



The Haverford Herald

www.haverfordhistoricalsociety.org



Look inside for more about this year's Heritage Festival on Sunday, June 5 from 11 to 4 PM!

Upcoming Events:

April 20

HTHS Annual Meeting @ HTFL, 6:30 PM

"The Penn Museum: Philadelphia Roots, International Branches" @ HTFL, 7 PM

June 5

HTHS Heritage Festival 11 AM to 4 PM

September 17 & 18

Vintage Base Ball Exhibition @ The Navy Yard

October 7

Oktoberfest @ Nitre Hall 7 PM – 10 PM

December 11

Holiday House Tour

Various (p. 7)

Nitre Hall Open House dates

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HTHS ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, April 20

6:30 PM

@ Haverford Twp. Free Library

Haverford Township Historical Society members are encouraged to attend our

Annual Meeting on Wednesday, **April 20, 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 "The Penn Museum: Philadelphia Roots, International Branches." The meeting will include brief reports on Historical Society activities and the election of board members. Please join us!



"THE PENN MUSEUM: PHILADELPHIA ROOTS, INTERNATIONAL BRANCHES"

Wednesday, April 20

(FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!)

7:00 PM @ Haverford Twp. Free Library

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, **Eric W. Schnittke**, will take the floor. Due to the expected popularity of this presentation, we will be using the Library's downstairs community room.

Eric W. Schnittke has been an archivist with the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology for five years. Prior to his employment at Penn, he worked at the Ohio Historical Society and Bucks County Community College. Eric and his wife, Maureen, have lived in Havertown since 2013, welcoming their son Cormac in 2014.

The presentation, "The Penn Museum: Philadelphia Roots, International Branches" will cover the rise of a truly Philadelphian institution to a global academic mainstay. The meeting will include brief reports on Historical Society activities and the election of board members. Refreshments will follow. Members as well as guests are welcome to attend. This event is open to the public! Please come and see what the Historical Society is about! **Please join us!**



Carolyn & Dan Joseph

With fondness and much gratitude for many years of faithful service the Board of the Haverford Township Historical Society bids farewell to Carolyn Joseph. Carolyn will be retiring from the Board this April, on which she has served since the 1980s.

Throughout her tenure with the Society Carolyn has participated in many and varied activities. From grant writing to teaching the Adult School course, from working as a Colonial Living guide to putting her culinary talents to good use as resident chef for the Heritage Festival volunteer after-party, Carolyn has done it all. She has served as president, vice president, recording secretary and, most recently, as curator.

The job of curator involves dealing with IT as well as collection management. Carolyn attended workshops and trainings to become proficient in the PastPerfect curatorial program, creating the first computerized database of our holdings. She dealt with artifact acquisition, cleaning, photographing, cataloging and housing, as well as the care and scanning of our many historic documents. Any HTHS photo viewed on-line is available thanks to Carolyn's tireless work.

Carolyn did not, however, serve the Society alone. Her husband, Dan, also volunteered for many years,

offering his skills in carpentry, gardening, furniture moving and vermin abatement - "Mice are my specialty!" He was a presence at open houses, Heritage Festivals, Oktoberfests and various fund raising and social events, always with a cheerful smile and pleasant word.

Carolyn's comprehensive knowledge of our collection specifically, and local history in general, has been an enormous asset to the Society.

It should be noted that Carolyn is not a Haverford Township resident. She is, however, a resident in spirit, and thus, at least to the Haverford Township Historical Society, an honorary Haverford Township resident. The Board offers many thanks and best wishes to Carolyn and Dan as they take on new adventures.



Carolyn and Dan Joseph

Bob Klinger - Thoughtfully Remembered

The Haverford Township Historical Society sadly announces the death of Bob Klinger on January 18, 2016. Bob had a passion for history, and was a long time volunteer for the Massey House in Broomall, where he was the blacksmith-in-residence. With a portable forge Bob demonstrated his blacksmithing skills at the Heritage Festival for quite a few years, both delighting and informing his enthusiastic audiences.



Bob Klinger

**HTHS thanks
sponsors of the 2015
Heritage Festival.
We couldn't do it
without you!**

**The Artfactori
Brew Your Own Beer
Hoopty's Pizza
Merje Design
Vernalicious
Wagner Real Estate**

“Colonial Living” Staff Visit Philadelphia Historic Sites

In the interest of becoming reacquainted with some famous historic sites, learning more about colonial history in Philadelphia, and having a good time, several current and former members of the Colonial Living staff ventured into the city on a cold January 21st. The intrepid team visited **Christ Church, Elfreth’s Alley, Independence Hall, Carpenter’s Hall and Franklin’s Square**. Lunch was enjoyed at City Tavern, where Chef Walter Staib, upon learning of the nature of the work performed in the Colonial Living Program, paid the

group a visit and gifted them with mop caps and dvd’s about the restaurant. Staff in attendance included Donna Lunny, Bev Rorer, Sarah Farnsworth, Hazel Delikatny, Marilisa Patten and Program Coordinator Amy Wolfe.

**VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHT...John Berberian**

Though his name may not be familiar to most Historical Society members, the work of John Berberian most likely is. John has been using the fallen trees found in Powder Mill Valley Park to design and construct the unique rustic benches that can be found around the outside of Nitre Hall, and along the Heritage Trail. The benches provide a welcome place to sit and rest, or simply enjoy the scenery.

Each bench John produces is entirely individual. He explains, “with fine furniture it’s cookie cutter, with trees every one is different. Nothing is the same twice.” Varying in length, height and width, each bench retains the character of the tree in its bark, knots and shape. Working all year round, John uses power and hand tools, and is currently trying something new by designing and building a rustic armchair.



John Berberian

John’s woodworking hobby began some 50 years ago, with home projects. He first started working in metal, then turned to wood. He began building his benches about eight years ago during the construction of the Haverford Heritage Trail. John also generously rebuilt the badly deteriorated park bench located along the walkway outside Lawrence Cabin, and has prepared wood for use by students in the Colonial Living Program.

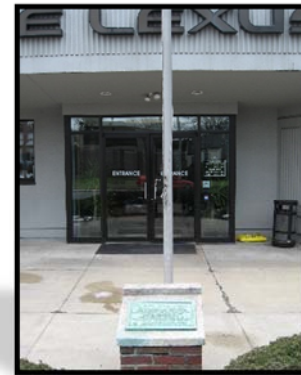
John is currently a chemistry professor at St. Joseph’s University, from which he will soon retire. His career as an educator and researcher also included time at the University of Pennsylvania and Brown University. He has been the recipient of four National Science Foundation grants. Where his research is concerned, John says working with his hands provides what he calls “creative therapy.” “It clears the mind to come up with research ideas.” In addition, he says, “you recycle your energy and put it back in society. It’s exercise, and somebody benefits.”

We certainly do!

Buck Tavern Historical Plaque Still Exists

by Rich Kerr

Recently I gave my talk on the Haverford Heritage Trail at the CREC building at Haverford Reserve. After it ended, I was talking with some people who had attended. One couple informed me that an historic plaque, which I had mentioned had been placed on the old Buck Tavern by the Daughters of the American Revolution, still existed, over fifty years after the building had been demolished. Sure enough, it stands in front of Wilkie Lexus on Lancaster Avenue, reminding one and all of this historic site.



As a result, I have updated the article, "George Washington Slept Here – In Haverford," on the HTHS website. It tells the interesting history of this place. (Go to www.haverfordhistoricalsociety.org, then go to "Downloads & Multimedia," click on "Downloads" and scroll down to the article name.)

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
-

Temple Lutheran, Union Methodist Join “Haverford 100” Club

by Rich Kerr

Several years ago there was a celebration of institutions that had been in existence for 100 years or more in the Lower Merion section of Bryn Mawr. It inspired me to try to create a similar list of long-lived institutions in Haverford Township. (Pop quiz: *What is the oldest institution in Haverford?* Answer below. Hint: Somewhat a trick question.)

While I can't guarantee my list is complete, I can state that with two new entries joining in 2016, there are at least 20 such institutions. This year we can congratulate two Brookline churches: Temple Lutheran Church and Union United Methodist Church (originally named “Brookline Methodist Episcopal Church” and later “Union Methodist Church in Brookline”). Interestingly, both of these churches grew out of the Brookline Union Sunday School, begun in the early days of the development of the Brookline neighborhood. These meetings took place at the old Cobbs Creek School on Lewis Road (still there on renamed Earlington Road – see Haverford Heritage Trail <http://hht.havtrail.com/siteB1.htm>).



Brookline Methodist postcard



Temple Lutheran postcard - 1983

What is our oldest Haverford institution? It's the Township of Haverford itself, established by William Penn in 1682.

We have placed the whole draft list on our website. 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.

2015 Holiday House Tour a Success

The 9th annual Holiday House Tour in December 2015 was our most successful to date. I would like to thank all the volunteers that made this event possible. The homeowners did an amazing job showcasing their homes. Preparations for the 10th annual House tour have begun. Stay tuned.

The next Holiday House Tour 2016 will be December 11, so mark your calendars!



Nitre Hall

1832 SPRINGFIELD MUSKET by Irene Coffey

This gun was manufactured in 1832 by the Springfield Armory in Springfield, Massachusetts for use by the United States Armed Forces. In its original configuration, it was a .69 caliber, single shot, smooth bore, round barrel, flintlock muzzleloader. Springfield muskets were first produced in the United States in 1795, copying the French Model 1763 Charleville Musket used extensively during the American Revolution. This 1832 musket's design was a variant of the 1816 and 1822 models. The gun is 58 inches long and originally weighed about 10 pounds.



