



UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE HSDC:

- **September 9, 2007:**
Gallery Walk—Exhibits by four local artists, open from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
- **October 17, 2007:**
Bus trip to historic and beautiful Mount Vernon, Virginia.
- **"Mondays at the Mansion"**
September 24, October 15 and November 19, 2007. 7:00 p.m. Watch our website for details on the programs.
- **"Mansion Open Home"**
Sundays, October 14, November 11 and December 16, 2007, the Mansion will be open for tours at 1:00 and 2:30 p.m. Regular admission fees apply, members free.
- **"Deck The Halls" holiday gala:**
December 6, 2007—details will be in the Fall issue of *The Oracle*.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

From the Director's Desk	2
In Memoriam	2
12th Annual Golf Outing	3
Save the Date 2008	3
Help Preserve the History you Lived	4
New Members	4
Wish List	4
World War II	5
Membership Form	6

HSDC JOURNEYS TO THE PAST AGAIN THIS FALL

Our recent two-day bus trip to Lexington VA and Lewisburg WV (including a tour of the Bunker at the Greenbrier) was a wonderful time for all. The weather couldn't have been better and the group enjoyed each others company immensely.

Not being inclined to rest on our laurels, our Fall 2007 bus trip is ready to roll. It is a one-day excursion to historic Mount Vernon on October 17, 2007. We are now accepting reservations for the trip. Details provided by Tour Director Edie Walsh follow:

The October Bus Trip: We are Off to Mount Vernon!

So, you think you know all there is to know about George Washington? The Historical Society of Dauphin County's next bus trip will show you new sides of the "Father of our Country!" Mount Vernon has recently opened the Ford Orientation Center and the Reynolds Museum and Education Center to further explore and educate us about the exceptional life and accomplishments of Washington.

Through interactive displays, a major movie and high-tech, immersive experiences, Washington comes to life as never before. Three life-size models, created by a forensic anthropologist and a team of interdisciplinary experts, depict Washington in new ways: an incomparable American hero who evolved from a young man of modest means into this country's first and greatest president.

Please join us as we tour these new sites at Mount Vernon, Virginia. The day has been planned to offer the traveler an unprecedented look at our First President at his pastoral home. In addition to the new Ford and Reynolds Centers, the trip will include tours of Washington's Mansion, Grist Mill and Distillery. Participants will enjoy a three-course lunch at the memorable Mount Vernon Inn.

It will be a day that will surprise and delight you!! Call 233-3462 to reserve your seat on the bus.

IN MEMORIAM:

RICHARD D. PARSONS

The Society and the community at large has lost an extremely capable, generous and valued friend. Dick Parsons, former President of the Society, and a Board Member for more than ten years, passed away Monday, June 4th after a brief illness. A native of Steubenville, Ohio, Dick's family later moved to Pennsylvania. He graduated from high school in Williamsport, then earned his degree from Penn State University. He retired from Gannett Fleming, Inc. as Chief Architect in 1999. Dick gave freely of his time and talents to many organizations over the years, including his service on the Buildings & Grounds Committee of the Society. He was always ready to help in any way he could, yet he still found time to keep his beloved family close and to stay involved with his life-long friends. Our condolences go out to his family. We miss him.



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

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:

The Mission of The Historical Society of Dauphin County is to collect, preserve, exhibit, publish, and promote interest in the history of Dauphin County for the education, enjoyment and benefit of the public.



FROM THE DESK OF THE DIRECTOR:

Kathryn W. McCorkle

Dear Friends and Members:

We have been very fortunate recently in the generosity of those who share a commitment to preserving our local heritage for the education, enjoyment and benefit of the public. That generosity is highlighted in several articles in this issue of *The Oracle*.

Our Mary Sachs exhibit (article below) features numerous items on loan to us from community members. In fact, we continue to receive items as gifts for our permanent collection. The Charley Ross World War II scrapbooks (article on page 5) are preserved and accessible due to the time, efforts and generosity of an anonymous but tireless and enthusiastic community member. Our new Allied Pix project (article on page 4) was made possible by grants from The Patriot News Foundation and Hall Foundation. The 2007 HSDC golf tournament (article on page 3) saw a significant increase in the number of golfers and in sponsorship support over previous years.

There are other recent efforts and contributions too numerous to describe in full unless we turn this issue into a magazine. Chief among these is the long-term loan by Historic Harrisburg Association of their archives and research library to the "Stacks" of the Society. The HHA Board voted to place these wonderful resources with us in order to provide community members a "one-stop-shop" for their research, aided by HSDC Librarian and long-time HHA volunteer building historian Ken Frew. I must say, it's a mixed blessing for me. I have to restrain myself daily from wandering in to pick up a book or magazine, especially the copies of *Architectural Record* that are part of the Gerald Joseph Siddons collection donated to HHA by his daughter, Ellen Siddons.

