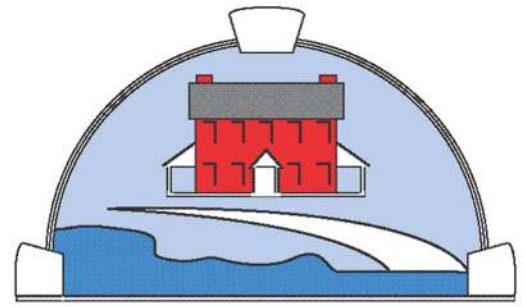


Circa 1794



The Newsletter of Rock Ford Plantation

SPRING 2018

Spanish Language Tours at First Annual Neighborhood Open House

On Saturday, April 7, 2018, from 10 am to 3 pm, Rock Ford will be offering free guided tours to Lancaster City residents at its First Annual Neighborhood Open House.

Rock Ford's Executive Director, Sam Slaymaker, hopes the Neighborhood Open House will highlight and further develop Rock Ford's relationship to Lancaster City. "Because we are surrounded by the County Park and its natural setting, it is not widely understood that we are actually independent from the Park and are, in fact, located within South East Lancaster City," states Slaymaker. "Likewise, many of Rock Ford's city neighbors are not aware either of the home's historic significance or that they themselves are living in one of the oldest and most historic sections of the City. In fact, several homes along nearby Howard Avenue are among the earliest surviving examples of Lancaster City architecture dating to the mid-1700's."

Slaymaker explains that while our Lancaster City neighbors are generally aware of Rock Ford's existence, they are less likely to be aware of its historic significance. Most visitors seeking tours tend either to come from out of the area, are Lancaster residents who are sharing Rock Ford with out-of-town guests, or are regional residents who come here for our programs and special events. "We felt that by extending an invitation in the form of a Neighborhood Open House, we could reach out beyond Rock Ford's traditional constituency while providing our neighbors with a way to connect with Rock Ford as they also develop the realization that they are living in the midst of almost three-hundred years of history," states Slaymaker.

Two Spanish language tours will be offered at 12 noon and 2 pm during the Neighborhood Open House. Free admission to the Neighborhood Open House will be granted to Lancaster City residents with proof of residence including photo ID, a piece of mail showing a city address, etc.

Rock Ford would like to thank Rhoads Energy Corporation for being a Supporting Sponsor for this event.

Photo on right: Musical entertainment for this event will be provided by students from the Central York Middle School Fifes & Drums. The group will be performing outside the Rock Ford mansion.



Calendar of Upcoming Special Events

April:

3: Opening Day of 2018 Tour Season

7: Neighborhood Open House, 10 am - 3 pm

29: Children's Event; Tea with Kitty
2 pm - 4 pm

May:

20: May Fair Celebration
10 am - 3 pm

24: Lecture: "Rescuing the Revolution," 5:30 pm

May Fair Celebration Returns!

Rock Ford will host its annual May Fair Celebration on Sunday, May 20 from 10 am to 3 pm. This traditional celebration of the arrival of Spring will feature period dancing around the Maypole, vendors, games, music, open hearth cooking demonstrations, mortar demonstrations by the 1st Regiment Flying Camp of Lancaster County, and guided tours of the mansion (see below). In addition, Meduseld Meadery will have selections of their hand-crafted meads available for purchase. All outdoor activities are free and open to the public (weather permitting). A schedule of events will be posted on the website prior to the event.

Guided tours of the mansion will be on the hour. The admission charge for guided tours is \$8 adults, \$7 seniors (65+), \$6 children 6 to 12 and free for children under 5. Reservations are not required for this event.

Thank you for the generous support of our 2018 Season Sponsors:

Lead Sponsors: Thomas G. Englert and the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
Supporting Sponsors: Brubaker Connaughton Goss & Lucarelli, LLC, Clermont Wealth Strategies, Fulton Financial Advisors, and Rhoads Energy Corporation



2017-18 Membership Appeal

The 2017-18 Membership Appeal began on November 1, 2017. We would like to thank the following individuals and organizations who became new members or who renewed their memberships **from November 1, 2017 to March 1, 2018**. This list will be updated in future newsletters.

