



Family News Letter of The Claude Moore Colonial Farm at Turkey Run

*The only privately operated National Park in the United States
~ Celebrating its 33rd Year of Operation ~*

MARCH - APRIL 2006

THE FARM PUBLISHES ALMANAC

The Farm proudly announces its newest publication, *Farm Almanack for the Year of Our Lord 1771*. This exciting book contains material from a variety of period sources such as almanacs, cook books, gardening manuals, and more. The Farm has taken this material and organized it into an almanac useful and specific to the Farm: many of the recipes are ones used on the Farm and at Market Fairs, and the gardening information follows the patterns of horticulture in 18th century Northern Virginia.

This extraordinary little volume was one of the few items of printed material that poor tenant farmers often had. Even illiterate farmers often learned to read the astrological symbols, since astrology was vital to the timing of so many agricultural activities. The Farm is proud to offer this piece of history as another glimpse into the world of the common folk of the 18th century.

The *Almanack* is available starting this spring for \$5.95 in the GateHouse Shop and on the website, www.1771.org.

FRIENDS CELEBRATE

The organization that "Saved the Farm" and still continues its management held a lovely party in the 2006 Art Deco Orchid Exhibit at the **United States Botanic Garden** on Thursday, March 2. The Spring Celebration of the Farm's 25th year as the only National Park privately funded and operated brought together a large group of supporters who enjoyed a magical evening surrounded by music, lavish food, flowers and friends.

Board member **Margi Vanderhye** thanked **JR's Colonial Caterers** for the sumptuous buffet, **Lisa and John Vogt** and **Ginny and Charlie Norton** for hosting the door-to-door coaches for the evening, and **Jean Ann Gililand** for leading the event committee. Margi also recognized **Lynn White**, current Friends President, **Joan DuBois**, Supervisor of Dranesville District, and **Joe Lawler**, Director of the National Capital Region, National Park Service. Mr. Lawler graciously thanked all the folks who have worked so hard on behalf of the Farm and wished the

Friends another successful 25 years as a unique partner of the NPS.

Margi also read a letter from **Congressman Frank Wolf**, who intervened with the NPS on behalf of the public more than 25 years ago and gave the Friends the opportunity to operate the Farm for the Park Service. He wrote, in part, "The contribution the Farm makes to the region is invaluable. I don't know of another place in the area with the kind of opportunities the Farm provides. I commend the many volunteers and employees over the years who have dedicated their efforts to keeping the Farm operating and growing. I am confident the Farm will continue to provide these services for years to come."

Plans have already begun for next year's celebration at the Botanic Garden.

FARM MEMORIES PROJECT

We want you to help us celebrate 25 years of being a privately operated National Park. Whether you are a volunteer or a visitor, we invite you to share your memories/feelings/experiences of being a part of The Claude Moore Colonial Farm at Turkey Run.

Using the online community, **Backfence.com**, gives us the ability to post our thoughts about the Farm and to share them with each other and the world. So many people have been a part of the Farm experience and some now live far away, that it is only through the web that this is possible. Please share this with friends, family, past volunteers, neighbors who have moved away and anyone else you think might want to participate.

We are asking that you include when you became involved in the Farm, what you did, how it changed you, where you are and what you're doing now - and your favorite stories, of course. We'd love to have as many as possible before April 1st when we open. You can even post pictures if you have them!

It is very easy to post your memories and your pictures. There is absolutely no charge. Go to www.backfence.com/1771 and join the community by registering. You will get a confirming email, click on the link in the email, go to the site and start posting your memories.

ON THE FARM

Tobacco Notes

Greetings once again, friends and neighbors. Spring is near upon us and we here are turning our thoughts to the planting. Soon we will have all the fields turned and ready for the hilling. The hot beds are doing well and we hope to have the Tobacco in the fields by the beginning of May. All in all, we are certain that with perseverance and some help from Providence, this will be a good year for the crops.



In the mean time, we are keeping ourselves occupied with still more fence mending and tending to the liveflock. We look forward to havin' many a guest come traveling season and hope that y'all will be among their numbers.

