



Changes Are Coming Hay Creek Festival 2016



The Route 10 entrance to the Joanna Furnace site showing how visitors to the Hay Creek Festival leave the present and enter the 19th century at Joanna Furnace.

The year 2016 is shaping up to be a significant year for Hay Creek and Joanna Furnace. Along with many of the site improvements, one of the changes with the most impact will be the newly re-imagined 40th edition of the **Hay Creek Festival**. This year's event will take place September 9th–11th.

Over the years our festival has changed in many ways. We have seen lower attendance due to competition from several other community events. Vendor participation has dropped due to the cost to create crafts and we have seen some of these craft items go out with the latest fads. Moreover the cost of putting on a big event like ours has gone up tremendously. Therefore, the time has come to re-energize our long-time community event with the vision of bringing a new of generation of visitors to our site.

The Hay Creek Festival has always created an impact from the time visitors arrive at our site. As guests get dropped off by bus at the Route 10 entrance, they leave the busy 21st century behind as they walk down the wooded, flower-edged pathway to the footbridge. This in itself creates an exciting experience of 'time travel'!

This year, the very first impression that our visitors will experience as they enter the site and cross over the pristine Hay Creek is the new "Creekside Crafts" area which will be located just beyond the admissions building. Here our guests will be greeted by a number of craftspeople who will be selling their modern craft and home décor items. Next to these Creekside Crafts will be all the Mechanical Technology items that we have come to love over the last 40 years including antique cars, tractors, engines, water ram display, saw mill, See Changes on Page 3

New Festival Interpretations

Exciting changes are coming to the Hay Creek Festival in September. Thanks to members for stepping forward after reading our request in the March newsletter for early American crafts /trades in September we are happy to introduce some new festival activities! First, in our early American cooking area which features the open hearth and fire cooking demonstrations by Maryanna & Katelyn VerMulm, we are excited to announce that Gary Kurtz will now fire up the bake ovens and interpret bread making and the use of these brick stoves. This adds to the bee keeper, sauerkraut, and butter demonstrations already taking place. We hope to acquire a butcher for 2016 as well as volunteers to oversee an early American food preserving impression. Can you help with this?

Additionally, visitors to our festival will now see a laundress impression taking place on the hillside. Marie Williamson and Kathy Gochenaur have expressed interest in this exhibit. Next to this booth we have Shelby Buckwalter from Lititz who will be making and selling lye soap. (This is in addition to Janice Kelsey who demonstrates making soap from goat milk.)

Last year Denys Allen and family took over paper making at our festival. This year her daughter Cassie is researching early American post offices and will "open" the Joanna post office at the festival and encourage children to write letters to our festival characters. This mail will be a part of our NEW daily "Meet the Village Craftsmen" parade that will take place on the festival stage. Look for the post office interpretation to be set up with the paper making, quilling, and scherenschitte (paper cutting) demonstrations. We are still in need of ink making and book binding. Can you

See Festival Interpretations on Page 5

May General Membership Meeting

The May Hay Creek Valley membership meeting will take place at Joanna Furnace on Sunday, May 15, 2016 at 7 pm. The meeting will be held in the Joanna Furnace Mule Stable.

We will be honored to have Yvonne Styer as our speaker who will talk about our neighboring Churchtown Historical Society. Yvonne is a Hay Creek member as well as the President of the historical society in Churchtown.

In addition to the program there will be an update on the current activities and projects at Joanna Furnace. This includes information on the 40th Anniversary Hay Creek Festival. Please bring a favorite dessert to share. Remember members and guests are always welcome to attend our membership programs.

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Ron Schlegel (15-17)

Jack Woods (16-18)

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The Newsletter is an official publication of the Hay Creek Valley Historical Association and is published four times each year—March, May, July, & September. The purpose of the Hay Creek Valley Historical Association is to promote, within our community, an appreciation for our local heritage. This will be accomplished by maintaining and instructing in those crafts, skills and artifacts that represent our local heritage.



