



Family News Letter

of

The Claude Moore Colonial Farm at Turkey Run

*The only privately operated National Park in the United States
~ Celebrating its 36th Year of Operation ~*

MARCH - APRIL 2009

FARM TO LOSE MAJOR GRANT THIS YEAR

We have just received a letter from Fairfax County that we are not included in this year's contributory funding. For more than 10 years, Claude Moore Colonial Farm has received \$31,500 each year to help pay for our educational program staff and materials. These funds supplement the modest program fees that we charge for Farm Skills, 18th Century Environmental Living and Colonial Living, Apprentice, and Workshop programs.

The letter included the following information: "In FY 2010 (begins July 1, 2009), the County will address an estimated \$650 million deficit. Reductions and eliminations have been made in every area of the County budget. Please be reassured that we are appreciative of the good work and service you provide to the county and we encourage the continuation of the partnership in the future." The Fairfax County budget will be finalized at the end of April.

We have no idea how we can replace these funds as every other part of the Farm's funding has been affected by these grim economic times. A proportional reduction wouldn't have been a shock but to be cut completely is devastating. We debated including this article in the NewsLetter but if the Farm is at risk, those who care about its future have the right to know. For more information or if you have any great fundraising ideas, contact aeberly@1771.org.

ON THE FARM

Tobacco Notes

Greetings to our Friends:

The weather here in recent days has been cold and very windy. Just a few mornings ago, our Martha had been fetching some water from the spring when she heard a wretched crash coming from the cow pasture. She took off towards the sound of the offending noise and stopped short when she realized the wind had knocked a tree straight over by its roots and just a short distance from our poor cow! The cow was a bit frightened though thankfully not injured. The children consider it a blessing to not go far for kindling.



We shall begin work on our hot beds soon, and before long we shall be toiling away in the fields again, never staying but a step ahead of the weeds.

We wish you good health and a bountiful crop this year!

Your most humble and obedient servants,
Mariah & Lydia Bradley

*Note: the 18th century farm is closed for the winter,
and will reopen on April 1, 2009, at 10am.*

50% OFF PASS

The 2009 Market Fair passes are now online. These are good for 50% off admission to the Farm's three Market Fairs for up to six people. Go to www.1771.org and click on "Website Directory;" you can find the link under "Special Events."

PLANT SALES BEGIN

April 24 & 25, 10 am to 5 pm

Greenhouse Open:

4/24 - 10/30, M - F 10 - 5

Our seeds are planted and we're rooting cuttings of choice plants for our 2009 greenhouse/nursery season. We're trying to improve our operation so you should see some welcome changes. There will be more heirloom tomatoes, hot peppers and culinary herbs, plus we will have them later in the season for those "slowpoke" gardeners. We have uncommon or heirloom spring bulbs potted up, lots more bleeding heart, Virginia Bluebells and Peonies, plus raspberries and other soft fruit. Offered at this sale will be the hardy perennials, tender perennials, annuals and vegetable transplants. Plants are added for sale throughout the season as they are propagated. Our prices are quite reasonable and all plants are grown here at the Farm by our Horticulture Group volunteers. For information on volunteering in the greenhouse and garden, contact ddezarn@1771.org.

PLANT VOLUNTEERS

Interested in gardening & plant propagation? Want to know which plants for your garden like to bask in the sun & which prefer to peer out from the shadows? The greenhouse at CMCF is looking for a few good volunteers. No matter the skill level, we welcome all comers! There is always something to do and we would appreciate your help. Our hours are, until the Farm opens for visitors, Mon-Fri, 10am-6pm. However, if you'd like, we can make arrangements to accommodate *your* schedule. Thanks to all! Please contact Debra DeZarn at ddezarn@1771.org

COLONIAL CORNER

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



Weatherproofing the House

At least once a year, the farm house needs a new coat of pitch, which helps protect the wooden clapboards. It is mixed with turpentine to thin it and help the wood absorb the pitch. But what are these substances, and where do they come from? The 1771 Encyclopedia Britannica can help:

"PITCH... is tar... boiled over a flow fire. The method of procuring the tar, is by cleaving the [pine] trees into small billets, which are laid in a furnace that has two apertures, through one of which the fire is put, and through the other the pitch is gathered, which, oozing from the wood, runs along the bottom of the furnace into places made to receive it. When the smoke, which is here very thick, gives it blackness, this is called tar; which, on being boiled, to consume more of its moisture, becomes pitch."

"TURPENTINE, a transparent sort of resin, flowing either naturally or by incision from several unctuous and resinous trees, as the terebinthus, larch, pine, fir, &c."

