



The Haverford Herald

www.haverfordhistoricalsociety.org

Upcoming Events:

October 19

HTHS General Meeting @ HTFL,
6:30 PM

"A History of The School District
of Haverford Township" @ HTFL,
7:00 PM

October 30

"The Railroad, Reserve and Darby
Creek" @ CREC
1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

December 11

Holiday House Tour
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

June 4

HTHS Heritage Festival
11:00 AM to 4:00 PM

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HTHS FALL MEETING

Wednesday, October 19

6:30 PM

@ Haverford Twp. Free Library

Haverford Township Historical Society members are encouraged to attend our General Meeting on Wednesday, **October 19, 2016** at 6:30 PM, downstairs at the **Haverford Township Free Library**.

The meeting is being held ahead of the

7 PM public presentation of "**A History of The School District of Haverford Township.**" The meeting will include brief reports on Historical Society activities. Please join us!



"A HISTORY OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF HAVERFORD TOWNSHIP"

Wednesday, October 19

(FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!)

7:00 PM @ Haverford Twp. Free Library

The annual Fall meeting of the Haverford Township Historical Society begins with a brief business meeting. After the meeting our guest speaker, **Blu Taylor**, will take the floor. Blu has lived in Havertown his entire life, 34 years. He attended Haverford Twp. public schools, including Lynnewood Elementary. He has been employed by the School District for 17 years starting at the high school and moving to the central offices 11 years ago. While he is the District Technician and WebMaster, he also holds the unofficial title of "district

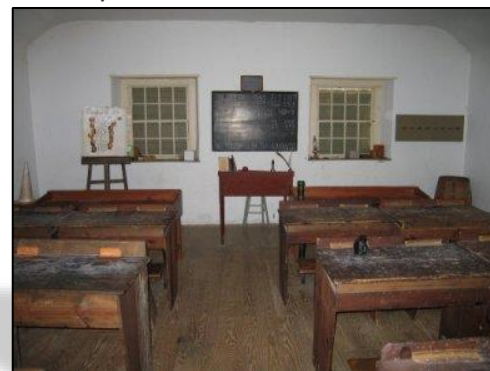


Blu Taylor

The presentation, "A History of the School District of Haverford Township" will cover the history of our township's school system, starting with the first recorded land purchase made for educational purposes in 1797 and continuing through recent capital improvement projects. Come share in the history that created the School District of Haverford Township.

Particular attention will be given to the history of and changes that have

occurred to district buildings. The presentation includes many photographs of the district through time. This event is open to the public! Please come and see what the Historical Society is about! **Join us!**



Inside the 1797 Federal School

Eagle Scout Projects

by Amy Wolfe

Two recent Eagle Scout projects have greatly improved and enhanced walkways at both Nitre Hall and the Federal School.

On a rainy April Saturday, Boy Scout Robert Phillips of Troop 144 and dozens of volunteers rebuilt the stairs leading from the lower Nitre Hall parking area up the hill to just outside Lawrence Cabin. The landings were leveled and graded, additional steps were added, railings improved, and lighting installed. The new stairs are safer, more functional, and more attractive.



Robert Phillips Troop 144
(right)



Scout Thomas Donnelly of Troop 144 completed his Eagle project on July 9th at the Federal School. Thomas and his group of volunteers laid a cobblestone walkway from the Federal School parking area leading to the school building, and breaking off to the "necessary." They also raised the sunken entry stone outside the necessary, and rebuilt the steps leading to the utility room. Two original cobblestones from Darby Road were included in the walkway. The new walkway allows visitors access to both the Federal School and the necessary without having to walk in wet or muddy grass.

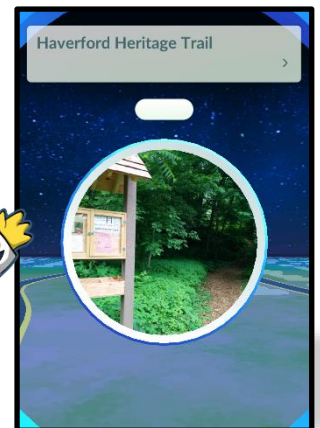
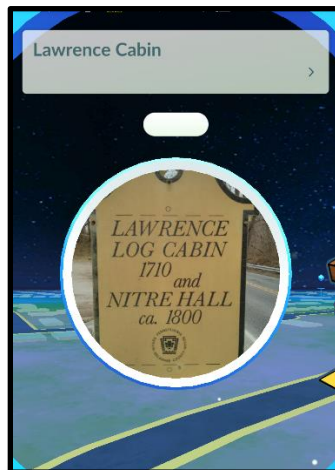


Tom Donnelly Troop 144

Are you "On the GO"? HTHS and Pokémon Go!

by Aidan Kirkland

There are two Pokéstops at "the Lawrence Cabin" and "the Haverford Heritage Trail" down on Karakung Drive! These "Pokéstops" are stations at which players can pick up items. Items include varying devices used to capture and fight Pokémon. If you are "on the GO", take a stroll over to Lawrence Cabin and pick up some Pokémon swag to help you capture some Pokémon! Try using a lure module to capture WILD POKEMON!



