

HARRISBURG HERITAGE



Newsletter of Historic Harrisburg Association • December 2003 / January 2004

HHA Looks Back on 30 Years of Preservation and Progress

By David J. Morrison

Historic Harrisburg Association has just concluded a year-long observance of its 30th Anniversary, looking back at past issues and achievements and looking forward to the future of Harrisburg, old buildings and historic neighborhoods.

A 30th Anniversary Committee was formed in late 2002 to develop plans and ideas. Diane McCormick and David Morrison were named co-chairs of the committee, which included Duryea and Pat Cameron, Park Mellott, Ken Frew, Jeb Stuart, Peggy Schenck, Lindabeth Parker and others.

At the February 2003 membership meeting, nearly 100 HHA members and friends gathered at the Resource Center for a “birthday party” which included champagne and cake, reminiscences by HHA founders and pioneers, and greetings and congratulations from City and State governmental leaders. The date was the actual anniversary of the first “fourth Monday” meeting of HHA which took place on February 24, 1973. That meeting, as well as other early HHA meetings, took place at the State Museum, one of the few civic meeting places then existing.

Subsequent monthly HHA membership meetings in 2003 followed the anniversary theme, focusing on topics associated with

HHA’s history and mission. Spearheaded by HHA Co-vice presidents for Education, Peggy Schenck and Lindabeth Parker, the monthly meetings have flourished as attendance has steadily increased (one of several anniversary-year goals).

Most recently, the September monthly program looked back on HHA’s past preservation battles and challenges. Many veteran members contributed their recollections and war stories. In October, we hosted a panel discussion focusing on the future of preservation, with prominent local, state and national preservation leaders participating.

At the November meeting, past board member Charles Peguese gave an inspiring presentation on the history of HHA’s house tours. A chair of several tours, a property owner on several others, and a perennial tour attendee, Charles reviewed property highlights, anecdotes and – most importantly – the role HHA house tours has played in advancing the historic preservation movement in Central Pennsylvania.

Throughout the year, an anniversary logo was used to brand and promote all HHA activities. All committees were encouraged to use the 30th anniversary as a means of strengthening their enterprises, and the results were impressive.

In addition, during the year, articles written by Ken Frew in *Harrisburg Heritage* recounted the history of HHA through the last three decades. It was the first major

update of HHA’s official history since 1993, when Jeb Stuart produced a 20-year history as a special section of that year’s Candlelight House Tour booklet. We plan to consolidate and shape these articles into a history piece that will be printed as a special HHA publication.

Finally, the calendar brought the 30th Anniversary Candlelight House Tour on December 14. The oldest and most widely known of all house tours in Central Pennsylvania, the “CHT” remains the flagship of HHA activities, having touched more than 30,000 people over its history. As Charles Peguese has noted, numerous people have stated that it was the house tour that inspired them to buy an old house, move into the city or become preservation advocates – or all three!

As 2003 draws to a close, HHA leaders continue to celebrate an extraordinary year of progress, capping three decades of community leadership and activism. With our Resource Center, our year-round calendar of activities and programs, our subsidiary entities, the Broad Street Market Corporation and the Community Historic Preservation Fund, and other proud examples of HHA’s impact, our organization is poised for greater challenges and opportunities in its fourth decade and beyond. We have a committed Board of Directors, an energetic new execu-

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Historic Harrisburg Association is a non-profit, volunteer community organization dedicated to the restoration, preservation and enjoyment of historic neighborhoods and landmarks. HHA is funded by voluntary contribution from members, friends and businesses. Additional support is provided by the Allied Arts Fund, Inc.



**HARRISBURG HERITAGE
DEC 2003 - JAN 2004**

Editor: David A. Zwifka

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AN OPEN LETTER TO HHA MEMBERS: Our Building, Our Choices, Our Future

Dear Friends,

Restoring and maintaining a historic property is always a challenge. That's not news for members of Historic Harrisburg Association. During our thirty-year history, we've seen and helped many Harrisburg citizens through the trying times often associated with preserving and restoring older homes and buildings.

The time has come for HHA to make some important decisions about its own future in its current home, the Historic Harrisburg Resource Center at 1230 North Third Street. For this reason, we write to you to encourage a frank and open discussion of what our future holds for our relationship with this architectural treasure.

Over the last several months, the Board of Directors has been involved in serious conversation about our long-term prospects concerning this property. Since HHA acquired the building, we have worked to make it a place of pride for both HHA and the community. However, The Resource Center continues to need restoration and maintenance on a grand scale, and members of the Board are concerned for its sustained existence as a community resource. Our discussions have linked the building's future with HHA's capacity to provide the kind of financial resources required to do necessary work (e.g., necessary and complete overhaul of the electrical system, significant plumbing rehabilitation and attention to the HVAC systems). At issue also is the community's willingness to see the Resource Center as a space available for various adaptive reuse projects. Our discussions, while vigorous, have always concluded that whatever solutions are envisioned should be creative, respectful of our history, and guarantee the building's preservation.

At this time, the board has determined that the best course of action is to solicit proposals from developers as to what can be done to preserve and maintain the Resource Center for the future. At this time, the Board is only asking for ideas from developers. HHA remains open to a number of possible situations wherein HHA might remain as owner of the building, become a co-owner with another entity, or remain as tenants in the space should another entity purchase the building outright. The Board has placed no restrictions on proposals other than those required by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The Board wishes to remain open to as many opportunities as possible.

