Newsletter of the Dauphin County Historical Society

#### In the Months Ahead:

- Sunday, Feb. 10—2nd Sunday Program, The Art of the State Capitol, presented by Nancy Mendes, 2:30pm. The Mansion is open for tours at 1:00pm. Tour and program free for members, non-members by donation. The Library is open for research, 1:00-4:00 pm.
- Sunday, March10—2nd Sunday Program, The Quintessential Flapper from Head to Toe, presented by Karin Bohleke, 2:30pm. The Mansion is open for tours at 1:00pm. Tour and program free for members, nonmembers by donation. The Library is open for research, 1:00-4:00 pm.
- Wednesday, March 27—HSDC Annual Meeting & Wine and Cheese Reception, 5:30 pm.
- Saturday, Apr. 6—Blast from the Past-1920's Style, 6:30pm.
   Cost is \$75 per person. See article on page 2.
- Monday, Apr. 8—Special exhibit on the high style clothing of the 1920's opens to the public, 1:00 pm. Cosponsored by HSDC and the Shippensburg University Fashion Archives and Museum.
- Sunday, Apr.14—2nd Sunday Program, 19th Century Stoneware, 2:30pm. The Mansion is open for tours at 1:00pm. Tour and program free for members, non-members by donation. The Library is open for research, 1:00-4:00 pm.
- Wednesday, May I—Spring Bus Trip to the National DAR Museum & The National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C. See article on page 3.

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# Greg & Susie Sutliff Honored at Deck the Halls 2012

Over 200 guests gathered in the Mansion on November 28th to enjoy the Victorian holiday setting, celebrate the start of the season, and present the 2012 John Harris Award for contributions to the Greater Harrisburg community of "historic proportions" to Greg and Susie Sutliff.

The Hon. LeRoy S. Zimmerman, 2008 John Harris honoree, introduced the Sutliffs and their community efforts and contributions to the audience during the programmand Jeff Haste, Chair of the Dauphin County Commissioners presented the couple with a proclamation from the commissioners.

John Harris, Jr., aka Rev. David Biser, and HSDC Board President Tom Gacki presented the award.

Guests enjoyed Victorian and holiday decorations provided by The Garden Path throughout both the first and second floors.

The Hon. Jeff Haste, Chair, Dauphin County Board of Commissioners, and 2012 John Harris Award honorees Greg and Susie Sutliff enjoy introductory remarks by the Hon. LeRoy S. Zimmerman during the presentation of the Harris Award.

Deck the Halls is a major fundraiser for the HSDC. The Society appreciates the support of those in attendance and the major support of the sponsors of the event. A full listing of the sponsors is on page 3.

### **HSDC** Annual Meeting

HSDC members are invited to attend a wine and cheese reception and annual meeting on Wednesday, March 27th at 5:30 pm.

The meeting will feature highlights of the year 2012 presented by outgoing Board President Tom Gacki, the annual financial reports presented by Treasurer Paul Fisher, and election of Board officers and new Board members for the coming year.

#### **Call for Board Members**

The Planning and Governance Committee is currently accepting recommendations for four open positions on the HSDC Board of Trustees.

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about service on the HSDC Board, please contact us at 233-3462 or director@dauphincountyhistory.org.



### Kathryn McCorkle Announces Retirement

Kathryn McCorkle, HSDC Executive Director since 2005, officially announced her retirement at the 2012 Deck the Halls Celebration after notifying the HSDC Board in September. The staff, board and membership of the HSDC will miss Kathy and are greatly appreciative of all she has done for the Historical Society in the past seven years.

A search committee of the HSDC Board of Trustees is currently interviewing candidates for the position and expects to have a new Executive Director in place by late February or early March. Kathy will remain for a short period to assist with the transition.

Pictured at left: John Harris, Jr., aka Rev. David Biser, salutes Kathy at Deck the Halls.

