

The Pencader Press

Newsletter of the Pencader Heritage Area Association

March 2007
Vol. 1 Issue 1

Who are we?

Volunteers interested in promoting the Pencader Heritage through active participation.



How do we do that?

- Outreach Programs
- Pencader Family Fun Day
- Educational Sign Program
- Video Library
- Local Oral Histories
- Preservation of Pencader History



Want more information ?

*Visit our web site:
www.
PencaderHeritage.Org*



The Pencader Heritage Area Association finally has a home. In mid-December 2006, PHAA took possession of the lower level of the barn at the Cooch-Dayett Mills Historical Complex. The entire site is owned by the Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs, from which PHAA rents the space. Through long-range planning and working with the state, PHAA was able to help design the interior renovation and has use of three large rooms and a kitchen area. At the initial meeting at their new home in January 2007, PHAA designated the rooms as The Cooch Room, The Pencader Room and The Dayett Room. The new name chosen for the building is The Pencader Heritage Museum.

PHAA members Bob Barnes, Bill Conley, John Slack and Ray Johnson are planning the best way to utilize the space showcasing historical artifacts, Native American displays, maps and pictures. Long range plans for the Museum include making displays available for educational group activities, as well as the general public.

PHAA is pleased to host a large and thriving new Cub Scout Pack which has chosen to be Pack 1777 in honor of the Battle of Cooch's Bridge in 1777. The Pack is energetic and has several projects in the works to benefit the PHAA Museum as well as be a fun learning and service experience for the boys. The Cubs have been designated "Pencader Patriot" members of the Association.

In an on-going effort to inform the public about the tremendous amount of history in the Pencader area, a number of signs have been developed and installed. These include "Welcome to Pencader Heritage Area" signs installed on all roads entering the area; signs detailing the iron mining process as it occurred at one time on Iron Hill; and Pencader Heritage Area Association Gateway signs at the entrance to Cooch-Dayett Mills, just off Old Baltimore Pike. Rep. Wm. Oberle, Rep. Stephanie Ulbrich and Sen. Steve Amick have been of great help to PHAA in these pursuits.

We were part of Newark Community Day in September and Newark Night in June, offering educational displays and hand-out literature to the public. In October we held our annual Pencader Heritage Day on the mill complex. All these activities are planned for 2007 also. A one-time event was our participation in a welcoming ceremony at the Cooch home on Old Baltimore Pike for the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary War Route re-enactors in August. The re-enactors were commemorating the march of Generals Washington and Rochambeau's armies from Rhode Island to Virginia, which led to the decisive battle ending the war, with the British surrender at Yorktown.

PHAA has researched in Pencader Hundred and found sites of 11 state-placed historical highway markers which are now missing. The General Assembly has designated funds for the replacement and upkeep of the signs and they will be replaced, hopefully, in the near future.

PHAA has a number of ambitious goals in the planning and execution stages. Among them is our aim to continue educating the community on the need to preserve and proclaim the rich heritage of the Pencader Hundred Area; collect Pencader area artifacts for display in the Museum; develop Power Point presentations on the major areas of interest in Pencader, sharing them with the general public and especially the educational community; expand Pencader Association memberships through the introduction of creative outreach programs. One of the latter is the availability to teachers of lesson plans focusing on Pencader colonial history and current status. We also have a book - *A Guide to the History and Heritage of Pencader Hundred*, by Bob Barnes and Judy Pfeiffer giving an overview of Pencader Hundred's historic sites. It is available by mail at \$12.00 including postage. Send order and check to PHAA, 248 East Chestnut Hill Rd., Newark, DE 19713.

An on-going project of PHAA is an excellent website developed and maintained by Frank and Ronni Romanelli, www.pencaderheritage.org. On the site are articles on the history of the area and its buildings by Bob Barnes, photos, games, puzzles and an events calendar.

2007 Calendar of Events

- May 17 - Flag Retirement Ceremony by Cub Pack 1777, PHAA Museum, 7:00 PM
- June 2 - PHAA will be at Newark Night, 5 - 9 PM (Rain date June 3)
- September 16 - PHAA will be at Newark Community Days (Rain date Sept. 23)
- September 29 - Pencader Family Fun Day, Cooch-Dayett Mills Complex

To continue the vigorous program we envision for PHAA, major fundraising is of prime importance. We are looking for increased private memberships, corporate donations, grants, and public funding. **Contact us: www.pencaderheritage.org or (302) 737-5792**

PHAA is a non-profit organization. Contributions are tax deductible

To contribute: PHAA, 248 East Chestnut Hill Rd. Newark, DE 19713

Individual / family membership \$10.00_____ Other donation_____

Name_____

Address_____

Phone: (optional)_____

E-mail: _____ for newsletter and coming events, ONLY.

Can we interest you in volunteering with PHAA to help during some of our activities? _____