

HALE BYRNES HOUSE WINTER 2018 – 2019 NEWSLETTER



Footprints in the Snow. February 2019. [Photo by Ralph Burdick.]

606 Stanton-Christiana Road, Newark, Delaware 19713

A reminder: Hale Byrnes House is closed for the winter. We will re-open on Wednesday, April 3

Our Board and volunteers are thrilled to announce that from January 1-December 31, 2018 we had 931 visitors! Not too bad for a place that is only open on the first Wednesday of each month from noon until three, with public programming one weekend a month from April-December. We wish to thank Cooch's Bridge DAR for their assistance with our Sunday afternoon programs, and all the many other friends and supporters who attend our programs, cheerfully help in so many ways, and best of all, bring their friends and relatives to learn about our history.

Our first 2019 American Revolution Roundtable (ARRT-NDE) program will be held Saturday evening, April 13. Archaeologist Wade Catts, will be our opening night speaker, talking about the recent historical archaeological investigations at Fort Mercer (Red Bank) Battlefield." The following afternoon, Steve Cox, Kent Chapter President of the Archaeology Society of Delaware, will kick off our 2019 "This Place Matters" series with a talk about Kent County's "Wild Cat Manor."

Our 2018 speakers came from both far and wide and included such distinguished scholars as Robert Hubbard of Rhode Island; Glenn Williams of the Center of Military History in Washington, D.C., and Bob Selig, the internationally-recognized scholar of the Yorktown Campaign, and also superb speakers drawn from our own membership, including John Sweeney, a former News Journal Editor; Chris Mlynarczyk of 1st Delaware Regiment, retired Dupont chemical engineer Walt Chiquoine; and friends Willis Phelps, Syl Woolford, Marcos Salaverria, Judy Martin, Mike Dixon, Wade Catts, Rebecca Wilson, John Barlow, and Adele Meehan, who have made us a place where people love to congregate!

We are especially grateful to State Division of Historic and Cultural Affairs staff, Tim Slavin, Lynn Riley, James Scott, Don DeLoach, and Vicki Macklin, and their colleagues at Statewide Mechanical who have done so much to help us keep this old place warm during this long, cold winter.

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Some of the highlights of the past year have included a beautiful summer wedding; well-received programs out by the creek bank by Marcos Salaverria of Lewes, and a smash hit program on Buffalo Soldiers by Willis Phelps; and the horrified reaction of almost every member of the audience during our Hallowe'en program, "Skulls, Severed Heads and Skeletons," when the front door suddenly burst open and nobody was there. Kenny Cat had decided to come inside!

Another strange but true incident was waiting, waiting, waiting for our new refrigerator to be delivered. After several week, Kim finally called J.C. Penney's at the Christiana Mall and asked them if They had our refrigerator! Sure enough, the GPS had once again, as many times before, misread our address. The unsuspecting staff at Penney's, accustomed to having refrigerators delivered, had unpacked our refrigerator and put it on their showroom floor!! Eventually Penney's and Home Depot worked things out among themselves, and now Hale Byrnes House has a handsome new refrigerator!

So, it has been a busy year with lots of good help, good friends, and good times!

Come visit us in 2019 !

Check out our calendar and learn more about us on our website at <http://www.halebyrnes.org/>

And remember also to check us out on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/Hale-Byrnes-House-476535632378537/>.

Thanks for all you do!

Kim Burdick, MA, MPA
Resident Manager.