For the present, the Board of Directors asks for the patience and understanding of the membership as it tries to do what is right for the membership and guarantee the future existence of this historic place.

Above all, whatever decision is taken concerning the Resource Center, the Board will remain faithful to our mission and our membership. Therefore, your input on this matter is needed and indeed welcome. As the Board seeks real solutions to genuine and practical problems, the input of our membership is essential. We look for new thoughts not only from professional developers but also from you, our most important constituency, that will protect and strengthen the Resource Center in a realistic and obtainable way.

Your opinions can be expressed in writing, both by traditional post and by e-mail (historicharrisburg@onemain.com).

Sincerely,

The Board of Directors of the Historic Harrisburg Association



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR

By Dr. David Alan Zwifka, Executive Director

As you can see from the "heft" of this edition of the Newsletter, much has been happening at HHA. The newsletter has several new features. Please note the addition of a bi-monthly update on the Broad Street Market (*At*

Verbeke and Third), an increased effort to share membership news (*Around Town*), and a "Wish List" for internal needs at HHA. We will also include Allied Arts Affiliate information when appropriate, as well as information about other historical and preservation societies and their events in the area. In this edition, there is a lengthy piece on the Candlelight House Tour. We usually

don't go into this much detail about the individual stops along the tour, but because Mother Nature seemed to be less than cooperative this year, we thought a summary of our homeowner's accomplishments was appropriate. The piece may also whet the appetite of our readers to be sure not to miss another tour! Also, be sure to read carefully the open letter concerning the Resource Center that describes some very important elements of our continuing concerns about the historic building that houses HHA's offices.

To say the least, it has been an exciting four months since the Board of Directors asked me to take on the position of Executive Director. Still wet behind the ears in this position, I confronted the need to get things going with our participation in *Elegant Progressions* as well as get the planning underway for this year's *Candlelight Tour*. Then the "real storm" hit when wind, snow, and ice precluded extensive participation in these signature events.

More recently, I had the distinct honor of facilitating the annual retreat for the Board of Directors. The day was productive, to say the least, and will help to provide rich insights toward direction for the Board's activities in 2004. I am extremely grateful to the volunteers and members of the HHA Board and staff that continue to work so hard to make all these activities a success. We must always remember that HHA is primarily a volunteer organization and that without your participation, we cannot fulfill our mission in our community.

As always,
Dr. David Alan Zwifka
Executive Director

Around Town

- Kudos to the Shipoke Neighborhood Association for their continuing support of the values of preservation. Their recent newsletter included an insert that described the "nuances of location in a designated historic district." It offered handy tips about what and when permits are needed to undertake building modification. Similar information is available in brochure format from the Historic Harrisburg Resource Center. For more information on the Shipoke Neighborhood Association, contact its president, Mike Snyder at misnyder@state.pa.us.
- The executive director was invited to participate in dedication ceremonies for the improvements made to the Market Street Bridge. Mayor Reed expressed his pride in accomplishing these improvements in a way that enhanced one of the main entryways to Harrisburg and paid tribute to the bridge's history. Among the improvements are: replicas of lights first placed on the bridge piers in the 1920's between Downtown and City Island and between the Island and the West Shore, separate pear-shaped antique-style streetlights matching the same style now used in the southern part of City Island. Additionally, West Shore signage, which had been inoperative since the 1972 Agnes Flood were restored as well as the East Shore plaza lights.
- Board Member, Shirley Blough and nine of her friends participated in the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer in New York City on September 20 and 21. This walk was the last in the series of eight weekend events across the country held in Washington, D.C., Boston, Cincinnati, Chicago, San Francisco, Portland and Los Angeles. These walks are outdoor noncompetitive fund raising walks structured for all fitness levels over a weekend. These events are held to raise public awareness and millions of dollars for the breast cancer cause. Three walked, and the other seven were part of the 400-member crew, responsible for caring for the walkers, ensuring their safety and supporting their needs. Shirley was able to raise \$2,552 for the cause. Visit Avon Walk for Breast Cancer and the Avon Breast Cancer Crusade websites at www.avonwalk.org and www.avoncrusade.com for more information.
- The finishing touches were completed just in time for the December 7th dedication of St. Stephens Episcopal Cathedral's "green" retrofitting of the old Pennsylvania Parking Garage into a new classroom building for St. Stephens School. Though the old sign for parking remains in place to honor the building's history, a new brass plaque was unveiled at the ceremony recognizing founders The Very Rev. Arnold Mintz and Mrs. Patricia Cameron and naming the new facility the Cameron Building. The project had been conceived and energized by Mrs. Cameron's husband, architect Duryea Cameron and carried through by McKissick and Associates of Harrisburg.

HHA Looks Back *from page 1...*

tive director, David Zwifka, a growing roster of loyal HHA members, and a mission that grows more important every year.

Anniversary co-chair David Morrison rejoined the HHA Board in March 2003. He was a board member, president and executive director, 1986 to 1998.

Hummel House Running Out of Time

Harrisburg Lost and Found:

BY KEN FREW

Boarded-up buildings have a mystique of sorts. Picture their insides: rodents chewing away at the wiring, the smell of spent plaster, rotting timbers and peeling paint. Walls alternately broiling or freezing depending upon the season. But how and why abandoned buildings hold together is no mystery — they don't.

