

HALDEMAN MANSION PRESERVATION SOCIETY QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

2009 2ND ISSUE

230 LOCUST GROVE ROAD
BAINBRIDGE, PA 17502



THE FOURTH ANNUAL

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

WILL BE HELD AT THE
HISTORIC HALDEMAN MANSION

SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 2009
FROM NOON TO 4 PM

Our menu includes hot dogs with a choice of toppings - chili, sauerkraut, onions, relishes or melted cheese. Many desserts including strawberry cheesecake, strawberry shortcake, milkshakes, strawberry sundaes or make your own sundaes. Drinks include: Strawberry lemonade, mint tea, soda, and water.

We have two musical groups scheduled and each will perform for one hour.

At the 1:00 performance *Dwayne and Eric*, an acoustic guitar duo will entertain you with their mellow and folksy music from the 70's and the 80's.

At 3:00 the *Old Timers* take the stage. This group consists of ten men whose ages range between 70 and 90 years. They are singers and play the mandolin, banjo, and bass. They will serenade you with old time music, and hymns.

A silent auction will be held inside the mansion. Many of the auction articles were donated by members, friends and local businesses. Check out these unique items and bid on one or many. The highest bidder gets the item.

Come and take in the beautiful setting of the mansion on the banks of the Susquehanna River. Partake in a delicious meal, especially the strawberries! Sit back, relax and enjoy the music. Bring your own lawn chairs.

We are a non-profit organization and your donations help support the mansion!

This Place Matters

By Heidi Schellenger, Past President, HMPS

My husband and I bought a stone house on Race Street in Bainbridge in 1998. We loved living close to the river in the middle of a village with such a long history. I used to take long walks up Route 441 and back along Locust Grove Road. On these walks, I noticed the signs for Haldeman Mansion, especially the faded red one with peeling white paint at the end of the drive. We didn't have a lot of money, but I thought that the sign needed a little help, and I contacted the organization's president to see if they would like me to paint the sign – then-President Norma Bair warmly welcomed any assistance I could provide. Just like that, I was involved in the Haldeman Mansion Preservation Society.

I was drawn to the stately stone structure from the start. I still remember the magic of my first tour. The Mansion's former occupants seemed to be present when I walked through the high-ceilinged rooms. I could see John Haldeman, the patriarch who built the original structure in 1798*, laying out the corners carefully to take full advantage of the ripples in the river out front. I could easily picture Eliza Haldeman, and her friend Mary Cassatt, painting in 'plein air' in the wonderful light on the front piazza. And of course, I could hear the echoes of young Samuel's feet on the stairs, climbing rapidly to his bedroom in order to capture the snail or mollusk he was holding on paper with careful precision.

But more than the occupants, the structure itself resonated with me. We were busy renovating our own home on Race Street, and the two stone buildings shared many of the same problems. Plaster fell in large pieces from the ceilings, the antique wiring hung in a confusing tangle, chandeliers were broken, walls were cracked, floors were ripped up and had gaping holes, and some windows had been installed crookedly and become worse with the settling of 200 years. But even with all its rehabilitation needs and flaws, I could and still can see the building perfectly restored in my mind. And I admit, sometimes I dreamed of owning the place myself. Such a grand home it would be, overlooking the river. But I know that the place is better shared with everyone, and thanks to the brilliant efforts of the Founding members of HMPS, the Mansion belongs to all of us.

Haldeman Mansion has kept watch over its beautiful grounds and the timeless river for more than 200 years. I believe we owe it the dignity of careful and complete renovation. Restored, the Mansion will have many uses that benefit the community. It will be a long slow process, but given the way the place still resonates with me, even now that I live far away, it will always be a worthwhile effort.

Heidi Schellenger
Norway, Maine
March 11, 2009

*The original structure may be two rooms on two stories c 1740 – 1767 on land warrant of October 28, 1738 from Thomas and Richard Penn to John Galbraith. John Haldeman purchased property on November 5, 1785 and enlarged the mansion in two separate additions, the last one finished in 1812.

OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE

**The mansion will be open every Sunday
from May 3 to October 18
Hours 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm**

Have you signed up for UPromise?
For complete details refer to the newsletter from the 1st quarter of 2009. This program is a simple method to help fund a college education and contributes to the Mansion's Scholarship Fund!

Good Search and Good Shopper
Have you installed these nifty tools on your computer? They are free and easy to use plus each web search or purchase we make, helps provide additional funding to the Mansion.

