grant funding provided by Air Products, JHS was able to provide hands-on educational materials, awards and patches, and an education tent.

Hiking and extreme mountain biking on JEEC's scenic trails along with fly-fishing and stream studies of the Bushkill afforded scouts with an opportunity to fulfill requirements for their merit badges. Saturday night at Henry's Forge Scouts were treated to a campfire variety program of music and dramatic sketches highlighting various periods of American history.

Overall, participating scouts pronounced the Boulton Camporee one of the best experiences they'd had in scouting. Hoo-sah!

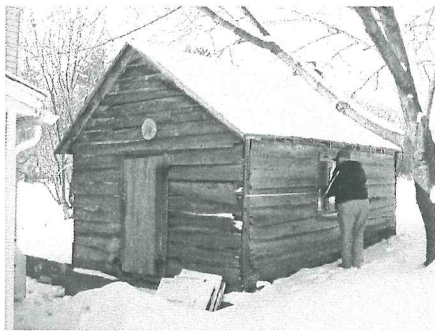




## Saving a Shrine (cont. from Page 1)

practiced their trade in early America.

On an icy Good Friday, Society volunteers measured and surveyed the gunship and designed a plan to disassemble the shop and transport it to storage at Jacobsburg. They marked, numbered, and dismantled the entire shop, timber by timber, and loaded it onto a flatbed trailer for its 20-mile trip to the Boulton Historic Site. Some replacement logs and rafters needed for the reconstruction were donated from another log building of similar age in Heidelberg Township, Pennsylvania.



Hawk shop before removal to Boulton.

## Raising Funds

It would be another four years before the Society was ready to begin work on the shop. Restoration of the Old Henry Homestead as the Pennsylvania Longrifle Museum had to be completed first; then at least an estimated \$50,000 would need to be raised to pay for reconstructing and outfitting the Hawk



Groundbreaking ceremonies and laying of the first log.

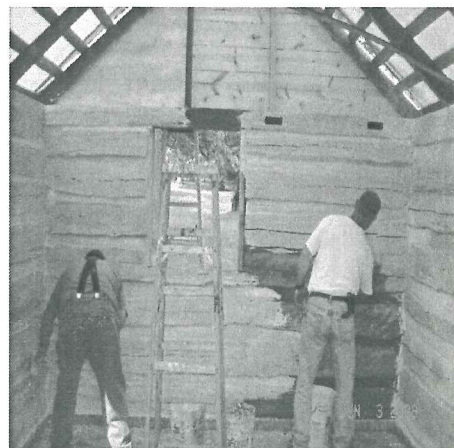
shop. In March 2007, as the finishing touches were being added to the Longrifle Museum, the Forks of the Delaware Historic Arms Society donated \$15,000 seed money to begin the Hawk restoration project. The contribution provided funds to match those granted by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Graphic artist, Kevin McDonald, volunteered to design a fundraising brochure, which Hank Nowak volunteered to print. JHS began actively seeking grants and contributions from other foundations, agencies, and individuals

who share the Historical Society's commitment to preserving and interpreting the history of early American gunmaking.

Throughout the summer and fall of 2007, brochures accompanied Jacobsburg Historical Society's traveling exhibits to historic arms show, Dixon's Gunmakers' Fair, and Kutztown's Pennsylvania-German Fair. On one such occasion Hawk project manager, Tim Lubenesky, approached contemporary master gunsmith, Wayne Watson, who is known for building the historically accurate longrifles carried by leading actor Daniel Day-Lewis and other cast members in 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox's *Last of the Mohicans*. Watson astonished

Tim with his response. Rather than writing out a donation check, he reached under his exhibition table, pulled out one of his prized reproductions and said, "Why not raffle this?"

He handed Tim a breathtakingly beautiful long rifle, handsomely carved with finely engraved sterling silver inlays and wire work. The long rifle was based on the design of yet another Pennsylvania master gunsmith, Bucks County's Andrew Werner, and was faithfully accurate down to the striping pattern of the curly maple gunstock. Clearly, such a fine long rifle demanded equally fine accoutrements, so contemporary blackpowder master craftsmen Roland Cadle, Art DeCamp, and Mark Wheland—The Masters Three—donated for raffle the "probable possibles" that Nicholas Hawk himself might have carried. Their works included a powder horn, mounted with a sterling silver Nicholas Hawk hunter's star and decorated with the ferrous oxide in the Allentown horn tradition; a rifleman's hunting bag, which featured the Allentown Indian motif; bag axe, bullet bag, folding fork and hand-forged hunting knife. Chances went on sale in December 2008. By late spring 2008, sufficient funds had been raised to begin the restoration.



