

2022 Friends Annual Report

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The
Friends
of
Hopewell Furnace
National Historic Site

2022 Friends Annual Report

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President's Letter

November 13, 2022

Dear Friends

This is now the third year from the Covid 19 pandemic, and we have started to return to normal. Generally, most members are renewing, and we have had seven new members join us. Our monthly, Sunday Programs and Board meetings have done exceptionally well transitioning from using Zoom to in-person.

I am very proud of our success as an organization, which is a direct result of the various contributions made by our board members who generously give of their time to attend our monthly board meetings to discuss various items of interest and decide on the various motions.

Gene Delaplane and Elissa have been arranging exceptional Sunday programs. In August, Gene handed to Edie Shean Hammond the role of organizing the Sunday programs and Elissa will continue to assist. Edie Shean Hammond has been providing the news release for the monthly program and will continue to do so.

In February, Gene Delaplane made a motion to make Kevin Keifrider to be our 3rd Vice President replacing Paul Druzba who had resigned his position. The motion was approved.

The programs from Sept 2021 to April 2022 were being provided via Zoom. The May program was given at the White Horse Tavern. From June to September the Sunday programs have been given at the Hopewell Furnace Visitor Center theater. Due to the interest in Jim Moore's presentation on the Warwick Furnace cannon, there wasn't enough room for all who wanted to attend.

Peter Hammond has faithfully kept records of all of the Friends financial transactions. He also has been managing the various books being offered as well as getting the books published. Prior to publishing the books, he reviews the books for any errors.

Last year, Christine Emmert wanted a DVD to be created by her son Alex, capturing the essence of the play that she had performed for many years. Alex had a movie production company and completed making the movie in the summer of 2021. The Friends partially funded Christine Emmert's DVD using the funds that she had previously donated for stove purchases. Since the Friends had never previously undertaken the production of a movie, there were several meetings to iron out a suitable agreement with Alex. Joel Moore donated funds so that 200 copies of the DVDs with a cover would be available for sale. Edie Shean-Hammond worked with Christine to get the cover suitable for distribution. The Friends funded the cost to redo the cover.

The 4th of July Celebration at the Park was different this year. Jeff Jones made some changes that worked out very well by getting the youth involved by offering a writing contest. Jenn Shelgren spent quite a bit of her time organizing the event, working with the schools, and getting the students to participate. The Friends funded the awards. On the day of the 4th of July celebration at the park, these students read their well written submissions which allowed them the opportunity to express their opinions. Although one of the three girls was picked as the winner, all three sounded like winners to me. The reading of the Declaration of Independence was accomplished by selecting from the audience to read the cards previously given to them. This allowed many of the audience to actively engage in the celebration.

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Also, at the 4th of July Celebration at the park, the David Steele and Jim McClelland manned a canopy throughout the day displaying the available books and DVD. Also, on display was the British Spy map, which Jim McClelland had traced and colorized. There were quite a few who found this quite interesting. They also manned a canopy on the August 6 Establishment Day at the Park. This same map was also on display with much interest as well as the books and DVD.

In addition to 4th of July at Hopewell, about 6 miles from the park, the traditional reading of the Declaration with music provided by the Berks Opera Workshop took place at the 18th Century White Horse Tavern, a colonial mustering ground. Hosted by the Berks County Trust for Historic Preservation, Amity Township, SPA Chapter 21 and the Friends of Hopewell Furnace, the event featured colonial gun salute, fabric arts program and tours of the Mouns Jones Archeological project. Attended by some 200 people, the successful event will be staged again on July 2, 2023.

Since February, Nancy McClelland was no longer able to attend the Board meetings due to her work schedule, so in June, Louise Griffiths began filling in taking notes and preparing the minutes. Louise continues to serve in her role as handling membership responsibilities, reminding our members about the annual dues and sending out new membership cards as well as upcoming scheduled Sunday programs and activities.

In August, a descendant of the Painters used the Friends website and was interested in any information about the Painter family. After several email exchanges an extensive amount of information about the Painter's was provided. As a direct result of providing this information a very generation donation was received and we now have an extremely satisfied new member.

I want to thank everyone for the role that they have played in making the Friends a better organization and in turn making Hopewell Furnace a better place to visit.