Pictured left - Nancy Eggleston talks to participants in the Office/Store Building at Hay Creek's recent interpreter training class. The three night workshop focused on the general history of the site, period garb, Office/Store Building, and Charcoal Barn. Each of the 15 class members were presented with their own interpreter guide to assist with the presentation of the site to the public. We thank these volunteers for taking the time to help further our mission and keep the Joanna Furnace history alive. The history and education committees will continue this training series in the spring of 2017.

May / June Calendar of Key Events & Activities

(Ongoing event . . . Volunteer Day EVERY Thursday 9 am to 3 pm)

| May

- 4 Society of PA Archaeology Meeting 7 pm
- 7 Women of Joanna Victorian Tea Reservations Required SOLD OUT
- 11 History Committee Meeting-7 pm
- 12 Discover, Learn, Grow Meeting-7 pm
- 14 Private Rental
- 15 General Membership Meeting 7 pm Program by Churchtown Historical Society. Please bring a dessert to share.
- 17 Discover, Learn, Grow Program-Site Closed
- 21 Joanna Furnace Iron Works Day & Spring Plant Sale -7 am to 12 noon
- 21 Breakfast Buffet -7 to 11 am
- 25 Board Meeting 6:30 pm
- 31 Hay Creek Festival Vendor / Interpreter Registration Deadline

June

- ${\bf 1} \qquad \text{Society of PA Archaeology Meeting} 7 \text{ pm}$
- 8 History Committee Meeting-7 pm
- 18 Hay Creek Classic—Car & Motorcycle Show & Veterans Event —7 am to 2 pm Flea Market Opens — 7 am Breakfast Buffet — 7 to 11 am
- 20 Doll Camp 9 am to 12 noon Reservations Required
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- 22 Doll Camp 9 am to 12 noon Reservations Required
- 22 Board Meeting 6:30 pm

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threshing demonstrations, etc. For the first time entire families can walk side by side and enjoy two main attractions filled with art, roasted peanuts, and hit 'n miss engine sounds.

As visitors proceed through the Mechanical Technology and Creekside Crafts area, they will step farther back in time and immediately experience the newly laid out historic area. The Joanna Furnace buildings will now embrace our period craftsmen working together as a new team. Yes, these early American craftsmen will intertwine with new and existing interpreters to tell the story of the Hay Creek Valley and the 200-year old iron complex.

Despite the many changes that you will see this year, the Hay Creek Festival will still keep in tune with the organization's mission of preserving the history of the Hay Creek Valley and the 18th and 19th century Joanna Furnace iron making community. Our festival has been and still is like no other event . Some could even say "it's a weekend 200 years long"!

Last year three new interpretive signs were created and placed within the historic complex. This year several new signs will be added to increase the visitors' understanding of the complex and to pique their interest in the Joanna Furnace story. This signage in conjunction with more trained interpreters and tour guides will enhance the message given to our visitors.

Each year many visitors ask us about the Ironmaster's home. They ask, "where is the Ironmaster's Mansion?" "Where was the Mansion situated on the property?" Because of this we have decided to add a Mansion impression at the festival. A big tent will be placed where the house once stood with partitioned rooms, and displays reminiscent of the time period will be depicted. Look for period craftsmen and garbed interpreters to be interacting with the public in this area.

After exploring the 40th anniversary festival areas our guests will be ready to take in some of our delicious festival foods. The 2016 food menu will still offer the same popular items including hot turkey sandwiches, chicken pot pie, Mabel's soups, fresh baked goods, and root beer floats. These foods have always been too good to make any changes to! As you know our festival foods are made by hard working Hay Creek volunteers and various community groups such as churches, fire companies, Lions clubs and scout groups. In addition the Ironmaster's pancake breakfast will be served Saturday and Sunday morning.

Musical entertainment will again be featured on stage and throughout the festival grounds. A new "Meet the Village Craftsmen" parade will take place each day at the stage. This new festival highlight will help to promote our festival interpreters who represent the crafts and trades of yesteryear. Look for period dancing to be a part of entertainment and Civil War firing demonstrations to take place at the stage.