Web Site Enhancements

Nathan Kenyon has been busy updating the HMPS website. If you haven't visited the site recently, here's the link:

www.haldemanmansion.org

Check out the latest improvements! You can find copies of past newsletters, a calendar of upcoming events, photos and even a forum.

eBay Giving Works
You can make a donation to the Mansion whenever you sell something on eBay. If you don't want the hassle of listing the item for sale, donate it to the Mansion. We will sell it for you and the proceeds will go to the Mansion. Look for additional information about this program in the first newsletter for 2009. This program is tax deductible and you can easily help to save the Mansion with your donation!

DO YOU HAVE AN E-MAIL ADDRESS?

HMPS is going green! Help save the planet by saving trees and paper by electing to receive your copy of the this newsletter by email. If you don't have email, we will continue to mail the newsletter to you!

If you have received this newsletter by mail and can receive it by email, please contact Elaine Jackson at: ElaineKJackson@comcast.net and provide her with your email address. The next issue of the Haldeman Mansion Preservation Society Quarterly Newsletter should appear in your inbox.

Thank you for YOUR SUPPORT!

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES FOR 2009?

The HALDEMAN MANSION depends on you and your support. If you have not yet made your annual contribution, it is not too late. You may send your check to HMPS, P O Box 417, Bainbridge, PA 17502

We need and appreciate your help!

UPCOMING EVENTS

CONOYTOWN DAY

Saturday

May 30, 2009

10 am to 4 pm

Chairman: Christina Mark

Take a step back into 1718 when the land the mansion was built on was a bustling Native American village. Conoytown was one of the largest trade villages on the Susquehanna. See native peoples and traders dressed as they did 300 years ago. Watch arrow heads and moccasins being made, see tomahawks fly thru the air, try grinding corn with a rock, see how pottery was made, experience all this and much more hands on activities which depict what life was like in an Indian village in the eighteenth century! The cost is \$2.00 per adult; children 16 and under free. You may purchase your lunch which includes venison stew, chili, corn bread, hot dogs, chips desserts and drinks.

FRIENDS, MEMBERS, VOLUNTEERS POT LUCK

Sunday

July 12, 2009

12:30 to 5 pm

*We're firing up the grill as our way of saying "Thank you" to all of the members, friends, and volunteers who help us during the year. The Society will host a Pot Luck Old Fashioned Picnic. Hot dogs and drinks will be provided and you should bring a dish to share. Get out the sunscreen and come and join us. Fun and games for all – don't miss it. This is our first time for this event. **Let's try to make it successful.** If you plan to attend, email or call Elaine Jackson (elainejackson@comcast.net or 717.426.3794) by July 8th with the number attending. This will allow us to estimate the quantity of food for the grill.*

ARTS & CRAFT SHOW

Saturday

August 1, 2009

Noon to 4 pm

Chairman: Jody Stuart

Our first Summer Arts and Crafts Show at the Mansion will be held Saturday, August 1. Find one-of-a-kind items as local artists display their work and quality craftsmen demonstrate their talents. Refreshment will be served. If you have art or crafts that you want demonstrate or sell contact us at: elainekjackson@comcast.net or call 717.426.3794

APPLE FALL FEST

Sunday

October 11, 2009

Noon to 4 pm

Chairman: Elaine Jackson

Our fifth annual Fall Fest with the apple theme and community Pig Roast will feature the "Martin Family Band" for the third year. Bring your favorite apple dessert to be judged by celebrities and experts who judge at fairs, enjoy hearth cooking in our 1740's summer house, bid for a variety of items at the silent auction, see the craft demonstrations. There will be games for the kids, and Johnny Appleseed will be visiting with his stories of planting trees in the frontier.

KRISTKINDTLE MART

Sunday

December 6, 2009

Noon to 4 pm

Chairman: Jody Stuart

On Sunday December 6, The Haldeman Mansion will hold its second annual Kristkindtle Mart. Modeled after the outdoor Christmas markets in Germany, this event will feature local artists and craftsmen displaying a variety of unique, hand-made gifts, homemade soups, breads and pastries will be offered, so bring your appetite. This year's Kristkindtle Mart promises to be bigger, better (and hopefully warmer) than last year's – so mark it on your calendar and plan on spending the day with us.

2009 HMPS President's Annual Report

This report is from May, 2008 to April, 2009. This is my third year as president and my tenth year on the board. I was asked to be on the board the year I retired from teaching and I said, "Yes". I became an officer immediately. In these ten years, I've learned a lot and I've worked hard with events and came to all the painting sessions with the Conoy Lions' Club and also did painting other times, too.

We had our first monthly meeting May 21, 2008. At this meeting we discussed repairs to the mansion's roof and the Carriage House's chimney. Repairs to both were done later.

We also began working on a brochure. I had done a rough draft which was edited with feedback from Sally Williams and the board. We were able to have a colorful two-sided brochure printed.

