



The Haverford Herald

The newsletter of the Haverford Township Historical Society

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Historical Society Annual Meeting Thursday, April 17, 7:30pm, Grange Estate

The annual meeting of the Haverford Township Historical Society begins with a brief business meeting and board member elections. After the meeting our guest speaker, Dr. George Boudreau, will take the floor. Refreshments will follow. Members as well as guests are welcome to attend.

"Independence Square : America's Birthplace" Dr. Boudreau's presentation looks at the place we think of as Independence Hall and the square that surrounds it. We will explore the hall's location, appearance and how it's creation reflects the culture and society of 18th century Pennsylvania. The presentation recounts how these spaces were used by the people of Philadelphia to proclaim their independence. Many familiar and unfamiliar biographies flesh out the story, including those of William Penn, Benjamin Franklin, George Washington.

Dr. Boudreau is an Associate Professor of History & Humanities at Penn State University-Harrisburg. He has taught early American history for over 20 years with a particular emphasis on physical spaces and material culture, the transformation of early Philadelphia's culture, and the life and writings of Benjamin Franklin. He has spoken to patriotic, heritage and historical organizations, and has lectured for Philadelphia's Elderhostel Program. He was the Director of the Powel House museum from 1996-1998.



This presentation is a program of the Pennsylvania Humanities Council supported in part by The National Endowment for the Humanities

UPCOMING EVENTS:

April 17, 2014
Spring Membership Mtg
Speaker Dr. George Boudreau
7:30pm, The Grange

June 1, 2014
Historical Society's
8th Annual Heritage Festival
11am to 4pm, Karakung Drive

October 10, 2014
Oktoberfest Fundraiser
and Silent Auction
7pm, Nitre Hall

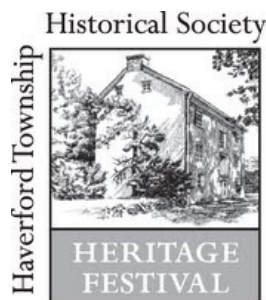
November 20, 2014
General Membership Meeting
7:30p (stay tuned for details)

December 7, 2014
Holiday Open House Tour
1 to 4:30pm

The Historical Society's 8th Annual Heritage Festival

Sunday, June 1, 2014; 11am - 4pm

Join us along beautiful, scenic Karakung Drive as we join together to celebrate our historic heritage. Enjoy many favorite activities:



- Tours of historic Nitre Hall and Lawrence Cabin
- Pony Rides
- Bands & Musical Entertainment
- Handmade Craft Vendors & Original Artisans
- Historic, Civic & Community Organization Fair
- Historic Society Info & Membership Opportunities
- Historic Displays and Re-enactors
- Beer Tent
- Food & Refreshment Vendors
- Antique Car Show

*Don't miss this event; fun for the entire family!
Come out and help us to **protect, preserve and promote our historic heritage.***

Conservation Assessment Program Report

by Irene Coffey

In 2013, the HTHS received a Conservation Assessment Program (CAP) grant, which enabled us to engage the services of two professional consultants to survey our buildings and historic collections and make recommendations for improvements.

The consultants Michael Henry (Engineer and Architect of Watson & Henry Associates) and Susan Duhl (Art Conservation and Collections Consultant) identified several key strengths. First, they commended the commitment, professional background, and length of service of key board members as well as the dedication of our all-volunteer staff. They also praised our successful public and educational events and our locally relevant archival and library collections. In addition, they recognized the significance of the historic structures we administer (Lawrence Cabin, Nitre Hall, and Federal School) and appreciated their use as educational resources.

Areas of concern were also identified, specifically: we are under-resourced in finances, time, institutional business practices, and the number of active volunteers. The consultants were particularly concerned that the interior condition of Nitre Hall failed to provide an optimal environment for the building, the collections, and the occupants. A significant moisture problem at the Federal School also caused alarm. These problems can be rectified with professional guidance and a financial investment. Further, the consultants strongly recommended re-examining our use of space in Nitre Hall and our approach to storing our historic three-dimensional and archival collections in order to improve access and better preserve the collections.

In order to implement the CAP report's recommendations, the Board will be looking for ways to raise additional revenue, recruit more members, and engage a larger number of volunteers to assist with specific projects. Stay tuned for exciting volunteer opportunities!

Holiday House Tour Volunteer Appreciation

A HUGE thank you is due to all of the Holiday House Tour hosts, docents and volunteers who braved blizzard like conditions to serve at this annual fundraising event. Thank you also to those members and guests who toured the homes even in such difficult and snowy conditions. Please stay tuned for information about next year's event. We look forward to immensely better weather.

