



H T H S



610-446-7988

HAVERTFORD TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FALL 2001

General Membership Meeting

October 18, 2001

Llanerch Presbyterian Church
Lansdowne and Park Avenues
Havertown, PA
8:00 PM

Topic: History of the Swedish Cabin

Speaker: George Ambrose, writer, teacher, historical re-enactor and Friend of the Swedish Cabin in Upper Darby, will discuss the importance of the log cabin in Colonial times. Our own Lawrence Cabin may be a not-so-distant cousin to the cabin on the Darby. Come, find out what secrets old walls can reveal, and stay for refreshments and conversation.

HTHS Directory Now Available

The New 2001-2003 Membership Directory will be distributed to paid members at the October meeting. Thank you to all those who paid their dues during the last drive. Carol Joseph, Sally Boyer, and Mary Courtney devoted many hours this summer to producing a useful and accurate book. We hope you will find the e-mail addresses a helpful addition to the Directory. ✨

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

2. Arbor Day
2. Calendar of Events /
In Memoriam
3. HTHS in the Community
3. Gifts to the Society
4. Welcome New Members

Welsh Visitors

By Irene Coffey

On Saturday, May 19, 2001, approximately twenty people, who were attending the annual meeting of the National Welsh American Foundation taking place in Philadelphia, took a side trip to visit historic Welsh sites in Haverford Township, including our own Lawrence Cabin as well as the Grange and Old Haverford Meeting House. The group included both Americans of Welsh descent and native Welshmen. The visitors were escorted by Anne Ackerman and Paul Kelley, and were hosted at Lawrence Cabin by Haverford Township Historical Society members Renee Coffey, Vince Snyder, and Ann Wilson.

The visitors were an enthusiastic and attentive group, eager to share their knowledge of Welsh history and traditions. We learned that one room log cabins similar to Lawrence Cabin have not been built in Wales for centuries. Their country had become deforested and could not provide logs for building, so their one room cabins were made of stone.

The Lawrence Cabin has a bed for the parents and a crib for the baby on the first floor. We learned that in Wales, all of the family members would have slept in the loft. At night, the ground floor living area was used by the animals. One visitor speculated that the Lawrence family may have followed the same practice to protect their animals from roaming Indians! Peaceful coexistence with the Indians seemed to surprise him - perhaps he has watched too many American cowboy movies!

Ann Wilson, who assists with the Colonial Living program and the preparation of griddle cakes as part of the noon day meal, was interested in the Welsh cooks' discussion of their griddle cakes. It seems that in Wales, each cook has a slightly different recipe and is jealously proud of her/his creation.

Continued on Page 4.

Arbor Day, 2001

On April 27, members of the Oakmont School Cub Scout Troop, with help from the Haverford Township Public Works Department, planted two maple trees at the Federal School. Two years ago the beautiful dogwood tree on the site died and was cut down. The new saplings were faithfully watered through the dry days and heat of early summer and we hope to see them grow to provide much-appreciated shade to future generations of students and visitors to the 1797 Federal School. Thank you to the Scouts pictured below with Commissioners Jim McGarrity and Rob Trumbull. ♣

Colonial Living

HTHS is ready for another year's program for Haverford Township's fifth graders. New guides, Grace Conran and Catherine Stuart, join veteran guides Barbara Bach, Christine Farrell, Donna Lunny, Vince Snyder, Anne Wilson, and Amy Wolfe. Mary Courtney coordinates the program and always appreciates donations of candle stubs and fat.

Dave Andersen has been most generous over the summer hauling loads of dry fire wood for us to cut into stove-size pieces. He is also making an authentic saw for the program. ♣



Scouts (l to r): Justin Pierce, Paul Benson, Robin Duffy, Bobby Geary, Jeffrey Weathersby, Erin Hennesy, Jon Pickard. Adults: Amy Quinn, Jim McGarrity, Rob Trumbull, Loraine Pierce.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, October 6 – Haverford Township Day.

Stop by the booth at the Skatium. Volunteer to staff the table. Call 610-789-5169 if you can "sit a spell" that day. We usually have a great vantage point to view the parade and we're in the shade!

Friday, October 19 – Jeffords Mansion, Ridley Creek State Park, Media 7 - 9 PM Signing reception for Colonial Plantation watercolor by N. Santoleri.

