



# HTHS Newsletter

www.haverfordhistoricalsociety.org

## Upcoming Events:

**September 15&16**  
Base Ball Festival @  
Phila. Navy Yard  
10 AM

**September 15**  
Haverford Music  
Festival @ Darby &  
Eagle Rds.  
12-9:30 PM

**October 5**  
Oktoberfest @ Nitre  
Hall, 7-10 PM

**October 18**  
HTHS General  
Meeting @ The  
Grange Estate  
7:30 PM

**December 16**  
HTHS Holiday House  
Tour, 1-4:30 PM

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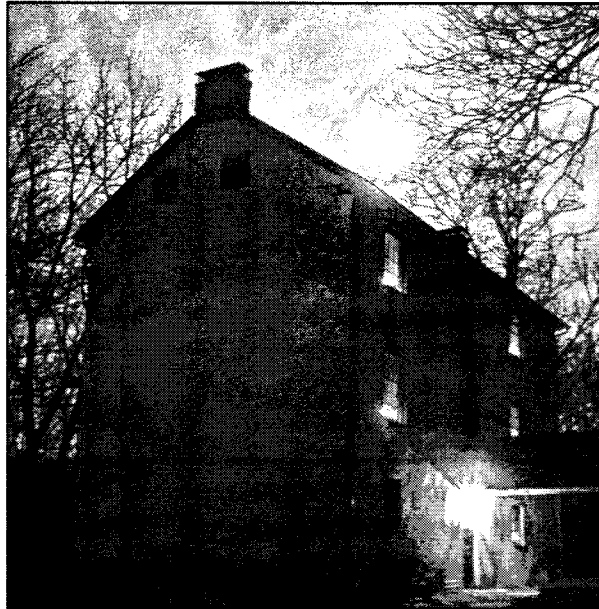
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## 2012 Oktoberfest

Join us for our annual fundraiser  
featuring craft beers, live music and a  
great silent auction



Friday, October 5, 7-10 PM  
@ Nitre Hall

It's time to celebrate fall at Haverford Township Historical Society's Oktoberfest on Friday, October 5. This year's event will feature live music from the Bloody Catholics, light refreshments and craft beers in the rustic setting of Nitre Hall. Inside you will find a silent auction of items donated by local businesses and organizations who support the Society's mission to preserve and promote local history. Proceeds from the Oktoberfest fund the Heritage Festival hosted by the Historical Society each spring along Karakung Drive. *Tickets are \$25. Advance tickets may be purchased by mailing cash or a check payable to "HTHS" at PO Box 825, Havertown, PA 19083. Be sure to include your email address or phone number so we can confirm your tickets.*

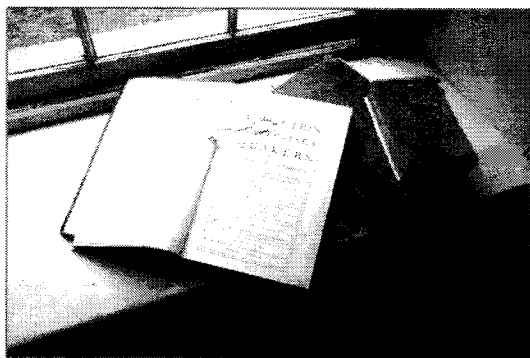


## June 10 Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the Haverford Heritage Trail at the Grange



Rich Kerr, Mary Courtney, Chris Connell, Chris Whiting, Mario Oliva, Rick Miller, Rep. Greg Vitali and Peter Puglionese

More than fifty hiking and history enthusiasts gathered on Sunday June 10 for the official opening of the Haverford Heritage Trail. The group walked along the newly blazed and signed trail to the Lawrence Cabin for refreshments and then on along the Powder Mill Valley Park portion to the site of the Beechwood Amusement Park. Volunteer Chris Madden presented his research into this early 20<sup>th</sup> century park. The map and brochure for the trail may be picked up at Nitre Hall, the Haverford Township Recreation Department, Haverford Township Free Library and at the Grange.



