



Family News Letter

of

The Claude Moore Colonial Farm at Turkey Run

*The only privately operated National Park in the United States
~ Celebrating its 34th Year of Operation ~*

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2007

A PERFECT MARKET FAIR

Good publicity and great weather combined to create a spectacular Autumn Market Fair. More than 2,800 visitors came to enjoy this last fair of the season. Visitors shopped, ate and drank, petted the animals, cheered Signora Bella, bid on the auction items, admired the newly designed shop stalls, visited with the tradesmen, enjoyed the puppet show and other entertainment, had their fortunes told and just reveled in the joy of the day.

We owe this event to the spirit, hard work, enthusiasm, dedication and creativity of our volunteers. More than 200 volunteers work for weeks to put this event together. Led by the Market Fair Guild, a group of long-time Farm volunteers, everyone comes together to clean, repair, wash, paint, build, decorate, print, copy, furnish, price, wrap, pack, move, cover, display, tie, cook, pour, sing, dance, auction, sew, demonstrate, create, play, and WORK SO HARD to make each Fair the best ever.

Every Market Fair is different, but some things stay the same. We always have good food and drink, our adult volunteers are the kindest and most generous people on earth and our child volunteers leave the visitors in awe with their hard work and dedication to the task at hand.

Market Fairs are truly magic and we so appreciate the visitors who come back again and again and we welcome those new to the Farm. Thanks to all of you who make this event such a success.

ON THE FARM

Tobacco Notes

Greetings to our Friends:

Many thanks to our neighbors who attended the Wedding of our sister Henrietta. We had a most excellent Feast and much Dancing and singing. Henrietta is now happily settled with her Husband, Mr. Fergufon, but we hope that she will find Time to visit us often.



The tobacco is all harvested, and though we feared that we would have a poor crop after such a dry season, it seems to have turned out decently. We had a good crop of corn as well, and so there will be plenty of food for Winter (praise God). The weather begins to turn cool, and we hope that the coming season will be a mild one.

Your most humble and obedient servants,

Lydia Bradley

Mariah Thornton

SALE OF CHILDREN'S BOOKS, TOYS & GAMES

Saturday, November 10, 10 am to 5 pm

We've saved the best stuff for our upcoming sale of donated toys, games and children's books. We have several thousand books plus stuffed toys, games and puzzles, videos, doll clothes, and toys that will be in our upcoming sale. Lots of items for gifts and for your own children and grandchildren too. Join us for great buys while you support your own privately operated National Park.

Sausage for Sale: See Page 5

COLONIAL CORNER



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

How many days of Christmas?

In the 18th century, Virginia's official religion was the Church of England, a Christian Protestant denomination. This church celebrated a lengthy string of holidays during the Christmas season-- December 25th was just the beginning! Here is an abbreviated list of holidays during this 40-day season:



- December 25: The Nativity of Jesus
- December 28: Holy Innocents Day
- January 1: The Circumcision of Jesus
- January 6: The Epiphany of Jesus
(12 days after Christmas)
- February 2: The Purification of the Virgin
(40 days after Christmas)

Entertainments

The Christmas season was a time to put down your tools and go visiting with friends and relatives.

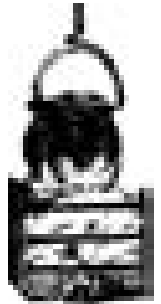
Songs

Many of our beloved Christmas carols (or at least, the ones we hear in every store during the whole month of December) were not around yet in 1771. Or, if they were, the tune and the words were not yet combined into the form we recognize. Here are a few Christmas songs we know today that folks in 1771 would also recognize:

- God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen
- I Saw Three Ships
- Lully, Lullay ("Coventry Carol")
- The First Noel
- The Holly and the Ivy

Stories

Storytelling was also a popular entertainment at Christmas-time... but the stories might surprise you! A book of Christmas Entertainments, published in 1740, is filled with tales of "Witches, Wizards, Conjurers, and their merry Pranks" and "Raw-heads, Bloody-bones, Buggybows, and such like Horrible Bodies". Tales deemed appropriate for the Christmas season in the 1700s often sound more like Halloween stories to us!



