



The Friends of the
Jacobus Vanderveer House
**ANNUAL
REPORT
2016**

The 2016 Annual Report was produced by The Friends of the Jacobus Vanderveer House.

Special Thanks to Debbie Weisman for photography.

A Note About Our Cover Photo:

Eight-year-old Charlie Quinn has a passion for history and the Jacobus Vanderveer House. Children like Charlie inspire us to preserve history for future generations. Cultivating a passion for history in our youth – and in all of us – can help form perspective on the world in which we live – today and in the future. Huzzah Charlie!



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Message from The President



Dear Friends,

It has been a true privilege to serve as president of the Friends of the Jacobus Vanderveer House over the past two years.

As many of you know, I am fond of the phrase “many hands make light work.” Yet, it seems to adequately sum up our strategy for fulfilling our mission to restore, develop and operate the Vanderveer House – significant in United States Revolutionary War military history – as a nationally important historic site and educational resource.

Thanks to the tireless efforts – and the many hands! – of our volunteer board of trustees, our part-time museum coordinator and communications director, our dedicated volunteers, and steadfast supporters, we’ve made enormous strides in engaging visitors of all ages in our area’s unique Revolutionary War heritage.

This 2016 Annual Report highlights initiatives to expand our public programming and community partnerships, engage more schoolchildren through education and outreach, partner with teachers to develop age-appropriate lesson plans meeting New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards and STEM guidelines, enhance our collections and exhibitions, and acquire a 19th century Dutch barn, which will become the centerpiece of a planned farmstead surrounding the historic Jacobus Vanderveer House.

As we embark on another historic year, I am pleased to pass the gavel to Craig Sutherland, who will very capably serve as president of the Friends organization through January 2019. Craig – a resident of Basking Ridge – has been an active member of our Board of Trustees since 2014. Many of you may already know him as the Chief Operating Officer and Principal of Meeker Sharkey & Hurley Insurance in Far Hills and Cranford. Although I will step aside as president, I will continue to serve on the board’s executive committee as assistant treasurer (a role I assumed in late-2016) to aid in the transition of a newly appointed board member as treasurer.

I am confident that Craig, along with our expanded board of trustees and new slate of officers, will continue to raise the bar in fulfilling our mission, as well as *Raise The Bar(N)* at our Dutch Colonial farmstead.

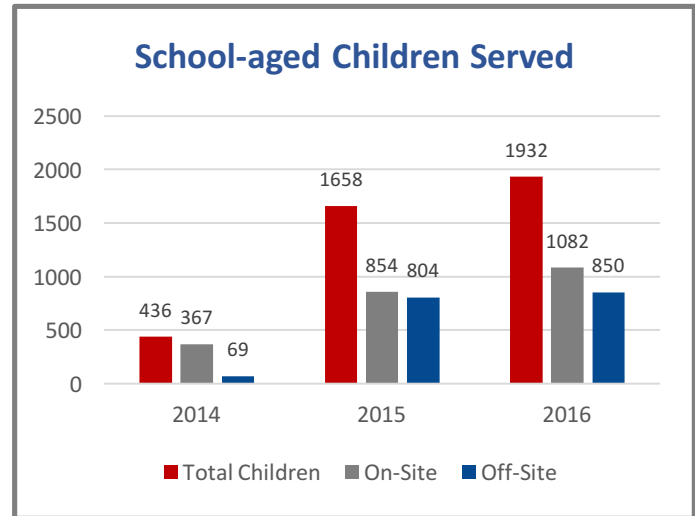
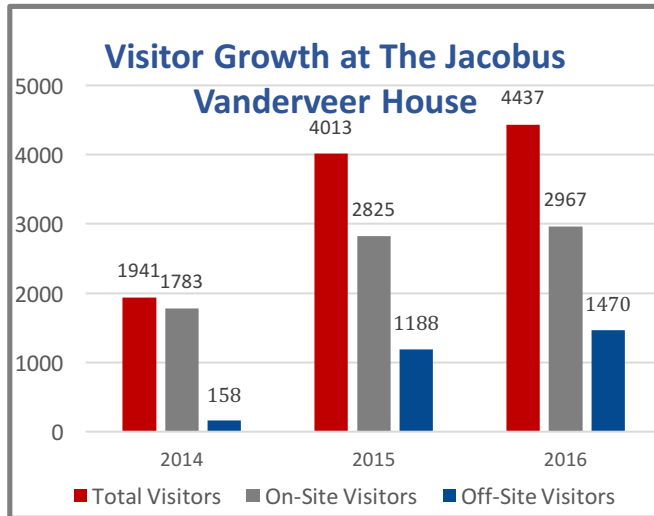
Thank you again for making a revolutionary difference in our national historic treasure!

With Sincere Appreciation For Your Support,

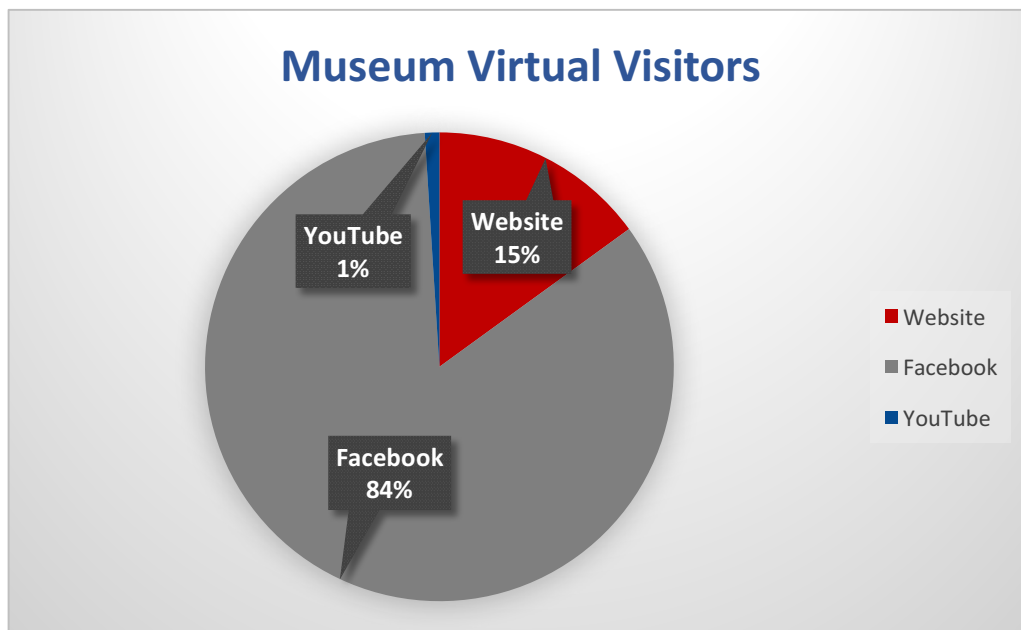
President
The Friends of the Jacobus Vanderveer House

Visitor Growth & Engagement

In 2016, The Friends continued to make significant strides in engaging visitors of all ages, cultures and interests through educational programming held on-site, off-site and virtually. Attendance at events and programs held both on-site at the Jacobus Vanderveer House and off-site totaled 4,437 – an increase of more than 10% over 2015 (4,013) – while the number of children served (ages preschool to grade 12) totaled 1,932 – an increase of 17% since 2015 (1,658). In December alone, we welcomed 1,272 visitors and a record number of school-aged children (770) to our 14th Annual Colonial Christmas.