Until we next meet, I am and remain,
Your most humble and obedient servant.
John Harbin

THANKS TO OUR 2006 CONTRIBUTORS

To date: 3/8/06

Adams, Steve	Gib-Mor, Inc.
Alcorn, Daniel and Kathryn	Gichner, David and Carol
Bonner, Rupert and Clare	Gililand, Roger and Jean Ann
Bova, Tom and Dawn	Goralski, Marg
Broyhill, Lincoln and Nancy	Gradison Foundation
Claude Moore Charitable Foundation	Gray, Ted and Helen
Coyne, Jim and Holly	Griffin, J. T.
Davis, Judy	Guest Services, Inc.
Decker, Art & Judy	Haney, Mel and Muriel
DigIT Solutions LLC	Harkins, Bill and Grace
Eberly, Anna	Herrick, Carole
Engle, Karen	Huffman, Robert and Elizabeth
Enrico's Tailors and Dry Cleaners	Jackson, Katie
Falck, George and Nancy	JR's Colonial Caterers, Inc.
Freddie Mac	Kloman, Chris and Pam
	Kositzka Wicks and Company
	Lara, E.Ronald

COLONIAL CORNER



Want to improve your 18th century knowledge?
Here are a few tidbits to help.

Almanacs

The 18th century Almanac (spelled Almanack at the time) was one of the few pieces of printed matter that common folk were likely to own. Almanacs contained astrological tables that informed farmers of the movement of planets and stars, which was important to their farming schedule. They contained receipts (recipes), medical advice, currency conversion tables, and any other tidbits the author thought to include.

Why would an illiterate family have an Almanac?

Astrology was very important to farming schedules. The position of the sun, moon, planets and stars determined many things for a farmer: when he could plant or harvest his crops, or even butcher his livestock. So, even illiterate farmers often learned the symbols used in the astrology charts provided in almanacs.

The symbols

Many of these astrological symbols were not difficult to figure out; can you guess what these symbols mean?

- | | | | |
|------|------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. ☉ | 5. ♃ | A. Taurus (bull) | E. Sagittarius (archer) |
| 2. ☽ | 6. ♊ | B. Aquarius (water) | F. Gemini (twins) |
| 3. ☾ | 7. ♄ | C. Moon | G. Sun |
| 4. ♈ | | D. Aries (ram) | |

I G, 2 C, 3 A, 4 F, 5 D, 6 B, 7 E

Source: Stowell, Marion Barber. *Early American Almanacs*. New York: Burt Frankli & Co., 1977.

Norton, Charlie and Ginny	Toups, John and Nina
Oosterhuis, Paul and Bronson	Vanderhye, Bob and Margi
Omniplex International	Victoria Baker Enterprises
Peterson Family Foundation	Vogt, John and Lisa
Richards, Lilla	Walton & Adams, P.C.
Ripley, Dick and Sue	Walton, Ed and Barbara
Rozental, Lynn	West* Group
Schiro-Zavella Foundation	West, Fred & Debbie
Skinner, Patti	White, Stuart and Lynn
Starr, Ken and Alice	William A. Hazel Company
Swartz, Bill and Mary Lou	Woman's Club of McLean
Sylvester, Sheri	Young, April and Bob Kelly

The Family News Letter is published bimonthly, Jan/Feb through Nov/Dec, by The Claude Moore Colonial Farm at Turkey Run. Subscription is by membership. To join, write the Farm at 6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean, VA 22101, or call 703-442-7557. Farm-related contributions will be accepted on a space-available basis. Submit typed material by the 8th of Dec, Feb, Apr, June, Aug, Oct for inclusion in the following bimonthly issue.

HONORARY BOARD: Hon. John W. Warner, Hon. Frank R. Wolf, Hon. James P. Moran, Hon. Thomas M. Davis, III, Hon. Janet D. Howell, Hon. Vincent F. Callahan, Jr., Hon. Joan M. DuBois, Janie Strauss, Fairfax County School Board. BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Lynn White, President, Jean Ann Gililand, Dr. April L. Young, E. Ronald Lara, Theodore L. Gray, Presidents Emeritus, David A. Bossman, Vice President, Dr. Virginia P. Norton, Recording Secretary, Margaret Goralski, Corresponding Secretary, Kerry D. Moynihan, Treasurer, Edmund L. Walton, Jr., Legal Counsel. DIRECTORS: Stephen T. Adams, Victoria J. Baker, Holly Coyne, Manus J. Fish, Dr. Drucie French, Gerard T. Gabrys, J.T. Griffin, Elizabeth Lodal, Ted Oldham, Sue R. Ripley, Verlin W. Smith, Alice M. Starr, William D. Swartz, DVM, Nina Toups, Margie G. Vanderhye, Lisa E. Vogt, Stuart C. White. ADVISORY BOARD: John T. Hazel, Jr., Virginia R. Holton, Christopher R. Kloman, Kathryn A. MacLlane, Dwight Schar. EX OFFICIO: Anna C. Eberly

