



The birthplace of Professor Samuel Steman Haldeman, an internationally recognized naturalist, philologist, and linguist. He "epitomized the early 19th Century generation of scholars, who advanced American science and letters to a position of true cultural independence from Europe" (Sorenson).

HALDEMAN MANSION PRESERVATION SOCIETY

ISSUE 3

NOVEMBER 2019

Have You Marked November 22 on Your Calendars?

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The Eighth Annual ExtraGive Campaign's day of giving on Friday, November 22nd will be your Best Opportunity to Date to have your donation to the Haldeman Mansion Preservation Society's restoration efforts multiplied. What time of the day you choose to make your donation could determine your chances:

Beginning at 12 am the first 20 organizations to receive 50 donations will each receive \$500.

During each of the following time slots 4 random donations of \$500 will be awarded:

- 12 am-2 am
- 5 am-6 am
- 6 am-8 am
- 9 am-11 am
- 12 pm-2 pm
- 3 pm-4 pm
- 5 pm-7 pm
- 7 pm-9 pm
- 9 pm-10 pm
- 10 pm-11 pm
- 11 pm-12 pm

Between 11:22:00 am and 11:22:59 am, the first 100 organizations receiving donations will each receive \$100.



To encourage overall donor growth, 45 organizations will each receive a \$500 prize for growing their number of unique donors in 2019 compared to their number of unique donors in 2018. Over \$500,000 will be divided among participating organizations in proportion to their percentage of the ExtraGive Campaigns total donations received.

Anyone with a credit card and access to the internet can participate. Go to ExtraGive.Org between 12:00 am and 11:59:59 pm and choose "Haldeman Mansion Preservation Society" from their Organizations' Menu. Minimum donations have been reduced to \$10 this year.

This will be the seventh year we participate in the Lancaster County Community Foundation's Extra-Ordinary Day of Giving. Thanks to our members and friends, since 2012, this Extra-Ordinary Day has raised almost \$23,000. These funds have been a significant source for our restoration efforts. They have, also, funded a market promotion budget and funds to prepare a proposal to have a Locust Grove (Native American) Archaeological District placed on the National Register of Historic Places .

While we have been rather successful in raising grant monies the past few years, most require matching funds drawn from our membership fees, events and a few other income sources. Consequently, your donations have become even more significant as we endeavor to fulfill our vision. This year, we propose to use donations received thru the Extra-Ordinary Day of Giving to repair the Haldeman Mansion's Porch Columns overlooking the Susquehanna River. The cost of the repairs is estimated at \$4,500.

For more information, contact Dale Good: Tel: 717-426-2099, Email: dale_good@hotmail.com.

14th ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL

Our 14th Annual Apple Fall Festival was held on Sunday, October 13 at the Haldeman Mansion. It was a beautiful day and many came to enjoy the view listen to the great music on the grounds with "Sweet November" band and feast on the food and apple desserts. Our speaker spoke to a roomful of visitors. Dr. Iren Snavelly's topic was "Young Sam Haldeman, the Making of an American Scientist." Other activities included watching Darl Williams as he made cider, doing tours of the mansion with our excellent tour guides, Judy Kay Bard or Tina Mark. Games were a hit with the children. Of course the food was delicious, too. The winner of the basket Raffle was Don Martin. The candy treat winner with the guess of closest number of pieces was Angelina Hinkle.

We have so many volunteers to thank for this day.- Gina Mariani for allowing us to use GIGi's to make the dumplings, a group of Bainbridge ladies who helped some of the committee to make the dumplings. Others who helped with this were Elaine Jackson, Judy Kay Bard, Ellen Rhoads, Sandi Bush, Doris Sites, Roslyn Hurley, and Vada Clemens. We made about 110 dumplings. Thanks to all who helped.

