



*Jacobsburg Historical Society, 402 Henry Road, Nazareth PA, 18064*

*Official Historical Society of Bushkill Township*

# THE RECORD

FALL 2024

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## 2024 Annual Dinner meeting

**You are invited** to our Annual Dinner Meeting. The Society will host the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting **Sunday October 13, 2024** at **The Phoenix at the Holy Family Club**, in Nazareth **at 1:30 pm** - Cocktail hour – cash Bar and hors d'oeuvre. Our theme this year is **Mary Henry's Fall Harvest Celebration**.

This “family style” dinner menu is a sampling of dishes that would have been enjoyed by the Henry family at this time of year and is historically correct for the American colonial period. **RESERVE NOW**

Soup          Fresh Salad          Vegetable Tray          Seasonal Roasted Vegetables

Entre' Choice - A    Braised beef with a wine sauce

OR    Entre' Choice - B    Vegetarian: Cauliflower steak

Our keynote speaker will be **Dr. Scott Paul Gordon** Professor of English at Lehigh University. Scott is a former Director and past secretary for our Board and is continuing his research of the Henry Family and their many enterprises.

**Upstairs, Downstairs: The Hidden History of the Henry Home at Boulton**

*A multi-year project by several volunteers to transcribe Henry family letters has revealed lots of new information about the daily life in the Henrys' home at Boulton from the 1870s to the 1920s. These letters make the Henry home come alive-- always changing as the telephone or the automobile arrived, as wallpaper went up (and down) and porches got repaired, and as the Henrys themselves, and the servants they hired to work for them, cleaned and canned and cared for their animals.*

**The Phoenix** has convenient parking and easy access. We chose a Sunday afternoon so our guests do not need to drive at night. The Society is grateful to our donors and supporters that are helping us to keep the cost affordable.

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**Annual Dinner Reservation - Sunday October 13, 2024**

**Advance reservations only by Oct 7, 2024**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ **BEEF or Veg**      NAME \_\_\_\_\_ **BEEF or Veg**

TOTALS:      # \_\_\_\_\_ Members & guests @ \$35. = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Checks to: Jacobsburg Historical Society      P.O. Box 345      Nazareth, PA 18064**

E Mail Address (for receipt): \_\_\_\_\_

*Questions – Joe DiGerlando – cell 484.542.0157*

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**President's Message**

Greeting to our members and friends. I hope this finds you well.

After many years of repeated power outages at our site, we finally secured a grant to help pay for Emergency Generators for our buildings. This Northampton county grant also helps offset the cost of a new, much needed, workshop for our ***Mondays at Boulton*** volunteers. This work shop will provide this group with a specific space to complete some of their many projects. One such project was the complete reconstruction of the front porch deck on the J. Joseph Henry home.

Our garden volunteers have been working hard to make our formal garden look better now than it has in many years. Our House docents provide tours of the J. Joseph Henry home at every event. They also maintain and decorate the house for the various seasons and do an exceptional job at Christmas. Our Summer Kitchen docent explains what was required to feed the family every day.

The Events Committee volunteers assist with planning all events, including scheduling and advertising.

Our historic buildings docents, explain the various artifacts associated with the Henry family. They help the public understand the importance of the various buggies, and the Ice Sled, which was key to the family's ice business. They will encourage you to ring the bell which was originally used at the local one room Boulton School.

The long rifle museum volunteers update and maintain our collection of Henry weapons including civil war muskets, pistols swords and fur trade era long rifles,

I'm sure by now you realize this message is concentrated on the importance of our volunteers. Without their dedication there would be no Jacobsburg. That is why I am appealing to all our members to consider volunteering. Currently we have two major positions open because, two long term volunteers:

Karen Whitehill our office manager, and Kay Tomko our gift shop manager and head seamstress, are retiring after many years of faithful service. These positions must be filled before the end of 2024.

