

THE Correspondent

The Friends of Hope Lodge



553 South Bethlehem Pike

Fort Washington, PA 19034

215-646-1595

ushistory.org/hope

1777 Whitemarsh Encampment

Twenty-seven years ago, Hope Lodge began to commemorate the encampment of the Continental Army and attending militia units under George Washington. This year, on November 1 and 2 the tradition was continued with re-enactors from both the American side and their British counterparts participating.

The two day event featured the usual skirmishes in the field behind historic Hope Lodge. The redoubt and lunette served both sides as "cover" during the tactical demonstrations; and the cannon's roar added to the realism of the 18th century scenario.

Food Service was available for visitors and re-enactors alike. Sutlers had their own row, selling goods in the colonial manner. There were several demonstrators in the garden area to educate the visitors.

The weekend wrapped-up with the traditional tug-of-war between the Crown's Forces and the intrepid Continentals.



Picture Gallery on page 6.

 Jack Washington

PHMC Associates Forum

Saturday, May 10, 2008 • Pennsbury Manor

Hope Lodge's PHMC Volunteers of the Year:

George and Nancy Gingrich



Pictured from left to right: Barbara Franco, Executive Director, PHMC; Scott A. Petri, Pennsylvania State representative; Nancy Straub Gingrich, Volunteer of the Year; John Gingrich, son of George Gingrich, Volunteer of the Year; William Penn (Neal Farber)

IN MEMORIAM

George Gingrich

April 17, 1928–January 9, 2008

Long-time Volunteer

Hope Lodge Photographer

Friends' Treasurer

Want to Volunteer at Hope Lodge?

See full page of volunteer opportunities on page 7!

President's Message



How can the Friends be a more effective organization? While interest in history is booming by some measures, history museums, and especially house museums like Hope Lodge, are facing significant challenges almost everywhere. Funding is lower, and in many cases, so are the numbers of visitors.

The roles of the Friends are to support and promote the Hope Lodge historic site, and to engage the public at the site with educational programs and special events. But, as a volunteer organization,

we can only be successful if we provide positive experiences for our members and volunteers, as well. You must feel that your membership supports an important objective. You must find your volunteer opportunities interesting, enjoyable, and worth the contribution of your time.

If you are pleased with your association with the Friends, please let us know what you like best and how we might attract more members and volunteers. If you are disappointed, please tell us why and how we could improve. We want, and need, your ideas. You can speak with any member of the Friends' board, send a note to my attention at the Friends of Hope Lodge address, or email me at jpgumbrecht@verizon.net.

I promise the Friends will keep you informed about the events and other developments at Hope Lodge through *The Correspondent*, our website, email, and the telephone. We will continue to invite your active participation in our organization and the happenings at Hope Lodge. I hope you will share your thoughts, concerns, and suggestions about how the Friends can be a more effective organization. We cannot be successful without you.

 Jack Gumbrecht

Genuardi's Cash-Back

Did you know you can have up to 3% of your Genuardi's purchases donated to Hope Lodge electronically through their E-Scrip program? Sign up by going to Genuardi's service desk or to www.escrip.com. By simply designating the Friends of Hope Lodge and Mather Mill, Group ID number 149538543, Hope Lodge will benefit each and every time you use your Genuardi's club card. It's easy, it's fast, and it's a benefit that keeps giving each time you shop at Genuardi's!

HOPE LODGE



Hope Lodge was built between 1743 and 1748 for Samuel Morris, a prosperous Quaker farmer, shipowner, miller, ironmaster, shopowner, and owner of Farnar's Mill. Hope Lodge is an excellent example of early Georgian architecture. During the American Revolution, the surrounding fields were used for the six-week Whitemarsh Encampment prior to the Valley Forge winter. The house was used by George Washington's surgeon general, John Cochran. Ownership of the house was transferred to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in 1957. *Open Fri.-Sat. 10am-5pm; Sun. noon-5pm (last tour 4pm, 3pm after daylight savings time ends). Closed Mon.-Thurs. (except by special request for larger groups or schools). Admission charged. Hours may be subject to change.*

STAFF LIST

Joan D. Hauger	Site Administrator, Hope Lodge
Edward Schorpp	Custodial Guide, Hope Lodge
Tom Bugno	Maintenance, Hope Lodge