Other donors to the festival include: For Desserts were Jean Moyer, Judy Kay Bard, Louise Reichert, Charlie Gibble, Sandi Bush, Elaine Jackson and Joanne Myers. For silent auction were Spence Candies, Donna White, Warburton's Greenhouse, Mars Candy, Bron's Deli, Dog Park in Mount Joy, Little Italy, Wes Gerber's and Nissley's Winery on 441, Norma Bair, Conoy Ave signs, and Debbie Bowen. For Food were Masonic Village-apples, Elaine Jackson, Sandi Bush, Ellen Rhoads, Tina Mark, Doris Sites, Debbie Bowen, Donna White, and Roslyn Hurley. For the Apple Raffle Basket was Sandi Bush. Thank you all who made this a wonderful event. Please let me know if your name was omitted.

Thank you.



14th ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL

continued

Those who helped at the festival were the Boy Scouts, Karen Wenger, Dale Good, Ken Beard, Louise Reichert, Donna White, Ellen Rhoads, Elaine Jackson, Roslyn Hurley, Rachel Jackson, Kyle Shearer, Keith Shearer, Sandi Bush, Diane Myers, Joanne Myers, Debbie Bowen, Barbara Baker, Charlie Gibble, Clark Merrifield, Lin Goodwin, Judy Kay Bard, Dana & Tina Mark, Darl Williams and Iren Snively. Thanks for all your help and donations to help us raise over \$2,000.



Written by Elaine Jackson, Special Events Chair



ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK

Archaeological work has commenced at the site of our planned overlook (adjacent to the former outhouse). The 3 large concrete steps have been a mystery as they seem much larger than warranted by the outhouse. The initial work revealed the foundation for a wall (visible in the first photo) running perpendicular to the fence from the summer kitchen end of the steps to a point about 12' from the steps. A second wall remnant seems to exist running from that same point 12' from the steps and parallel to the first wall. The second photo shows some of the ceramics that have been recovered so far. No American Indian artifacts items were found.



INTO THE STREETS

"Waddling Into The Streets" t-shirts were worn by two of the Elizabethtown College Students as they showed enthusiasm on Saturday, October 26. Six students came to the Haldeman Mansion. Along with Elaine Jackson, board member, these students, Samantha Sheronas, Elizabeth Syslo, Ashlee Reich, Kayla Patone, Erik Frenneborn and Frank Costes, worked there from 9 AM to 11:30 AM. We divided up and completed three jobs. Two, Samantha and Kayla, cleaned up branches under the Oak tree. Two, Elizabeth and Ashlee, washed the refrigerator in the car-



riage house, and three, Elaine, Erik and Frank, pulled weeds, and dug out weeds near the native plants to enlarge this garden along the fence.

Now we need someone to till the soil here. A perfect day to work outside! These students were polite and great workers. Thank you for your help.

written by Elaine Jackson

SALLY WILLIAMS

Sally Williams,
Haldeman Mansion
Board Member

Sally Williams wore many hats in her 76 years living in PA. She was born in Philipsburg and lived most of her life here in Lancaster County. Her husband, Darl Williams and she were married for over 56 years. She was the mother to three children, Jeff, Mike and Ben. Also surviving are her daughter in-laws- Kirstie and Heather, five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Memories of Sally-

From Donna White: "She was a dear friend of mine, and I cherished her intelligence, honorable spirit and kindness. We had a holiday tradition of going to the big flea market at Amos Herr Park in Landisville on Memorial Day and Labor Day-for the walk and friendships well as the hunt for that "special something". She always had a great love for horses and was so fond of her collection of sleigh bell straps. She was also on the lookout for the perfect rosette to add to her collection. Sally loved everything about the Civil War and would occasionally take off for several days and stay near Gettysburg. She loved to tour the battlefields; - she and I walked up Little Big Horn one day after we had been to the Apple Fest in Biglerville. She went to monthly lectures of the Lancaster County Civil War Roundtable at the Lititz Library. The dear lady had about 400 books on the Civil War. One of her favorites spots at home was on her porch. She said that she enjoyed getting the furniture out in the spring and decorating the porch to make it comfy to read a book. Needless to say- I will miss her!"

From Tina Mark: " I have known Sally for years. We attended the Bainbridge Church of God where she worshiped. She loved helping out at the mansion. She was such an interesting person who loved the civil war era of history. She enjoyed spending time with her sons and grandsons when they would dress in their CW uniforms and went to various events. She was a special lady, taken too soon."