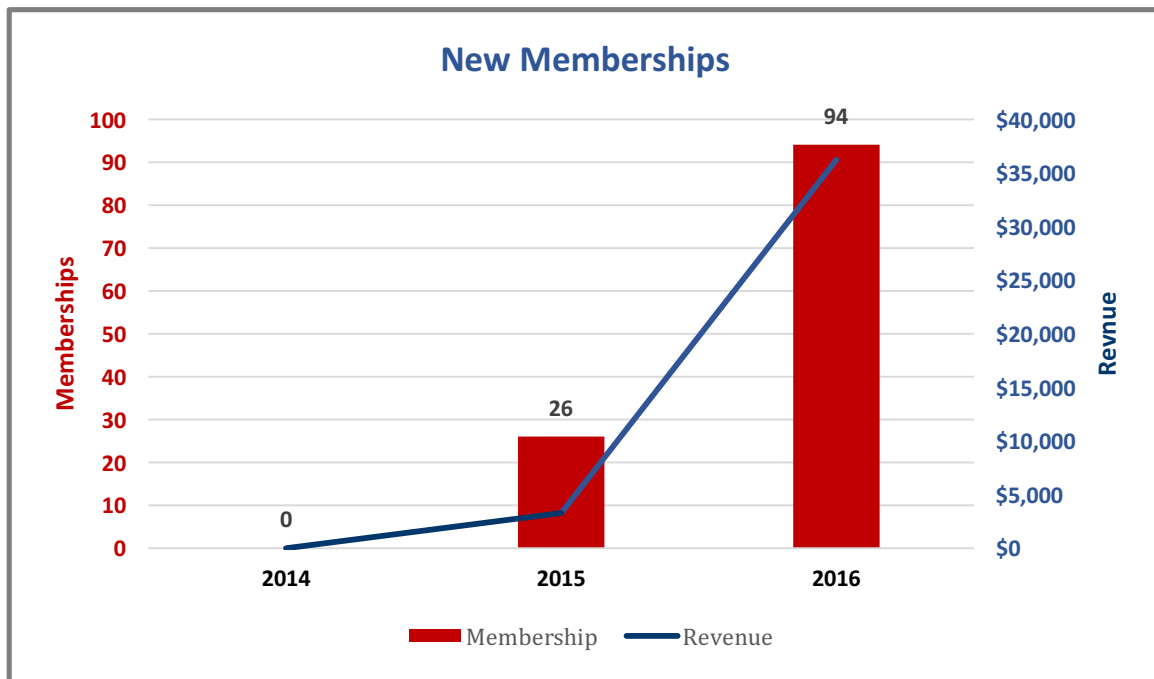


Visitors to our website – www.jvanderveerhouse.org – totaled 10,685 in 2016 with 59% from outside New Jersey. Social media engagement also continues to rise across all platforms – Facebook (61,109 impressions and 500 page likes), YouTube (802 views), Twitter (108 followers), Instagram (35 followers), and our recently added LinkedIn page (which facilitates engagement with museum colleagues, education leaders and board members).



Membership Growth

In January 2016, our Membership Committee revised membership categories and benefits to encourage greater participation among individuals, couples and families in our programs and the ongoing development of the Vanderveer House property. *The Vanderveer Society* was established to recognize leadership gifts with commensurate benefits that enable significant donors to utilize the museum for small private events (thereby introducing others to the Vanderveer House). Membership information was included in our March 1 President's letter mailing, posted on our website and included in our e-newsletter. It is available at all events and open houses. From January 1 through December 31, 94 memberships were generated or renewed, bringing the total number of active members to 104.



Communications & Outreach Strategy

The Friends' communications program, led by Communications Director Renée Tesauro and supported by Communications Committee members, develops innovative content across multi-media platforms to publicize our events and activities; engage board members, donors, and community leaders; and raise awareness among audiences throughout New Jersey and beyond about the significance of the Jacobus Vanderveer House as a historic site and community resource.

Throughout 2016, we continually updated our website, digital newsletter, collateral materials, and social media accounts for consistency in brand identity, content and accessibility. We expanded the frequency and reach of our digital newsletter, *The Cannon* (now distributed to more than 1,000 subscribers with an average open rate of >30%).

The Friends continued to supply a steady stream of print and digital information about our events, achievements and activities to township and county leaders, state legislators, the education community, civic and business leaders, our colleagues throughout the history community, donors and friends. Print communications include regular press releases, feature articles, president's letters, membership drives, events calendar mailings, and our

Communications & Outreach Strategy (continued)

annual report distribution. Press releases and articles are regularly featured in the New Jersey Hills Media Group weekly newspapers serving many towns, *The Courier News*, *Star Ledger*, *New York Times*, *NJ Monthly*, *Design NJ*, *Skylands Magazine*, *New Jersey Kids Guide*, *NJ Family*, *Black River Journal* and websites such as www.visitnj.org, www.historicalsocietyofsomerset-hills.org, www.revolutionarynj.org, www.thehistorygirl.com, nj.com, njmonthly.com, patch.com, and TAPinto.net.

For the eighth consecutive year, the New Jersey Hills Media Group has published a glossy, 20-page Colonial Christmas newspaper supplement reaching over 45,000 readers of the *Bernardsville News*, *Echoes-Sentinel*, *Observer Tribune* and *Hunterdon Review*.

Throughout 2016, we were delighted to be featured on the front page of several newspapers on topics ranging from the acquisition of an early 19th century Dutch barn to events such as the July 4th Field of Honor®, Archaeology Camp, and Colonial Christmas.



Television news crews from News 12 NJ-TV visited the Jacobus Vanderveer House on two separate occasions in 2016 to cover our Archaeology Camp and Colonial Christmas. These news segments reached millions of viewers throughout New Jersey as well as Long Island, NY. Social media postings and calendar push notifications are regularly shared by growing numbers of followers (including other museums and historic organizations) on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram and LinkedIn.

During the summer, we were delighted to learn that the Jacobus Vanderveer House was a *Pokemon Go* stop, which provided additional opportunities for social media engagement and visits by children and young adults! This Fall, the Dutch Consulate in New York actively helped to promote our Dutch Sinterklaas event through Twitter and Facebook.

Our website (www.jvanderveerhouse.org) welcomes increasing numbers of visitors (10,685 in 2016) to sign up for events, donate, volunteer, obtain memberships, and download all of our collateral marketing materials, including our brochure, visitor guide with detailed room descriptions, current annual report, a pre-visit booklet for teachers and students, and age-appropriate lesson plans meeting New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards and STEM guidelines.

Public Programs & Community Partnerships

The Jacobus Vanderveer House is now open to the public twice each month – offering an open house on Sundays in which trustees and volunteers offer guided tours of our period rooms and exhibits, in addition to a special monthly event. This format will continue in 2017, but days of the week will be more varied to engage a broader audience – Thursday/Friday evenings, Saturdays, and Sundays.

Our monthly special events feature lectures, presentations and workshops by historians, authors, artists, re-enactors and experts in crafts and trades. Our programs are designed to engage people of all ages, cultures and interests. Throughout the year, Friends trustees and museum coordinator Taryn Nie regularly provided additional guided tours, upon request, to scouting groups; visitors from out of state tracing their genealogy; heritage groups such as the 3rd NJ Volunteer Infantry, the state chapter of Sons of the American Revolution, John Lambs Artillery Company, and the Sixth New York Independent Battery; community leaders; and educators.

Public Programs & Community Partnerships (continued)



Heirloom Discovery Day

On Sunday, March 20, the Friends hosted an Heirloom Discovery Day with Martine White, ASA, of Bernards Appraisal Associates, LLC. Ms. White spoke about current market conditions for antiques and collectibles and invited attendees to present items for group discussion and estimated valuation.



Bus Trip to Fraunces Tavern Museum

On Wednesday, April 6, The Friends hosted its first bus trip to New York City's historic Fraunces Tavern Museum, a longtime museum partner of the Vanderveer House. The trip, attended by more than 30 people, included a private tour of the museum, its period rooms and its exhibitions followed by lunch in the Colonial American Fraunces Tavern, in operation since 1762.



Oney Judge on Taking Liberty

An enlightening presentation about Oney Judge, a dower slave who worked for George and Martha Washington, was held on Sunday, April 17. Actress Cathy Simpson, recounted stories about Oney's life with the Washingtons, her experience as a slave, and her escape to the North, where she lived as a fugitive until her death. A large audience of children and adults shared Oney's excitement as she escaped the bonds of slavery, embraced obstacles and reclaimed her strength.