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION

Rhonda R. Cohen	Dr. Brian C. Mitchell
Senator Jim Ferlo	Kathleen Pavelko
Laura S. Fisher	Representative Scott Petri
Dr. Gordon A. Haaland	Senator Joe Scarnati
Janet S. Klein	Representative Rick Taylor
Cheryl McClenney-Brooker	Dr. Gerald L. Zahorchak

Governor	Chairman	Executive Director
Edward G. Rendell	Wayne Spilove	Barbara Franco

THE CORRESPONDENT

Winter 2008. *The Correspondent* is published three times a year by The Friends of Hope Lodge. For information about membership, please contact Hope Lodge, 553 South Bethlehem Pike, Fort Washington, PA 19034. 215-646-1595. Hope Lodge is owned and operated by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. Individuals with disabilities who need special assistance or accommodation to participate in programs, events or a visit to the site should call 215-646-1595 in advance to discuss their needs. www.ushistory.org/hope

NEWSLETTER STAFF: Jack Greenberg, Doug Heller, Diane Horan, and Wanda Rauch.

SEND articles and events to be published in the next issue of *The Correspondent* to attn: Correspondent Editor at Hope Lodge.

Donation of paper from our printer SIR SPEEDY, 725 Skipack Pike, Blue Bell, PA.

Friends Board

PRESIDENT ☞ Jack Gumbrecht
VICE PRESIDENT ☞ Bob Reese
SECRETARY ☞ Sheya Astle
TREASURER ☞ MJ Fischer
PAST PRESIDENT ☞ Jack Washington
DIRECTORS ☞ Ginger Agnew, Tracy Archibald, Jack Greenberg, Mary Greenberg, Mary Washington
SITE ADMINISTRATOR ☞ Joan D. Hauger

Friends Committees

If you are interested in helping with any of the committees, please contact Hope Lodge for more information. Your help is always wanted. Do as much or as little as you are comfortable with.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

FOOD COMMITTEE

Mary Greenberg

GARDEN COMMITTEE

NANCY GINGRICH, Jack Crompton, Betty Fields, MJ Fischer, Bea Kline, Joe Walker

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

WANDA M. RAUCH

MUSEUM SHOP

WANDA M. RAUCH

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

DOUG HELLER, Jack Greenberg, Diane Horan, Wanda Rauch

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

NANCY GINGRICH

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

JACK GREENBERG

PUBLICITY COORDINATOR

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Lorraine Glausman, Carolyn Moyer, Jack Washington

SUMMER CAMP COMMITTEE

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

BRUCE STOCKING

SPECIAL EVENTS

CONCERTS

NANCY GINGRICH

ENCAMPMENT

JACK WASHINGTON

HOLIDAYS AT HOPE LODGE

Bruce Stocking, Diane Horan, Bob Reese, Nancy Gingrich, Jack Washington, Wanda Rauch

WINTER 2008

Annual Meeting

New Officers for the Friends

The annual meeting for the Friends of Hope lodge was held on Friday evening September 26, 2008 at 7:00 in the mansion. The attendees were welcomed by Jack Washington, the interim chair of the Friends board.

A panel discussion was held on the Sustainability Study that the PHMC is conducting. The keynote address was given by the site's administrator, Joan Hauger. Panel members were Nancy Gingrich and MJ Fischer, both of whom had attended the sustainability meeting as representatives of the Friends of Hope Lodge. Jack Gumbrecht concluded the panel presentation with a view of the impact and direction the sustainability process would have on Hope Lodge. A brief question and answer period followed.

Following a review of the various committee reports, presentations were made to those volunteers who were present for their contribution of time and energy to the site.

Jack Gumbrecht was honored as the Hope Lodge Volunteer of the Year. Jack had spear-headed the reorganization of the Friends by calling together the remaining board members, after the resignation of the board's officers in June, to plan the future of the Friends of Hope Lodge.