HAV-A-RAIN GARDEN Program Digs in at Nitre Hall

by Amy Wolfe

The Haverford Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC), led by Peter Puglionesi and fueled by Society volunteers, Master Gardeners and members of the Rain Garden Committee, installed a Rain Garden at Nitre Hall, next to the flag pole adjacent to the walkway from the lower parking lot. The muddy, backbreaking, but fulfilling work began in late spring, and was completed during the Heritage Festival on June 5th.

The Hav-a-Rain Garden Program is an initiative to build 100 new rain gardens in ten years to enhance the township's waterways, reduce flooding and preserve infrastructure. The project is funded by grants from the Water Resources Education Network and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.



A rain garden captures water and gradually allows it to soak into the ground, reducing the burden on storm water systems. The Nitre Hall garden collects water from the downspout coming from the building. The plants in the garden purify the water by absorbing harmful pollutants, as well as enhance the natural beauty of the site. Plantings in the Nitre Hall Rain Garden include American Columbine, Blue Wood Aster, Blue Flag Iris, Cardinal Flower, Sensitive Fern, Woodland Phlox, Black Eyed Susan and Foam Flower.

During site prep volunteers discovered the remnants of an old stone wall. Those stones now form the wall around the garden. Pottery and china shards were also recovered, and will become part of the Society's collection.



HTHS thanks sponsors of the 2016 Heritage Festival. We couldn't do it without you!

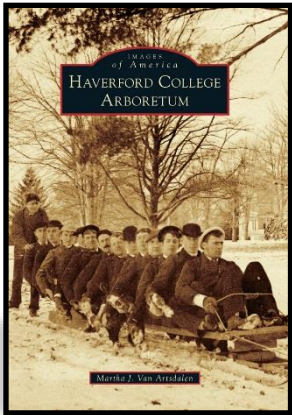
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Tot Cart
Wagner Real Estate
Erica Deuschle REALTOR

The Artifactori
Brew Your Own Beer
Merje Design
Sir Speedy Havertown



New Local History Book - "Haverford College Arboretum" by Rich Kerr

Recently released is a new history covering the renowned arboretum that is part and parcel of the Haverford College campus, which is predominantly in Haverford Township. "**Haverford College Arboretum**" by Martha J. Van Artsdalen details the history, evolution and influence of Haverford's arboretum and also the specialized "pinetum" of pine species. Van Artsdalen is highly qualified to address and present this topic, being both the arboretum's plant curator and a past newspaper editor.



Martha J. Van Artsdalen

The book has a familiar look, being part of the large "Images of America" paperback series published by Arcadia Publishing. It joins previous Arcadia titles, including our Society's own "Haverford Township" (2003) and Stephen Edgcumbe's "West Chester Pike" (2012), in presenting aspects of Haverford Township's local history. The familiar format is mostly photographic and visual, with substantive captions to fill in the details.

If you are a fan of our local history, you should read this book and add it to your library. It is available in bookshops and online at Amazon.

Remember to use AMAZON SMILE and Amazon will make a small donation to the Historical Society from your purchase on their site! It's easy for you to do and costs you NOTHING! We would appreciate the help!

https://smile.amazon.com/Haverford-College-Arboretum-Images-America/dp/1467115916/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1475157362&r=8-1&keywords=artsdalen

HISTORICAL SOCIETY SEEKING A CURATOR

Currently, the Society is seeking a volunteer curator/s to work with the Board of Directors to manage the artifact, photographic, and archival collections which date from the early 18th century to the present.