John Phillip Osborne: An American Master

For two weeks in May, The Friends hosted a special exhibition and sale of works by American master painter John Phillip Osborne whose Revolutionary War paintings are featured in the Vanderveer House) with the J. M. Stringer Gallery of Fine Art. The exhibition – *John Phillip Osborne: An American Master* – included a special cocktail reception for art patrons and donors, as well as a Mothers & Mimosas Tour in honor of Mother's Day. Nearly 100 people visited the Vanderveer House to view the collection, which included approximately 30 oil paintings and pen and ink drawings depicting a range of subjects.



First Ladies of Liberty Spring Luncheon

Our inaugural *First Ladies of Liberty* Spring Luncheon, held May 20 at Fiddler's Elbow Country Club, raised \$30,000 for the Jacobus Vanderveer House & Museum. Approximately 123 guests enjoyed a delicious lunch, boutique shopping among an array of vendors, a live auction, and captivating performances by actresses Maggie Worsdale and Kim Hanley, who portrayed First Ladies Martha Washington and Abigail Adams.

Public Programs & Community Partnerships (continued)



Colonial Kitchen Gardens

On Sunday, May 22, The Friends invited visitors to learn more about Colonial kitchen gardens. Food historian Dr. Clarissa Dillon discussed how Colonial kitchen gardens were ahead of their time, planted with a purpose, and incorporated weeds that are delicious, nutritious and have medicinal benefits.



Field of Honor®

As a member of The Bedminster Charities Organization, The Friends kicked off an inaugural *Field of Honor*® with a patriotic float at the Bedminster-Far Hills Memorial Day Parade. Members of the community enthusiastically paid \$40 to adopt a flag with a personal message for a loved one or those who served our nation. The awe-inspiring tribute to our nation's independence culminated in a display of over 200 American flags standing more than seven feet tall in the north field of River Road Park, from June 26 through July 4. On Sunday, July 3, more than 130 people strolled through the *Field of Honor*®, enjoyed live music, and picnicked on the grounds of the Vanderveer property. Proceeds from the *Field of Honor*® were earmarked for the Food Bank Network of Somerset County.



Revolutionary Spirit Night

On June 14, The Friends of the Jacobus Vanderveer House teamed up with other historical organizations for *Revolutionary Spirit Night* at TD Bank Ballpark. The Flag Day celebration, co-sponsored by the Somerset Patriots and Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area, featured costumed re-enactors portraying George Washington, Molly Pitcher, and Ben Franklin; cannon firings; musket drilling; fifers and drummers; colonial crafts; games; and the Jacobus Vanderveer House's own three-minute Archaeology Camp video on the stadium's Jumbotron! At the Jacobus Vanderveer booth, 100 pint-size patriots put their own John Hancock on the *Declaration of Independence* and learned how to make their own quill pens.



Bedminster Charities Fall Fest

On Saturday, September 10, Friends' trustees actively participated in the Bedminster Charities Fall Fest community celebration benefitting seven local Bedminster charities, including the nonprofit Friends organization. The Friends helped organize the event, recruit adult and community service volunteers, and staff the Jacobus Vanderveer House booth, which offered activities, games, giveaways and information related to Colonial life in our area.

Public Programs & Community Partnerships (continued)



Weekend Journey Through The Past

More than 150 people visited the Jacobus Vanderveer House October 8-9, during *Weekend Journey Through the Past*, presented by the Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission (SCCHC) in collaboration with 26 local heritage organizations. Friends' trustees offered guided tours of our period rooms and regular showings of our award-winning video *In Quarters Comfortable and Clever*, which tells the story of the Pluckemin Cantonment. Visitors also had an opportunity to meet Colonial brewer Rich Wagner, of Hatboro, PA, who demonstrated and discussed beer making during the Colonial period. A promotional film for the event, produced by the SCCHC, featured the Jacobus Vanderveer House and highlighted its ADA accessibility.



Edgar Allan Poe

On Saturday, October 23, more than 30 visitors enjoyed spine-chilling tales by Edgar Allan Poe, portrayed by American Historical Theatre's Bob Gleason. In addition to heart-thumping excitement, guests toured the museum, which was open from 1 to 4 pm.



The Evolution of Dutch Sinterklaas

On Sunday, November 13, Peter G. Rose, an author and food historian specializing in Dutch Colonial food customs, discussed how the Dutch Saint Nicholas, or Sinterklaas, evolved into America's beloved Santa Claus. A packed room full of visitors listened intently as Mrs. Rose discussed the early history of the life of the Saint; explained the various changes in his veneration; and related how he was brought to America by the Dutch in the seventeenth century and transformed into Santa in the 19th century. The presentation encompassed literature, religion, the fine arts, and Dutch food customs to elaborate on the story of St. Nick's generosity, which endures today.



14th Annual Colonial Christmas (November 26-27, December 3-4)

On Friday, November 25, more than 125 community residents helped kick off our 14th Annual Colonial Christmas fundraiser by gathering at the Vanderveer House for the lighting of a patriotic red, white and blue *Liberty Tree*. The event, sponsored by Investors Bank, featured hot cocoa, hot pretzels, caroling by the Harmonium Choral Society, and a visit from Santa.

Public Programs & Community Partnerships (continued)

On Saturday, November 26, New Jersey's Somerset Hills were alive with the sound of cannon blasts and musket fire, when re-enactors from John Lamb's Artillery Company visited the Vanderveer House for the opening weekend of our two weekend-long Colonial Christmas celebration, sponsored by Bevan, Mosca & Giuditta, P.C.; Glenmede; and Meeker Sharkey & Hurley.



Nearly 1,300 visitors of all ages, from near and far, had an opportunity to meet a live reindeer; get a Clydesdale-drawn wagon ride; learn chocolate making, spinning, weaving and lacing; participate in gingerbread house workshops; meet re-enactors; listen to Colonial holiday music; visit with Santa; shop at our distinctive holiday boutiques; and tour our circa 1772 Dutch Colonial home, which was festively decorated for the holidays by local designers, including Bedminster Florist, Classic Home & Garden and Fifty-Five Design of Far Hills, Design Consultants of Bedminster, and Angelone's Florist of Raritan. New programs and exhibitions included an educational program featuring a live reindeer, a special exhibition of Revolutionary War military antiques from International Military Antiques, as well as rare artifacts recovered from the Pluckemin Artillery Cantonment 1778-79. Back by popular demand was a display of 13 Skeletons by Outdoor Impressions, Inc.



Public Programs & Community Partnerships (continued)

A Groupon promotion for Colonial Christmas was launched in early October and yielded 180 visitors, 93% of whom were new to the Vanderveer House. A follow-up survey of those visitors produced a 95% positive rating with comments such as these:

"Great docents, cool re-enactments, gorgeously decorated for the holidays. Glad we went!"

"The visit to the Jacobus Vanderveer House exceeded my expectations. What made it fabulous were the docents and craftspeople who were extremely knowledgeable and articulate. This made for a memorable experience."

"Great place to take kids to learn about history during the Revolutionary War era. Would be an excellent trip for a Cub Scout or Brownie den."

"Wonderful family friendly museum with enthusiastic, talented docents and curators. Highly recommended for an informative glimpse of a Revolutionary War era relic. So happy to know that the restoration will be enjoyed by many for years to come."

"We were able to visit on a day that there also was an encampment re-enactment outside. The kids really enjoyed it!"

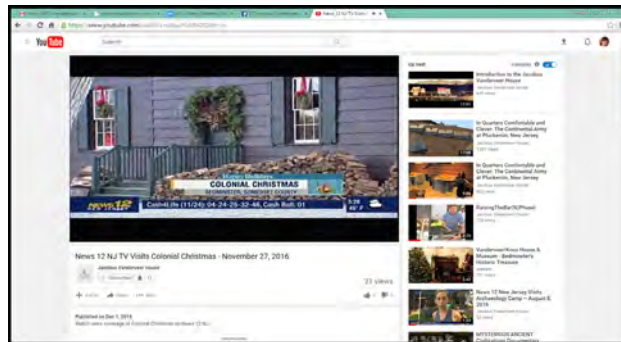
14th Annual Colonial Christmas Cocktail Party



On Friday, December 2, approximately 130 guests attended a cocktail party with a Colonial flair. Barkeeps portraying The Mumbling Manxman, an 18th Century traveling Field Tavern, created festive authentic libations. Creative hors d'oeuvres, appetizers and desserts were served up courtesy of Bex Eatery and Catering Co., of Califon. Guests also enjoyed Colonial American Christmas music provided by the talented husband and wife duo Anne and Ridley Enslow, boutique shopping among a variety of distinctive merchants, and the opportunity to learn more about our *Raising The Bar(N)* capital campaign.