***We need your help. Please come to one of our events and talk to us about how you can help make Jacobsburg a little better every day.***

**Thank you, Al Piccotti, President**

**Jacobsburg Historical Society**

## **Social Media Updates**

We are expanding our use of social media to keep the community informed about the Society and the activities at Boulton. The [jacobsburghistory.com](http://jacobsburghistory.com) site has recently been updated to be "mobile friendly".

One of our new volunteers, Samantha, is working with President Al to improve our presence on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and other relevant social media sites. Let us know what you think.

## **Society Books – Reviews**

### ***Creeks, Dams, Mills of the Upper Bushkill and Plainfield Townships***

***Northampton County, PA by Claude A. Jones***

***If you enjoyed reading any of Eric Sloane's books about early American life, you will love Claude Jones' interpretation of local history.***

A little about the author – Claude was a machinist by trade and a historian by avocation. He and his wife of 69 years, Molly lived in Belfast, a few miles from the Henry complex. Claude passed away on April 11, 2007 at age 92. He served his country in the U.S. Army in Germany during WW II. After his retirement in 1980, Claude became very active with the Jacobsburg Historical Society and undertook a number of restoration projects, including the Bellows from the Henry Gun Factory that is now in use in the blacksmith shop and also the tall clock that graces the top of the stairs in the 1832 J. Joseph House. These and his many other projects is for a later discussion.

Claude's writings are down homey and very easy to read. His hand drawn sketches bring history to life and draw the reader into the early industrial surrounding communities. His preface sets a tone for the reader. It begins: "I am writing and sketching so as not to lose sight of the value and life these streams have brought to our area at the foot of the Blue Mountains – the Appalachian Mountains in Pennsylvania.....". *Creeks* is a "must read" for anyone interested in the industrial development of early America. The Upper Bushkill is a microcosm of the activities happening throughout the Colonies and early statehood period.

*Joe D.*

## ***Blue Skies Over Jacobsburg* By Virginia Lopresti**

Sounds like a book about the weather and not about Archaeology, but then again, it is neither. The author, my mother, always described it as a love story. She dedicated the book to the first love of her life, my father, Joseph A. Lopresti. His picture on the cover shows him in a well-worn straw hat and carrying a brush ax. That ax cleared away many a scrub bush guarding an archaeological treasure. But truly my mother's second love was knowledge.

That search began in a one room schoolhouse, with the distraction of a handsome young boy from the farm next door, through high school, nursing school, and then Columbia University. Then that farm boy lured her away with a first date to the Pennsylvania Farm Show. Her education continued as she learned to become a Cub Scout, Girl Scout and 4H leader. In her own backyard garden she discovered arrowheads and wanted to know about them. Still wanting to learn, they both joined the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeological and the Northampton County Genealogical Society. From that they began to dig in the proper methodical way of an archaeologist.

Virginia registered the first archaeological site in Northampton County with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in that backyard. Then along comes an unorganized group of people who sought to preserve the historical significance of the Upper Bushkill among whom was Mary Henry Stites. From this group began the Jacobsburg Historical Society with the defined purpose of preserving history. The first step in preservation is finding what it is you want to preserve, "Blue Skies at Jacobsburg" is my mother's story of what she and my father did to do just that.

The book begins with Edna Virginia "Plotts" Lopresti's introduction as well as an introduction to the J.H.S. There follows seven detailed chapters from various locations within the Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center. Only two of the buildings discussed are extant and can be seen from the exterior, but are vacant on the interior. They are the Benade House and Henry's Forge Office, both located opposite the JEEC building. The balance are represented by remnants of stone foundations.

None are accompanied by Historical Markers. The unidentified are the Tannery in the former foundation of the Catherine Furnace, Matthew S. Henry home, the furnace office, other homes in Jacobsburg, the Jacobsburg Mill, formerly a Henry Gun Factory, the Miller's Home and the Jacobsburg Inn. The various stories about these buildings includes the different groups that assisted in the excavations and site clearing. I personally got to participate in the creation of this text, by preparing the Maps for each site. This love story was in the doing and the learning from it.

