

History in the making



The Parry Mansion

The Newsletter of the New Hope Historical Society

Garden Tour to present a six pack for garden enthusiasts

NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

- PARRY MANSION WINS LANDMARK TOWNS AWARD
- A SPOTLIGHT ON NEW MEMBER BENEFITS
- PARRY VIDEO SELECTED FOR NEW HOPE FILM FESTIVAL
- REMINISCING AT THE RUINS
- A NEW ERA BEGINS FOR PARRY'S OLD MILL
- SPRING GARDEN PARTY SET FOR JUNE 11



Grand Circle of Roses



Arches made from dead Cedar Trees



Tuteared container with a backdrop of fountain grasses

by Susan Sandor

SAVE THE DATE for the most talked about garden tour in Bucks County where some of the finest gardens on earth attract more than butterflies and hummingbirds! Each year the committee wonders, "How will we find another six gardens to meet our standards?" and somehow they manage to do just that.

Nearly 1,000 garden enthusiasts are expected to stroll the diverse, private Bucks County gardens being featured at the 19th Annual New Hope Historical Society Garden Tour. The theme of this year's event, which takes place on Saturday, June 2nd is "Spring Fever." You are invited to wander this self-guided tour at your own pace from 10 in the morning until 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

As if six juicy gardens aren't enough to end your spring thirst, ticket holders are welcome to drink in the beauty of a presentation titled "Conifers: Twelve Months of Color," at the end of the day. Ridge Goodwin, an expert and grower of rare conifers will take you on a "talk and walk" through his private emerald green conifer gardens in Holicong at 4:15 pm.

A full color brochure with pictures and description of each garden, map, and easy directions are included with each ticket priced at \$30. Garden Rewards Bags stuffed with Organic Gardening magazine, Burpee Seeds, Espoma plant food, sunscreen from Aubrey Organics, stevia from Wholesome Sweeteners, Green Scene published by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, and offers and gifts from local sponsors are available while they last and can be picked up at the garden gates.

Are you a collector? Razzle-dazzle limited edition crystal daisy stretch rings designed by local artist Pearl Mintzer will be available at the gardens to commemorate the garden tour theme of feverfew flowers. Only 100 were created so if you've been collecting Pearl's jewelry grab one at the first garden you visit.

Catch spring fever by visiting www.newhopehs.org where you'll see pictures from last year's garden tour and a video created by John Weber and Kim Bjorheim of Delaware Valley Video. Tickets can be ordered online or by phone at 215-862-5652.



Majestic Pond and Place of Respite



Butterfly Landing Pads



Elegant Urn and Iron Gate Entrance

19th Annual New Hope Historical Society Garden Tour—June 2

The New Hope Historical Society

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Executive Director

The New Hope Historical Society was founded in 1958. Its headquarters is located in the Parry Mansion on 45 S. Main Street in New Hope. For information: 215-862-5652
newhopehs@verizon.net or
www.newhopehistoricalsociety.org

From the Executive Director

HISTORY IN THE MAKING

Finally we can get past winter and enjoy the Parry Mansion again.

The past few months have been exciting with Benjamin Parry Day, The Ruins visit, and The Speaker Series. Most of the events were packed to capacity and those of us lucky enough to have participated surely enjoyed the proceedings!

Benjamin Parry Day was perfect with everyone enjoying each other's smiles and chat. The Benjamin Parry Video made its debut as we shared wine, hors d'oeuvres and the most delicious cake from C'est la Vie! I was very impressed with the performance of Charlie Huchet who was wonderful in his portrayal of our namesake. We have also submitted this film to the New Hope Film Festival as an entry in their competition.

It was charming to see Jim Hamilton and Melissa reminisce at his old residence The Ruins. We certainly all wish the new owners luck with their project and look forward to seeing their progress.

Mondays this April were marvelous, with the Speaker Series providing a wonderful historic insight into our community. The dynamic venue broke attendance records! This Year's series was very successful due to the skillful guidance of Carole Martin and her most wonderful crew of volunteers.

I am looking forward to the 19th Annual Garden Tour, which is our next big event. Please be sure to sign up, as we want to see all of you out enjoying the neighborhood greenery. If you haven't yet picked up your tickets, please arrange for them as soon as possible. Please remember also, we are always looking for volunteers, this month specifically for docents. If you or someone you know could guide a tour please give me a ring so we can begin orientation. It's really fun and not as difficult as you might imagine. We can always use more volunteer help in other areas as well.

