

The Dill's Tavern Chronicle



May 2008

www.dillstavern.org

Northern York County Historical and Preservation Society, 35 Greenbrier Lane, Dillsburg, PA 17019 Ph. 717- 502-1440

Purpose: To promote and encourage the study, collection, and preservation of the historical heritage of the Northern York County area.

PUBLIK TYME at DILL'S Saturday ~ May 17, 2008 ~ 9am - 4pm

The annual gathering of historical period re-enactors, exhibitors and vendors presented by the Northern York County Historical and Preservation Society returns to Dillsburg with some familiar and some new faces and programs. Free to the public, this living history event provides hands-on opportunities, displays and tours exploring several centuries of American History. It will be held regardless of the weather.



Authors – Robert Swift and Roger Swartz bring their works on the French and Indian War and the Colonial periods. Maj. J.E.B, Stuart returns to Dillsburg as **Robert Trout** attends in garb and shares over 30 years research on the Civil War and his books on Stuart.

←Photo by Curtis Werner

Photo by Joanie Biller →



Re-enactors – Duncan Trussell and friends take you down into a foxhole (at the back of the Tavern) to experience the life of a WWII soldier on D- Day in Europe..... **Barry & Paula Yoder, Jack Bordner, Gary Reneker, Deborah Swartz & "Two Bears"** will present the crafts, stories and trappings of the lives of various eastern woodland Native American tribes.

Photo by Curtis Werner →



Crafters & Vendors – Clair Zeiders shares woodworking techniques using early American tools. **Paul Albert** makes brooms by hand for household use.
Don Peroni brings his skills in reproducing the Pennsylvania longrifle.
Maddie Erickson folds German Stars in all sizes and colors. **Ty Zimmerman,** blacksmith, brings forge and fire to create wrought iron pieces on the site.
Harry Metzger will display early kitchen wares.



Exhibitors - **Craig Caba** will display unique items from life in the 18th. Century. **Ron Barlup** shares a collection of artifacts from the Civil War period.

From

Tussie Mussies to fans and parasols, come learn the silent communication of the Victorian era with **Myra Reichart**. Ladies of all ages are encouraged to bring a fan or parasol (umbrellas work fine) and practice the art of flirtation. All are welcome to aid the Tavern crew and help screen for artifacts at several digs on the site. Garbed volunteers will be available to give tours in the building and share the progress of the restoration. Test the comfort of the Windsor chairs or rope beds. Hear the lore and sample foods from the open hearth presented by **Linda Zeigler**.



Visitors are encouraged to don the garb of their favorite historical period and join the fun at Dill's Tavern.

THE WOOD WRIGHTS SHOP

By: Sam McKinney



Footer trenches for the new wood wright's shop were dug on Thursday, April 3rd. It is exciting for me to see this building become a reality, but I would like to explain what the structure is for and how it is being paid for.

Kevin Ricker and I hope to use the shop as a teaching facility. We would like to have classes on various early building trades. Carpentry, cabinet making, barrel making, repairing wagons and making wagon wheels,

making and repairing farm implements, were all the kinds of things that would have been carried on at a large plantation like Dills. We envision a shop filled with period tools and equipment, that will once again serve the tavern and give students a chance to try all these challenging tasks.

How are we paying for this vision? First of all, no NYCHAPS money is being used. Kevin and I are raising the money under a special fund that is controlled by NYCHAPS, called the Education Fund. Some of the money in that fund has been raised by the stone laying class we had last May, which brought in \$1800.00. Ted Pesano donated \$1000.00 and his employer matched the donation. Kevin and I have also sold "Dills" tee shirts and had a musical benefit as additional money makers. The timber frame wagon shed was removed from the property at the intersection of Mountain and Camp Ground Road. I paid \$3000.00 to purchase the building and have it taken apart. I also paid \$800.00 for a collection of heavy, early window frames and sash that will be used in the new shop. Shumaker Trucking donated a tractor trailer and a driver to move the timbers to the tavern site. Williams Excavating donated their time and machinery to move dirt piles and dig the footer ditches. Jim Hess donated his old barn foundation for our use. William Schrack donated a fine collection of early tools (seen in photo above) that will be featured in the new shop. A second stone class will happen on May 29 and 30. The class will be laying the stone foundation for the shop. On July 10, 11 and 12, a class will repair the timber frame with period tools and then raise it on the stone foundation. The money raised from those two classes will buy wood shingles and siding. Please sign up and help us move forward. Kevin and I will be working evenings and weekends on the shop, so feel free to stop and visit with us.

Spring will soon allow us to start working out side the tavern. We will be installing a picket fence across the front of the building. It will be a replica of the fence seen in an 1870 tavern photo. The tavern sign post will also be going up soon. If our funds hold out, we would also like to put the early porch back on the front. This is not the Victorian porch that everyone remembers. This is a much smaller porch found in the 1870's photo. It is the type of porch that would have been on an 1800 structure. You can see we have a lot planned, and we want to thank the community for all their support in getting the tavern project this far. We look forward to accomplishing much more.

A Memory of Bette

"This Publick Tyme we remember our dear friend, Bette Gayman who passed away recently. She volunteered with this organization for so many years. At the Tavern she began by bringing her grandsons to dig for artifacts. As the restoration progressed she helped with all the events. Wearing the period garb made by her daughter, she shared stories of the site with visitors and sold gift items. She would bring her portable heater to keep warm. We think of her with love and miss her. The day after her memorial service, her friend from the South came for a tour of the Tavern to see the place of which she'd heard so much from Bette. Over \$1000 was donated in memory of her. She'll be memorialized in the orchard plantings and in a special furnishing for the building."

Phot by Curtis Werner →



Bette (2nd. R) with Andrew, Patty & Maddie Erickson

The Tavern Committee:

Bob Eichelberger-Chairman, Mervin Ice, Larry Klase, Joanne Klase, Connie Trostle, and Greg Wonders

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