



# Old Morlatton Village Messenger

Fall 2018

### Contact Us!

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Wyomissing, PA 19610  
610-385-4762

info@historicpreservationtrust.org

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### Upcoming Events at a Glance

Oct. 20 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday Program

Nov. 3 – HPTBC Annual Dinner

Dec. 5 – Christmas Tea

*HPTBC Annual Dinner*  
November 3, 2018 · 5:30-8:30pm

## *A Celebration of the George Douglass House*

Reading Public Museum  
500 Museum Road, Reading, PA 19611

Join us for an evening of good food & drink as we celebrate the important work of the Trust. A brief presentation on the George Douglass House will follow dinner. Ticket includes dinner and two drinks. Guests will have the chance to donate to some of the Trust's exciting preservation projects and enjoy fun door prizes.

All proceeds benefit the Trust. If you wish to attend and did not receive an invitation, please return the RSVP form below.

*R.S.V.P.*

*Please reply by Oct. 20*

M \_\_\_\_\_

Accepts with Pleasure

\_\_\_\_\_ HPT Member @ \$60 \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Member @ \$70

Declines with Regret  Declines, but Happy to Make a Donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Menu Choice:  Pork Loin \_\_\_  Salmon \_\_\_  Vegetarian \_\_\_

Send to: P.O. Box 5854, Wyomissing, PA 19610.



## *Additional Upcoming Events*

### *3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday Program at Morlatton Village Saturday, October 20, 2018*

“Two Men of Scotland in the Eighteenth Century Manatawny: George Douglass and Andrew Robeson”

These programs will fall on the third Saturday of the month – April-October. These site-wide programs will include various formats and topics including exhibits, demonstrations, interactive sessions, and oral and graphic presentations. \$2/Person Suggested Donation.

### *Christmas Tea Wednesday, December 5, 2018*

The Trust will once again be offering its annual Christmas Tea. Join us for a traditional tea featuring delightful homemade tea sandwiches and cookies, as well as delicious coffee and tea. Invitations for the Christmas Tea will be sent in early November. If you do not receive one and wish to attend, please contact us.

*Events subject to change. For more information about our events, and to stay up-to-date on all Trust happenings, please check our website and Facebook page.*

All events & programs begin at the White Horse Tavern in Morlatton Village unless otherwise noted.



## **V o L u N t E e R !**

None of the Trust's great events would be possible without our dedicated volunteers! The Trust is always in need of help and even if you are not a history buff or interested in historic preservation, we've still got a job for you! We can use help with outdoor clean-up, ticket sales & parking for events, as well as historic demonstrators & tour guides. We can even use help cleaning the buildings and setting up for events.

Or, are you, or do you know a Boy Scout or Girl Scout who is looking for community service hours or to do an Eagle Scout project? You can help preserve the local history while earning hours, a badge, or even your Eagle Scout award. This also applies to civil service groups and students who need service hours. Why not learn and help preserve history while having fun?

If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering or if they are interested in working on projects at one of our historic buildings please contact us at (610) 385-4762 or [info@historicpreservationtrust.org](mailto:info@historicpreservationtrust.org).

## *Springtime at Morlatton Recap*

### **It Was Cool and Rainy Outside, but Inside the White Horse All Was Warm and Cheerful.**

We were expecting a beautiful warm day in May for our "Springtime at Morlatton" event. The day dawned cold and rainy, and stayed that way through the day.

The various outdoor demonstrators and archaeologists had to be moved to the shelter of the Douglass and Fulp houses, and in the afternoon the White Horse for the new play "Searching for Betsy Ross." It all worked out quite well, although those who were outside for longer periods of time doing tours got very wet.

The day started with Courtney Stevens and Susan Speros giving a lively program in the White Horse, "Roots, Fruits, and Vegetables: 18th Century Food Storage," with special attention paid to the recently excavated root cellar adjacent to the Jones house.

There was a group of 20 from the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society, led by historian and board member Jim Lewars, who were at Morlatton for lunch and a tour. The White Horse was a cheerful and warm place for their tasty lunch, as fires were started in two fireplaces to ward off the damp, and lit candles adorned the tables.

Taking a break at the same time, the 10-20 Trust volunteers had their tasty lunch in the cozy tavern room. With so many convivial folks filling the tavern with good cheer and liveliness, the old place took on a festive ambience.

The number of visitors was rather sparse with the weather being as it was, but the afternoon performance of Gene Delaplane's new play, "Searching for Betsy Ross" was charming, and would be a good venue to take to local schools, as it could be readily adapted for student participation.

As with all events at the historic White Horse Tavern, "A good time was had by all!"

*Sue Speros, Events Committee*

### **Board of Directors**

Bradford Kissam, President  
 John Hibschman, Vice  
 President  
 John Meinhart, Treasurer  
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 Recording Secretary  
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 Peter Hammond  
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 Omar Hottenstein  
 Thomas Keim  
 Jessica Kerns  
 Jim Lewars  
 Zachary Long  
 Michelle Lynch  
 Amanda Machik  
 Vickie Moyer  
 Sue Miller Speros

## **Fall Hours for Morlatton Village**

Thursdays 9am-1pm

Feel free to stop by and look around as well as visit the other historic buildings in Morlatton during open hours or by appointment for tours or visits. For details and changes please check the Trust's Facebook page or website.