Games

The perfect diversion for the cold holidays! Here are descriptions for two 18th century games as set forth in the 1740 edition of *Christmas Entertainments*:

Blindman's Buff (yes, "buff", not "bluff"):

One person ties a kerchief over their eyes, and attempts to catch someone else.



Once a person has been touched by the "blindman", he or she becomes the "blindman." "...it is lawful to set any thing in the way for Folks to tumble over, whether it be to break Arms, Legs, or Heads, 'tis no matter... This Play, I am told, was first set on foot by the Country Bone-Setters."

Hoop and Hide

"The Parties have the liberty of hiding where they will, in any Part of the House, and if they happen to be caught, the Dispute ends in Kissing, &c."

Sources: *The Colonial Williamsburg Interpreter*, vol. 16, no. 4, winter 1995-96, and *Christmas Entertainments*, 1740.

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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Katherine Hughes, *Program Manager*
/ *Farm Wife*

Katie Jackson, *Site Supervisor/ Farm Wife*
Elizabeth Rolando, *Program Manager/ Farm Wife*
Debbie West, *Plant Manager*

SHOP & SUPPORT THE FARM

When you're making your list and checking it twice, we hope you will think of The GateHouse Shop for your holiday purchases. We're restocking the shop now and adding new merchandise for the fall. Holiday decorations will go up in mid-November so we'll be ready for the GateHouse Shop Open House on Tuesday evening, November 27 from 5 to 8 pm. We'll have a small open fire, Christmas music, ginger and sugar cookies and you can try a "bowl of smoking bishop". We know that this drink was really more of a 19th century beverage but it is from The Christmas Carol and Charles Dickens and his beloved characters are always a part of the Christmas Season. We hope you will join us and support the Farm with your purchases this season.

SMOKING BISHOP

1 quart of red wine
1/2 cup of sugar
6 oranges stuck with 6 cloves

Peel a strip from the orange and stick the cloves in. Bake the oranges in an open pan at 350 degrees until the oranges are tan in color (45 min. to an hour). Remove the oranges to a large bowl or pan and carefully cut the oranges in half. Sprinkle the sugar on top of the oranges and cover the pan until oranges are cool. Add the bottle of red wine, strain and bottle after a day. Warm the bishop and serve with a piece of the peel added. And as Mr. Dickens might say, "Pass round the glass count your blessings".

WORKSHOP:

WINTER TRADITIONS

Sing, Dance & Make Merry!
Thursday, November 15, 6-8pm

Learn the songs, dances, stories and games that 18th century folk used to celebrate holidays and enliven the winter evenings. Please RSVP by November 8 to Katie Jackson at 703-442-7557 or kjackson@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

- Digital scale (postal or kitchen)
- Chest freezers

Volunteer Help Needed:

- Sewing many different items for the Farm; projects for all skill levels. Contact kjackson@1771.org.
- Sorting books & donated goods on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 - 8pm. Contact marg@1771.org.
- Helping at the Farm Skills program on some Thursdays this fall. Contact khughes@1771.org.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Come join us for Farm Skills! Farm Skills is a great opportunity to teach children about the skills vital to life on an 18th century farm, such as candle dipping, wool carding, and corn pounding. You do not need to be an expert already; we will teach you everything you need to know! Farm Skills is a very popular program, and is held most Thursday mornings in the spring and fall from 9:30-12:30. We are always looking for volunteers; **homeschool parents**, this is a great opportunity for you and your children to work together, learn, and teach. If you or anyone you know might be interested in helping out with this program please let us know! Adult volunteers will be paid an honorarium of \$30 for each Farm Skills day they work. For more information, please contact Katherine Hughes at khughes@1771.org or call (703) 442-7557.