Individual: \$50

Marguerite S.V. Adams
Sarah Alberico
Donna Arment
Jeannette Arment
Thomas Bowen, Jr.
Susan Broomell
Corey Craver
Dr. S. Kendrick Eshleman, III
Andree Goldman
Larry Greenawalt
Margaret Jenne
George May
Sally Patterson
Kenneth Pandozzi
Paul H. Ripple
Harriet Robbins
Gail Rogers
Laura Schramm
Kenneth Shaffer
Dr. Samuel Stayer
Margaret Tassia
Keith Tussing
Dr. Nikitas Zervanos

Family: \$75

Robert & Mary Anne Aichele
Kathleen Ashworth
Peter & Millicent Christie
Rosemary Coverly & Kent Strickler
Richard & Charlotte Drennen
Richard & Sylvia Drennen
William & Judith Geil
John & Barbara Graeter
James & Alace Humphreville
Michael & Barbara Kuntz
Dr. and Mrs. C. Darrell Lane
Jenna Martin
Eric Maxwell
Christian & Gladys McMurtrie
Carol Norwood
Michelle Pieters
Anna & Robert Roschel
Karl & Betty Salmon
David & Lesley Schmidt
Robert & Marylou Simons
Tom & Delight Snyder
Carol Thompson & W. Fred Kinsey
Willem & Thea Van Huystee
Ronald & Beverly Walton

Business/Photographer: \$85

Annie Sharp Photography
Steve Bradney Photography
Fannie Lynn Esh
Lauren Fisher Photography
Elina Hope Photography
Fly Away Home Photography
Cindy Frey Photography
Susie Marks Photography
Orange Slice Photography

Patron: \$100

Mary Ellen Bachman
John & Joanne Bowman
Steve & Eva Bradney
Louis & Millie Caccamo
Forrest & Kathryn Collier
Carolyn Cook
Mr. & Mrs. D. Weston Darby, Jr.
Ray & Carol Dennis
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Bob & Carol Falk
John Frymyer
John & Dolores Gareis
Dan & Lisa Garner
Tom & Cindy Gehr
Douglas & Gail Gibson
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Robert Groff, Jr.
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Joel Marc Mumma
Bonnie Nolt
Ron & Judy Peters
Joanne & H. Herbert Poole, Jr.
William & Joanne Quain
Wylie Gibson Raab

Patron (cont.)

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Patti Rottmund
Jay Schroeder, III
Leo & Virginia Shelley
Ellen Simpson
Sarah Slaymaker
Kent & Pat Spotts
Kathryn Thomas
Stephen Trapnell
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Walker

George Ross Society: \$250

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Dr. Kenneth Berkenstock
Michael & Barbara Brown
Jill Edwards & George Beech
Dennis & Betty Jo Grimm
Caroline Hill
Nancy Kenneff
Dave & Kathy Parse
Samuel & Laura Slaymaker
Robert & Deborah Smith
John & Pamela Stoner
Tim & Cindy Trussell
Donald Walters

Edward Shippen Society: \$500

Kevin Craig
Jane N. Eastman
Edith May
Thomas & Georgina Russo
Daniel & Ellen Strickler

Jasper Yeates Society: \$1000

Thomas Englert
Donald & Elizabeth Steckler

Katharine Hand Society: \$5000

Dorothy M. Smith



Grant to Help Restore Original Wood Shutters

The Rock Ford Foundation is pleased to announce that we have been awarded a grant from the Lancaster County Community Foundation in the amount of \$10,188.00. These funds, granted from the John J. Snyder, Jr. Fund, will be used to repair and restore the original wood shutters on the weather-exposed front of the Rock Ford mansion.



The shutters were removed and taken to the workshop of Restore N' More, Inc. in Manheim, Pennsylvania, where they will be stripped of many layers of accumulated paint and spots of dry-rotted wood will be replaced with period-appropriate Spanish Cedar Wood. These repairs will be performed while retaining as much of their original fabric as possible without compromising their structural integrity. After priming, the shutters will be repainted and replaced, hopefully in time for Rock Ford's reopening for tours on April 3.



The grant funding will also allow for some minor repairs to the wooden exterior elements of the mansion and for the replacement of some broken roof slates.