We have also benefited from the continuing support of our school age local history education programs by the S. Wilson and Grace M. Pollock Foundation. Their contribution is mirrored by that of our volunteer docents who've met the challenge of continued program expansion during the summer months.

And finally, thanks to the efforts of the students in the Penn State Masters of American Studies Program, under the direction of Dr. Michael Barton, in September the HSDC website will have a link to the first transcriptions of the Society held Rawn diaries. The diaries, written by Charles Rawn, a Harrisburg attorney, span the years from 1831 through the Civil War. This incredible resource, once available only by appointment in the HSDC Library, will now be accessible to all. We are grateful for support of our Mission in every and any way.



SPECIAL EXHIBIT CONTINUES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR: "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 and exterior and interior photographs of the stores. The grand opening of the exhibit, March 28, 2007, was a wonderful gathering of those associated with the Society and the Sachs family. Kim Payne, President of the Society, welcomed our guests, and two members of the Mary Sachs Trust, who are also Mary Sachs' 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, a self-made successful businesswoman and noted philanthropist.

12TH ANNUAL JOHN HARRIS GOLF OPEN

The Society is pleased to announce that the 2007 Golf Outing was our most successful ever. The following sponsors helped make the event a great success:

Harris Sponsors

Doug Neidich
Cordier Antiques & Fine Art
Highmark Blue Shield

Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc.
Inservco Insurance Services

Hole Sponsors

Alexander Building Construction LLC
Arnold Petroleum Products
Boyd & Mahoney
Clark Resources
The Law Office of Cunningham & Chernicoff, P.C.
Gannett Fleming, Inc.
Harrisburg Magazine
Leggett Inc.
Managing Partners Insurance
Mazzitti & Sullivan
McKissick Associates, PC

NAI/CIR Commercial Real Estate
Services, Worldwide
NRG Energy Center
W.S. Miller & Son, Inc.
Mr. & Mrs. William H. Alexander
Mr. Bruce Bazelon
Mrs. Virginia Eaton
Mrs. Linda Lefever
Dr. George Moffitt
Mr. Henry W. Rhoads

Hole-In-One Sponsors

Sutliff Chevrolet
Bumble-Bee Hollow
Saturn of Harrisburg
Anonymous

Beer provided by W&L Sales, Inc.

Water provided by Capital Business Systems

Prizes were provided by the following individuals and businesses:

Applebee's
Blue Ridge Country Club
Café Magnolia
Capital City Car Wash
Deer Valley Golf Course, Bill Wall
Betty Hungerford
Isaac's Restaurant
Karns Quality Foods LTD
Katie Long

Manada Golf Club, Mike Benedict
Market Square Concerts, Lucy Miller Murray
PinnacleHealth, Kim Payne
Surrogate Pet Care, Wayne
T. Brendan O'Reilly's Irish Pub
The Freckled Frog, Coral Rosen
The Pennsylvania Heritage Society
The Proper Setting, Lisa Moley
The Whitaker Center, Mike Patterson

**Corporate Spon-
sors of this
Newsletter are:**

MCKISSICK ASSOCIATES
Historic Preservation Architects
317 North Front Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101
(717) 238-6810 www.mckissickassociates.com

P: (717) 255-8051
F: (717) 255-8050
epinksy@keefeewood.com



East Shore:
210 Walnut Street
Harrisburg, PA

West Shore:
415 Fallowfield Road
Camp Hill, PA

SAVE THE DATE

May 13, 2008

13th Annual John Harris Golf Outing



SAVE THE DATE FOR 2008 13TH ANNUAL JOHN HARRIS GOLF OPEN

Next year the John Harris Open will again be held at the Blue Ridge Country Club. The date will be Wednesday, May 21, 2008. We hope to see all of you again plus many more happy golfers and sponsors.

Details will follow in a special mailing to our previous participant list. If you have not joined in our Golf outing before, but are interested, call our office (233-3462) to be added to the mailing list.

ALLIED PIX PHOTO PROJECT

Help Preserve the History You Lived

In 1997, Thomas Leask of Allied Pix photography service donated several hundred thousand photographic negatives to the Society. Mr. Leask, who founded Allied Pix Service in 1952, was lead photographer for the Patriot News. His photographs captured the events that transformed central Pennsylvania in the second half of the twentieth century. From the "Harrisburg Seven" trial and the Flood of 1972 to presidential campaign stops and the changing landscape of local towns, this recent history of Dauphin County will be witnessed by future generations through the lenses of Allied Pix photographers. Allied Pix images date from 1952 -1994, but much of the earlier part of the collection was lost to floodwaters in 1972.

