

HGAC

HISTORIC
GETTYSBURG
ADAMS
COUNTY

PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Membership Newsletter

PRESERVE

P.O. Box 4611 • Gettysburg, PA 17325

717-334-5185

www.HGACOnline.org

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Fall 2023

Giving Spree

November 9, 2023

ACCFGivingSpree.org

Show your support for HGAC! On Thursday, November 9, the Adams County Community Foundation (ACCF) will conduct the 2023 Giving Spree as a way for the community to support local non-profit organizations like HGAC.

This year, the focus of HGAC's Giving Spree fundraising will be the upkeep and care of our headquarters, the historic G.A.R. Building on 53 E. Middle Street in Gettysburg. The building is now 201 years old, and needs some TLC both inside and out.

There are three ways you can donate: online, by mailing in a check or in person. Turn to page 2 for more details on how you can contribute!

Evening with the Murals

HGAC will honor the late Virginia Jacobs McLaughlin, the artist who created the lovely murals that grace the walls at the G.A.R. hall, with a special "Evening with the Murals" program on Friday, November 3 at the hall, located on 53 E. Middle Street in Gettysburg.

Come spend some time viewing the murals up close, and meet members of McLaughlin's family, including son Saylor, who will speak about his mother's life as an artist.

Tickets for this event are free, but limited, due to the seating at the G.A.R. Hall. You can reserve tickets beginning on October 9 – only two per order – by emailing HGAC at histgettyac@aol.com. Please give your name and phone number for a follow-up confirmation.

Virginia Jacobs McLaughlin identified herself as an "itinerant painter" – those folk artists who historically traveled the countryside creating paintings and other works of art, not for monarchs and nobility, but for everyday people. The book of her collected works,



"Itinerant Painter, Virginia Jacobs McLaughlin: A Lifelong Brush With History," chronicles her 30-plus year career. When it was published in 2017, McLaughlin was nearing 95 years old and estimated she had painted about 116 murals.

McLaughlin was born in Columbia, Missouri and studied art at Stephens College and the University of Missouri, before moving to Washington D.C. and enrolling in the Abbott School for Commercial Art. She met her husband, Don, in Washington, and traveled with him on assignments to Europe and the Far East, before they settled in Fairfield, in Adams County. Don McLaughlin joined HGAC and eventually became the organization's president, and it was at his urging that Virginia undertook the mural project at the G.A.R. Hall. The cycle of murals reflects the inspiration of other artists, notably American itinerant painter Rufus Porter and the French wallpaper designer Jean Zuber. Her artwork can be found in many area structures, ranging from private homes to government buildings to the Potomac Room of Mount Vernon Inn.

Come help us celebrate the life and legacy of this "itinerant painter" who left Adams County a lasting gift on the walls of the G.A.R. hall.

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President’s message:

Giving Spree is once again upon us. We thank everyone who has contributed to HGAC on this day of giving in the past. Your donations last year helped fund the very successful Civil War Hospital Sign program with the students of the technology program at Gettysburg Area High School. Students create new hospital markers to replace those that are aging or in disrepair at Civil War Hospital sites in and around Gettysburg. Read more about this program on page 4 of this newsletter.



This year HGAC is looking a bit closer to home – we hope to raise funds for the maintenance and upkeep of our headquarters, the G.A.R. Building at 53 E. Middle Street in Gettysburg. The Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) Hall is an ongoing preservation effort that HGAC assumed when it acquired the hall in 1988. Recent expenses in the past year include the renovation of the upstairs bathroom and repair of the boiler. As the hall enters its third century, work is needed for both the exterior and interior of the building.

When donating through the Giving Spree, donors can choose to give to either Today funds – which go to the annual project – or to Forever funds, which goes to the HGAC endowment. The HGAC endowment is a simple and forever way for our members and supporters to contribute to the ongoing mission of HGAC. Today gifts will support immediate needs like the repairs to the G.A.R. Building; Forever gifts will support the continued growth of HGAC.

