2017 Annual Report

Annual Report

December 10, 2017

The

Friends

of

Hopewell Furnace

National Historic Site
2017 Annual Report

Table of Contents

- President’s Report
- Mission Statement
- Board Members – Elected Officers and Appointed Chairmen
- Accomplishments
- Membership
- Financial Summaries and Account Balances
- Audit of finances
Dear Friends:

Over the last several years one of the ways that Friends of Hopewell Furnace has excelled is in providing quality monthly Sunday afternoon programs. This last year has not been an exception. Our very existence and continuance as an organization depends of the success of these programs. The contributions that Gene Delaplane (President Emeritus) and Elissa Lewis (Programs Director) have selflessly made and continue to make these programs going forward is vital to the well-being of our organization. These programs are consistently well attended and appreciated by all. In addition, Gene has done a marvelous job in hosting these events.

Each of the Board members, as they fulfill their role, are to be congratulated on their valued contributions. The attendance to our monthly board meetings deserves recognition to all those who participate. A special recognition goes out to the following board members. Edie Shean-Hammond, (Public Relations Director), each month handles the News release for the upcoming Sunday Program, represents the Friends in the various local Non-Profit Organizations, and successfully handled a project to facilitate providing historical signage at the Hopewell School remains. Edie, Peter and Clare Hammond (Hospitality Director) each month prepare the Conference Room for the Sunday meetings and provide a wonderful array of refreshments for all in attendance Peter Hammond (Financial Officer) handles the distribution, collection, and reconciliation of our bank accounts and provides a monthly report. Nancy McClelland (Secretary Officer) records and prepares the monthly minutes. Louise Griffiths (Membership Director) each month distributes to the new or renewing members their identification cards and other program related information. Kevin Mitchell, (By Laws Director), has lead the effort to improve the language in our By Laws that were approved last year. I also want to recognize Becky Hughes, (Vice President) for her continued support and contributions; Charles Jacob, (2nd Vice President) for his wealth of knowledge and much appreciated words of wisdom; Joel Moore,(History Director) for his many photos plus special thanks for Joel’s photo of our beloved horse, Clouseau; Davida Waters, (Nominations Chairman) for leading our nominations committee; Butch Pfitzenmyer, (Facilities Director) for maintaining the Conference Center; and Jim Thorne, (Natural Resources Director) for his dedication to preserving Hopewell’s natural resources. Lastly, as for myself (President), I continue to maintain the Friends Facebook page, the Friends web site making monthly announcements. The Ledger project continues slowly making progress to complete the enormous task of extracting all of the names, dates and transactions from the 18,000 plus digitized Ledger pages for the creation of a searchable index.

Financially, the organization is in good standing, with a steady input of membership dues being the most important resource. Because of adjusting our fiscal year to correspond to the government which was approved in our By Laws, this report will be adjusted accordingly. Previously our fiscal year went from November 1 to October 31. As of this year the fiscal year is
October 1 to September 30. Since we act as a fiduciary agent for several different funds, our carrying balance varies significantly as we collect and distribute these funds.

It has been my honor and a pleasure to serve as President of this organization and it is my hope that we may continue to achieve our various, worthwhile goals for the upcoming fiscal year.

James McClelland, President
Friends of Hopewell Furnace National Historical Site
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).
2017 Annual Report

Officers

1. President                Jim McClelland                January 2016
2. Vice President           Becky Hughes                  January 2016
3. 2nd Vice President       Charles Jacob                January 2016
4. Treasurer                Peter Hammond                 June 2015
5. Secretary                Nancy McClelland             January 2015
   (Programs Chairman)

Start of Service

Directors:

7. Public Relations         Edie Shean-Hammond           January 2015
8. Programs                 Elissa Lewis                  January 2015
9. Membership               Louise Griffiths              January 2014
10. Outdoor Activities      Davida Waters                January 2013
    (Nomination Chairman)
12. Natural Resources       Jim Thorne                   November 2014
15. Facilities              Butch Pfitzenmyer           November 2016

NPS Liaison

1. Park Manager             David Blackburn              November 2015
Oct 9, 2016  Robert Coffey and Thomas Ames gave an educational presentation of the history of the American Long Rifle, as well as how these guns were made. They brought with them several guns dating from the pre-American Revolution time period up to the Civil War.