The final chapter is entitled "Lest We Forget" and is a plea for others to continue the exploration, documentation and formal identification of these and additional historic structures that tell the story of how the Henry Family played their part in the formation of this Great Country, the United States of America.

Respectfully, L. Paul Lopresti

These soft cover book are available for \$15 + tax & S&H (TOTAL- \$20)

Mail a check for the total amount, payable to: “**Jacobsburg Historical Society**”  
Mail address **P.O. Box 345 Nazareth, PA 18064**

**OTHER TITLES AVAILABLE:**

*Henry of Boulton – A Pennsylvania Gunmaking Family and its Firearms*  
*Memories of Old Nazareth*

**REMINDER**

**2024 Annual Dinner meeting**

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**REMINDER**                      **RESERVE NOW**

**Updates to the Society Constitution and By-laws**

The Society Board of Directors many years ago decided that good business practices require that a periodic review of the Society Constitution and By-Laws is necessary. These important documents determine how or organization must function. The last review was undertaken in 2019 and updates were approved, as required, by the members at that annual meeting. This year a committee again took on this task and has recommended some “fine tuning” changes. Notification to the membership is required to be published in THE RECORD and voted on at our next annual meeting (October 13).

The following pages contain both the Constitution and By-Laws with the proposed changes in **red text** and the proposed deletions in **blue text** with cross out.



*Jacobsburg Historical Society, 402 Henry Road, Nazareth PA, 18064*  
*Official Historical Society of Bushkill Township*

# CONSTITUTION

## Article I - Name

The name of this organization shall be **Jacobsburg Historical Society**. The organization shall be called **The Society** in this document.

## Article II - Purpose

The purpose of this organization is: the discovery, collection, preservation, restoration and presentation of the history, historical artifacts, buildings, documents, grounds and all material which will illustrate and demonstrate the history and culture of Jacobsburg, the Henry Gun Factory site, Henry's Woods and related areas, and the life and times of the many generations of the Henry Family. **The Society has been designated the Official Historical Society of the Township of Bushkill by the Board of Supervisors of Bushkill Township.**

## Article III – Membership

### Section 3.1- Classes

Membership in The Society shall consist of Active, Life and Honorary members. Any person who agrees to the purposes of The Society as specified in Article II shall upon application and payment of dues become a member of The Society. **Membership may be denied or revoked for any person determined to be detrimental to The Society.**

### Section 3.2 - Active Members

Active members shall pay dues annually. Each active member, which may include **Individual, Family, same household, Lifetime (Individual), Lifetime (Couple), Patron, Corporate/Business** Family, Patron, Corporate, Sponsor, or such other class of active members as shall from time to time be determined by the Board of Directors, shall have one vote.

### Section 3.3 - Life Members

Life members shall make a single payment of dues, the amount to be set by the Board and have one vote.

### **Section 3.4 - Honorary**

The Society may from time to time elect to honorary membership any individual in recognition of distinguished contribution or service toward the purpose of this organization. Honorary members shall be recommended in writing by the Board of Directors and elected by the membership at the Annual meeting of The Society. Honorary members shall have no vote and shall pay no dues. Not more than two honorary members shall be elected in any one calendar year.

## **Article IV - Officers and Duties**

### **Section 4.1 - Officers**

Officers of The Society elected by the Board of Directors shall be President, ~~First~~ Vice President, ~~Second Vice President~~, Secretary and Treasurer. The President may appoint a Corresponding Secretary. Other officers or acting officers may be appointed by the Board of Directors.

#### **A. President:**

The President shall conduct all meetings of the membership and Board of Directors and shall regulate all its proceedings as prescribed in the By-Laws. The President may appoint such committees as may be helpful in furthering the interests of The Society in addition to the Standing Committees referred to in Section 5.3 herein. The President shall be the official representative of The Society, and shall be an ex officio member of all committees except the nominating committee.