The festival committee is working on adding evening entertain-



One of the new informational and interpretative signs which are installed at the Joanna Furnace complex to assist visitors in understanding the historic significance of the site. Additional signage will be added in 2016.

ment starting at 6 pm on Saturday. Stay tuned as performers and performance times will be announced.

Friday will again be student day when school students from Berks and surrounding counties will be invited to visit and learn Joanna Furnace history and participate in hands-on learning activities.

The festival activities will run from 10 am to 5 pm daily. Buses will run continuously to and from the festival parking area two miles south of Joanna Furnace on Route 10 from 8 am to 6 pm on Saturday and Sunday. NOTE: All festival parking on Friday will be on the Joanna Furnace site. No shuttle busses will run on this day.

Editors note: A special thanks goes out to Ron Schlegel for writing this article. Ron has been very instrumental over the last 40 years in promoting and marketing the organization's main fundraiser. His dedication to the organization and to the event itself has greatly added to the success of our annual festival.



Open fire and hearth cooking was one of the original Hay Creek Festival demonstrations. Look for our young team to cook up old time festival favorites like "chomp" and other items which include stews, pies, and apple fritters.

Restoration Report

The restoration continues on the Office/Store building. Exterior painting is never ending. Our historic buildings require painting every five years. All of the historic buildings have been addressed to see what their needs are, starting with the roofs all the way to the ground. We are reaching the point where we are farming out some of the work because the restoration team cannot keep up with it. Our historic buildings should be number one on the priority list. We need more volunteers to take an interest in helping maintain our buildings whether it be stonework, woodwork, painting or general maintenance.

Recently we decided that a temporary wooden floor should be installed in the cellar of the Office/Store building. Over the years the plaster walls have deteriorated due to dampness. The plaster was falling off and it would be useless to install a floor that would be covered by falling plaster. The moisture problem was corrected. Now we have started chipping off the remaining plaster. Thanks to Jeremiah Wright, a stone mason and also a member of the Hay Creek Board of Directors who has volunteered his skills to instruct members of the restoration team how to re-plaster the interior cellar walls. The cellar will become an additional area for displaying larger items that would be found in a country store from the 19th century. There will be a closed off area that would be used for housing a small heater and dehumidifier. Also a storage area will be included to store excess items that have been donated for displaying in the store.

How many of you have visited the Sparr house across Route 10? This was a tenant house when the furnace was in operation. Route 10 was moved to its present location back in the 1950's. The house was named Sparr because Jackie Sparr who was a Teamster for L. Heber Smith lived there. He is an ancestor of many generations of the Sparr family who have volunteered at Hay Creek since its beginning. The last family to live in the house was Nelson and Ellen Burkhart. The long-range plan for the house is to move it to the furnace grounds.

> History, Archaeology, Restoration Charles Jacob — 610-469-9530

Archaeology Catherine Spohn — 610-678-1274 Casting House Interpretation Jack Woods — 717-687-7571 History Committee Mark Zerr — 610-286-0388 Restoration Committee Joe Stabler 610-286-6508 Hay Creek Road Show & Tours Joe Stabler 610-286-6508

Casting House Interpretation

Improvements are being made to the Casting House to make your visit more pleasant. Lighting has been added, and we have increased the area of the viewing platform.

While we are unable to pour molten iron as was done for over 100 years, we do pour molten aluminum in sand molds to demonstrate the process. Watch our casting crew ram up sand molds using time-honored methods, with patterns some are new this year - and see the molten metal hand poured from a ladle into the completed molds. After cooling, watch the molds broken open, and the casting removed. Once cool, the casting is finished and presented for sale as a souvenir.



The Joanna Furnace Office/Store Building with the recently completed porch. Restoration volunteers are now working to restore the basement area and create displays in this level.

2016 Archaeology Field Season

It's time to put the snow shovels away and get out the trowels and sifters for another season of archaeology at Joanna Furnace! Come and join President Charles Jacob, members of Chapter 21 of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, and myself as we uncover the history of the Furnace through archaeological investigation.