SALLY WILLIAMS

CONTINUED

From Keith Shearer: "This is a sad loss for HMPS. She was one of our biggest supporters and a dear friend to a lot of people, myself included."

From Dale Good: "Sally just turned over to us some of the HMPS related documents she had accumulated over the years."

From Joe Hottenstein: "I enjoyed knowing her over the years-she was a great asset to HMPS."

From Norma Bair: "Sally was a staunch supporter of HMPS for years and contributed much effort, time and love to her work. The Fall Festival that I remember was the one with the re-enactors, camping out and doing drills in the yard. She did the firing of the Civil War cannon, if I remember correctly. It was a superior event for us emphasizing the historic mansion."

From Elaine Jackson: I loved Sally Williams, a special friend. Many of you will remember when Sally was on Haldeman Mansion Board. She was vice president under me as president and directors for several years when I was an officer. I remember the very rainy day when she was in charge of the Fall Festival. People had bought tickets for the Pulled- Pork meal before the event. The meals were picked up to go home since it was too wet to have the festival. She showed so much enthusiasm in everything she did for us. Sally copied the mollusk book at the State Library, and we have it on display at the mansion. The Haldeman Mansion was one of her passions. Whatever I asked her to do, she usually said "yes" when she was available. One would often see her helping at our Strawberry and Apple Festivals. Last spring, several people did not show up, and they were scheduled to help. She was in line to get her meal. I explained that I needed someone to help serve food and she said "yes".
Thank you.

SALLY WILLIAMS

CONTINUED

Her chocolate cake with peanut butter icing was on the menu frequently. - and so good! The last time I saw her was at the Elizabethtown Fair. She helped in the Flower Department where I was the chair. She had lost weight and I asked her about it. She said that she was walking more. Sally was an independent, private person, too. She loved to cook, and I am sure that her son, Jeff will miss all the meals and lunches she prepared for him. I love you, Sally. You are missed by all of us.

We are setting up a fund
in memory of
Sally Williams.
You may send a
check to
HMPS, PO Box 417,
Bainbridge, PA 17502
In note write:
Sally Williams Fund.



Written by Elaine Jackson

An Astor in Lancaster County^{1/}

Many years since a German family, consisting of a man by the name of Fessler, his wife, and two children, named Jacob and Susan, drifted into Bainbridge, where they located, but no one knew from whence they came. They located in a small stone house, which was standing a few years since at the extreme northern end of one of the village streets.^{2/} The husband appeared to be without trade or occupation. The wife was a practical spinner but did not seem to use her abilities; in fact, the family was shiftless. The son was simple-minded.

Between 1830 and 1840, it is claimed, while Mrs. Fessler, with a lighted candle, was hunting for her bottle of spirits hidden among some tow in her low garret, the spinning material was suddenly ignited, and she was burnt to death. She was buried in a small old-time burying ground about one-fourth of a mile north of Bainbridge.^{2/} What became of her husband is not known. This Mrs. Fessler claimed she was a sister of John Jacob Astor, the New York millionaire.

There also resided in Bainbridge at the same time Yorick Sherer, who died prior to 1878. He came from Baden, and claimed that he knew Mr. Astor in the old country, as well as the Fessler family^{3/}, and, as he related later in life, after consulting my grandfather, Henry Haldeman (1787-1849), from his desire to assist the Fesslers in their poverty and also to renew his acquaintance with Mr. Astor, he made a trip to New York, traveling on foot. Upon arriving there he hunted up Mr. Astor, but that gentleman refused to recognize him or admit the sister's claimed relationship. Sherer, thoroughly angered and indignant at Mr. Astor's actions, as he stated, freely expressed his views to the latter on his treatment and then returned to Bainbridge, where he repeated his story. Shortly afterwards, however a regular annuity was received by my grandfather from Mr. Astor to be paid to Mrs. Fessler, which was continued for some years.

After the death of Mrs. Fessler, Mr. Astor sent for the daughter, Susan, to come to New York to be educated. A Mr. Crider, a farmer

An Astor in Lancaster County^{1/}

CONTINUED

near Bainbridge, took charge of her to Philadelphia, from where he sent her to New York. Rumor claims she soon tired of her new life and remained but a short time. What became of her was never learned here.