If you have some time I can certainly find a niche for **your skills**.

Best wishes,
Deborah



Deborah Lang

Landmark Towns of Bucks County selects Parry Mansion for award



Deborah Lang, Ben Meadows, Elissa Garafolo and Donna Boone at the Landmark Towns Awards Dinner

The New Hope Historical Society's historic Parry Mansion was selected for the Landmark Towns of Bucks County's 2012 award in the category of "Outstanding Preservation Success Story. In presenting the award at the Yardley Country Club on

March 29, Donna Boone, Executive Director of Landmark Towns, noted that the award honors a cost-effective building renovation which respects the architectural history of the building." Ms. Boone noted that eligible projects must meet all local municipal requirements and be approved by the Historic and Architectural Review Board in the municipality.

Also presenting the award to Ben Meadows and Deborah Lang was Elissa Garafolo, president of the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor.

History in the Making is a publication of the New Hope Historical Society
Roy Ziegler, Editor

Spotlight on New Benefits

You know the score. You're familiar with popular free events like the Spirited Tea and Benjamin Parry Day. You know about the Garden Tour and the Annual Meeting. What about the new member benefits added in 2012? Let's address details on **two** benefits. Visit www.newhopehs.org to learn more about the others.

Stouts Hill

Many Society members like to travel. England is a popular destination. Armchair travelers watch Rick Steve's Europe



and Downton Abbey on PBS. Vacationing in an English County House may be a life-long ambition. The Historical Society has reached an agreement with Stouts Hill Cotswold Holiday Resort, a County Manor House with nine apartments

and five cottages in a 27 acre estate in England.

What's the Deal?

Society members may rent apartments in the off season at 300 pounds/week (about \$ 480, assuming \$1.60/pound) subject to availability. Regular rates apply the rest of the year (about \$ 720 - \$ 1,120)

What Do I Get?

Saturday to Saturday use of a studio, one or two bedroom apartment (or two bedroom cottage). Each has bath, kitchen, dining area and is equipped with bone china, flatware, crystal and linens. Ideal for elegant entertaining in your apartment. Units sleep 4-6 people.

The house has large public rooms including a library and honors bar. The grounds include indoor and outdoor swimming pools, nine hole pitch and putt golf course, tennis court, croquet lawn and more.

Where is It?

Stouts Hill is located in the Cotswold town of Uley, about 100 miles from London. It's convenient to Bath, Oxford, Gloucester, Wales and the Southwest of England. You need a car to get around. Uley has a one general store, one pub and no ATM or traffic light.

What's the "Off Season"?

Broadly speaking, January through March, November and December.

Pricing is based on availability. If you choose to travel in the high season (April through October) regular rental rates apply, about 450 – 700 pounds. (\$ 720 - \$ 1,120/wk).

How Do I Learn More? Book?

Visit www.stoutshill.co.uk to get details. Call directly at 011 44 1453 860134. The general manager is Maureen Dolphin. Identify yourself as a Society member.

Fireworks on the Lawn

Friday night Fireworks draws crowds to New Hope. The Parry Mansion offers an excellent view and features a large lawn.

What's the Deal?

Fifty people may sign up to bring their own picnic and view the fireworks from the Parry Mansion lawn on Friday, June 22nd and Friday, July 27th. Members are free. Guests are admitted for \$ 5.00 per person.

What Do I Get?

Enjoy a centrally located grassy lawn to set out your picnic dinner and watch the fireworks with your friends. Assuming fireworks start at 9:00 PM, you may arrive at 8:00 PM and stay through 10:00 PM. You bring all your own supplies and clean up afterwards. No fires – we have a big wood porch!



How Do I Learn More? Reserve Space?

Visit the Society website www.newhopehs.org go to "membership" and click on the fireworks benefit. To reserve space call Deborah Lang, Executive Director at 215-862-5652

Reminiscing at the Ruins

Lifetime members enjoyed a special VIP event at the Ruins in New Hope on March 25th. Informal tours of the site took place as guests nibbled on hors d'oeuvres from Hamilton's Grill, and sampled wines from Unionville Winery. The honored guests, Jim Hamilton and his daughter Melissa Hamilton delighted the audience with stories about their life at the Ruins, its renovation and architecture, and historical trivia of that era. After their reminiscing, guests enjoyed a lively question and answer period.



