

Fall
2008
Volume 11
Issue 1

Hampton Highlights



The Board of Directors requests your presence at the
Annual Meeting of Historic Hampton, Inc.

to be held on Tuesday, October 14, 2008 in the Orangery at 4 p.m.

Hampton National Historic Site ~ 535 Hampton Lane, Towson, MD 21286

Light refreshments will be served ~ R.S.V.P. ~ acceptances only

info@historichampton.org or 410-828-9480

All members of Historic Hampton, Inc. are invited to attend.

Message from the President: Many thanks to all our friends and volunteers who have made the summer season at Hampton a gigantic success. Visitation is up beyond our expectations, and enthusiasm abounds. If you have not yet had the opportunity to visit, please plan to come by soon and view the replicated carpet in the newly refurbished Drawing Room, as well as all the other wonderful upgrades that have been made to the site, both inside the buildings and on the grounds. Don't forget to also check out all the unique items in the Museum Shop, just in time for your holiday shopping. Sincerely, Robert S. Brown



SOLD OUT: My Doll & Me Afternoon Teas

brought to you by the
Education Committee
of Historic Hampton

Left: attendees on the
north steps of the
Hampton Mansion.

Right: Julie Eastwick of
the International School
of Protocol gives an
etiquette lesson to the
young ladies.

(Photos courtesy of HHI)



On Thursday, July 24, and Saturday, August 2, Hampton was alive with the infectious enthusiasm of many lovely young ladies, along with their dolls and adult escorts, as they sipped iced tea and lemonade, crafted bonnets, toured the Mansion, and had a lesson in etiquette during two sold-out events this summer. Interest and feedback were overwhelmingly positive as the Education Committee of HHI launched the prototype of what it hopes will be the basis for upcoming programs like this. To get advance notification for future events, please send an email to info@historichampton.org. Please note: HHI members will get first priority (membership remittal on back page).

The Glorious Garden Party

On Sunday, May 18th, HHI hosted a Garden Party at Hampton to highlight work to be done on the grounds and parterres. Resource Manager **Paul Bitzel** explained the plans to over 100 eager gardeners and guests, many of whom wore marvelous hats and gloves for this festive occasion. The event was combined with the annual Mint Julep Party, and refreshments were served in the Orangery and on the grounds. We're most grateful to the **Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, District III**, who provided gorgeous flower arrangements for the event, as well as a very generous donation toward the upcoming work on the 4th parterre. **Musica Scuola** entertained guests with period music. In addition, heirloom plants were sold to attendees through the efforts of the **Museum Shop**. Many thanks to the ladies of the **Events Committee**, to the **James Family, Pinehurst Landscape Company**, and especially to **Elyssa Baxter and the Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, District III**, for helping to make this event so successful. We look forward to holding another exciting garden event next year! **Ann Hagerty Boyce, Events Chair**



Attendees included (left to right) Patricia Bentz—Executive Director of Baltimore County Historic Trust (BCHT), her daughters Traci and Jessica, and Ruth Mascari—board member of BCHT. (Photo courtesy of HHI).

Drawing Room Carpet Installed in June 2008

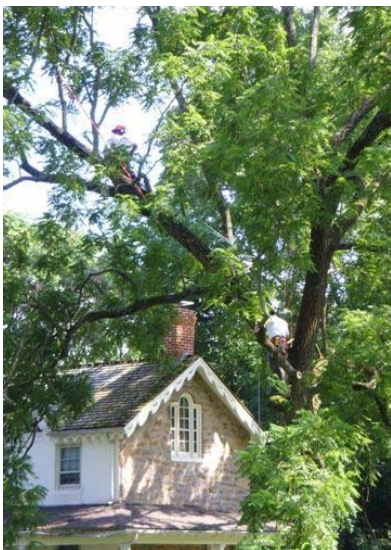
A Unique Accomplishment in Historic Interiors, Thanks to Our Generous Funders

As described in detail in the cover article of *The Hampton Gazette* (enclosed), the reproduction of the original carpet for Hampton's Drawing Room has at last been finished after seven years of joint efforts by Historic Hampton, Inc. and the National Park Service. One of HHI's major roles in this significant endeavor was to raise from private sources all the needed funding to underwrite the project. Now that the project has been successfully completed, and the magnificent result of all the years of work is on view for visitors to admire, we would like to extend our sincerest thanks to those who made it possible.

