# THE ORACLE

**SPRING 2007** 

NUMBER 83

NEWSLETTER OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF DAUPHIN COUNTY

### UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE HSDC:

- March 28, thru Dec. 20, 2007: Mary Sachs Exhibit grand opening, March 28, 2007 by invitation only. Exhibit remains open to the public through December 20, 2007.
- April 9, 2007:
   Mondays at the Mansion: History through the eyes of youth, 2007 PA State History Day Competition
- May 14, 2007:

  Mondays at the Mansion: The Manada Conservancy, an Important Avenue for the Preservation of Local Historical, Agricultural and Ecological Resources.
- May 15 & 16, 2007:
   Bus trip to historic Lexington VA, Lewisburg, WV, and the Greenbrier Bunker
- May 23, 2007: 12th Annual John Harris Golf Open at the Blue Ridge Country Club Golf Course to benefit The Historical Society of Dauphin County

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

From the	2	
Director's Desk		
New Staff Members	2	
Annual Meeting	3	
New Board Members	3	
2006 Golf Outing	4	
Bus Trip	4	
New Members	4	
2006 Deck The Halls	5	
Wish List Successes	4	
Membership Form	6	

### $Corporate\ Sponsor:$

P: (717) 255-8051 F: (717) 255-8050 epepinksy@keeferwood.com



East Shore: 210 Walnut Street Harrisburg, PA West Shore: 415 Fallowfield Road Camp Hill, PA

### HIT A HOLE IN ONE

ANNUAL JOHN HARRIS GOLF OPEN MOVING TO MAY

The Historical Society of Dauphin County offers you another reason to look forward to Spring. Plan to attend the 12th Annual John Harris Golf Open at the Blue Ridge Country Club on Wednesday, May 23, 2007. That's right—May! This year's golf outing has been moved up several months to take advantage of the gorgeous spring weather in Central Pennsylvania. Not only do we have a new date, but also a new venue, a new itinerary, and new prizes. So pull together a foursome or join one of our groups needing an additional partner and plan on an enjoyable golf game at Blue Ridge.

There will be a pre-round lunch on the patio and a post-round cocktail party in the Solarium. Registration begins at 11:30 a.m., followed by lunch at noon. In the case of inclement weather, golfers will receive a gift certificate to play Blue Ridge at another time. Prizes will be awarded for two holes-in-one, the longest straightest drive, and a putting contest. The usual Mulligans and Raffle Tickets will also be available, as well as a few new challenges on the course.

Best of all, the tournament benefits the Historical Society of Dauphin County helping us maintain the John Harris-Simon Cameron Mansion and fund community outreach through educational programs and services. Income from the event provides vital support for the Society in its mission to preserve Dauphin County heritage. Jeff Haste, Chairman of the Dauphin County Commissioners, is serving as the Honorary Chair of this event again this year.

More golfers and sponsors are needed. The cost for lunch, golf and the post-round party is \$150 per person, or \$500 for a foursome. If you are unable to join us on the course, other levels of sponsorship are welcome. Informational brochures are available in the Society office or by contacting the HSDC at (717) 233-3462. See a review of last year's sponsors & golfers on page 4.

# HSDC ANNOUNCES SPECIAL EXHIBIT "MARY SACHS, THE EPITOME OF STYLE & SUBSTANCE":

The Mary Sachs Trust has partnered with the Society to present a two-room exhibit in the John Harris-Simon Cameron Mansion in honor of Mary Sachs and her sisters, Hannah and Yetta. The exhibit will be in place through December 20th. Many local residents have loaned garments and accessories that were purchased from the Mary Sachs store for display, and we have lined the walls of one room with photographs illustrating Mary Sachs' life story as well as exterior and interior photographs of the stores. The grand opening of the exhibit, March 28, 2007, was well attended. Kim Payne, President of the Society, welcomed our guests, and two members of the Sachs Trust, who are also Mary's nephews, Paul Hoch and William Greenberg each spoke to the audience. Kim then made acknowledgements and closing remarks. We consider it a privilege to honor this great woman, who became a self-made successful businesswoman and noted philanthropist.

### HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF DAUPHIN COUNTY

### Officers:

### President

Kim A. Payne

### **Vice President**

Frank Pinto

### Treasurer

Michael L. Patterson

### Secretary

Marcia B. Gobrecht

### Trustees:

Cheryl Capitani Barry Cassel James Close Sarah Fisher Tom Gacki **Robin Jones** Anne Kearney-Raynor Robert Knupp, Esq. Linda Lefever Cathy Lotwick Harry Marsh Richard Parsons Jeb Stuart, III Scott W. Tryon Edith Walsh Philip Walsh

### Staff:

### **Executive Director** Kathryn W. McCorkle

### Curator

Stephen Bachmann

### Archivist

Louise S. Owen

### Librarian

Ken Frew

### Volunteer Photo Archivist

Jane D. Anderson

### Office Manager

Evelyn L. James

### Membership Manager

Holly Brandt

### **Education Coordinator**

Marie Maxwell

### Mission Statement:

liog The purpose of The Historical Society of Dauphin County is to collect, preserve, utilize, publish, and interpret the history of this county and the greater Harrisburg area for the benefit of the public and to offer public programs and services related to aspects of the same

# FROM THE DESK OF THE DIRECTOR: Kathryn W. McCorkle

Perhaps this should be titled "From the Ladder of the Director"; we've just completed Home Improvement Season at the John Harris—Simon Cameron

The Mansion is closed to bus and school tours during the winter months, due to the potential for inclement weather. This year we took advantage of that time to refurbish the second floor and prepare additional exhibit space. Our budget was tight and the timeline for our efforts even tighter, however we are set to reopen with repaired and repainted ceilings, walls, trim and rewaxed floors.

With the increased space, we will open our first annual two-room exhibit, "Mary Sachs, the Epitome of Style and Substance", to the public on April 2nd.

We aren't quite ready to put the ladders away yet. In May, the office/library trim will be painted, and screen doors added to the remaining sets of Carriage House doors. The screens will permit use of the Carriage House for summer history classes and events or local day camps and recreation programs. We already have several groups on the schedule for July.

Please stop in for a visit when you are downtown. A visit to the Sachs Exhibit is free to members. You'll find us in the office or in the Mansion Monday through Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and on Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

### **HSDC STAFF CHANGES:**

The HSDC announces the following staff changes and additions:

Holly Brandt has moved from Office Manager to Membership Manager/Executive Assistant. Evelyn James has returned to the Office Manager position after a year as Interim Librarian.

Ken Frew is now the HSDC Librarian. Ken has a long history in the Harrisburg area as a dedicated local historian and building researcher. He has 30+ years volunteer experience with Historic Harrisburg Association, and has been a regular presence in our Library doing research for his pending book on Harrisburg architects & architecture.

Bob Hill, our former Director of Collections, has left HSDC to pursue other opportunities in the profession. We thank Bob for his years of faithful service and wish him well.

Stephen Bachmann, who has been associated with HSDC for the past year, first as a volunteer and then as a paid consultant, has come on board as our new Curator, picking up many of Bob Hill's former duties. Stephen is completing graduate work at Penn State Harrisburg in the American Studies program. In addition to helping with exhibits and artifacts, Steve has proven to be a wonderful resource for computer questions and problems.

Marie Maxwell has joined us as Education Coordinator, sharing Dauphin County history with the school children who come to the Mansion on field trips, and also visiting schools to ignite the students' interest in history. Marie is a graduate of Bloomsburg University with a BS in Elementary Education and an MS in Education of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

All three new staff members, Marie, Stephen and Ken have proven to be great additions to our programs and services. Join us in welcoming them to the Society.

### **2007 ANNUAL MEETING**

On Monday, March 12, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. the 138th Annual Membership Meeting of The Historical Society of Dauphin County was held in the Parlor of the John Harris—Simon Cameron Mansion. There was a "Standing-room Only" crowd.

Board members who are retiring this year, Bruce Bazelon, Katie Long, and M. Claire Powers were presented with framed prints of the John Harris Mansion. Retiring Member Jane Marfizo was absent.