We could make the senior years of one blighted property in particular, 1110 N. Third St., more productive. Once the proud home of downtown saddlemaker and cobbler, Albert H. Hummel (1826-1885), the circa 1865 dwelling has been unoccupied for 20 years. On the plus side that's not nearly as long as Hutman House six blocks to the north which sat a record quarter century vacant before being recently rehabbed. The Hutman saga may be the most inspiring local preservation story since the rehab of Sylvan Heights by the YWCA.

The northwest corner of Third and Herr was the boondocks when Albert Hummel enticed his good friend, stovemaker David Maeyer, to go together on a tract in West Harrisburg in 1863. Duck hunters dubbed the area "Lake Harry," denoting its bog-like terrain. It was all marshland and small farms when William K. Verbeke founded "Verbeketown" — largely Calder St. between Third and Fulton — for poor blacks, while promoting the rest of his development for working class whites. He was a major stockholder in the erection of the Broad St. Market.

Hummel staked off a lot at 1110 N. Third; Maeyer dug in beside him to his south, along Herr St. They figured the street as upscale, perhaps one day on a par with blossoming N. Front St. But who knew. They obviously combined on the same contractor/architect, though a name has yet to be affixed. Dauphin County tax records reveal Hummel being taxed for a "brick house on Third St." in 1863 but he was still living downtown according to the city directory. An educated guess is this was possibly a gazebo or stables to the rear of the Maeyer property shared by the men. It had a cupola and is visible on the 1881 *Map of Harrisburg*. It no longer stands.

Uncertainties and unrest of the Civil War — circumstances that would also delay the completion and opening of the markethouse — played directly on the Hummel and Maeyer projects. On the 1864 assessment Hummel is taxed for a "brick back building" but again had not budged from downtown. A postwar paper shortage saw no city directory printed again until 1867. Although it is altogether likely they were ready for occupancy by 1865-66, the *Patriot-Union* of September 7, 1867 was raving about Hummel's and Maeyer's houses ("among the finest in the city") like they had just been completed.

The roofs of the 14-room, 2-bath dwellings mimicked the latest French fashion in domestic architecture. The mansard, appropriated from the elegant Second Empire style, caught on as an alternative to the steeply-pitched cross-gabbling of the Gothic Revival. The 1869 assessment valued Hummel's residence at \$3700. Real estate was proving a good investment in Lake Harry.

Hummel became one of the city's beloved townsmen. Quite the craftsperson too, a constructor of bridles, whips and leather trunks for the carriage trade. He went



on to preside over the West Hbg. Markethouse Co. but was sadly not yet 60 when he succumbed to Bright's disease of the kidney's. His friend Maeyer was a pallbearer at the funeral.

In 1893 hotelman Harry E. Hershey bought 1110. His family lived there for 30 years. But the street was changing. Maeyer got out in 1895, moving to N. Second St. Number 1102 was leased to the newly formed chapter of the Young Women's Christian Association. The YWCA stayed on until 1905 when they erected a new building at Fourth and Walnut where Strawberry Square now stands. Meanwhile, back at Third and Herr, druggist George C. Potts bought Maeyer's side yard. Potts engaged architect Charles Howard Lloyd to design the skinny apartment house on the corner. Potts' plan to eventually acquire and demolish the Maeyer and Hummel properties to expand upon his apartments fortunately never came to fruition.

With the YWCA gone, another Y just beginning — the Young Men's Hebrew Association — began holding meetings at 1102. In 1924 YMHA merged with the Young Women's Hebrew Assn. and they bought the property. Michael Coleman in *The Jews of Harrisburg*, notes "a building at 1102 N. Third St., complete with combination gym and auditorium, became the Y's new home." Likely the gazebo was razed to accommodate those facilities. A brick structure was added onto the rear of the house at Susquehanna and Herr. Its cornerstone still bears the Star of David.

If not already intertwined the Maeyer/Hummel prop-

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HHA 30th Anniversary Flashback - 1993-1998

Fifth in a series of articles tracing the 30 Year history of the Historic Harrisburg Association

By Ken Frew.

Buoyed by the donation by PA National Bank of their building at Third and Verbeke, HHA forges ahead with renewed vigor. Preparations are made for the organization's 20th anniversary celebration gathering founders, charter members, past directors and house tour "alumni." Members and guests preview the new Historic Harrisburg Resource Center during Preservation Week.

1993 sees new faces joining HHA's staff. Eric Adams joins the newsletter as designer. Trina B. Burke joins as architectural services intern. Trina lends technical support for the Endangered Buildings Committee as well as development of space and management plans for the upcoming Resource Center. Volunteers begin restoration of the bank building. Members Paul Blust and Ron Sheaffer graciously donate a kitchen.

On the battlefield, HHA is denied intervention in a developer's appeal of a Harrisburg Zoning Board ruling, denying him permission to build the controversial 17-story Capitol Dominion Tower opposite Capitol Park. The site remains surface parking. Elsewhere, following months of meetings, the organization is given a facade easement for the soon-to-be demolished Senate Hotel. The Second Empire styled landmark is to be replaced along with other N. Market Sq. buildings for Penn National Insurance Co.'s new corporate headquarters. But in 1995 the building is along with the facade demolished amid controversy. PNI accepts responsibility and in lieu of the easement, donates \$130,000 to HHA. From this, the Community Historic Preservation Fund is established.