Reconstruction of the exterior (above) and the interior (below) of the Hawk.



### Raising the Hawk

JHS contracted with Village Restorations & Consulting (Clayburg, PA) to oversee the historic rebuilding and restoration of Hawk. In the first week of May 2008, the concrete foundation was poured. On May 18, in the drenching rain, several JHS members volunteered the necessary equipment and muscle-and-back power to begin moving logs from the Old Henry Homestead Barn to the project site.

On May 20, 2008, JHS held the official groundbreaking ceremony for the Hawk Gun Shop. Standing in a steady Spring rain, JHS members and guests witnessed the laying of the first log by State Representative Craig Dally, Hawk project manager Tim Lubenesky, and other members of the Hawk Team. After addresses by Craig Dally, Tim Lubenesky, and JHS president Dave Ehrig, guests toasted the occasion with wine and cheese. Despite the wet spring weather, spirits were high in anticipation of the new Hawk Shop. In the fairer days to follow, Village Restorations crews, often in period dress, worked diligently to complete rebuilding of the shop in time for the JHS Kentucky Rifle Frolic on June 14, 2008.



A Christmas toast to the completed project.



Mark Lazansky, rifle winner.

### Celebration

Work continued on the Hawk Shop throughout the remainder of the year. Displays of gunsmithing tools and benches were mounted, a security system was installed, and numerous other finishing touches were added. On December 13, after the Boulton Christmas open house event, ticket holders for the raffles gathered in the Hawk Shop for the Wayne Watson Rifle and The Masters Three drawings.

### Congratulations to our winners:

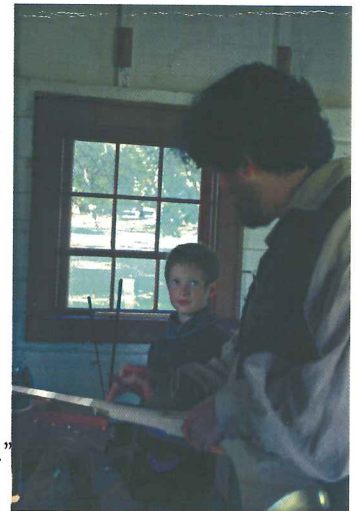
The Masters Three -- Carolyn Flemish  
Wayne Watson Rifle -- Mark Lazansky

Carolyn Flemish, a long-time JHS member and active volunteer was ecstatic.

"For nine days this summer, while I was helping to sell raffle tickets at the Kutztown Fair, I *coveted* that beautiful set. So I bought myself a chance, but I didn't really think I would win. This is so, so wonderful!"

Dr. Mark Lazansky, a retired surgeon who pioneered hip replacement surgery in the 1960s, has been an apprentice in JHS's gunsmithing program for over a year. He bought several chances for the Watson rifle, and upon winning, his remarks were eloquent:

"When I look at this rifle, I know I'm looking at so much more than a firearm. I'm looking at the whole history of a uniquely American art form. Though I've won the rifle, I know that it isn't possible for a single person to properly own such a common heritage. I will hold and enjoy it for a time, but when I've shuffled off this mortal coil, it is my wish that the Wayne Watson rifle return to the Society, to the Hawk Shop, for which it was built."



Gunsmithing demonstration at the Boy Scout Camporee, Boulton, September 2008.