We had a need for a freezer and we purchased a used one. It was needed at our Strawberry Festival, June 8, 2008. It was an extremely hot day. People sat under the old trees and enjoyed their food and entertainment. We raised about \$1,900 that day.

We received grants from the Questers to complete all the work of the Summer House. This included cleaning and repairing the main roof and putting a new roof over the squirrel-tailed oven. Also the inside walls were repaired and painted. The Summer House is now restored. Checking it yesterday, I noticed that the back wall on the first floor is peeling due to moisture. A dehumidifier is needed to get rid of the moisture so it can be painted again.

Last summer, we had a cleanup day to get rid of some junk in the Carriage House. Two to three loads were taken to the incinerator. We need another cleanup day this summer to organize and get rid of the broken slate.

Our former tenant gave us his notice that he was moving out. Our new tenants, Sam and Penny Flowers helped to remove the things left and they did repairs and painted the apartment. They moved in August 1, 2008. Due to poor health, they are moving to their daughter's place May 1, 2009. Their granddaughter is our new tenant. Her boyfriend and she will move in May first, also. The rent will be \$410 a month and this contract is good for one year.

The back cement patio was repaired and the cover over the steps to the basement was also repaired and painted by volunteers. The carriage house steps will be repaired soon.

Our fourth annual Fall Fest was held Sunday, October 12. This was our second year with the apple theme. This was our best event last year with a record breaking crowd. The weather cooperated. We ran out of food and people stayed to enjoy the Martins. We raised about \$3400.00 at this event. The Martins will be back this fall.

We had one painting scheduled this past summer with the Conoy Lions. We painted more windows on the first floor and Darl Williams puttied them. In October, six students from Elizabethtown College came to the mansion on "Into the Streets Day" and helped some board members with indoor painting due to rain. The woodwork was done in one room and the first floor room of the Summer House was given its first coat of paint. Later I returned to finish the room in the Summer House.

At our October meeting, Keith Shearer was voted in as a board member.

We had a new event in December with Jody Stuart chairing it. We called it "Kriskindtle Mart" with crafts and art work demonstrated and sold. Hot chili, a hearty beef stew, hot dogs, hot cider, coffee, hot cocoa, water, and many donated desserts were sold. We raised about \$500.00 at this event. We are doing this event again this year the first Sunday in December.

We are getting ready for two events that will happen soon. Conoy Education Day is Saturday, May 30 with Tina Mark, our chair woman. The second event, the Strawberry Festival, is Sunday, June 7, 2009 with Elaine Jackson as the chair. We have two other events this summer: Family, Members and Volunteer Picnic in July with each unit bringing a covered dish. Invite your friends and other relatives to enjoy a picnic by the beautiful Susquehanna River.

Membership letters were sent out in January. We had a good response with over 100 units responding. We have about 230 units on our membership list. I would like to see the members grow to 300 units.

An application for the Keystone grant will go out in March of 2010. The Keystone grant was cut out of the state's budget this year. This gives us more time to get bids for the roof.

My dreams and goals for this year include:

1. Repairing the wood and installing gutters on the Carriage House.
2. Painting two coats and putting all the windows at the Carriage House.
3. Painting the second story windows of the mansion.
4. Buying a dehumidifier for the Summer House to stop damage to the walls.
5. Getting lots of volunteers to help with the work. Contact Elaine Jackson to become a volunteer (painter, carpenter, event volunteer, etc).
6. Having the electrical work at the mansion and Carriage House completed.

We achieved a lot this past year. Let's work really hard to complete these goals.

2009 Annual Meeting

Our speaker was Tina Mark who gave us a history of the early settlers here at the mansion. Elaine gave a report of the past year's progress and events. This report is in the newsletter. We had an election. Included in this election are Tina Mark, Recording Secretary, Norma Bair, Treasurer and Scott Nissley, Director.

We are pleased to have Scott Nissley on the Board of Directors. Scott is The Building and Trades Manager at Elizabethtown College, and has been there for 22+ years. He brings to the board 30 years in construction, renovation, and maintenance repairs.

He is married for 28 years. His wife and he have two grown children and they are new grandparents, too. He spends a lot of time at the Delaware Shore. Favorite things to do include fishing in the river, and deep sea and surf fishing in Canada. He is a dog lover and has two dogs, a curly coated retriever and a beagle. Scott is excited to be on the board and will offer experience, knowledge, suggestions and sweat. We welcome Scott Nissley.

Elaine Jackson
President



Photo from the Haldeman Mansion archives.



Birthplace of Professor Samuel Stearns Haldeman (1812 - 1880)

HALDEMAN MANSION PRESERVATION SOCIETY, INC
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BAINBRIDGE, PENNSYLVANIA 17502

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2008-2009

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Richard Eichhorn	Scott Nissley	Keith Shearer
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