So, both pitch and turpentine come from the same sorts of trees! But, a different process is used to extract these two very different substances.

The pitch/turpentine mixture is then painted on to the house by brushes made of hog bristles or some other animal hair.

Source: The Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1771

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.

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Elizabeth Rolando, *Program Manager/ Farmer*
Addie Singleton, *GateHouse Assistant*
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DONATE YOUR COMPUTER: TAX DEDUCTION!

The Farm may as well be stuck in the 18th century as far as our computer equipment is concerned. We could really use a couple of computers, new enough that they still function well: one desktop and one laptop. They need to have USB ports, and the laptop needs wireless Internet capabilities.

Remember, all donations to the Farm are **tax-deductible!**

COLONIAL CLOTHING SALE

Saturday, March 28, 9-10am

Attention Apprentices and Colonial Company members! The Farm will be holding its annual Clothing Sale on Saturday March 28th from 9-10am. There will be a selection of new **shirts** and **shifts**, **petticoats**, **aprons**, **trousers**, **caps** and **neckerchiefs**, as well as a limited selection of **used clothing** items for sale. For more information, or to sell your own used colonial clothing contact Elizabeth Rolando at 703-442-7557 or erolando@1771.org.

WELCOME NEW PLANT LADY

The Farm welcomes **Debra DeZarn** as our Horticulture Manager. Debra worked last summer as our intern and did a great job for us. Debra is a lot of fun to work with; aspiring plant volunteers should contact her at ddezarn@1771.org.

THE GATEHOUSE SHOP

Gifts for Children, Ladies and Gentlemen



Handmade toys, local 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 22101
703-903-9330

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

- Paper bags (grocery, shopping...)
- Book ends (any kind)
- Cat food dishes
- Wading pool for our geese
- Locking A/V cabinet
- Working laptop computer; must have WiFi capabilities and be USB compatible
- Desktop computer CPU; must be USB and Ethernet compatible
- Dry onion skins, orange or red, for dyeing

Volunteer Help Needed:

- Sorting donated books & goods.
Contact marggoralski@juno.com.
- Mending the Farm's 18th century clothing. Mostly hand sewing. Contact kcannon@1771.org.
- Greenhouse & plant help.
Contact ddezarn@1771.org.

WORKSHOP: COLONIAL CLOTHING

Monday, April 13, 6-8pm

This workshop 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 and resident clothing expert. You may also purchase 100% linen cloth from the Farm or have your own fabric approved for use on the farm site. Even if you do not plan to make your own 18th-century clothing, this is an excellent opportunity to learn more about who wore what in the 18th century and why they wore it! \$5 fee; \$3 for members and current volunteers. *Reservations required.* Contact Katie Cannon at kcannon@1771.org for a reservation.

2009 SPECIAL EVENTS

Office: 703-442-7557
GateHouse Shop: 703-903-9330

MARCH

SPRING CLEANING

Sat. & Sun., March 21 & 22 10am - 3pm
Help get the Farm ready for the new season! Many things need to be done both on the 18th century farm site and behind the scenes. Bring work-gloves and dress for the weather. The Farm will provide a picnic hot dog lunch. Families and groups are welcome. *Weather Permitting.* jengle@1771.org

APRIL

FARM OPENS

Wednesday, April 1 10am - 4:30pm
The Farm ends its winter hibernation and welcomes the public for the 2009 season. The Farm is open Wednesday through Sunday, 10am to 4:30pm, April 1 through December 13. The Farm is closed Mondays, Tuesdays, Independence Day, Thanksgiving Day and during severely inclement weather.

WORKSHOP: 18TH CENTURY CLOTHING

Monday, April 13 6 - 8pm
Learn about 18th century clothing, purchase fabric and trace patterns. \$5 fee. Reservations required; contact kcannon@1771.org.

