



Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, Inc.

12525 Catoctin Furnace Road
Thurmont, Maryland 21788

December 16, 2014

Dear Friend,

As the 41st anniversary year of the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society comes to a close, we're writing to ask you to support the society's work with a financial gift.

From the eve of the American Revolution through the early 20th century, Catoctin Furnace has helped define the industry, history, and culture of western Maryland. The Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, Inc., a non-profit organization, celebrates, studies, and preserves the rich history of this pre-revolutionary industrial village. We hope you will make a year-end gift to help us continue our research into the architecture, cultural landscapes, and traditional lifeways of the workers who built the village.

This past year has been a particularly exciting one for the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society. We purchased and began renovating the Forgerman's House, negotiated a lease on the stone house that is now known as the Museum of the Iron Worker, and embarked on new partnerships with Silver Oak Academy and Springfield Manor. We continue to hold our popular educational outreach programs every season, festively decorating our buildings and holding traditional craft demonstrations during Spring in the Village, Fallfest, and Traditional Village Christmas. In addition, our investigation of the origins and lifeways of the furnace's first workers has become an exciting multi-pronged research project, involving (to name just a few) archaeological, archival, bioarchaeological, and metallurgical studies. We expect that this research will shed new, unprecedented light onto the lives of these inaugural industrial workers and inhabitants of Catoctin Furnace.

We think that the attached short overview of our accomplishments in 2014 highlights the work that makes Catoctin Furnace worthy of your support. As a non-profit organization, the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, Inc., is funded by memberships, grants, bequests, and gifts from people like you who value the imaginative, high-quality educational experiences we provide.

Thank you for considering this request. We wish you all the best for 2015, and we hope to see you at one of our upcoming events.

Sincerely,

Christopher Gardiner
President