The Giving Spree donation form can be downloaded from our webpage at HGAConline.org; if you wish us to email or mail you a copy of the donation form, please email HGAC at histgettyac@aol.com or leave a voice mail at 717-334-5185. You have the choice of giving a donation for Today, Forever or Both. **Be sure to include our name and number: Historic Gettysburg Adams County, Code # 56.**

You have three methods for submitting your donation:

1. Drop off your completed form in person at the Gettysburg Area Middle School, 37 Lefever Street in Gettysburg, on Thursday, November 9, between 3 and 7 p.m. You will be able to talk with HGAC volunteers at the drop-off location.
2. Mail the donation form in time to arrive at ACCF by November 9. The mailing address is Adams County Community Foundation, 25 South 4th Street, Gettysburg, PA 17325. Note: Please mail early to avoid any delays in mail delivery.
3. Give on-line at ACCFGivingSpree.org on Thursday, November 9. Click on the site on any time between 12:01 a.m. and 12 midnight on November 9 to complete your donation online.

Thank you for your continuing support!

Keith Schultz
President



FOR THE BARNS!

There's a lot of truth to the old saying that "What you get out of something is what you put into it." The HGAC Historic Barns Tour of Gettysburg and Adams County proved that's true! Saturday, September 16 was a very good day for barns in Adams County. Owners of six barns and 62 volunteers generously donated hundreds of hours of their time to advance HGAC's mission of historic preservation.

It was a picture-perfect fall day for the HGAC Preservation Committee to welcome 321 participants to the 2023 Barn Tour. The event brought in \$17,000 before expenses. Proceeds from the Barn Tour benefit the HGAC Barn Preservation Project and Grant Program, providing funds to barn owners to make needed repairs.

The tour started at the **Historic Round Barn**. After checking in, and receiving their Barn Tour booklet and map, participants could then drive to the other five barns on the tour in any order and stay as long as they liked.



HGAC volunteers at the Round Barn, where visitors registered for the tour.

Barns on the Tour included:

- At the **Starr Barn** just south of Abbottstown, owners Tom and Dianne Starr welcomed visitors to their circa 1840 brick-end barn. The ground floor of the barn is home to the Starr Pottery studio and shop and the upper floor serves as the Starr's residence. During the tour Mary Moores operated a potter's wheel and Tom Starr explained early brick-making methods.
- At beautiful **Beech Springs Farm**, owners Jayne and Bill Shord welcomed members of the Foothills Artists inside the barn while Mountain Valley Plein Air Painters created artworks outdoors. Musicians John and Sharon Knowles, Dave Matsinko and Tom Fontana performed outdoors in Beech Springs' gardens. The Susquehanna Travellers provided Civil War era music to accompany dancers in period attire led by Norma Calhoun.
- Built in the 1830's, the **Sarah Patterson Barn** served as a field hospital during the Battle of Gettysburg. On the barn's threshing floor, members of the Historic Barn and Farm Foundation of Pennsylvania presented information about their preservation efforts across the state. Under the forebay, Civil War living history presenter Eddie Roberts described life in the mid-1800's.
- The beautifully restored **Cornerstone Barn** is home to 7 Sky Farm, a veteran-owned and operated beef cattle farm. Visitors enjoyed meeting the farm's horses and cattle. There was live music in the barn and fresh apples for everyone from Rice Fruit Company.
- The **Stone of Scone Barn** was built in the 1820s and underwent a full-scale restoration in 2016 by the current owners Bob Rodgers and Patricia Green Rodgers. This barn featured a timber framing demonstration by Lee Sornson, Peter Bugler, Doug Keefer, Steve Glassman and David Maclay, as well as apple cider pressing and tasting offered by Ben Wenk, owner of Ploughman Farm Cider. Artist bobbi becker, members of the Panera Tatters and expert wood carver, Frank Rauscher, displayed their art in the lower level.