Led by Past-President Harry Marsh, the members approved the slate of officers for the Board of Trustees:

> President—Kim A. Payne Vice President—Frank Pinto Treasurer—Mike Patterson Secretary—Marcia B. Gobrecht

President Kim Payne then introduced five new Board Members to the audience—see related article on right of this page.

Mike Patterson presented the 2006 yearend financial information.



President Kim Payne introduces new Board Members

Edith Walsh announced upcoming HSDC events, including the two-day bus trip to the Shenandoah Valley in Virginia (see related article, page 4).

The Honorable Hannah Mary Leavitt, Commonwealth Court, was the featured speaker. Her topic was "Genevieve Blatt, the First Lady of Pennsylvania Politics" and her presentation included a film on Judge Blatt's life.



The Honorable Hannah Mary Leavitt, of Commonwealth Court

A bounty of desserts was provided by the Board, following Judge Leavitt's presentation. The Society is thankful for its members' support in 2006 and looks forward to another successful year in 2007.



Judge Genevieve Blatt

# HSDC WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

At this year's Annual Membership Meeting, we were honored to install five new Trustees, Thomas P. Gacki; Robin Jones; Anne Kearney-Raynor; James Allan (Jeb) Stuart, Ill; and Scott W. Tryon.

<u>Tom</u> is an Attorney with Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC, bringing expertise in government relations as well as many community connections. Tom is a past-president of the Dauphin County Bar Association.

Robin is a professional community volunteer with expertise in administration, research and writing, government relations, marketing, and strategic planning.

Anne owns her own business as an accredited appraiser and licensed auctioneer, with knowledge of antiques and history, research, writing, and computer skills.

<u>Jeb</u> is a Special Consultant with the City of Harrisburg. He brings much experienced in historic preservation and marketing, development of heritage tourism products and programs.

<u>Scott</u> is a Branch Manager at M&T Bank, and brings operational, administrative, financial & human resources expertise.

### 2006 GOLF OUTING:

Our 2006 Golf Outing was a great success. Sponsors and participants included:

### **Harris Sponsors:**

Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc. Inservco Insurance Services The Quandel Group, Inc.

### **Hole Sponsors:**

Alexander Building Construction, LLC Mr. & Mrs. William H. Alexander

Mr. Bruce Bazelon

Mr. & Mrs. Barry W. Cassel

Mrs. Virginia Eaton

Gannett Fleming, Inc.

Knupp Law Offices, LLC

Leggett, Inc.

Managing Partners Insurance

McKissick Associates, PC

NRG Thermal Services, LLC

Mr. Richard D. Parsons

Mr. Ralph Peters

PinnacleHealth System

Post & Schell, P.C.

Henry W. Rhoads, Esq.

SSI Services, Inc.

W.S. Miller & Son, Inc.

UGI Utilities, Inc.

### Foursomes:

**Buchart Horn** 

**Eckert Seamans Cherin Mellott** 

Greenlee Partners, LLC

Mack, Gerberich & Associates, P.C.

Mazzitti & Sullivan

Zelenkofske, Axelrod, LLC

### **Individual Golfers:**

Dr. Frank Jackson

Mr. Harry L. Marsh

Dr. George Moffitt

**Snavely Financial Services** 

Mr. Morton Spector

### **Prizes & Donations:**

Mrs. Sarah Fisher

Mrs. Betty Hungerford

Harrisburg Saturn

Kessler's, Inc.

Mrs. Katie Long

Mrs. Kathryn W. McCorkle

Mr. Kim Payne

Ms. M. Claire Powers

W & L Sales Co.

Water for the golfer's was provided by Block Business Systems.

# HSDC JOURNEYS TO THE PAST:

The Historical Society offers a two-day bus trip May 15 & 16, 2007, to the historic towns of Lexington VA and Lewisburg WV including the Greenbrier Resort Bunker (cold war congressional bomb shelter; the inspiration of President Eisenhower, the Bunker was built to house the U. S. Congress in the event of nuclear attack and kept secret for 30 years.)

Tuesday includes lunch at the 1887 Sheridan Livery Inn in Lexington VA; a docent led tour of Historic downtown Lexington; a tour of "Stonewall" Jackson's home and the George C. Marshall Museum; gourmet dinner at the historic General Lewis Inn; lodgings at the Brier Inn in Lewisburg, WV.

