

How do you spell **S U C C E S S**? 2-0-2-3!

Thanks to the support of the HGAC membership and to the hard work of dedicated volunteers, HGAC's events and programs in 2023 were a resounding success. Here's a look back at 2023's achievements:

■ The 15th Annual BarnArt Show and Sale in June was the largest show to date, with 48 local and regional artists participating and 108 works exhibited.

■ The Barn Tour on September 16 featured the owners of six barns, and 62 volunteers welcomed 321 tour participants – the highest number of visitors to date to attend a Barn Tour. The event raised more than \$17,000 for HGAC's Barn Preservation and Grant program, which provides funds to barn owners to make repairs.

■ This year marked the third successful season for HGAC's family-friendly "Summer at Spangler" program, which takes place at the historic George Spangler Barn and Farm, located at 488 Blacksmith Shop Road in Gettysburg. HGAC hosts this informative program in conjunction with the Gettysburg Foundation. In 2023, there were approximately 1,900 visitors who stopped to view the barn exhibit and tour the barn. Four HGAC docents clocked more than 140 volunteer hours throughout the season.

■ HGAC once again sponsored a day long Learning Lab for 15 students of the Adams County Technical Institute on October 11 at the 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.

At the lab, skilled artisans instructed 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 day long session to build a "bent," a basic structural cross-section of a timber framed structure. In 2023, HGAC also sponsored a field trip for ACTI students to the National Preservation Training Center – the National Park Service's premier historical preservation and restoration organization – and is planning another trip in 2024.

■ HGAC's Preservation Committee officially marked a milestone in June – committee members surveyed their 400th Adams County barn! The honor of #400 went to owner Wayne Flickinger for his family's beautiful c.1901 barn at 25 Cashtown Road in Biglerville. The committee ended 2023 with a total of 412 barns surveyed, more than one-quarter of the historic barns in the county.

■ The Architectural Salvage Warehouse had a banner year in 2023, and the Homespun Christmas and Holiday Market in December was also profitable (see reports on page 6). Both these programs are key to raising money for the upkeep and improvement of the 202-year-old G.A.R. Hall. In 2023, the money that those programs raised went to renovate the main bathroom at the hall, and to the refinishing of the two century-old lion statues that flank the Civil War monument outside the hall.

■ The care of the G.A.R. Hall will continue to be a major focus of HGAC for 2024. **Thanks to all our generous donors to the Giving Spree on November 9, who donated \$14,646 to HGAC.** These funds will be earmarked towards future renovation and upkeep projects at the hall.

Expect more good things for HGAC in 2024! Stay tuned!



HGAC board member Greg Kaufmann speaks with visitors at the Summer at Spangler program



HGAC Preservation Specialist David Maclay supervises ACTI student at HGAC's Learning Lab

■ Photo gallery for 2023 can be found on page 5

President's message:

In 2023, HGAC again moved forward with a number of successes, but our leadership also suffered a devastating loss. In November, HGAC Vice President Bonnie Braun passed away after a valiant fight against cancer.



Bonnie was an energetic, passionate and tireless champion for HGAC. Under her guidance, HGAC developed the Investing in Youth Initiative Program in 2019, designed to reach out to area youth and get them involved in preservation efforts. The hands on Learning Lab workshop held annually at the Spangler Barn with students from the Adams County Technical Institute is one of the flagship programs of this initiative.

Before coming to Adams County, Bonnie had an extraordinary, decades-long career at four universities – Oklahoma State, Virginia, Minnesota and Maryland. Her indefatigable advocacy as both an educator and an administrator led to impactful policy changes for the well-being of rural families across the nation.

Not many people knew that during the Reagan Administration, Bonnie was appointed Interim Extension Deputy Administrator for Home Economics and Human Nutrition at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, collaborating on such projects as development of the USDA food pyramid and healthy school lunch nutrition policies. She advised the Secretary of Agriculture, and the U.S. Congress on family-related aspects of “The Farm Bill”, including Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and food stamp benefits.

In her role as the first Cooperative Extension Service appointee in the Department of Family Science at the University of Maryland, Bonnie created, garnered funding for, and helmed a nearly 20-year, multi-state study focused on the well-being of rural low-income families – the “Rural Families Speak” study, which became one of her most significant accomplishments.