The son, Jacob, for years after his mother's death, wandered around the neighborhood. He lived one entire season under the roots of an overturned tree along the banks of the Susquehanna near my grandfather's residence at Locust Grove and died there. He was buried midway between Locust Grove and the Haldeman lime kilns, a short distance below.

The late John Wiley, who owned and resided at Locust Grove in later years, was familiar with many of these circumstances. Having heard his father, John Wiley, relate the same, to whom Mr. Sherer had described his New York Journey, desiring to confirm the details, wrote to my uncle, the late Prof. S.S. Haldeman (1812-1880), my grandfather's eldest child, and received the following reply:

"Chickies, Lan,r Co., PA

28 May, 1968

John Wiley, Esq.

"Dear Sir:

"Upon returning from Philadelphia I find your letter of the 13th inst. Your impressions about the Feslers are correct, although I do not recollect the fact you mentioned about the eagle. They had two children, Jacob and Susan. Mrs. Fessler was burnt to death. She was an Astor, or, as she pronounced it in Pennsylvania-German, "Ashtor". She was proud of her dignity and would assert it by saying "Ich will dich wisse lasse das ich ein Ashtor bin!" (I will let you know I am an Astor.)

"My father paid her annuity from Mr. Astor, her brother.. The family was improvident and not up to the level of the ordinary German population."

"My mother's piano was made by Astor, of London, a brother of the New York Astor."

"Yours Truly, S.S. Haldeman"

An Astor in Lancaster County^{1/}

CONTINUED

The eagle's nest referred to was on a tall tree near my Grandfather's residence, and it is said the simple-minded son, Jacob, shot the eagle which had its nest there, making my grandfather very angry.

Prof. Haldeman was very careful and never put anything in writing unless positive of all the facts, I had the same information from my father, Cyrus S. Haldeman (1825-1892), who attended to my grandfather's business affairs and was his executor.

Footnotes:

1/ This article is an exact copy of a paper written by Horace Leander Haldeman (1847-1920), published in the Lancaster County Historical Society Journal, Volume 17, pages 5-8. Horace was a grandson of Henry Haldeman (1787-1849), son of Cyrus Haldeman and nephew of Professor Samuel Steman Haldeman.

2/ Private researchers' attempts to identify early ownership of Bainbridge's lots and local landmarks in Conoy Township, placed the Fessler house at the corner of Spruce & Apple Streets, lot #321, which is now part of a large vacant area. Mrs. Fessler was believed to have been buried in the old Red Hill Cemetery near the water tower north of the intersection of the Stackstown and Stone Mill Roads.

3/ A John Jacob Astor was christened in "Evangelical, Walldorf, Heidelberg, Baden Germany" in 1763, as was a Susanna Fessler in 1805. She was the daughter of Jacob Fessler and Magdalena Astor, according to Church records. Source: "Deutschland Geburten und Taufen, 1558-1898," <https://www.familysearch.org/>.

The Professor was a Collector

Long-term scientific progress depends on collections (<http://scicoll.org>)

Professor Samuel Steman Haldeman (1812-1880) was a lifetime collector of, seemingly, all things. All things that aroused his curiosity from beads to butterflies, from fragments of ancient ruins to native artifacts, from shells to pebbles, ad infinitum. He was a polymath. From his wide-ranging knowledge and interests followed wide-ranging collections, dispersed throughout his library and, undoubtedly, the rest of his mansion.

As a young man, Edwin Atlee Barber, future Director of the Pennsylvania Museum and School of Industrial Arts, visited his Chickies Mansion and gave the following description of his library, "On the walls hung many curious weapons and Indian accoutrements. Here was a quiver filled with poisoned arrows; there, a Comanche shield and scalp, from Texas; spread over the tables and shelves, on the floor and in the drawers, were innumerable relics from all parts of the globe. A large case of drawers contained his unique and magnificent collection of beads, of all ages and nations, and valuable books of reference were crammed into cases and on shelves and piled up on his desk and around the walls of the room. It was a veritable curiosity shop ..."