STAFF

Anna C. Eberly, Manager	Rachel Summers, Farm Wife/ Program Manager
J.D. Engle, Facilities Manager	Jan Tilley, Farmer
Pia Harithy, GateHouse Manager	Debbie West, Plant Manager
Katie Jackson, Program Manager	

2006 SPECIAL EVENTS

MARCH

SPRING BOOK SALE

Friday & Saturday, March 17 & 18 10 - 5 pm
Browse through our large selection donated to the Farm. Includes books for travelers, gardeners, cooks and kids. We have fiction, nonfiction, first editions and some rare and special volumes. Also videotapes, CDs, records and some ephemera.

SPRING CLEANING

Saturday & Sunday, March 18 & 19 9 - 3pm
Help get the Farm ready for the new season! On the 18th century farm, fields and trails need to be cleared, fences rebuilt, and wood moved and stacked. Behind the scenes, there is greenhouse work, wood splitting, cleaning animal pens and even some indoor jobs. Bring work-gloves and dress for the weather. The Farm will provide a picnic hot dog lunch. Families and groups are welcome. Rsvp to jengle@1771.org

APRIL

FARM OPENS

Saturday, April 1 10am - 4:30pm
The Farm ends its winter hibernation and welcomes the public for the 2006 season. The Farm is open Wednesday through Sunday, from 10am to 4:30pm, April 1 through December 10. The Farm is closed Mondays, Tuesdays, Thanksgiving Day and during inclement weather. *Weather permitting - call ahead.*

DAIRY DAY

Saturday, April 15 1 - 4pm
Have you ever wondered what curds and whey look like? Do you know how to wash butter? Join in as the farm wife makes soft cheese and churns butter, and gain a new appreciation for these foods, so precious to the farm family. *Weather permitting - call ahead.*

SPRING GARAGE SALE

Friday & Saturday, April 21 & 22 9 - 1pm
This sale is to dispose of donated items which the Farm cannot use. Garage Sale items include books, clothing, household items (both useful and decorative), small appliances, minor pieces of furniture, tools, toys, and a glorious conglomeration of bits and pieces. All sales proceeds benefit the Farm's educational programs.

SPRING PLANT SALE

Friday & Saturday, April 28 & 9 9 - 5pm
Join us in the Farm's garden and greenhouses to choose plants for your yard. Plants include annual and perennial flowers and herbs, vegetables, and container shrubs with a special emphasis on heirloom plants. All sales proceeds benefit the Farm's educational programs.

MAY

SALTING FISH

Saturday, May 6 1 - 4pm
Visit the farm family as they clean and salt down their yearly catch of herring. They invite you to help scale, gut and pack the fish into jars, and to learn about the important contributions the river makes to their lives.
Weather permitting - call ahead.

SPRING 18TH CENTURY MARKET FAIR

Saturday & Sunday, May 20 & 21 11 - 4:30pm
Celebrate spring at the first Market Fair of the season. Dance and sing songs. Purchase herb and flower plants from Mistress West, and shop for the latest fashions in clothing, jewelry, potions and lotions from the Seamstress, Millinery and Stillatory stands. Bob for apples, play quoits and other games, and watch a children's puppet theatre. Order nails from the Blacksmith, or ask the Physician to heal your ailments. Lunch might be fresh corn or asparagus, roast chicken, sausages and bread. Lemonade and sugar cakes from the Sweets stand and wine or ale from the Tavern provide a break from shopping and the other business of the Fair. Period food, beverages and wares are available for purchase from the many stalls. Special Event Admission applies. Get a FREE Market Fair Pass from our website, at www.1771.org/market_fair_pass.htm
Weather permitting - call ahead.