Heartfelt thanks go out to Barn Tour event sponsors, barn owners, musicians, artists, presenters and the many volunteers who staffed each barn that made the day a resounding success, as both a friend raiser and a fund raiser for HGAC's mission of historic preservation.

Mark your calendar for the 2024 Historic Barns Tour to be held rain or shine on Saturday, September 21, 2024 – always the third Saturday of September.

Bob McIlhenny, HGAC Barn Tour event chair

Curt Musselman, HGAC Preservation Committee chair

– See Page 7 for more photos

HGAC Youth Initiative programs hone students' preservation skills

School is back in session and that means Historic Gettysburg Adams County volunteers are starting a new round of workshops and programs for high school students designed to foster interest in historic preservation and restoration work.

Students from the Gettysburg Area High School's Technology program will be manufacturing new signs to mark Civil War hospital sites, and building trades students from the Adams County Technical Institute (ACTI) will take part in HGAC's annual timber framing Learning Lab. Both programs are key components of HGAC's Investing in Youth Initiative, formed in 2019 to encourage a general appreciation among our youth for Adams County's heritage and history.

The hands-on Learning Lab for ACTI students will be held Wednesday, October 11 at the battlefield's historic George Spangler Barn, with help from HGAC's participating partners, the Gettysburg Foundation and the National Preservation Training Center of Frederick, Md. This is the fifth learning lab sponsored by HGAC. Dave Snyder is the ACTI Building Trades instructor and David Maclay, HGAC Barn Preservation Specialist, oversees the instructional program.

At the lab, skilled artisans instruct the students in timber framing, stone masonry, hand hewing, peg making and other skills used in preserving historic buildings. Students work with these artisans during the daylong session to build a "bent," a basic structural cross-section of a timber framed structure. A representative from the National Preservation Training Center – the National Park Service's premier historical preservation and restoration organization – will also address the students on job opportunities in the preservation field.

Over at Gettysburg Area High School, Technology Education instructor Stan Licharowicz supervises his class as they manufacture another batch of signs to replace aging markers for Civil War hospital sites. The students use the latest computer-aided design and laser manufacturing technologies to produce these weather-resistant, long-lasting signs. The signs are then installed by HGAC volunteers.

During the past two school years, students have manufactured 14 replacement signs, 13 for sites under private ownership and one for the National Park Service. This year, the technology class will be working on nine replacement signs for the NPS. This year's students were very proactive and reached out to HGAC to identify which signs were to be fabricated next.



David Maclay with a student at Learning Lab



GAHS Student Zach Sentz checks alignment

The nine NPS signs will include these farms used as hospitals: Lydia Leister, Jacob Hummelbaugh, William Patterson, Michael Frey, George Spangler, Edward McPherson, Henry Culp, Josiah Benner and Samuel Cobean.

HGAC first posted roadside Civil War hospital signs in 1983. The original signs were updated in 2001 and now are once again showing their age. The partnership with the GAHS technology program was supported by the 2022 Giving Spree drive, and HGAC thanks the students for continuing a job well done!

The HGAC

HOMESPUN CHRISTMAS



Holiday Market



Calling all Crafters and Bakers for Homespun 2023!

Circle the dates! On Friday, **December 1** and Saturday, **December 2**, HGAC's Homespun Christmas and Holiday Market will be open once again at the G.A.R. Hall at 53 Middle Street as part of Mainstreet Gettysburg's Holiday Festival.

Hours this year will be from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday, December 1, and from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday, December 2. Shop for hand-crafted items and satisfy your sweet tooth at HGAC's traditional bake sale, featuring Mamie Eisenhower's famous fudge. Check out the unique gifts crafted by our HGAC Architectural Salvage Warehouse volunteers. There will also be holiday greens for sale.

