

Historic Shepherdstown

Museum

Letter From the President

Historic Shepherdstown has exciting events planned for this spring, and we hope you can join us either at the Museum or at one of three Speaker Series presentations. We are pleased to be joining other Shepherdstown non-profits in celebrating the 250th anniversary of the Bee Line March, including an incredible Kentucky Rifle Exhibit at the Historic Shepherdstown Museum. Details on all of these events are available below, most of which are free or request a minimum donation. **We thank those of you who have already become 2025 members, and encourage everyone to join now if you have not yet done so – memberships keep us alive!**

Jerry Bock, HSC President



First up in our Speaker Series

Pam Parziale

The History of Pottery Making in Shepherdstown 1700's to Present Day

It was no accident Pam and Ren Parziale settled near Shepherdstown when they established Sycamore Pottery in 1971. They continued the Shenandoah Valley tradition of pottery making; Shepherdstown's Weis family, three generations of potters, is an important part of this story.

Pam wants to tell the story of working in clay by placing craftwork in a larger historical context of our county's beginnings to the present day.

She says, "The past is prologue," and reflects the changes experienced by the Weis potters, from late 1700's to 1901. They provided necessary items for the farming community and the present day potters who continue to turn clay into beautiful pottery.

The couple received the West Virginia Governor's Excellence in Support of the Arts Award in 2016. Ren died in March 2024 and has left a legacy of workmanship, kiln building, and design. Their work for the Historic Shepherdstown Commission spans fifty years.

Since 1971 Pam has worked as a full-time potter. Her work includes commissions for the Smithsonian Institution, National Park Service, National Trust for Historic Preservation, and the Anacostia Museum. She published articles in [Ceramics Monthly](#), [The Crafts Report](#), and [WV Art Works](#). She received a Governor's Distinguished Arts Award in 2005, which recognized her service on numerous local, state and regional arts advocacy organizations. Among others, she has served as chair of WV Commission on the Arts, was a founding member of the Arts Advocacy West Virginia Foundation, and she has been a member of the board of the Arts Advocacy Committee of West Virginia.

"West Virginia is known for its tradition of craftwork, basketry, woodworking, quilting, and pottery," Pam says. "There's a lot of history behind what we're doing, which made it possible for us to move here seamlessly in the 1970's. People here understood working with your

Historic Shepherdstown Speaker Series

Don't forget to mark your calendar for:

March 26 – 7 p.m. Byrd Center, Shepherd University

Over 50 years ago Pam Parziale and her late husband Ben established Sycamore Pottery near Shepherdstown. She will talk about the history of pottery making in Shepherdstown 1700's to present, with a focus on Weis pottery.

April 16 – 7 p.m. Byrd Center, Shepherd University

Local experts Tim Hodges and Brian LaMaster will talk about the history of Kentucky Rifles and the rifles included in the exhibit at the Historic Shepherdstown Museum.

May 14 – 7 p.m. Byrd Center, Shepherd University
Shepherdstown Historian Laureate Doug Perks will talk about the Bee Line March of 1775.

Kentucky Rifle Exhibit - Historic Shepherdstown Museum

Kentucky Rifle Exhibit April 19 - October 19.

It is with great excitement that Historic Shepherdstown Commission and Museum and its co-sponsor, the Kentucky Rifle Foundation, will be hosting The Kentucky Rifle Exhibit at the Historic Shepherdstown Museum. Over a year in the making, the show will feature rifles from Jefferson and Berkeley Counties, WV, with a particular focus on Sheetz rifles.