We have some units and drawings to finish up in the Wheelwright Shop, and we may start to work in other areas of the complex around the furnace stack. We will be working on Sunday mornings starting at about 8 AM, beginning on the first of May, unless it is raining. We have all the equipment you will need, but you should bring work gloves and water or something else to drink.

If you are interested in joining us, please contact Cathy Spohn at (610) 678-1274, or at cspohn@pa.gov.

Festival Interpretations, continued from page 1

help with either of these items or another paper-related period craft?

Children's activities have always been a big part of the Hay Creek Festival. This year we will have even more fun for the kids and the young at heart. Jen Weiler will take charge and oversee the early American games area of the festival. The purpose of this attraction is to teach the children about the origins of the old fashion activities and allow for hands-on fun! The games will include hoops, sack races, jacks, marbles, cup & ball, and more. Look for these early American games to appear on the hill between the Office/Store and Charcoal Barn. The children's archaeological adventure "mud-pie" activity will take place under a tent near the buttresses at the Charcoal Barn. Volunteers are needed to take charge of this popular kids activity.

A new Mansion impression is in the planning as well. Our plan is to construct a mock parlor, kitchen, dining room, and library under a tent in the Mansion area. One of the partitioned areas will have interpreters talking about the ironmaster, his family and the home they lived in. The other areas will have festival early American crafters demonstrating their trades.

As you see we are making great headway in creating new exhibits. We would be thrilled to have you help with any of the festival impressions that were mentioned above OR we could use your assistance with starting any of the following crafts / trades:

- Barber / Wigmaker
- Beer / Wine making
- Cabinet maker
- Clockmaker
- Hornsmith
- Quilting
- Schoolmaster
- Tanning and leather products
- Tailor
- Tavern Sign Painting
- Tobacconist

Please contact the Association at 610-286-0388 or info@haycreek.org if you have the talent for any of these trades or know someone who may be able to help out with one of these Hay Creek Festival impressions.

Hay Creek Festival Mark Zerr 610-286-0388 or mzerr@haycreek.org

SafeSite Coordinator Ron Schlegel 717-333-6086 or education@haycreek.org

Working to Keep Our Children Safe!

I want to thank the large number of our Hay Creek educators, interpreters, craftspeople and leadership for your willingness to step up and engage in the process of background clearances and training to support our SafeSite initiative in keeping our children and our visiting children safe from sexual abuse.

Over the past several weeks over 40 of our volunteers have been busy completing applications and taking training in order for us to be compliant with the Pennsylvania Child Protective's Services Law of 2015. The reason for this 'extra-curricular' activity is that the state of Pennsylvania now requires ALL VOLUNTEERS WHO WORK WITH CHILDREN to have criminal background and child abuse clearances plus specific training in how to report any potential occurrence of child sexual abuse they may encounter while fulfilling duties as a Hay Creek volunteer who works with children.

Still, although we have had a strong response to the initial call for volunteers to become certified and trained, we have a distance to go. Only about half of our educators, interpreters, and leadership have stepped up and have become compliant to the state law thus far. Perhaps what some of our volunteers do not comprehend is that the state law requires this certification. Conversely, after July 1, 2016, anyone who wishes to work with children will be able to do so ONLY if they are certified and trained. This affects not only the Hay Creek but churches, Sunday schools, boy & girl scouts, schools, camps, sports and athletic programs, Enrichment programs, clubs or similar organizations as well. The state is serious in quelling child sexual abuse.

Most likely a number of you already have clearances and training through other organizations you are involved with. If that is the case, please see that copies of your clearances and training certificates are turned in to the office to become part of our staff records.



The Hay Creek Valley Historical Association is complying with the new PA State regulations to keep children safe on our site. Volunteers who work with youth must have police background checks, child abuse clearances and SafeSite training.

However, if you need clearances and training please contact Ron Schlegel who is overseeing this initiative.