Initial funding for reproducing the carpet was provided by grants from the **Middendorf Foundation** in 2000 and 2005. In addition, throughout this period the **Dorothy Wagner Wallis Charitable Trust** funded the position of Hampton's Furnishings Project Coordinator who spent many hundreds of hours working on the project.

After the unexpected closure of the Sultana factory in England last summer required HHI to find additional funds if there was to be any hope of completing the carpet, we were able to secure crucial grants from both the **Richard C. Von Hess Foundation** and the **Middendorf Foundation** to help bring the project to a successful conclusion. Additional funding for this effort was provided by the **Horatio B. Ebert Foundation**.

The board of the Von Hess Foundation visited Hampton on June 25—just 5 days after the carpet was installed—to see the product of their generous and timely support. Accompanying them was Hampton's carpet consultant from England, **David Luckham**, who went to extraordinary lengths last fall to secure the use of the facilities, looms, yarns, spooling papers, and staff necessary for the carpet to be completed. David personally purchased the looms and underwrote the rental of facilities and running costs. He also created a not-for-profit concern called "**Living Looms**," through which he hopes to continue the production of historic carpets. HHI is most grateful for all these contributions and to the funders' continuing interest in Hampton and its programs. In addition, HHI would like to personally acknowledge our Furnishings Coordinator **Gregory Weidman**, our President **Robert S. Brown**, our **Board of Directors**, the **National Park Service**, former curator **Lynne Dakin Hastings**, and Executive Administrator **Judy D. Cohen**, for their diligent efforts in making this project come to fruition.



Grounds & Gardens highlights from Ranger Paul

After extensive research, plans have been developed for the long-awaited rehabilitation of Hampton's parterre gardens. Work will begin shortly with the removal of non-historic plantings and the layout and installation of new plantings on the 1st and 2nd terraces. A new irrigation system is also planned.

Resource Management staff have completed a project with the Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation to prune and remove hazardous trees throughout the grounds. Work was completed as part of the Arborist Training Program, which is designed to provide certification in arboriculture for NPS employees throughout the U.S. In conjunction with this project, Ron Brown of Wood Turnings will once again fashion decorative pieces from some of the wood that was removed. These popular items will be offered for sale in the Museum Shop.

Park staff is now preparing for this year's Yuletide. Armed with updated research and a wide assortment of new plant material, NPS staff and the Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, District III, will be creating seasonal exhibits throughout the Mansion and the Farmhouse that will provide fresh glimpses into past traditions of holiday celebrations.

New directional and interpretive signs are being prepared to guide visitors through the park. These will provide detailed information about the buildings and landscape while touring the grounds. Enjoy your visit!

Special Events:

Oct 3, 5:30-8:30 pm, \$90.

"Autumn at the Mansion"

Orangery. Party hosted by the Women's Committee.

Included: tour highlighting past WC gifts, full bar, catering. Proceeds will directly benefit future projects in the Mansion. Send a check payable to the **Women's Committee of HHI** to: Mrs. Dorothea Brewster, Box 433, Brooklandville, MD 21022.

Oct. 25, 6-8 pm, Farmhouse Hampton Hollows: Ghostly Tales & Lore. Enjoy seasonal stories written by some of your favorite Gothic authors.

Dec. 7, Cocoa & Crafts Party.

\$20 for 1st adult/child.

Discount for HHI members.

Details available soon.

Dec. 11- HHI members-only

Yuletide Evening event.

Details available soon.

Dec. 12-13, 6:30-8:30. Yuletide Evenings.

See the Mansion in all its splendor during this rare opportunity.