Due to the resignations, a special mid-term election of officers was held. Acting as a committee of the whole, the remaining board members submitted a slate of candidates for the membership's consideration. Results of the election are as follows: President: Jack Gumbrecht; Vice-President: Bob Reese; Treasurer: MJ Fischer; Secretary: Sheya Astle; Director (Class of 2011): Jack Greenberg; Director (Class of 2009): Mary Washington; Director (Class of 2009): Ginger Agnew. Jack Washington will revert to the position of Past-President.

 Jack Washington

Thanks Sheya! Thanks Prudential!

Sheya Astle, Friends' board secretary, received a 2008 Prudential CARES Volunteer Grants Award of \$250 to benefit the Friends of Hope Lodge. Sheya, who is a customer service associate for Prudential Insurance, has volunteered with the Friends for several years. She joined the board of directors in 2007 and served as volunteer coordinator. Sheya was elected board secretary in 2008. The Prudential award will help us continue to present interesting and educational public programs at Hope Lodge.



Sheya Astle

FROM THE SITE ADMINISTRATOR



If I had to use one word to describe current events at the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, the Bureau of Historic Sites and Museums and Hope Lodge this year, it would be “change.” Change is occurring at the site as we work together to re-organize and revitalize the Friends of Hope Lodge. Change is happening at the BHSM as we implement the policies and visions of our

brand new Bureau Director, Stephen Miller. Of particular significance is the change that the PHMC is undergoing as we try to adapt to the realities of major cuts in funding from the Pennsylvania Legislature.

The reduction in available money for the PHMC is motivating our agency to evaluate everything we do and to establish criteria to ensure that essential programs are able to be funded. Every bureau and site in our agency is being affected by budget cuts. Our very limited resources must be used to support the activities that are determined to be the most important and sustainable. Therefore the BHSM, which actively administers 25 PHMC historic sites, including Hope Lodge, has been given the task of determining the highest and best use for our sites and programs along with the most cost effective means for their delivery, while still fulfilling our mission to preserve and interpret.

To effect this task, the BHSM has created an independent body out of its staff to provide input and advice to the Bureau’s

Division Chiefs and Director as we undergo our evaluation. Called the Sustainability Committee, it is composed of a site administrator from each of the three divisions in the Bureau, a site educator, a regional curator, a historic preservation specialist and the Bureau’s chief of collections. The method the Bureau is using includes these steps:


- Each site administrator prepares a sustainability assessment report for the site in their charge that may include input from the site’s staff and Friends group;
- The Bureau participates in discussions of sustainability issues with each site’s Division Chief and the Sustainability Committee members, the staff and Friends of each site and their Board members, community representatives and other stakeholders;
- The Bureau works with each site’s Division Chief and stakeholders to determine factors to support sustainability and makes recommendations for how the site may become sustainable;
- The Bureau begins initial implementation of recommendations.

The sustainability assessment for Hope Lodge was submitted at the end of June. We underwent a review by the Sustainability Committee on July 16, 2008, during which nine possible operational models for Hope Lodge were developed in the brainstorming session that was part of the review. Some of these scenarios involve alternative uses of Hope Lodge, the site and even ending PHMC ownership of the property. The Friends of Hope Lodge Board met with Bob Sieber, our Eastern Regional Division Chief, on August 25 to discuss these ideas and the progress of the study. More discussion will be needed before final decisions may be made about the future of Hope Lodge.

Since all areas of the Bureau have a stake in this process, it is important for everyone to participate. We are looking for broad input as we proceed — input from staff, Friends groups, community partners and other constituents. We plan to keep everyone informed of our progress as we continue with the review.

At the end of this process there will be change — positive and constructive change for Hope Lodge, the BHSM and the PHMC. However, this is a long-term project; final recommendations will be implemented over a period of years. Please take this opportunity to be involved as we re-position ourselves in a positive way for future sustainability and growth. For more information, please feel free to contact me at 215-646-1595 or by e-mail through the Hope Lodge web site at www.ushistory.org/hope.

 Joan D. Hauger



Ambler Flower Shop
Flowers & Gift Baskets Delivered Anywhere

The Ambler Flower Shop has kindly offered to donate a percentage of your purchase to Hope Lodge. Simply mention Hope Lodge (or if ordering online enter promotion code Hope) when ordering/making a purchase of your flowers. It's that easy! Please tell your friends, family, co-workers, etc. that they only need to mention Hope Lodge when ordering to help support this beautiful historic home.