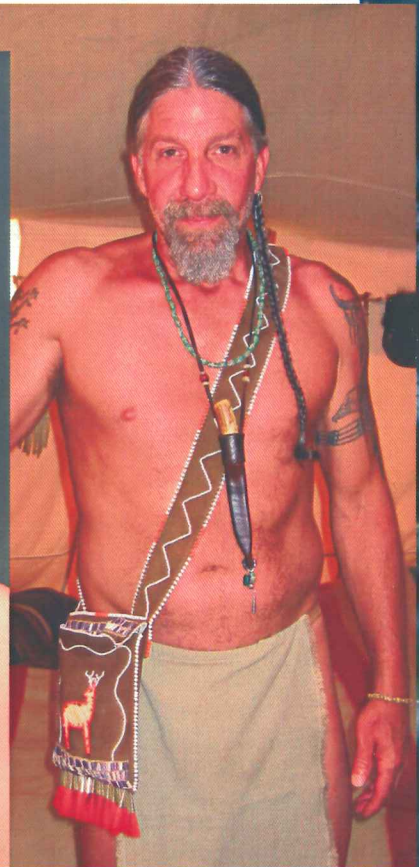
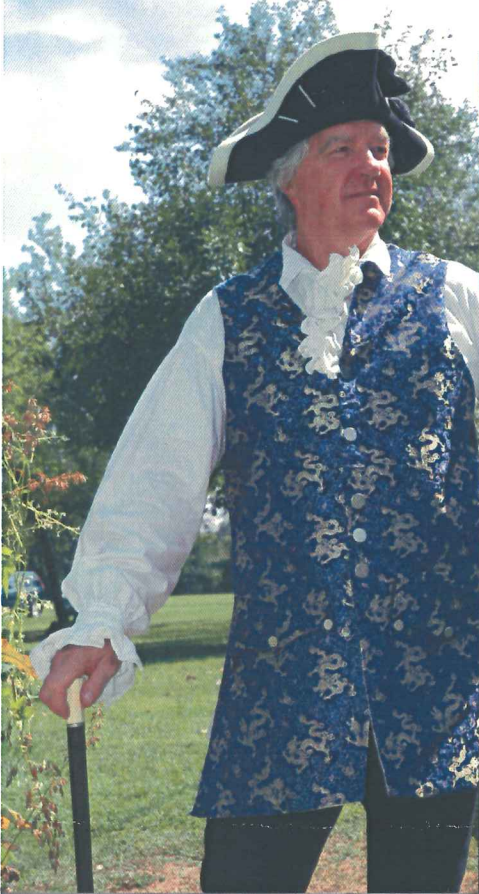
### The Future

Though officially part of the exhibits of the Museum of the Pennsylvania Longrifle, JHS hopes that the Hawk Shop will become a "hang-out" for those interested in the art and craft of building long rifles in the early American tradition. Beginning in May 2009 (schedule forthcoming), the Shop will be staffed by JHS master gunsmiths and apprentices, who will give public demonstrations of rifle building.

— Jan Ballard



# Boulton Facebook 2008









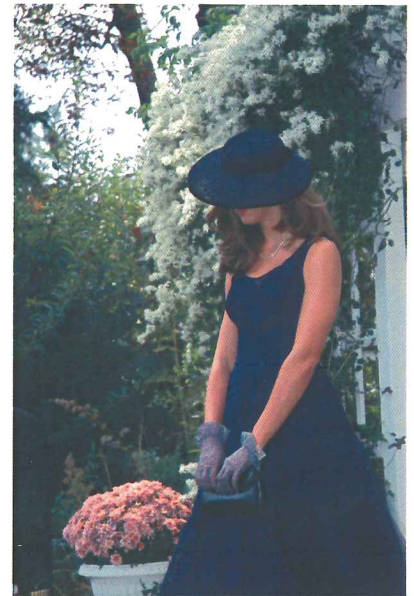
## JHS in the Gardens: Lavendar and Lace

Lavendar and Lace was the theme for this year's Garden Tea, an annual occasion for Society friends and members to gather in the gardens of the 1832 John Joseph Henry House and celebrate the lives and contributions of the Henry Family women. This year's event was again coordinated by Roberta Steiner, along with a staff of accomplished and able volunteers. Unusual heat and humidity could not dampen the spirits of the over 100 guests who donned their favorite hats and brought their favorite teacups to one the Society's most enjoyable social events. This year's Tea featured refreshments by Café del Mar and desserts by Jean Calandra and Sue Wolf. Marja Schantz entertained guests with her delightful and insightful tea-leaf readings.