#### **B. Vice Presidents:**

In the absence of the President, the ~~First~~ Vice President shall preside. ~~; in the absence of both, the Second Vice President shall preside.~~ **In the absence of both the President and Vice President, the Board Secretary shall preside.** The duties of the Vice President s shall be as designated by the Board of Directors, which shall include, but not be limited to acting as liaison to the Standing Committees set forth in Section 5.3 herein. **C. Secretary:**

The Secretary shall be present at all regular and special meetings of The ~~Board of Directors~~ **Society** and shall keep full and accurate minutes of the proceedings. The Secretary shall also attend and keep full minutes of the **Annual Members meeting and report these minutes to the Board at the next scheduled meeting.** ~~meetings of the Board of Directors.~~ The Secretary shall attend to the preparation and mailing of all notices of meetings of the Board of Directors and of the general membership. The Secretary shall keep approved minutes of all meetings at a place designated by the Board of Directors.

#### **D. Treasurer:**

The Treasurer shall be the chief financial officer of The Society. The Treasurer shall receive and have custody of all the monies and securities of The Society and shall keep regular books of account. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the deposit of all monies in a depository to the credit of and in the name of The Society. The Board of Directors shall designate such depository. The Treasurer shall pay all bills upon order of the Board of Directors and countersign with the President such instruments as require the Treasurer's signature. The Treasurer shall

provide bond if required by the Board of Directors and at the expense of The Society for the faithful performance of the Treasurer's duties, and provide monthly or bi-monthly reports to the Board of Directors. The foregoing notwithstanding, the Treasurer shall keep all members of the Board of Directors fully informed of all financial matters pertaining to the Society in a timely manner.

## **Article V – Committees of the Board**

### **Section 5.1- Executive Committee**

There shall be a committee of this association which shall be known as the Executive Committee, consisting of the President, Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer. This committee shall direct and transact all business of The Society which properly might come before the Board of Directors, except such as the Board only by law or by this Constitution and By-Laws is authorized to perform, however authorization to make expenditures on behalf of The Society shall be limited to **\$5,000.00** or in excess thereof only in the event of an emergency whereupon it shall communicate the nature of the emergency and expenditure by e-mail to the Board within 24 hours. The Executive Committee shall report its' actions to the Board of Directors at the next regularly scheduled meeting, which shall approve or disapprove the report and record such action in the minutes of the meeting.

### **Section 5.2 –Nominating Committee**

There shall be a committee of this association to be known as the Nominating Committee which shall be appointed annually **by the President and approved by the Board of Directors**. The committee shall consist of three (3) members, only one of which shall be a member of the Board of Directors. This committee shall present in writing to the membership a slate of nominees for the Board of Directors for publication at least **20** days prior to the Annual meeting. Publication in the Jacobsburg Record shall constitute proper notification.

### **Section 5.3 – Other Standing Committees**

The Board of Directors shall transact the business and conduct the affairs of The Society and shall carry out the purposes of The Society as set forth in the Constitution and By-Laws. The Board of Directors shall be elected by the membership as prescribed in the By-Laws, Article I, Section 4. Annually the President shall designate Board Members to be Chairpersons and Members of [the following](#) Standing Committees with jurisdiction over their respective identified Subcommittees **as prescribed in Article I. Section 3 of the By Laws**.

### **Section 5.4 - Vacancy in Office**

In the event any of the officers or directors resign or be removed by death or otherwise, the Board of Directors may fill such vacancy for the unexpired term of such office. **The procedure for removal of officers or directors is outlined in Article III, Section 7 of the By-Laws – Termination of Office.**

## **Article VI. - Meetings**

The Annual meeting of The Society shall be held in October of each year at such place and time as selected by the Board of Directors. At least ten (10) days' notice thereof shall be communicated to each member in a manner approved by the Board of Directors. Publication in the Jacobsburg Record shall constitute proper notification.