All guns made for use by the U.S. armed forces were carefully inspected before being issued to soldiers. Each part of the gun – the stock, the barrel, the lock plate, etc. – had a separate inspector, each with his own mark. A military inspector's mark, or cartouche, signified that the gun had passed inspection. So, among many other marks, this gun bears the initials "LS" on the stock and "L1" on the trigger plate. It is also stamped "Spring Field 1832" and "US" on the lock plate. Using the cartouches, it's possible to identify the period when each part was produced because the dates of service for each inspector were recorded.



Nothing is known of this gun's early history. Given its date of manufacture, it could have been used in the Mexican American War or in the American Civil War, perhaps by a Confederate soldier as many of them used older model Springfield muskets. Its use in battle might have motivated an early modification from a flintlock to a percussion firing mechanism. Flintlocks were likely to misfire in wet weather.

If the gun was used by a Union soldier, it's possible that it used black powder produced by the Nitre Hall Powder Mill, which was in existence from 1810 – 1840.

At some point, the gun ceased to be used as a military weapon and was modified to become a hunting shotgun. The stock was cut back by almost two thirds, exposing much of the ramrod and reducing the musket's weight by close to two pounds. The barrel was thinned so it could accept pellets rather than a musket ball making it more effective for hunting. And for some reason the front sight was filed off. The gun had transitioned from a weapon for killing men to an instrument for providing food to maintain life. While no longer of interest to collectors, the cracks, dents, modifications, and overall wear testify to a long and useful life.

In its more recent history, the gun was owned by Clarence M. Hepp, formerly from Norwalk, Ohio, and father-in-law of Vince Snyder, past President of the Haverford Township Historical Society and the musket's donor. The Historical Society is very happy to add this 1832 Springfield Musket to its collection as an example of one of the many uses of the black powder manufactured here in Haverford Township by the Nitre Hall mill.

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

Upcoming Events

WEAVING - Heritage Festival Sneak Peek

Thanks to the generosity and enthusiasm of Barbara Parman, experienced weaver and history buff, this year's Heritage Festival will include weaving demonstrations and a short program on weaving mill history. Working primarily at Senior Centers, Mrs. Parman teaches six weaving classes throughout Delaware, Montgomery, and Philadelphia counties.



Barbara Parman

Mrs. Parman has put back in working order the Historical Society's 4 harness Devereaux Mansion Loom previously refurbished by Carolyn Joseph and her daughter. This type of loom was developed and used in residential programs for the handicapped between 1912 and 1936

It can handle three weaving patterns, and you'll see these patterns demonstrated in the 3rd floor Textile Room of Nitre Hall during the Heritage Festival. There will also be a short video showing a working power loom similar to the ones used in Dennis Kelly's mills on Cobbs Creek. Hands-on exhibits include using a tape loom from an 18th century design.

Mrs. Parman would love to share her enthusiasm for weaving with you so bring your interest and your questions.

Athletic Base Ball Club of Philadelphia

presents *Vintage Base Ball Exhibition*

When: **Sat. 09/17 & Sun. 09/18 11am – 4pm**

Where: **The Navy Yard, Philadelphia**

The Athletics will be hosting 10 teams playing 1864 style base ball with teams from the Mid-Atlantic Vintage Base Ball League. This event is free. More information about this event on the Athletics web site: www.phillyvintagebaseball.org

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Wednesday, April 20, 2016

6:30 PM @ Haverford Twp. Free Library

HTHS presents...

“The Penn Museum: Philadelphia Roots, International Branches”

(open to the public)

Wednesday, April 20, 2016

7:00 PM @ Haverford Twp. Free Library

10th Annual Heritage Festival

along Karakung Drive

Sunday, June 5, 2016

11 AM to 4 PM



Nitre Hall Open House:

2016 *Summer Schedule* 10 AM – 1 PM*

- Sunday, May 01
- Sunday, June 05 **(open all day during the Festival)*
- Sunday, June 26
- Sunday, July 31
- Sunday, August 28
- Sunday, September 25

HTHS Oktoberfest Fundraiser:

Friday, October 07, 2016

7:30 PM @ Nitre Hall

HTHS Holiday House Tour:

Sunday, December 11, 2016

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 Sunday, June 5, 11 AM to 4 PM

Join us for Haverford Township's favorite spring event! This year's Heritage Festival promises to be the best yet as we continue the tradition of celebrating local history and culture in the beautiful setting of Karakung Drive. There will be living history exhibits, music, dancing, food and a beer garden featuring craft brews from some of the area's finest microbreweries.

We are proud to host many of Haverford Township's community organizations as well as local artisans and crafters who will be on hand to display and sell their work. There will be pony rides and other activities for children (and adults) of all ages. Parking will be available on Karakung Drive outside the boundaries of the festival and in surrounding neighborhoods. We encourage you to walk or ride bikes if possible. More information and forms for artists and non-profits to reserve space can be found on our website.



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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We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.haverfordhistoricalsociety.org