Public Programs & Community Partnerships (continued)

Aside from receiving widespread publicity in a cadre of state and local newspapers, Colonial Christmas was featured in the December issues of *New Jersey Monthly* and *DesignNJ* magazines, News12NJ-TV, and in two consecutive issues of *Weekend Buzz*, a statewide email blast of weekend things to do, from *New Jersey Monthly*.



Education & Outreach

The Friends continued to make great strides in the areas of education and outreach, thanks to the dedication of President Robin Ray, Trustee Leslie Molé, Museum Coordinator Taryn Nie, and financial support from the Anne L. and George H. Clapp Charitable and Educational Trust and Investors Bank Foundation.

Archaeology Camp

Archaeology camp was back by popular demand and expanded to two sessions last summer thanks to a \$12,000 grant from Investors Bank Foundation.

During each session, 22 elementary school children (ages 6-11) got a hands-on lesson in archaeology and how it relates to local history dating back to the American Revolution. Camp Director Keri Sansevere, Instructor of Anthropology at Monmouth University – assisted by her undergraduate and graduate assistants – introduced campers to the field of archaeology, prepared excavation sites, and showed them how to measure, plot, dig, sift, sort, wash, and categorize the artifacts they found on the Vanderveer House property.

Education & Outreach (continued)

Children unearthed pieces of pottery, glass, coal and parts of an 18th century spoon. Throughout the week, campers also learned more about Colonial life during a field trip to East Jersey Olde Towne Village in Piscataway; activities such as basket weaving, ice cream making, open hearth cooking; and a mock artillery drill and attack led by a re-enactor portraying black Revolutionary War hero Ned Hector.



Antie Celli (fourth from left), Pluckemin Branch Manager for Investors Bank and a trustee of the Jacobus Vanderveer House, and Barbara Gray, Personal Banker, Investors Bank (fourth from right) present a check to children and counselors attending Archaeology Camp at Bedminster's historic Jacobus Vanderveer House.

The camp, which received a Historic Preservation and History Award by the Somerset County Cultural and Heritage Commission (SCCHC) in May, was offered through the Somerset Hills YMCA, a branch of Somerset County YMCA, in collaboration with The Friends of the Jacobus Vanderveer House and Monmouth University.



Somerset County Freeholder Director Patricia Walsh (left) presents the Somerset County Cultural and Heritage Commission's 2016 Historic Preservation and History Award to Friends' President Robin Ray (center) and Antie Celli (right), Pluckemin Branch Manager for Investors Bank and a trustee of the Jacobus Vanderveer House.

Teacher Immersion Program

In 2016, the Friends developed a more targeted approach to the Teacher Immersion Program begun last summer in collaboration with Chris Bickel, head of the K-12 social studies program at Livingston School District. Four teachers representing grades K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12 studied our exhibits, period rooms, furnishings and objects in the Vanderveer House and developed a series of lesson plans for each age group. The lesson plans, which adhere to NJ Core Curriculum Content Standards and incorporate STEM components, will be marketed to educators and serve as a curriculum for future classroom visits from other school districts.

Education & Outreach (continued)



Scouting Groups

Increased outreach to scouting groups throughout the year have resulted in steps toward creating badge-earning programs in collaboration with the Boy and Girl Scouts, as well as plans to work with older scout members to earn their Eagle Scout, Silver, and Gold Awards. These capstone projects may include, among others, the creation of outbuildings for the Vanderveer homestead project.



Off-Site Programming

On December 9, The Friends continued our first-person historic education program to the high school level, with a lively presentation by the American Historical Theatre's Thomas Jefferson to 90 students from Livingston High School, who were bussed to Morristown National Historic Park.

Volunteer Recruitment

Recognizing the mutual value of recruiting student volunteers who need to fulfill community service requirements, the Friends sought to increase awareness of volunteer opportunities at the Vanderveer House through direct marketing to middle school and high school students and parents via fliers, e-newsletters, and website content.

A highlight of these efforts included participation in William Annin Middle School's "Day of Giving" on December 16. Trustee Sean Blinn and Museum Coordinator Taryn Nie hosted a volunteer fair booth and visited 455 children in three eighth-grade classrooms. Their multi-media presentation highlighted the significance of the Jacobus Vanderveer House, its famous occupant General Henry Knox, the Pluckemin Cantonment and the many ways students can become involved in helping the Friends interpret the history that occurred here.



Student Volunteer John Rupert & "The General" at Colonial Christmas



Volunteer Re-Enactor Sue Ellen Holleman & Student Volunteer Taylor Hickey



Student Volunteer Brianna Gilman & Trustee Antie Celli Grilling Hot Pretzels

Education & Outreach (continued)

Colonial Christmas Education Program



During our 14th Annual Colonial Christmas, a record number 770 school-aged children visited the Jacobus Vanderveer House during our weekday set aside for educating school groups. Third through fifth-grade students from a record five public schools and homeschool groups visited the house and enjoyed: an interactive presentation by George Washington, portrayed by American Historical Theatre's John Lopes; military demonstrations by members of John Lambs Artillery Company; a hands-on, educational Colonial toys and games workshop hosted by the Museum of Early Trades and Crafts of Madison, NJ; a guided tour; and first-person interpreter discussions of Colonial military and domestic life.

Collections & Exhibitions

Since completing the restoration of the Vanderveer House, the Friends have created period rooms and exhibits that tell the story of 1) the distinguished Dutch-American Vanderveer Family and their devotion to the patriot cause, 2) General Henry Knox who lived at the Vanderveer House with his family during the winter of 1778-79, and 3) the artillery encampment and military training academy Knox commanded in nearby Pluckemin.

The Kitchen Wing exhibit, Vanderveer Parlor, Knox Bedroom, 1813 Main Parlor, Prich Matthews History Center and upstairs lumber room and colonial bedchamber are furnished with authentic antiques, commissioned reproductions, artwork, textiles and decorative pieces that are consistent with estate inventories from the Vanderveer, Knox, and Somerset County family households during the Revolution. These inventories and floor plans from the Vanderveer House since its construction in 1772 are outlined in a detailed furnishings report prepared by historical consultant Jacquetta M. Haley in 2008. The report, augmented by consultation with scholars, curators and collectors, has become the Friends' roadmap in accurately interpreting the environment of the Vanderveers and Knox's during the winter of 1778-79.



The 1813 Main Parlor, a later addition to the circa 1772 Dutch home, features Federal period furniture and original oil paintings by celebrated New Jersey artist John Phillip Osborne. Above the mantel [close-up, right] hangs "General Knox at the Pluckemin Artillery Barracks, 1779," oil on linen, 30" x 40" by Osborne, commissioned by the Friends of the Jacobus Vanderveer House and funded by The Anne L. and George H. Clapp Educational and Charitable Trust.

Collections & Exhibitions (continued)



18th Century Sword Belt Tip featuring the first depiction of the American Flag

During our annual Colonial Christmas celebration, visitors had an opportunity to view, for the first time, many artifacts recovered from the Pluckemin Archaeological Dig project, courtesy of John Seidel, Ph.D. of Washington College, who directed the Pluckemin Dig. Our recently acquired early 19th century barn will be used to securely house and exhibit the extensive collection of artifacts (including two 18th century sword belt tips, featuring the first modern configuration of the American flag) uncovered during the dig in the 1980s, bringing them back to the community in which they were found.