She and her husband Bill retired to Adams County in 2008 and purchased a historic farm on Pumping Station Road. They joined HGAC in 2009 and became active, dedicated members – both Bill and Bonnie served on the Preservation Committee and Bonnie joined the HGAC Board of Directors in 2018 before becoming Vice President in 2021. Even when she was undergoing cancer treatment in the past year, Bonnie rarely missed phoning in to attend HGAC monthly board meetings.

To honor her work with education and students, the board has set up the Bonnie Braun Investing in Youth Initiative. Contributions to this fund will continue Bonnie’s drive for HGAC to nurture the next generation of preservationists. You can donate online at hgaconline.org

Bonnie’s leadership, enthusiasm and vision will be sorely missed.

Keith J. Schultz
HGAC President

In Loving Memory



Bonnie Braun

Time to renew your HGAC membership!

Now that 2024 is here, it's time to renew your HGAC membership! A membership renewal form can be found on page 7 of this newsletter. New members can also join HGAC using this form.

Renew online at hgaconline.org (click on Membership) or mail the form on page 7 to: Historic Gettysburg Adams County, P.O. Box 4611, Gettysburg, PA 17325. Please be sure to include your address and email so that you can receive notifications of special HGAC events. Thank you for your continued support!

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HGAC Now Taking Applications for Barn Preservation Grants

Attention all barn owners! If you want to be considered for a HGAC barn preservation grant in 2024, applications are now being accepted for consideration. The deadline for applying is March 1.

Since 2013, the HGAC Barn Preservation Project and Grant Program has made grants available to 48 owners of historic barns to help extend the life of their barn and to help preserve the rural character of Adams County. The maximum grant amount this year has been raised to \$5,000, which must be matched by the barn owner's labor or a cash outlay of that amount for materials or contract labor.

Grants are only awarded to historic barns that are within Adams County and that are listed on the HGAC Barn Register. The register currently includes 412 barns – more than one-quarter of the historic barns in the county. Barns are added to the register by HGAC at the request of the barn owners. Inclusion in the register provides recognition of the barn and the opportunity to participate in the HGAC grant program, but inclusion does not legally bind the owner in any way whatsoever.

HGAC expects that the grant money to be disbursed in 2024 will help with the stabilization and repair of at least six more historic barns. Once again this year, additional funds are available to be specifically awarded to barns in the Adams County Fruit Belt area.

There is no application fee to apply for the grant if the barn owner is an HGAC member. If an applicant is not an HGAC member for the year 2024, the grant application must include a check for \$25 to pay for an annual HGAC membership. Application guidelines and the application itself are available online at www.hgaconline.org.

If you have questions about the grant program after examining the materials on the HGAC website, or if you would like to have your barn added to the HGAC Barn Register, please call Curt Musselman at 717-659-8827 or email shinbone605@comcast.net.

One of HGAC's goals is to help fund as many barn preservation projects as possible and to help barns owners by providing technical advice and recommendations. All projects are reviewed using ten criteria contained in the grant guidelines, including the visibility of the barn to the general public, the age of the barn, the need for immediate repairs and whether the work will help maintain the historic character of the barn. Barn owners often face a host of maintenance and preservation issues, and HGAC's grants encourage owners to take on one project at a time rather than throw in the towel and demolish the barn.

Curt Musselman, Executive Director of the HGAC Barn Preservation Project, noted, "Our success is thanks to the generosity of our many supporters. One thing that all of our donors have in common is that they value the contribution that these iconic structures make to our historic and largely rural communities. Many of these solidly built barns continue to serve the agriculture industry even though they may be fulfilling a different role than they were originally intended to carry out."

Historic barns no longer used in agriculture still help to preserve the agricultural settings and historic landscapes that are so important to the tourism industry and to preserving the rural character of Adams County. If you would like to be a part of preserving the historic barns in Adams County by helping to sponsor the HGAC Barn Preservation Project, please get in touch with Bob McIlhenny, the project's Director of Development, at 717-420-6500.



The historic Crawford Barn, not far from the Gettysburg Battlefield, has been carefully restored and maintained over the last several decades by Gabor and Elizabeth Boritt. In 2018, it received a HGAC Barn Preservation Grant to help rebuild one of the barn's walls.

Civil War Hospital Signs Project

Beginning in 2022, HGAC has been working with students from the Gettysburg Area High School (GAHS) to create and install new Civil War Hospital markers, as many of the signs in the area have fallen into disrepair.