DAIRY DAY

Saturday, April 18 1 - 4pm
Have you ever wondered what curds and whey look like? Do you know how to wash butter? Help the farm wife make soft cheese and churn butter. *Weather Permitting.*

SPRING PLANT SALE

Fri. & Sat., April 24 & 25 10am - 5pm
This sale kicks off the growing season. Plants include hardy perennials, tender perennials, annuals and vegetable transplants. Plant sales continue Monday - Friday, 9am-5pm, and at the GateHouse Shop. *Rain or shine.*

MAY

SALTING FISH

Sunday, May 3 1 - 4pm
The farm family invites you to help scale, gut and pack their yearly catch of fish into jars, and to learn about the important contributions the river makes to their lives. *Weather Permitting.*

SPRING 18TH CENTURY MARKET FAIR

Sat. & Sun., May 16 & 17 11am - 4:30pm
Celebrate spring at the first Market Fair of the season. Dance, purchase herbs and flowers, and shop for the latest fashions in clothing, jewelry, and lotions. Play games and watch a children's puppet theatre. *Period food, beverages and wares are available for purchase. Market Fair admission fee: \$5 for adults, \$2.50 for children (3-12 years old) and senior citizens. Weather Permitting.*

VOLUNTEER CALENDAR

SORTING DONATED BOOKS & GOODS

Tuesdays 6:30 - 8pm
Contact Marg Goralski at marggoralski@juno.com.

FARM SKILLS PROGRAM

Selected Thursdays 9:30am - 12:30pm
Contact Heather Trunick at htrunick@1771.org.

PLANT VOLUNTEERS

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays 10am-6pm
Contact Debra DeZarn at ddezarn@1771.org.

LOST & FOUND

The Farm will be cleaning out its Lost and Found bin before the new season begins in April. If you think you may have lost something while you were here please come by the office to look for it. The items we have are mostly clothing, warm weather items as well as hats and gloves, some water bottles, sunglasses and a "Hotwheels" toy car. All items unclaimed by March 20 will either be thrown out or added to our next Garage Sale!

IT'S FLIP FLOPPIN' FUN AND FABULOUS FOOD TIME AT THE PAVILIONS

*Peg Jarman,
Director of Marketing,
JR's Colonial Caterers*

We're getting ready for another fun season at the Pavilions of Turkey Run. Picnics are a great (and economical) way to reward employees for a job well done. Bringing together employees and their families for an afternoon of fun and good food is a great Employee Stimulus Package.



The Pavilions is also a great place for retirement or award banquets, reunions, parties, receptions and more. Let us customize your event for you and make it special.

We are celebrating 12 years together with Claude Moore Colonial Farm and J.R.'s. It's been a really fun time and we look forward many more successful years.

Correction: Due to a delay in constructing the restrooms at the visitor parking lot, we will not be able to rent the deck out this season as we had hoped.

For more information, visit the web site at www.jrspicnics.com or call (703) 707-8220.

NEW VIDEOS!

We are delighted to offer some new technology to teach old techniques. The Farm is posting educational videos on the website, www.1771.org; click on "Website Directory" and find the link listed under "Education". So far, we have our very first video online: 18th Century Clothing. Now you can go "behind-the-scenes" to see how our costumed interpreters get dressed for the day!

Also in the works are videos on cheesemaking, dyeing, tobacco culture, and many other fascinating topics. The videos allow you to see a complete process, whether it's our behind-the-scenes operations, or an 18th century task that takes longer than one visit. (The whole process of growing tobacco takes over five months!)

If you have suggestions for video topics, please let us know. kcannon@1771.org

We hope you will enjoy this exciting addition to our educational programs.

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

JOIN THE FARM

www.1771.org

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 _____

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

Check MC VISA AmEx Discover

TOTAL \$ _____

Card No. _____ Exp. Date _____ Signature _____

6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean, VA 22101

703-442-7557 • 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.

SPRING CLEANUP

March 21 & 22
Saturday & Sunday
10am - 3pm



HELP THE FARM GET READY!

Spring Cleanup, March 21 & 22

The Farm is preparing for the 2009 season, and there is so much that needs to be done! There are jobs for every age and skill level. **Children** can help pick up sticks off the paths for use as kindling, **teens** enjoy whitewashing the farm house, and **adults** can play with sharp tools: cutting brush, splitting firewood, and much more.

Our Spring Cleanup event is a lot of fun. It is a chance to get outdoors, and shake off the winter blues by getting some exercise and socializing with new people. We even provide a hot dog lunch! So if you've ever wanted to whitewash, use a tractor-powered log splitter, build a dam or fill plant pots, come join us for our Spring Cleanup on March 21 & 22, 10am-3pm. RSVP to jengle@1771.org

The Claude Moore Colonial Farm at Turkey Run
6310 Georgetown Pike
McLean, Virginia 22101

Return Service Requested

MARCH

Estate Sale II March 7

Spring Clean-Up March 21 & 22

APRIL

Farm Opens April 1

Dairy Day April 18

Spring Plant Sale April 24 & 25

MAY

Salting Fish May 3

Spring Market Fair May 16 & 17

Nonprofit Org.
US Postage
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McLean, VA
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