A Revolutionary War-era British Brown Bess musket and a 1776 British frock coat and bicorne hat were among a collection of Revolutionary War military antiques on display throughout our two-weekend long Colonial Christmas event, courtesy of International Military Antiques (the world's largest online seller of military collectibles and antiques).



A collection of oil paintings and pen-and-ink drawings by celebrated New Jersey artist John Phillip Osborne (courtesy of the J.M. Stringer Gallery) adorned the walls of the Vanderveer House during Colonial Christmas, complementing the Osborne paintings in The Friends' permanent collection.



John Osborne "The General & His Troops"



John Osborne "The French Alliance Ball"



John Osborne "Courage in Jockey Hollow"

Collections & Exhibitions (continued)

In January 2017, the Friends accepted the donation of three pieces of colonial period furniture from The Society of Colonial Wars in the State of New Jersey. The items, which will become part of The Friends' permanent furnishings collection, include a spindle back rush seat side chair, a William & Mary gate leg table, and a triple back rush seat settee.

Our Museum and Acquisitions Committee is currently revising and expanding upon our Collections Management Policy in order to reevaluate and better address the conservation, management, storage, display, description and growth of our permanent and teaching collections.



William & Mary Gate Leg Table



Spindle Back Rush Seat Side Chair



Triple Back Rush Seat Settee

Best Practices & Professional Standards

The Friends maintain memberships in several organizations to further professional training opportunities and ensure best practices in historic collections and museum management. These organizations include: Advocates for NJ History, American Alliance of Museums (AAM), American Association for State & Local History (AASLH), Crossroads of the American Revolution, League of Historical Societies of NJ (LHSNJ), and the Museum Educator's Roundtable.

The Friends are enrolled in the AASLH's "Standards and Excellence Program" (StEPs) to assist with policies and practices, manage museum operations and stewardship of our historic structure and landscape. We take advantage of professional training opportunities in history and best practices for nonprofit management. Our trustees participate in a variety of workshops and conventions, and regularly make use of educational resources offered by the AAM, National Trust for Historic Preservation, AASLH and others.

In February, Friends' President Robin Ray and our Museum Coordinator Taryn Nie attended our region's inaugural Museum Educators' Roundtable. Hosted at various fellow cultural institutions every two months, these roundtables are a forum for colleagues to exchange ideas, compare obstacles and successes, pursue long-term collaborations, and discuss best practices and professional development. Subsequent 2016 roundtables were held at the Museum of Early Trades and Crafts in Morristown, Liberty Hall in Union, Fosterfields Living Historical Farm, and the Vanderveer House. We also confer regularly with other institutions, such as the Newark Museum, Fraunces Tavern Museum, Museum of Early Trades and Crafts, Morristown National Historical Park, Montpelier, the Knox Museum in Maine, and other historic houses.

Best Practices & Professional Standards (continued)



In February 2016, the Friends' volunteer board of trustees participated in a docent training workshop, the first of a three-part board education series. Participants brushed up on the museum's storyline, touring guidelines, and learned how to comfortably engage visitors. Another training session in April focused on governance best practices, followed by a capital campaign readiness session in June in preparation for our campaign to raise funds to recreate a historically accurate late-18th century farmstead.

Recognizing the need to become increasingly proficient at leveraging social media tools to engage more people in ongoing activities at the Vanderveer House, The Friends' Board of Trustees President Robin Ray, Museum Coordinator Taryn Nie and Communications Director Renée Tesauro attended a Social Media Workshop sponsored by the New Jersey Historical Commission on March 31.

To help elevate awareness of our museum among scholars on a national level, Friends' Executive Committee member Sean Blinn attended the 5th Annual Conference on the American Revolution, held last March at Colonial Williamsburg. The conference brings together academics and interested amateurs for a multi-day event to learn about the latest research and scholarship in the field. Last year, for the first time, the conference organizers included new segment in which they highlighted a historic site that was deserving of more widespread recognition. The site on which they chose to focus was the Jacobus Vanderveer House. Sean delivered a presentation about the significance of the Vanderveer House, its famous occupant General Henry Knox, and the Pluckemin Cantonment to an audience of 150 people.

Development & Finance

The Friends of the Jacobus Vanderveer House came together in 1998 as a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization to restore, develop and operate the Jacobus Vanderveer House property, significant in United States Revolutionary War military history, as a nationally important site and an educational and community resource. Since then, the Friends have restored the house, created historically accurate period room exhibitions, established historic collections, supported important research, and embarked on a program of education and interpretation to tell the stories of General Henry Knox, the Pluckemin military encampment and the community's key role in the American Revolution.

As a nonprofit organization, we rely on funding from state and county historic preservation agencies, as well as the generosity of individuals, corporations, foundations and organizations who support our mission. We remain a small, but emerging museum that relies largely on our volunteer board, a paid part-time museum coordinator and a communications consultant.

The Friends' development committee, headed by Trustee Leslie Molé and including Geoffrey Connor, Jennifer Becker and Patrick Bivona, continues to build support from foundations, corporations and individuals who share our interest in historic preservation and the cultural heritage of our region. In 2016, we were especially grateful for leadership gifts from Investors Foundation, the Anne L. and George H. Clapp Charitable and Educational Trust, Glenmede, CTW Foundation, The G.M. Connor Charitable Trust Fund of the Community Foundation of New Jersey, Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Molé, and Bevan, Mosca & Giuditta, P.C. As result of our active participation in the Bedminster Charities organization, we are one of the beneficiaries of Fall Fest, which in 2016, amounted to \$5,000 in revenue for the Vanderveer House.

Development & Finance (continued)

2016 Fundraisers

Two notable fundraisers collectively generated approximately \$60,000 in revenue last year. Our inaugural First Ladies of Liberty Spring Luncheon, held May 20 at Fiddler's Elbow Country Club, was attended by 123 guests and raised nearly \$30,000. We are appreciative of the support of our luncheon sponsors: Glenmede; Bevan, Mosca, & Giuditta, P.C.; J.M. Stringer Gallery of Fine Art; Meeker Sharkey & Hurley; Camelot Custom Building; Bernardsville Print Center; Fiddler's Elbow Country Club; Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Molé; and Mr. Robert Matthews. We also applaud the dedication and enthusiasm of our luncheon committee, led by Honorary Chair Pam Vandever Jeanes and Co-chairs and Friends Trustees Jennifer Becker and Leslie Molé.

Our two-weekend long Colonial Christmas celebration raised an additional \$30,000 thanks to support from Bevan, Mosca & Giuditta, P.C.; Glenmede; Meeker Sharkey & Hurley; and Investors Bank; admission and cocktail party ticket sales; a house raffle; and vendor sales.

State & County Grants

In 2016, The Friends received a general operating support grant of \$12,131 from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State.

In June, The Friends were awarded a \$94,190 Historic Preservation Grant from the Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders for the acquisition and relocation of an early 19th century barn from a private property on Old York Road, Branchburg to the grounds of the Jacobus Vanderveer House. The 33' x 51' barn will soon become the centerpiece of a planned farmstead surrounding Bedminster's historic Jacobus Vanderveer House.



Raising the BAR(N) 

The Capital Campaign to Raise Our Dutch Barn

The owner of the barn, Christine Sena, was interested in preserving the structure, and offered it to The Friends at the recommendation of The Branchburg Historic Preservation Commission.

Following an endorsement by the Bedminster Township Committee to proceed with the project, The Friends applied for emergency funding from the Somerset County 2016 Historic Preservation Grant Program administered by the Somerset County Cultural and Heritage Commission. The grant application process was led by Trustee and Development Committee Chair Leslie Molé.

Development & Finance (continued)

The Friends enlisted the help of HMR Architects, a firm with extensive historic preservation work and expertise as well as familiarity with the historic Vanderveer property, to prepare and submit an application for a Certificate of Eligibility to the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) for the barn's listing in the New Jersey and National Historic Registers of Historic Places. The Bedminster Township Historic Preservation Commission unanimously supported that application. The SHPO agreed that the barn had a sufficient number of New World Dutch Barn characteristics that would make it eligible for listing in the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places at its proposed relocation site, the Dutch-Colonial Jacobus Vanderveer House.