As of January 1, 2024, under the purview of HGAC's Preservation Committee and in coordination with HGAC's Investing in Youth Initiative, **a total of 23 replacement signs** have been fabricated by GAHS students and installed by HGAC volunteers. Eleven of 21 Union hospital signs have been replaced; and 12 of 20 Confederate hospital signs have been replaced. Ten more signs are with the GAHS students for production this spring.

HGAC first posted roadside Civil War Hospital Signs in 1983 near the public and private structures that served as field hospitals during the Battle of Gettysburg. The original signs were updated in 2001 and now are once again showing their age.

The new signs are produced by students in the Technology Education program at GAHS under the guidance of their instructor, Stan Licharowicz. The students use the latest computer-aided design and laser manufacturing technologies to produce these weather-resistant, long-lasting signs. Many thanks to HGAC board member Mike Koziski for overseeing this program and installing many of the signs!



Mike Koziski with sign at Ross Farm

Remembering artist... *Virginia Jacobs McLaughlin*

On Friday, Nov. 3, 2023, HGAC honored the late Virginia Jacobs McLaughlin, the itinerant painter of national and international note who executed the splendid murals that cover the east and west walls of the hall. Many thanks to her son Salyer, and other family members and friends (including lifetime member and former HGAC board member Jacqueline White and author Jeanne Blackburn) who helped celebrate Virginia's life and work during this moving remembrance at the G.A.R. hall.

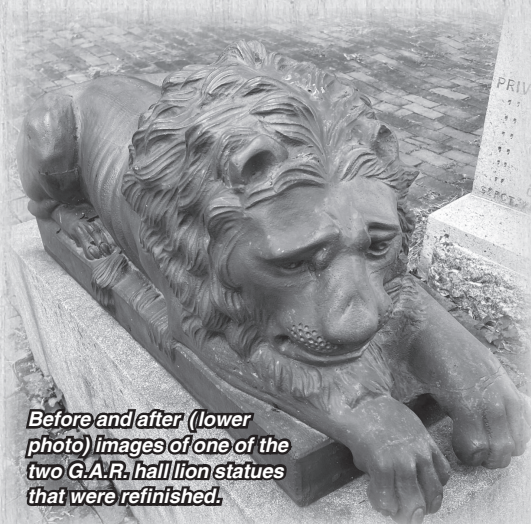


Family members and attendees at the Evening with the Murals event toast the late Virginia Jacobs McLaughlin, pictured at left

PHOTO GALLERY OF 2023 MOMENTS



HGAC Survey team members at barn #400 for the barn registry.



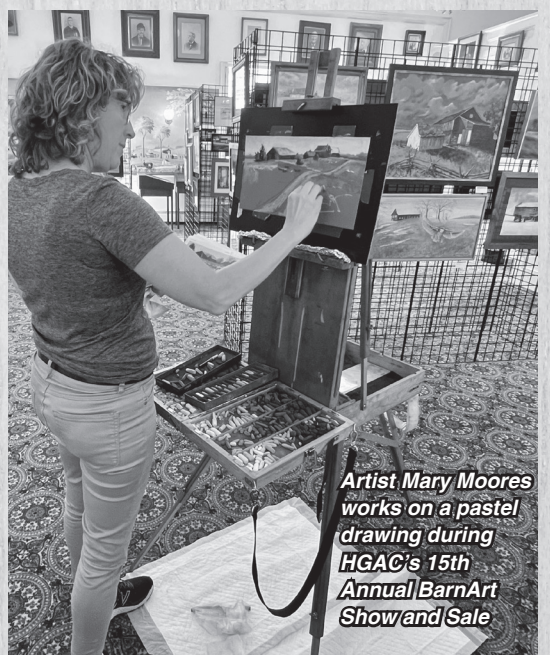
Before and after (lower photo) images of one of the two G.A.R. hall lion statues that were refinished.



ACTI students and instructors with their wooden timber-framed bent at HGAC's Learning Lab.



Robyn Collins (left) and Cornerstone Barn owner Kathleen Reilly watch as Barn Tour visitors feed horses at the 2023 Barn Tour.



Artist Mary Moore works on a pastel drawing during HGAC's 15th Annual Barn Art Show and Sale

This Photo was taken by Darryl Wheeler, Gettysburg Times

SAVE THE DATES!



2023 Homespun Market a Success

Thanks to all who shopped and supported the 2023 Homespun Christmas and Holiday Market at the G.A.R. Hall during Mainstreet Gettysburg's holiday festival.

