

PASSAIC COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

LAMBERT

VALLEY ROAD
PATERSON, N.J. 07503

CASTLE

Sixth year of success for Rotary beefsteak

1986 marks the sixth year that the Passaic County Rotary Clubs have sponsored a beefsteak dinner dance to help support the Passaic County Historical Society. In the first five years of the program the Rotary Clubs raised over \$36,000 for the Society. These funds have been designated for conservation and preservation projects and have helped the Society to save many of Passaic County's treasures. This would not have been possible without the Rotary Clubs' generous support.

The first Rotary project involved saving the magnificent stained glass window on the stairwell in Lambert Castle. The window depicts the Biblical scene of Rebecca at the Well and was placed in the castle by Lambert as a tribute to his daughter who had recently died. The window was badly damaged when Route 20 was built at the base of Garret Mountain. It had buckled and much of the glass had separated from the lead. The Rotary funds enabled the Society to hire the Clifton firm of Marchese and Hammersma to restore the window. They removed the window to their workshops where they straightened it and resealed the glass. They then replaced it in the castle with a protective piece of plexiglass on the exterior. The restored window can now be enjoyed in a period setting reminiscent of the Lambert era.

The Rotary funds have also supported important restoration projects on the interior of Lambert Castle. Many areas of the interior had been damaged by rain from the leaky castle roof. In 1984 the Rotary committee was instrumental in convincing the County Freeholders of the importance of replacing the roof. Once this was done the Society could safely begin interior restoration work. The first step was to determine the original appearance of the rooms. We did this using period photographs, written descriptions, and analysis of the paint layers on the wall. After the original colors were determined for the breakfast room and parlour the rooms were painted. The interior restoration work also included polishing the parquet floors in these rooms to their original sheen. The Society has furnished these rooms with furniture and decorative objects from the Victorian period. The restoration is an ongoing process as we are continually looking to find new pieces that will help make the rooms more accurate. This restoration would not have been possible without the Rotary donation.

(Continued on page five)



VOLUNTEER FOCUS

Marie Smith

Although Marie Smith has volunteered as a museum guide for only the past two years, her connection with Lambert Castle began long before this. A long time resident of Clifton, Marie remembers visiting the castle as a child and being fascinated by its elegant interior. In 1965, Marie joined the staff of the Historical Society and worked for the museum until 1980. She returned to the museum as a volunteer guide in 1985.

Marie is one of four volunteers at the museum who are enrolled in the Retired Senior Volunteer Program. This program, funded by the government and sponsored by St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center in Paterson, places men and women over 60 as volunteers in the community. Participants can receive travel reimbursement to and from their volunteer organization or car service if they do not have their own means of transportation. The only requirements one must meet are age, residency in Passaic County, and the willingness to volunteer once a week.

The Society could not operate the Lambert Castle Museum without the hard work and dedication of Marie and our volunteer guide staff. If you have an interest in history or would just like to meet new people and have one or two free afternoons each month, consider becoming a volunteer guide. It's a fun way to become more involved in your community. For details, contact Susan Pumilia, 881-2761.

AROUND THE CASTLE

Holiday Shopping?

Visit our Museum gift shop, **The Victorian Emporium**, for the unique in gift items, including Victorian tree ornaments, notecards, and gift wrap, books, and stocking stuffers. Look for a new four color note card with a reproduction of one of our silk samples, perfect for unusual holiday greetings. The shop will be stocked for the Holidays after November 15. Hours: Wednesday through Sunday, 1-4 pm.

* * *

Win a Willowbrook Mall Shopping Spree! The Friends of the Passaic County Historical Society are sponsoring a raffle to benefit the Historical Society. 1st Prize — \$200 shopping spree, 2nd Prize — \$100 shopping spree. The drawing is November 12th, and tickets are available at the Lambert Castle Museum.

* * *

A Children's Christmas Ornament Workshop will be held on Saturday December 13 from 10 am to noon. Under the supervision of museum staff, children will make their own Victorian Christmas ornaments. \$2.50 fee includes materials. Call Susan Pumilia at 881-2761 for more details.

