



Huntley Headlines

Friends of Historic Huntley

Fall 2012

Huntley Fall Open House Saturday, October 6

2:00 to 4:00 p.m. • Free • Rain or Shine!

Harrison Lane, Alexandria

An opportunity to visit Historic Huntley, a Federal-style villa built in 1825 for Thomson F. Mason. Features include guided tours and light refreshments.

Huntley Open Hours

The grounds are open from dawn to dusk. Tours of the house are available by appointment and on Saturdays. For more information call Huntley Meadows Park, 703.838.2525.

FOHH Annual Meeting Thursday, November 8

7:00 p.m., Huntley Meadows Park

3701 Lockheed Boulevard, Alexandria

Members and guests are invited to attend the FOHH Annual Membership Meeting, which will include a recap of recent activities and voting on nominations for the board of directors.

Huntley Needs Volunteers!

Greeters and docents are needed to help with programs and Saturday tours. Contact Geoffrey Cohrs to volunteer or for more information, 703.768.2525 or geoffrey.cohrs@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Elly Doyle Park Service Award for FOHH Friday, November 16

FOHH has been awarded this prestigious honor for its longstanding work to preserve and interpret Historic Huntley. Please join us that evening to celebrate!

Historic Huntley Opens with a Flourish!

On Saturday, May 19, officials from the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA), and local government officials came to Historic Huntley on a magnificent sunny afternoon to cut the ribbon, officially opening Huntley to the public. More than 200 people attended the celebratory event and press coverage was extensive. Friends of Historic Huntley (FOHH), founded in 1992, was delighted to be able to celebrate its 20th anniversary during the opening of the beautifully restored building. FCPA Lee District Representative Ed Batten was a splendid master of ceremonies. Speakers included Board of Supervisors Chair Sharon Bulova, Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay, and Tim Aiken, legislative director for Congressman James Moran.

FOHH President Barbara Ballentine thanked all those who had made the day possible. In recognition of FOHH founder Norma Hoffman's past and present efforts to preserve Huntley, FOHH gave Norma a bowl handcrafted by Don Johnson from the wood of the 112-year-old white oak that grew next to the spring house on Huntley's grounds. Other handcrafted items from the same source were presented to Karen Lindquist, for her attention to the many historic details that brought the house back to its 1825 configuration, to Jim Duncan, for his extraordinary efforts during the restoration of the Mason-era buildings, and to Carolyn Gamble, for her consistent support of FOHH programs and as a member of the construction team. A special guest of honor was Susan Escherich, long-time FOHH president, who came from Rhode Island to attend this event.

Huntley Meadows Park staff worked very hard to have the building and grounds ready and shining for the event. FOHH extends its deepest gratitude to them all for their extra efforts. Refreshments provided by FOHH included period-authentic ginger snaps made by Annabel Baer—an instant hit with Ed Batten.

After the ribbon cutting, guests poured into Huntley to see the architecture rooms, which portray how the building was built and describe construction terms. The concept and design for these rooms were the result of the 2011 FOHH summer internship, a position held by Nora Allen. During the opening, Nora served as a docent to answer visitor questions. The two rooms on the west side of the house contain the history of Thomson Mason and the building. After so many years of working and waiting, we all enjoyed the wonderful opening celebration. ❖

More Huntley News: www.historichuntley.org/newsletter

- Photos of the Opening Celebration
- *FOHH: An Overview, 1992-2012* by Barbara Ballentine, President, FOHH
- *First Summer at Huntley* by Geoffrey Cohrs, Site Coordinator, HMP
- *2012 Internship* by Celeste Sharpe, FOHH Summer Intern
- *2011 Internship* by Nora Allen, FOHH Summer Intern

FRIENDS OF HISTORIC HUNTLEY

P.O. Box 7241

Alexandria, VA 22307-0241

Address correction requested

Huntley-Related Web Sites

www.historichuntley.org

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/histhunt/

www.friendsofhuntleymeadows.org

FCPA Park Bond on November 6 Ballot

Fairfax County citizens will be able to cast their vote for the **2012 FCPA Park Bond** issue during the November 6 elections. Included in the bond, under **Land Acquisition and Stewardship**, would be funds to renovate the tenant house at Historic Huntley, the final critical work to be accomplished at the site. *Please consider voting in favor of the bond!* More information and a photo of the property can be found at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/2012bond.htm. ❖

New Staff at Huntley Meadows Park

FOHH is delighted to welcome **Geoffrey W. Cohrs**, historic interpreter and site coordinator for Historic Huntley, who joined the staff at Huntley Meadows Park in May. Geoff works part-time as he completes a master's degree at George Mason University in applied history and digital media/American history. **Karen Sheffield**, who replaces Carolyn Gamble as the new operations and visitor services manager, served as program manager at Riverbend Park for 13 years. ❖

Events at Huntley Meadows Park

HMP is hopping! **Wild Side Wagon Rides**—a 90-minute tractor ride in the park—take place on many Saturdays through November 4. **The Sky's the Limit**, paintings of blue sky and cloud patterns by Maremi Hoof, are on view through October. Take a **Night Walk** through the woods on October 6. Other activities include: **birding** programs, **park manager Walk and Talks**, and programs for **young naturalists, scouts, and tiny tots**. For more information call 703.768.2525. ❖

Join Friends of Historic Huntley today!

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

Name: _____ Tel: Home: _____

Address: _____ Work: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email: _____

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

Greeter/Docent Special events Historical research Fundraising

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

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.

Board of Directors

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Harry Glasgow
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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.