From July through August 2016, historic preservation experts from HMR assisted a team of historic restoration and relocation experts from Restoration Technologies of New Jersey, LLC, in documenting the barn through photography, annotated measurements and drawings. Boring samples were taken from wood timbers to determine the age of the barn and the local mills that may have crafted its beams and siding. The dendrochronological analysis revealed that the barn was, most likely, constructed in 1832.



Eric Holtermann, AIA - HMR Architects (facing) addressing County Officials & Trustees at the Branchburg site



Restoration Technologies Principal Adam Wengryn steadying a fragile beam before the barn bent is lowered

Restoration Technologies then carefully and methodically dismantled the circa 1832 Voorhees Dutch Barn (so-called for a historic owner) in preparation for its repurposed life in Bedminster. The salvaged beams and rafters (primarily composed of oak and poplar), some original hardware, and stone were placed inside a 44-foot trailer and transported to the Vanderveer property where they await reassembly at a future date.



Three bents, two bents . . .



. . . and then there was one!



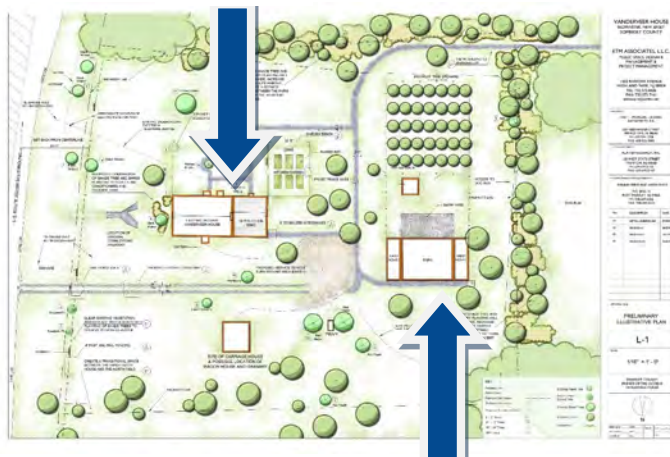
Catalogued, labeled and ready to be loaded.

Development & Finance (continued)



Google SketchUp rendering of inside of Dutch Barn

JVH House



Dutch Barn

Once it is reassembled and completed, the barn will provide much-needed year-round space for meetings, community events, and educational programming; exhibitions; and a secure repository for the archaeological artifacts that were excavated during the Pluckemin Archaeology Project (1981-89) – one of the most significant Revolutionary War archaeological investigations ever undertaken.

These artifacts and the accompanying documentation are currently being housed in a warehouse facility in Central New Jersey. Once these artifacts can be permanently stored in a climate-controlled facility, they will be available for exhibition and interpretation to the thousands of history lovers who reside in Somerset County and the greater New York area. In addition, the adaptive reuse of this rare and important historic Dutch barn will enable the nationwide community of American History scholars to gain access to these artifacts to further the study of the Pluckemin Artillery Barracks of 1778-79 and its significance to our nation's history.

While the Somerset County grant will cover the cost of dismantling and relocating the barn, preparation of National and New Jersey Register nomination forms, initial construction documentation and schematic designs, additional funds must be raised to construct a new foundation, reassemble and repair the historic frame and enclose the barn with new siding, stress skin paneling, a roof, windows and doors, as well as complete finishes and building systems. To fund these next phases, which are estimated to cost between \$850,000-1,000,000, The Friends are launching a *Raising The Bar(N)* capital campaign.



In preparation for the capital campaign, The Friends commissioned a Challenge Coin, depicting a rare sword belt tip found by archaeologists at the site of the Pluckemin Cantonment. It is our hope that this unique piece of our history will inspire others to make a “revolutionary” difference in our future!

Development & Finance (continued)



Support for our *Raising The Bar(N)* capital campaign is beginning to build as more people become aware of its significance in furthering our mission of historic interpretation and education on the Vanderveer property.

Lead gifts and pledges have been received from Mr. Philip W. Gaffney, Mr. & Mrs. George N. Allport, the Peter R. and Cynthia K. Kellogg Foundation, The G.M. Connor Charitable Trust Fund of the Community Foundation of New Jersey, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mlynarski, and Mr. William Blinn.

Throughout the year, we continued to meet all grant compliance requirements, submitting contracts, reports and other documents as required. Financial management and budget planning are the responsibility of our Board of Trustees and Executive Committee, with cash management and financial documentation handled by our volunteer treasurer, Trustee Lina Schmitt. In mid-year, Ms. Schmitt resigned from our board for personal reasons and President Robin Ray assumed her responsibilities. A new trustee has been recruited to fulfill the treasurer position on our board for the next three years. Lori Rothe Yokobosky is a certified public accountant and senior tax manager, specializing in not-for-profit organizations, with CohnReznick in Roseland, New Jersey. She is highly experienced in the management and review of not-for-profit tax returns and tax compliance.

The Friends organization complies fully with all legal, financial and regulatory requirements imposed on nonprofit institutions. The independent auditing firm of Tabor & Company LLC, Certified Public Accountants, completed its annual audit of our financial records, and with the firm's assistance, we submitted the required annual Form 990 Tax Return to the IRS, as well as the annual New Jersey Charities Registration Statement. In 2016, we renewed our license with the New Jersey Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission.