1993 sees an architectural salvage exchange initiated. Volunteers eventually use this in salvaging artifacts from the Greenawalt, Senate Hotel, Yoffee, Goldsmith buildings razed on Market Sq. A first-ever antiques and architectural artifacts auction is held on March 25, 1994.

In 1994 the Association also launches a Saturday morning walking tours program. A "Pillars of HHA" membership category is established to recognize major supporters of the organization. In March 1995 *Harrisburg Heritage* begins an ambitious 10-part series, "Coming Home," a history of the local architectural profession and late 19th

and early 20th century building boom.

As disheartening as the demolition is of the historic properties on N. Market Sq., nothing compares with the devastation in January, 1996. Major flooding by an ice-swollen Susquehanna River severely damages the eastern span of the Walnut St. Bridge. The western span is almost completely swept away and appears on national television. Shipoke, hard-hit by floodwaters, also experiences an electrical fire which ravages historic Pancake Row. The homeowners restore their 1888 clapboards to even greater excellence, as does PennDot — bolstered by the soon-to-be-organized People's Bridge Coalition — to the Harrisburg portion of the much-beloved "Old Shakey" bridge.

On February 20, 1996, HHA mourns the death of its founder and first president Marianne Faust. Marianne's many accomplishments went far beyond her remarkable role in historic preservation. Under her watch Harrisburg's historic district ordinance is drafted and shepherded through city council resulting in the first of 7 historic districts being created as well as the Historic Architectural Review Board. Her lead-

ership can only serve as a role model for those who follow her.

Mid-decade, historic preservation in Harrisburg continues apace. One of HHA's most important allies, Preservation Pennsylvania, a statewide voice of advocacy in the purchase and restoration of historic properties, opens an office at 257 North St. HHA meanwhile assumes management of the Broad St. Markethouse which undergoes a \$2.5 M restoration.

Major staff appointments are made in February 1997. Erik M. Hein, part-time office manager for the past two years, is promoted to Assistant Executive Director. Diane M. Beible long active on membership and house tour committees comes aboard as part-time business manager. As 1997 turns to spring, the modern classic-styled Dauphin County Courthouse is added to the National Register of Historic Places. Its designers,

the celebrated Lawrie & Green, are showcased in an architectural exhibit of their drawings at the Resource Center.

HHA also acquires the 1896 parsonage of the former Ridge Ave. Methodist Church at N. Sixth and Boas. The Dutch-Queen Anne building is slated as a flagship project during the upcoming 25th anniversary year.



Historic York Reschedules Fall House Tour

York's Historic House Tour was originally scheduled for the Springdale neighborhood in late October. Unfortunately, an untimely fire damaged the Hahn Home in February, 2003. The Hahn Home was a popular stop on the 1999 tour so the tour planners debated whether to feature the home, currently under renovation work, as a "work-in-progress" but decided against it because of its importance. In order to allow the home to be on the tour when visitors would be better able to appreciate it, the House Tour has been rescheduled as the highlight event of Historic York's Preservation Week activities in May, 2004. Moreover, by changing the date to May 15 the planning committee hopes to be able to add other homes to the tour.

Historic Harrisburg Association and National Trust for Historic Preservation Announce Poster Contest

Every year since 1971, preservationists around the country have joined together in May to celebrate National Preservation Week. The National Trust for Historic Preservation initiated Preservation Week as a way to showcase grassroots preservation activity in communities nationwide. Locally, Historic Harrisburg Association sponsors activities during Preservation Week to highlight these local accomplishments.

This year's Preservation Week theme, *New Frontiers in Preservation*, is about more than just saving individual landmark buildings. It's about revitalizing the nation's business districts and inner-city neighborhoods and protecting irreplaceable historic, natural, and scenic landscapes. America's heritage belongs to everyone. Preservation Week is the time to show how the Harrisburg community is working to preserve the unique historic spaces in our midst. Participation in the formation of the Midtown Market District is one of HHA's continuing efforts on this front.

As part of this year's Preservation Week activities, the National Trust has announced its annual National Preservation Week Poster Contest. Three contest winners and ten honorable mentions will be chosen from across the nation and will be featured on the National Trust's website and the annual exhibition at the National Building Museum in Washington, DC. This year's first place

entry will again be used as the National Trust's official poster and will be sent to thousands of Preservation Week enthusiasts across the nation.

More information and entry forms for the National Preservation Week Poster Contest are available from Historic Harrisburg Association, 1230 North Third Street, Harrisburg, PA 17102, (717) 233-4646.

PA House Passes Two Historic Preservation Bills

Historic preservation took a step forward as members of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives passed a two-bill package introduced by Representatives Tom Tangretti (D-Westmoreland) and Dan Frankel (D-Allegheny).

The bills would make a variety of tax credits available to both buyers and sellers of historic homes and commercial proper-

ties if those properties are restored and used again as residences or businesses.

Tangretti's bill (H.B. 951) would provide a 20% state income tax credit to individuals who purchase and restore historic homes or home in historic residential districts and live in them for five years. It would also waive the state sales tax on materials used in the restoration and exempt the state share of the realty transfer tax for a seller who agrees to sell a historic structure to someone who will restore and live in it for at least five years.