## Cataloging History: A Story of Books

By Renee Coffey

*The Historical Society is in the midst of an ambitious project to catalogue our extensive book collection.*

The Historical Society owns between 500 and 1,000 books, most of them housed in Nitre Hall. A wide variety of subjects are represented in the collection, including histories of Haverford Township and neighboring Delaware County townships, life in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, Welsh Quakers, school books on both the elementary and secondary level – primarily in the fields of literature, language arts, mathematics, and geography – and family Bibles. Many of the books are over 100 years old; the oldest one discovered so far is *A collection of the sufferings of the people called Quakers* by Joseph Besse, dating from 1753.

Currently, the collection is loosely arranged by subject. The Society has a database of its book collection which is accessible by both author and an abbreviated title. We have begun a project to thoroughly catalog the entire collection, using the Library of Congress' Classification System. To date, 200 books have been cataloged.

During the cataloging process, each book is examined in order to accurately determine the exact edition we own, to establish its provenance, or history – who owned it before we did – and to note any distinguishing characteristics of the copy we own. Those characteristics can include the fact that it has a tooled leather binding or that a student used the end papers to do his math computations! We consult with the Library of Congress' catalog and with the Worldcat database, which gives us access to libraries all across the country, to find an edition that matches ours so we can add the correct call number and subject headings to our database. Pagination, illustrations, size, publisher, date and place of publication and other significant details are also recorded. Sometimes, another cataloged

copy is not found and it is necessary to work out the call number and subject headings independently. Acid free ID strips, with the book's call number, author, and title recorded on the strip in permanent ink, are prepared and inserted into each book. The call number section sticks up above the book to facilitate arrangement and retrieval.

Detailed descriptions of the physical condition of each volume are included in the cataloging record. Are the pages brittle or stained? Is the cover detached? Are there loose or torn pages? This information will enable us to identify the books most in need of preservation based on their age, rarity, and condition. For now, those that are losing their covers or breaking apart are tied with unbleached cotton tape to ensure that none of the parts are lost.

On average, it takes an hour to catalog each book. The project will take several years to complete but will provide many benefits. We will know exactly how many books we have in the collection. We will have a more precise picture of the subject areas covered because the newly assigned call numbers will organize the books into clear subject groups. We will know which books need to be repaired and conserved. Using the call numbers in the database and in the books, it will be possible to locate a book instantly rather than browsing the shelves. Most important, it will be much easier to access and use this resource to enhance our programs. Ultimately, we hope to make knowledge of and access to the collection available to Historical Society members, township residents, and researchers.

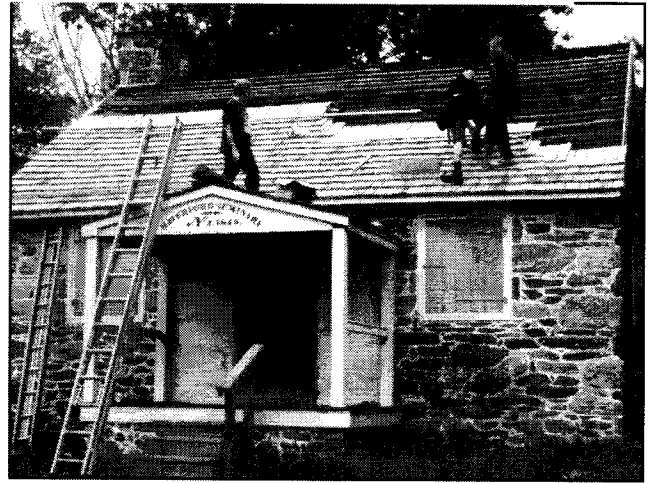
## Grounds Maintenance – Taking Care of our Historic Sites

This spring, in anticipation of the annual Heritage Festival and the official opening of the Haverford Heritage Trail, the Master Gardeners and fraternity pledges from University of Pennsylvania and Temple University improved trail beds, weeded, mulched and planted flowers around Nitre Hall. To assure that we put our best foot forward, Chris Whiting sanded, sealed, painted and installed a new rope for the flag pole and John Kirkland and Mary Courtney stained the music stage an appealing shade of sage green. The Summer Kitchen and Lawrence Cabin were swept clean of the winter's dust.