The event opened with a fashion show by Lorita Musselman, which featured the use of lace in women's dress from Victorian times to the present. The sweet strums of harpist Sarahjane Williams accompanied the models as they walked under the arbor and into the garden where guests were seated. After a brief intermission, Judith Rodwin, accompanied by a cast of actors in beautiful Colonial dress, presented a dramatic monologue in her portrayal as Ann Wood Henry, founding mother of the Henry family. Cast members included Tim and Terri Lubenesky, Matt Ehrig, Jim Correll, Richie Hujisa, the Stump sisters, and Stephanie Sedler. At the conclusion of the performance, Roberta invited visitors to tour the museums. In keeping with our Tea tradition, Laura Sabol of the Allentown Symphony played the vintage 1742 Testore violin from the Society's Henry Family Collections.

The Society appreciates the efforts of all the individual volunteers who made the Third Annual Tea a success. We also would like to thank the following local businesses who provided donations of cash, goods, or services: Dancing Designs (Bethlehem), Confetti Café (Bethlehem), Bone Appetit Barkery (Bethlehem), Calandras Cheese (Nazareth), Wired Café (Bethlehem), In the Mood (Bethlehem), Hotel Bethlehem, Creative Custom Designs (Bethlehem), Crystal Shop (Bethlehem), Donegal's Square (Bethlehem), Nazareth Floral Design, Marylynn Asmuss Beautiful & Silver, Topsy Turvy (Bethlehem), Java Mill Broad Street (Bethlehem), and Air Products.

Join us next September for "JHS in the Gardens: Hats and Horses."





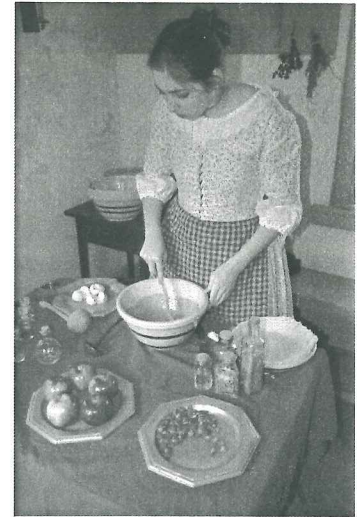
## Christmas at Boulton: Caroling and Jacobsburg Brew

Merry, bright, with a slight dusting of white describe Christmas 2008 at Boulton. Festivities began Friday evening, December 12, with a Christmas party for Society volunteers at the Old Henry Homestead. Volunteers from the Nazareth Garden Club decorated the meeting room of the Homestead like a holiday hunting lodge, with antlers laced with greens and brightly colored wild turkey and pheasant feathers. The DiGerlandos, Whites, and other volunteers provided fabulous taste treats and Jacobsburg Brew.



On Saturday afternoon, December 13, the public was invited to celebrate an old-fashioned Christmas at the Pennsylvania Longrifle Museum with sweet treats and historical games and crafts for the children. Across the street at the 1832 John Joseph Henry House, Society friends and members enjoyed music by classical guitarist, Ted Williams, and vocalist, Sally Shutler. The elegant old estate house was warmly decorated by Sybil Marsh and Roberta Steiner. Henry family toys of bygone eras were nestled under a Christmas tree decorated all in natural dried flowers. The Henry family Putz was displayed in the dining room. Nazareth Floral Design generously donated beautiful arrangements for the dining table and outdoor porch. Visitors mingled with models in Victorian dress by Lorita Musselman, then enjoyed a confection prepared by Sarah White over the hearth fires of the summer kitchen.

At the end of the day, raffle ticket holders waited in the Hawk Gun Shop with Christmas Eve anticipation to discover who would win the Wayne Watson rifle and Masters Three accoutrements. After the announcement, a good year at JHS was celebrated with wine, cheese, and good cheer, looking forward with great expectations to the New Year 2009.





## Master Blacksmith Claire Yellin Featured Speaker at the JHS Annual Dinner Meeting

On October 16 members of the Jacobsburg Historical Society gathered at the Holy Family Club in Nazareth for their Annual Dinner Meeting. The Club catered an excellent meal, and the hall was beautifully decorated with flowers provided and arranged by Gail Faglioni.