Qualifications:

- Previous curatorial or collections management experience is required
- Meticulous attention to detail
- Ability to work independently or collaboratively
- Knowledge of computer software programs such as Microsoft Word and Excel
- Competency in PastPerfect and an interest in history desirable, but the Society is willing to provide PastPerfect training
- Residency in Haverford Township preferred but not required

Responsibilities:

- Researching specific artifacts to ensure accurate identification and authentication
- Processing acquisitions through digital photography and database entry
- Reviewing current records to ensure standardization in record-keeping and adherence to current museum practices
- Assessing the condition of artifacts and identifying and prioritizing conservation needs
- Maintaining records of objects borrowed and loaned
- Working actively with the Board to reorganize and rehouse the collections
- Assisting with locating and selecting objects for display in temporary exhibits, and with preparing exhibition labels.

Other:

- Flexible schedule
- Open to a retired curator/collection manager or to a candidate currently enrolled in or recently graduated from an undergraduate or graduate program in museum studies

Application:

- Please send a resumé or letter of interest to info@haverfordhistoricalsociety.org
 - Put CURATOR in the subject line
-

Penfield Civic Association, Haverford Township Bureau of Police Join "Haverford 100" Club

by Rich Kerr

Last issue we added Temple Lutheran Church and Union Methodist Church to the growing list of township "institutions" that have been around for a century or more. Here are two more for 2016, bringing the total to 23 organizations. Congratulations to the Penfield Civic Association for making the "century mark." It is the oldest civic association in the township.

Also reaching its centennial is the Haverford Township Bureau of Police. It dates back to 1916, following Haverford's incorporation in 1912 as a "first class" township under a Pennsylvania statute passed in 1910 which gave local township governments additional powers of self-governance from the state. Haverford's two township supervisors were replaced by a board of commissioners, as we have today. The first commissioners were soon very busy adopting roads and coordinating previously unheard-of things like streetlights, fire hydrants, sewers and utility placement. There were no hard-paved roads, parks, rubbish collection, fire companies, zoning or building requirements.

All of these aspects of local government had to be launched as the township's population began to soar, and in 1916 the township replaced its solitary constable with a "night watch and police force." The year 1916 was also the year the township approved the construction of its administration and service buildings at present-day 2325 Darby Road, when the township's population was one-tenth of its present size.

We have placed the updated draft list on our website.



Completion of Small Arms Instruction Course. Police officers receiving certificates of completion of a "Basic Course in Small Arms Instruction" 1955

The file [HTHS Haverford Township Institutions.pdf](#) can be found under "Historical References" in the "Downloads" section of the website. If you think you have any additions or corrections, please contact us.

Upcoming 2016 Holiday House Tour

The ninth annual HTHS Holiday House Tour is scheduled for December 11th from 1:00pm– 4:00pm. As always we will be showcasing homes spanning the 19th and 20th centuries. Add this event to your holiday calendar!

Call Terri Dougherty at 610-449-1571 for questions. Tickets can be purchased the day of the event or in advance via PAYPAL.



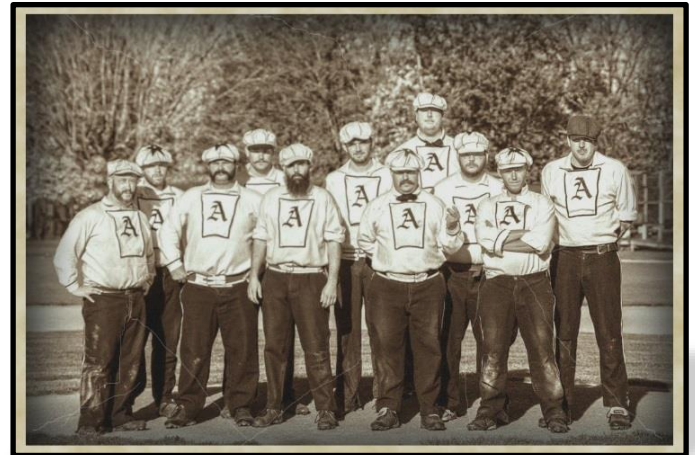
Nitre Hall

19th Century Base Ball Exhibition

by Tim "English" Rinehart

On September 17 and 18, 2016, the Athletic Base Ball Club of Philadelphia held its most recent 19th Century Base Ball Exhibition at the Philadelphia Navy Yard. 16 teams were in attendance from 8 states (Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Maryland, Maine, Colorado, Delaware and Virginia) and played 23 games of 1864 base ball over a two day period. Spectators from all around the Philadelphia area were in attendance for the weekend.

This year's Exhibition included a "Picked Nine" all-star game – the first of its kind in the Mid-Atlantic Vintage Base Ball Association. The two teams were formed by all the participating teams' captains, each captain selecting two-three all stars from their respective clubs, who were then split between two teams, Stars and Stripes. It was an exciting match and the Stars beat the Stripes, 9-8.



