News For Members of PITTSBURGH HISTORY & LANDMARKS FOUNDATION

NUMBER 38--DECEMBER 1972

NEILL LOG HOUSE LANDSCAPING FUNDS

We wish to thank the following members and friends who have generously donated funds to be applied to the purchase of plants and shrubs for the Neill Log House:

In memory of Mrs. James A.Ashton, Sr. Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania Montague R. Cooke In memory of Mr. & Mrs. W. J. Cooke Mr. & Mrs. James A. Frank Donald L. Hobaugh In memory of E. Russell Hobaugh Marcia Campbell Hobaugh In memory of Arthur B. Campbell Mrs. Birda Jones In memory of L. G. McLeod Mrs. Kenneth K. Kearney In memory of Kenneth K. Kearney Linden Garden Club Nell Nickerson Valentina Petrone The Alexander C. Speyer & Lillie S. Speyer Charitable Foundation In memory of Alexander C. Speyer, Sr. Mrs. LeRoy Thompson In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Charles A. Painter, Jr. Western Pennsylvania Unit, Herb Society of America

Edna R. Ashton

PHLF hopes to undertake and complete the Neill Log House landscaping this spring. At that time a permanent list of donors will be mounted in the Neill Log House.

PHLF also wishes to thank the Western Pennsylvania Unit of The Herb Society of America; they have offered to plant and maintain a herb garden at the Neill Log House and the Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania, which will plant wild flowers this spring. We are very grateful for their help. The following plants and shrubs are still available for donation and if you or your organization is interested in funding one or more of these items, please send a note and check to the office. If your gift is in memory of a particular person, please so state:

21	Indian Summer Red Rasberries\$	2.50 each
20	Cumberland Balckberries\$	2.50 each
10	Arrowwood Viburnum\$	25.00 each
20	Bitter Sweet Vines\$	5.25 each
5	Ramona Climatas\$	5.25 each
	Virginia Creepers\$	
60	Martha Washington Asparagus Plants\$	2.00 each
	Victoria Rhubarb Plants\$	













LEE AND EMMA ADLER'S VISIT

In late September we were very pleased to welcome Mr. & Mrs. Leopold Adler, II as our guests from Savannah, Georgia. Mr. Adler gave a brilliant address to our membership one evening. He and his wife attended a picnic in the Mexican War Streets and chatted with many of our friends there. Shown here are some photographs of the occasion. The talk was sponsored by Burt, Hill and Associates, architects, the principles of which are shown here with Mr. Adler, in photo 1. In photo 2 Mrs. Kenneth Boesel and Mrs. J. C. Oliver, Jr. and other neighborhood representatives are talking with our Director, Mr. Ziegler. In photo 3 Mr. Adler and Warren Schweitzer are looking at 1201 Buena Vista Street to see this restoration; and in the next photo (#4) our 1927 fire truck from Liberty Borough is shown as it rambled through the Mexican War Streets, summoning people to the picnic. In photo 5 Mr. Ziegler converses with Mr. Adler. In photo 6 our Assistant for Design Programs, Ellis Schmidlapp sits with two old friends in the back yard of 1220 Monterey Street.

ANNOUNCING 1973 PERFORMING ARTS SERIES OLD POST OFFICE MUSEUM

Don't let the "post-Christmas doldrums" keep you wishing for excitement! Plan now to join us at the Old Post Office when the Performing Arts Committee presents six lively, interesting and varied programs. They will be held on six Sunday evenings at 7:30 p.m. Prices to members are \$8.00 for the series, and \$1.50 for individual performances. Prices to non-members are \$10. for the series and \$2.00 for individual performances. Get your tickets early; you won't want to miss any of these exciting events. A reception to meet the performers will be held after each event.

January 14 - "Dance Happening at The Old Post Office" Mrs. Jeanne Beaman of Pitt University will present a creative dance program related to the architecture of the Old Post Office.

February 11- "An Evening with Robert Schmertz and Friends" Featuring folk songs of Pittsburgh

- February 25- Recital of the winners of "The First Donald S. Steinfirst Memorial Competition" *l vocalist and l instrumentalist chosen from competitors from colleges within a radius of 50 miles of Pittsburgh.*
- March 11 The Russian Orthodox Choir of St. Alexander Nevsky from the North Hills of Pittsburgh will sing liturgical music.
- March 25 The opera "Dido Aeneus" The opera will be performed by the Tuesday Musical Club of Pittsburgh.