Part of the crowd of about 50 Lifetime Members and past presidents who gathered at The Ruins to hear Jim and Melissa



Melissa Hamilton, left, and Jim Hamilton, foreground chat with Noemi Ali and Paul Keller, owners of the "Ruins"

The Development Committee wishes to thank all of the volunteers, and businesses who helped to make this a notable event. We hope to continue a yearly recognition and appreciation event for our Lifetime members; a "living history" occasion for the New Hope Historical Society.

Editor's Note: The buildings referred to as the "Ruins" were originally part of a mill that had been built by William Maris shortly after his arrival in New Hope around 1813. They were an expansion of Robert Heath's original mills that had stood on the opposite side of Suga Road. The mills were used as cotton, fulling and silk mills. After a fire partially destroyed the mill in 1836, Maris rebuilt it. William Maris had been Benjamin Parry's chief rival in New Hope at the time. Following the lawsuit that he filed against Parry and lost; and the fire at the mill, Maris left town under the shadow of bankruptcy. The mill was later purchased by Joshua Whiteley in 1864. Maris's home "Cintra" still stands across the street from the New Hope-Solebury High School. Jim Hamilton purchased the Ruins in 1962. He designed and built a home that is nestled within the old structure of the mill. Mr. Hamilton will have an opportunity to repeat his effort, having been selected by the new owners of the Ruins to design a new residence there. Construction has already begun on the renovation.

Pointing of Parry Mansion fieldstone begins

The pointing repair on the Parry Mansion has begun. It is being done by Andrew deGruchy of deGruchy Masonry Restoration. After careful review of the numerous proposals we had received, we determined that Andrew's philosophy and methods are the most appropriate match to our Board's mission statement. Andrew believes that, "If it isn't broken, don't fix it." Most of the pointing on the Mansion is the original 18th century lime and mortar. It allows moisture to wick out of the building preventing build-up. During the last one hundred years, Portland cement has been used to make repairs in the pointing. This product seals in the moisture which can be quite destructive to both interior and exterior woodwork.

The deGruchy proposal was the only one that did not recom-

mend totally removing all the existing pointing, and replacement of with a contemporary pointing product. Instead, The existing lime and sand mixture will be analyzed to determine its exact proportions and proper color. That formula will be used to replace the Portland cement. This is a very exciting project that will help the New Hope Historical Society keep the Parry Mansion in good health for the coming century.

On behalf of the Board of Directors I would like to personally thank all of our members, sponsors and benefactors for their generous support. Their donations make it possible for us to be true to our mission of preserving and maintaining the Mansion as an iconic 18th century landmark. For more information visit the deGruchy website: degruchymasonry.com.

by Ernie Bowman

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Society's normal events for the long cold winter months took place in spite of the very unusually warm temperatures that the entire east coast experienced. In fact, the annual Winter Festival sponsored jointly by New Hope and Lambertville went off quite well with warm temperatures even though the Ice Sculptures maybe did not last as long as normal. Held in conjunction with the Festival, our free Annual Walking Tour of Historic New Hope experienced near record attendance and participation. These tours run expertly by Board Members Roy Ziegler and Barry Ziff has become a staple in the enjoyment schedules for many borough visitors each January. This educational tour is always exciting and informative.....the hot cider and refreshments served in the Parry kitchen offers a perfect ending to an enjoyable afternoon.



Ben Meadows

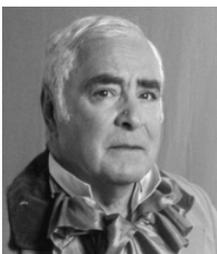
The first Sunday in March has become an important date in the lives of our members and guest alike. We gather to celebrate Benjamin Parry Day.....a time to bring into focus so many of the outstanding aspects of this pioneer who excelled in so many different adventures which enabled the region and New Hope to become what it is today. This is also when we celebrate Benjamin Parry's birthday. A special treat was enjoyed by all; the recently filmed video of Benjamin Parry, as played by Society member Charlie Huchet, relating many historical educational facts and stories about this amazing individual was presented. Be sure to see this presentation!

