



For more information, please contact:
HSI Office (Located in lower level of the Brendle Museum)
Open Wednesdays 9am–1pm
111 N. Market St. • P.O. Box 307 • Schaefferstown, PA 17088
hsimuseum.org • 717-949-2244
Email: info@hsimuseum.org

Follow us on:
Facebook: @historicschaefferstown
Instagram: @historicschaefferstown

Founded in 1966, Historic Schaefferstown, Inc. (HSI) is a non-profit educational organization. HSI's Mission is the collection, preservation, study, and dissemination of the history and folk culture of the Pennsylvania Germans in South Central Pennsylvania, with particular focus on Schaefferstown.

The organization provides information through educational programs for adults and children, tours of its buildings and collections, festivals and special events, and publications of research and promotional materials.

Please Support Our Sponsors:



Keller Brothers Ford
1030 Schaeffer Rd., Lebanon
717-949-2000 • kellerbrosford.com



Lebanon Federal Credit Union
300 Schneider Dr., Lebanon
717-272-2210 • lebanonfcu.org
FB: @lebanonfcu



The Tweed Weasel Folk Art & Primitives
717-679-4564 • thetweedweasel.com
FB & IG: @thetweedweasel



Visit Lebanon Valley
115 Springwood Dr., Suite 500, Lebanon
717-277-0100 • visitlebanonvalley.com

Photography provided by Light Studio and Bachleda Studio.
Brochure design provided by Bachleda Studio.

2025 EVENTS



**Alexander Schaeffer Farm
Thomas R. Brendle Museum
Gemberling-Rex House**

HSIMUSEUM.ORG

History Lives Here

The Pennsylvania German and Swiss cultures which flourished here during the last few centuries are authentically presented among several historic sites, including the Alexander Schaeffer House and Farm, the Thomas R. Brendle Museum, and the Gemberling-Rex House.

Nationally Recognized Community and Properties

The 18th-century Alexander Schaeffer House was designated a *National Historic Landmark* in 2010. The 85-acre farmstead has been on the *National Register of Historic Places* since 1972. The Gemberling-Rex House is also listed on the National Register.

Schaefferstown Historic District is Officially Listed on the *National Register of Historic Places*

This district includes the properties roughly bounded by SR-501, Oak Street, Locust Street, Schaefferstown Cemetery, High Street, Fountain Park, the second blocks of S. Market, S. Lancaster, and S. Carpenter streets, and properties along the south side of Heidelberg Avenue.

Schaefferstown Historic District is one of just three historic districts in Lebanon County.

Visit our sites, take part in events, and become a member of HSI. You'll enjoy your memorable, authentic Pennsylvania German experience.



Alexander Schaeffer House

This 18th century house, a National Historic Landmark, is located on a scenic 85-acre farm south of the village. The site hosts living history cultural events and educational tours. Located at 213 South Carpenter St.



Thomas R. Brendle Museum

Named for a local resident and leader in the preservation of Pennsylvania German folklore, the museum displays cultural artifacts from the region. Located at 111 North Market St.



Gemberling-Rex House

Also on the National Register, this 18th century tavern once served travelers and villagers. Original features include a bar cage and Franklin fireplace. Located at 106 North Market St.



Pennsylvania
Historical & Museum
Commission

Josh Shapiro, Governor
Hayley Haldeman, Chair
Andrea W. Lowery, Executive Director

Operational funding has been provided by a grant from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission's Cultural and Historical Support Program, a program funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Become a Member!

You can help ensure that we continue to preserve our historic sites and unique culture. Your membership, support and donations allow us to provide events, workshops, manage restoration projects and more to honor our history. Take advantage of these valuable HSI membership benefits:

- Free Admission to:**
- HSI Fairs hosted at the Schaeffer Farm
 - All HSI Museums during regular business hours
- Free Subscriptions to:**
- *Aus Em Schteddel* newsletter (4 editions per year)
 - *Historic Schaefferstown Journal* (1 edition per year)

Special Discounted Member Rates on:
HSI workshops and classes

Yes, I Want to Join!

Please mark appropriate boxes and return this completed form with your payment:

☐ \$25 Single Membership ☐ \$35 Family Membership

I am enclosing an additional contribution of:

☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$ _____ (Thank You!)

Primary Adult:

Additional Adult:

Family Members (List names & ages 12 to 18):

Street Address:

City:StateZip:

Phone:

Email:

Please make your check payable to: Historic Schaefferstown Inc.

Do not send cash. Mail to: PO Box 307 • Schaefferstown, PA 17088

Get Involved. Have Fun!