Clare Yellin, a professional colleague of JHS board member and master blacksmith, Tom Turtzo, presented a fascinating slide talk about her work as an iron artisan. Her business, Samuel Yellin Metalworks, was begun by her grandfather in 1909 and has been in continuous operation for 99 years. Samuel Yellin, the 20<sup>th</sup> century's foremost artisan, called himself a blacksmith, but others called him a genius, a devil with a hammer in his hand. Samuel Yellin set the highest standards of quality and design for his custom forged metalwork from light fixtures and hardware to gates, grilles, railings, fire screens, andirons and furnishings. He designed and executed metal

work for University of Pittsburgh, Yale University (Harkness Quadrangle and Sterling Memorial Library), Cathedral of St. John the Divine, J.P. Morgan Athenaeum, Henry Clay Frick Museum, Art Institute of Chicago, Vanderbilt Residence, the Washington Cathedral, and numerous other projects. Clare continues her grandfather's tradition of excellence, not only by producing finely crafted metalwork pieces but also by conserving and restoring metalwork items by such artists as Louis C. Tiffany

for re-election: Bobbie DiGerlando, Ron Gabel, Tim Lubenesky, and Howie White. In addition, the committee nominated Casey H. Hoch, CPA, for election to his first term. Casey has opened an accounting firm, Hoch Accounting, on S. Main Street in Nazareth (in Harold Eisenhauer's former office). Casey was born and raised in Pen Argyl and is the ninth generation of the Hoch family to work in Nazareth. He is a graduate of Moravian Academy, Muhlenberg College and the University of Virginia. (M.S. degree in Accounting)

and has had professional experience at several corporations and firms including Houghton International (Accounting Manager), The Flynn Company (Property Accountant), Ernst & Young (Staff Auditor), and was a project leader at the Iacocca Institute's Global Village for Future Leaders of Business and Industry. In the past year, Casey has generously provided JHS with accounting and auditing assistance and advice. Beginning in 2009, Casey has agreed to serve as board treasurer so that Ron Gabel, who has served the Society so well as treasurer for numerous years, will be able to resign the office in order to fulfill his responsibilities as the Society's curator of collections.

At the conclusion of the program, an auction, organized by Roberta Steiner and Mary Turtzo, was held for the benefit of the Society. Among the many fine offerings were numerous items donated during this year's Garden Tea, including gift certificates from Wired Café (Bethlehem), Bonte (Bethlehem), Hotel Bethlehem; a silver and glass candle from Crystal Shop (Bethlehem), a Beleek picture frame from Donegal's Square (Bethlehem), and gorgeous placemats from In the Mood (Bethlehem). Tom Turtzo donated a fine example of his handcrafted metal work, an ivy-vine hanging hook. The pieces de resistance were paintings of the Old Henry Homestead and the John Joseph Henry House by Mary Jane Lahr. Over two hundred dollars were raised, and the Society greatly appreciates those donors who made the auction such a success.



Blacksmith Claire Yellin, presenter at this year's annual meeting.



Casey Hoch, CPA, new JHS board treasurer

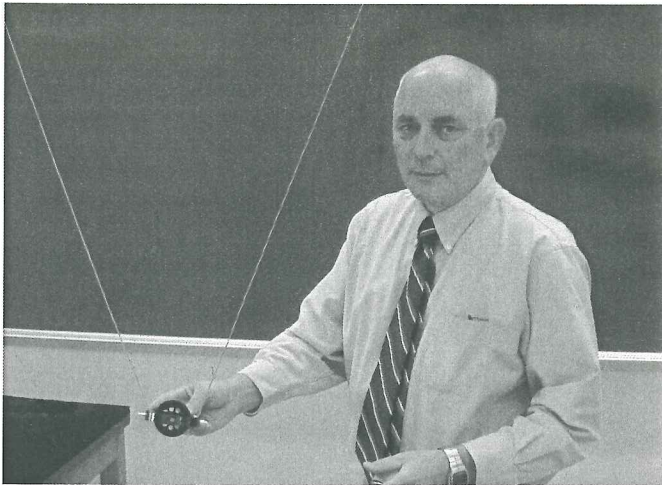
and Frank Lloyd Wright.

The Board of Directors held a brief meeting. Nominating Committee chair, Phil Schroeder, presented five directors, all of whom have served the Society with distinction,



## JHS Sponsors Teachers Through Lehigh Valley Education/Business Partnership

This summer, with the sponsorship of Air Products, JHS participated in the Lehigh Valley Business/Education Partnership Summer Teacher Internship Program. The purpose of the program is for local area teachers to bring their



Tom Bross demonstrates the connection between rifling and gyroscopic stability.

professional experience to the business world and gain a better understanding of the corporate and non-profit environment to take back into the classroom. JHS hosted two secondary school teachers, Stephanie Sedler and Thomas Bross.

