PENNSYLVANIA HERITAGE SOCIETY®

Quarterly Newsletter and Calendar

Winter/Spring 2006

The 2005 Annual Appeal

Your financial support of the Pennsylvania Heritage Society is essential to making things happen at the PHMC, the state's official history agency. As a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the PHMC's vital educational mission, the Pennsylvania Heritage Society administers major grant projects such as **Teaching American History** teacher professional development and the **Save America's Treasures** Civil War Muster Rolls program at The State Museum and State Archives.

Without the PHS, these vibrant programs—including the publication of ***Pennsylvania Heritage*** magazine—would be nearly impossible to provide. This year, please consider a generous year-end gift to the Society to support these outstanding contributions to education and to create even more opportunities for valuable lifelong learning throughout Pennsylvania. Donations may be sent directly to the Pennsylvania Heritage Society Annual Appeal, 400 North Street, Harrisburg, PA, 17120.



*Dr. David Haury (left), Director of the Pennsylvania State Archives, and archivist/project director Linda Ries show PHMC Chair Wayne Spilove examples of the **Civil War Muster Rolls** to be conserved, thanks to major funding by the **Save America's Treasures** program and the **Pennsylvania General Assembly**.*

PHMC Partner in $1.2 Million Grant

***The Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit (CSIU)**, based in Lewisburg, was recently awarded a $1.2 million **Teaching American History** (TAH) grant from the U.S. Department of Education for **American History in Pennsylvania: Great Documents, Great Events, Great Places**, a three-year partnership with The State Museum of Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania State Archives administered by the Pennsylvania Heritage Society. The grant funds a professional development program which will serve 180 social studies and language arts teachers. This is the PHMC's second TAH partnership with the CSIU since 2002. Above: Dr. William Sisson, Chief Curator, provides hands-on experience to three CSIU-area teachers to explore original artifacts from The State Museum's collections.*



Major Conservation Funding to Civil War Project

On behalf of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC), the Pennsylvania Heritage Society (PHS) is the recipient of a $375,000 grant from the federal **Save America's Treasures** (SAT) program to support conservation of the original **Civil War Muster Rolls** at the Pennsylvania State Archives, Harrisburg. The amount is the largest ever awarded to a paper conservation project by SAT.

In addition, the Pennsylvania General Assembly has earmarked $225,000 to match the SAT award.

"We are extremely pleased to receive this prestigious and timely funding," said Barbara Franco, PHMC Executive Director. "Beyond ensuring the future of these seminal documents, the conservation and eventual digitization of the Civil War Muster Rolls will be a flagship project looking ahead to Pennsylvania's celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War in 2011."

"On behalf of the PHMC and PHS, I'd like to thank Representative Lynn Herman and Representative Frank Pistella for their tireless efforts in securing the state funding match for this important endeavor."

The project will stabilize a deteriorating core group of original Civil War Muster-Out Rolls. Essential to understanding the Commonwealth's role in the Civil War, the records are the official documents and primary sources of information about each of the approximately 362,000 Pennsylvania soldiers who served.

Seasonal Events at the Pl

Please note that sites and museums may have modified hour

Kids' Events

JOSEPH PRIESTLEY HOUSE
Northumberland, (570) 473-9474

April 22 **Science Saturday Morning at Priestley House** 10 a.m.

LANDIS VALLEY MUSEUM
Lancaster, (717) 569-0401

January 14 and 28 **Tavern Cooking Workshop for Children** ages 8 – 14, noon – 3 p.m.

February 11 **Quilling and Scherenschnitte Workshop for Children** ages 8 – 14, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

March 4 **Leatherworking Workshop for Children** 8 – 14, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

April 19 **Home School Day** 10 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

THE STATE MUSEUM OF PENNSYLVANIA
Harrisburg, (717) 787-4980

January 14 **Tucker's Tales Puppet Theater** 2 p.m.

February 5 **LOUIE in Concert** 2 p.m.

Special Events

CONRAD WEISER
Womelsdorf, (610) 589-2934

April 23 **French and Indian War Interpretive Sunday** noon – 4 p.m.