The exhibit will feature rifles by several members of the Sheetz family, including a restocked Philip Sheetz, and ones by Jacob Sheetz, Martin Sheetz, and William Miller Sheetz. It will also include rifles by Martin Rizer of Martinsburg, and Daniel Marker, who worked in Martinsburg and in towns in Maryland. Most of the rifles in the exhibit are being loaned to Historic

Shepherdstown Museum by members of the Kentucky Rifle Association. The museum owns two William Miller Sheetz rifles, a Sheetz shotgun, and an Entler rifle, which will also be on display. The exhibit will be open to the public from April 19 to October 19. Regular operating hours are Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sundays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The museum is also open by appointment. More information about the exhibit and the museum can be found online at www.historicshepherdstown.com or by contacting the HSC office at 304-876-0910.



Picture by Brian LaMaster

“We are not makers of history. We are made by history”: Martin Luther King Jr.

Thank You!

Historic Shepherdstown operates the Entler Hotel complex, and we are currently painting the interior of the common areas and making other improvements as well. We are proud, through our membership contributions, to be able to maintain this historic downtown property, which houses not only our Historic Museum, our archives and our office, and 14 small business offices as well.

Join Historic Shepherdstown!

Why? Because you care about this wonderful, historic, unique place and because you value preserving and promoting our history. Historic Shepherdstown Commission and Museum has been dedicated to preserving Shepherdstown's past for more than 50 years, and with your help, our Museum, educational talks, social events for members, and community involvement will remain strong today and into the future.

Go to
www.historicshepherdstown.com/support/join-renew or call us at 304-876-0910.

Preservation Circle

Marellen Aherne
John Allen Jr.
Frank Khare & Cheryl Brown
Susan Kemnitzer
John & Terri Griffith

Benefactor Membership

John Shank
CEM & Judy Martin
Frank Coe
Frederic & Anne D'alauro
Upton & Ann Martin

Patron Membership

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Eleanor Finn
Bill Carrigan
Paul & Diane Kradel
Gary & Iris Heichel
Alan & Jane Levitan
James Cain & Karen Meyer-Cain
James Stuart Osbourn
Elliot & Nancy Kirschbaum
David & Margaret Coe

Sponsor Membership

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Jill Craig
Lynch Christian IV
Samuel & Linda Billmyer
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Austin & Carmen Slater
William Conner
Scott & Leslie Genovese
Dennis Barron
Sandy Brown
Margie Knott
Mark Outhier
Wanda Perry
Bill Senseney & Angie Sosdian
Marie Tyler-McGraw
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Michael Sullivan & Susan Hirsch
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Tom & Linda Guild
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Kent Shaffer & Mary Bell
Janu McSwain & Bill Sturtevant
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Sustaining Membership

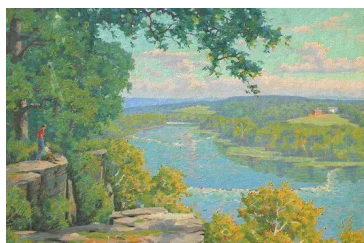
Lori Wysong
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Mike & Kathy Sholl
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Katherine Upton
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Ben & Cathy Miller
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Dr Raleigh Watson Jr
Daren Wood
Edward Trainor
Jeff & Petra Biggans
Anne Small
James & Jean Scott
Josh Felman
Judith Yost
Martha Anne McIntosh
Jim & Peachy Staley
Sheila Vertino

Student Membership

Hallie Elizabeth

2025 Members



Come visit the Historic Museum to see "View from Terrapin Neck" by Garnet W. Jex along with additional new acquisitions.

One of the most humorous historical events from 1786 is the story of "The Great Cow Chase" which occurred in Massachusetts during Shays' Rebellion. A group of disgruntled farmers, while attempting to disrupt a court session, were distracted and chased off by a herd of cows that had escaped from a nearby farm, creating a chaotic scene and effectively ending their protest temporarily.

Bee Line March 250th Anniversary Celebration - Schedule of Events

Bee Line March 250th Anniversary Celebration

A consortium of civic groups in Shepherdstown (Historic Shepherdstown is a participant) is planning a major celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the Bee Line March, when a company of rifleman from Shepherdstown marched 600 miles to Cambridge Massachusetts, answering George Washington's call to arms at the start of the Revolutionary War.