April 15 - The Gospel Choir of the University and City Ministries under the direction of Rev. Moses Stith will sing gospel and folk music.

Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation The Old Post Office Allegheny Square West Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15212

_____tickets for "Gospel Choir" 4/15/73 @\$1.50 each......\$_____tickets for non-members @\$2.00 each.....

ANNOUNCING THE DONALD S. STEINFIRST MEMORIAL COMPETITION

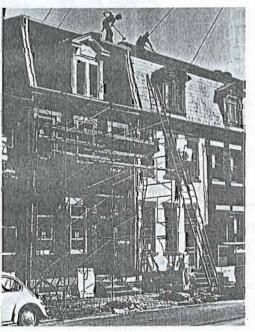
At the recommendation of the Performing Arts Committee of the Old Post Office Museum and with the approval of Mrs. Doanld S. Steinfirst, we have established a memorial competition for one vocalist and one instrumentalist between the ages of 18 and 25 to be chosen to give a recital at the Old Post Office Museum on February 25, 1973. There will also be a small stipend for each winner.

The late Dr. Steinfirst was very interested in the performing arts in Pittsburgh and also in the Old Post Office. The committee determined that this competition would be a fitting memorial to him while at the same time alerting young people to and involving them in the Old Post Office Museum.

Applicants may register for auditions which will be held on January 15 at 1:30 p.m. by calling and requesting an application form.

The concert will be part of the performing arts series for 1973. Contributions for this memorial to Donald S. Steinfirst will be welcomed and will be held in trust for use for the competition each year. Two donors have initiated the memorial with contributions totaling \$75.

Shown here is the scaffolding work at 2809 Jane Street where we are restoring an 1870 house for the Pittsburgh Housing Authority under the Leased Housing program. The Housing Authority asked us to produce a really fine unit and we are laying all new hardwood floors, replastering every wall, renewing all mechanicals, putting in all new windows and adding a new roof. The contractor is William J. Vezendy. Next door our own work crew is busily painting the facade of 2811 and putting a new roof on it. Our work crew this fall put seven new roofs on houses on the South Side and the Mexican War Streets.



We join with Mrs. Paul C. McBeth, Jr., who was in charge of our excellent Christmas show and sale, to thank the volunteers who worked so hard to help make our first effort successful. We all enjoyed sand-CHRISTMAS SALE wiches, cookies, tea and coffee served in the Victorian SUCCESS Parlor. Our thanks to the Colonial Dames for their lovely Victorian tea table. We sold over \$500. worth of merchandise. We still have many unusual gifts - some yet to arrive. A reminder -- Give a gift that lasts all year -- a membership to PHLF.

We regret to announce the death of Ronald F. Lee, director of the National Park Service and chief historian in the service for 39 years until his retirement in 1965. Mr. Lee helped us organize our architec-WITH REGRET tural survey in 1965 and sent John Poppelliers from his staff to assist us in doing so. Mr. Poppelliers is now the director of the Historic American Building Survey.

In order to provide our staff with a second week of vacation this year with minimal disruption to our services, we are closing the offices between Christmas and New Year's Day. The flow of calls and meetings subsides during this week, and we feel that the fewest number of people will be inconvenienced by our absence that week. The Museum will remain OPEN. Recently the school board of Edgewood proposed to demolish twelve houses near the foot of Maple Avenue for school expansion. At the request of the "Families concerned with Education, Taxes, and the Community" PHLF investigated the situation and learned that other alternatives were possible. We wrote as follows:

PHLF OPPOSES SCHOOL EXPANSION IN EDGEWOOD "These small turn-of-the-century houses, many of which have recently been excellently renovated and restored, are, in toto, a visually pleasant and extremely charming element of the townscape, as well as a necessary

ing element of the townscape, as well as a necessary prelude to the large houses further up the street. They are like the opening bars of a musical composition which announce, preceed and lead into the developments of the larger themes. To cut away these smaller, delightful buildings would, in our opinion, disasterously truncate the whole ensemble."