Please mark appropriate boxes below and return the completed form with membership payment. I am interested in volunteering as noted:

☐ General Volunteer ☐ Museums/Schaeffer House

☐ Historic Farm ☐ Artisan Crafts ☐ Restoration

☐ Young Villagers/Kids’ Activities

Learn Pennsylvania German

This 10-week class, led by language expert Alice Spayd, will introduce you to the Pa. German language. Choose Saturday or Tuesday classes. For details, check our website, or call 717-949-2244.

Workshops

Try your hand at an early American craft – pottery art, fraktur art, wool appliques, metal work, and more. Our One-Day Workshops – usually held on Saturdays during winter – are a great way for older children and adults to learn traditional arts.

For details, check our website, or call 717-949-2244. Class sizes are limited. *Please register early.*



The redware charger shown here was produced during an HSI Workshop.

Guided Museum & Farm House Tours Available

The Brendle Museum and Gemberling-Rex House have undergone recent restoration work and are open for guided tours April 5 through September 27 from 1pm to 4pm every Tuesday and on the first and third Sunday of each month.

The Alexander Schaeffer Farm House is open for tours by appointment and during HSI festivals. *(No additional admission fee required during festivals.)*

Appointments and group tours are available year round. Please call 717-949-2244 for details.

Admission Fees

HSI Members: Free (During regular visiting hours)

Non-Members Age 12 or Older: \$5.00 (Per museum)

Children Under 12: Free (Supervised by paying adult)

When planning your visit, please be mindful that our historic buildings were constructed many years ago, and may not be accessible for individuals with physical challenges — there are stairs, uneven original floors, restroom limits, etc.

2025 Events

All scheduled events are subject to change without notice.

Historical Speaker Series

Listen and learn from regional historians as they share their knowledge. These FREE educational presentations are held in the Brendle Museum’s lower level starting at 2pm:

Sunday, March 2 - The Schaefferstown Water Company Past and Present presented by Ann and Andy Ginder

Sunday, March 30 - Pennsylvania German Easter Traditions presented by Linda Manwiller

Sunday, April 27 - Archaeology of the Susquehannocks presented by Andrew Wyatt

Cherry Fair and Early American Craft Show June 28

Join us at the Alexander Schaeffer Farm for this annual tradition that started in the 1800s. Enjoy artisans, demonstrators, musical entertainment, traditional PA German food and activities, plus the Schaeffer Home and Heirloom Garden tours. Come and enjoy the beauty of the farm!

Hours: 10am to 4pm

Admission: \$8.00. *Members free. Children under age 12 free with paid adult.*

Afternoon Garden Tea July 13

Our featured presentation will be *How to Grow an Organic Garden* by Ian Frederick, manager of the Trailside Organic Farm at Cornwall Manor, developed through a partnership with the Rodale Institute. The Rodale Institute has a 75-year history proving that organic farming is not only viable but essential to humanity’s survival.

Start Time: 2pm **Suggested Donation:** \$5.00.

Benches are provided, however, you may bring your own lawn chair.

Young Villagers Colonial Workshop July 14 through July 17

Learn about early American Life during this hands-on, fun week at the historic Alexander Schaeffer Farm. Offered to children entering 4th through 7th grades.

Hours: 10am to 3pm each day

Fee: Members \$50.00 / Non-members \$75.00

To Register: Call 717-949-2244

WWII Weekend July 26 & 27

The *East Penn Re-Enactors* host a World War II infantry encampment. Enjoy live battle re-enactments, displays, demos, and tours. We will also honor local veterans. Food will be available.

Hours: Saturday 9am to 5pm / Sunday 9am to 3pm

Admission: \$5.00 Parking Fee, but no event admission fee. *No pets. (Service animals permitted.)*

Fall Harvest Fair and Early American Craft Show September 13 & 14

Our Harvest Fair brings in the fall season—with our own apple cider, apple butter, and delicious baked goods! In addition to our traditional artisans, demonstrations, and music, we plan to have a farmer’s market, pumpkin patch, and other fun fall festivities.

Hours: Saturday 10am to 4pm / Sunday 11:30am to 4pm

Admission: \$8.00. *Members free. Children under age 12 free with paid adult.*

HSI Annual Meeting October 19

There will be a short business meeting, a presentation (TBA), and a silent auction. Light refreshments will be available. *(Donations for silent auction welcomed.)*

Start Time: 2pm

Admission: FREE to the public. All are welcome to attend.

Christkindlmarkt December 12 & 13

Enjoy this free-admission event where you’ll find handmade gifts by 20+ skilled artisans from our region. Ample shopping and parking space available. Credit cards accepted. Location: St. Paul’s UCC Social Hall.

Shopping: Friday 4pm to 8pm, and Saturday 9am to 3pm.

Tavern Lunch December 13

Experience an authentic tavern lunch at the Gemberling-Rex House. Choose from 5 full-service sittings. Reservations required. Call 717-949-2244.

Lunch: Sittings start at 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm & 2pm.

Meal Cost: \$18.00 per person