James N. McClelland Jr,

President of Friends of Hopewell Furnace National Historic Site

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Mission Statement

The Friends of Hopewell Furnace National Historic Site (hereinafter referred to as "Friends") is an organization whose mission is to support the preservation, maintenance, and activities of Hopewell Furnace National Historic Site, (hereinafter referred to as the "Park"). The Friends shall be a voluntary, non-profit, incorporated association and shall have the following objectives:

1. To create public support for an expanding park program.
2. To encourage gifts, endowments, and memorials for the park.
3. To intensify community awareness and use of the park.
4. To provide direct financial assistance by purchasing special and unusual items which would be of benefit but cannot be purchased from the budget of the park.
5. To sponsor programs designed to aid the mission of the park.
6. To encourage people to become park volunteers.
7. To sponsor educational seminars.
8. To author and publish pamphlets and books about the park's history.
9. To organize social events at local establishments.
10. To bring together individuals and groups at local, regional, and national levels.
11. To promote awareness of the programs and activities through social media.
12. To assist and/or advocate the protection of natural and cultural resources.
13. To comply with the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and to the laws of the United States of America pertaining to the Internal Revenue Service code 501(c)(3).

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Board Members

Officers

| | | Start of Service |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1. President | Jim McClelland | January 2016 |
| 2. President Emeritus | Gene Delaplane | January 2016 |
| 3. Vice President | Becky Hughes | January 2016 |
| 4. 2nd Vice President | Jenn Shelgren | January 2021 |
| 5. 3 rd Vice President | Kevin Keifrider | February 2022 |
| 6. Treasurer | Peter Hammond | June 2015 |
| 7. Secretary | Nancy McClelland | January 2015 |

Directors:

| | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 8. Public Relations | Edie Shean-Hammond | January 2015 |
| 9. Programs | Elissa Lewis | January 2015 |
| 10. Membership | Louise Griffiths | January 2014 |
| 11. Outdoor Activities | Davida Waters | January 2013 |
| 12. Hospitality | Clare Hammond | January 2016 |
| 13. History (Nominations) | Joel Moore | June 2016 |
| 14. Facility Management | Butch Pfitzenmyer | November 2016 |
| 15. Environmental Specialist | David Steele | September 2019 |
| 16. Bylaws | Stan Weinstein | June 2021 |

NPS Liaison

| | | |
|-----------------|------------|------|
| 1. Park Manager | Jeff Jones | 2021 |
|-----------------|------------|------|

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Friends Activities

2021 October 17 David Blackburn former site manager of Hopewell Furnace NHS now serving as the site administer of the Landis Valley Village and Farm Museum presented its legacy and history via Zoom from Landis Valley.

2021 November 14 Randy Gartner Vice President of the Friends of Robesonia Furnace presented the history of this furnace via Zoom from his home.

2021 December 12 Patton Mulford an Archaeologist with the Virgin Islands State Historic Preservation Office presented the earliest known history of the US Virgin Islands via Zoom on location in the Virgin Islands.

2022 January 9 Joel Moore author, educator, and photographer presented his extensive private collection of model trains he assembled and painted via Zoom from his home.

2022 February 13 since the announced program had to be rescheduled, Christine Emmert's movie "Out of the Fiery Furnace" was shown via Zoom.

2022 March 13 Reverend Sherman Stolfus archeologist and historian presented the history of the Barree Forge and Furnace once part of the mighty Juniata Iron Industry via Zoom.

2022 April 10 Autumn Shaner Jackson Curatorial Assistant at the Boyertown Museum of Historic Vehicles presented the history of Pennsylvania's wagon and carriage industry via Zoom.

2022 May 15 Dr. Kimberly Moran archeologist presented in person the latest findings of the First Baptist Church of Philadelphia's burial ground at the White Horse Tavern in Morlatton Village Douglassville. Afterwards a tour was given of the Mouns Jones House archeologist activities being completed by the Society of Pennsylvania Archaeology Chapter 21.

2022 June 12 Dan Graham author and historian presented the life and legacy of Thomas Rutter, Pennsylvania's first ironmaster live at the Hopewell Furnace Visitor Center theater.