We are all very pleased and honored that The New Hope Historical Society was named recipient of Landmark Towns of Bucks County's Award for "Outstanding Preservation Success Story" for 2012. Our primary mission is devoted to preservation, conservation and education, I take pride in the fact that our efforts are recognized and rewarded. Enjoy the wonderful springtime, and I look forward to seeing you at our many upcoming events.

My Best to You and Your Families,

Ben Meadows

Historical Society video selected for New Hope Film Festival



**Charlie Huchet
as Benjamin Parry**



Society's board of directors, Charlie Huchet portrayed Benjamin Parry in the video.

Delaware Valley Video produced the documentary that was filmed in various locations around Bucks County, Pennsylvania and Hunterdon County, New Jersey. Kim Henning BJORHEIM directed the video. John was co-writer with BJORHEIM.

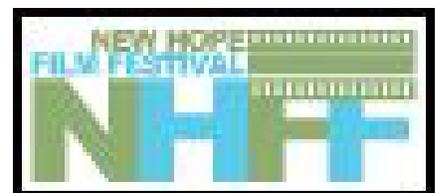
Bucks County Conference and Visitors Bureau provided a grant that made the production possible.

The 2012 New Hope Film Festival has announced that the New Hope Historical Society's video entitled, "The Father of New Hope," has been selected for the annual festival this year.

The short documentary depicts the life of Benjamin Parry and chronicles his contributions that helped make New Hope the manufacturing and industrial capitol of Bucks County in the nineteenth century.

Local actor and former member of the New Hope Historical

The New Hope Film Festival will be presented from July 9 through 15 at the New Hope Arts Center on 2 Stockton Avenue in New Hope.



Spring garden party to feature a “Taste of Spain”



The winners of the 2011 Dickens Dinner, Susan Lauer, second from the left and Robert Facchina, flanked by Chef Thom Smyth, Sous Chef, Ernie Bowman, Bryce Sanders and Edwin Hild, chair of the event.



Part of the large crowd that enjoyed the spring Garden Party on the lawn of the Parry Mansion on a beautiful spring evening last year.

By Edwin Hild

Join us on June 11 from 5 pm to 8 pm for the annual Spring Garden Party on the grounds of the Parry Mansion to honor the sponsors of the 19th Annual Garden Tour. The Society's major fundraiser has the support of 70 business, media and individual sponsors this year from New Hope, Solebury and the surrounding area. We extend our thanks for their generosity and continued support.

The party, 'A Taste of Spain', will feature an open bar, sangria and a tapas menu created by locally-famed chef, Joseph Cummins, of Helping Hand Concierge. After attending Johnson & Wales Culinary Institute of Rhode Island, he graduated from the Restaurant School of Philadelphia. In 2009, Helping Hand Concierge was awarded "The Most Promising New Business of Hunterdon County" by the Hunterdon Chamber of Commerce. Those who attended the Society's 2011 Moth Ball last fall will remember Joseph's magic touch on the great retro 1940-60's menu. Come and sip sangria to the music of Fiddlesticks as Nancy Shill and Charles Pellegrino sing along with fiddle and guitar.

The evening will be highlighted with two exceptional auction items. Auctioneer Mayor Larry Keller will be auctioning the highly anticipated 'Dickens' Dinner (which left the auction block at \$5,000 in 2011). The dinner offers a rich repast for twelve in the manner of Charles Dickens served by candlelight in the Parry Mansion on Saturday, December 1st. The evening includes cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, a magnificent dinner and dessert prepared by a guest chef, each course augmented by wines and served by characters only Dickens could create. Do not miss out on this opportunity for an incredibly unique dining experience in New Hope's most historic architectural gem.

The auction will also feature a beautiful painting titled "Touch of Spring,—Parry Mansion", created for the New Hope Historical Society and generously donated to the Society for the event by local artist Christopher Willett, a direct descendant of the renowned 19th century Newtown painter Edward Hicks. Painted in the Bucks County Impressionist style, the 20 x 20 inch oil on canvas captures the quiet Quaker atmosphere of the Mansion at the loveliest time of year. Chris' work has been exhibited at the Phillips Mill Art Show 2008 and the East wing Rotunda of the Pennsylvania State Capitol building in Harrisburg early in 2010. Mr. Willett is the owner of the Village Artworks in Lahaska. If you cannot attend the event and would like to leave an absentee bid, please call the New Hope Historical Society 215-862-5652. Invitations are in the mail. Admission to the Garden Party is \$45 for members and \$50 for guests. We look forward to seeing you there.