VOLUNTEER CALENDAR

SPRING CLEANING

Saturday & Sunday, March 18 & 19 9 - 3pm

FLEA SORTING

Wednesdays 6:30 - 8pm

18TH CENTURY CLOTHING WORKSHOP

Tuesday, April 4 6 - 8pm

THE GATEHOUSE SHOP

Gifts for Children, Ladies and Gentlemen



Handmade toys, Farm honey and jams, jewelry, soaps, home accessories, garden gifts, plants, books and collectibles

Open Wednesday through Sunday
☞ 10am - 5pm ☞

Claude Moore Colonial Farm at Turkey Run
6310 Georgetown Pike McLean, VA
703-442-7557 www.1771.org

FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO DONATE FLEAS

Please leave your name, address and phone number with your donations, so we can get in touch with you if we have a question about what an item is or how it works, or if we discover what you thought was a \$5 tax deduction turns out to be a \$500 deduction! It really helps if books and clothes are boxed or bagged separately from other items. Call us at 703-509-9837 or 703-945-6006 if you plan to bring fleas to the Farm so you know someone is here to help you unload and give you a tax receipt. If you need to have items picked up, contact Marg Goralski (numbers above). Please note: items in reasonably sized boxes are easier to handle and store than bags.

PACKING & MOVING DONATIONS

Book and garage sales help provide financial support for the operation and educational programs of the Farm. However, although we actively and gladly encourage your donations, we do not have the time or manpower to be a full service moving company. We gratefully consider the time that donors spend in packaging donations and bringing them to us as part of the tax-deductible donation.

VOLUNTEER WORKSHOP: 18th-CENTURY CLOTHING

The first workshop in our monthly series will be held Tuesday, April 4 from 6-8 pm. This will cover the basic clothing items: **shirts, trousers, waistcoats, caps, kerchiefs, shifts, petticoats, shortgowns, and aprons.** Come trace a pattern, examine examples of garments, and have your sewing questions answered by our staff. You may also purchase 100% linen cloth from the Farm or have your own fabric approved for use on the farm site. This is an excellent opportunity to learn more about who wore what in the 18th century and why they wore it! Please RSVP to Katie Jackson at 703-442-7557 or kjackson@1771.org.

THE MYSTERY BOOKS????

Last fall a generous person donated several boxes of old books, many of which had a bookplate with the name of Mabel Cornish Bond, Villa Bondi, Dumblane, Washington, D.C. In researching the books to establish value (a process we go through with old or unusual books), we have become intrigued by the life of Mrs. Bond. If you are the person who donated these books, we would appreciate the opportunity to speak with you. Please contact Anna Eberly at aerberly@1771.org.

FARM NEEDS



If you can help with any of the following needs, please call the Farm at 703-442-7557 or email jengle@1771.org.

Items Needed:

Remember, all donations are tax deductible

- A vehicle with a power lift or a small equipment trailer with a ramp in order to move heavy farm equipment
- Functioning shop-vac
- Full-size refrigerator or two
- Chest freezer
- Three dehumidifiers
- Clothes steamer
- AV locking cabinet for TV and DVD player
- Large plant pots
- Rakes
- Red and yellow onion skins for dyeing
- 2 stepstools with 2-3 steps

Volunteer Help Needed:

- To help with various chores during Spring Cleaning weekend, March 18-19, 9-3pm. Contact jengle@1771.org.
- Volunteers to work at the clothing sale at the Apprentice Orientation from about 8:45 - 11:00 a.m. Contact kjackson@1771.org.
- To work at the GateHouse throughout the season, April through December. Contact pharithy@1771.org.
- To help sort donations on Wednesday evenings, 6:30-8pm. Contact marggoralski@juno.com.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Shop Assistant (full-time)

Description:

Duties will include: greeting and interacting with the public, handling sales and admissions, inventory control and display, product development and packaging, supervising volunteers and temporary employees. \$20,000/year plus health and dental benefits.

Qualifications:

Enjoy working with the public and volunteers, basic office and computer skills, organized, sense of humor and flexibility. Some weekends required.

To Apply:

Send cover letter and resume to Anna Eberly, aerberly@1771.org or The Claude Moore Colonial Farm at Turkey Run, 6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean, VA 22101. Position open until filled. Employment to begin as soon as possible. For more information regarding The Claude Moore Colonial Farm at Turkey Run, please visit our website at www.1771.org.