There will be additional training and form completion sessions coming up scheduled for both evenings and days. The next training session will be Thursday, May 26 at 12:30 pm. Please register by contacting Ron Schlegel so that there will be enough packets prepared.

Hay Creek Classic Car & Motorcycle Show



Vehicles of all types including antique cars will be a part of the 2016 Hay Creek Classic Car & Motorcycle Show.

We are honored to announce our Hay Creek Classic Car & Motorcycle event will take place on June 18th 2016. Once again the event will honor all Veterans from past American wars. The event will run from 7 am to 2 pm.

This year we will be having the vehicle show as previous years with some slight changes. Vehicle registration is affordable at \$10 per entry and it is uncertain yet but we may have a local celebrity participating in the flag retirement ceremony. Last year we had some really awesome trophies hand made by The Over-The-Hill Gang" and Josh Goldman. We anticipate offering these one-of-a-kind trophies again this year. This event is open to the public and it is for all vehicles new and old. We will be having classes for everyone ranging from cars, trucks, motor cycles and rat rods.

At this event the organization honors the Veterans who have given so much to our country. We will have military reenactors, local veterans with displays, and a parade in which we will recognize our service men and women. Veterans wishing to participate at the event with a display and to talk about their service should contact Linda Ott at 610-856-7668.

In addition the popular breakfast buffet will be served from 7 to 11 am. Picnic foods such as hot dogs, hamburgers, ice cream and drinks will be available for sale throughout the day. A flea market and tours of the historic site will also take place at the Hay Creek Classic Car & Motorcycle event. For more information about the flea market or to reserve a space please contact Kathleen Rhode at 610-914-8152.

Please come out and join us for this fun-filled event. Admission is free to this event!

Hay Creek Classic Car & Bike Show
Jen Sparr 610-732-0064

Hay Creek Classic — Veterans Activiti

Hay Creek Classic — Veterans Activities Linda Ott 610-856-7668

Monthly Flea Market — Kathleen Rhode 610-914-8152

Joanna Furnace Iron Works Day

At the Saturday, May 21st monthly event the Association will be promoting the ironmaking business at Joanna Furnace. The Joanna Furnace Iron Works Day will offer tours of the historic site with interpreters in each of the buildings talking about the importance of our iron heritage site. In addition, metal casting demonstrations will take place in the Casting House and our resident blacksmith will fire up the forge and be hammering out iron products in the Blacksmith Shop. Bread making demonstrations will also take place at the bake ovens on the hillside. We invite you to come out and learn about the significance of our site and hear about what was happening at Joanna Furnace 150 years ago. The event will run from 7 am to 12 noon.

The May event is also known for its annual plant sale. Herbs, flowers and perennials will be available for a donation at the Joanna Furnace garden. We are once again asking you for plant donations. As you are cleaning up your gardens this spring and have extra plants that you want to remove please pot them and bring them to our sale. We ask that you label all donations and drop them off at Hay Creek between Wednesday May 18th and Friday, May 20th. We ask that you take care of your plants at home until this time as we cannot store or provide the proper water the plans need.

Our monthly flea market, which is free to members, takes place that day as well. Non-members pay \$10 per space. Clean out your basement, attic and/or garage and sell some of your extra things at our flea market!

Remember to start your morning off by eating at our breakfast buffet. The breakfast is served from 7 to 11 am.

If you are interested in volunteering at the event please contact the Association. Helpers are needed to sell plants, help with tours, serve breakfast and park cars.



Hay Creek interpreter Rich Nearhood will be making metal castings at the May 21st Joanna Furnace Iron Works Day.

Women of Joanna



Reservations can be made for the annual Victorian Tea at Joanna Furnace by contacting Nancy Eggleston at 610-404-7278. The tea hosted by the Women of Joanna will take place Saturday, May 7th.