### Historical Society of Dauphin County

#### **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.

#### **Board of Trustees:**

Tom Gacki, President

John Tierney Vice President

Paul Fisher, Treasurer

#### Edith Walsh, Secretary

Barbara Barksdale Michael Barton Rev. David Biser Erik Fasick James J. Franklin Marcia B. Gobrecht Ruthann Hubbert-Kemper Calobe Jackson, Jr. Kelley Kaufman Jack Krill Cathy Lotwick Joseph Macri Nancy Mendes John Robinson Alyce Spector James Allan Stuart, III

#### Staff:

**Executive Director** Kathryn W. McCorkle

Curator ~ Stephen Bachmann

**Librarian** ∼ Ken Frew

Executive Assistant ~
Barbara Pollihan

Maintenance ~ Bill Snead

On Call ~ Howard Parker

And a dedicated and growing group of Volunteers

**The Oracle** is prepared and edited by Howard Parker

# Plan now to "Put on the Ritz" with us!



You are invited to celebrate the Roaring 20's with a visit to our speakeasy in the John Harris-Simon Cameron Mansion on **Saturday, April 6th** at **6:30 pm. Blast from the Past 2013** will transport you to the days of flappers and keeping cool with Coolidge. This won't be a dive or a clip joint either! Seven sawbucks and a fin (\$75) gets you a ticket to enjoy:

- Music by Harrisburg's own Steve Rudolph
- Dance demonstrations featuring the Charleston & Black Bottom
- Grand opening of the 1920s fashion exhibit by the Shippensburg University Fashion Archives and Museum
- Food and drinks (Sorry, no bathtub gin!)
- Silent auction

Sponsorships are available. Get us on the horn at 233-3462 or drop us a line at office@dauphincountyhistory.org to find out how you can be a "Big Cheese," the "Bee's Knees," or the "Cat's Meow."

Don't be a wet blanket! Call 233-3462 to reserve your place today!

## Second Sunday Programs at the Mansion

### The Art of the State Capitol

Nancy Mendes will present a program about the history of the state capitol building and its artwork at 2:30 pm on Sunday, February 10th. Nancy will describe the history of the building, but will focus on the art created by two very different artists: Edwin Austin Abbey, who created the murals in the capitol dome and in the House chamber, and Violet



Oakley, who created the murals in the Governor's Reception Room, the Senate chamber and the Supreme Court. She will discuss the artist's lives and working methods—and there will be lots of pictures.

# The Quintessential Flapper from Head-to-Toe

On Sunday, March 10th at 2:30 pm, Karin Bohleke, Director of the Shippensburg University Fashion Archives and Museum is on the runway for a program on the archives and museum holdings with a special presentation on the Quintessential Flapper from Head to Toe. The Fashion Archives and Museum has a significant collection of 1920's era women's fashions, some



of which will be featured in a new exhibit in the Harris-Cameron Mansion co-sponsored by the HSDC and the Fashion Archives and Museum. The exhibit will have its grand opening during the 5th annual Blast from the Past event, a Roaring Twenties party, on Saturday, April 6th (see article above).

#### Where Do I Park?????

Free parking is available on-site for all programs and events at the Mansion. Free parking is also available on evenings and weekends in the Pinnacle Health physicians' lot off River Street behind the Mansion property.

### 19th Century Stoneware

Examples of the work of Dauphin County potters from the HSDC collection will be among the pieces on display on **Sunday, April 14th** at **2:30 pm**. A representative of **Crocker Farm**, a family owned auction house specializing in antique stoneware and redware will speak about 19th century stoneware.

In the coming weeks, check our webpage (www.dauphincountyhistory.org) for information on the May Second Sunday activity and for details on the Sunday, June 9th program by local author **Cooper Wingert** on *The Confederate Invasion of Harrisburg*.

Admission to all Second Sunday programs is free for members and by donation for non-members. Members and non-members alike are welcome to tour the mansion and visit the research library beginning at 1:00 pm on Second Sundays.

#### Save the Dates!

Fort Hunter, the Pennsylvania National Fire Museum, the Harris-Cameron Mansion and the National Civil War Museum will be the settings for a weekend and more of activities planned to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Lee's attempt to capture the city of Harrisburg.

- Saturday June 29th—Rollick on the River at Fort Hunter Park.
- June 29th-July 15th—Firefighting during the Civil War exhibit at the Pennsylvania National Fire Museum.
- Sunday June 30th—Tea with Clara Barton at the John Harris-Simon Cameron Mansion.
- Sunday June 30th—Lincoln on the Lawn at the National Civil War Museum.
- July 3-8—The Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra annual July 4th concert series will feature Aaron Copland's Lincoln Portraits.