Abe Lincoln's Favorite Almond White Cake

3 cups flour
2 teaspoons baking powder
1 cup blanched almonds, chopped fine
1 cup butter
2 cups sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 cup milk
6 egg whites
¼ teaspoon salt

Sift the flour and the baking powder 3 times in a large wooden bowl. Then stir in the blanched almonds. Set this dry mixture aside and proceed to cream the butter and the sugar in a separate bowl. Now add the vanilla to this creamy blend. Then stir in the flour mixture and milk alternately until it is all used up. Set aside while beating the egg whites with the salt until stiff. Fold these egg whites carefully into the batter. Pour the batter into 3 round, well-greased and floured cake pans. Bake in a moderate oven (350 degrees) for about 20 minutes or until a straw comes out clean.

To make Abe's favorite icing, it takes:

2 cups sugar
½ cup water, hot
2 egg whites
1/8 teaspoon cream of tartar
½ cup blanched almonds, chopped fine
1 teaspoon lemon juice

Blend the sugar and hot water in a saucepan and quickly bring this to a boil. Continue to boil until it strings, but do not stir. Beat the egg whites until stiff in a wooden mixing bowl. Slowly pour the sugar-water mixture into the stiffly beaten egg whites and blend well. Stir in the cream of tartar, blanched almonds, and lemon juice. Beat thoroughly. When thick and smooth, spread between layers and on the top of the cooled cake. This boiled icing hardens rather quickly.

Lincoln ate this cake often before he married Mary Todd. He declared it to be the best he ever had. Mrs. Thomas Lincoln, Abe's stepmother, said: "Abe was a moderate eater. He sat down and ate what was before him, making no complaint. He seemed careless about this."

 Mary Greenberg

Garden Report

In the spring of 2008 Hope Lodge's Garden Committee hired McGinty Brothers Landscaping to "spring clean" the formal garden, mulch, install some permanent edging, and remove more of the hostas which were replaced with boxwood to provide a neater and more formal appearance. Funding was provided by the Friends of Hope Lodge with money earned at various events, such as, the Encampment and the Car Show. Funding was also provided for a new rose bush, eight new boxwoods for the two "upper level" beds, and several other perennial plants.

After the spring clean-up our Garden Committee, including Jack Crompton, Betty Field, MJ Fischer, Nancy Gingrich, and Joe Walker was better able to weed, water, deadhead, and otherwise maintain the formal garden. The herb garden is separately and very well maintained by Bea Kline and her group.

Our gardens have received many positive comments and compliments from both visitors and members, and we aren't done yet. So if you are interested in getting "down and dirty" contact our Garden Committee. We can always use, and would very much appreciate, more help.

 Nancy Straub Gingrich

Hope Lodge Museum Shop

Hope Lodge Mouse Pad (7.5" x 9") - \$8.50;
Sgraffito Redware Hope Lodge Plate (7") - \$48.00;
Canvas Hope Lodge Tote (6"x 10"x 4") - \$9.50



*Friends of Hope Lodge and Mather Mill who present an active membership card will receive a 10% discount on all purchases.

Pictures From the Encampment Reenactment, 2008



VOLUNTEERING

Preserving the past is the way to educate for the future and there is no better way to do this than to actively participate in the preservation of a historical site and interpreting that site's rich historical past.

With the approach of summer brings visitors from all walks of life and from all parts of this Nation and around the world to Hope Lodge. Why do they come? What do these visitors want and what do they all have in common? The answers to these questions is a simple one, they all have a love of history and want to understand the culture of a bygone era. But how can you help in answering these questions?

If you have a few free hours each week or each month to spare, throughout the summer and into late autumn, and have a deep love and appreciation for history, then volunteering at Hope Lodge is the thing to do. The staff at Hope Lodge would love to have you

join them in preserving this historical site and keeping the stories of Hope Lodge alive for future generations.

Two volunteer areas that are consistently in need of additional support are Receptionist and Tour Guide. While performing these important assignments you will meet many interesting people, feel the satisfaction of enhancing the visitor's experience, and receive the gratitude of the hard working PHMC staff and the visitors you will meet.