* * *

This Year's Fall Seminar: Preserving Textiles and Historic Costumes will be held on Saturday, November 15, 1986. The all day workshop will give you hands on tips on how to care for old textiles and clothing. Members \$12.50, non members \$15.00. Includes box lunch. More details and registration information will be mailed soon.

* * *

The Society's annual Holiday Party will be held December 7 at 2:00 pm. Help us celebrate another successful year. The Castle will be decorated for the holidays with traditional greens and ornaments. The afternoon will include refreshments and entertainment. Plan to join us on the 7th. Suggested donation: \$5.00 members, \$10.00 non members. Children welcome.

* * *

Society Director Catherine Keene recently participated in an all day seminar on Public Outreach Programs at the Monmouth County Historical Association. The seminar, sponsored by the Mid Atlantic Association of Museums, drew 50 museum professionals from New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania. Cathy was part of a panel entitled "Broadening the Base" which discussed various programs designed to involve the public in museums. Cathy spoke on the Society's Rotary Project and the Friends and Genealogy Groups.

* * *

Join the Society's FRIENDS group. The organization was formed last year to provide the community with a better understanding of the objectives, services and needs of the Passaic County Historical Society. The group had a successful first year, sponsoring the Mazzei lecture last Spring, the bus trip to the Statue of Liberty in September and the upcoming Willowbrook Mall Shopping Spree Raffle. Membership in the FRIENDS is open to all members of the Historical Society. Call the Society office at 881-2761 for more details.

The Passaic County Historical Society is a co-sponsor of a conference that is planned as part of the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the Constitution in 1987. The conference titled "The Politics of Virtue in America: What kind of People are We? — Our Constitutional Heritage" will be held Saturday, November 22 at Bergen Community College. Program details and registration information will be mailed soon.

* * *

The New Jersey Historical Commission will sponsor a Grants Information Workshop at Lambert Castle on Saturday, November 22 from 10 am to noon. The Commission staff will discuss their grant program and application procedures. The workshop will be offered free of charge and is open to anyone interested. Contact Mary Alice Quigley at the Commission (609-292-6062) to register.

NJ Historical Commission awards \$1000 grant

The New Jersey Historical Commission has awarded the Historical Society a \$1,000 grant to prepare a booklet on county history for Fourth graders studying local history.

New Jersey state law mandates that New Jersey school children study state and local history at the elementary school level. Despite this, few materials dealing with Passaic County have been written specifically for these children. This grant project, once complete, will help to fill this void in educational materials.

The grant monies will be used to hire educational consultants to help research and write a county history for Fourth graders. The project team, under the supervision of the Society's Curator of Education, Susan Pumilia, will include: Edward Smyk, Passaic County Historian; Richard Hutnik, a social studies teacher in School #24 in Paterson; Jane Barrecchia, an elementary school teacher in Haledon; and Agnes Moore, a Fourth grade teacher in Ridgewood. The project team will research and write short descriptive essays about the people who have contributed to the rich history of Passaic County. Anticipated topics include the Lenape, Early Settlers, and Immigrants. Questions and activities to accompany each topic will also be specifically designed to interest the student in local history research.

The booklet is scheduled to be completed by next Fall to coincide with the 150th anniversary of the formation of Passaic County. Additional funds are being sought to publish the booklet. For further details about the project, contact Susan Pumilia at 881-2761.

This Newsletter is published as a membership privilege of the Passaic County Historical Society, Lambert Castle, Valley Rd., Paterson, New Jersey 07503. Telephone (201) 881-2761. Office Hours are Monday through Friday (9:00-4:00). President: Delight W. Dodyk; Director: Catherine A. Keene.