Frankel's bill (H.B. 952) would offer similar incentives for the restoration of historic commercial properties, including business tax credits for owners who purchase, restore and do business in these structures, and a 20% tax credit on eligible redevelopment costs.

House members unanimously passed these bills, which must now go to the Senate for consideration.

Help HHA and Leave a Lasting Legacy for your Community

Individuals who contribute generously during their lifetime often overlook planned giving as a way of providing support for causes in which they believe. Historic Harrisburg Association through the Greater Harrisburg Foundation can assist you and your financial advisor in developing planned gifts that meet your needs, be it for a tax advantage or current income. Each giving vehicle provides specific advantages, which may fit your situation. Two vehicles commonly used are:

Charitable Remainder Trust

With this type of trust, you transfer assets that pay you or other beneficiaries an income for life or for a fixed term. When the trust matures, the remainder is used to establish a permanent fund in your name, with distributions directed as you have chosen.

Charitable Lead Trust

With this type of trust, you create an endowment fund at the Foundation to receive the trust income for a fixed term. When the trust expires, the income or assets may be distributed to you or other beneficiaries you have named and your established fund will continue to benefit the community.

For more information, please call Historic Harrisburg Association at (717) 233-4646 or the Greater Harrisburg Foundation at (717) 236-5040. Be sure to mention your desire to help HHA with your gifts.

2003 Candlelight House Tour: Highlights

A little snow gently falling on tour goers might have added a measure of charm to the experience of the 30th Anniversary Candlelight House Tour. Meteorologists' dire predictions of yet another early winter mega storm instilled not charm but fear in many tour goers. As a result, the single day event saw its level of participation drop to about thirty per cent of former years. Threats of nearly a foot of snow, freezing rain and ice kept "day of event" ticket sales at an all time low.

However, many veteran tour goers braved the weather (which never materialized to the extent predicted) to experience the best of Harrisburg's Candlelight Tour homes. Several tour goers commented that this was one of the best tours ever because of the sheer variety of homes made available to the public. Quaint row houses in Shipoke, more substantial and clearly historic homes in the Midtown and Old Uptown historic districts, a total restoration in the Capitol area, and grand single family homes throughout Uptown provided new points of view at just about every turn in and out.

Bob and Libby Christman opened their circa 1880 home to the public. Their home at 554 Race Street had been on a previous tour under different owners and so provided an opportunity for veteran tour goers to compare how different personalities can fill the same space so differently. Rod Kautz's Civil War era home at 572 Race Street had originally been built as retail space and rental property. Rod transformed this space into a single family home with an effective use of color and artifacts. Antiques and contemporary pieces work together to create a stunning example the pleasures of living in historic Shipoke. As the tour moved on to 585 South Front, the Herzog's extensive needlepoint collection and recent renovations impressed tour goers with the feeling of coziness so typical of this area of Harrisburg.

The single Capitol area home on the tour at 700 North Third Street belongs to Russell and Nancy Mueller. The Mueller's have taken a house that has undergone extensive transformation, from a home to a business, to an restaurant and back again to restore a truly Victorian gem to the register of Harrisburg's homes. Their extensive renovations have returned the home to its original charm and tastefully added modern amenities that include a third-floor family room and an indoor pool!

The tour's look at Historic Midtown began at 907 North Second Street at the home of Tom and Kim Griffith. Their home retains

much of its original woodwork, windows, shutters and doors. Just a few blocks away is the home of Mark Allison and Erin Mengel. 1110 Green Street was, for some time, boarded up and decaying until local contractors undertook its renovation. As a result, it boasts a great deal of new construction inside its three story brick frame, although some of its original detail remains.

Most HHA aficionados will tell you that Midtown ends at Forster Street – and so it does on a map of Harrisburg's historic districts. However, many residents north of Forster consider themselves residents of the Midtown area. The purists are of course correct but the residents of this area live in another district known as "Old Uptown." Among these is Sharon Satbinski, who opened her home at 1607 Penn Street for tour goers. This 108 years old home retains many of its original features and mixes modern and antique furniture to create a "most livable" space. Sylvia Coslow lives at 1931 North Second Street in a home once occupied by M. Louise Aughunbaugh, a Harrisburg school teacher and philanthropist who was especially dedicated to the arts in Harrisburg, as is its current owner.

The Governor and First Lady opened their home for their first holiday season. Tour goers were delighted at the Governor's Residence with its multiple themed rooms and the gingerbread village depicting "Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood," jointly planned and created by students in HACC's civil technology and culinary arts departments. Not only beautiful decorations but a bell choir, *a capella* singers, violinists, and a flute quartet entertained visitors as they sipped hot chocolate and mulled cider.

A few blocks north, Alex Hartzler allowed tour goers a glimpse into the Harrisburg of the 1920s in his impressive stone house at 2428 North Second Street. Another home that had been a business office returned to its beauty as a residence, the house boasts masonry work (both stone and brick) with accents not often seen in the Harrisburg area.

Several months of restoration paid off handsomely for Ray Davis and Ron Stern as they displayed their home at 2619 North Second. Spacious in character, it is an example of how faux finishing can transform the ordinary into the spectacular. Mission style furnishings and accents make the home warm and inviting, just what is needed on a cold, wintry day! A few doors away is the home of Philip and Terry Hanyok (2700 North Second Street). Flooded with light through its many windows and French style doors, this three-story brick



colonial becomes a place just about anyone would want to live. Classic design and décor along with modern appliances and work space in kitchen and bath make this a true dream home in the city.

