

NEWSLETTER

HAVERFORD TOWNSHIP
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

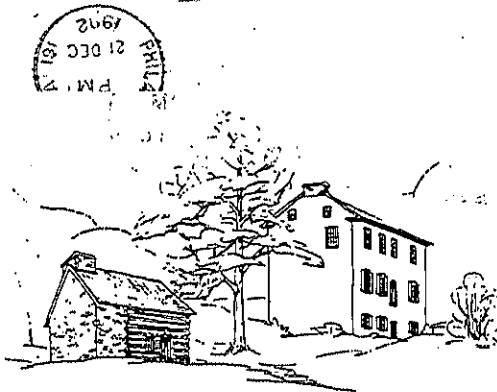
P.O. Box 825 Havertown, PA 19083 Winter 1992

1992 has been a very active year for the members of the Haverford Township Historical Society. The Property Committee, chaired by Neville Ehmann, has undertaken major interior and exterior work at Nitre Hall and the Federal School. The first floor apartment in N. H. is being cleaned and painted in preparation for a new tenant-caretaker in the Spring of '93. The two rooms on the fourth floor have been reclaimed for safe storage of our permanent collections. Shelving has been installed which was underwritten by Dr. Gerald Hogan of the School District in appreciation for our education programs, managed by Sue Kratzinger. These will enable us to make our collections more available and useful. Carol Joseph has been diligent in her efforts to organize and renew Nitre Hall. She has ordered acid-free boxes, which are state-of-the-art for storage of textiles and documents. The HTHS has a wealth of quilts and clothing worth protecting and preserving.

The holiday theme this year at N.H. commemorates the 100th anniversary of the Nutcracker, with various nutcrackers on loan from HTHS members and friends. The tree is again decorated with nursery rhyme characters in anticipation of numerous young visitors to Story Hours, told this year by Sue Kratzinger.

VOLUNTEER SALUTE

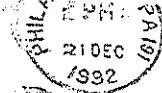
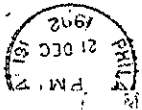
Thanks to all HTHS members who helped to make our activities successful in '92 and especially to Chris McDougall, Kathleen Partridge, Jeanne Mulcahy, Terri Dougherty, Betty Stafford, Carl Flinterman, Peg Johnston, Betty Stellar, Charlotte Prichard, Gladys Tiss, Mary Courtney, Sue Kratzinger, Carol Joseph, Neville Ehmann, Effie Haven, Edith Cannon, Millicent Phillips, Ken Tiss, Bill McDougall, Marie and Dick Walker.



HAVERFORD TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 825
HAVERTOWN, PA. 19083

Mr. & Mrs. W.J. Prichard
570 Kathmere Rd.
Havertown, Pa.
19083



EDUCATION

The Colonial Living Program, under the direction of Sue Kratzinger, was made even more authentic this fall by the purchase and installation of a cast iron, wood-burning stove. It is in the summer kitchen used by the 18th century half of the program. Special thanks go out to John E. Riley for making a new saw horse used for the sawing of firewood at the Cabin. About 380 Township fifth graders enjoyed this favorite "field trip." Sue is assisted in this program by Mary Courtney, Ed Johnson, Carol Joseph, Fran Mann, Jane Vardaro and Grace Hill. The Summer Historic Research Program was conducted by Peg Johnston and Sue Kratzinger in June this year. The six student participants were Josh Abrams, Robin Barone, Sandy Drygas, Rachel Goldberg, Jung Miu Lee and John Richards. Nitre Hall was used as headquarters and the group visited several historic sites; the Lawrence Cabin, Old Haverford Friends Meeting, the Federal School, Cobb's Creek School (now a private residence), and the home of a former high school teacher at 329 Ellis Road. Several days were spent copying records kept at the Delaware County Historical Society. A set of farm account books from 1890 to 1923, which are in the HTHS archives, were studied, with costs of clothing, food, and farm produce and farm workers' salaries noted. The students also interviewed past presidents of the Board of Commissioners of Haverford Township. At the end of the program each student received a Certificate of Appreciation from the society.