Wednesday includes breakfast at the Brier Inn; morning on your own to explore Lewisburg; early afternoon guided tour of the Greenbrier Bunker; dinner at Mrs. Rowe's Restaurant and Bakery in Staunton, VA, return home in late evening.

Cost: for members of the Society; \$299 per person shared room, \$333 single room; for non-members, \$334 per person shared room, \$368 single room. With membership only \$30 per year, non-members can save \$5 total by joining, and receive the many benefits of membership along with enjoying the trip.

Reservation Deadline is April 30, 2007! Call 233-3462 to make reservations.

# HSDC WISHLIST - SUCCESSES AND REQUESTS

An Anonymous Donor has heard our cries for new kitchen equipment and made a donation sufficient to purchase a new refrigerator and gas stove, as well as a canister vacuum for use in the Mansion. Another Anonymous Donor provided a new microwave; yet another a slightly used upto-date computer. Many thanks to these Donors. Still needed are VOLUNTEERS, file cabinets, and a microfilm reader/printer. Please call the office if you are interested.

## HSDC WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

The HSDC thanks the following new members for joining in our efforts to preserve Dauphin County heritage:

Bill & Dorothy Anderson Edward & Alice Ardis Sloan & Susan Auchincloss

C. Faith Baker
Carol Bartoski
Arlene Benson
Arthur L. Berger
Corey Black
Martha Buddecke
Earl & Mary Calhoun
Duryea & Patricia

Cameron James Campbell Robert & Lynn Campbell Dan Deibler & Elizabeth Johnson

Catering By Design
Baiba & Gary Clemens
James L. Clowden
Celina Cassidy Craig
Ramsey Davenport
James Dietrich
Dolores A. Doud
Joan W. Douglas
Janet & Lloyd Eshenaur
Expressly Yours Catering
Charles B. & Mary K.

Fager
Mr. & Mrs. David J.
Farling
Cynthia Funderburk
Teeresa Gavin
Fay K. Geegee
Glenda Geegee
Elsie Godwin
George & Brigid Grode
Peggy A. Grove
Ella Haley & Bert
Stevenson

Stevenson Rick Hawn

Rev. & Mrs. Calvin Hoyt
Dale Ibberson

(Continued on page 5)

### **DECK THE HALLS 2006**

This year was our most successful DTH ever, raising over \$20,000 for HSDC programs and operations.

The Society thanks our sponsors and caterers:

### Prime Sponsor: McNees, Wallace & Nurick, LLC

**Boas Sponsors:** 

Keefer, Wood, Allen & Rahal, LLP

The Hall Foundation

**Hunter Sponsors:** 

Citizens Bank Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott

Fulton Bank

Highmark Blue Shield Mellon Financial Services Mette. Evans & Woodside

Wachovia Bank

Mr. & Mrs. Lewis S. Kunkel Mr. Jonathan Vipond, III & Mr. Tim Bunner

**Kelker Sponsors:** 

Albert Michaels

Boyer & Ritter CPA

Conrad M. Siegel, Inc.

H&H Sales Associates, Inc.

NRG Energy

Pennsylvania Association of Community Bankers

PinnacleHealth System Spitzer Appraisal Services

The Patriot-News

W. S. Miller & Sons Construction

**Haldeman Sponsors:** 

Attorney & Mrs. Richard Angino

Mr. & Mrs. William H. Alexander

Mrs. Virginia Eaton

Attorney & Mrs. Norman P. Hetrick

Mrs. Jean King

Sheriff & Mrs. Jack Lotwick Mr. & Mrs. Harry L. Marsh Dr. & Mrs. George Moffitt Mr. & Mrs. Richard Stevenson

Mr. & Mrs. Henry Long

**Cameron Sponsors:** 

Ms. Barbara M. Arnold

Ms. Anne S. Davis

Dr. Barbara L. Hasson

Attorney & Mrs. Robert L. Knupp

Mrs. W. Minster Kunkel

Mrs. Linda P. Lefever Mr. Kenneth E. Lehman Ms. Jane D. Marfizo Mr. Kim A. Payne Ms. Barbara F. Reily