HOPE LODGE
Fort Washington, (215) 646-1595

April 8 **Colonial Merchant Day** 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

JOSEPH PRIESTLEY HOUSE
Northumberland, (570) 473-9474

January 8 **Twelfth Day at Priestley House** 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

March 26 **Meet Mary Russell and Company** 2 p.m.

LANDIS VALLEY MUSEUM
Lancaster, (717) 569-0401

February 11 and 14 **Victorian Valentine Dinner** 6 p.m. – 10 p.m.

PENNSBURY MANOR
Morrisville (215) 946-0400

April 2 **Historic Trades** 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

April 23 **Garden Highlights and Open Hearth Cooking Demonstration** 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

April 30 **Animals at Pennsbury: Then and Now** 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

PENNSYLVANIA MILITARY MUSEUM
Boalsburg, (814) 466-6263

April 22-23 **Battery B Drill Weekend Civil War Era Encampment**

Exhibits

THE STATE MUSEUM OF PENNSYLVANIA
Harrisburg, (717) 787-4980

Through February 26 **"Shopping for Memories: Pennsylvania's Department Stores"**

January 10 – June 18 **"Trailblazers: Notable African Americans in Pennsylvania History"**

March 12 – July 16 **"Covered Bridges: Spanning the American Landscape"**

Ongoing **Curiosity Connection and Planetarium Shows** Visit www.statemuseumpa.org for schedules.

Workshops and Lectures

CORNWALL IRON FURNACE
Cornwall, (717) 272-9711

January 10 **Sutler Tokens of Civil War Merchants: Forerunners of the Post Exchange**, Gerald Kochel 7:30 p.m. Freeman Hall, Cornwall Manor

February 14 **History of Postcards in the Lebanon Valley: 1893 to Present**, Donald Brown 7:30 p.m. Freeman Hall, Cornwall Manor

March 14 **"The Amish in the American Imagination"**, David Weaver-Zercher 7:30 p.m. Freeman Hall, Cornwall Manor

April 11 **Joseph Priestley**, Andrea Bashore 7:30 p.m. Freeman Hall, Cornwall Manor

ECKLEY MINER'S VILLAGE
Weatherly, (570) 636-2070

April 30 **Anthracite Canals and Railroads in the Nineteenth Century**, Ronald Teasdale 2 p.m.



OLD ECONOMY VILLAGE
Ambridge, (724) 266-4500

April 8 **Spring Garden Workshop**

LANDIS VALLEY MUSEUM
Lancaster, (717) 569-0401

February 11 **Heirloom Seed Workshop** 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

February 17 – 20 **Winter Institute – Traditional Craft Classes**

March 18 **Heirloom Seed Project Grafting Workshop** 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

PENNSYLVANIA MILITARY MUSEUM
Boalsburg, (814) 466-6263

January 30, February 27, March 27, April 24 **Military History Speakers Series** 7:30 p.m.

during the winter. Please call to verify hours before your visit.

Heritage Week 2006

Join the PHS and the PHMC to celebrate the Commonwealth's historic founding during **Heritage Week**, March 10 – 19, 2006. The original 1681 King Charles II charter to William Penn will be on display at The State Museum in Harrisburg, and all twenty-five PHMC sites and museums throughout the state will be open free of charge on Charter Day, Sunday, March 12. Two exciting events augment this year's celebration:

PHS Members' Charter Preview: *Evening Reception and Lecture*

Thursday, March 9, The State Museum, Harrisburg: Dr. John Frantz, professor emeritus of history at The Pennsylvania State University, "Religion in William Penn's 'Holy Experiment'" See www.paheritage.org for details.

Pennsylvania Homecoming Project *Select PHMC sites including The State Museum and Pennsylvania State Archives*

Saturday, March 18: Co-sponsored by the **Pennsylvania Tourism Office**, this new program is designed to inspire Pennsylvanians to find out more about their family heritage and plan family reunions during August, **Family Reunion Month**. On Saturday, March 18, PHMC sites will participate in broadcasting the keynote speaker from the **National Family Reunion Conference** in Pittsburgh, as well as offering information on planning your family reunion. Visit www.phmc.state.pa.us for more information.