The market will include guest vendors, including the return of Bear & Co. and Mason-Dixon Photography, now trading as Metal Visas. Anyone wishing to contribute their crafts for sale and/or to bake for the market should please contact HGAC Secretary Coleen Dee Berry at hstgettyac@aol.com or call 732-673-0596.

We will be selling Mamie Eisenhower's famous fudge again for the market. Please email or call for the recipe if you wish to make some for the market.

All money earned through the Homespun market is earmarked for the upkeep and benefit of the historic G.A.R. Hall. Money from previous markets enabled HGAC to renovate the first-floor bathroom this year at the hall.

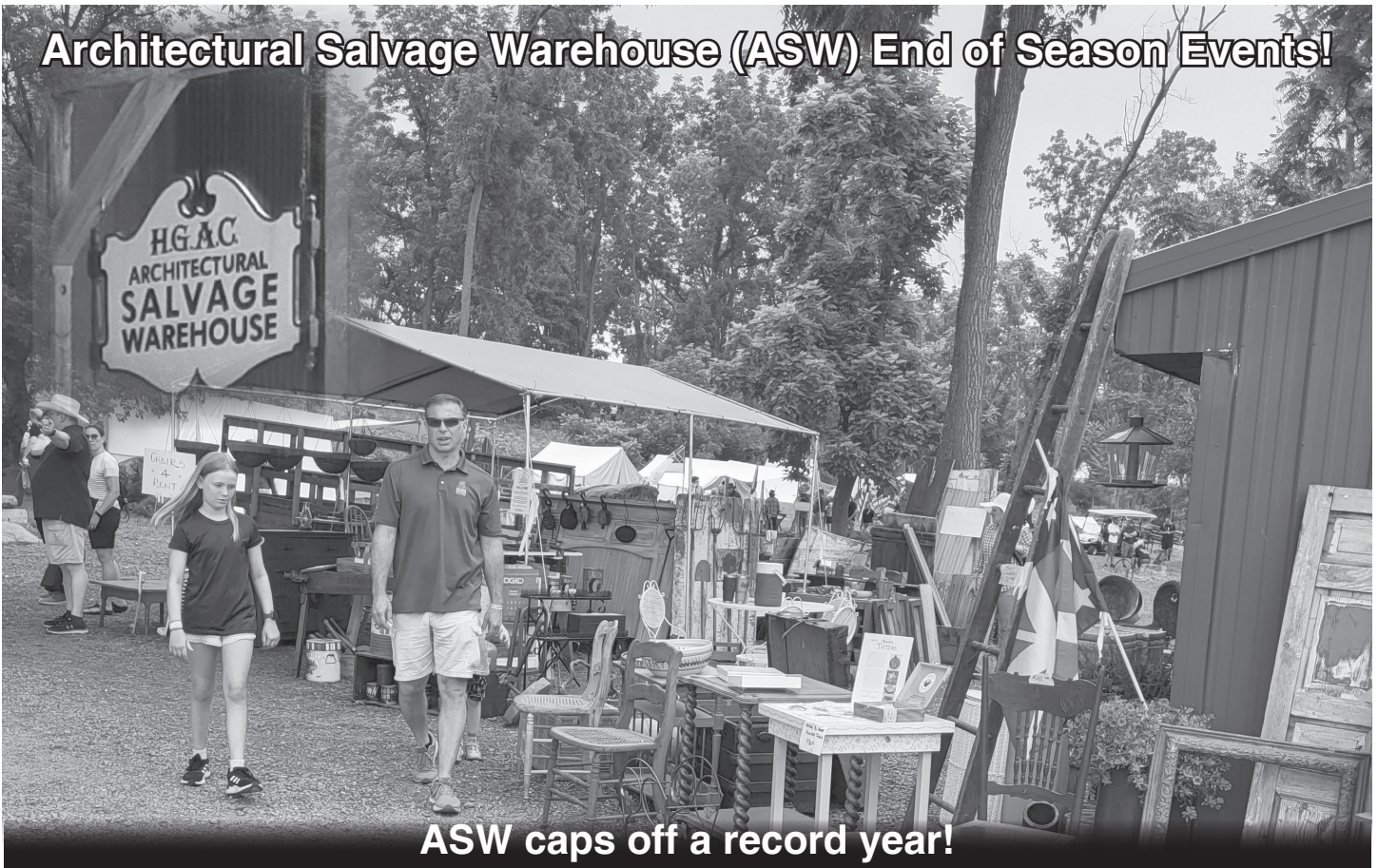
Celebrate Remembrance Day on November 18 with HGAC