The Society was fortunate to have also received another large photographic donation that spans the years 1946 to the mid-1970's. Arnold Zuckerman was an area photographer who donated over 100,000 negatives to the Society in 1983. Mr. Zuckerman's work consists mainly of personal portraits and events that document the day-to-day lives of local residents in that era.

These two invaluable collections are unequalled photographic chronicles of modern life in Dauphin County and surrounding areas. Knowing this, the Society's Board of Trustees has approved funding to improve the collections' conditions and accessibility. The Patriot News has graciously made a donation toward the cost of stabilizing and preserving these images.

Jennifer Bisht, an American Studies graduate student from Penn State Harrisburg, has begun cataloging and re-housing the negatives in the Allied Pix collection that were saved from the '72 flood. This pilot project will serve as a work sample for a future grant application, which we hope will enable us to re-house the entire Allied Pix and Arnold Zuckerman collections as well as digitize a significant number of images. Jennifer will also digitize a portion of the 1952-1972 images for use in a "Mondays at the Mansion" program scheduled for the fall.

Several volunteers have also begun the work of transcribing the collections' indexes so the negatives can be searched by date and keyword. The computerized index will assist with grant writing efforts, and will be made available on our website. There is much work to be done, and we need more help. Copies of index selections along with instructions can be sent to anyone with a computer who is willing to transcribe from home. Please contact Stephen Bachmann at the Society, 233-3462 if you are interested in contributing your time.

It's your history! Together we can preserve it.



President John F. Kennedy speaks at the Farm Show Bldg, September 20, 1962



Abigail Van Buren, "Dear Abbey" arrives at Harrisburg Airport March 15, 1957

HSDC WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

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

Marilyn Logue
Charles Oellig
Angela Salvadia
Jesse Hamman
Louis Fackler
Charles Richmond
Scott, Kristin & Emily Tryon
Robert Cross, Jr.
Robert Houston
Derek & Erica Dilks
Patricia A. Lavelle
Gretchen Pfaehler
Thomas P. Gacki
Rabbi Peter Kessler
Jack Krill
Hannah Leavitt
Susan & Walter Cohen
Richard & Marilyn Abrams
Catherine Engel
Mr. & Mrs. Leon Feinerman-
Steve Neiman/Neiman
Group

HSDC WISHLIST - SUCCESSSES AND REQUESTS

SUCCESS:

Faye Geegee responded to our request for a four-drawer file cabinet. Thank you, Faye.

STILL NEEDED:

VOLUNTEERS—Our adult and student visitors are increasing in number. Docents or Mansion Guides are needed for scheduled bus groups, and on Fridays at 11 am and 1 pm and on the Second Sunday of every month from 1 to 4 pm. Background information & scripts provided. This is both easy and fun to do.

A USEABLE MICROFILM READER/PRINTER is still needed for the Library.

WORLD WAR II SCRAPBOOK

TIMELINE by: E. B. WALKENBAK

COMPILED BY CHARLES ROSS AND DONATED TO THE SOCIETY BY HIS SON RODNEY ROSS

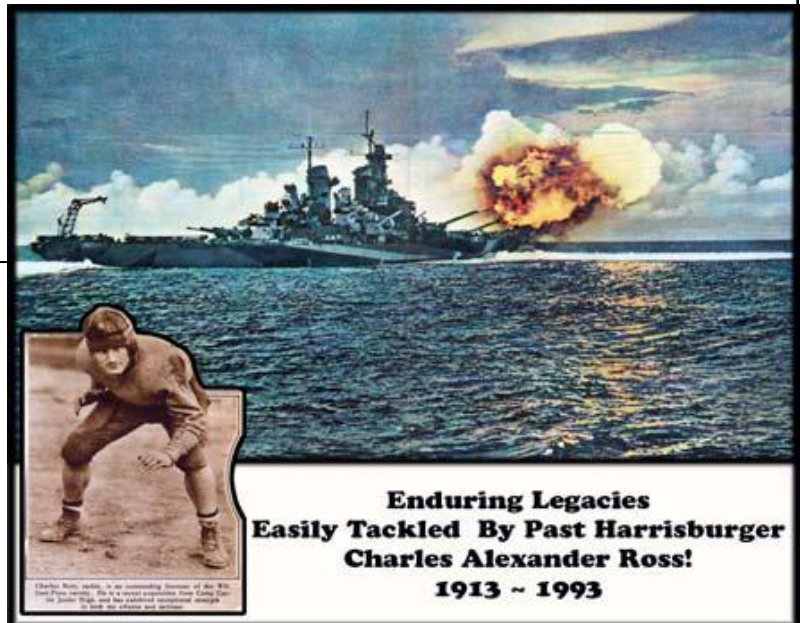
MOMENTOUS MOMENTS IN HISTORY

THE BATTLESHIP MISSOURI ~ THE “SURRENDER SHIP” UPON WHICH ENDED WWII, AND BIG CHARLEY ROSS ~ CHAMPION TACKLE ~ 1933 WILLIAM PENN HIGH SCHOOL

~ As Found In The Charles Alexander Ross WW II Scrapbook Collection and the 1933 William Penn High School, Pennsylvania State Champions Football Scrapbook!