## **Article VII. - Amendments to Constitution and By-Laws**

The Constitution and By-Laws of The Society may be amended by a vote of two-thirds (2/3's) of the members present at a stated meeting of the membership. A copy of the intended amendment shall be communicated via either e-mail or United States Mail to the membership at least ten (10) days prior to the stated meeting. Publication in the Jacobsburg Record shall constitute proper notification. Notice to amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws shall be deemed provided if either email or USPS first class mail to a Member at the address and email provided at the time of registration.



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*Official Historical Society of Bushkill Township*

## **BY-LAWS**

### **Article I - Officers and Board of Directors**

#### **Section 1. - Compensation**

The officers and directors shall perform their respective duties without compensation.

#### **Section 2. - Duties**

The duties of the officers shall be as outlined in Article IV of the Constitution.

#### **Section 3. - Board of Directors**

- A. The Board of Directors shall consist of not less than ~~fifteen (15)~~ **Twelve (12)** and not more than **fifteen (15)** including the officers, elected by the membership.
- B. Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held as determined by the Board.
- C. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President at the President's discretion, or upon the request of three (3) directors.
- D. A **simple** majority of the directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.
- E. Board members shall act as liaison to **the following** Standing Committees **as prescribed in Article V, Section 5.3 of the Constitution:**
  - **Visitor Experience**  
**Events Committee**  
Ladies of Boulton  
Pennsylvania Long Rifle Museum Committee  
Summer Kitchen
  - **Property Maintenance**  
**Mondays at Boulton**  
Property committee  
Garden Committee
  - **Community Outreach & Education**  
•
  - **Administration and Operations**  
Finance Committee

The Board of Directors shall have the power to establish such other Committees and Subcommittees as shall be from time to time be determined to be necessary and the President will also have the power to designate Board Members as Chairpersons and Members of those Committees. **Contact information for all committees will be made available to the Board.**

**F. Proprietary Property and Information:**

- i The Board shall designate who shall have access to all of the Jacobsburg Historical Society social media accounts, including, but not limited to: Facebook page, Website, YouTube, and Instagram.**
- ii Upon ending affiliation with Jacobsburg Historical Society, all former officers and others who have access to this information are required to relinquish all access including, but not limited to:**
  - a. Pertinent Username login, password information, and all access codes related to these accounts.**
  - b. Any access to electronic or hard copy data files or programs.**
- iii All former officers and others are required to return all Jacobsburg Historical Society intellectual property including but not limited to: Event files, Event coordinator contacts, Media and Advertising contacts.**
- iv All former officers and others who have Access Keys to any Museums or other buildings are required to return these keys in a timely manner.**

**Section 4. - Elections and Terms of Office**

- A. The President, Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected for a one-year term by the Board of Directors at the first monthly meeting after the start of the fiscal year following the Annual Meeting. Their term shall be concurrent with the fiscal year as stated under Article ~~III~~ III., Section 1 of the By-Laws.
- B. A nominating committee shall perform its duties as outlined in Article V., Section 5.2, of the Constitution.
- C. Nominations may be made from the floor at the time of the election, provided that the consent of the nominee has been obtained previously.
- D. The term of office for directors shall be fiscal year as stated under Article ~~III~~ III, Section L of the By-Laws, and each shall be elected to serve three (3) years. After the first year, four (4) shall be elected annually to serve one (1) year. Directors may succeed themselves.

**Section 5. - Exemption from Personal Liability**

Members of the Board of Directors, other than officers, shall not be personally liable for monetary damages as such for any actions taken, or any failure to take any action, unless:

A. The Member of the Board of Directors has breached or failed to perform the duties of his office as specified in the Pennsylvania Directors Liability Act; and

B. The breach or failure to perform constitutes self-dealing, willful misconduct or recklessness. The exemption of personal liability of members of the Board of Directors shall not apply to responsibilities or liabilities arising under any criminal statute or liability for the payment of taxes pursuant to local, state or federal law.

