

# History in the Making



The Newsletter of the New Hope Historical Society

## Signature Quilt on Display to Celebrate 225th Anniversary of the Parry Mansion



A rare 19th-century signature quilt that was created by family members and friends of the Parry family in 1884 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Parry Mansion is now on display in the center hall of the mansion from Sept. 12 to Dec. 13.

Margaret Parry Lang, the great-great-granddaughter of Benjamin Parry, the builder of the Parry Mansion, donated the quilt to the New Hope Historical Society in the late 1970s.

"Linda Ricker and I had visited Margaret at the hospital after she had severely injured her leg in an accident," recalled Dee Rosenwald, Director Emeritus of the Historical Society.

"As we were leaving the hospital, Margaret Parry Lang gave us a package wrapped in tissue paper, tightly bound with string," said Ms. Rosenwald. "When we arrived back in New Hope that afternoon and opened the package, we were thrilled to see this beautiful quilt . . . I can still remember Margaret's words to us about the gift," she said.

"I think I'm going to have to part with this. You should have it for safe-keeping. It belongs in the Parry Mansion. Please take care of it," pleaded Ms. Lang.



Edwin Hild, president of the New Hope Historical Society, was delighted to direct the preparation of the quilt for the upcoming exhibit. "The signatures and messages on this 'Flying Geese' pattern signature quilt represent a large number of the most prominent members of the New Hope, Bucks County and Lambertville families from the 19th century," noted Mr. Hild. "This is a truly fitting exhibit to help us kick off our celebration of the Parry Mansion's 225th anniversary and membership drive," he added.

In the mid-19th century a single quilt-maker or a group of them would

gather to assemble blocks of fabrics to create quilts to celebrate a significant



event, honor a distinguished member of the community or as going-away gifts for families and friends. Each block in the quilt was signed by a family member or friend. So, the signature quilt was kind of a mosaic of community friendship and good will. The custom lagged for some time, but was revived in the late 19th century.

Please make it a point to stop by and view the quilt to see if your family names appear: Patrick Duffy, Michael Bolan, Kate B. Gamble, Lillie Tyler, Williamson, Charles Foulke, Mrs. John Kelly, Lambertville, NJ, George Akers, Mary Ellen Roe, John D. Cox to name a few.

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**Deborah Lang**  
Executive Director

The New Hope Historical Society was founded in 1958. Its headquarters are located in the Parry Mansion on 45 S. Main St in New Hope. For information: 215-862-5652 [newhopehs@verizon.net](mailto:newhopehs@verizon.net) or [www.newhopehs.org](http://www.newhopehs.org)

**Letter from the Executive Directors Desk**

*First I must mention that I personally had a wonderful experience on the Coach trip to New York which you will find featured in another section of this month's newsletter! The trip was incredibly well-planned, thanks to Dee Rosenwald and Larry Keller, the day flew by as I was educated, entertained and enjoyed a delicious meal with fabulous company. This was my first trip but certainly not my last!*

*We were scheduled to close The Mansion for tours on Oct 25th but we are determined to remain open this year for tours as needed through November. Ending our November events will be the tree lighting ceremony on November 29th, which we will celebrate by remaining open the entire day. Goodies will be served on the lawn compliments of the Chamber anticipating the arrival of Santa.*

*The Mansion will be also be open and decorated Saturday and Sunday December 12th and 13th from 1 to 6 to correspond with Victorian Christmas.*

*Finally I wish to ask that all members with internet capability please send an email to [newhopehs@verizon.net](mailto:newhopehs@verizon.net) with your name, address and phone number so that we can update our membership database.*

*Best wishes for your holiday season.*

*Deborah Lang*

**NEW MEMBER PICNIC**

"It wouldn't dare rain on our picnic!" declared Jan Michael as she staked the Mansion lawn for a game of croquet. And she was right. The sky threatened, but the rain passed us by as board members Jan Michael, Roy Ziegler, Bryce Sanders and Dee Rosenwald greeted their guests who were invited to attend the picnic, tour the Parry Mansion and hopefully be enticed to join the Society.

President, Edwin Hild had also invited several close friends who recently joined and everyone feasted on home-made gourmet goodies supplied by Board members. As a thank you for joining, each new member was presented with a beautiful color reproduction of Edward W. Redfield's "Christmas Morning" which depicts the Parry Mansion covered in snow.

Close to forty attended the event and many new friends were made and a great time was had by all.

See you and your guest at the next new member event?



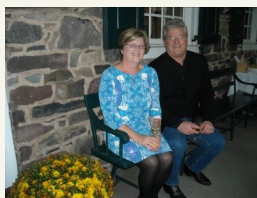
Jan and George Michael, guess who won?