PCHS offers three new walking tours

Historical Society Offers New Tours

Combined Walking tours of Paterson's Historic District and the Lambert Castle Museum are now available to interested groups. These all day excursions visit the Paterson Great Falls Historic District and the working class neighborhood of Dublin in the morning and the Lambert Castle in the afternoon. Tours are available Wednesday and Fridays for a \$3.00 per person fee. Accommodations can be made for groups from 15 to 50. Contact the Curator of Education at (201) 881-2761 for reservations. The tours are:

Communities and Neighborhoods Grades 4-7. This walking tour explores how neighborhoods are formed by a visit to the Dublin Section of Paterson. Themes discussed will be worker's housing and its relationship to the workplace, the growth and change of ethnic communities, and the experience of individual immigrants in the neighborhood. This will be contrasted to the opulent lifestyle of the manufacturing class depicted at Lambert Castle.

The Arm of Iron in a Sleeve of Silk Grades 8-12, Adults. This walking tour focuses on the technological and environmental factors that led to industrial growth in Paterson. Tour participants will visit the Great Falls, mill raceway system, the working class neighborhood of Dublin, and Lambert Castle. In case of inclement weather, groups will participate in alternative programs at the Castle. These tours are made possible by a grant from the Jaqua Foundation.

Area businesses donate equipment to society

The Historical Society library has new shelves and the office has a word processing system thanks to the generosity of area businesses. Through the efforts of Historical Society trustee Annita Zalenski and member, William Ware, the Becton-Dickinson Company of Saddle River donated thirty library shelving units to the Society. Mr. Ware works for Becton-Dickinson and arranged the donation. Society member William Vernay of William J. Vernay and Sons, Moving and Storage transported the shelves to the Castle as a donation. The shelves will be a great help in our efforts to organize and catalogue the library.

The Society office has moved into the twentieth century thanks to the efforts of Society trustees John Hovey and William Van Benthuisen. Mr. Hovey, President of Videx Equipment Corporation in Paterson obtained a used CPT word processor for the office. Mr. Van Benthuisen, Vice President of Broadway Bank and Trust Company arranged to have the bank donate the printer to go with the processor. Both pieces of equipment work beautifully and have already streamlined our office procedures. Many thanks to everyone who helped with the donations.



Jane Griffeth King by Micah Williams.

New folk art exhibit set

A major exhibit of Passaic County Folk Art is being planned to open in February 1987 to coincide with the 150th anniversary of the founding of the County. "At the Sign of the Brass Dog; Passaic County Folk Art" will highlight the rich folk tradition in painting, needlework, and sculpture in Passaic County and will explore the relationship between the artists, their art, and their community. The exhibit will include portraits in pastel and oil, landscapes, samplers, needlework pictures, quilts, coverlets, and trade signs produced in the county.

Funds are currently being sought from the local community to support this ambitious project. If you would like to help sponsor "At the Sign of the Brass Dog," please contact Catherine Keene at 881-2761.

Jacqua Foundation grant

The Passaic County Historical Society recently received a \$2500 grant from the George Jaqua Foundation to establish Public Education Programs at the Society. The West Paterson based Jaqua Foundation has a special interest in education. The Society plans to use the grant funds to support several of its upcoming educational programs. Museum consultant Jo Ann Cotz is designing the Society's new walking tours and compiling supplemental materials for pre and post visit packages. Jo Ann is a Social Historian involved in creating programs for the public that involves direct use of material culture. In addition to the walking tours the grant will help support the Society's Fall seminar on textile conservation, an immigration lecture series, and the publication of a brochure describing the Society's educational programs.

Officers elected at annual meeting

The Passaic County Historical Society held its 60th Annual Meeting on May 15 at the Lambert Castle Museum. The Society members elected a new slate of officers and trustees at the meeting and enjoyed an informative program on the Lenape Indians presented by Dr. Herbert Kraft of Seton Hall University.

Elected to office were: Delight W. Dodyk, President; Alvin G. Blau, Executive Vice President; Fletcher Fish, Vice President; Norman Robertson, Treasurer; and Dr. Thomas Dayspring, Secretary.

