

The Chronicle

A Publication of the Historical Society of Trappe and the Perkiomen Valley

August 1996

Trappe-Collegeville, Pennsylvania 19426

Volume XXV, No. 3

Join in the Auction and Flea Market September 7th

Help make the 1996 Auction and Flea Market bigger than last year. The proceeds will be used to assist in the match of the Keystone Grant. We invite you to assist in the fun of the day. Please call Dr. Ivan Hess (610-489-7622).

Yes, we are still accepting items for the Auction (no overstuffed furniture or mattresses). Everything should be useable or workable—something you would be willing to buy. Tools and good toys are acceptable. To make arrangements for your delivery or someone to pick up materials, call Dr. Hess or Mary Hundertmark (610-489-6541).

Flea Market space is available at \$10.00 per space. Non-profit organizations are given free space. To make a reservation, please call Dr. Gail Snyder (215-679-2047).

Members of the Auction Committee are Dr. Ivan W. Hess, Alfred and Martha Douglas, Chester Piotrowsky, Erich Hess, Betty Cornell, and Mary Hundertmark.

The Flea Market begins at 8:30 A.M. and the Auction is scheduled for 2:00 P.M. Refreshments will be available.



1996 Historical Society Quilt Raffle

The 1996 Historical Society Quilt is the four-block star pattern and is 80 x 90 inches in size. It will be on display the day of the Auction. It was made by Ann Schrack, Lee Haas, Clara Gensler, Evelyn Hoopes, Thelma Rich, and Helen Redding. You may buy a raffle ticket for \$1.00 (6 for \$5.00) from any of the Quilters or the Auction Committee from now until September 7th on site. The income is for the support of the Society.

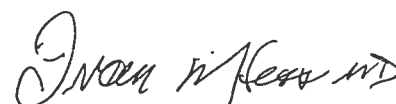
If you would like to have your material quilted, call Mrs. Schrack (610-489-4872).

The President's Message

The interior restoration of the Muhlenberg House is progressing steadily. Due to the nature of the work and the scope, it will be a slow but steady progression. We will have heat and light and will be able to have meetings in it by late fall.

Work and planning for the Flea Market and Auction are moving ahead. We plan to have more items in the Auction than last year. We will also have a quilt raffle, the quilt having been made by Anne Schrack and her quilters.

Funds are still needed for the total completion of the interior restoration. The Grant plus the matching funds will not complete the work. Please send a contribution if you are able.



*Ivan W. Hess, M.D.
President*

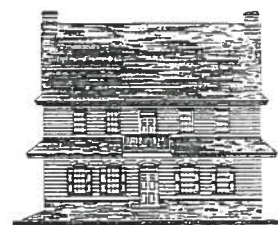
Help Preserve Plaster

There are a half-dozen or more areas containing plaster original to the Muhlenberg House. This is very expensive to consolidate and stabilize. The cost will be beyond the contract.

There are two ways you can help restore and save this plaster for future generations: (1) you may send a gift and mark it clearly for plaster restoration (we expect the cost to be approximately \$3,000 to \$5,000), or (2) you may request a piece of the 18th century plaster that is beyond consolidation in larger areas to place in your private artifact collection or family museum.

You may want to contribute a piece, properly mounted by yourself, to your local church's museum. This will be a piece of Americana from the home of one of the leading American church pastors and church founders and organizers. If you are a member of a Lutheran Church, this will have special meaning to you.

A record of plaster contributions will be kept and a time will be announced for you to get your artifact.



*From The Journals of
Henry Melchior Muhlenberg
1777*

September 6, Saturday. Today I am sixty-six years old and am entering upon my sixty-seventh year.

The folly of my youth
And all my base acts, too,
Condemn me in Thy sight.
Poor soul, what shall I do?

••
Lord Jesus, to Thy wounds I flee,
Thy mercy I implore;
Receive me in Thy warm embrace
To stay for evermore.

••
The sorrows, Lord, that try us,
O bring them to an end!
With needed strength supply us!
Thy love to us commend!

••
Amen! That is, let it be so,
And strengthen Thou our faith below.