What are the Charles A. Ross World War II and the William Penn High School Scrapbook Collections?

Charles Ross collected newspaper and magazine articles and newswire photographs pertaining to World War II on nearly the same scale as the battleship Missouri. Personally, I have never seen a collection of actual World War II data on such a grand scale. In addition, Charles Ross also masterfully designed several sections of the book in a professional, artistic manner. The original scrapbook was 18 x 24 inches and approximately 5 inches thick, along with another, smaller scrapbook. All pages of the books are now properly preserved within several smaller *archival* books to allow handling of the collection. In total, there are nearly 500 pages of World War II history to be examined within this collection. The battleship Missouri in the picture is actually an 18 by 24 inch full-color newsprint sharing pages with several similar quality prints from that era. There are many actual news wire photos that Charley Ross collected from the Harrisburg newspaper during the period of the war. Not being a historian, the question of other possible origins of the news sources used by Charley Ross is left to be answered by those of you who choose to come and see the Charles Alexander Ross World War II scrapbook collection. Among the photographs and many pages of news are the most prominent figures from World War II down to the regular G.I. Charley's brothers Howard and Donald were participants in the War and may also be found within the pages of the book. The last part of the collection includes several pages of obituaries of those who served from the Harrisburg area. A list of surnames of those individuals has been included with the collection as compiled by a modern-day Alexander Library volunteer named Charley Laverty, who seems to have similar interests as Charley Ross. Rodney Ross mentioned his father was record conscious and recalled how his father and another friend put together a compilation of sports statistics for local high school teams in the area. “Dad just seemed to like to make scrapbooks” says Rodney!



**Enduring Legacies
Easily Tackled By Past Harrisburger
Charles Alexander Ross!
1913 ~ 1993**

The following quote, from a local military historian, summarizes the collection from an “in the know” perspective”

“The Charles A. Ross World War II scrapbook collection is an outstanding archive of memorabilia and articles of that period of our history. It is highly recommended for anyone interested in the 1940’s. E. B. Walkenbak has done a wonderful job of organizing this collection. Anyone who is interested in WW II history will enjoy seeing these scrapbooks.” Charles B. Oellig, Director, Pennsylvania National Guard Museum, Fort Indiantown Gap.

In addition to the World War II scrapbooks, a digital version of Charles Ross’s sports scrapbook is also available in the Alexander Library. The main focus of this work includes hundreds of news clippings plus photographs from the 1933 William Penn High School state championship football team. Charley Ross played in the tackle position on this championship team. The DVD includes both individual picture files as well as a searchable PDF file so researchers can find names and data quickly within this collection. Who Was Charley Ross? More on Charley and his family in Part II to follow in the next edition of the ORACLE!

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF DAUPHIN COUNTY



219 SOUTH FRONT STREET
HARRISBURG, PA 17104

P: (717) 233-3462
F: (717) 233-6059
dauphincountyhistory.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

GIVE THE GIFT OF HSDC MEMBERSHIP — AND.....

Know someone celebrating an Historic Moment in life?

Help them celebrate with a gift of HSDC Membership, and give a year of historic moments.

Individual	\$30
Family	\$40

Please complete the information below:

PLEASE SEND A GIFT MEMBERSHIP TO:

Name: _____

Address: _____

(City) (State) (ZIP)
Phone: (____) _____ Email: _____

FROM:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Email: _____

Make checks payable to "The Historical Society of Dauphin County" or call (717) 233-3462 to pay using your Visa or MasterCard.

Please return this form with payment to:

The Historical Society of Dauphin County
219 South Front Street
Harrisburg, PA 17104

GIVE THE GIFT OF A WINDOW TO THE PAST:

Speaking of Historic Moments ...

We are missing a few. The Historical Society of Dauphin County is seeking items, documents and photographs associated with life in Dauphin County in the 20th Century.

If you have items of historic interest related to Dauphin County between 1900 and 2000 that you would like to have preserved and accessible to the public for future research, please consider donating these items to the Historical Society. Help us to preserve a full record of Dauphin County over the past 100 years.

Call 233-3462 or email us at hsdc@paonline.com to discuss your offerings and arrange an appointment for Society staff to meet with you and consider the items. You may bring them to us, or we can come to you (if you are in the Central Pennsylvania area).

Future generations will appreciate your generosity as they study how we lived in the 20th century.

