



The Oracle

Newsletter of the Historical Society of Dauphin County

SPRING 2016

Number 106

Coming Events

- **Saturday, Apr. 9—250th Anniversary Opening Event, 2:00pm-5:00pm.** Ticket required.
- **Sunday, Apr. 10—Free Mansion Open House, 1:00pm-5:00pm.** (Members Only Tour 12:00pm to 1:00pm. Presentation by Dan Deibler, 2:30pm.)
- **Saturday, May 7—Tea with Maggie Cameron, 2:30pm.** Ticket required.
- **Sunday, June 12—Native American History presented by Kurt Carr, 2:30pm.**
- **Wednesday, June 22—HSDC Annual Meeting, 5:30pm.**
- **Saturday, June 25—Founders' Day Festival 10:00am- 4:00pm.**
- **Monday, July 4—Independence Day at the Mansion. 10:00am-1:00pm.**

NEW HSDC HOURS!

Office

10:00 AM-4:00 PM
Tuesday-Friday

Library

1:00 PM-4:00 PM
Tuesday-Friday &
2nd and 4th Sunday of
the Month

Mansion Tours

1:00, 2:00, & 3:00 PM
Tuesday-Friday &
2nd and 4th Sunday of
the Month
11:00 AM, 1:00, 2:00, &
3:00 PM on Saturday

Group Tours available
by appointment

250th Anniversary Celebration Kicks Off With Beer Tastings and Exhibit Opening on Saturday, April 9th

M&T Bank presents a tasting of craft beers from local breweries as part of the Historical Society of Dauphin County's opening weekend of the 250th Anniversary celebration of the John Harris-Simon Cameron Mansion, 219 South Front Street, Harrisburg.

Seven breweries will present some of their finest examples on Saturday, April 9, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the mansion. Participating are **Appalachian Brewing Company, Boneshire Brew Works, The Brewery at Hershey, Tattered Flag Brewery and Still Works, Howling Henry's Brewery, The Millworks, and Tröegs Independent Brewing.**

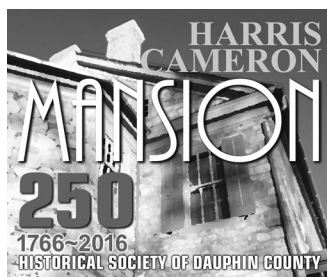
Tickets are \$25 per person and include tastings from all seven breweries, a souvenir beer glass, and snack foods including Flinchy's famous chili. Participation is limited to those over 21 years of age.

During the event a new exhibit tracing the history of the National Historic Landmark mansion and its famous occupants will open for the first time to the public. Sponsor of the opening event is M&T Bank of Harrisburg.

TICKETS are available by calling (717) 233-3462 (most major credit cards accepted), online at <https://mansion250th.eventbrite.com>, or at the door on the day of the event.



Free Mansion Open House on Sunday, April 10th



The Harris-Cameron Mansion will be open to the public free of charge on Sunday, April 10th from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. as part of the mansion's 250th anniversary celebration kick-off weekend. Visitors will have the opportunity to view the new exhibit recounting the history of the mansion and learn about the home's many famous (and infamous) occupants. The exhibit is sponsored by Pinnacle Health. There will be a special Members Only Tour at 12:00 p.m. and a talk by architectural historian Daniel Deibler at 2:30 p.m.

250th Anniversary Celebration Sponsors!



Historical Society of Dauphin County

Mission Statement:

The Mission of The Historical Society of Dauphin County is to collect, preserve, exhibit, publish, and promote interest in the history of Dauphin County for the education, enjoyment and benefit of the public.

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And a dedicated and
growing group of Volunteers

The Oracle is prepared and
edited by Howard Parker



From the Director's Desk

Dear Members:

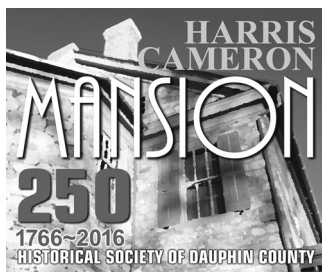
We are very excited to announce our 250th Anniversary Celebration programs and events. Our board members, staff and volunteers are working hard to make this year a special tribute to the Harris-Cameron Mansion. The HSDC Events Committee has planned something for everyone. Our exhibit curator Nancy Mendes and her team are preparing a new exhibit, and there will be wonderful new collections and renovations to the mansion to see when you visit. We have even expanded our mansion tour times to include Saturdays and the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month.