GENEALOGY SEMINAR

Member and amateur genealogist Gloria Tarbuck conducted a very informative and entertaining seminar on family research at Nitre Hall on Saturday, November 7. Some of those who enjoyed delicious soup and exchanged stories of family trees were Charles Fridy, Marie and Dick Walker, Effie Haven, Betty Stellar, Chris McDougall, Effie Haven, Betty Stafford, Bob Tarbuck, and Mary Courtney. Mrs Tarbuck provided many handouts and references to be used in doing this type of research. We would like to provide other seminars in the future, so if you have a topic, please tell a board member about it.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

We have received numerous compliments on the new Membership Directory which was completed and distributed at the general membership meeting in October. Betty Sparks and Mary Courtney compiled it over the summer with the help of Membership Chairman Betty Stafford, and we owe the professional look of the final

copy to Dave Sparks, who returned to the "drawing board" several times before he was satisfied. You may wish to make the following additions or corrections in your copy:

Mrs. H. S. Butterfield 688-2809

Mr. and Mrs. William Reynolds

Mr. and Mrs. John H. Toal 649-0943

If you did not receive a copy of the membership directory, it will be available at the next general membership meeting and whenever Nitre Hall is open.

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

As part of an Eagle Scout project for Alex Brown of Haverford Township, Boy Scout Troop #156 scouts and HTHS volunteers met at Nitre Hall on October 3. One attic room was completely cleaned, the plaster patched and painted. They also pieced together two mill stones and imbedded them in front of the new summer kitchen, as well as laying a brick patio near the back door. On October 17 the project was expanded to an extensive cleanup of the grounds, removing unwanted trees, vines, and weeds. The scout participants were William Ackerman, Matt Brenner, Alex Brown, Marc Fisher, Peter Gard, Susan Hillanbrand, Jeanne Joseph, and John Joseph. Adults providing time and backs were Regina Brown, Mary Courtney, Paul Gard, Carol and Dan Joseph, Rick Mitchell, Betty Stafford, and Marie and Dick Walker.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS

We have received two Community Development Block Grants. One is to install interior storm sash in Nitre Hall; the other is to completely strip down to bare original plaster the interior walls of the Federal School. Previous efforts to clean and paint have been unsatisfactory due to moisture problems. Repainting will be delayed to be sure the surfaces are truly ready.

The Federal School now sports an elegant new sign to replace the one long gone. Bill McDougall and Neville Ehmann have been able to complete some carpentry, and a beginning has been made on eliminating "volunteer" trees from the hedges in the front and rear of the school.

1993 CALENDAR

- * February 18 General Membership Meeting 8PM
Old Haverford Friends Meeting House
Guest Speaker - Quaker scholar and historian,
Emma Lapransky, Curator of the Haverford
College Library
- * April 15 Annual Meeting
- * May 1 Appraisal Day, Nitre Hall

Dr. & Mrs. Robt. Johnston
12 Dundee Mews
Meda, Pa. 19063



The Haverford Township
Historical Society
P. O. Box 825
Havertown, PA 19083

Looking ahead to Fall '92...

Watch for...

- ... a Genealogy Workshop to be presented by member, Gloria Tarbuck.
- ... a Membership Directory... Response to the question, "Would you like to be listed in a membership directory, was an overwhelming "YES!" Betty Sparks and Mary Courtney will have a directory ready for distribution at the Fall membership meeting.
- ... installation of a wood stove for the Summer Kitchen.

In Memoriam...

Lila Martin, who was the caretaker at Nitre Hall for 49 years, died on March 8, 1992, at Fair Acres. Mrs. Martin moved to Nitre Hall in 1943 and raised her family there. A tree will be planted on the grounds in her memory.



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SPRING 1992

ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, April 23, 1992

8:00 P.M.

Temple Lutheran Church
Earlington Road & Brookline Boulevard

featuring.....