2022 July 4 Jenn Shelgren 2nd Vice President of the Friends along with Jeff Jones the Park Manger organized the celebration held at Hopewell Furnace NHS which included many activities including: presentation of the colors by the Girl Scouts of the Daniel Boone Service Unit 763 and Boy Scouts of Pack and Troop 595; musical performances by Molly Herman and Amelia Shelgren; the reading of the winning essay submissions from Celia Kerr and Abigail Smith of Owen J. Roberts High School and Danica Leister of Daniel Boone Area High School; musical performances by Molly Herman and Amelia Shelgren, and lastly a reading of the Declaration of Independence by members of the audience that had been invited to do so.

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Jim McClelland President of the Friends and David Steele a Board Member of the Friends also supported the celebration by manning a display of books, DVDs and a British Spy Map that Jim McClelland had made by tracing and coloring it.

The Friends sponsored a 4th of July Celebration at the White Horse Tavern organized by Edith Shean-Hammond, Gene Delaplane and Peter Hammond. Christine Emmert gave a reading of the Declaration of Independence.

2022 July 10 Jim Moore a French and Pickering Creek Conservation Trust Board member presented about finding of four American Revolution War Cannon at the Thomas P. Bently Nature Preserve (formerly Warwick Furnace) live at the Hopewell Furnace Visitor Center theater. Afterwards those interested drove to the site to see the cannon on display.

2022 Aug 14 Tony Shahan Newlin Grist Mill Director and Keith Doms site manager presented “Early Colonial Mills and Archeology” focusing on the Newlin Grist Mill live at the Hopewell Furnace Visitor Center theater.

2022 September 18 Becky Hughes 1st Vice President of the Friends and Historian presented “The Union Canal and the Schuylkill Navigation System” live at the Hopewell Furnace Visitor Center theater.

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Financial Summary and Member Count with dues collected

The monthly reports are included separately. The following gives a summary of the finances and the membership count as well as the dues collected.

| Period Dates | | | | | | |
|--------------|------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| Start | End | # of members paying dues / period | Dues Collected / period | Total Income / period | Total Expenses/ period | Total Funds |
| 9/20/2021 | 10/17/2021 | 0 | \$0.00 | \$135.81 | \$144.43 | \$12,510.44 |
| 10/18/2021 | 11/14/2021 | 2 | \$146.62 | \$244.56 | \$135.00 | \$12,618.00 |
| 11/15/2021 | 1/9/2022 | 7 | \$222.28 | \$1042.23 | \$2522.56 | \$11,135.79 |
| 1/10/2022 | 2/13/2022 | 2 | \$38.81 | \$79.73 | \$78.71 | \$11,184.71 |
| 2/14/2022 | 3/13/2022 | 7 | \$147.76 | \$327.51 | \$0 | \$11,398.49 |
| 3/14/2022 | 4/10/2022 | 4 | \$223.06 | \$787.88 | \$517.59 | \$11,668.78 |
| 4/11/2022 | 5/15/2022 | 4 | \$98.64 | \$693.02 | \$335.08 | \$12,523.55 |
| 5/16/2022 | 6/12/2022 | 0 | \$0 | \$164.96 | \$273.00 | \$11,925.51 |
| 6/13/2022 | 7/10/2022 | 8 | \$400 | \$804.82 | -811.80 | \$12,023.53 |
| 7/11/2022 | 8/14/2022 | 15 | \$493.26 | \$1402.03 | \$0 | \$13,719.11 |
| 8/15/2022 | 9/18/2022 | 11 | \$456.49 | \$966.67 | \$1675.00 | \$13,010.78 |
| | | | | | | |
| 2022 Totals | | 60 | \$2,226.92 | \$6,649.22 | \$4,869.57 | \$13,010.78 |

Financial Audit

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1. A monthly review of the financial reports is performed by the board and the outcome documented in the board minutes.
2. An annual review of the financial reports is performed by the board and the outcome documented in the board minutes.
3. Cash donations collected at various activities are not possible to trace to a donor and are deposited identifying the activity that collected the donation.

I certify that during my tenure as treasurer of the Friends of Hopewell Furnace NHS, the checking and savings accounts have been reconciled monthly and that any discrepancies or differences have been minor and were immediately corrected. The banking account statements are available for review.

Peter B. Hammond, Treasurer