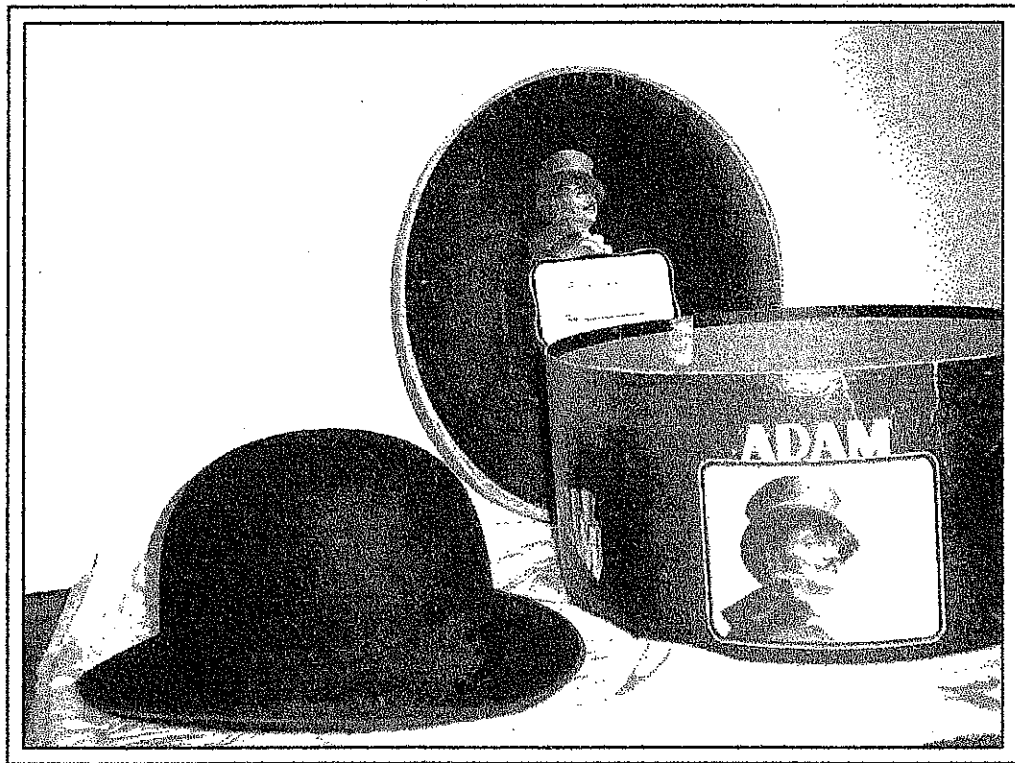
Sunday, December 9 & 16 – Holiday Teas at Nitre Hall. 1 to 4 PM. See highlights of the costume collection which high school senior, Sarah Wolfe has been organizing for her Girl Scout Gold Award.

In Memoriam

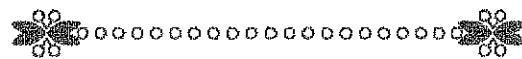
Two former Society presidents died during the past year. They will be greatly missed and long remembered for their many years of membership and service to the Haverford Township Historical Society. A garden bench will be dedicated to their memory and incorporated into the landscape design at Nitre Hall in the spring.

Margaret Johnston – February 28, 2001

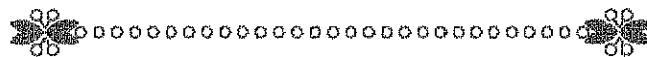
Betty Stellar – June 28, 2001



This hat was worn by Joseph Capozzoli at his wedding
on January 25, 1916,
in Philadelphia;



Presented to Haverford Township Historical Society,
Sep. 20, 2001.
by his daughters:
Mildred Lester, Marie Walker and Virginia McDonald



Born 1893 in Bellosguardo, Italy,
Joseph emigrated to Philadelphia in 1910.
After his death in 1972, his wife,
Mary Capozzoli relocated to Brookline
in Havertown, where she died in 1982.

NOTEPAPER \$4.00 per dozen.

*Nitre Hall, Lawrence Cabin, Grange Estate, Pont Reading, Federal School,
and Haverford Friends' Meeting
by Richard Fanelli (2 of each)*

**Large Scale Map of
EARLY COLONIAL LAND GRANTS
in
HAVERFORD TOWNSHIP
Scale 1" = 100 Perches (550 yds.)
only \$1.50**

**Gift Wrap Paper
with Historical
Scenes
25 cts each, 5 for \$1**

**Nitre Hall Tote Bags
with zipper pocket - \$15
without zipper - \$12**

**Historic Resources
Survey
of 119 Historic Sites in
Haverford Township
by Delaware County Planning Department
\$25**

Set of Six Prints by Richard Fanelli
*Nitre Hall, Lawrence Cabin Grange Estate,
Pont Reading, Federal School, Haverford Friends Meeting*
\$15 Set

**1797 Federal School House
Lintel Ornaments
\$20 each**

**Authentic Colonial Soap Bars
25 cents each
made by Haverford School Students in Colonial Living Experience
at Lawrence Cabin.**

Haverford Township Historical Society, PO Box 825, Havertown, PA 19083

Gift items may be purchased at Society meetings, at Haverford Township Day and at
Nitre Hall.