Join us at the G.A.R. Hall on 53 E. Middle Street in Gettysburg to view the annual Remembrance Day parade on Saturday, November 18.

Each Union reenactor group stops to salute the hall during the parade, which begins at 1 p.m. We will be gathering in front of the hall to watch the parade. Come celebrate the 160th Anniversary of the Gettysburg Address!

Architectural Salvage Warehouse (ASW) End of Season Events!



Additional October Hours

The Salvage Sisters, Kendra Kaufmann and Andie Donahue, are excited to announce that the Warehouse will be open for business **every Saturday in October, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.**! We are located at the Historic Daniel Lady Farm, 986 Hanover Road in Gettysburg.

Come and browse our abundant inventory of architectural items! We have doors galore, windows, trim, barnwood planks, old tools, implements and many other useful materials for your next DIY project. Not planning a building project? Andie and Kendra and their team of outstanding volunteers have also been busy adding other useful, donated items to our ASW inventory. We have a wide selection of used chairs, tables, cabinets, lighting fixtures, porcelain sinks, hardware, tools and other items that can be reimagined as household and gardening decor!

All proceeds go to support HGAC's varied preservation programs and to maintain our historic headquarters building, the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) Hall at 53 E. Middle Street in Gettysburg.

Special Year-end Donation/Sale

Get your donations ready and mark your calendars! On Saturday, November 17 and Sunday, November 18, the ASW is holding a year-end celebration in conjunction with Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association's Annual Re-enactor Yard Sale and Swap Meet at the Daniel Lady Farm. All donors will receive 20 percent off any ASW purchase during the event.

Warehouse doors will open at 9 a.m. both days. Don't miss this opportunity to drop off your unwanted items before winter! We will accept donations of any items listed above. If you have questions about whether we will accept an item, or if you can't transport it, please email HGAC at histgettyac@aol.com. We may be able to arrange a pick-up!



CHRISTMAS TREE SALES TO BENEFIT HGAC

Bruce Kile is once again offering Christmas tree sales to help HGAC. Five dollars from the sale of each tree will be donated to the G.A.R. Building fund.

The trees will be available for sale after Thanksgiving. There will be many sizes to choose from – please contact Bruce Kile if interested – call 717-334-7854 or email bwkile@gmail.com

Photo Gallery: HGAC 2023 Historic Barn Tour of Gettysburg and Adams County

Enjoy a few photographs from the September 16 HGAC Barn Tour. Thanks again to all who helped make this day a success!

Photo credit for all photographs: Darryl Wheeler, Gettysburg Times



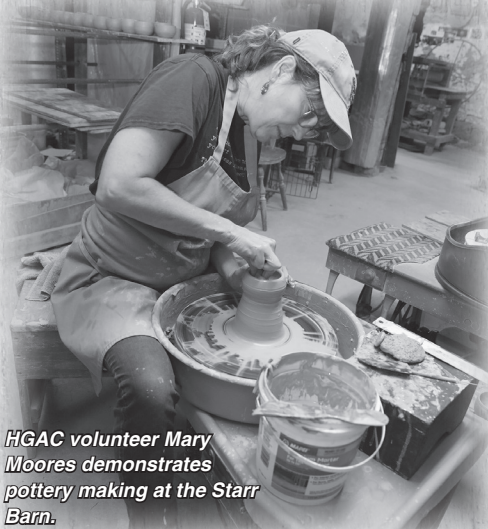
Doug Keefer (right) and Peter Bugler (center) are among artisans conducting a timber framing demonstration at the Stone of Scone Barn.