### **Section 6. - Indemnification**

- A. Officers and Members of the Board of Directors of the Society shall be entitled to indemnification from the Society to the fullest extent allowed by law for actions taken in their official capacity; however, nothing in these By-Laws shall be construed to allow indemnification in any case where the act or failure to act giving rise to the claim for indemnification is determined by a court to have constituted willful misconduct or recklessness.
- B. The expenses incurred by an Officer or Member of the Board of Directors in defending a civil or criminal action, suit or proceeding shall be paid by the Society in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit or proceeding upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of such person to repay such amount if it shall ultimately be determined that there is no entitlement to indemnification by The Society.
- C. The indemnification and advancement of expenses authorized by these By-Laws shall unless otherwise provided continue as to a person who has ceased to be an Officer or Member of the Board of Directors and shall inure to the benefits of the heirs, executors and administrators of such person.
- D. Nothing in these By-Laws shall preclude the Board of Directors, by majority vote, from providing indemnification for agents, servants or employees of the Society for action taken in their official capacity.
- E. By majority vote of the Board of Directors, a fund shall be created of any nature which may, but need not be, under the control of a trustee, or otherwise secure or insure in any manner its indemnification obligations.

### **Section 7 - Removal from Office - Director**

**Any Director may be removed from office, with or without assignment of any cause, by a vote of a majority of the Directors in office at any duly convened meeting of the Board, provided that written notice of the intention to consider removal of such Director has been included in the notice of the meeting. No Director shall be removed without having the opportunity to be heard at such meeting, but no formal hearing procedure shall be followed. Any Director may resign such position at any time, such resignation to be made in writing and to take effect from the time of its receipt by the Secretary, unless some later time may be fixed in the resignation, and then from that date. The acceptance of the resignation shall not be required to make it effective.**

### **Section 8 - Removal of a Member**

**Any Member may be removed from office, with or without assignment of any cause, by a vote of a majority of the Directors in office at any duly convened meeting of the Board, provided that written notice of the intention to consider**

**removal of such Member has been included in the notice of the meeting. No Member shall be removed without having the opportunity to be heard at such meeting, but no formal hearing procedure shall be followed. Any Member may resign such position at any time, such resignation to be made in writing and to take effect from the time of its receipt by the Secretary, unless some later time may be fixed in the resignation, and then from that date. The acceptance of the resignation shall not be required to make it effective.**

## **Article II - Meetings**

### **Section 1. - Meetings**

The Annual Meeting shall be held as specified in Article ~~IV~~VI. of the Constitution.

### **Section 2. - Other Meetings**

Other meetings of the membership may be called by the Board of Directors or by the President subsequent to petition by ten (10) members.

### **Section 3. - Quorum**

A quorum for membership meetings shall consist of fifteen (15) members, or a majority of the membership **in attendance**, whichever number is smaller.

## **Article III - Dues and Finances**

### **Section 1. - Fiscal Year**

The fiscal year of the society shall be from January 1 to December 31.

### **Section 2. - Dues**

The annual dues of the society shall be as determined by act of the Board of Directors. Dues are payable January 1, annually.

## **Article IV - Rules of Order**

The rules of parliamentary procedure shall be designated by the Board of Directors, which shall govern all meetings of The Society. **The four main goals of parliamentary procedure are:**

**Extend courtesy to everyone.**

**Focus on one topic at a time.**

Observes the rule of the majority.  
Ensures the rights of the minority.

#### **Article V. - Dissolution of the Society**

In the event of dissolution of The Society, the net assets of The Society shall be transferred to an organization working in an allied field which is an "exempt organization" as presently described by Section 501(c) (3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1954. The officers, with the concurrence of a majority of the members of the Board of Directors, are authorized and directed to take whatever action is necessary and proper to affect this provision, including without limitation, application to the Court of Common Pleas of Northampton County and to the Office of the Department of State, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

JACOBSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS AS APPROVED BY THE MEMBERSHIP  
OF THE JACOBSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY AT THE ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING IN OCTOBER ~~ON THE 10TH DAY~~  
~~OF OCTOBER, 2019.~~

Secretary