EMBRACE COLONIAL HISTORY...
 AND SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL
 LIVING HISTORY MUSEUM...
 RECRUIT FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES TO

JOIN THE FARM

The Claude Moore Colonial Farm at Turkey Run offers a unique and high value educational opportunity in the heart of our community. Through our authentic depiction of life on an 18th century modest working farm, visitors can experience first-hand the rhythms of colonial life just before the American Revolution.

Farm Membership Has Its Benefits

Farm Family Members receive a seasonal pass, granting unlimited admission to the Farm for one year. Members can attend our Spring, Summer and Autumn Market Fairs. Other events include Dairy Day, Pickling Produce, Harvests, Mending Fences and the traditional holiday Wassail celebration. Members also receive the Claude Moore Colonial Farm News Letter, and a 10% discount on GateHouse Shop purchases. Farm Memberships are 100% tax-deductible.

If you have a question about your membership, contact aerberly@1771.org.

ARE YOU GETTING FARM EMAILS?

If you have not been receiving Farm emails, remember to go to our website www.1771.org to register. You don't want to miss out on all the latest news and events!

NEW PROGRAM!

This year, the Farm proudly presents an exciting new educational program: **The Colonial Living Experience**. This 2-day overnight program will immerse you in the 18th century. You will wear period clothes, cook meals, sleep in cotton tents, and learn 18th century survival skills. There is a required Wednesday training session prior to the weekend program. Program dates for 2006 are: June 10 & 11, and September 23 & 24. Paid reservations are required; see www.1771.org for details, or email kjackson@1771.org.

FARM SKILLS BEGINS

This popular educational program is starting up again in April. School groups, individuals and families are all welcome to come for this 2-hour program to learn 18th century farm skills: candle dipping, carding and spinning wool, 18th century games, and more! The program is offered on selected Thursdays in the spring, summer and fall. Reservations are required. See www.1771.org for details, or email kjackson@1771.org.

THE PAVILIONS OF TURKEY RUN

We do all the work... you have all the fun!



The Pavilions can accommodate from 100 to 800 guests and all of the work is done for you.

Now booking for 2006!

For further information, visit the web site at www.jrspicnics.com or call Peg in the marketing office at 703-893-6545.

CLAUDE MOORE COLONIAL FARM AT TURKEY RUN

MEMBERSHIP FORM

New or Renewal?

Membership good for one year from date of purchase-- Today's Date is _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

E-Mail Address _____

Check MC VISA AmEx

Student/Senior Citizen	\$ 12
Individual	\$ 20
Family	\$ 35
Organization	\$ 50
Friend	\$100
Contribution	\$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Card No. _____ Exp. Date _____ Signature _____

For more information, write to the Farm at 6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean, VA 22101, call 703-442-7557 or go to www.1771.org

The Claude Moore Colonial Farm at Turkey Run (#52-1216556) is a Federal tax-exempt organization under section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code. Membership contributions are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. Contact the Farm office for specific amounts. The Farm's financial statements are available in the Richmond Office of the Virginia Department of Consumer Affairs.

BOOK SALE

March 17 & 18
Friday & Saturday



10am - 5pm

Browse through our large selection of used books donated to the Farm. It includes books for travelers, history lovers, gardeners, cooks and kids. We have fiction, non-fiction, first editions and some rare and special volumes. Also audio- and videotapes, cds and records, and some ephemera.

SPRING CLEANUP



March 18 & 19
Saturday & Sunday
9am - 3pm

Help get the Farm ready for the new season! On the 18th century farm, fields and trails need to be cleared, the house white-washed, and wood moved and stacked. Behind the scenes, there is greenhouse work, wood splitting, cleaning animal pens and even some indoor jobs. Bring work-gloves and dress for the weather. The Farm will provide a picnic hot dog lunch. Families and groups are welcome. RSVP to jengle@1771.org

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6310 Georgetown Pike
McLean, Virginia 22101

Nonprofit Org.
US Postage
Paid
McLean, VA
Permit No. 268

MARCH

Book Sale March 17 & 18
Spring Cleaning March 18 & 19

APRIL

Farm opens April 1
Dairy Day April 15
Garage Sale April 21 & 22
Plant Sale April 28 & 29

MAY

Salting Fish May 6
Spring Market Fair May 20 & 21