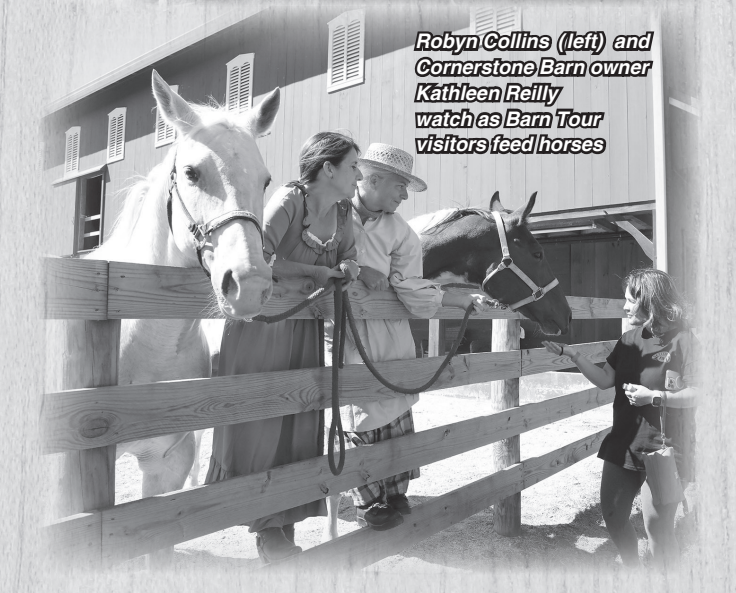
HGAC board member Greg Kaufmann shows a visitor a piece of wood dated 1884 that was found during the restoration of the Cornerstone Barn. The barn was constructed around that time.



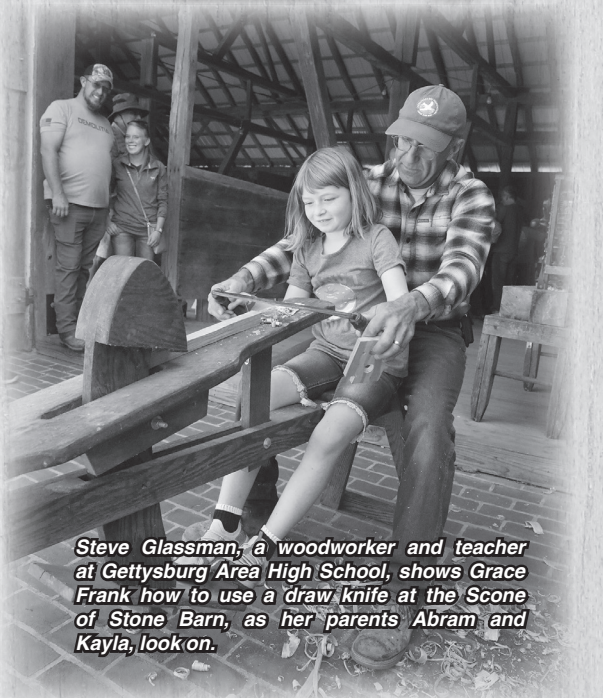
Civil War reenactor Eddie Roberts at the Sarah Patterson Barn.



HGAC volunteer Mary Moores demonstrates pottery making at the Starr Barn.



Robyn Collins (left) and Cornerstone Barn owner Kathleen Reilly watch as Barn Tour visitors feed horses



Steve Glassman, a woodworker and teacher at Gettysburg Area High School, shows Grace Frank how to use a draw knife at the Stone of Scone Barn, as her parents Abram and Kayla, look on.



P.O. Box 4611
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