Receptionist

Description: Welcome and greet visitors; answer telephone; take messages; provide assistance, information and direction to visitors and callers; handle admission ticket sales and museum shop sales.

Qualifications: Enjoy working with the public; friendly and outgoing; organized; enthusiastic; comfortable handling money.

Training: 1 ½ to 2 hours training on general history of the site, site special events, telephone system, admission ticket sales, and museum shop sales with site staff member.

Commitment: 4 hours / month

When Needed: Friday - Saturday 10:00-4:00; Sunday Noon-4:00

Tour Guide

Description: Conduct tours of historic Hope Lodge; interpreting the history of the mansion and grounds, from the 18th century through the 20th century (colonial revival period) to visitors of all ages

Qualifications: Ability to communicate comfortably with all age groups; willingness to learn all aspects of the historic site and mansion; enthusiastic; friendly and outgoing; an interest in colonial and early American and Pennsylvania history.

Training: Written materials regarding site and mansion history will be provided. Observe 3 tours with a seasoned tour guide prior to conducting first tour solo

Commitment: 4 hours / month

When Needed: Friday- Saturday 10:00 – 4:00, Sunday Noon – 4:00; pre-scheduled special house tours, as scheduled

Period Clothing: Optional

Other Volunteer Opportunities

Other Volunteer Opportunities offered at Hope Lodge are; Historic Housekeeping, Collections Care, Maintenance, Gardening, Clerical and Computer work, Community Outreach Programs, Historical Program Presentations and Demonstrations.

To find out more about the many rewarding volunteer opportunities that are offered at Hope Lodge, please give us a call at 215-646 1595, or visit our web site at www.ushistory.org/hope

If you have skills other than those described above but you feel can be useful to the success of Hope Lodge don't hesitate to make those skills known. Together we can continue to bring the story of Hope Lodge to all.

 Bruce Stocking

FRIENDS OF HOPE LODGE

553 SOUTH BETHLEHEM PIKE
FORT WASHINGTON, PA 19034

HOPE LODGE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Candlelight Tours of Hope Lodge

December 12, 13 & 14, 2008

(Admission charged)

Celebrate the holiday season by visiting Hope Lodge and take a special Candlelight Tour of this historical mansion. Tours will be conducted each evening between 4:00 P.M. and 8:00 P.M.

Colonial Cooking Classes

Join Doctor Clariss Dillion, for a series of hands-on workshops where she will guide participants through the techniques of open hearth cooking, using replica implements to prepare authentic dishes of the 18th century.

Classes will be held on:

March 7, 2009

April 18, 2009

May 16, 2009

Space is limited and reservations are required. To register please call 215-646-1595 (Registration charge)

Charter Day

March 8, 2008

(Free admission)

Hope Lodge celebrates Charter Day typically on the second Sunday in March. Tours of the Historic Hope Lodge Mansion are available and admission is free. For more information please contact us.

Sheep Shearing

April 24

(Admission charged)

Wool was a common fabric of the 18th and 19th century, used for everything from clothing to household items. Producing it was a very labor intensive process that all started with the fleece from sheep. Come to Hope Lodge and see how wool was sheared from the sheep and learn

how it was transformed into cloth along with a special display of clothing of the 18th and 19th century

Pennsylvania Humanities Council Lecture

May 20

(Free admission)

Each year, Hope Lodge presents lectures on a number of historically related topics from cultural history to historical architecture. For information on this year's topic and times please contact us.

Ambler Symphony

June 17 7 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.

(Admission charged) rain date June 24, 2009

Bring your lawn chair and a picnic dinner as Hope Lodge presents the Ambler Symphony for a delightful and relaxing evening of music. For information on this year's program please contact us.

Visit Our Website

Surf on over to our website! This newsletter is archived there (if you accidentally misplace it), take a virtual tour, watch the video, see our full up-to-date calendar, and so much more. It's online at: www.ushistory.org/Hope.



Need a Gift?

In a quandary? Need a gift for that important birthday or anniversary?

Visit our Gift Shop!

Or, how about a membership to the Friends of Hope Lodge? We always need more members and you'll be giving the gift of new friendships!

Call Hope Lodge at 215-646-1595 for more information!