Tom Bross is a physics teacher and chair of the science department at Moravian Academy (Bethlehem). A veteran teacher with over 30 years of experience, Tom has been honored by the National Science Foundation with their Presidential Award for Excellence in Science Teaching, representing the state of Pennsylvania. For his JHS project, Tom worked on the principles of physics involved in rifling, specifically gyroscopic stability, which explains how the flight of a spinning projectile (i.e., one fired from a rifled barrel) is more stable than that of a tumbling projectile. He developed several hands-on teaching activities, from throwing a football to a spinning gyroscope suspended as a pendulum. Tom took numerous photographs of the Society's early American rifling machine and developed a lesson to teach students how early industrialists determined the location of spiral ribs on the rifling machine's main cylinder and the formula they used to determine how many turns a spiral rifling groove should make in the length of a rifled barrel. He experimented with PVC tubing and a portable air compressor to develop an "air gun," which would permit safe classroom demonstrations of the differences between the flights of projectiles fired from smooth versus rifled "barrels." Tom prepared an excellent PowerPoint presentation that JHS

could use in its education program, and provided specifications for equipment that the Society could use to develop models of gyroscopic stability. This semester, he used the materials to teach his own physics class at Moravian Academy. Tom enjoyed the partnership provided by the Lehigh Valley Program, gaining a deeper appreciation for early American industry and manufacturing as well as gleaned valuable insights into the potential partnerships between business and education in the Lehigh Valley.

Stephanie Sedler is a recent honors graduate of DeSales University, majoring in history with a certificate in secondary school education. For her JHS intern project, Stephanie developed a ninth-grade lesson unit designed to teach students about the fur trade and the role of the mountain man, the Rendezvous event, and the Henry family of gunsmiths. She developed activities to show students how to "accouter" themselves in the manner of early American fur trappers and how to barter at a Rendezvous to get the "most beaver for their buck." For the JHS living encampment events Steph developed a kids' information



Steph Sedler, left, working in the children's education tent at this year's Rifle Frolic.

sheet that explains the origins, significance, and purpose of the early American rifle frolics and fur trade rendezvous. She volunteered her time to work in the children's activity tent for the Society's living history encampments; and at this year's Garden Tea she played a young Ann in the dramatic sketch of the life of Ann Wood Henry. Generous grants from Air Products and an anonymous donor will enable Stephanie to continue developing children's educational programming at JHS during 2009.



**Jacobsburg Historical Society****Board of Directors 2009**

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Joe DiGerlando, First Vice President

Joe Flemish, Second Vice President

Casey Hoch, CPA, Treasurer

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Rich Steiner, Past President

Tom Turtzo

Earl Van Norman

Howie White

Jan Ballard, Executive Director

The *Jacobsburg Historical Society* is a member-supported nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving and presenting the art and industry of making early American firearms, and the character of the individuals and community that created and sustained that enterprise.

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*From the Desk of President Ehrig*

This summer I was invited to participate in the United Nations General Assembly's "Meeting of States to Consider Action Programme on Illicit Small Arms Trade." I joined a panel of experts from the World Forum on the Future of Sport Shooting Activities. My position was one as an advisor to eight NGOs (Non Government Organizations) from the United States, Canada, Great Britain, Australia and elsewhere. It is important to note that the majority of Third World Nations would like to see a ban on all "Small Arms and Light Weapons," and in order to stop importations of arms to civilians, they were willing to listen to dissenting views.



JHS President Dave Ehrig, right, participates in the UN General Assembly's "Meeting of States to Consider Action on Illicit Small Arms Trade."

Our World Forum guests debunked popular myths that were being espoused by opponents. I pointed out that a .50 or .69 caliber flintlocks (the UN defines light weapons as anything larger than .50 caliber) are not assault weapons! They were enlightened to understand that historic arms serve a purpose in museums, private collections, living history reenactments, sport shooting competitions (even in international competitions, as well as the Olympics!) and hunting sports. Furthermore, we pointed to survey consensus that show no relationship between increased gun ownership and increased crime. In fact, the opposite was true: Norway has the highest per capita of gun ownership in Europe and the lowest crime rate!