**Caterers:** 

Char's Bella Mundo

Dirk's Coffee

Flinchy's Regional & Global Cuisine

Harrisbura Hilton & Towers

Giant Foodstores

Juliana's Italian Restaurant

Mangia Qui

McIver's Deli-Licious

L. D. Weaver's

Pam's Party Teas

Passage to India

**Premier Caterers** 

Rettinger's Poultry & Deli

Sodexho

Stocks on Second

The HoneyBaked Ham Company

The Pizza Grille

Troegs Brewing Co.

Uncle George's Kitchen

What If Café

Morgan's Place

### Special thanks to our "Host" and Musician:

Simon Cameron - Dan Purdy Pianist - John Robinson

### HSDC WELCOMES **NEW MEMBERS** (CONTINUED)

Tom Jeffers & Minette Bauer

Clifford L. Jones

Robin & Brad Jones

Anne Kearney-Raynor

Jean King

Jean & Greg King

Robert Kinsey

Margaret D. Kooistra

Susan Landis

Jonathan L. Mansch

Mary Ellen Martz

Todd Mealy

Dr. & Mrs. George Moffitt Harold L. & Nancy B.

Myers

Mildred G. Neidinger

Beth O'Brien

H. Sheldon & Sara L.

Parker

Ron & Pamela Pearson

Charles Peguese

Jeffrey & Dorothy Peters

Ralph Peters

Cheryl Petrovay

**Bette Powers** 

Joan Prescott

Barbara F. Reily

Jim Scheiner

Kristen Scofield

Jayne A. Shipman

William K. Shope

Barry M. Simpson

Eric M. Snyder

Sandra C. Snyder

Kathleen M. Swaim

David W. Sweet

Marian J. Trone

Michael A. Trump

Judy & Lee VanValken-

burgh

Kevin P. Varano

Philip J. Walsh

Philip & Mary Walsh

Richard & Mary Anne

Walsh

Allen & Shirley Warshaw

Wickey's Catering

Debra Williams

Lisa M. Wingeard

### THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF DAUPHIN COUNTY



219 SOUTH FRONT STREET HARRISBURG, PA 17104

P: (717) 233-3462 F: (717) 233-6059 dauphincountyhistoricalsociety.org hsdc@paonline.com

The official registration & financial information of The Historical Society of Dauphin County may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID

### SHARE THE BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP WITH A FRIEND

As a member of the Historical Society of Dauphin County, you are familiar with the mission of the HSDC as well as the advantages of becoming an HSDC member. Basic membership includes:

- Free admission to a guided tour of the John Harris/Simon Cameron Mansion and to special HSDC exhibits
- Free admission to the Alexander Family Library
- Free Society newsletters, annual Journals and publications
- 10% discount on all museum shop purchases and Society trips

Have you ever shared this information with a friend? Now is the perfect time! When you finish with this issue, please pass it along to others who might like to become members. You will help us further our mission to preserve Dauphin County heritage and provide your friends with an opportunity to partner in that mission.

$\Diamond$	Individual—benefits as noted above \$30	Please fill out the information below:
$\Diamond$	Family Circle—Individual benefits for entire family \$40	Name:
<b>\( \)</b>	Heritage Circle—Family Circle plus (2) additional Mansion tour passes	Address:
<b>\( \)</b>	Haldeman Circle—Family Circle plus a Mansion tour for a group up to 15\$100	Phone: () Email:
<b>\rightarrow</b>	Cameron Circle—Haldeman Circle plus (2) Deck the Halls Celebration tickets	Make checks payable to "The Historical Society of Dauphin County" or call (717) 233-3462 to charge membership to your Visa or Mastercard.
<b>\</b>	Harris Circle—Cameron Circle plus a framed 1881 Bird's Eye View of Harrisburg print	Please return this form with payment to:  The Historical Society of Dauphin County
$\Diamond$	Penn Circle—Harris Circle plus a discounted one-time use of the Mansion	219 South Front Street Harrisburg, PA 17104