Perhaps nowhere is there to be found a more diverse list of his collection habits than in the minutes of an August 27, 1881 Lancaster County Linnean Society meeting. The Society was formed in 1862 "For the study of science and history and the collection and preservation of scientific and historical objects ...".

The minutes include a general inventory of just one of the boxes the Professor's heirs donated to the society. The box contained three categories of items: Historical, Natural History and Minerology. They varied from a fragment of Queen Mary's Edinburg palace, two calcareous nodules from the "Tragic Poets" house in Pompeii, Italy, a fragment of a species of bark used by British Guiana natives to make sandals,

The Professor was a Collector

Long-term scientific progress depends on collections (<http://scicoll.org>)

continued

fragmentary specimens of the skeletons of birds, mammals and crustaceans and a toad fish skinned and stuffed from Florida, a box of Colorado pebbles (about 40), two specimens of cannel coal from Scotland, four specimens of Hawaii gum from the Sandwich Islands and three unnamed fossil impressions.

Various biographers have mentioned the Professor's collections, his donations, his willingness to share what he collected with others. Spencer Fullerton Baird, the first curator of the Smithsonian Institute recalled in a letter his first encounter with the professor, at the Professor's Chickies mansion, when he was a young man: "(The Professor) Usually wearing a round fur cap, short, with brilliant black eyes and slightly eccentric manners, he was a personage who lived on in one's memory after even a brief interview. On the present occasion he gave books and specimens to his young visitor (Baird)."

A professional collector of Native American artifacts wrote in 1882 of the Professor's lifetime devotion to collecting and preserving Native American artifacts. He wrote "Mr. Haldeman has one of the finest and most valuable individual collections of Indian antiquities in existence, many of his objects being superior to those of the National Collection at Washington. ... His collection is designed to be a gift to the Academy of Natural Sciences, in Philadelphia, but all duplicates will be distributed among other institutions."

The Professor's legacy includes not only the seminal research he conducted in so many areas, but also in the collections he assembled and handed down to future generations.

Written By Dale Good

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Interested in becoming a member? It's easy, just fill out the form on the next page and become part of the HMPS family. Enjoy discounts on events and keep up to date on all the latest news and events.

Newsletter Editors—Elaine Jackson & Lora Shirey

NEW or RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2020

Name _____ Yearly
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Supporting \$50
_____ Sustaining \$500
Benefactor \$1000
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Heating Donation (HONOR or MEMORY) of: _____

Donations made to the Haldeman Mansion Preservation Society, Inc. are tax deductible under section 501 C (3) of the Internal Revenue Service. The official registration of the Haldeman Mansion Preservation Society, Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800 -732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

RETURN WITH YOUR CHECK TO:

HMPS

PO BOX 417

BAINBRIDGE PA 17502

Volunteers are the lifeblood of this organization and we need all who can help in maintaining and restoring this beautiful property full of history.

Please express your area of interest. I am willing to (Check all that apply):

Serve on an event committee _____ Help with Sunday Open House _____
Help at events _____ Donate food items for events _____ Help paint _____
Carpentry Repairs _____ Do other repairs _____ Help with cleaning
inside _____ Clean up yard _____ Do research & help with exhibits _____ Help
write grant requests _____ Serve as volunteer contact (call volunteers to
schedule hours) _____

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Show 2019 Membership Card to Earn Bonuses

Individual member enjoys: one free admission to Sunday Tours, the Quarterly Newsletter, and one \$2 discount for paranormal investigation.

Family members enjoy: free admission for the family to Sunday Tours, the Quarterly Newsletter, and \$2 discount for paranormal investigation.

Supporting Members enjoy: All above plus 10% discount in our store, a \$ 2 discount to the Victorian Tea, and \$5 discount per person for paranormal investigation

Sustaining members enjoy: All above plus, free pass to Victorian Tea and free pass for paranormal investigation.

Benefactor members enjoy: All above plus \$5 admission cost for the two festivals.



HALDEMAN MANSION PRESERVATION
SOCIETY

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