Dec. 16. Yuletide Bus Tour,

\$55 (\$50-members). Visit

Hampton, Mt. Clare, Home-

wood, & Evergreen muse-

ums. Price includes bus,

admission, lunch. For details

on this, as well as the *Holiday*

Shopper on **Dec. 18** which

includes a special welcome

for all at the four house mu-

seums, call Abbi Wicklein-

Bayne at 410-837-3262.

Listings are subject to change. For details and updates on all events, please visit:

www.historichampton.org or call NPS Visitors' Center: 410-823-1309, x-237.

News Briefs:

- The park's hours are **9 am to 5 pm, daily**. Please call the NPS Visitors' Center for Mansion and Farm tour info and times: 410-823-1309, x237.
- While here, please be sure to visit the freshly stocked *Museum Shop of HHI* where you can find unique gifts for every occasion. It's open **10 am to 4 pm, daily**. Members of HHI get a 10% discount every day. Get a 20% discount on the day you sign up for membership!
- HHI is now a part of the Maryland Cultural Data Project. This statewide effort gathers information about cultural entities using a standardized format for organizational and financial data, which will then be used for submitting grant applications to participating donors. Many thanks to the extraordinary efforts of our Executive Administrator **Judy Cohen**, HHI President Emerita **Dr. Rhoda Dorsey**, **Pat Welch**, CPA, and HHI's Furnishings Coordinator **Gregory Weidman**.
- The Historic Structure Report for the Mansion is nearly complete. This 2-year project, generously funded by *Preservation Maryland* and executed by architectural historians **Mark Wenger** and **Eric Gradoia** of MCWB Architects, details how the house evolved architecturally over the centuries. Details to come in the next newsletter.



Horticulture Day at Oregon Ridge

On Thursday, October 23, Oregon Ridge is the place to be as the Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, Districts III & IV, host *Horticulture Day*. HHI and the NPS will participate by having informational displays, highlighting some of the recent and forthcoming gardening projects that are happening here at Hampton. For more information, email: fgcofmd@aol.com

Introducing: A Comprehensive Guide to Hampton's Collections

The staff of Hampton National Historic Site and HHI are pleased to announce the addition of an Archives section to the Hampton website, available at <http://www.nps.gov/hamp/historyculture/archives.htm>. A link may also be found on the About Historic Hampton Inc. page of HHI's website: http://historichampton.org/about_hhi.php. The new pages detail the holdings at Hampton, as well as Hampton and Ridgely related holdings at other institutions, and provide a Comprehensive Guide to Collections, a unique tool for looking at the collections as a whole. The guide covers materials dating from 1664 to 1990, and brings together descriptions of over 100 manuscript collections – regardless of their physical location. As part of this project, Hampton National Historic Site is, for the first time, publishing on the web its finding aids on Hampton's holdings.

The project was funded by a grant from *Preservation Maryland* to HHI, who then contracted for its completion and co-managed the project with the NPS. Our thanks go out to National Park Service Archivist **Julia Lehnert** and to **Malissa Ruffner** of InfoProjects for their tireless efforts on behalf of this undertaking. For more information about the comprehensive guide, please contact Julia Lehnert at: julia_lehnert@nps.gov.

The Education Committee Needs You & Your Gently Used Goods!



This dedicated group of volunteers will meet next on Oct. 30 at 9:30 am. New members are always welcome. Call HHI for details. The Education Committee's mission is to plan activities designed to bring visitors to Hampton to learn more about its many unique facets. This past spring we worked with the Baltimore Chapter of the American Institute of Architects to have a behind-the-scenes look at the newly installed fire suppression and air handling systems. During the summer the committee launched its first prototype event for children, with My Doll & Me Teas for girls (see cover). Due to its success, additional events are in the planning stages, starting with the Cocoa & Crafts Party on Dec. 7. On Oct. 12, the committee will work with the NPS and the Baltimore Museum of Industry to create a joint program focusing on the harvesting of food (see photo-left) and how it is processed.

So that we may continue to provide educational outreach to the public at minimal costs, we request donations. Please call HHI if you can provide the following: three card tables in good condition, blunt-nosed scissors in good condition and suitable for kids, and odds & ends of spools of ribbon. Thanks for your help!