Rock Ford wishes to thank the Lancaster County Community Foundation for its generous funding of this much-needed project.

Volunteer Recognition and Volunteer of the Year



Rock Ford would like to acknowledge and thank the following volunteers who worked at least 50 hours during our 2017 season: Barbara Brown, Tom Englert, Tom Gehr, Shelly Gunzenhauser, Dave Parse, Kathy Parse, Ron Peters, Debbie Smith, Pam Stoner, Cindy Trussell and Don Walters.

Donald Walters was chosen as the 2017 Volunteer of the Year. Don, a native Hoosier, has spent most of his life in Pennsylvania. He holds two degrees from Indiana University and a doctorate from the University of Miami (FL). He worked for public schools in Kokomo, Indiana, and Miami-Dad County, Florida before going to Temple University in 1966. At Temple, Don served as a professor and head in the College of Education. Don was awarded the title of professor emeritus when he retired in 2002. He then relocated to South Carolina where he led both nature and history tours at the Coastal Discovery Museum on Hilton Head Island.

Don moved to Lancaster in 2005 and has enjoyed serving as a guide at Rock Ford, Wheatland and Boehm's Chapel, as well as leading downtown tours offered by Historic Lancaster Walking Tours. Don has spoken to numerous community groups about local and natural history. Volunteering at Rock Ford has enabled him to pursue and share his interest in the Revolutionary War period. He takes pleasure in opening the door to Rock Ford and inviting visitors to imagine a trip to the 18th century to learn the story of the house and Edward Hand and his family.

"I look forward to my days at Rock Ford," said Don. "The wide array of visitors and their interests is always challenging. It is very rewarding to further their curiosity and knowledge and to see their smiles as I share Rock Ford stories. Their questions often stimulate me to learn more myself. An extra delight is to have time to chat with our dedicated staff. A day at Rock Ford is a happy day for me!"



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Office: 717-392-7223

Samuel C. Slaymaker
Executive Director

Sarah Alberico
*Curator and
Volunteer and Educational
Program Coordinator*

Nancy E. Bradley
*Assistant to the Director and
Office Manager*

George W. Rhoades
*Buildings and Grounds
Maintenance*

The Rock Ford Foundation is a
501(c)(3) not-for-profit
tax-exempt corporation
incorporated within the
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
on May 22, 1958.

The Foundation is supported by
admissions, gifts, grants, earned
income from barn rentals, museum
memberships, fundraising events,
and bequests.

Lecture: “Rescuing the Revolution”

On Thursday, May 24, David Price will present a lecture based on his book, “Rescuing the Revolution.” The lecture will begin at 5:30 pm in the Rock Ford Barn. Price’s lecture will highlight the heroic feats of several of the “unsung heroes” behind our nation’s struggle for independence during its darkest days, including Rock Ford’s own General Edward Hand. Price will have copies of his book available for purchase and signing after his lecture.



Price is an historical interpreter for the Friends of Washington Crossing Park. He is a member of the Crossroads of the American Revolution Association, the Museum of the American Revolution, the Old Barracks Association, and the Princeton Battlefield Society. Price is a magna cum laude graduate of Drew University and holds an M.A. in political science from Rutgers University – New Brunswick, where he was an Eagleton Fellow. He currently lives in Lawrence Township, NJ.

Reservations are not required, but seating is limited. Admission is \$5 for non-members and free for members of the Rock Ford Foundation (upon showing valid membership card).

Donation Will Restore Eichholtz Painting

Rock Ford would like to thank the National Society of Colonial Dames – PA, Lancaster, Dauphin, York Committee for its generous donation to cover the cost of professionally cleaning and restoring the portrait of Catherine Frey painted by Jacob Eichholtz. This beautifully executed and important portrait will be part of the future John J. Snyder, Jr. Collection of Early Lancaster County Decorative Arts to be exhibited in the completely renovated second floor of the Rock Ford Barn. This photo is a close-up “before” of the portrait. We will share comparison photos after cleaning and restoration are completed. Rock Ford is excited that the Colonial Dames have decided to become a part of our efforts to establish the John J. Snyder, Jr. Gallery of Early Lancaster County Decorative Arts.