2016 Financial Statement

THE FRIENDS OF THE JACOBUS VANDERVEER HOUSE

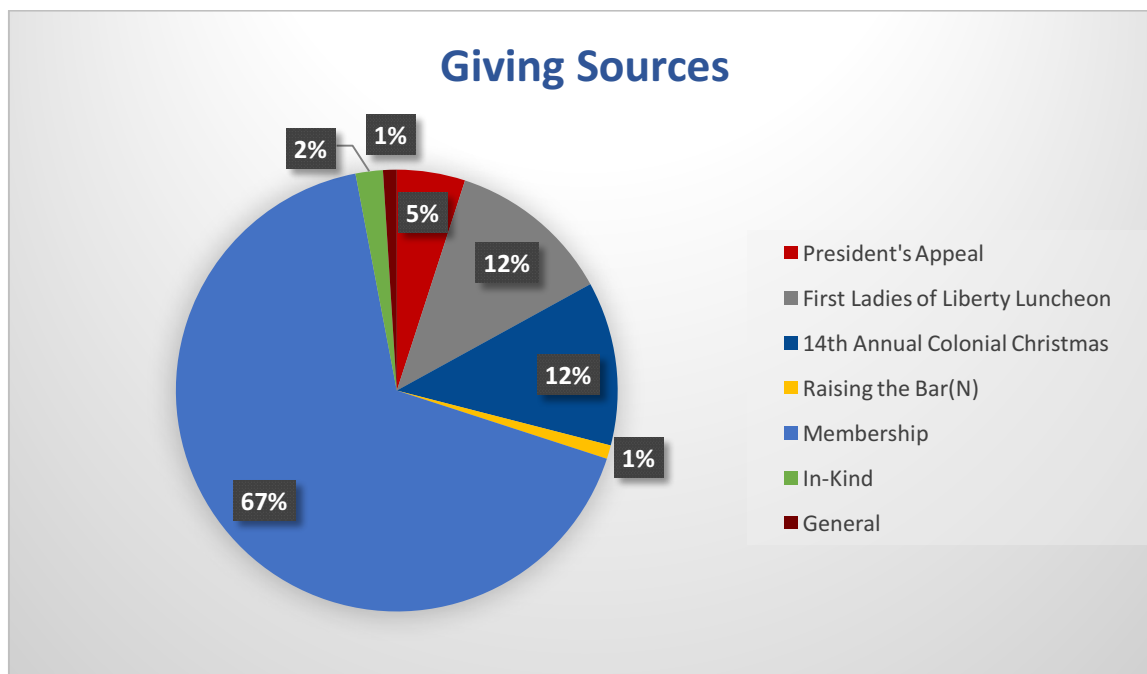
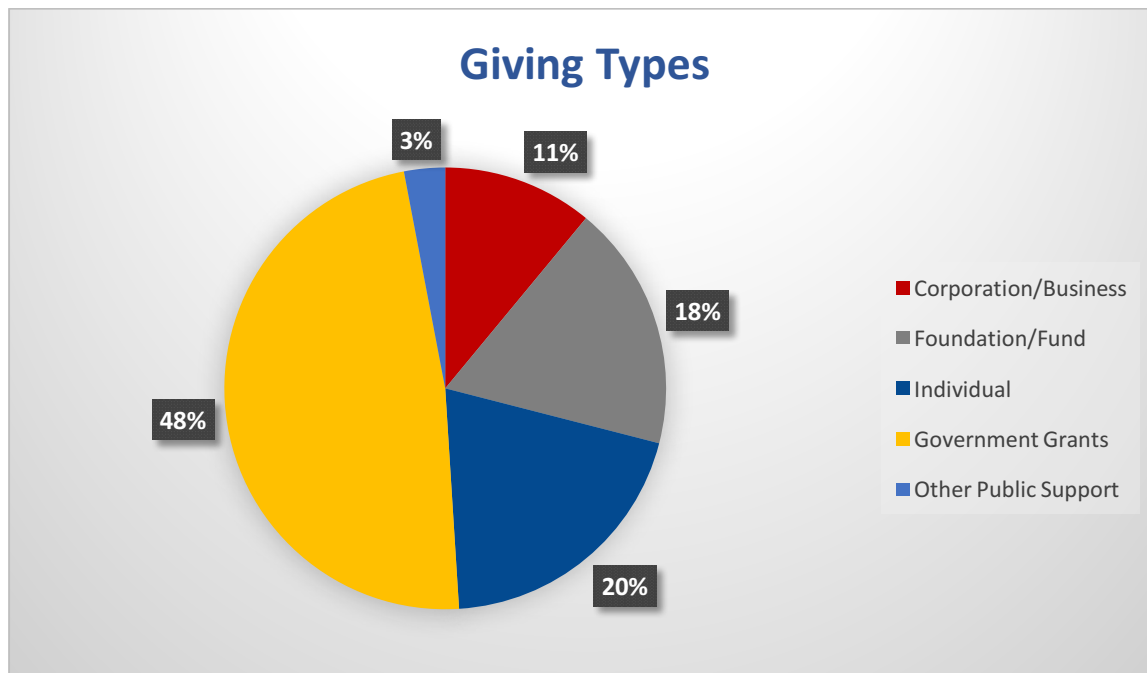
Statements of Activities

Years ended December 31,

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total 2015	2014
Operating revenues and other support					
Public support	\$ 171,013	\$ 51,500	\$ -	\$ 222,513	\$ 117,489
Government grants	-	12,131	-	12,131	-
Investment income	143	47	-	190	113
Net assets released from restrictions	14,418	(14,418)	-	-	-
Total operating revenues and other support	<u>185,574</u>	<u>49,260</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>234,834</u>	<u>117,602</u>
Operating expenses					
Program	198,800	-	-	198,800	123,414
Management and general	29,235	-	-	29,235	27,987
Total supporting services	<u>228,035</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>228,035</u>	<u>151,401</u>
Change in net assets	(42,461)	49,260	-	6,799	(33,799)
Net assets at beginning of year	<u>1,442,657</u>	<u>46,017</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,488,674</u>	<u>1,522,473</u>
Net assets at end of year	<u>\$ 1,400,196</u>	<u>\$ 95,277</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,495,473</u>	<u>\$ 1,488,674</u>

Note: This information is taken from our most recent audited financial statements. Complete Financial statements available upon request by email at info@jvanderveerhouse.org or call (908) 396-6053.

Giving At A Glance



Looking Forward

As we reflect on our accomplishments and build for our future, we will continue to rely on the wisdom and experience of those before us, who had the vision to restore, develop and operate the Vanderveer property as a nationally significant site and a historic museum. We are committed to carrying on their legacy of historic interpretation and education.

At our annual reorganization meeting in January 2017, The Friends elected a new slate of officers and trustees. Craig Sutherland, of Basking Ridge, was elected to serve a two-year term as president of the board. He succeeds Robin Ray, of Bedminster, who oversaw the nonprofit organization's double digit membership growth, educational outreach, and ambitious fundraising initiatives for the past two years.

Newly elected members of The Friends' Executive Committee include current trustees Leslie Molé, of Bedminster, as first vice president; Jennifer Becker, of Basking Ridge, as second vice president; and Janice Marano, of Califon, as secretary. Mrs. Ray will continue to serve on the Executive Committee as assistant treasurer. Lori Rothe Yokobosky, a newly elected trustee and certified public accountant from Fredon Township, will serve as treasurer of The Friends' Board.

Others elected to serve three-year terms on the Friends' Board of Trustees include: Yolanda Cillo, M.D., of Raritan Township; Gail Whiting, of Mendham; and Patricia Willis, of Annandale. Bedminster Township Committee member Doug Stevinson will serve as the Township's liaison to The Friends of the Jacobus Vanderveer House Board of Trustees.

With our current Board of Trustees – now 18 members strong! – our growing number of members, supporters and community and corporate partners, we look forward to another historic year at the Jacobus Vanderveer House.

Thank you for making a “Revolutionary” difference in our past, present and future.

Our Members

*This Annual Report is a tribute to the philanthropy of individuals, corporations, foundations, and organizations who contributed to The Jacobus Vanderveer House & Museum during 2016.
We are profoundly grateful for their generosity.*

THE VANDERVEER SOCIETY

Founder's Circle (Gifts of \$10,000 - \$19,999)

Anne L. and George H. Clapp Charitable & Educational Trust
Investors Bank Foundation

Officer's Circle (Gifts of \$5,000 - \$9,999)

Bevan, Mosca & Giuditta, P.C.
Mr. Geoffrey M. Connor
The G.M. Connor Charitable Trust Fund of the Community Foundation of New Jersey
CTW Foundation
Glenmede
Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Molé

Continental Circle (Gifts of \$2,500 - \$4,999)

Peter R. and Cynthia K. Kellogg Foundation
Mr. Caesar Mistretta and Mr. John Stringer, J.M. Stringer Gallery

Knox's Circle (Gifts of \$1,000 - \$2,499)

Mr. & Mrs. George N. Allport
Mr. and Mrs. Darrick J. Anderson
Mr. and Mrs. James L. Bellis
Bellis Family Fund of the Blauvelt Demarest Foundation
Camelot Custom Building
Mr. Harry Carpenter
Chubb & Son
Fiddler's Elbow Country Club
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Fleming
Frederick H. Gillmore Fund
Mr. and Mrs. Gates H. Hawn
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Holtaway
The Kirk Kellogg Foundation
Mr. Robert L. Matthews
Meeker Sharkey & Hurley Insurance Agency
The Honorable Joseph H. Metelski
Mr. and Mrs. John E. Runnells III
Mr. and Mrs. Craig Sutherland
Mrs. Carol Tiffany

MEMBERS

Cavalry (Gifts of \$500 - \$999)

Bernardsville Print Center
Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig H. Bohler
Ms. Linda Canavan & Mr. Philip W. Gaffney
Ms. Denise Coyle
Mr. and Mrs. Christian Cranmer
Ms. Carolyn Fahey
Mrs. Pamela V. Jeanes
Ms. Vickie Kontos
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mlynarski
Mr. and Mrs. Jay M. Petrillo
Mr. and Mrs. Ron and Carol Ponder
(In Honor of Craig Sutherland)
Mr. and Mrs. William P. Ray
Mr. John Schuler and Mrs. Gail Whiting

Artillery (Gifts of \$100 - \$499)