2718 North Second, the home of Kiz Smith and Luci Stone, is one of several homes produced by a certain Mr. Severino, an native Italian stonemason who brought his art and many co-workers to the area to produce several homes in this area of Harrisburg. The homes, though similar in some respects, cannot be considered "cookie-cutter" homes as each one is a unique product of Mr. Severino's design, craftsmanship and careful stewardship over his proteges.

Richard Devoe surprised some tour goers with his uniquely modern take on interior décor in what seems on the exterior to be a rather "traditional" home. The contemporary first floor has a touch of art deco, sleek lines, glass and chrome accents. A collection of Marilyn Monroe plates is displayed in a converted gun cabinet. At the same time, other areas of the house retain original fixtures, floor finishes, and wall treatments. This home is an example of how the old and the new can blend to "make a statement."

The "signature home" of this year's tour was the home of Steve Dailey and Steven Courtney at 3021 Green Street. Near Italian Lake, this home was exquisitely decorated for the holidays by "The Garden Path."

As you can see from this extensive list, the homes available to the public for their inspection were many and varied. As a retrospective of past Candlelight Tours, this tour allowed visitors a real sampling of what is possible in Harrisburg's urban neighborhoods. Careful planning, some sweat equity and lots of stick-to-it-iveness can transform "old" houses into comfortable, modern living spaces for individuals and families alike. This tour exemplifies the best in HHA's work – to promote the restoration, preservation and enjoyment of Harrisburg's historic neighborhoods and landmarks.

Elegant Progressions Hampered by Winter Storm

One of the highlights of the Harrisburg area's social calendar, *Elegant Progressions*, became a victim of the unexpected blast of wintry weather experienced by the Central Pennsylvania area in early December. Throughout Friday December 5 members of the executive committee listened to weather reports, consulted with road crews, and watched the approaching storm. Early that afternoon, the decision was made to continue since the storm seemed to be abating. Unfortunately, that lull did not last long and the weather turned sour just before guests began to arrive at the embarkation point. Several other weather-related circumstances combined to lead the event coordinators to conclude that it would be unsafe and unwise to continue. As a result, the first seating on Friday evening was cut short and the second seating cancelled outright. On Saturday, new assessments were taken concerning conditions not only on main public roads but also at the homes of the event's hosts and the inevitable conclusion was reached that Saturday's seatings would likewise be cancelled. The decision to cancel was dis-

appointing to many who eagerly look forward to this event. The wisdom of the cancellation, however, was unquestioned by members of the executive committee.

Over the course of thirteen years, *Elegant Progressions* has been a substantial source of income for the work of Historic Harrisburg Association and the Kidney Foundation of Central Pennsylvania, its co-sponsors. Through the generosity of donors and sponsors for this event, these two organizations are better able to further their respective missions – each dedicated to im-

proving the quality of life in our communities. Sponsors and participants have been contacted concerning the cancellation of the 2003 *Elegant Progressions*. The generosity of those that chose to have their donation remain with the organizations is most graciously appreciated by all that put in so many hours of work (remembering they are all volunteers). To be put on the mailing list for information for *Elegant Progressions* in December 2004, please call (717) 233-4646 or send an e-mail to historicharrisburg@onemain.com.

Community Historic Preservation Fund Seeks Grant Applications

The Community Historic Preservation Fund has begun taking applications for grants to help preserve and restore historic structures in Harrisburg. The CHPF gives cash grants for preservation projects consisting principally of exterior projects for private dwellings or business entities. Non-profit organizations whose buildings are open to the public may submit applications for interior projects. The deadline for application is March 12. For more information on the CHPF or to receive application materials, contact HHA at (717) 233-4646.

At Verbeke and Third: Broad Street Market Update

Markets are characterized as dynamic places of commerce and activity, and Broad Street Market is no exception! This year alone three businesses have changed owners, and six have opened new enterprises!

The latest is

D'amores Italian Market, which is owned by Dana Demore. The Italian Market offers a slice of Philadelphia's 9th Street Italian market, plus a full service espresso bar, panini sandwiches, antipasti and other traditional Italian dishes. D'amores is open Tuesday through Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to closing.

Another new stand, **Sophie's at the Market**, owned by Sophia Nelms, not only opened in the spring but also expanded her business in November! Specializing in Greek, French, Italian breads and pastries, Sophie offers fresh soups and sandwiches daily from Wednesday through Saturday.

As 2003 ends and we begin a new year, we extend our appreciation to Kurt A. Twiford, outgoing chairman of the market's board of directors. Mr. Twiford, who has served in this capacity for three years, worked to improve communication between the board and the market's business vendors, as well as to establish board committees, which focus on the strategic and policy issues affecting the market as an economic engine of midtown.

One constant about our wonderful market that has been operating non-stop since 1860 is its lure as a gathering place. We hope you will rediscover Broad Street Market as the New Year begins and join us often!