Jane Sanders and Marilyn Lanctot



Doug and Kelly Mc Dowell



Pat and Mary Holmes



John Byers and Edwin Hild



Edward and Lisa Harrigan

**225TH NEW MEMBER CAMPAIGN IN FULL SWING**

The Society wishes to extend a warm welcome to the following individuals, households and businesses who have recently joined us. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events and want to remind you to *be sure* to reserve your Redfield print if you have not already received it.

***Please help us welcome:***

Susan Achenbach, Vicki Barrett, Robert and Suzanne Bodine, Mr and Mrs John R Brillman, John Byers / Porches On the Towpath B & B, Judy Byrnes, Paul Beckwith and David Cannell, Michael Burns (L),

Richard Cordover (L), Peter Dankin, Lou and Carol DellaPenna, Dunlap & Associates P.C. CPA (B), Susan Lavyer and Robert Facchina, Lisa Menz / Fox and Hound Inn (B), Mr and Mrs Joseph Francht, Adele Gamble, Debbie Hart, Chris Hauber, F. Patrick and Mary Tyler M. Holmes, Evelyn Killen, Cecily Laidman, Mark E. Lomax, Kay Lopata, Edric and Mary Ellen Mason, Carl and Camille Matthews, Doug and Kelly

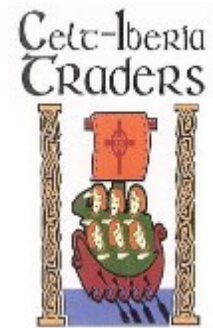
McDowell, Mrs F Robert Michael, Richard B Millman, Marty Murray, Anna, Moises & John Paul Palacio, Sharon Pratt, William Van Veldron and Louise Queripel, Scott and Tricia Reines, Tom and Alicia Scannapieco, Heather Sherstad-Schaller, Dr and Mrs Jerry Shupack, Audrey Homan Sperling, Karen Doughty and Art Steinmark, Craig and Leslie Stiffler, Vie and Irv Tabaac,

**WELCOME TO THE NEW TENANTS OF THE PARRY BARN !**

The Society welcomes Mike Burns and Richie Cordover of Celt-Iberia Traders, as our new tenants at the Parry Barn located at 52 S Main Street opposite the Parry Mansion.



Mike and Richie plan to expand into the Barn in February keeping their current location throughout the holiday season.



Celt-Iberia is currently located at 15 W. Ferry Street , the gallery offers traditional and unusual art, crafts and

gifts made by artists in Ireland and Spain. They specialize in stylish and traditional winter woolens, clothing and accessories.

We also welcome them as new members of the Society !

**WHAT'S NEW AT THE PARRY MANSION ?**

We would like to introduce you to our new docents: Leslie Terrian, Judy Brynes, and Heather Sherstad-Schaller. All reside locally and we are so happy they have decided to join us. Alongside long-time docent Evelyn Killen these amazing woman have managed to increase attendance at the mansion and generate new interest in the Society as they introduced a new tour written by Edwin Hild, Terry McNealy,

and Roy Ziegler. Each weekend the doors to the Mansion open for **free** guided tours. The signs are posted, the gates are opened, and four smiling faces are on hand to greet the guests as they arrive for tours. Please make sure to visit us during Victorian Christmas weekend, December 12 & 13 from 1 to 4PM, to meet them and learn about decorations and customs during this special season.

We also will have two special guests on hand to introduce and sign their recently published children's books. Historical Society members: Andy Koser and Jim McGinniss are excited to share their new stories with you and they will make great gifts! We look forward to seeing you soon!



**Christmas Feast**

## 2009 Coach Tour visited Two Collections on Fifth

The New Hope Historical Society's 39<sup>th</sup> annual coach tour traveled to New York City on Thursday, October 1st. This year's tour demonstrated why folks keep coming back each year to this marvelous autumn event.

Dee Rosenwald, Director Emeritus of the Historical Society, lead the tour for the thirtieth year with the adroit assistance of New Hope Mayor Lawrence Keller.

The coach departed at 8 AM from the Staples parking lot in New Hope. Delicious Starbucks Coffee and snacks began the day courtesy of Mayor Keller. The tour group enjoyed coffee and pastries as they journeyed to their first stop in Manhattan at the glorious new American Wing of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. "This fabu-



Monty Blanchard with some of his favorite pieces.



Susan Sandor admiring Monty's collection.

lous new museum wing houses vast treasures of artifacts, all made in America," said Dee Rosenwald. "The Met has been collecting only the best of the best since it opened in 1870," she added.

Arguably, no other institution can boast both the quantity and quality of decorative arts, furnishings, paintings and sculpture that are contained in the magnificent galleries.