Partners in History Grads: *Fifteen teachers from the* ***Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit*** *(CSIU), representing fourteen schools and nine school districts in the Lewisburg, Pa., region, spent a week at The State Museum and the Pennsylvania State Archives to learn about teaching Pennsylvania history with museum objects and archival material. This was the third year of* ***Partners in History****, a partnership between The State Museum of Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania State Archives, and CSIU funded by a major* ***Teaching American History*** *grant from the U.S. Department of Education. The 2005 participants were: (front row, left to right) Laura Williams, Anne Zelonis, Kristen Clark, Lonnie Hauer, Dianne Longwell, Maryann Troutman; (middle row) Suzie Nestico, Patti Kramer, Lisa Mertz, Richard Adams, Chris Morrison; (back row) Kathryn Reed, Mike Sanders, Aaron Domanski, and Robert Croop.*

Youth Projects at PHMC Sites and Museums

PHMC historic sites and museums have benefited from valuable hands-on preservation projects completed by student volunteers and youth program participants, as well as from the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry's Pennsylvania Conservation Corps (PCC). The PCC is a statewide program that offers work experience, job training and educational opportunities to young people ages eighteen to twenty-five. Some of the important work completed in the field this year:

Pennsylvania Lumber Museum, Galeton: PCC crew leader Steve Heck, Jacob Grebbien, Ben Stahley, Justin Gorg, Lonnie Hurst and Scott Crumline worked with staff and volunteers to construct a library room, shelving and custom made boxes for the museum's rare book collection which features valuable resources on the early twentieth-century lumber and tanning industries.

Pennsylvania Military Museum, Boalsburg: During the summer of 2005, Penn State University students entered over two thousand military history books into a database for the museum's new library—some of the books have not been readily available in over a decade.



Todd Clark, Michelle Dripps, Meg Pedlow, Military Museum Curator Joe Horvath and daughter Alyssa (front), Bhavna Lal, and Bill Ryder.



Landis Valley Museum, Lancaster: the PCC Collections Care Crew is currently cleaning a Peerless steam traction engine and grain thresher used by Rohrerstown thresherman Jacob Brubaker from 1900 until World War II. These machines will become part of a Pennsylvania German agricultural technology exhibit to be installed in the newly renovated collections building. Crew members, left to right, are Michelle Schickler, crew leader Jonathan Ebersole, Megan Keller, and assistant crew leader John Butz.





Best Wishes: *Executive Secretary Marcia Gobrecht (right) and Membership Coordinator Joan Dorko (left) served as the mainstay of the Pennsylvania Heritage Society for over two decades. It is with regret that we bid them farewell. We are grateful for their years of service and the high standard of customer service they set for the Society. They will be missed.*

New Exhibit Celebrates African Americans in Pennsylvania

Renowned classical musician and Erie native Harry T. Burleigh (1866–1949) will be featured in the exhibition **"Trailblazers: Notable African Americans in Pennsylvania"** opening January 10 at The State Museum in Harrisburg. On display through June 18, 2006, the exhibit highlights twenty significant African Americans with achievements in diverse walks of life. **"Trailblazers"** is also available for loan to organizations, such as historical societies, libraries, museums, and schools. For more information, please contact the Pennsylvania Federation of Museums and Historical Organizations, which is arranging its travel schedule (717) 909-6905 or dfilipi@pamuseums.org.



Harry T. Burleigh



Pennsbury Plus

Pennsbury Plus: *A gorgeous autumn day was the backdrop for a very successful Pennsylvania Heritage Society bus excursion, on October 19 to historic sites in Bucks County, Pa. The sold-out trip for PHS members and guests featured in-depth tours of PHMC's Pennsbury Manor and the Andalusia mansion. Lunch was served at the historic King George II Inn. Executive Secretary Marcia Gobrecht organized and led* ***Pennsbury Plus****. Pictured: Guests tour Pennsbury Manor's kitchen.*

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The Pennsylvania Heritage Society is a non-profit organization supporting the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC), the official state agency charged with preserving and interpreting the Commonwealth's heritage and culture.

Your membership in the Pennsylvania Heritage Society provides free admission to all PHMC sites throughout the Commonwealth as well as Time Travelers benefits—free or discounted admission and store discounts at more than 100 museums nationwide. Call us for additional information and a list of participating museums.