

The Homestead

A Publication of the Nicholas Stoltzfus Homestead Preservation Committee
A non-profit 501(c)(3) organization



As time marches on towards August, it seems hard to believe that the 2023 Benefit Auction was almost three months ago. It has been a year of blessing and adventure for the Nicholas Stoltzfus Homestead!

On behalf of the Nicholas Stoltzfus Homestead Preservation Committee, Elam and Esther thank you for your generous support of the 2023 Annual Benefit Auction. The annual auction continues to grow because of support from so many individuals and businesses who give unselfishly in a variety of ways. We are excited to see the homestead become a place that is increasingly imprinted in the extended Stoltzfus family and people in the surrounding communities, as well as being recognized as a site of historical significance.

The 2023 auction was graced with beautiful sunny skies and the early spring weather was a gift for the flowers around the property. We had a big turnout and the auction was a great success. The bounce house and slide were occupied all day long by the younger crowd, while the adults enjoyed finger-licking chicken, burgers and delicious homemade ice cream. Along with the activities of the auction under the big tent, there were things going on in the historic house and barn.

The fragrant smells of chicken corn soup heating over the fire in the hearth drew people to the old house, where they enjoyed self paced tours. Some of the favorite exhibits according to feedback we received, were Nicholas' migrant trunk and the newest exhibit of 1800s Amish clothes through the ages.

In the upper level of the barn there were a variety of exhibits/vendors sharing books, artifacts, and tools to find your Stoltzfus genealogy scores. These included Masthof Books, authors Benueel M. Fisher and Native American Darius Puff, Berks County Heritage Center, and Paul Kurtz, Aaron Petersheim and Erin Bruker. In the upper barn loft, we showcased a 1700's replica of a trade ship bunks with some visual history of immigrant journeys.

The auction proceeds are being used for the ongoing upkeep, maintenance, and efforts in restoration and improvements at the Homestead. As volunteer caretakers, Elam and Esther work diligently to add value to the property while being careful stewards of resources shared for the ongoing work.

Upcoming projects this summer include staining the exterior upper level of the barn and installing a small heat pump/split unit air system in the Air BnB. We also are working towards installing a basic fire and electricity system in the old house in order to preserve the historical investments already made. We have begun plaster restoration and will also continue that project.

Your generosity makes projects such as these possible and we are grateful.

Please come and visit the Homestead for an hour, a day, or overnight. We have had many visitors this summer and have hosted a wedding, several family reunions, and a variety of youth group events, along with having a robust schedule of Air BnB guests. We love having visitors and the summer flowers are spectacular.

Thank you again for your interest and support of the Homestead.

The Nicholas Stoltzfus House
Preservation Committee
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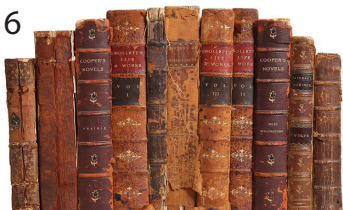
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The Nicholas Stoltzfus Homestead Preservation Committee board consists of the following:
Benuel S. Riehl, Chairman
Joseph Miller, Board member
Elam Allgyer, Board member
S. Nicholas Stoltzfus, Secretary
Debra Allgyer, Treasurer
Elam & Esther Stoltzfus, Executive Directors

Annual Benefit Auction Saturday May 4th, 2024

Accepting donations of items to be sold at the 2024 auction, including books, new and vintage.

Call Elam at 484-878-2916



Like and share the FaceBook page. A place to tell stories, share images, videos, and stay informed with updates.
<https://www.facebook.com/NicholasStoltzfusHomestead>



Our mission is to tell the Stoltzfus story.

A place where memories are made.

A place to bring families together.

A place to relax and relive history.

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