Ms. Rosenwald suggested anyone interested should obtain a copy of the Met's guidebook to the new American Wing entitled, "A Walk through the American Wing." The book retails for \$9.95 and it is a great resource for helping to navigate the vast amount of works on display. Rosenwald encourages folks to obtain a copy before taking a tour. The grand entrance to the new wing can be a breathtaking experience with its vast glass-roofed space and floor to ceiling window overlooking Central Park.

Dee and Larry provided an overview of the museum and advised everyone not to spend too much time in any given area or they would miss something else wonderful.

This was great advice. We were given ample time to tour the museum as long as we kept up a good pace. A group photo was taken on the steps of the Met and we were off to lunch.



Following our gourmet lunch at the chic, new Cavatappo Restaurant uptown, the tour traveled to upper Fifth Avenue to the home of Monty Blanchard, a significant collector of "Outsider Art" sometimes described as folk or primitive art. Mr. Blanchard agreed to open his home to the New Hope Historical Society tour guests for a rare look at these fine works. He is a contributor to the American Folk Museum on West 53<sup>rd</sup> Street, and is a member of its board of directors. Historical Society president, Edwin Hild, accompanied the tour and lent his expertise as a folk art connoisseur as the guests toured the exhibits. Forty-four guests joined Dee and Larry on this trip, returning to New Hope sharing a glass of



The Meadow's, The Blady's & Adrianne Emmertz



Luncheon at Cavatappo was enjoyed by all !

wine and the highlights of their day. Dee and Larry are already considering destinations for their 2010 adventure.

Be sure to make your reservations early and *thank you* for supporting the Society.



Dee Rosenwald & Larry Keller admire art objects

## A Message From The President

It is hard to believe that in less than one month, I will finish my first year as President of the Society.

The greatest reward has been working with the Board of Directors and establishing relationships with many of our members. It is now time for me to assess the year's accomplishments, look at the shortcomings, and most importantly look forward to setting the goals for the upcoming year. I am most pleased with the accomplishments of the numerous committees and the long rang plans they have set into motion. I also want to welcome all

the new members who joined the Society this year during our 225th Membership drive. There is still time for all



Edwin Hild with the 2009 Garden Tour Honorary Chairs, Bill and Jane MacDowell donating proceeds of roadside garden

of you to Invite a Friend to Join! As the year culminates in November with the

## Edwin Hild

Annual Meeting and dinner, plans for future events in the spring have already blossomed. Gardens are being chosen for the Garden Tour, advertising has begun and people are calling for reservations. In fact the first Hummingbird (sponsor) has arrived! Thank you.

In the interim, I look forward to seeing many of you at the Annual Dinner and in December at the "Spirited Holiday Tea" with entertainment by Bob Egan and the marvelous voices of our members.

My Best,

Edwin Hild, President

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERS ENJOY THEIR AUCTION PRIZES OVER THE SUMMER

One of the winners of the auction prizes from our 50th Anniversary Dinner that was held in November, 2008. Phil and Dani Castrogiovanni treated twenty-four of their friends to a glorious boat ride down the Delaware River in September

by the Bucks County Trolley & Boat Ride Company. Their sojourn was catered by Jamie Hollander and Phil and Dani provided beverages and entertainment. "We had a terrific time reported Dani, and it was so great to know that we were also helping to supp

ort the New Hope Historical Society at the same time." she added.

Earlier in the summer, Charles F. Tarr and Roy Ziegler used their auction prize to visit Congressman Patrick Murphy at his office in Washington DC. Congressman Murphy's staff conducted an inside tour of the United States Capitol building for them.



Congressman Patrick Murphy center hosts Charles Tarr left and Roy Ziegler



## Our beloved Edwin "Ned" Harrington departed Society on September 24, 2009. He was 89.

Ned was quite a character! He raised donkeys, goats, and sheep for many years, and from 1971 to 1988, operated a wholesale nursery, specializing in his favorite Alberta Spruce. He published a volume of poetry and a novel of village life. Edwin also became interested in local history, and wrote

the history of the Carversville Christian Church. He compiled several volumes of family genealogy, three volumes on the history of Carversville and numerous other works on Solebury Township history. He conducted detailed research on more than 400 historic houses, and be-

came director of research for the Solebury Township Historical Society. Ned wrote a column titled "Sweepings," for many years which appeared in local papers. Edwin had a passion for genealogy and would often contact the New Hope Historical Society to discuss and share his



research activities with members of the staff. The New Hope Historical Society wishes to thank the Harrington family for their donation of records and documents about New Hope from Edwin's files. Ned was a dear friend and well respected gentleman.

New Hope Historical Society  
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UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE NEW HOPE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

DECEMBER 7 AT 5 PM	ANNUAL HOLIDAY "SPIRITED" TEA
DECEMBER 13 & 14 1-4PM	ANNUAL VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION
DECEMBER 29 5:30PM	CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING
JANUARY 31 AT 2 PM	HISTORIC WALKING TOUR OF NEW HOPE