Details on the events will be coming soon!

## Thank You Deck the Halls 2012 Sponsors

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#### **Susquehanna**

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### **Great Opportunity for Event Specialists**

If you are a caterer, musician, florist, event planner or if you provide other event services, a corporate membership in the Historical Society of Dauphin County is an easy and effective way to promote your business and gain new clients. Many of the individuals and groups who rent the Harris-Cameron Mansion are looking for your special skills for their special day. Your corporate membership puts you and your service on the list of registered providers given to everyone who inquires about renting the Mansion for an event.

You can become a corporate member of HSDC for as little as \$50 per year. Call us at 233-3462 or email office@dauphincountyhistory.org for details.

## **Spring Bus Trip to DC**

Plan to climb aboard on **Wednesday, May 1st** for the HSDC's annual **spring bus trip**, with **Washington, D.C.** as the destination.

Our first stop in the city will be the **D.A.R. Museum**, part of the D.A.R. National Headquarters, which occupies a full city block just two blocks from the White House. The Museum includes 31 period rooms sponsored by 31 of the state D.A.R.s and two exhibit galleries, one of which currently features the exhibit Fashioning the New Woman: 1890-1925. The exhibit traces how women's fashion evolved to reflect the changing roles and activities of women in the progressive era. Included in the exhibit are a number of fashions donated by the Shippensburg University Fashion Institute and Museum, co sponsor of an exhibit on 1920's era clothing opening in the Harris-Cameron Mansion on April 8th. The group will have a docent led tour of the period rooms and time to explore the exhibits, Memorial Continental Hall and the Americana Collection. For a preview of the museum, visit www.dar.org.

Following lunch at a downtown D.C. restaurant, the group will move on to the **National Museum of Women in the Arts** (www.nmwa.org). The museum displays a collection of over 4500 objects and presents 10 special exhibitions of women artists each year. And it has one of the best gift shops ever! After a brief museum orientation, there will be time to explore the museum on your own.

The cost of the trip is \$110 for HSDC members and \$122 for non-members. Call 233-3462 or email office@dauphincountyhistory.org for more information, and to reserve your seat.

## **Mansion Exterior Restoration Project**

To date over \$250,000 has been raised for the exterior restoration of the Harris-Cameron Mansion

The HSDC thanks the McCormick Family Foundation, the John Crain Kunkel Foundation, the Josiah W. and Bessie H. Kline Foundation and Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Pheasant for grants and contributions received in December 2012.

First on the project agenda is removal of the mansion shutters for restoration off site and replacement of the commercial snap lock metal roof on the solarium with a historically accurate traditional standing seam tin roof.

RuthAnn Hubbert-Kemper, HSDC Board member and retired Chair of the Capitol Preservation Committee will chair the Facilities Committee and the project management. Kathryn McCorkle will continue to serve on the fundraising committee for the project.

#### THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF DAUPHIN COUNTY





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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.

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# **Your Membership Contribution Benefits HSDC** and Pays You Back

As an HSDC member, you receive:

Unlimited Mansion Tours.

Unlimited Visits to the Alexander Family Research Library.

Free admission to general programs.

Discounts on purchases and HSDC sponsored activities and programs.

Free subscription to The Oracle.

10% Discount on meals & non-alcoholic beverages at the historic Mount Hill Tavern.

Advance notice of special programs and events.

#### Heritage and above membership levels enjoy additional benefits.

We're always thrilled to add new members to our rolls. Please help the HSDC grow its member base by sharing the form on the right with a friend or neighbor.

We would also like to communicate with our current members more quickly and easily. Please help us do so by providing your email address to office@dauphincountyhistory.org and write "My Address" in the subject line. Email Thank you.

### Membership Form—Please Join Today

Check Level Desired:  Individual \$35 Full-time Student \$15 Family \$45 Heritage Circle \$55 Haldeman Circle \$100 Cameron Circle \$250 Harris Circle \$500 Penn Circle \$1,000			
	Phone:	_Home	Work
Payment Method:Check Amount:American ExpressVISAMasterCardCard Number	\$	Please detack with paymen HSD 219 South Fr Harrisburg,	t to: OC Cont Street
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