After four days of listening to interpreters demystifying the scores of foreign languages, one thing became apparent: UN States love meetings, create more meetings for media attention, and as a bottom line, have their hands opened wide for more UN money. Twenty-five percent of all UN funding comes from the U.S., which opposes this Action Programme: It violates the First and Fourth Amendments of our Constitution, according to former UN Ambassador John Bolton. Thankfully, this is why the U.S. refuses to be an official party to this nonbinding resolution.

Why is this significant for JHS members? Consider the fact that if you transfer a historic Henry rifle from one generation of your family to the next, the UN would consider you a "Gun Broker." You would now be under the scrutiny of the UN and possibly even be in violation of their resolution if the firearm wasn't registered! Thank God for our Constitution and our Founding Fathers' wisdom to create it, as well as the Henry arms that helped to protect it!



## Jacobsburg Historical Society

### 2009 Calendar of Events

*More details forthcoming. For more information about our events, contact us at 610-759-9029 or visit us on the web at [www.jacobsburg.org](http://www.jacobsburg.org)*

#### Museum Schedules — *New!*

**Pennsylvania Long Rifle Museum (PLRM)** — May through October, Saturdays and Sundays, 11am-4pm. Open during JHS special events and year around by appointment.

**1832 John Joseph Henry House (JJ House)** — May through October, last Sunday of each month, 11am-4pm. Open during JHS special events and year around by appointment.

**Nicholas Hawk Gun Shop** — May through October, last Sunday of each month, 11am-4pm. Open during JHS special events and year around by appointment.

#### Program and Event Schedule

**January 10 — *Beginning Powder Horn Class*** (pilot, closed registration). Saturdays through February 21, 1pm-4pm, PLRM, Boulton. Class fee.

**March 4 — *Advanced Gunsmithing Class***. Wednesdays through April 22, 7pm-10pm, PLRM, Boulton. Class fee.

**April 18 — *Boulton Buildings and Grounds Cleanup and Spring Fling Yard Sale***.

**May 9-10 — *Blue Ridge Rifles Rendezvous***. JHS longrifle exhibit. Berks County, PA.

**May 31 — *Summer Kitchen Class***. Syllabubs with Connie Unangst. JJ House summer kitchen, Boulton. Class fee.

**June 20-21 — *Kentucky Rifle Frolic***. Frontier living history encampment, Boulton.

**June 27 — *Kutztown Pennsylvania-German Festival***. Daily through July 5. JHS rifle displays and gunsmithing demonstrations.

**June 28 — *Summer Kitchen Class***. Open hearth cooking basics with Connie Unangst. JJ House summer kitchen, Boulton. Class fee.

**July 24 — *Honorable Company of Horners***. Summer gathering hosted at Boulton.

**July 24-26 — *Dixon's Gunmakers Fair***. JHS exhibits, Kempton, PA.

**August 30 — *Summer Kitchen Class***. Cooking with Herbs with Sally Shutler. JJ House summer kitchen, Boulton. Class fee.

**September 13 — *Hats and Horses: JHS in the Gardens***. Social event for JHS friends & members. Tickets.

**September 27 — *Summer Kitchen Class***. Cooking with Roots with Sally Shutler. JJ House summer kitchen, Boulton. Class fee.

**September 30 — *Beginning Gunsmithing Class***. Wednesdays through November 18, 7pm-10pm, PLRM, Boulton. Class fee.

**October 15 — *Annual Membership Dinner Meeting***.

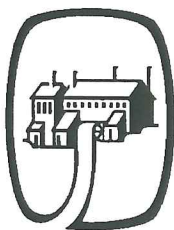
**October 24-25 — *American Fur Trade Rendezvous***. Frontier living history encampment. Boulton.

**November 21 — *Boulton Buildings and Grounds Cleanup***.

**December 11 — *JHS Volunteers Christmas Party***

**December 12 — *Christmas at Boulton***. PLRM and JJ House open house event.





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SOCIETY

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\_\_\_ Renewal.....or.....\_\_\_ New Member

*Please check appropriate category*

\_\_\_ Student \$7.00  
\_\_\_ Individual \$10.00  
\_\_\_ Family \$20.00  
\_\_\_ Contributing \$25.00

\_\_\_ Organization \$50.00  
\_\_\_ Apprentice \$75.00  
\_\_\_ Journeyman \$100.00  
\_\_\_ Master Craftsman \$250.00+

*All contributions are tax deductible as provided by law.*

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