



# Family News Letter

of

## The Claude Moore Colonial Farm at Turkey Run

*The only privately operated National Park in the United States  
~ Celebrating its 32<sup>nd</sup> Year of Operation ~*

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2005

### NEARLY GARAGE SALE TIME

And help is needed!

The finishing touches are being added to our new flea building, and we have HEAPS of things to sell. The sale will be Friday and Saturday, October 28 & 29 from 9 to 1, with many new things put out for the second sale day.

We'll be busy setting up the tables and shelves in our new building, unpacking, cleaning up and pricing our treasures. If you'd like to help for a few hours before or during the sale, call Marg (cell phone: 703-599-5308, or email: [marggoralski@juno.com](mailto:marggoralski@juno.com)). Besides the household necessities and decorations, toys and clothing, there'll be lots of books at our always incredibly low prices. Ted's Boutique in the canopied courtyard of the flea building will have all sorts of boy toys: appliances from telephones to televisions, along with tools, sports equipment and furniture.

We're starting FLEA ORGANIZING NIGHT which will be on the first and third Wednesday of each month beginning on Sept. 7. From 6:30 - 8:30 we'll be sorting, cleaning, pricing and displaying all the great "stuff" donated to the Farm. If you can help, please email Marg at [marggoralski@juno.com](mailto:marggoralski@juno.com)

### 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

### ON THE FARM



As the summer crops peter out, the farmwife sows the garden beds with fall greens and peas. She and her daughters have more time for other chores, such as working flax. The flax was harvested in July and has been dried out. The farmwife places the bundles of flax in the pond to **rett**. Retting or soaking the flax for about ten days partially rots the stalks and loosens the fibers within. After retting, the flax is dried out again, then **broken, skutched and hackled** using appropriate tools to extract and clean the long fine fibers called **linen**. The farmwife and her daughters will spin the fibers into linen thread for their sewing.

The tobacco that was harvested in late August is now hanging in the tobacco house to cure. Once the leaves have turned brown and leathery, the farmer will strip the leaves off the stalks and tie them into bundles of eight to ten leaves called **hands**. Then he will use the tobacco **prize** to tightly pack the hands into a large barrel called a **hogshead**. He will need some help from his neighbor to roll the hogshead down the rolling roads to the nearest tobacco warehouse on the Potomac river. There, the tobacco will be inspected and the farmer will receive tobacco notes which he can use to buy the things his family needs.

### ATTENTION FLEA LOVERS:

We want to remind you that you don't have to wait for a garage sale. We present our very nicest fleas and books in the back room of the GateHouse. Many of them are brand new and there is a wide variety of goodies at our always VERY reasonable prices. Just now we have a variety of items from Chanel, Saks, Vogue -- all in pristine condition. Plus lots of other things, including a wide variety of books at such reasonable prices it makes Books A Million look like a high-end outlet. Stop in and poke around.

# 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](http://www.jrspicnics.com) or call Peg in the marketing office at 703-893-6545.*

## ANIMAL NEWS

**P**hyllis and Virginia, two of our Ossabaw Island Hogs, have each given birth to two healthy piglets.

## VOLUNTEER FAIR HELP NEEDED

Every year the Fairfax County Public Library receives inquiries from teens interested in volunteering in the community. This year the Fairfax Co. Library system, in collaboration with Volunteer Fairfax, will present a Youth Volunteer Fair at Patrick Henry Library in Vienna, on October 15th, 2-4 p.m. Representatives from community organizations like the Farm will talk with interested teens and parents about their organization's activities and the types of volunteer opportunities available for young people.

We would like to participate in this event, but it is happening on Market Fair weekend and all the staff will be busy. If one or two people would like to run a table at the library for two hours and encourage local youth to come volunteer at the Farm, please call J-D at 703-442-7557(Office) or 703-509-9837(Cell).