Orders may also be placed by calling 610.789.5169

HTHS in the Community

By Mary Courtney

If you only see HTHS Board of Directors members at thrice yearly membership meetings, you may wonder what else the board has been up to during the past year. Last September, First Vice President Irene Coffey and President Mary Courtney attended the Tri-States Coalition dinner at beautiful Cairnwood on the grounds of Bryn Athyn Cathedral.

In December Sally Boyer, Mary Courtney, Sue Kratzinger, Carol Joseph, Renee Coffey represented the Society at the Delaware County Historical Society's holiday party at Edgemont Country Club. Also in December, our board can be proud of the gracious teas hosted at Nitre Hall featuring Catherine Levy's famous tea sandwiches and a room filled with priceless antique dolls and furnishings provided by members Jane Al-Mashat and Libby Goodman of the Dollhouse Preservation Society. Board members Carol Joseph, Sally Boyer, Vince Snyder, and Dick and Marie Walker, along with Sue Faccioli and her husband Fred trimmed the house with greens, decorated trees, and lighted candles in the windows.

In March, we hosted the Howard Hathaway Houston Lecture at Haverford College to an enthusiastic and appreciative audience.

Carol Joseph and Mary Courtney attended the Lower Merion HARB Awards at the Merion Tribute Center on a fine May evening. In July, Mary was a guest of the Greater Philadelphia Tourism Marketing Corp. and the Heritage Investment Program at a workshop on "Creating a Welcoming Visitor Experience" presented at the Four Seasons Hotel in Philadelphia.

Curator Carol Joseph, (*pictured at right*) a skilled quilter, represented HTHS at Collen Brook Farm's "Early Days" celebration in June. Bev Rorer, Society member and President of Upper Darby Historical Society, welcomed over 300 guests and historical re-enactors to the former home of Dr. George Smith, author of *The History of Delaware County*.

On Monday, September 24, Carol began teaching three classes on the History of Haverford Township at the Haverford Adult School. The fourth class will be presented by Friends of the Grange.

Many of these events are sponsored by other historical organizations in our community and demonstrate the spirit of cooperation that has developed over the past few years, especially since the Delaware County Historical Society instituted the Council of Local Historical Organizations. There has been a generous sharing of information, sites and "people power". We will continue to inform our membership of local programs and events such as the October 19 Signing Reception for a new watercolor print of the Colonial Plantation by Nicholas Santolero from 7 to 9 PM at the Jeffords Mansion in Ridley Creek State Park, Media. ✨



Carol Joseph at Collen Brook Farm's "Early Days"

Gifts to the Society in 2001

We are especially grateful to members and friends who enriched the Society's collection with these wonderful gifts in 2001.

- ❖ Man's beaver derby in original box from Dick and Marie Walker
- ❖ 18th century blanket chest from Eleanor Sears Fala
- ❖ *The First Three Hundred Years* from the Lower Merion Historical Society
- ❖ Archival supplies from Shirley Silver
- ❖ Walnut skein winder, niddy noddy, drop spindles, and wool and flax for weaving from Dr. Robert Johnston
- ❖ Charleston bench from Aaron Weilly of Home Depot ✨

Visitors...Continued from Page 1

A BBC film crew accompanied the group and recorded Renee Coffey's historical narrative to the guests and also interviewed Renee while Ann and Vince mingled with the guests and answered questions. The interviewer expressed curiosity about the existence of roads, the ease of travel in the area, and the availability of game animals. The film footage and interview with Renee will become part of a documentary on Welsh television. We have been promised a copy for our Archives.

The visitors' schedule did not permit a long stay. Apparently, it was hard to keep them on time because, true to their reputation, they took frequent song breaks! However, they did manage a quick tour of Nitre Hall with Vince Snyder. ❁

WWII Poster Discovered

Kevin Coyle has found a poster of the Haverford Township Civil Defense Council. It lists names of the officers and staff. You can see it at the October 18th General Membership Meeting. ❁

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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Welcome New Members

Jane Almashat
John Baker
Mr. and Mrs. John Sharpless Garrigues
Vincent and Kate Horn
Eleanor Jenkins
Bob and Laurie Keech
Paul and Patricia Kelley
Joe Kozak
Carol A. McDonald
Ruth Noble
Betty Parsons
Jay Quinn
Katherine A. Vanni
John J. Zaccaria