2007 SPECIAL EVENTS

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

NOVEMBER

FALL CHORES

F Sunday, November 4 1 - 4pm
Help the farm family clear brush from their fields, stack wood for the winter, repair old fencing, and perform many other necessary farm tasks in preparation for the coming winter. They will welcome any extra hands! Clothes that can get dirty and work gloves are recommended. *Weather permitting - call ahead.*

CHILDREN'S BOOKS, TOYS, GAMES SALE

C Saturday, November 10 10am - 5pm,
This sale features donated toys, games and children's books. We have several thousand books plus stuffed toys, games and puzzles, videos, doll clothes, and toys that will be in our upcoming sale. Lots of items for gifts and for your own children and grandchildren too.

GATEHOUSE HOLIDAY SHOP

G Nov. 23 - Dec. 23; Open every day 10am-5pm
Avoid the craziness of the malls and enjoy easy parking. Do your holiday gift shopping at the Farm while helping to support the only privately operated National Park in the United States. Choose from a unique selection of 18th century reproductions, toys and educational items, housewares, jewelry, toiletries, local fruit preserves and honey, estate items and used books.

GATEHOUSE HOLIDAY SHOP OPEN HOUSE

G Tuesday, November 27 5 - 8pm,
Enjoy traditional mulled cider, butter cake and ginger cookies, the warmth of an open fire and Christmas music while you shop in the peaceful atmosphere at the Farm.

VOLUNTEER CALENDAR

WINTER TRADITIONS WORKSHOP

W Thursday, November 15 6 - 8pm
Contact Katie Jackson at kjackson@1771.org

DECEMBER

GATEHOUSE HOLIDAY SHOP

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WASSAIL

W Sunday, December 9 1 - 4pm,
In the dead of winter the apple trees need encouragement to bear well during the coming year. Gather in the Farm's orchard to wassail the trees with singing, dancing and chants to ensure a "howling crop." Enjoy hot spiced cider, sugar cakes, a bonfire and 18th century games. *Weather permitting - call ahead.*

THE FARM GOES INTO HIBERNATION

T Sunday, December 9 4:30pm,
The 18th century visitor site at The Claude Moore Colonial Farm at Turkey Run closes for the winter months and will open to the public for the 2008 season on Wednesday, April 2 at 10 am. The GateHouse Holiday Shop will remain open through Sunday, December 23, 2007.

2008

MARKET FAIR DATES

Write these on your calendar!

Spring Market Fair:

Saturday & Sunday, May 17 & 18

Summer Market Fair:

Saturday & Sunday, July 19 & 20

Autumn Market Fair:

Saturday & Sunday, October 18 & 19

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.

For further information, visit the web site at www.jrspicnics.com or call Peg in the marketing office at 703-707-8820

LOST & FOUND: COME GET YOUR ITEMS!

Any items still left in the Farm's Lost & Found by **November 30** will be treated as donations to the Farm's Garage Sales. Please come pick up anything you lost here at the Farm office, open Monday through Friday, 9am-5pm. 703-442-7557.

*In Christmas feasting pray take care;
Let not your table be a Snare;
But with the Poor God's Bounty share.
Adieu my Friends! till the next Year.*

- Benjamin Franklin

MARKET FAIR SAUSAGE FOR SALE

If you can't wait until May for your next pork sausage, you can buy some to tide you over the long winter months. We bought extra to get us through Market Fair hoping that we would have some left for our sausage faithful. So, if you're interested, call 703-442-7557 during business hours. The cost of the sausage is \$5 per pound plus tax. The sausage is made by Edwards of Surrey in southside Virginia and is not available locally, so our patrons tell us.



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

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.



Wassail!

Sunday, December 9
1-4pm

The farm family will be ending the season with a celebration that ensures them a good apple crop next year. Please join us for hot cider, music, and a grand time at the Farm.

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

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NOVEMBER

Fall Chores November 4

Children's Books/Toys/Games Sale Nov. 10

GateHouse Holiday Shop Nov. 23-Dec. 23

GateHouse Holiday Shop Open House Nov. 27

DECEMBER

GateHouse Holiday Shop Nov. 23-Dec. 23

Wassail December 9