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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## COLONIAL CORNER



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

### Currency

Colonial currency was a mix of many different items:

**Tobacco notes** were the main form of paying off debts, gaining credit at stores, and paying the rent. A tobacco farmer would take his crop to the nearest warehouse, where it would be inspected. If it passed inspection, the farmer would receive written notes saying how much he had in the warehouse. He could then use those notes as currency.

**Paper money** was around but not very prevalent by 1771, and denominations were usually too high for a poor family to use.

**Coins** were not very common in the colonies, either. They also came from many different countries, with Spanish coins being the most common. British coins were also in circulation, as were Dutch, French, even Turkish coins! With so many different coins, their worth was based on their weight in gold, silver, or copper, and not on their exact face value.

**Here is a chart of some of the coin values.** (The plural of "penny" is "pence", and it is abbreviated "d".)

ENGLISH	SPANISH
1 shilling (s.)= 12 pence	1 doubloon= 16 pieces of eight
1 groat= 4 pence	1 piece of eight= 8 reals
1 penny (d.)= 4 farthings	1 pistareen= 2 reals

APPROXIMATE EXCHANGE RATE IN 1771

1 piece of eight= 4s.5d.

1 real (or "bit")= 7d.

### Coin Arithmetic

You have 4s.8d. How many (1) pence, (2) farthings, (3) reals are in this amount?

(1) 56d. (2) 224 farthings (3) 8 reals

### STAFF

Anna C. Eberly, Manager  
J.D. Engle, Facilities Manager  
Pia Harithy, GateHouse Manager  
Katie Jackson, Program Manager

Linda Saldaña, Membership  
Rachel Summers, Farm Wife/  
Program Manager  
Jan Tilley, Farmer

# 2005 SPECIAL EVENTS

## SEPTEMBER

### WASH DAY

**Saturday, September 3**

**1-4pm**

Do you find your laundry chores tiresome? For a little perspective, come help out at wash day on the 18th century farm. Scrub clothing with lye soap in the washtub; watch the whites boiling in the big pot over the fire; hang clothing out to dry in the orchard. Then go home and count your blessings. *Weather permitting - call ahead: 703-903-9330.*

### THRESHING DAY

**Sunday, September 18**

**1-4pm**

With the field work finished for the year, the family turns to threshing the year's crop of wheat and rye. Pick up a flail and help beat the seeds away from the stalks. Watch the chaff fly away as you winnow the grain. *Weather permitting - call ahead: 703-903-9330.*

## OCTOBER

### STRAW INTO GOLD

**Saturday, October 1**

**1-4pm**

Experience the magic of the flax plant as you transform bundles of dry stalks into gleaming fiber. Learn what it means to rett, brake, skutch and hackle. Card some tow for the spinner, who will spin coarse linen thread. *Weather permitting - call ahead: 703-903-9330.*

### AUTUMN 18TH CENTURY MARKET FAIR

**Saturday & Sunday, Oct. 15 & 16**

**11am-4:30pm**

Warm yourself by the fire and enjoy the splendor of fall with crisp local apples, warm savory meat pies and hearty breads. Let Market Fair entertainers, tradesmen and the militia amuse and educate you. Allow Mistress Barrow and Mr. John to entice you with their wares at the Dry Goods and the Gentlemen's Goods stand. Learn to spin wool or turn a piece of wood on the carpenter's lathe. Stop by the Tavern for a cup of mulled wine before you begin your holiday shopping at the many tradesmen's and merchant's stalls. Period food, beverages and wares are available for purchase. Special Event Admission applies. Get a FREE Market Fair Pass from our website, at [www.1771.org/market\\_fair\\_pass.htm](http://www.1771.org/market_fair_pass.htm) *Weather permitting - call ahead: 703-903-9330.*