## **White Horse Rentals**

From weddings and birthday parties to small meetings and gatherings, the White Horse Inn is the perfect setting for your special occasion. Located in historic Morlatton Village, Douglassville, the White Horse has a modern kitchen and seating for up to 50 guests. For more information about renting this fully restored eighteenth century building, please contact the Trust's office at 610-385-4762 or [info@historicpreservationtrust.org](mailto:info@historicpreservationtrust.org).



 Follow us on  
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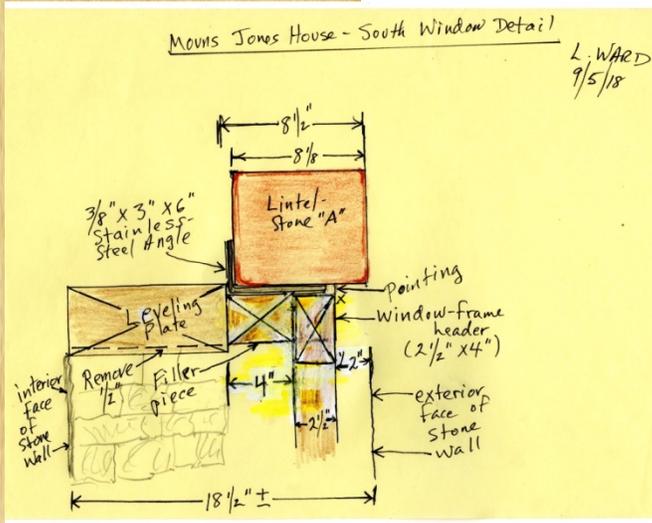
Help the Trust 'go green.' If you have an email address and would not mind getting electronic communications from us, please make sure to provide it on your next dues renewal or just send us an email.

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## Matching Grant Opportunity!

The stonework now underway on the Mouns Jones House is fully funded. However, completion of the restoration campaign depends on obtaining funds for replacement of the door and windows in the riverside wall, and second floor joists with old white-oak timbers, which are rare and expensive. A local donor has pledged to match **100% of every dollar** donated toward these components, which will cost more than \$5,000. Fortunately, old floor boards had been donated by Donald and Esther Shelley, saving the Trust a considerable amount. Your support for this work would be greatly appreciated, and your dedicated donation will be **DOUBLED BY THE MATCHING GRANT.**

## Sites & Structures Update



### Mouns Jones House:

- > Non-historic and compromised 2d floor boards and joists removed; temporary shoring installed, and re-located where needed to support shifting structural loads, primarily roof and flooring during reconstruction of two-story, 300 square feet of unstable stone wall ranges facing the Schuylkill River;
- > First story stonework re-laid with lime mortar chemically identical [within 1% tolerance] to early mortar in undisturbed walling of the house; centered doorway re-established in documented original dimensions; new walling woven [“toothed”] into extant original and previously restored masonry;
- > Original window-opening locations and dimensions determined and framed-in with stone jamb-work; wall laid-up in bonded and coursed rubble pattern, to be pointed for plaster interior and historic tooling of the exterior early-period pointing technique;

cantilevered stone lintels, based on and scaled-up from survivors over eastern wall openings, will be installed over all three openings of the restored wall;

> Re-purposed white oak replacement joists re-sawn from early summer beam to original 5” x 8” dimensions and edge-beaded by joiners as indicated by 1964 photo and 1957 Historic American Building Survey note on drawing of plan of house; joists were re-pocketed in eastern eaves wall in original locations and alignment on original 1716 joist-leveling plate, and set on replacement plate on the western [river-facing] restored wall; donated early floor boards will be set and leveled as work progresses;

> 2d story window openings and original 1716 date-stone above central doorway will be re-established in documented locations; 2d story walls will be coursed up to the rafter plates supporting the roof, and the 2d floor will be set and leveled, by the end of 2018 or early in 2019; Hall-Parlor partition will be hung from the joist immediately south of the axially-aligned doorways;

> Based on a surviving portion of a 2d story window frame, it seems warranted to fabricate and install iron-framed, leaded casement windows for all fenestration of the house;



### George Douglass House:

Rain and heat have delayed plasterwork for the cove cornice under eaves and interior walls. Preparation continues toward plastering the irregularly concave “cove” this fall. Work continues on the structural stabilization of the flooring and its joist-supports. The pent roof on the primary façade and full restoration of the “Best Parlor” will be completed in the spring of 2019.



**Morlatton Village Pathways:**

Stabilized-aggregate paths with stone border-walls have been installed to the four buildings in the Village, to the Thun Trail behind the Douglass House, and to the White Horse parking area along Old Philadelphia Pike; after curing, the paths will be open for foot, wheelchair, and bicycle use by the end of September or sooner, weather permitting.

*Larry Ward, Sites and Structures Committee*



***Join Us! Become a Member of the HPTBC!***

*Members receive our quarterly newsletter, free admission to events & programs, & priority ticket purchasing for the Christmas Tea & Annual Dinner.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Annual Membership Dues and Contributions**

- \$35 Individual
- \$50 Family
- \$75 Sustaining
- \$100 Contributing
- \$250 Patron
- \$500 Corporate
- Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to  
 The Historic Preservation Trust of Berks  
 County and mail with completed form to:  
 P.O. Box 5854, Wyomissing, PA 19610

Please contact me about ways I can volunteer.

*Membership dues and contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. A copy of the official Registration of the Historic Preservation Trust of Berks County may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.*

***Thank you for supporting the Historic Preservation Trust of Berks County!***

www.historicpreservationtrust.org

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