Newly elected to the Society's Board of Trustees was Mr. William B. Van Benthuyzen. Mr. Van Benthuyzen, a Senior Vice President with the Broadway Bank and Trust Company in Paterson, has been a resident of Northern New Jersey for the past eight years. He was employed by the Franklin Bank and Midlantic National Bank/North before coming to Broadway Bank and Trust Company eighteen months ago. Mr. Van Benthuyzen is presently in charge of business development for the bank.

Active in business and community affairs, Mr. Van Benthuyzen is currently President of the Meadowlands Chamber of Commerce, Vice President of the Paterson Rotary Club, and Second Vice President of the Hamilton Club in Paterson. His charitable involvements include work for the Multiple Sclerosis Society, The United Way, the Girl Scouts of Bergen County, and the William Carlos Williams Arts Center in Rutherford. The Society is very pleased to welcome Mr. Van Benthuyzen.

The meeting program featured a film and talk on the Lenape



Dr. Herbert Kraft speaking on the Lenape Indians at the Society Annual Meeting.

(Delaware) Indians. The film "Lenape: The Original People" by Thomas Agnello explored the rich history of the Lenape tribe through the reminiscences of two full blooded descendants. Following the film Dr. Kraft spoke about the many common misconceptions held about the Lenape. Dr. Kraft has studied the Lenape for the past twenty-five years and has been involved in extensive archaeological excavations of Indian sites for the National Park Service. A professor of Anthropology and Director of the Archaeology Center at the Seton Hall University Museum, Dr. Kraft has written several volumes about the Lenape. His most recent book, *The Indians of the Lenape Hoking*, a teachers guide to the history of the Lenape, was published in 1985. *The Indians of the Lenape Hoking* is available for purchase in the Museum Shop.

Evening at the Castle

The Society's third annual Spring fundraiser on May 30 was quite a success. Over one hundred guests enjoyed the fine Spring evening while listening to violin and accordion music by **The Martins** and sampling the delicious hors'oeuvres provided by **Creative Catering** of Ridgewood. The evening was great fun and provided much needed support for the Society's operating funds.

The Society would like to thank the following individuals and firms for their generous financial support

BENEFACTORS

AEP Associates

Broadway Bank and Trust Company

Cardiology Associates

Dr. Thomas Dayspring, Charles Macaluso and Families

First Fidelity Bank, N.A., North Jersey

James Labagnara, Jr., M.D.

Polidori Construction Company

Prospect Park Savings and Loan Association

Stern, Steiger, Croland, Tanenbaum, and Schielke, P.A.

PATRONS

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SPONSORS

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SUPPORTERS

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Bograd Brothers Inc.

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Cole, Geaney, Yamner and Byrne

Essex Oncology Group

Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher T. Fish

LAN Associates

Mr. Malcolm V. Macfarlan

Radiology Imaging Associates

Shotmeyer Brothers

Watson Machine Company

Rotary aids restoration

(Continued from page one)

The Passaic County Rotary Clubs have also supported the restoration of many important objects in the Society's collections. One of the most complicated projects was the restoration of a large painting of Diana the Huntress that hung in the ceiling of the entrance hall. Rain from the leaky roof had penetrated the ceiling above the painting and given it quite a soaking. The painting was taken to the studio of painting conservator Stephan Van Cline in Franklin Lakes. Mr. Van Cline cleaned the painting, reattached loose paint, relined the canvas with linen and put it on a new stretcher. The whole process took almost 2½ years to complete, but the painting is now back in the museum and will soon be hanging next to the stained glass window. The new roof should insure that damage like this does not happen again.