### FALL GARAGE SALE

**Friday & Saturday, October 28 & 29**

**9am-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. *Weather permitting - call ahead: 703-442-7557.*

## NOVEMBER

### MENDING FENCES

**Saturday, November 5**

**1-4pm**

As the harvest season comes to a close, the farmer turns to his wintertime maintenance chores. The farm's split rail fences are in disrepair. Roving animals and livestock are breaking into the crop fields. Help the family repair old fences and learn the importance of good, strong fences in the 18th century. *Weather permitting - call ahead: 703-903-9330.*

### RAIL BURNING

**Saturday, November 19**

**4:30-7:30pm**

Come on over for a rail burning this evening. Help the farm family and neighbors build a bonfire from rotten fence rails, which will make good ash to enrich the fields. Gather round the leaping flames and join in the merriment. Sing songs, play games, swap tall tales, and discuss the news of the day. *Weather permitting - call ahead: 703-903-9330.*

### THE GATEHOUSE HOLIDAY SHOP OPENS

**Every day November 23 - December 21**

**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, housewares, jewelry, toiletries and consumables. All sales proceeds benefit the Farm's educational programs. *Closed Thanksgiving Day.*

## VOLUNTEER CALENDAR

### EIGHTEENTH CENTURY CLOTHING WORKSHOP

**Monday, September 12**

**6-8pm**

### FARM SKILLS: SCHOOL PROGRAM (call ahead)

**Thursdays, Sept. 29 - Nov. 17**

**9:30am-12:30pm**

### AUTUMN MARKET FAIR SET-UP

**Saturday, October 8**

**9am-3pm**

### MARKET FAIR BEHIND-THE-SCENES HELP

**Saturday & Sunday, Oct. 15 & 16**

**10am-5pm**

## FOR SALE

Patterns and fabrics, washed and shrunk but never used.

- Patterns for a shift, apron, and mob cap
- 32" tan and white striped linen for apron
- 2yds 3" green linen
- 2yds 28" white linen
- 27" white linen
- 12 ¼ yds of linen and cotton tapes (there are 4 different pieces)

Originally paid \$66. Will sell for \$45.

Contact Cindy Brandt (301) 657-4657 or

[cindyandedbrandt@yahoo.com](mailto:cindyandedbrandt@yahoo.com)

• • •

Used 18th century reproduction shoes with rubber soles and hidden velcro closure--the type sold at the Apprentice Orientation. Originally paid \$25, will sell for \$12. Contact Sharon at [rivertrees@msn.com](mailto:rivertrees@msn.com).

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For sale by the Farm:

(Contact [rsummers@1771.org](mailto:rsummers@1771.org))

- Used clogs, black leather uppers, wooden soles. Like new. (No size given; maybe a 7 or 8 women's) \$10.00.
- Used 18th century reproduction shoes with rubber soles and hidden velcro closure--the type sold at the Apprentice Orientation. (No size given; maybe a 7 or 8 women's) \$12.00.
- 3 used petticoats, 25 inch length, drawstring waist, rose pink linen. \$20.00 each.
- Used petticoat, 27 inch length, drawstring waist, olive green linen. \$20.00.
- 2 used petticoats, 30 inch length, drawstring waist, light green linen. \$20.00 each.
- Used petticoat, 30 inch length, drawstring waist, light blue-green linen. \$20.00.

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## 18th CENTURY CLOTHING OPEN HOUSE

The Farm will hold an open house for volunteers interested in sewing their own 18th century winter clothing on Monday, September 12, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Items to be covered are: **shawls, cloaks, shortgowns, and men's jackets.** Come trace a pattern, look at examples of clothing, and have your sewing questions answered by our staff. You may also have your own wool or linen fabric approved for use on the farm site. Note: the Farm does not have wool fabric for sale. Please RSVP by calling 703-442-7557 or emailing [rsummers@1771.org](mailto:rsummers@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](mailto: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 and large flea donations.
- Brown paper grocery bags in good condition
- Hand & bath towels
- Egg cartons
- 2 ceiling fans
- Feather & down pillows or comforters

