

FRIENDS OF MOUNT HARMON, INC.
2007 SEASON NEWSLETTER
Upcoming Visitor Season Events & Info,
Restoration Update, New Membership Levels & Benefits!



Mount Harmon Plantation, Manor House. D. Hummel photo.

**Mount Harmon Celebrates Spring with
New Era of Stewardship & Awakening**

As we welcome spring, we also welcome a new era of stewardship and awakening at Mount Harmon. As the magnolia trees grace the plantation grounds with their beauty, and are covered with an array of blossoms to celebrate a new season. So too does Mount Harmon celebrate the blossoming of exciting new projects and programs – marking a new era of stewardship and awakening at the plantation.

Read on and see all of the exciting news we have to share about our progress and about the fun filled 2007 Visitor Season we have planned for you. Inside this issue you will learn about new special events, a new education and visitor program initiative, an updated annual membership program, and long awaited restoration progress. Stay tuned friends, this year promises to be one of the best yet.

Don't miss our upcoming Plantation Ball, a spring formal dinner dance at Mount Harmon, Saturday, May 5. And, be sure to stop by for a visit this spring to see all of the ongoing restoration progress! We could not celebrate our successes without the help and

support of countless volunteers and contributors, without whom Mount Harmon could not grow and flourish as it has. On the front lines of our success, are Mount Harmon's volunteer docents, who spend countless hours providing a wide range of assistance and services. Be sure to read Ode To Mount Harmon's Docents, all about their many years of gallant service.

Mount Harmon's dedicated Board of Directors is another critical ingredient to the plantation's success. This all volunteer Board staffs the vital committees that keep Mount Harmon on track and growing, and most importantly provides the vision to direct the plantation into the future. Board members devote their time and resources to ensure Mount Harmon is maintained and preserved to the highest standards, and that it offers an array of outstanding programs to its members and the public.

Our successes would not be possible without Mount Harmon's contributors and supporters, who year after year make it possible to maintain this important historic and scenic treasure. Many thanks to all those of you who contribute to Mount Harmon's membership and capital appeals, and for supporting plantation special events – you make it possible for Mount Harmon to blossom.

Again, many thanks to all of our members and supporters for helping Mount Harmon to grow and enter a new era of stewardship and awakening. Be sure to visit our website at www.mountharmon.org for up to date information about Mount Harmon programs and special events. Join us for what will be an exciting upcoming season!

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS



Mount Harmon, a spectacular special event site. K. Quinlan photo.

ANNOUNCING THE

MOUNT HARMON PLANTATION BALL

Mark your calendars for the upcoming Mount Harmon Plantation Ball, Saturday, May 5 from 6p.m. to 10p.m. This spring formal dinner dance is black tie optional and is sure to be a highlight of the spring season. This inaugural event will be an evening of fine dining and dancing, and be a wonderful time to experience Mount Harmon's "Old World" grandeur.

The Plantation Ball features a delectable Plantation Buffet, with an array of local and seasonal gourmet specialties. After dinner, dance the night away to your favorite songs from Big Band to classic Rock and Roll. The Manor House will be open for tours during the social hour.

Tickets for the Plantation Ball are available in advance for \$75 per person for FOMH Members, \$100 per person for non members. Renew today and take advantage of the benefits of membership! For tickets and information, call 410-275-8819. Proceeds from the event benefit Mount Harmon Plantation.

COLONIAL PLANTATION PICNIC



Colonial Re-enactors at picnic. D. Hummel photo.

One of the best times to visit Mount Harmon and experience its colonial history is at the annual Colonial Plantation Picnic. This year's annual picnic takes place on Sunday, June 3, 12:00 noon – 4:00 p.m. and features a gourmet Eastern Shore picnic, Colonial Demonstrations and Performances, Silent Auction, and Plantation Wagon Rides.

During the picnic there will be a silent auction, full of great gifts, antiques and specialty items, donated from area businesses and individuals to raise funds for Mount Harmon programs and projects. Tickets for adults are \$35 and \$10 for children.

*** * * MOUNT HARMON * * ***

2007 SPECIAL EVENT CALENDAR

Dates to Remember

- Plantation Ball Dinner Dance, May 5
- Colonial Plantation Picnic, June 3
- FOMH Cruise & Granary Dinner, TBD
- Bull & Oyster Roast, October 6
- Yuletide Christmas Tea, December 2

*** * * HISTORIC PRESERVATION * * ***



Restored Manor House front entrance. D. Hummel photo.

**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN
& RESTORATION UPDATE**

Thanks to recently received grants and contributions from supporters like you, significant progress has been made toward addressing the restoration and capital improvement needs of this important historic landmark. Of the \$250,000.00 Capital Campaign goal, nearly \$150,000.00 has been raised to date.