Mr. and Mrs. Victor A. Aprea
Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Becker
Mr. Jeffrey S. Bell and Mrs. Elizabeth A. Hontz
Mr. Stephen G. Biddle
Mr. Mark W. Biedron
Mrs. Nancy Birkenstock
Mr. Patrick Bivona
Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Grosvenor Blair
Mr. Sean Blinn
Mrs. Octavia Brown
Mr. and Mrs. John J. Brull
Mr. and Mrs. Russell C. Buchanan
Mr. and Mrs. C. Austin Buck
Mrs. Robin Cairl, Three Hearts Home
Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell Cayen
Mrs. Antie Celli
Ms. Stephanie Chamberlain
Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Chapin
Mrs. Sally Chubb
Ms. Yolanda Cillo
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Cobb
Dr. and Mrs. William J. Dowling
Mr. and Mrs. Duncan Stuart Ellsworth, Jr.
Mr. TJ Dermot Dunphy

Mr. and Mrs. B. Danforth Ely
Mr. Timothy A. Foerster
Mr. and Mrs. Steven Fuerst
Mr. Ron Fuller and Mrs. Sassona Norton
Andrew S. Gaffney Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan and Mona Gibson
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey B. Haines
Mr. and Mrs. Robert R. Henry
Mrs. Sue Ellen Holleman (In Memory of
Gerald A. Holleman, Lt. jg. US Navy)
Mr. and Mrs. James L. Johnson
Mr. Steve Kalafer, Ditschman/Flemington Ford
Lincoln
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Klehm
Mr. and Mrs. Bill and Carolyn Knox
Ms. Gloria LaGrassa
Mrs. Elaine Lawrason
Mr. and Mrs. Michael and M. Catherine Lewis,
Clinton Fudge Company
Ms. Mary H. Licata
Mr. and Mrs. A. Michael Lipper
Ms. Janice Marano
Mr. and Mrs. George Marriner Maull
Mr. Roger D. Mellick III
Joseph H. Metelski Fund
Mr. Frederick C. Mueller
Mrs. Kathleen Murphy
Mr. Kenneth Olsen
Ms. Lesley Otero, J. McLaughlin
Mrs. Margaret Oweida
Mr. and Mrs. Steven E. Parker
Mr. and Mrs. Jude M. and Miriam R. Pfister
Mr. Thomas Phoenix
Mr. and Mrs. Louis Piancone
Louis G. Piancone Charitable Trust
Mr. Philip Pitney and Mrs. Barbara Long
Mr. and Mrs. J. Randolph and Leigh S. Porges
Mrs. Leslie Pye
Mrs. Evelyn Sloane Pyne
Ms. Tracy Redling

Artillery (continued)

Mr. Raymond Reu
Mr. and Mrs. Robert and Gail Ring
Mr. and Mrs. George F. Rochat
Dr. and Mrs. Rolando H. Rolandelli
Ms. Laurel J. Rose
Mr. and Mrs. James M. Ross III
Mr. Bruce Sanderson, Pelican Sport Center, Inc.
Mr. Raymond Sanderson
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew and Staci Santucci
Mr. and Mrs. Reeve Schley III
Mr. and Mrs. Jack W. Sharp
Mr. and Mrs. Eric Silverman
Ms. Joanne E. Spohler
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth P. Sroka
Mr. and Mrs. George E. Stephenson
Mr. and Mrs. John L. Sweeney
Mr. Scott Taylor
Mrs. Grace H. Terry
Mr. and Mrs. Jay Tesauro
3rd Regiment Infantry N.J. Volunteers
Mr. and Mrs. Paul J. Vallone
Mr. and Mrs. John G. Vreeland
Mr. and Mrs. William J. Waldron III, Classic
Home & Garden
Mr. and Mrs. Francis X. Wentworth, Jr.
The Honorable Christine Todd Whitman
Ms. Patricia Willis
Ms. Suzanne Witt
Mr. Lee Wolfe and Mrs. Betsey Bloom

Vanderveer Host Family (Gifts to \$75)

Mr. Carlos Arribas
Mr. and Mrs. Carl Flaum
Ms. Sharon Gifford
Mr. and Mrs. Robert and Elizabeth Henderson
Ms. Mary Ann Iommazzo, Leopard Lily
Ms. Beatrice Kingston
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Schmitt
Ms. Lucy Shurtleff

Patriot (Gifts to \$40)

Mrs. Susan M. Allen
Mr. and Mrs. Peter H. Carhart
Mr. Robert Durden II
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald T. Gargiulo
Ms. Katherine Hunter
Mr. Hugh M. Hyde Jr.
Ms. Alice A. Jarvis
Ms. Melinda A. Judd
Ms. Valerie Kenny
Mr. and Mrs. Neil A. Klingenburg
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur S. Lefkowitz
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Levin
Ms. Jacqueline Morales
Mr. Guy Percival
Mr. and Mrs. Nolan and Linda Russo
Mrs. Susan Steuber
Mr. and Mrs. Steven Mark Van Fossan
Mrs. Nancy Spader Wilson
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wistermayer
Mr. and Mrs. Paul and JoAnn Witkus

The Friends of The Jacobus Vanderveer House

2016 Board of Trustees

Robin Ray, President
Leslie Molé, First Vice President
Sean Blinn, Second Vice President
Antonella Celli, Assistant Treasurer
Janice Marano, Secretary

Darrick Anderson • Jennifer T. Becker • Patrick Bivona
Geoffrey Connor • Kenneth Olsen • Herbert M. Patullo
Raymond Sanderson • Craig Sutherland • John L. Sweeney • Carol Tiffany

Advisory Board

Hon. Joseph H. Metelski, Honorary Chairman
Laurie Brueckner • Jeanne Galbraith • Jay Petrillo

Honorary Trustees

Christopher Forbes, Honorary Chairman
Grania Allport • Pam Vanderveer Jeanes • Nancy Pyne • Ellen Vreeland
Pritch Matthews (in memoriam)

Staff

Taryn Bossert Nie, Museum Coordinator
Renée Tesauo, Communications Director

Mission

To restore, develop and operate the Jacobus Vanderveer House property, significant in United States Revolutionary War military history, as a nationally important historical site and an educational and community resource.

The friends received a general operating support grant from



Preserving History For Future Generations

The Jacobus Vanderveer House & Museum



The Jacobus Vanderveer House (c. 1772) in Bedminster was once home to Gen. Henry Knox, Chief of the Continental Army Artillery, while he commanded an artillery and training encampment in nearby Pluckemin.



General Henry Knox at age 28.

For more than two centuries, the Jacobus Vanderveer House, located on Route 202-206, has been at the center of Bedminster Township's rich and colorful history. It is situated on part of the 218 acres that make up River Road Park in Bedminster Township, Somerset County.

Jacobus Vanderveer, Jr., son of Vanderveer, Sr., a wealthy Dutch miller, built a small Dutch frame-style farmhouse just west of the North Branch of the Raritan River on the northern outskirts of Pluckemin. In 1778, during the War of Independence, Vanderveer lent his home to General Henry Knox, who was to command a new artillery encampment and training academy being established by the Continental Army on a hillside above the village of Pluckemin. General Knox, along with his wife Lucy and family, occupied the house from the winter of 1778 through the summer of 1779.

The Vanderveer house is the only surviving structure associated with the Pluckemin encampment, now recognized as America's first military academy and the precursor to the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York.

The Jacobus Vanderveer House and property were purchased by Bedminster Township in 1989 with the help of Green Acres funding. The house was listed in 1995 on the National and New Jersey Registers of Historic Places. The Friends of the Jacobus Vanderveer House came together in 1998 as a nonprofit organization to restore and develop the historic site as an important educational and cultural resource. Since then, the Friends have restored the house, created historically accurate period room exhibitions, established historic collections, supported important research, and embarked on a program of education and interpretation to tell the stories of General Henry Knox, the Pluckemin military encampment and the community's key role in the American Revolution.

The Jacobus Vanderveer House is supported by contributions from private donors and grants from state and county historic preservation agencies.

Become a member today and join us in making history!!

For more information, visit www.jvanderveerhouse.org. Follow us on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube and LinkedIn.



THE FRIENDS OF THE JACOBUS VANDERVEER HOUSE & MUSEUM

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