"This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners."

This summer I beheld a scene or *portrait* at my small dwelling place. A scrawny, unattractive hen, or pullet, laid eleven eggs in a hidden place amid a great cackling. For several weeks the hen sat on the eggs, suffering hunger and thirst and hardly taking a few minutes during the day to search for food in order to preserve life. Finally the little creature came out and brought eleven chicks to my door and asked for feed for her helpless offspring. She broke the bread for her young ones, warmed them at her breast, protected them against storms, warned them when she spied a bird of prey from afar, drew them after her when she wished to stray, fought men and strong beasts who approached too near to her young ones, cut a figure with her wings as if she were wearing a hoop-skirt, and brought her young ones to my door or under my window five or six times a day and asked me to feed them. When the young ones had grown enough to help themselves, there was not one among them which showed enough gratitude to bring the mother a kernel of corn or share a chance crumb. Moreover, the mother ceased calling them, became quiet, modest, shy, and timid, and withdrew into solitude. *Fiat applicatio* to poor, aged parents and preachers, children and congregations.

Dr. John C. Shetler, Editor
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300 W. 3rd Avenue
Trappe, PA 19426-2226

❖ ❖ **Dewees Tavern** ❖ ❖

Toy Exhibit Continues

Children's toys will be on exhibit through the regular summer schedule on Sundays 1:30 to 4:00 P.M. until August 31. September and October the exhibit may be seen by appointment by calling President Hess (610-489-7622) or Curator Shetler (610-489-2624).

If you have toys that can be displayed on floor space, such as a wagon, tricycle, scooter, baby carriage, high chair, and similar items fifty or more years old, please call the Curator. These can be displayed during the remaining months. We shall be glad to receive permanent gifts of toys.

Muhlenberg House Artifacts

Some Muhlenberg artifacts are always on display and can be seen on any trip through the museum.

Contributions to Dewees Museum

The next issue of *The Chronicle* will include the names of persons who have contributed items to the museum thus far in 1996. You may make contributions of antiques, small tavern tables, 18th or 19th century cooking utensils, candlesticks, pewter, coins, clothing, tools, and documents. Call Dr. John C. Shetler (610-489-2624).

Museum Committee

A Museum Committee is being formed. If you would like to help work behind the scenes in the museum, please call the Curator. We can use persons to care for fabrics, metalware, woodware, cleaning, dusting, and recording information.

Dewees House also a Muhlenberg House

The east third of the Dewees House was built at the same time as Muhlenberg House and was owned in 1801 by General Peter Muhlenberg as an investment. Today order a copy of the watercolor print, the original of which was done by Mr. Eugene Bechtel of Trappe. Call President Hess (610-489-7622).

Library Hours

Please call The Rev. R. David Koch (610-495-7767) to make an appointment to visit our library. Contribution expected for research.

**C E R T I F I C A T E O F G I F T
FOR MATCHING GRANT**

To help restore the Muhlenberg House, I/we enclose a check made payable to the
HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF TRAPPE, in the name of

Street	Town	State/Zip	Tel.
_____	_____	_____	_____
____\$25	____\$50	____\$100	____\$500
			____\$1,000
			____Other

Clip and mail to: **Historical Society of Trappe**
P.O. Box 828 Collegetown, PA 19426

Geothermal Climate Control for Muhlenberg House

Two wells have been drilled on the Muhlenberg property—one to provide water for cooling in the summer and for heating in the winter—the other to receive the return flow of water and send it back clean to the earth streams.

One unit for heating/cooling will be in the cellar and the other in the garret. Auxiliary heating when use requires a higher temperature than the earth water provides will be by electric units at each of the two stations.

The Muhlenberg Committee is gratified that it can use a modern conservation method to climatize a two-and-half-century-old house and at the same time provide economical operation.

We think the Muhlenbergs who were progressive people, would approve of this method. Your gifts help to provide this system.