Haverford Township Historical Society Curator Peg Johnston will present a slide program entitled "Surveying the Present, Preserving the Past." This informative discussion of the houses on the Historical Structures Survey, with its focus on historic houses of Haverford Township, will follow the business meeting.

The following slate of five candidates to fill two year terms on the Board of Directors will be offered for your vote: Mary Courtney, Terri Dougherty, Carl Flinterman, Jeanne Mulcahy, and Betty Stafford.

A report on the summer research projects by Haverford High School student will be presented.

Refreshments and social time will complete the evening. Please contact Barbara Wetzel (789-2462) to provide a treat or to help with clean-up.

...back by popular demand...

...following the huge success of last year...

APPRAISAL DAY and OPEN HOUSE

Nitre Hall and the Lawrence Cabin will be open Saturday, May 2, from 1 to 4 P.M. Mr. Raymond Spiller will be back with us to appraise your antiques and collectibles. Members will be charged \$3 and non-members \$5 for each item appraised. Admission to Nitre Hall and the Cabin will be free on that Saturday, and guides from the Colonial Living Experience will demonstrate spinning, candle making, open hearth cooking, soap making, and other aspects of colonial living. (If you haven't yet seen the Summer Kitchen, this would be a good day to do so.)

ARTIFACTS



This bottle was found at the Federal School during the construction of walkways.

EDUCATIONAL AWARD

Quality Recognized

The Awards Committee of the Pennsylvania Federation of Museums and Historical Organizations has awarded Honorable Mention to the Haverford Township Historical Society for its educational programs.

In addition to the Colonial Living program for all fifth grade township students at Nitre Hall and the Lawrence Cabin, and the Federal School Day for fourth grade students, the Haverford Township Historical Society provides an adult-school course on Haverford Township History, which was taught this year by Peg Johnston and Jeanne Mulcahy.

Students at the Federal School Day this Spring are enjoying new desks, an authentic wood-burning stove, and horn books along with their McGuffey's Readers and penmanship lessons. This successful program is headed by Colonial Living Consultant, Susan Kratzinger. She is assisted by Jane Vadaro and Mary Courtney.

Chris McDougall, who coordinates Volunteer Guides, wishes to thank the following who volunteered in 1991: Peg Johnston, Betty Stellar, Carol Joseph, Neville Ehmann, Mary Courtney, Millicent Phillips, Effie Haven, Gladys Tiss, Betty Stafford, Jean Mulcahy, Terri Dougherty, Mimi Doran, Edith Canon, and Susan Kratzinger.

Guide Training Workshop

Peg Johnston will offer two training sessions for Guides on Saturday, April 4 and Sunday, April 5 at 1 P.M. at Nitre Hall. In order to be as well-informed as possible, new guides and those who have served in the past need to attend one of these sessions. For further information or to register for training, phone Peg Johnston (353-1212).

This year the properties will be open May 2 and 3, June 6 and 7, July 4 and 5, August 1 and 2, and September 5 and 6. Guides are needed for Nitre Hall, the Lawrence Cabin, and the Federal School. Call Chris McDougall (449-4302) to sign up.

HAPPENINGS AT NITRE HALL

Saturday, April 25, is Earth Day -- a fitting day for the Clean-Up of the grounds at Nitre Hall and Lawrence Cabin. Come and help clear away the debris of winter, and see what spring flowers are blooming along the new walkway fence. Call Mary Courtney (789-5169) to volunteer.

"Foot" Notes -- a walk through history. A collection of footwear from white leather wedding boots to shoes from other countries and other times will be the summer-long exhibit at Nitre Hall. If you can contribute footwear -- antique, unique, or curious -- even ice skates, slippers, or snowshoes, call Peg Johnston (353-1212).

DATES TO REMEMBER

Mark Your Calendar

April 4 & 5	Guide Training Workshop
April 23	Annual Meeting
April 25	Spring Clean-Up Day at Nitre Hall and Lawrence Cabin
May 2	Appraisal Day/Colonial Living Demonstration