The 10th annual Victorian Tea hosted by the Women of Joanna, members of the Hay Creek Valley Historical Association at Joanna Furnace, is scheduled for Saturday May 7th and is NOW accepting reservations for its fanciful low tea event. Due to its popularity through the years, guests are urged to book their reservations early as seating is limited at your choice of an 11:00 am, and 2:30 p.m. seating. Set in our finest china, silver and linen, guests will sample our secret recipes for finger sandwiches, scones, tea cakes, desserts and fruit while being served teas and punch... foods fit for the Ironmaster's most important guests. "The Language and Sentiment of Flowers" will be a delightful program for all to enjoy as spring flowers will be blooming. Invite your mother, daughters, friends or groups but you must reserve a spot. Come to enjoy an afternoon of low tea that will prove to be a fanciful event!

The Women of Joanna also invite you to our parent/child "Make your Own Early American Folk Dolls" program, a three-day summer program June 20- 23 from 9 am to noon in the mule stable at Joanna Furnace. The workshops are especially designed for children in grades 1- 6 to participate with a parent/adult (no drop offs), in making a selection of easy to make (no sewing) Early American Folk Dolls. Each day's dolls to be made will be different but each day will include an introduction to dolls and the history of the dolls being made along with fun facts and follow-up activities. Guest speakers are being scheduled to share doll making information from costuming dolls to a spinner spinning to

make yarn as used in our yarn dolls. Fun and educational for all! Light snack provided. All materials to make the dolls of the day are included in the registration fee. We ask that you bring a ruler and scissors. Register to come to one day or all three, but you do need to register so materials are readied for you and your child.

July 13th, from 6 pm to 9 pm will find The Women of Joanna offering a new and historically fun class that grew from interest our guests had during our Christmas at Joanna event at the furnace. Our 12 foot tall cedar tree during our Christmas event is adorned with handmade decorations reproduced from researching the traditions of tree decorating in rural Pennsylvania in the 19th century. Questions on how to make some of the decorations have lead us to offer "From Naturals to the Glitz" a hands-on workshop in reproducing some of the ornaments we showcase on the tree. Some of the nights selections to be made will be from naturals to gold foil chains, German chimney sweeps and German bells or paper quilling or cornucopias to mention just a few. Materials will be provided in the registration fee; a list of basic needs to bring will be shared on the registration form. Their short histories will be shared as we make our treasures! To register for these

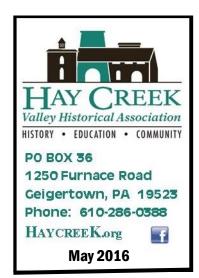


A "Make your own Early American Folk Dolls" camp will take place at Joanna Furnace on June 20th, 21st, and 22nd. Children will learn about and make various types of dolls at the workshop.

program please call Nancy Eggleston at 610-404-7278 or email nleweeplay@dejazzd.com.

Registration forms for all programs are also available at the mule stable when visiting the site, at our monthly breakfast or volunteer Thursdays.

Women of Joanna Nancy Eggleston 610-404-7278 or nleweeplay@dejazzd.com



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FAMILY MEMBERSHIP	\$30 INDIVIDUAL MEMBE	SHIP \$20 INDIVIDUAL LIFE MEMBERSHIP \$250
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Capital Project Update

At the March Hay Creek Valley Historical Association board meeting the officers and directors voted unanimously to approve the 2016 Capital Budget. This budget included the construction of the 40'x 60' storage building in the Engine Area, purchase of the Generac 48 KW generator, and the Bank Barn stone wall restoration project in the Mansion area. In total these projects will cost \$115,000 and be financed through several funding sources including utilizing approximately 20% of the cost from the organization's investment accounts and the remaining portion to be funded by our local financial institution with a three-year loan. Moreover, the organization will incorporate these projects to gain additional support from our annual campaign letter with our Hay Creek friends and membership. We thank you in advance for your support!



A storage building similar to this but with four bays will be constructed at the far end of the Mechanical Technology area. The purpose of this building is to store gas powered maintenance equipment, trailers, wagons, etc. so the organization has additional space in historic buildings for exhibits and interpretation during educational programs.