



Huntley Headlines

Friends of Historic Huntley

Fall 2008

Fall Open House

Sunday, October 19, 2008

2 to 4 p.m.

Puppet Show • 3 p.m.

Free • Rain or Shine!

Enjoy this semiannual opportunity to visit Historic Huntley, a Federal-style villa built in 1825 for Thomson F. Mason. The **Open House** features **guided tours, a scavenger hunt, and light refreshments**. Don't miss our **Puppet Show** entitled *A Day in the Life of the Mason Family*. Meet Sir James and the whole cast of characters.

Directions: Take Rt. 95 South (Beltway) to Exit 1; south on Richmond Highway (Rt. 1) for 3.5 miles; right onto Lockheed Blvd.; after 1/2 mile, turn right onto Harrison Lane; Huntley is 1/4 mile up the hill. ❖

Huntley Spruce-Up

Tuesday, October 7, 1–2:30 p.m.

Volunteers are sought for pruning, raking, sweeping, and tidying up the house. Please bring work gloves. Snacks and praise provided! Meet at Historic Huntley. 703.768.2525 to sign up. ❖

FOHH

Annual Meeting

Tuesday, November 18, 7:15 p.m.

Sherwood Regional Library

Highlights: recap of the year's activities; election of Board of Directors. Members are encouraged to attend. ❖

Historic Huntley to Benefit from Park Capital Improvement Bond

The emphasis of this year's bond is **stewardship**. The total bond is for \$77 million—\$65 million for the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA); \$12 million for the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority. Eighteen percent—\$11.6 million—is for renovating, building, and caring for facilities and programs at nature centers, historic sites, and horticultural attractions administered by the Resource Management Division.

Historic Huntley is slated to receive **\$1,945,000** from the bond referendum Fairfax County voters will vote for on **November 4**. Huntley's portion will enable the restoration of historic building exteriors, as well as parking and trails for improved visitor access to the site. Huntley Meadows Park also will benefit from boardwalk renovations and Phase II of the Wetlands Restoration project.

You can make this happen—please vote on this bond in November! ❖

Fairfax County Reduces Park Budgets

Reduced tax revenue by Fairfax County has led to major budget cuts. All county agencies must prepare for operating cost reductions of 15 percent. In draft budget proposals for the Resource Management Division, educational programs and services could be cut by 40 percent, including the elimination of 20 positions at nine sites. At Huntley Meadows this could mean the loss of two staff members and 200 educational programs a year. **The parks need your help!** “**Community Dialogue**” meetings will be held this fall at many sites around the county to gain public input on these serious budgetary issues. Upcoming meetings close by are:

- **Thursday, October 16, 7–9:30 p.m. — South County Government Center**
- **Saturday, November 13, 9:30 a.m.–12 noon — John Marshall Library**

Please plan to attend and support our parks and park personnel. For more information about these meetings and to learn of other locations, call 703.324.2391. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/government/budget/publicmeetings.htm. ❖

Huntley Tree Bowl Raffle

Drawing on October 19, 2008 Tickets available now!! 1 for \$5; 3 for \$10

The 112-year-old white oak tree removed from the corner of the Huntley property lives on in beautiful bowls handcrafted by local woodworker **Don Johnson**. Tickets are available at the Huntley Open House and the Huntley Meadows Park Visitor Center until just prior to the drawing. All proceeds are donated to the Historic Huntley Restoration Fund. For more information, call 703.768.2525. ❖

YES! Please sign me up for membership in Friends of Historic Huntley today!

- Enclosed is my check for \$10.
 New Member Renewing Member

Name: _____ Tel: Home: _____
Address: _____ Work: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Email: _____

I'm also interested in volunteering in the following area(s):

- Historic research Fundraising Special events General volunteer

For FOHH use only: *Date received:* _____ *Amount:* _____

Outdoor Interpretive Sign Project

FPCA staff and FOHH have begun planning for approximately 6 outdoor interpretive signs for Historic Huntley. These will be permanent, high-quality signs similar to the trail signs at Huntley Meadows Park. They will be installed at key locations, such as the necessary and ice well, carriageway, springhouse, tenant house, and main house. Through artwork, photographs, and text, the signs will tell the story of the site: the form and function of the outbuildings, landscape elements, architecture, and the people associated with Historic Huntley through time. One sign will be installed at Huntley Meadows Park to describe the land that was once a part of the plantation and to entice visitors to tour Historic Huntley to learn more. The project is funded by a Nonstate Agency Grant voted in by the 2007 Virginia General Assembly and administered by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. ❖

Events at Huntley Meadows Park

Park Manager Kevin Munroe Walk and Talk and Wetland Project Update.
Reservations required, 703.768.2525. *Free.* **October 25, November 15**, 4–6 p.m.

“Connections”—Lyndia Terre’s hand-painted etchings; photographs by **Becca Young.** Art show benefits **Becca’s Ark**, Support for Abandoned and Feral Animals, and **Huntley Meadows Park.** *Free.* Opening reception, **Sunday, October 5**, 2–4 p.m.

Watershed Clean-up Day. Reservations required, 703.768.2525. *Free.* **Saturday, October 18**, 9–11:30 a.m. ❖

FRIENDS OF HISTORIC HUNTLEY

P.O. Box 7241

Alexandria, VA 22307-0241

Address correction requested

Fall Open House • October 19, 2008

Huntley-Related Web Sites

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/histhunt/

<http://members.aol.com/fohhuntley>

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/gmp/historichuntleyreport.pdf

www.friendsofhuntleymeadows.org/

Huntley Headlines is produced by Friends of Historic Huntley, a local citizens group formed to assist Fairfax County in the restoration, preservation and utilization of Huntley and to enhance the public's knowledge of this historic villa.

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Mission Statement

Friends of Historic Huntley is dedicated to working in partnership with the Fairfax County Park Authority to preserve Historic Huntley for the benefit of the community and to:

- Support the appropriate use of the house and its site;
- Encourage and conduct research on its architecture and history; and
- Stimulate appreciation of our heritage through education and interpretation.

Address changes: Please send your mailing label with corrections clearly noted to: Friends of Historic Huntley, P.O. Box 7241, Alexandria, VA 22307-0241 or email FOHHuntley@aol.com.