Nov 13, 2016  Park Ranger Norman Feil gave a hands-on guided tour of the farm operations at Hopewell Furnace, including a background of the reconstruction of the barn, restoring it as it would have been in order to support the farm animals. Ranger Norman also gave a discussion about the animals currently being kept at Hopewell, as well as a guided tour of some of the farm equipment on display in the barn.

Dec 11, 2016  Bob Wood gave a fascinating talk on the Five-plate stoves: their manufacture, installation, and use in Germanic Pennsylvania 1720-1770. Cast at local iron furnaces by the ton, five-plate or “Dutch” stoves were to be found in most German houses during the 18th century. These stoves provided abundant warmth with a minimum of wood. Wholly abandoned during the 19th century, any surviving stove plates are today eagerly sought by collectors and historians.

Jan 8, 2017  Carol De Wolf, Director, Schuylkill Highlands Conservation Landscape shared the stories of the Partnership and some recently completed work.

Feb 12, 2017  Dr. Randolph Klein, a prior college level History Professor, gave an enlightening and often humorous talk on the various aspects of Abraham Lincoln’s Presidency. Due to water problems in the Conference Center, the Sunday Afternoon Program was held at the Visitors Center. The Program was very well attended. Unfortunately, due to limited space, we not able to accommodate all who wanted to attend. Please note, an apology, explaining the situation was made on the Friends of Hopewell Furnace Facebook page and apology emails were sent out.

Mar 12, 2017  Spencer Claypoole, a North Coventry Township Supervisor and Historical Commission Chairman gave a talk, discussing the 18th Century homes in North Coventry and highlighting some of the homes of Colliers who may have also worked at the Hopewell Furnace.
2017 Annual Report

Apr 9, 2017  Jim McClelland, current President of the Friends of Hopewell Furnace NHS, presented the background for the Hopewell Furnace Ledger project and how to use the Friends Website database and the NP Gallery Website, which holds all of the digitized pages of the Ledgers.

May 7, 2017  Susannah Brody, author and historian, gave an enjoyable presentation about the interesting history of Dowlin Forge and associated stories about the families that owned it.

June 11, 2017  Becky Hughes, accomplished quilter, gave an informative presentation about 19th and 20th century quilts and quilting techniques to an enthusiastic audience gathered on the lawn in front of the Iron Master’s House

July 9, 2017  David Blackburn, Park Manager of Hopewell Furnace, gave an informative, picturesque and inspiring presentation on our treasured National Parks.

Aug 13, 2017  George Leader and Kimberlee Moran, gave an fascinating presentation about the Arch Street Project, the archeological excavation of the 18th century cemetery on what use to be owned by the First Baptist Church of Philadelphia.

Sep 17, 2017  Playwright/director Christine Emmert is a writer, actress, director and educator and holds a Masters in Humanities. She told her story “Fragile Freedom” which commemorates the 9/11 Flight 93 crew and passengers who lost their lives due to terrorism.


Nov 10, 2017  Kevin Mitchell gave a fascinating presentation about Pine Forge and the significant contributions of Africans and African Americans to the development of the Iron Industry in Africa and in Colonial America.
Member Count

The average active member count for 2017 was about 71 members which was about the same from last year.

Dues collected for FY 2016 was $1994  
Dues collected for FY 2017 was $1785

Financial Position

Detailed monthly records are kept on record for review. The account balance as of November 1, 2015 was $9774.51 and as of October 31, 2016 was $10,438.37

2017 Annual Account Balances

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bank Accounts</th>
<th>Balances</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Book and Publications</td>
<td>582.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Care Barn</td>
<td>40.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colliers Fund</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dark-Sky Fund</td>
<td>25.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garden Fund</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Habitat Conservation</td>
<td>288.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horse</td>
<td>185.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stove Play Fund</td>
<td>1580.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation Grant</td>
<td>2683.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quilters Fund</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Fund</td>
<td>5198.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayside Sign School House Ruins</td>
<td>2250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL Bank Accounts</strong></td>
<td><strong>13434.35</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL Savings Accounts</strong></td>
<td><strong>1568.02</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL Funds</strong></td>
<td><strong>15002.37</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2017 Annual Financial Audit

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.

4. The statement provided below about the monthly reconciliation account and the bank statements.

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 Hammond, Treasurer