Be sure to mark the dates on your calendar and make your reservations for events that require tickets. We are finalizing plans for a summer Founder's Day Festival in June that will be perfect for history lovers and families. We're also planning a Tavern night with John Harris Jr., a symposium on Simon Cameron featuring renowned authors, a Gala Victorian Dinner in November, and a number of other lectures and programs throughout the year. We could not do this without the help of our many volunteers and the support of our members. Please contact the HSDC if you are interested in membership or volunteering. For more information on everything that is happening this year, visit our **newly re-designed website** dauphincountyhistory.org, our events blog HSDCHappenings.blogspot.com, or follow us on Facebook.

Thank you,

Nicole Smith
Executive Director

250th Anniversary Discount for New Members!



For the 250th Anniversary Celebration, we are offering **\$5 off for new members** who join between April and December 2016! We're inviting you to become a member of one of Pennsylvania's oldest historical organizations.

Memberships will begin at \$30 (\$10 for students) and include free admission to the Mansion, the research fee waived in the library, two guest passes for family or friends, and a number of other benefits listed on the last page of this newsletter. Consider giving a gift membership this anniversary and help preserve the Harris-Cameron Mansion and our local history. More information on membership and the Historical Society can be found at dauphincountyhistory.org.

A Happy Holiday Season at the Harris-Cameron Mansion!



Some of the finest artisans and craftsmen in South Central Pennsylvania displayed their handiwork at *Christmas at the Mansion and Holiday Market* on December 13, 2015.



HSDC Needs You!

You are invited to join the ranks of HSDC volunteers. There are many ways that you can help the Society:

- ♦ Program and Event Staffing
- ♦ Tour Guide Opportunities
- ♦ Archives and Collections Projects
- ♦ Office and Marketing Projects
- ♦ Gardening and Grounds Care

Whether you can give a little time or a lot, you will be a valued member of our corps of volunteers. To become a volunteer call 233-3462 or contact office@dauphincountyhistory.org.

Parking is FREE at the Mansion!

Free parking is available on-site for all programs and events at the Mansion. Free parking is also available on evenings and weekends in the PinnacleHealth physicians' lot off River Street behind the Mansion property.



John Harris, Jr. (portrayed by Rev. David Biser) and HSDC President John Robinson look on as Robert Hall, on behalf of the Hall Foundation, addresses the assembled revelers at the Historical Society's *Deck the Halls* gala on December 15, 2015. The Hall Foundation was the recipient of the 2015 John Harris Award.



Deck the Halls 2015



John Harris Award recipient
The Hall Foundation

Thank you to our Sponsors!

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THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF DAUPHIN COUNTY

HSDC



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STREET
HARRISBURG, PA 17104

P: (717) 233-3462
dauphincountyhistory.org
hsdchappenings.blogspot.com

The official registration & financial information of The Historical Society of Dauphin County may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

NONPROFIT ORG.

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Your Membership Contribution Benefits: HSDC and Pays You Back

As an HSDC member, you receive:

Unlimited Mansion Tours.

Unlimited Visits to the Alexander Family Research Library.

Free admission to general programs.

Discounts on purchases and HSDC sponsored activities and programs.

Free subscription to *The Oracle*.

Advance notice and discounts on special programs and events.

10% discount in the Museum Shop.

Free tour of Ft. Hunter Mansion with your membership card.

Discount membership to the Pennsylvania Heritage Foundation.

Heritage and above membership levels enjoy additional benefits.

We're always thrilled to add new members to our rolls. Please help the HSDC grow its member base by sharing the form on the right with a friend or neighbor.

We would also like to communicate with our current members more quickly and easily. Please help us do so by providing your email address to office@dauphincountyhistory.org and write "My Email Address" in the subject line. Thank you.

Membership Form—Please Join Today

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

__ Home __ Work

Email: _____

Check Level Desired:

__ Individual \$35

__ Heritage Circle \$55

__ Full-time Student \$10

__ Haldeman Circle \$100

__ Family \$45

__ Cameron Circle \$250

Payment Method:

__ Check Amount: \$ _____

__ American Express

__ VISA

__ MasterCard

Card Number

Exp. Date

Signature

Please detach and send with payment to:
HSDC, 219 South Front Street
Harrisburg, PA 17104