A new era about to begin for Parry's old mill



Workers prepare for the July 2, 2012 grand opening

b e -

came



Benjamin Parry's old grist mill is part of the playhouse

Philip Atkinson built the original Hope Mill around 1763. It was purchased by Dr. Joseph Todd and his wife, Margaret, and in 1785 Benjamin Parry and his older brother, Thomas, bought it from Dr. Todd's widow. Benjamin eventually bought out his brother's share. The original mill was destroyed by fire in 1790 and was totally rebuilt by Benjamin Parry by 1791 when it was named the "New Hope Mill." Benjamin is said to have told a reporter from the Doylestown newspaper that the name was intended to give new hope to the town. The town, then named Coryell's Ferry gradually became known as New Hope. It was officially incorporated in 1837, and Benjamin's nephew, John Childs Parry, Thomas's son, the first burgess. The mill continued to operate until 1937, and was purchased by the owners of the proposed Bucks County Playhouse in 1939. Parry's mill, pictured above was incorporated into the design of the Playhouse. Most audiences who attend plays there are unaware that they are sitting just a few feet above the original mill works. After going dark for more than a year, the Bucks County Playhouse is experiencing its latest comeback, thanks to the new owners, Kevin and Sherri Daugherty and their Bridge Street Foundation. Parry's mill will play host to a new generation. **Join the New Hope Historical Society in becoming a sponsor of the new Playhouse. Contact them at**

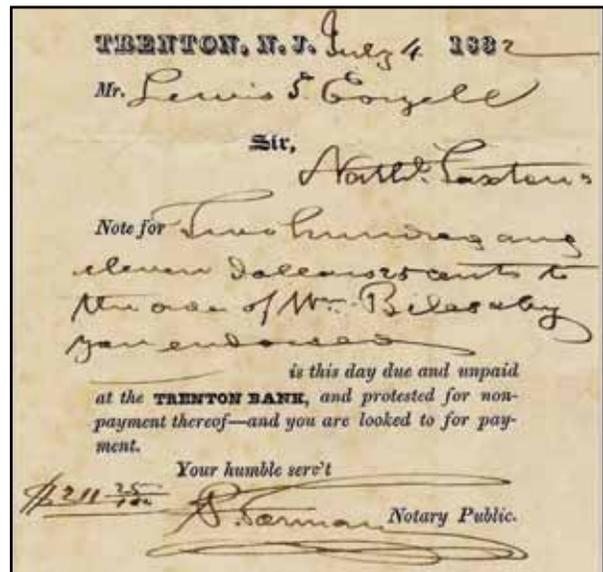
The Archives Revealed

by Wendy Gladston

They did things differently back then...

When was the last time you got a Payment Request signed, "Your humble servant"?

Editor's Note: Lewis S. Coryell was one of the most dominant figures in New Hope in the early part of the 19th century. He owned most of the land south of Mechanic Street to the end of town. The Coryell Mansion was located on the site of what is now Havana night club. His home is included within the structure of the club. Mr. Coryell was the owners of the Union Mills now the Waterworks Condominiums, that had been designed by William Maris in the first part of the 19th century. Coryell was a business partner of Benjamin Parry's younger brother, Daniel. They owned two saw mills near Honesdale in Wayne County, Pennsylvania.



New Hope Historical Society
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MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS:

MAY 5 AT 9 AM WALKING TOUR TO SPRINGDALE

MAY 26 AT 1 PM NEW HOPE HISTORY DAY

JUNE 2 AT 10 AM ANNUAL GARDEN TOUR

JUNE 11 AT 5 PM ANNUAL GARDEN PARTY

JOIN TODAY; HELP US MAKE HISTORY

Yes, I would like to become a member of the New Hope Historical Society!

Individual \$35 Dual/Family \$60 Benjamin Parry Circle (Supporter) \$250

Parry Mansion Legacy (Lifetime) \$1000 Business Partner (Sponsor) \$200

Enclosed is my check, payable to: NHHS in the amount of \$ _____

Please charge my Visa _____ MasterCard _____

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THANK YOU