### Volunteer Help Needed:

- To work at the Farm Skills programs for school groups on Thursdays from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm, September 29 through November 17; email: [kjackson@1771.org](mailto:kjackson@1771.org)
- To work at the GateHouse throughout the season; email: [pharithy@1771.org](mailto:pharithy@1771.org)
- To sell admissions and work at the Gatehouse during October Market Fair (two-hour shifts, from 10am - 4pm)
- To help with Market Fair set-up the week of October 10-14
- To help with Market Fair take-down on October 16 starting at 4:30 pm
- To work in the Greenhouse & gardens
- To help with weeding and watering the farm site kitchen garden during the day on Mondays and Tuesdays

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## BEFORE YOU DONATE...

Dear Farm Family and friends, while we value the items you donate to our garage sale fundraisers, we find that there are certain periods of the year when it is exceedingly difficult for our staff to find the time to come pick them up.

The month of March is dedicated to getting the Farm ready for opening day. The two weeks prior to each Market Fair find us repairing the buildings and preparing inventory for sale. The three weeks following closing in December are time for winterizing the facilities and for staff vacations. Regretfully, we have determined that, while we will happily accept donations during these times, we will not be doing pick-ups.

Remember also, that it is much easier for Mistress Marg and her band of Gentle Ladies to handle donations in reasonably sized boxes rather than trash bags if possible.

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.

Visiting the Farm, parents and children can watch -- and join in -- as Farm wife, with baby on hip, churns fresh butter, feeds the heritage breed chickens, prepares the mid-day meal or makes soap from fat and lye. They can see the farmer mend the split rail fences, harvest his precious wheat crop, and coax the wild turkeys to shelter in the tobacco barn. An enriching and fun family experience is also provided through our ongoing events and seasonal Market Fairs, our internship and Apprentice Farm Skills Programs, and our Book and Plant Sales, and Annual Garden Party.

### 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, featuring lively period entertainment, crafts and freshly prepared food. 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. Above all, Claude Moore Colonial Farm Members are helping support and sustain a living history museum and privately operated National Park within their community.

### Refer a Friend

Please refer a friend or colleague for Farm membership so that we may continue to enhance our visibility, role and services within the community. To refer a membership candidate simply e-mail **Lsaldana@1771.org** or call **(703)-847-0710**.

In our efforts to educate our community about colonial American everyday life, work and agriculture, YOU are our most valued asset. Thank you for your commitment and support!

## PLANTS FOR SALE

We have a full selection of hardy and tender perennial herbs and flowers for your garden. The Garden Center at the Farm office is open Monday - Friday from 9 to 5. We also sell plants at The GateHouse Shop Wednesday - Sunday from 10 to 5 and at the October Market Fair.

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 \_\_\_\_\_

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

[www.1771.org](http://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.*

# 18<sup>th</sup> CENTURY MARKET FAIR



OCTOBER 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>

11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Weather Permitting: 703-903-9330

## Things to Buy, See, Do, Eat and Drink!

Dry Goods	Stillatory	Hawkers	Spinsters
Seamstress	Millinery	Wood Workers	Fortune-teller
Men's Goods	Games	Puppet Show	Stationer
Colonial Dancers	Militia	Blacksmith	Animals
Singing and Musick, and much more			
Roast Chicken • Bread • Cheese • Sausage • Fresh Vegetables & Fruits			
Meat Pies • Tarts • Lemonade • Beer & Wine • Fish House Punch			
ADMISSION: Adults ..... \$5.00    Children (3-12 years) & Senior Citizens .....\$2.50			

[www.1771.org](http://www.1771.org)

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

### SEPTEMBER

Wash Day September 3

Threshing Day September 18

### OCTOBER

Straw into Gold October 1

Market Fair October 15 & 16

Garage Sale October 28 & 29

### NOVEMBER

Mending Fences November 5

Rail Burning November 19