The Society offers a regular schedule of rotating exhibits on aspects of Passaic County History in the Lambert Castle Museum. Rotary funds have enabled the Society to restore many important items for exhibition. In 1985 the museum sponsored "The Elegant Woman: Fashions from the Castle Era" which featured fashions from the 1890's through the 1920's. One of the highlights of the exhibition was an 1896 Parisian gown that had been worn to the McKinley-Hobart inaugural festivities in Washington D.C. The gown was magnificent, but silk is very delicate, and over the years it had deteriorated. Textile experts Barbara Finch and Barbara Chafkin of Monmouth painstakingly restored the gown to its former glory. The gown was the highlight of the exhibit and is now being properly stored in an archival box to prevent any new damage. The gown has an interesting Rotary footnote: It was donated to the Society by Paterson Rotarian and Committee member, George Stickney.

Much of the work supported by the Rotary is "behind the scenes." Many projects involve preventing costly damage by providing proper storage conditions and facilities. In 1985 the Society was awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Institute of Museum Services, a Federal agency. The grant project was designed to organize, store and conserve our extensive silk collection. The collection includes close to 50,000 silk design samples, ribbons, and trim from the Paterson silk industry. The grant had to be matched by \$5,000 from the Society, and the Rotary funds provided part of this match. Other areas of the collection have benefitted from Rotary support as well. The Society was able to hire a consultant who sorted and properly stored our collection of over 40,000 photographic images. We have also purchased archival supplies for paper collections, costumes, household goods, and the library. In addition, the Society hired a library consultant to begin cataloguing the research library, work that is now being carried on by a volunteer.

The projects supported by the Passaic County Rotary Clubs have enabled the Historical Society to properly care for its collection of Passaic County materials and to make the resources of the Society more accessible to the public. The Society sponsors exhibits, lectures, and seminars and makes its facilities available to researchers. The Passaic County Rotary Clubs have helped to make much of this possible. Many thanks to the Rotary Clubs for their continued support.

Folk Finder

The Folk Finder column is devoted to helping genealogical researchers locate northern New Jersey ancestors/descendants. We invite researchers to submit requests for help, inquiries about family names, or queries concerning the exchange of family information. If you can assist any of our submitters, please contact them directly, or call Annita Zalenski (201) 595-7684.

1. Harold Robinson, PSC Box 1408, Charleston AFB, South Carolina 29404-5375 is researching the surname **TIFFANY**. He is especially interested in **CHARLES HIRAM A. TIFFANY**, born 18 May 1835 in Scott, NY. Charles' second marriage was to **JOSEPHINE FORD**, daughter of **EDWARD FORD** of Paterson. Charles had three children: **RAYMOND**, **ADELIN**, and **EVELYN**.
2. Ms. Debbie Henry, 74 Whitney Street, Northboro, Massachusetts 01532, is seeking proof of parentage of **TEUNIS VREELAND** who was born in the Bergen/Passaic area ca. 1789. Teunis married **MARGARET BANTA** on 19 June 1813 at the Paramus Reformed Church in Ridgewood.
3. William Oliver, 3261S. Federal Highway, Fort Pierce, Florida 33482 desires information concerning the parents and wives of **JONATHAN OLIVER**, born in New Jersey ca. 1805. Jonathan married twice. Wife #1 was the mother of **CAROLINE** b. 1840, **SARAH** b. 1842, **JONATHAN** b. 1844, **FREEMAN** b. 1846, **HARVEY**, b. 1848; wife #2 was the mother of **GEORGE** b. 1852, **ANTHONY** b. 1854 (Mr. Oliver's great-grandfather), and **MARGARET** b. 1856.
4. Mr. John Mills Stephens, 222 Danbury Circle South, Rochester, New York, 14618, is trying to locate a bible printed in London in 1630, that belonged to **MARY HUSSY**. Mary Hussy married **ISAAC DOLSON** and the bible contains family records for the **DOLSON**, **MILLS** and **HARDING** families. The last known owner of the bible was **EMMA CAUNCE** of 605 East 26th Street, Paterson, NJ in 1929. Information concerning the bible or the families listed above would be greatly appreciated.
5. Mrs. Eula H. Rosvall, 335 Grand Street, Powell, Wyoming 82435, would like to learn the names of the parents of her great-great-grandfather, **EDGAR MILLER**, who was born in Little Falls, NJ in 1812. Edgar married **LETETIA JACOBUS** of Cedar Grove, NJ in 1831.
6. Helen Estell Hull, Box 275, Interlaken, New York 14847, is researching the **ESTELL/ESTILE/ESDELL** family. Mrs. Hull is especially interested in **JACOB ESTIL**, who appears in the Hackensack tax lists of 1778-1780 as a householder with a horse and 2 cattle. Mrs. Hull would like to determine if Jacob relocated to New York state and later to Susquehanna Co., Pennsylvania.

