



Spring 2015

Notes from the Ford

What's New

Building Improvements

Part of the Society's commitment to preserving history is the maintenance of three historic buildings: the John Chads House (c. 1725), Springhouse and Barns-Brinton House (1714). As with any old structure, this requires significant expense and time. We are happy to report that many improvements have been made over the last year to ensure the buildings are here for future visitors to enjoy.



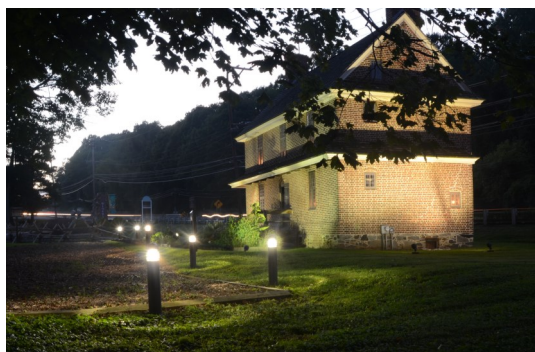
New steps at John Chads House



Interior painting of John Chads House



New fence at Barns-Brinton House - courtesy Eagle Scouts



Outside lighting at Barns-Brinton House



Interior painting of the Barns-Brinton House



Historical marker at Barns-Brinton House

Additional enhancements included painting of meeting and exhibit rooms at the Visitors Center, a new HVAC system at the John Chads House, and a new well pump and dehumidifier at the Barns-Brinton House. The Visitors Center will be getting a new cedar shingle roof and gable repair later this April. Improvements were made possible with grants and volunteers.

Please Touch Corner for Kids

The Visitors Center has something you don't find at many museums - a display kids are encouraged to touch. Try on colonial clothes, examine artifacts from our past, and take a picture. There are also new exhibits, videos and other interesting displays the whole family will enjoy.



New Hours Starting April 1st

The Chadds Ford Historical Society is dedicated to meeting the needs of our community. As part of this commitment, we are changing the hours of operations to make it more convenient for our visitors. Our hours of operation will now be Wednesday through Saturday from 10 to 4:30 p.m. and on Sundays from 1 to 4:30 p.m. We will be closed on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Did You Know?

Barns-Brinton House What's in those old walls?



Above the tavern is a room that once was used for travelers to lodge overnight. All guests slept together, sometimes on the same bedding. Today a large wall cut shows the original lathing, studs and brown coat plaster.



Before Hank's There Was Brittingham's



In 1905, the corner of Creek Road and Route 1 looked very different from today. John Brittingham's blacksmith shop provided important services like horseshoeing and cart wheel repairs.



By the 1920s, the "horseless carriage" ruled the roads, and the blacksmith shop was rebuilt into a garage. Above is the Brittingham Garage in 1937.



Today, Hank's offers homemade meals for travelers along "Ye Great Road to Nottingham" in place of horseshoes and oil changes - all worthy services to the Chadds Ford community.

Upcoming Events

Guest Bartender Event featuring Victoria Wyeth

April 14th 6pm - 9pm

The BBC Tavern & Grill

4019 Kennett Pike, Greenville, DE 19807



Come see a lineup of guest bartenders including the amazing Victoria Wyeth and the delightful Frank Mendenhall serve up some brew and toast to the Colonials' victory! Join the Chadds Ford Historical Society for dinner at the restaurant and get ready to have more than a few laughs, great drinks and tons of fun! All tips and 10% of food sales will be donated to the Chadds Ford Historical Society. Please tell wait staff you are with CFHS.

50 Years of Chadds Ford Days Exhibit Opening

May 22nd 5:30pm - 8pm

The Chadds Ford Historical Society is marking the 50th anniversary of its colonial faire, Chadds Ford Days. Begun in 1965 as a way to raise awareness of the historical and cultural heritage of the area, the celebration has grown over the years. A new exhibit will celebrate this birthday. Using objects and photographs from the 50 year history, it will mix one part history and one part nostalgia with some fun thrown in for good measure. The exhibit will run through December 5.



3rd Annual Spring Yard Sale

May 16th 8am - 1pm

CFHS Visitors Center



Ever wonder what's in all those attics, basements and closets? Well, each winter local residents clean out their excess storage, donating wonderful used knick-knacks, household items, books, pictures, jewelry, toys and decorations to the Society. Stop by and rummage through tables filled with

items available at low discount prices. Donations are still being accepted and can be dropped off at the office during business hours. Please: no clothing, electronics or broken items.

Massive Barn Market

April 18th 9am - 5pm

CFHS Visitors Center Grounds



Put on your comfy shoes for a fun day of shopping. There will be 50 quality vendors offering unique collectables, vintage items and antique goods. Plus a variety of food trucks will be on hand serving up everything from gourmet specialties to all American standards including desserts and other treats. The event is co-sponsored by the Chadds Ford Historical Society and the Brandywine View Antiques, admission is free.

Summer Camps

Our education group is offering several Summer Camps this year where children can experience history in a fun and interesting way. Please contact the office for details and to sign up.



Discover History
(8 yrs & older)

July 13 - 17
Aug. 17 - 21



American Girl™ Doll
(7 yrs & older)

June 22 - 26
July 27 - 31



Living History
(11 yrs & older)

June 13 - Aug. 15
Selected Saturdays

CFHS Annual Meeting

April 26th 4pm

Members are invited to our annual meeting to learn what's new at the society and vote on new Board Members.

Our Society

Board of Directors

Kendal Reynolds	President
Phyllis Recca	Vice President
Mark Trozzi	Treasurer
Paul Haldeman	Secretary
Peter Alois	
Bill Delany	
Lora Englehart	
Dick Gies	
John Gould	
Samantha Hage	
Steve Liberace	
Kirk Reichard	
Ali Rhodes	
Thomas Singer	
Pat and John Steel	

Staff

Nadia Barakat	Executive Director
Lynda Gillow	Education Manager

The Chadds Ford Historical Society is dedicated to preserving history, serving the community, and providing education. Its newsletter, "Notes from the Ford" is published quarterly. Members are encouraged to submit ideas, photos or other items of interest.

Photos courtesy CFHS, Phyllis Recca and Victoria Wyeth.

Chadds Ford Historical Society

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Become a Volunteer!



You can
make a
difference!

The Society has a variety of opportunities for volunteers. Hours are flexible based on your schedule. Whether 'in office' work or helping with an event, you can make a difference! Contact the office to learn more and have your name added to our volunteer



Employment Opportunities

Office Manager

This position is responsible for performing administrative and financial duties as well as supporting fundraising events. Proficiency required in QuickBooks and MS Office. Working knowledge of Adobe InDesign and PhotoShop is a plus. 5 days- 20 to 30 hours per week. Flexible schedule. Submit resume to nbarakat@chaddsfordhistory.org.



Summer Intern

The purpose of the internship is to expose a student to the various working aspects of historic house museums and a small local historical society. To achieve this goal, interns will assist with guiding, welcoming and interpretation. In addition, the intern will complete a project specifically tailored to the intern's skills, abilities, interests, and career goals.

Museum Store

Be sure to visit our Museum Store for unique gifts, toys, prints and books. All purchases help support the Society.