With sincerest thanks, Terri Dougherty, *Holiday House Tour Coordinator*

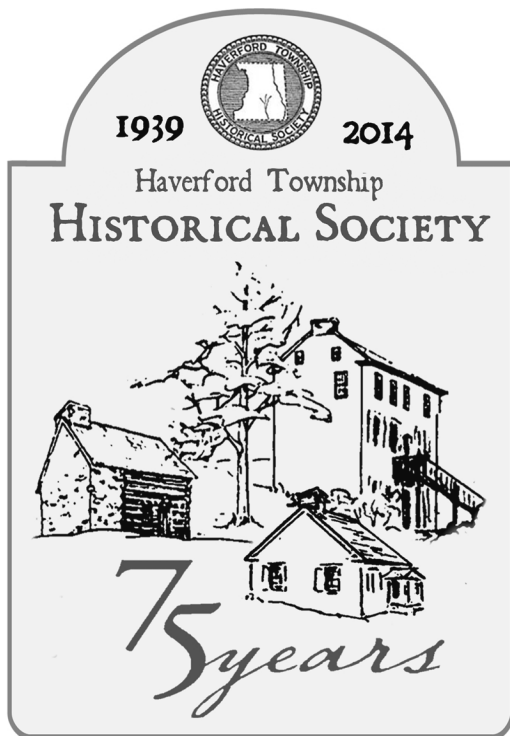


Thank you to the Friend family of Havertown for opening their beautifully decked-out holiday home for the house tour and for sharing these photographs.

Haverford Township Historical Society's 75th Anniversary

by Rich Kerr

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the Haverford Township Historical Society! We were founded in 1939. Haverford's historical society preceded the formation of similar organizations in neighboring townships: Radnor in 1947 and Lower Merion in 1949. We have been working to fulfill our mission statement, "to protect, preserve and promote the history of our community," since that time.



More Anniversary News

The year 2014 also marks several other significant anniversaries for our community. The Brookline Fire Company is celebrating its centennial. In reading the history section on their website, I was shocked to learn that their formation meeting in October, 1914 was held in the house in Brookline where I later grew up, and that house at one time had a different street number!

This year also marks the 225th anniversary of the creation of Delaware County, as it was split out from Penn's original Chester County in 1789. Expect to hear more about this occasion during the year, as plans develop to mark its celebration.



The Historical Society Needs Your Help

Heritage Festival Volunteers

Food Vendors, Artisan Vendors, Heritage Festival Event Volunteers (MANY positions available)

- [Look for vendor forms on the EVENTS tab on our website now](#)
- Look for an event volunteer signup link on our website.

Historical Society General Volunteers

We can use your help in a HUGE variety of ways. If you have ANY of the following skills, talents or areas of expertise contact us: website design, technology, social media, fundraising, grant writing, building, legal knowledge, writing, research, organizational management, finance, insurance, conservation etc...

WE ARE ALWAYS looking for willing volunteers to do heavy lifting, grounds improvement, gardening, event planning, cooking, cleaning, docent work, stuffing envelopes, communication, etc... If you have a will to help, we'll find the best place to put you to work! EMAIL US TODAY!

Financial Donors

Have you wished you could support the historical society in a more tangible financial way? You can! We accept donations in kind as well as donations to fund or support a particular project. Contact us and we'll help you to help us.

NEW Members

The Historical Society is always happy to have new members join us. To become a member for the first time or to renew your membership, you can sign up on our website and pay online via PayPal. You can also mail your check to our PO Box, details on the website. Contact us to see if your membership is current. Encourage your friends and neighbors to join us as well.

DID YOU KNOW? The Historical Society is happy to accept high school and college volunteers. We will sign letters of Community Service for students who volunteer with us. Ask about the Historical Society's intern programs. The Heritage Festival is also happy to have high school /college helpers.

HTHS Board of Directors

Officers

Vince Snyder:	President
Irene Coffey:	Vice President, Librarian
John Coyne:	Secretary
Amy Wolfe:	Treasurer, Education Coordinator
Carolyn Joseph:	Curator

Members at Large

Erica Deuschle:	Program Director, Historical Commission Liaison
Terri Dougherty:	Holiday House Tour Coordinator
Sherrie Jenkins:	Haverford Herald Editor
Richard Kerr:	Society Researcher, Haverford Heritage Trail Liaison
Donna Lunny:	Publicity Director
Chris Whiting:	Buildings and Grounds Supervisor

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