Recent donations to Passaic County Historical Society

Paterson, NJ Illustrated by Charles Shriner, 1890
 Mrs. Isabelle Treiber, Haskell, NJ
Immigrants to Freedom: Jewish Communities in Rural, NJ Since 1882. By Joseph Brandes, c. 1971
 Mr. Joseph Brandes, Fairlawn, NJ
 Photograph of Phoebe (McGee) Case, b. 1820, d. 1892
 Mr. Gerard Case, Jersey City, NJ
Distribution of Textiles, Bureau of Business Research, c. 1926
 Mr. Edward Smyk, Paterson, NJ
Parents Magazine, Nov. - Dec. 1940, Feb. - April 1941
 Mr. Fletcher Fish, Hawthorne, NJ
 Postcards of Paterson, NJ
 Dr. Thomas Dayspring, Pompton Lakes, NJ
 Set of English Semi Porcelain dishes, late 19th C., Childs convertible high chair, 19th C.
 Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Condon, Clifton, NJ
Given Name Index to the Genealogical Magazine of New

Jersey. Vol. IV by Ken Strykker-Rodda, c. 1982.
 The Genealogical Society of New Jersey, Bound Brook, NJ.
A Systematic Survey of the Organic Coloring Matters by Dr. G. Schultz, c. 1904
 Mr. Edward Symk, Paterson
 Underwood Typewriter, early 20th Century
 Mr. John Hogan, Prospect Park
 Photograph of Guam-Paterson Club
 Mr. George Briggs, Tarpon Springs, Florida
 Textile Machinery
 Mrs. Pearson, Upper Montclair, NJ
 Information on the Descendants of William and Mary (Stevenson) White
 Mrs. Louise W. Levy, Cupertino, CA.
 Glass Plate Negatives, Boys High School Yearbooks
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kolenut, Wyckoff, NJ

Genealogy Club news

The newly formed Genealogy Club of the Passaic County Historical Society was created to provide an opportunity for researchers to meet and exchange genealogical information through regular programs and workshops. Topics of interest to both beginning and advanced genealogists will be included in the programs. The club will be meeting on the fourth Saturday of each month, September through May, at 10:00 AM at Lambert Castle Museum, Paterson, N.J.

Genealogy Club membership is open to any member of the Passaic County Historical Society. There will be no additional club dues. If you wish to join the Genealogy Club, please telephone the Society office, 881-2761, Monday through Friday, 9 AM to 4 PM.

SCHEDULE

1986	
September 27	William Ware-"Preserving Your Family Records"
October 18	"Family Tree Climbing Can Be Fun," An Everton Publishers Genealogy Workshop.
November 22	"Polish Genealogy," Thaddeus Obal

Membership application

Yes, I want to support the work of the Passaic County Historical Society. Please give me a membership in the following category:

___ **Student** \$ 5.00 ___ **Sustaining** \$ 50.00
 ___ **Senior Citizen** \$ 15.00 ___ **Benefactor** \$100.00
 ___ **Regular** \$ 20.00 ___ **Corporate** \$150.00
 ___ **Family** \$ 35.00

Enclosed is my membership fee of _____

plus a donation of _____

Total enclosed _____

Name _____

Address _____

Make checks payable to the Passaic County Historical Society,
 Lambert Castle, Valley Road, Paterson N.J. 07503

THE PASSAIC COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

LAMBERT CASTLE — VALLEY ROAD
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