Ed. Note: Broad Street Market Corporation is a wholly owned subsidiary of Historic Harrisburg Association. The buildings associated with the market are owned by the city of Harrisburg. HHA was instrumental in setting up the operating board of the BSM and has representation on the board of directors. The executive director of HHA is ex officio the president of the Broad Street Market Corporation. To keep our members informed about developments in this relationship, Harrisburg Heritage will feature an update on BSM activities in each issue. Please direct any comments or questions about HHA and the BSM to the Executive Director of HHA at historicharrisburg@onemain.com.

Meet the Artist

A brief Interview with artists featured at Historic Harrisburg Resource Center

Bill and Linda McCloskey's work is on exhibit in the Gallery of the Historic Harrisburg Resource Center now through March 31. The McCloskey's are members of several art associations in the Harrisburg-York-Lancaster area and have won several awards including "Best of Show" in area festivals.

HHA: *Bob, your career was in teaching, not in the arts. When did you start painting?*

Bob: In late 2000, I started painting for an evening out with my wife who had decided to take a class. Little did I know that I would become an artist myself! I am a true patriot and a retired social studies teacher of 41 years and track coach from the Central Dauphin School District.

HHA: *What helps you to choose our subjects?*

Bob: Since I have such a great love for my country and its history, I am inspired by the symbols of America and its many heroes. The more I paint, the more dedicated I become. Since retiring in 2002, I am able to spend more time in developing ideas and putting them on paper with my brushes.

HHA: *Linda, Where do you get your inspiration?*

Linda: Specializing in oils, acrylics and watercolors, I paint from my heart and from wonderful memories of growing up on a farm in Lancaster County, PA. When I put together my love of painting with my love for the outdoors, something magical happens. I have a passion for painting and nature and have exhibited in local art shows, galleries, hospitals, cultural centers, business offices, museums, universities, libraries and

juried exhibits in the Central Pennsylvania area.

HHA: *You mentioned your memories of growing up, how do you bring those memories into view?*

Linda: I paint mainly from my photographs in my studio, but also enjoy painting *plein air* and setting up my own still life displays. My works consist mostly of local landscapes, still life and florals. I enjoy using light, shadow, contrast and vibrant color in my paintings.

Works by both artists hang in exhibit in the gallery at the HHRC. Obtain more information by calling the Resource Center or sending e-mail to historicharrisburg@onemain.com.

Hummel House *continued from page 4...*

erties would become moreso as the decade advanced. Concurrent with the Hebrew Y taking over 1102, a chapter of the Fraternal Order of Orioles, Nest no. 145 was organized on May 5, 1924, boasting 3200 members. The lodge purchased 1110 N. Third from the Hershey estate in December of 1925, retaining architectural-engineers Lawrie & Green in the design of a new building. Ground was broken for a first unit of the reported \$350,000 project in October of 1927. A three-story addition rose to the rear of the house accommodating an auditorium and dining hall.

The Orioles second phase was to have included a basement swimming pool and a totally new facade. Lawrie ... Green's design published in the *Harrisburg Telegraph* was in typical fraternalism: a formalized Renaissance front, a Spanish tile roof; a behemoth likely to have required razing 1102 as well. The economy was blowing hot and cold in late 1927. Though rebounding, as likely did the fund raising, the Orioles were unaware as most were of the calamity ahead.

Following 1929's New York Stock Market crash, lodges found themselves in early trouble. At Third and Boas, the Moose lost their mortgage on their recently-built classical temple. It's today Ronald Brown Charter School. The high-flying Orioles though fared worse. They left town alto-

gether, selling 1110 N. Third to the Hebrew Y for \$75,000 in April of 1931. Despite the sum, Henry H. Brenner, the Y's building committee chairman, announced plans to link via a passageway, the Oriole rear addition with the Hebrew gym. Again Lawrie & Green were retained. With money growing tighter, Brenner and his associates opted to erect the swimming pool rather than incur demolition costs for a new building. Up-and-coming general contractors H.B. Alexander were in charge of the remodeling.

The Evening News for November 28, 1931 hailed the dedication of what was henceforth to be known as the Jewish Community Center. Along with its sister organizations, Harrisburg Hebrew School and eventually Yeshiva Academy, 1110 N. Third was headquarters until all moved uptown in 1958. Vacant but a year, the Police Athletic League moved into 1110 N. Third in 1960. As the final player in our story, PAL for 24 years was the champion of disadvantaged city youth, and an umbrella for Harrisburg School District's New Learning Center before the doors swung shut for the last time in 1984.

Outside, the vice-ridden street wasn't making life any easier. Twenty years ago it was hard to recognize Third above Forster as it is today. Once Harrisburg's third most prosperous retail corridor, in its heyday it

had boasted niche shopping. A funky sort of ambiance and thrifty prices. (At least as this writer saw it growing up in the "East End"). Well, as they say, it gets darkest right before the dawn.

North Third Street's renaissance comes in phases. Look at the big picture: Midtown Park, Cumberland Court, restoration of the Broad St. Market; and now, Capitol Heights and \$100,000 townhouses. Slow but surely progress. Of late there's Midtown Cinema, a tasty new Subway sandwich shop at Third and Forster; two fascinating booksellers at Third and Reily, Ted Canaday's and Midtown Scholar. There's talk of rehabbing the long-abandoned Commercial Bank Building (1908; Charles Howard Lloyd) next to the Historic Harrisburg Resource Center.