March 21 - July 20, 2025

Additional information available on the Bee Line March 250th Anniversary page on Facebook

Saturday, March 21, 2025 - Jefferson County Museum

A new exhibit on Jefferson County's early history,, from Native American Habitation through the Early Republic, 5-8 p.m.

Wednesday, April 16, 2025 - Historic Shepherdstown Commission and Museum

HSC Speaker Series features master gunsmith Brian LaMaster and Kentucky rifle expert Tim Hodges talking about rifles made by the Sheetz family and the upcoming Kentucky Rifle Exhibit, 7 p.m. in the auditorium of the Robert C. Byrd Center.

Saturday, April 19, 2025 - Historic Shepherdstown Museum

A special Kentucky Rifle exhibit at the Historic Shepherdstown Museum opens to the public.

Wednesday, May 14, 2025 - Historic Shepherdstown Commission and Museum Speaker Series

Shepherdstown Historian Laureate Doug Perks will give a presentation on Capt. Hugh Stephenson and the Bee Line March, 7 p.m. in the auditorium of the Robert C. Byrd Center.

Saturday, June 7, 2025- Wayside Marker Dedication - Morgan's Grove Park

The West Virginia State Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution will dedicate a DAR America 250 Patriots Marker at 11 a.m.

Saturday, June 14, 2025

Bee Line March Anniversary Celebration - multiple locations

Morgan's Grove Park 10 a.m.: Celebration features drills and weapons demonstrations, 18th century children's games, 18th century music, and displays by Jefferson County Historical Society, Historic Shepherdstown, Daughters of the American Revolution, Sons of the American Revolution, and similar groups.

Elmwood Cemetery 11 a.m.: The Pack Horse Ford Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution will conduct a wreath-laying ceremony at the Bee Line March monument. Sons of the American Revolution color guard will participate in the ceremony, with a march leaving the park at 10:40 a.m. to and from the cemetery. Members of the public may follow the march if they wish.

Morgan's Grove Park 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.: Food trucks will offer barbeque for purchase. The Shepherdstown Community Club will have a tent selling special Bee Line March beer brewed by the Bavarian Inn Resort and Brewing Company.

Morgan's Grove Park 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.: Commemorative Ceremony at the park pavilion. Various displays and activities available including the dedication of new interpretive sign explaining the Bee Line March.

Sunday, June 22, 2025- Recital and Lecture at Shepherdstown's Trinity Episcopal Church 3 p.m.: Members of the Music of the Regiment will present a recital and lecture on military music of the Revolutionary War period. Cosponsored by the Bee Line March Anniversary Celebration and the Friends of Music. www.musicoftheregiment.com.

Friday, July 4, 2025 - Annual Shepherdstown Independence Day Parade- Walk with Historic Shepherdstown!

Saturday & Sunday, July 19 & 20, 2025

Encampment of Revolutionary War Reenactors at Morgan's Grove Park

Saturday, July 19 Morgan's Grove Park 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.:

Events include talks in the park pavilion; 18th Century children's games; fife and drum demonstrations, demonstrations of drill and flintlock use and of Revolutionary War camp life activities. Food trucks will be available.

Morgan's Grove Park to German Street 3 p.m.: Reenactors march to downtown Shepherdstown via Kearneysville Pike. Docents at Historic Shepherdstown Museum will be available to talk about the museum's Kentucky Rifle exhibit.

McMurrin Hall Lawn 5 p.m.: Commemorative event featuring a short talk about the importance of the Bee Line March.

Sunday, July 20, 2025

German Street 11 a.m. to 3p.m.: Reenactors return to downtown.

Please visit our booth on Earth Day and during Shepherdstown StreetFest.

May 3 - Noon to 6 p.m. - Earth Day Morgan's Grove Park, sponsored by The Community Club

June 28 - StreetFest - German Street, Shepherdstown, WV.

Click on link for events for 2025

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