These funds have enabled Friends of Mount Harmon to complete Phase I Exterior Woodwork Restoration of the plantation's historic manor house and outbuildings; restore the manor house marble steps; and converted the outdated pool into the new special event site at the plantation.

The FOMH is actively seeking additional grant funding to complete Phase II Exterior Masonry Restoration of the Manor House, Colonial Kitchen, and Serpentine-Walled Garden - the next critical step in the plantation's restoration efforts.

We are very thankful for a recent grant from the Crystal Trust that will allow a portion of the Phase II Masonry Restoration of the Manor House to begin this spring. Also, a recent grant from the Cecil Historical Trust will enable the Colonial Kitchen to be repointed this spring. This vital grant funding will allow FOMH to make significant progress toward addressing the plantation's pressing restoration needs.

*** EDUCATION & VISITOR *
PROGRAM INITIATIVE**

Funding is also being sought to complete a major education initiative at Mount Harmon, whose goal is to update the plantation's visitor and education program. A long term goal is to convert the stables into a Plantation Education and Discovery Center.

The Chichester du Pont Foundation recently awarded Mount Harmon a grant to fund a portion of its Education and Visitor Initiative Program. The goal of this education initiative is to update Mount Harmon's visitor and educational programming to more fully reflect the plantation's three centuries of history and pristine natural surroundings.

In general terms, this project would allow for a formal review and updating of Mount Harmon's Visitor and Education Program. In specific terms, this project will create an interpretive master plan for Mount Harmon that emphasizes its history and natural resources - the two major significant features of the plantation.

This project will also fund educational materials including a plantation brochure, site map, signage for the historic buildings and nature trails, and updated website. These are all important elements to assist Mount Harmon in becoming a premiere heritage destination.

More reasons to celebrate - The Chesapeake Bay Gateway Network is providing Mount Harmon with interpretive planning assistance for this project. The Chesapeake Bay Gateway Network is a branch of the National Park Service, and offers grants and an array of support services to its Gateway sites. As a Gateway site, Mount Harmon will benefit greatly from CBGN's Interpretive Planning Assistance program.

**AN ODE TO
MOUNT HARMON DOCENTS**

Mount Harmon Plantation's successful tour program is staffed by a dedicated group of volunteer docents, many of whom have served countless hours for many years:

**Mount Harmon Docents
5 Years and Up of Service**

Laura Gosnay – “Lolly” often worked as a hostess for Mrs. Boden's events after the original restoration.

Mary Haggerty - has had a lifelong interest in Mount Harmon, and actually lived on the farm for a short time in the late 1940's.

Elizabeth (Libby) Keefer - is our senior-most docent. She has volunteered since 1980 when she retired from teaching!

**Mount Harmon Docents
1 – 5 Years of Service**

Tracey Amorozo	Judy McKinney
Doris Bolton	Sunny Rinker
Robert Bryan	Elsie Slater
Mary Foraker	Richard Thompson
Linda Harris	Trudy Thompson

Jacqueline (Jackie) Upp
William (Bill) Watts - with his famous "fire and light" colonial kitchen demonstrations.
Susan Whitelaw - former tour coordinator, head docent, and current Board member.

In addition, we are fortunate to have a group of volunteers who cheerfully lend a hand during educational programs, special events, and those always-fun mass mailings:

Diane Brown	Margaret O'Neal
Marian Camp	Rose Pepiora
Edith Davis	Mary Segemark
Lee Martin	Thelma Wheatley
Rose Miller	

Our docents and volunteers breathe life into Mount Harmon Plantation. Each member of the Board of Directors express their most heart-felt thank you to the volunteers listed who are currently working to keep the Plantation's history alive.



YOU TOO CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Mount Harmon’s successes are a team effort. Throughout the year, the plantation needs help with everything from assisting with our school program and giving tours, to clearing nature trails and maintaining the boxwood garden. Please take a look at our wish list and call 410-275-8819 if you would like to volunteer your services or have an item to donate from the list.

Thanks to the generosity of area businesses and individuals, the Picnic’s Silent Auction has grown into an important fund raiser for Mount Harmon. Please review the items on our wish list and let us know if you have something special to donate for this year’s auction.

WISH LIST

Silent Auction Items

Donations of art, antiques, gift items, jewelry, vacation rentals, sporting events.

Grounds

Benches & Picnic Tables for Grounds
Exterior Lighting for Grounds

School Program

Funding for Bus Transportation

Equipment

Television with DVD and VCR

ODE TO MOUNT HARMON STAFF

A special thank you to Mount Harmon’s valued staff. Our Site Manager, Donny Poore, keeps the plantation looking grand. By his side is Bill Woods, as dependable as the word. Our Director of Development, Paige Howard, works on grant writing, fund raising, program development, marketing, and special events. Kim Righi, has been an asset to Mount Harmon, as Tour Coordinator & Administrator. Thank you Mount Harmon staff for your dedication and hard work!