It makes you wonder why 1110 N. Third just sits. Granted, compared with its twin, it's goofy pile with the addition. The Maeyer/Hummel houses should compliment one another, enhance all the redevelopment that's been done, not face off like beauty and the beast. Given all the street's been through it's nothing short of amazing that one property retains so much originality. For those of us with a preservationist mindset, it's a template (now while we're on a roll) to finally restore that other half.

Volunteer Corner *By Diane Beible*

2003 is behind us and it has been a year of changes. But what has been constant is the loyal volunteers who stepped up and helped us through all of the fall events. The Pillar Party, Elegant Progressions and the Candlelight House Tour all required many volunteers to plan and put the events together. Unfortunately the weather did not cooperate with us but so many of you took personal risks to see that the events went off well. We really do appreciate your loyalty.

It has been exciting for me to come back after 2 years and see all of the activity at the Resource Center. We now have a new and beautiful art exhibit. Read more about the McClosky's in this newsletter. If you know of anyone else who is interested in exhibiting 2 D art, please contact us. We do have community groups who meet here and it is an excellent opportunity to show their work.

This past month Phyllis Schell volunteered to inventory our Gift Shop and we thank her for that. That has been completed and we plan to put a new look on the room. Volunteers are welcome to help us with this project. We would also like to find a volunteer to order and stock the Gift Shop. There are so many items that are appropriate for the many people that come through our doors.

We are also looking for volunteers to help us with individual office projects. If any of you have a few hours to give, please call me at 233-4646.

This spring we will be planning for Preservation Week events and for the House and Garden Tour. Please call if you are interested in working on the planning committee or the day of the event.

Thank you for your support this past year. We could not have done the work without so many of you.

— Diane Beible

Candidates Night held at Historic Harrisburg Resource Center

Historic Harrisburg Association co-sponsored a Candidates Night at the Historic Harrisburg Resource Center on October 29, 2003. The first part of the program featured three candidates for city council; the second part introduced three candidates for open seats on the Dauphin County Com-

mission. Questions were fielded by the city council candidates in a moderated forum format covering issues that included the Harrisburg incinerator retrofit, the construction and maintenance of museums in Harrisburg, neighborhood crime prevention, historic preservation and economic development.

Candidates for county commissioner faced questions on regional mass transit, overcrowding in the county prison system, the county's role in the incinerator retrofit, and the Dauphin County Authority. Other sponsoring organizations included Capitol Area Neighbors, Midtown Square Action Council, Shipoke Neighborhood Association, New Fox Ridge Association, Riverside Community Watch, Central Allison Hill Community Organization and Summit Terrace Neighborhood Association.

WISH LIST:

HHA has need of many items to continue to serve its constituency and to provide the level of advocacy and community education that fosters its mission. Toward this end, we look for financial or in-kind donations that will help obtain those items or elements necessary for our work. Here is a wish list of those items:

- Computers
 - CPU should be *at least* Pentium II (preferably Pentium II or higher) and with 256K memory available.
 - Peripherals: printers, monitors, scanners that are compatible with above (software must be included)
 - (Please consult with the executive director about specific needs/donations since compatibility with current systems is essential.)
- Retail display cases/racks for Gift Shop (stationary and portable)
- Exhibition lighting for art exhibits in Resource Center Gallery
- Automatic Dishwasher

FEBRUARY MEMBERS MEETING

Monday, Feb 23 7:00 PM

SPEAKER: DON BROWN

Institute of American Dietology

Bring Postcards to share or trade.

Appraisal service available for small fee.

Lecture is free and open to the public.

Historic Harrisburg Resource Center.

CAPITALS AND PILLAR MEMBERS

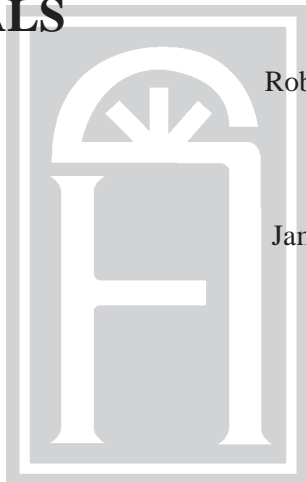
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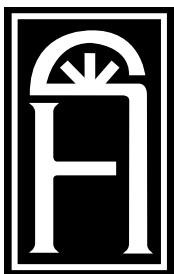
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HHA Membership Application

Mail to: Historic Harrisburg Association • 1230 N. Third Street • Harrisburg, PA 17102

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Yes, I/we want to help preserve the residential, commercial, economic and cultural life of Harrisburg!
Please start my membership at the following gift level:

___ **Individual** (\$25 per year)

___ **Household** (\$35 per year)

___ **Sustaining Member** (\$50 per year)

___ **“Pillars of HHA”** (\$100 per year)

All memberships are renewable annually.
Questions may be directed to 233-4646.

Members of HHA’s “Capital Club” provide up-permost levels of support, in the following categories, which are based on the classical orders of architecture:

___ **Doric Order** (\$250 per year)

___ **Ionic Order** (\$500 per year)

___ **Corinthian Order** (\$1000 per year and up)

Payment Enclosed
*Please make checks payable to
Historic Harrisburg Association.*

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Historic Harrisburg Association is properly registered in Pennsylvania as a charitable organization. A copy of the registration and financial information may be obtained from the PA department of State by calling 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

**Please contact me/us about
Volunteer Opportunities**

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