

# NEWSLETTER

HAVERFORD TOWNSHIP  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY



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P.O.Box 825      HAVERTOWN, PA. 19083      Sept., 1985

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FIELD TRIP - Saturday, October 26, 1985 to Bethlehem, Pa.  
Leave 9 a.m., Brookline Blvd. & Earlington Rd., Havertown,  
Return 6 p.m., traffic permitting

Christmas in October? No.....but our fall tour will visit a crossroads of history, the Moravian settlement, Bethlehem, named on Christmas Eve, 1741 by Count von Zinzendorf, Missionary and pioneer. A film, presented in a log cabin at the Visitors Center will show 26 sites that have played a significant role in Bethlehem's past, both Colonial and Victorian.

An 18th c. Industrial Area along the Monocacy Creek houses a restored tannery, mill, water works, miller's home with costumed guides and demonstrations. We will have a guided, walking tour of the Moravian historical quarter, thru several 18th c. buildings. The Moravian Museum, oldest building in Bethlehem, exhibits many aspects of the early settlement. Nearby is the Kemerer Museum, more a gracious home, displaying luxurious rooms, furniture, rugs, glass and paintings. An annex houses an 1698 fire engine and a colonial kitchen exhibit.

Lunch will be served at the 1758 Sun Inn where George and Martha Washington and Lafayette supped. Included is a tour of this recently restored and furnished 18th c. tavern.

Join in this autumn trip. Note that, as with previous enthusiastically received Field Trips, this is not a fund raiser. It is a chance to enjoy the Pennsylvania countryside en route and the sociability of friends and snacks on the way back. Member cost: \$28/person; guests \$30. This includes lunch and snacks.

Fill out the form on the last page and  
mail your reservation TODAY for the

OCT. 26, 1985 - FIELD TRIP

HAVERFORD TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
Box 825, Havertown, Pa. 19083

Visit NITRE HALL and LAWRENCE CABIN  
Karakung Drive, Powder Mill Valley Park  
Havertown, Pa.

Both Nitre Hall and the Cabin are advertised as open to the public, Sundays, 1 to 4 p.m., thru October. Hostess Charm, Kathleen Mague, needs aides to volunteer to help any of those times. Please phone and offer, 642-9123.

## GIFTS

In June the Society made application for a grant to the Quaker Chemical Foundation in Conshohocken who help support several small educational and historical organizations. The Foundation approved a \$1000 grant and we have received their generous check to assist in furthering the 5th grade students at Nitre Hall and the Lawrence log cabin all-day programs.

Thanks also to the Lynnewood School PTO for a \$100 contribution in appreciation of our educational programs.

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## RECENT ACCESSIONS

The Society has recently received gifts of period clothing from Mrs. Mary Whittlessey, Mrs. Elizabeth Gaumer and Miss Marguerite Lukens. Ronald DeGraw presented a copy of his new book on the Red Arrow Line for our library. Some photographs used in this book are from the Society's collection.

Dr. and Mrs. Robert Johnston have donated copies of "American Heritage" magazine dated from the first issue to 1984. To make this gift useful, the Society purchased an Index of Articles for the many copies. The Johnstons have also given us metal shelving, 2-drawer office file, card files, period clothing and a clothes rack, and a drop leaf walnut table. Some members may recall that Peg's father made a reproduction of a similar period table for the cabin when the latter was first opened.

Four mountain laurel bushes (Pennsylvania state flower) have been added to our planting along the top of the retaining wall in back of Nitre Hall. Six more might enable us to remove the snow fence placed there as a safety measure by the Township.

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The appraisal of antiques owned by the Haverford Township Historical Society has been completed by Raymond M. Spiller and Associates, Inc. This was necessary to bring our insurance up to date. Work has begun to keep our accession file current and we are looking for volunteer typists. Anyone interested, please get in touch.

## LAWRENCE CABIN and NITRE HALL

The grant funds received will help in the pilot project of the "Colonial Living Experience" using both buildings to serve all fifth grade students in our schools. Necessary equipment will be purchased and salary for a coordinator is available.

\* This paid, part-time position of coordinator-worker is open to anyone who likes to work with children and is interested in history. The daily chores of colonial times that make up the program require physical stamina. Salary is based on 35 days, some to be used in research and preparation of material for future classes in the Federal School. The program is provided on (clear weather) Tuesdays and Thursdays in October, possibly early Nov., late April, May and early June. The schedule can be adjusted.