RECENT DONATIONS

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the following people who donated historical articles in kind to the Old Post Office Museum recently.

Mrs. S. J. Anathen Frederick Bollander Ms. Lois Davies David Genter Mrs. Harry Green Mrs. Julia Hill Mrs. A. Hutter Mrs. J. Kindsvater Miss Mary Alice Low Ms. Dorothy Zenn Price Miss Mary Pulver Richard M. Scaife Mrs. Frank M. Tucker Cyril Weckerle Miss Margaret White

Our fall season opened with a huge crowd attending our reception for the opening of the Western Art Exhibition. It featured bronzes designed by "various artists and cast by the James H. Matthews Company, FALL OPENING all of which dealt with western motifs. We also had drawings and lithographs of cowboys and Indians from the Kennedy Galleries in New York and Indian artifacts on loan from Meadowcroft Village. More than 600 people came to the opening.

We are pleased to announce these new members for September-October 1972

Mrs. Jean W. Baxley Mrs. Kenneth W. Behrend Ms. Helen Wolk Brown Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Cohen Dane Critchfield Richard L. Curran Miss Josephine Denny Mr. & Mrs. Russell A. Dettling Mr. & Mrs. Norman DeWind Dr. & Mrs. Douglass T. Domoto Mrs. Peter A. Duerksen Mrs. Stephen Emery Mrs. Murray Fahnestock Dr. E. L. Farrell Mrs. Joseph Feld Ms. Suzanne Flood Mrs. Lynn Frissell J. Henry Gardner Arthur R. Gorr Mrs. Robert B. Heppenstall, Jr. Mrs. Arnold I. Holmes M. P. Huessener Ms. Miriam W. Ketchem Ms. Anne C. Koester Local 141 - Laundry & Dry Cleaning International Winthrop M. Leeds Ms. Helen A. Lingelbach

Mrs. Mildred C. Lory Mr. & Mrs. John Matejczyk Mrs. Patrick J. McDonough Mrs. Robert W. McKinley Ms. Grace Z. Melassonos Miss Ruth Metz Mr. & Mrs. Frank W. Moore Mr. & Mrs. Davis Nedham David A. Newell Harold E. Oyer Mr. & Mrs. James G. Park Mrs. Ken Pilarski Dr. Charles Robshaw Ms. Margaret Ross Robert A. Rundle, Esq. Mr. & Mrs. Emerson Samuels Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Seman Mrs. Willard Schwartz Mrs. W. H. Shaffer, Jr. Mr. & Mrs. Herbert G. Stein Ms. Eleanora M. Thomas Miss Alma M. Trainor Ms. Mary Alice Walsh Western Pennsylvania Research & Historical Society Ronald P. Woshner Miss Marion Young Reuben Zemel

VOLUNTEERS and those interested in volunteering will meet January 10, 1973 at 8:00 p.m. at the Old Post Office Museum. This meeting will be for the purpose of electing officers for 1973 and conducting a "Mini-Seminar on Volunteer Services." PLAN NOW TO ATTEND!

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DECOUPAGE LECTURE BY MRS. LAURA GOLDSMITH JANUARY 15, 1973

The kind of decoupage now showing at the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Museum becomes possible only through a knowledge of the fundamental principles of design as well as the mastery of the craft which produces the composition. When the fundamentals of design are involved, plus originality and imagination, the composition may proceed into the realm of art.

Because of the great interest shown since the exhibit opened, Mrs. Goldsmith has consented to hold an informative discussion along these lines. This talk will be given in conjunction with the exhibit at the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Museum on January 15, 1973 at 1:30 p.m. in the Old Post Office Museum.

TICKET REQUEST FORM FOR DECOUPAGE LECTURE Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation Old Post Office--Allegheny Square West Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15212

Please send me:

tickets for Mrs. Laura Goldsmith's discussion on Decoupage on 1/15/73 @ \$2.50 each for members.....

My check is enclosed.

PLEASE ENCLOSE SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE

NAME____

ADDRESS



PITTSBURGH HISTORY & LANDMARKS FOUNDATION the old post office allegheny square west pittsburgh, pennsylvania 15212 412/322-1204