Preventive Termite Treatment

The infrastructure of Muhlenberg House, joists, sill plates, paling, and stone walls are receiving non-toxic preventive termite treatment by the J. C. Ehrlich Co., Inc. The Ehrlich Co., George E. Fidler, Division Manager, has contributed labor and the FMC Corporation of Princeton, NJ, has contributed the non-toxic material for the exterior of the south and west sides of the house. The east and north sides have archaeological work still to be completed. The interior treatment was done on July 29th, with Mr. Fidler contributing his labor.

The Muhlenberg Committee is very grateful for the professional services of these two companies for the preservation of the house, which will become a Heritage Center for ethical and moral leadership.

C · A · L · E · N · D · A · R

Through August 31	Children's Exhibit 1:30 - 4:00 P.M. Museum Sundays Only Weekdays By Appointment (Children must be accompanied by parents)
September-November	Museum Open By Appointment
September 7	Auction and Flea Market
November 11	Veteran's Day Dinner 7:00 P.M.
December 15, 22	Museum Open House 1:30 - 4:00 P.M.

Needed!!

Dewees Lawn Attendant

We urgently need a volunteer (or volunteers) to mow the grass at the Dewees Tavern.

Please call Dr. Ivan W. Hess, President, at 610-489-7622.

GIFT SUGGESTIONS

Prints of Dewees Tavern from a Water Color

by Mr. Eugene Bechtel (These are limited edition prints. Only 250 were made. When the supply is exhausted, there will not be another printing.)

Signed Print	\$ 40.00
Matted Signed Print	\$ 55.00
Matted Artist's Proof	\$ 65.00
Framed Signed Print	\$125.00
Framed Artist's Proof	\$135.00

Display a TRAPPE FLAG on our National Holidays

Desk Top Flag with Holder	\$ 3.00
12" X 18" Flag	\$ 5.00

Mugs Suitable for All-Purpose Gifts

Displays the Symbol of Trappe	\$ 3.00
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Bill of Rights (Facsimile)

Contains the Signature of Frederick Muhlenberg	\$ 1.00
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Anniversary Book of Trappe

275th - Pictures, Historical Sketches, Businesses	\$ 2.00
250th - Pictures, Historical Sketches, Businesses	\$ 1.00

Map of Itinerary of Washington's Army in Montgomery County

Army Crosses Schuylkill at Parkerford and Some Units Camp in Trappe	\$ 3.00
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T-Shirts

Some T-shirts are available. Three different logos: Old Style Muhlenberg House, New Style Muhlenberg House, and Emblem of Trappe. Some Large, Medium, and Small sizes. Also some Children's sizes. Prices: \$6.00 and \$8.00

<u>Tiles with Trappe Emblem</u>	\$ 2.00
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<u>Muhlenberg Sunvisors</u>	25¢ each or 5 for \$1.00
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<u>Postcards/Scenes in Trappe</u>	25¢ each or 5 for \$1.00
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Call Ways and Means Chairperson, Dr. Gail Snyder (215) 679-2047

<u>Muhlenberg Plate</u> , by Lester Breiningner Call Dr. Ivan Hess (610) 489-7622	\$100.00
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Items may be obtained at the Dewees Tavern on the last Wednesday of each month, 7:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M., where the Muhlenberg Committee and the Historical Society Board meet.

**IF YOU HAVE FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS WHO FORMERLY LIVED IN THE TRAPPE AREA,
REMEMBER THEM WITH AN HISTORICAL SOCIETY GIFT.**

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF TRAPPE
P.O. BOX 828
COLLEGEVILLE, PA 19426

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ORGANIZATION
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19426
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AUGUST 1996 NEWSLETTER
PLEASE, DO NOT DELAY!

Historical Society of Trappe
AUCTION *and* FLEA MARKET

September 7, 1996

Muhlenberg House • 201 Main Street • Trappe

 **Flea Market**
9 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Auction 
2:00 P.M.

Reserve Your Table Now!
Individuals \$10⁰⁰
Non-Profits N/C

- ❖ Refreshments
- ❖ Baked Goods
- ❖ Quilt Raffle
- ❖ Collectibles
- ❖ Antiques
- ❖ Treasures
- ❖ and More!

