Maryland Iron Festival: Mountains, Metal, and Malt

We are delighted to invite you to join us for the first annual Maryland Iron Festival: Mountains, Metal, and Malt on the weekend of May 18 and 19! This festival replaces our annual Spring in the Village, Art at the Furnace event and represents an exciting focus on Maryland’s unique history as a center for the craft of iron making.

The festival will feature blacksmithing and casting demonstrations; a basket weaving workshop (Sunday only with pre-registration required); delicious traditional food; a wine and beer garden with Bluegrass music; guided tours of the village and of the charcoal trail in Catoctin Mountain Park; a wide variety of iron and metalwork arts, crafts, and jewelry; a “feats of strength” challenge (with a prize!); and lots of children’s activities!

Plein air artists will be painting at various locations in the village as well as in the state and national park. Please come and see their finished products at 4 - 5 pm on Saturday and all day Sunday in The Museum of the Ironworker (12610 Catoctin Furnace Road).

The event takes place in the village and in Cunningham Falls State Park and Catoctin Mountain Park. Admission is free! Visit www.catoctinfurnace.org for updates and information. Please note: Saturday is the main day for festival events in the village—with many partner events on Sunday.

Great News About a Growing Partnership!

The Green-walled Garden Club was presented with the Federated Garden Clubs of MD, Inc. Governor’s Beautification Bowl for their work with Silver Oak Academy students planting the kitchen garden behind the Collier’s Log House! The group also planted perennials in the fall and will be back this spring to plant pollinators and prepare the kitchen garden for this year’s plantings.

Quick Trail Update: Work is Nearly Complete and the benches have been installed!

Please enjoy the beautiful trail and seating areas! Interpretative panels will be installed during the summer.
CFHS and Silver Oak Academy Receive Preservation Maryland’s Phoenix Award

We are honored that Preservation Maryland has chosen to honor our Historic Building Trades Program and our partnership with Silver Oak Academy with this prestigious award. The award states, “Through this program Silver Oak students are exposed to a broad range of construction methods, including preserving and uncovering architectural details and recreating documented design elements. Students develop an understanding of building components and systems and learn to compare current technology and traditional tools and practices. This partnership is an excellent example of private and public resources coming together to save important historical buildings while improving young lives.”

We are grateful to Preservation Maryland for their recognition and to Silver Oak Academy for a longstanding and productive partnership. The award ceremony will take place on May 16 at 6 pm at Glen Echo Park. All are welcome to attend!

Archaeologist for a Day
Every Sunday, 12:30-3:30 pm in the log house. Stop in and work alongside archaeologists on the Forgeman’s House artifacts!

Upcoming Calendar
April meeting – Tuesday, April 9, noon
Green-walled Garden Club meeting at Catoctin Furnace - Wednesday, April 10, 9am
May meeting – Tuesday, May 14, noon
Maryland Iron Festival - May 18-19, 10 am-5 pm
June meeting – Tuesday, June 11, noon
Maryland Lavender Festival at Springfield Manor
June 15 & 16 9 am-4 pm
July meeting – Tuesday, July 9, noon

Contact us
The Catoctin Furnace Historical Society website www.catoctinfurnace.org & Facebook page are updated regularly with news and events. Please check them out or call 443-463-6437 for general information and specific questions.

The historical society officers are also available via phone or email:

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