Athletic Base Ball Club of Philadelphia



Pictured right:

Steve "Loveseat" Couch, Captain of the Athletic Base Ball Club, holding one of the four golden trophy balls won on that day by the Athletic.



In addition, the Athletic played in five matches that weekend and won four – a great achievement for the club, which was founded in 2009 and has been organizing the 19th Century Base Ball Exhibition since 2011. The club has one more home game scheduled for the 2016 season – October 8th in Fairmount Park (Memorial Field near the Smith Memorial Arch) at 12pm. Athletic will end their season on the road, October 15th.

"The Athletic were communicating well and locked in as a team," said club president, Dan "Victory" Gordon, "There's nothing more fun to watch than a group of ball players working together toward a victory against stiff competition, especially when it culminates in a record-breaking winning streak!"

Vintage base ball is a recreation of base ball as it would've been played in 1864 – with no gloves, balls caught on a bounce for an out, and fast athletic play. The Athletic Base Ball Club of Philadelphia plays clubs from around the tri-state area from April to October, and more information about the club can be found at <http://phillyvintagebaseball.org>.

Please take a moment to remit your 2016 Historical Society Membership Dues.

Your ongoing support allows us to continue our efforts to preserve and promote local history in our community! Individual Membership: \$15, Household Membership: \$25, Contributing Organization: \$40
Send your check made payable to "HTHS" to PO Box 825, Havertown, PA 19083
A dues form was included in this mailing

Recent Acquisitions - by Rich Kerr

Through a combination of donations and targeted efforts, the Society has recently acquired a number of interesting items:

1. We have purchased a unique Willson "Identograph" Model 150 camera, a postwar product of an inventor/manufacturer once located at 1395 Lawrence Road, Havertown. The camera is a specialized box camera designed for taking a large number of photos of school students or for employee passes, badges and employment files. Thomas C. Willson, Sr. (1877-1955), the inventor and manufacturer, lived in the 1899 "Woodleigh" estate house, built by Frederick Leighton Paddock, which afterward fell into disrepair and was demolished, its land being added to Paddock Farms Park. The only other known Willson "Identograph" camera preserved is at the Smithsonian Institution.

2. Thanks to Deb and Mike Lenert, the Society now has two additional flat-file cabinets, second-hand from Mike's employer. These have joined the one larger flat-file cabinet in our Nitre Hall Map Room, which volunteers have been busy organizing and reconfiguring at our Tuesday work sessions.



Nitre Hall-Map Room with New Flat Files

3. Carl Stratton has donated research information and posters from a Society annual meeting presentation given by his mother Claire Stratton in 2003. These cover the Babies Hospital of Philadelphia's Llanerch Branch (1915-1938), which was located on Manoa Road.

4. Mary Boas Hayes has donated seven maps that belonged to her father. They were produced by the U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Public Roads in 1946. Six of them cover Pennsylvania in six parts, with the seventh map specific to Philadelphia and vicinity.

5. We have bought for our collection a late 1920's Atwater Kent Model 40 radio receiver and a matching separate Atwater Kent E-series speaker. A. Atwater Kent, owner of the company, which was the most prominent in the early days of "wireless" radio, made multiple fortunes on early electric technology inventions and products. His mansion was at the western end of Ardmore Avenue in Haverford Township. He also owned and preserved an amazing 900 contiguous acres of open space in northwest Haverford and eastern Marple townships, including today's Haverford Reserve property.



Atwater Kent E-series Speaker at Nitre Hal

FIND US ONLINE!

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Haverford.Historical

Flickr: www.flickr.com/haverfordhistorical

Twitter: [@HaverfordHist](https://twitter.com/HaverfordHist)

10th Annual Heritage Festival along Karakung Drive –

Another **SUCCESS** thanks to you!

The 2016 Historical Society's Heritage Festival was a great success, despite the apocalyptic weather forecast



While we were supposed to have received buckets and buckets of rain, thunder, hail, lightning and possible tornados, we received nary a drop!

We were proud to host many of Haverford Township's community organizations as well as local artisans and crafters who were on hand to display and sell their work. Many thanks to those who braved the (non) storm and came on out to a beautiful day. We will be back next June 4th 2017, with another wonderful event. We have some new things we are going to try, so stay tuned!



Do you have any ideas on how to make the festival better? PLEASE let us know!

Email us at festival@haverfordhistoricalsociety.org!

Send your comments and suggestions for this newsletter to us at info@haverfordhistoricalsociety.org
Editor - John Kirkland



HAVERFORD TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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