The flag pole outside Nitre Hall was re-painted this spring.

### Federal School Gets a New Roof



Led by Chris Millay of Llanerch Fire Company, volunteers installed a new roof for the school over the May 5<sup>th</sup> weekend. Work to complete the project was completed by Jeff Wolfe in June.

## Society Hosts Athletic Base Ball Club of Philadelphia Game

On July 22, the Historical Society hosted the Athletic Base Ball Club of Philadelphia (ABBC) for a day of fun playing 1860's ball. At Lynnewood, ABBC players recruited spectators to join in a pick-up game, an activity enjoyed by many visitors to the Heritage Festival in



Stephen Workman, ABBC member, dressed as the "arbiter," or umpire, at the Lynnewood game in July.

June. The Athletic B.B.C. participates in regularly scheduled matches with other ball clubs in the Mid Atlantic Vintage Base Ball League. The regular season is from April through October. Players, and often spectators, dress according to the 1860's fashion and play baseball using the rules of that era. Board Member John Kirkland is a member of the ABBC, and the Historical Society is a team sponsor, as well as an Event sponsor for this year's 2 day Base-Ball Exhibition at the Philadelphia Naval Yard, where all 14 teams from the MAVBBL ([www.mavbbl.com](http://www.mavbbl.com)) will participate in matches throughout each day. The 2 day event is Sept. 15 & 16, 10AM–5 PM. More information about the team and the September Navy Yard event can be found at: [www.PhillyVintageBaseball.org](http://www.PhillyVintageBaseball.org)

### Welcome New Members

Lisie Abrams  
Len and Mary Beck  
Carl Boyd Family  
Raymond D'Iorio  
John M. Coyne  
Nick Legidakes  
Hading Liberi  
Paul Mullin  
Elizabeth Peterka  
John and Denise Rhoads  
Julie Schultz  
Paul and Hope Uhr Family  
Michael D'Onofrio, Inc.  
Historical Restoration and Construction

### Looking for Some Graphic Design Experience? Become our Newsletter Editor!

The Historical Society is looking for an individual to take over the task of editing our biannual newsletter. All content is provided by Board Members and other contributors. This is a great opportunity to contribute your professional skills to our organization. It's also a great way to practice graphic design skills and add to your professional portfolio. Please consider volunteering your skills to help the Historical Society with our newsletter. If you are interested, please contact Mary Courtney @ [info@haverfordhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@haverfordhistoricalsociety.org).

### IN REMEMBRANCE

Charlotte S. Prichard – July 22, 2012

Haverford High School Class of 1939  
Historical Society Board of Directors  
Editor of the Society Newsletter

**Board of Directors approved  
at April Annual Meeting**

President – Vince Snyder

Vice President –Irene Coffey

Curator- Carolyn Joseph

Treasurer- Amy Wolfe

Secretary – Mary Courtney

Publicity – Donna Lunny

Buildings and Grounds – Chris Whiting

Holiday House Tour – Terri Dougherty

Programs – Erica Deuschle

Member at Large – Rich Kerr

*Send your comments, suggestions and  
feature ideas for this newsletter to us at  
[info@haverfordhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@haverfordhistoricalsociety.org) .*

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✉ **Send us an E-Mail**



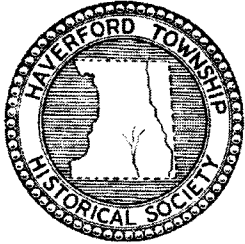
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**We're on the Web!**

*See us at:*

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