Please spread the word of this job opportunity and contact the Haverford Township Historical Society, P.O. Box 825, Havertown, 19083 or call 353-1213 Peg Johnston, or 449-3585 Betty Stafford.

## OPPORTUNITIES for VOLUNTEERS

There are several openings for those interested in writing, research and the publishing business. We need an editor for the Newsletter. Work on the history of the Township was relegated to the back burner - we'd like to get that cooking.

Speaking of cooking: our three general meetings are more enjoyable because of the social period and refreshments following the programs. We need a volunteer as Hospitality Chrm. This is not a time consuming job. It necessitates only getting helpers for those evenings; attendance at Board meetings is not required. Please offer your help: Nov. 21; Feb. 20; Apr. 17

The Delaware County Historical Society is mounting a membership drive and is offering one-time special rates to members of local historical societies. The dues for new members: \$5/indiv.; \$7.50/family. The Society has an extensive library, monthly programs, a publication series and workshops. Headquarters are in the Wolfgram Memorial Library, Widener University, Chester, Pa., 19013.

## The 1797 FEDERAL SCHOOL

The Township of Haverford has entered into an agreement with Graham Shafer, developer of the Allgates property, on the Federal School preservation. Under this agreement the Township has a perpetual easement on the building on Darby Road near Coopertown Road, with ingress, egress and a parking area to be provided. The Township has allocated grant funds for the restoration of the structure and will be responsible for future maintenance. In order to provide necessary facilities, plans include erection of a small auxiliary building. Hopefully, plans and specifications will soon be ready to go out for bids for this work.

A committee from the Historical Society is working closely with the Township. Restoration plans will continue the work begun by the Optimists of Havertown prior to the Bicentennial. The committee consists of Betty Stellar and Dolly Kelly, members of our Board and Neville Ehnmann, former Board member.

The Students for a Better Community provided funds in 1975 for material for reproduction desks and benches to be made for the Federal School. This group's interest in the project continues as shown by their recent gift of \$500. for the Federal School. This has been placed in a reserve account until such time as we know how it can best be used. Do support the students recycling program - it is important to all of us.

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## President's Corner

You may have heard - the Johnstons have moved into a smaller home, just over the border in Marple Twp. This does not mean I will be less active or lose interest in the Society, I have, however, found it necessary to retire as coordinator for the Colonial Living Experience, tho' I will still assist. To express my pleasure in working with you sounds like a farewell, which this is not. Our new address: Longstoon, 12 Dundee Mews, Media, Pa. 19063  
Phone: 353-1213

Margaret E. Johnston

At the Annual Meeting, April 25, 1985, the following Board of Directors was approved:

1984-85

Dorothy Kelly (Mrs. F.J.)  
Susan Kratzinger (Mrs. R.)

Kathleen Mague (Mrs. M.)  
Jeanne Mulcahy (Mrs. P.)

1985-87

Walter H. Geary  
Rosemary Kanavy (Mrs. S.J.)

Charlotte Prichard (Mrs.W.)  
Francis O. Whitten

Current HTHS Officers:

President - Margaret E. Johnston (Mrs. R.)  
1st Vice Pres. - Joseph O. Reese  
2nd Vice Pres. - Betty Stellar (Mrs. E.)  
Treasurer - Kenneth Tiss  
Recording Secty. - Elizabeth Irwin (Mrs. H.)  
Corresp. Secty. - Betty Stafford (Mrs. F.)

DATES TO REMEMBER - Mark Your Calendar and Join in

Regular Meetings of the Society: Thursdays, Nov. 21, 1985;  
Feb. 20, 1986 and Annual Meeting April 17, 1986.

Board Meetings - members welcome: Oct. 24, 1985;  
Jan. 16, 1986, March 20 and May 15, 1986.

RESERVATION FORM - Please cut off and return

(This will be the only mailed notice of this event. Act Now!)

FIELD TRIP - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1985

Tour via bus to Bethlehem, Pennsylvania historical district, including lunch and snacks.

Number of reservations:

@ \$28/person, members; \$30/guest \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to Hav. Twp. Hist. Soc.  
Mail to: P.O.Box 825, Havertown, Pa., 19083

Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I cannot attend but would like to contribute  
to HTHS preservation efforts \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_