



May 2016

Dear Members and Friends of JSHA,

Our JSHA Annual Meeting is rapidly approaching! The 2016 celebration will start on Sunday, July 10, at 10:00 a.m. Members and the public are invited, admission is free to all. This event will be held rain or shine, as pavilions and trees offer shelter and shade. You are welcome to bring your own picnic lunch as there are plenty of tables to share. Bean soup and hot dogs will be available for purchase.

If you have paid your 2016 annual membership, your membership card has been enclosed in this mailing and you will be able to pick up your 2016 The Hessians: Journal of the Johannes Schwalm Historical Association at the Annual Meeting. If you cannot attend, your journal will be mailed to you the following week. There is still time for you to renew your membership for this year.

The 40th Anniversary of the publication of *Johannes Schwalm The Hessian* and the 240th Anniversary of Hessians in America will be celebrated this year at the July 10, 2016 meeting at Valley View Park. Valley View Park is located in Valley View, Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania, 8 miles west of I-81, Exit 112. Follow Route 25 toward Hegins to Gap Street in Valley View and turn left toward the gap in the mountain. Google Coordinates are

40 38'13.3"N, 76 32'50.9"W. Directional signs will be posted. Visitors to the area can find information from the Schuylkill Visitors Bureau at <u>http://www.schuylkill.org/visit-guide.php</u>

The day's events which begin at 10:00 a.m. on July 10, 2016 will include the usual guessing games, children's piñata, and the Share Fair. Our Military History committee members will provide information related to ongoing research of Hessian participation in the American Revolution; our Genealogy Committee members will provide an opportunity to update your Schwalm Family Tree information; our Hessian Certificate Program Coordinator will assist Hessian descendants with how to research and obtain a Hessian certificate of Registration. Ross Schwalm will have a Civil War Fair Share presentation on his Civil War ancestors and Britt Isenberg, Schwalm descendant, Gettysburg National Battlefield Park employee, Licensed Battlefield Tour Guide and author will give a talk on his newest book "The Boys fought like Demons" about the 105th Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment during the Civil War. The 50th Pennsylvania Re-enactment unit from Reading, PA is scheduled to attend this year's Annual Meeting. You are invited to share your hobby, interest, latest found genealogy information or activity at the Share Fair. If you are interested in participating in the Share Fair, contact Dan Schwalm at <u>shamokinschwalms@verizon.net</u> or 570-648-4095, or Ross Schwalm at <u>pahessian@gmail.com</u> or 571-330-2745.

JSHA will be offering its annual historical journals *The Hessians*, including *The Civil War Letters and Experiences of Samuel Schwalm* of the 50th PA Volunteer Infantry, the final updated Don Reed CD *Johannes Schwalm Descendants & Allied Families*, as well as many other JSHA publications and items. We will have copies of our earlier publications at the park for your review and purchase or you can download our list of publications form at <u>http://jsha.org/jshaorder.htm</u> and send the list of publications you would like to purchase to <u>jshatreasurer@comcast.net</u> and pay by PayPal. You can also mail the order form with a check to make your purchase.

The Share Fair will continue from 10:00 a.m. till 2:00 p.m. when JSHA will hold its annual public meeting including a brief history of the past 40 years of JSHA. The celebration will close with a traditional KAFFEEKLATSCH of desserts and beverages.

JSHA, Inc., a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization, is a dedicated team of volunteers focused on promotion and publication of Hessian history and genealogy as well as family contributions to American society beyond the American Revolution. Our 40th Anniversary goal is to grow our membership to 400 by July 2016. We are also seeking partnerships with like-minded publications and individuals to grow our endowment through charitable contributions. Every membership, purchased publication and monetary donation will allow us to continue telling the Hessian and descendant history. For further information, check our website or contact Ross Schwalm at <u>pahessian@gmail.com</u> or 571-330-2745.

FYI-Road construction on central Pennsylvania Interstates may cause delays in your travel. Detours and construction in the Harrisburg area as well as on Interstate 81 near Exit 112 can cause significant travel delay. You may want to consider using secondary roads. The scenic route can be beautiful. Hopefully the fact that JSHA is a one day event on Sunday, July 10, 2016, will mean that the construction sites will not be active.

We are looking forward to seeing you on Sunday, July 10, 2016, at Valley View Park.

Sincerely,

Línda B. Schwalm, Membership Chairperson Annual Meeting Committee

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