Slave Cabin C Now Open to Public

Last April, the NPS and HHI officially reopened and welcomed the first visitors to Slave Quarter C –the Tenant Farmers' Quarter (see photo on right, courtesy of HHI), which highlights the post-emancipation era, and completes the reinstallation of interpretive space at all three farm cabins at Hampton National Historic Site. The celebration was held in conjunction with the 2nd Annual African-American Symposium on slavery at Goucher College. Keynote speaker for next year's symposium will be Dr. David Blight, author of *Race and Reunion*. This is sure to be another very popular event. Details from Ranger Vince will be available next spring.



Second Sundays:

Free Public Programs – call NPS Visitors' Center at 410-823-1309, x237, day of event to confirm time & location:

Oct. 12, 12-4 pm, Hampton Harvest: help to gather in the crops during our free 2nd annual harvest day. Then head downtown to the Baltimore Museum of Industry to learn how the harvest was processed in the 1800s (free for BMI members, charge for others. Call NPS or BMI for details at 410-727-4808).

Nov. 9, 2 pm, Author David Toomey will introduce the history of the United States Colored Troops and their involvement in the Civil War.

Dec. 14, 12-4 pm. Yuletide festivities & fun. Call the NPS Visitors Center for details.

Jan. 11, 12-4 pm. Join us for parlour games, music, and traditional fun for all ages.

Feb. 8, 2 pm. Famed story teller Shindana Cooper joins us again for stories of famous African-Americans leaders.

Mar. 8, 2 pm. What Women Wore—fashion thru the ages.

Apr. 12, 2 pm. Event to be determined. Stay tuned...

Goucher Bus Tour

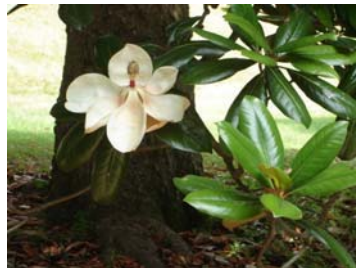
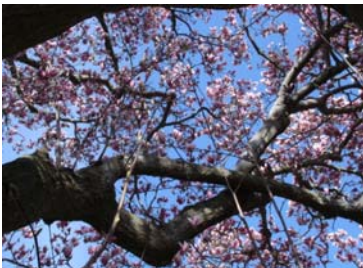
Nov. 13, 9am–5pm, Historic Frederick, MD. Visit Ross House, circa 1815, where we will be greeted by the owner. Enjoy a 3-course lunch, and a stop at the Frederick Cellar Winery for tour/tasting, on this unique docent-led trip. \$110, all inclusive. Call now. Goucher Alumnae/i Tours-reservations: 443-921-3599.

Unless otherwise noted, all photos are courtesy of the National Park Service.



Non-Profit Org.
U.S.
POSTAGE
PAID
Baltimore, MD
Permit # 8078

Hampton Mansion at sunset
Historic Hampton, Inc.
535 Hampton Lane, Towson, MD 21286



Spring, summer, fall, winter ... it's always a good time to visit and support Hampton National Historic Site.

Since 1979, HHI, a non-profit friends group, has assisted the NPS in generating community awareness and helped in expanding and enhancing the historical, educational, and interpretive activities at Hampton. If you are already a member, we thank you for your support and hope that you will tell your friends about Hampton. If not, we hope that you consider joining so that we may continue in our efforts.

Benefits include:

- Hampton Highlights newsletter*
- Invitations to special lectures, tours and events*
- Discounts in the Museum Shop*

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Please consider becoming a member. Kindly remit this form along with a check payable to: HHI 535 Hampton Lane, Towson, MD 21286

Tel: 410-828-9480 www.historichampton.org

<i>Guardian</i>	\$500
<i>Patron</i>	\$250
<i>Benefactor</i>	\$150
<i>Sponsor</i>	\$100
<i>Family</i>	\$ 60
<i>Sr. Family</i>	\$ 50
<i>Individual</i>	\$ 45
<i>Sr. Individual</i>	\$ 40