Many thanks to all the HGAC members and friends who volunteered their time and efforts to make crafts, cut greens, bake, and help with set up and clean up. We could not have done this without you! A special shoutout to Andie Donahue and Kendra Kaufmann for their Architectural Salvage Warehouse creations, and HGAC member Mike Koziski for his woodworking crafts.

Special thanks to our guest vendors, Bear and Company and Metal Vistas, and to all those who donated items for sale, including Ladies at the Links, the Tatters and Robert McIlhenny for his Witness Tree items. Greens and poinsettias were donated by Bear Harvey, Bruce Kile and Keith Schultz.

All money earned through the Homespun market is earmarked for the upkeep and benefit of the historic G.A.R. Hall. Homespun funds in 2023 helped pay for the restoration of the two lion statues in front of the hall. This year's market brought in \$2,800.

Mark your calendars! The 2024 Homespun Christmas and Holiday Market will be held on the weekend of December 6, 7 and 8. Stay tuned for more info!

BarnArt Show & Sale:

HGAC's 2024 BarnArt Show & Sale will be held on June 7, 8 and 9 at the G.A.R. Hall on 53 East Middle Street in Gettysburg. The Opening Night Reception will be held on Friday, June 7, from 6 to 8 p.m. and is open to the public. Winners will be announced at 7:30 p.m. The exhibit will then be open to the public on Saturday, June 8, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday, June 9, from noon until 4 p.m.



Record Year for Architectural Salvage Warehouse!

2023 proved to be a notable year for the Architectural Salvage Warehouse. Kendra Kaufmann and Andie Donahue, now known around town as the "Salvage Sisters," assumed the Warehouse's leadership and re-oriented and expanded its salvage and sales focus. By the end of 2023, Andie and Kendra had generated more than \$16,000 in sales and scrap recovery – a new record for the Warehouse!

Looking to 2024, the Salvage Sisters plan to keep this momentum rolling. Throughout the winter and early spring, they will accept appointments for sales opportunities at any time and, most importantly, will welcome the chance to salvage your old barn or garage or house to replenish their stock. Please call and leave a message at 717-334-5185 and one of the "Sisters" will contact you.

The Warehouse regular season at the Daniel Lady Farm location in Gettysburg runs on the first and third Saturdays from April to October, with April 6 marking the start of the 2024 season.



HGAC's Historic Barns Tour will be held on Saturday, September 21 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., rain or shine. The tour offers the opportunity to visit six historic barns in the Gettysburg area. All of the barns on the tour will include family-oriented activities.

2024 Membership Registration

Please join or renew online or return your completed form and check to:

Historic Gettysburg Adams County

P.O. Box 4611

Gettysburg, PA 17325

www.hgaconline.org

*HGAC is an historic preservation society
with a proud history and an exciting future*

HGAC is a nonprofit organization that spearheads and coordinates efforts to preserve and restore the historic heritage of Adams County's townships and boroughs.

In addition to supporting the many preservation projects of HGAC, membership dues include the following benefits:

- Subscription to "PRESERVE," HGAC's quarterly newsletter
- An invitation to the Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet
- Summer Family Picnic
- Advance notice of our projects and events such as the Annual Barn Art Show and Sale, Civil War Barn Dance, Barn Tours, Summer at Spangler, installing and restoring historical markers, our historic barn survey and the Barn Preservation Grant Program.

Thank you for your membership and financial donations, as well as your contributions of time and talent. We have many things yet to be accomplished and our proud heritage will continue with your participation.

Donations and membership dues can be paid at <http://www.hgaconline.org> through PayPal or by check.

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Email address: _____ Mailing address: _____

Is this a renewal of a current membership? Yes ___ Is this a new membership? Yes ___

\$10 Student Level – basic benefits as listed above

\$25 Associate/Individual Level – basic benefits as listed above

\$50 Sponsor/Family Level – basic benefits, plus HGAC *Civil War Hospitals* publication

\$100 Sustainer/Growth Level – basic benefits, plus *G.A.R. Building Murals* publication

\$250 Timber Framer/Business Level Partner -- basic benefits plus business listing in all HGAC publications

\$500 Legacy Level – basic benefits, plus copy of *Gettysburg* by J. Fritz

\$1,500 HGAC Preservation Society Level (annual) – basic benefits, plus J. Fritz 4-volume *Architecture* series

Thank You!



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