

Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, Inc.: 2016 Accomplishments

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| January | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Society for Historical Archaeology toured Catoctin Furnace, where Dr. Douglas Owsley, Dr. Kari Bruwelheide, and Dr. Katie Barca of the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History gave a presentation of their Chesapeake research, using the some examples of bone from Catoctin Furnace to illustrate some of their findings. The executive director of the Society of Historical Archaeology reported that one participant said it was the best SHA tour. ● The Willoughby Mayberry Franklin Stove and John Brien Seven Plate Stove were sent to the Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory for conservation. |
| February | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Restoration work began at the Forgerman's House, where more than 50 pieces of historic clothing have been recovered. Additionally, a leather shoe has been recovered from Springfield Manor. ● Five brass buttons found at Springfield have been tentatively identified as pre Civil War and possibly date as early as the Revolutionary War. ● CFHS hosted In Their Own Voices – A Living History and Heritage Food Event Celebrating Black History Month. Students from Silver Oak Academy performed to a full house and standing room only in the parish hall. ● CFHS hosted <i>Abraham Lincoln in Song</i> and <i>Oh Freedom, Songs of the Civil Rights Movement</i> at Springfield Manor. |
| March | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Archaeological excavation began in the Forgerman's house, where mid-19th century coins, pins, Union soldier hat pin, stoneware inkwell, bone lice comb, several shoes, and thousands of other artifacts were found. ● Ken Brink presented CFHS with items of ephemera found during the restoration of his house, including a report card for Albert Bush and a letter to Miss Betty Stitley from Pete Kesselring dated July 9, 1943. ● Participated in Museums at the Mall. More than 750 people stopped by and more than 20 handkerchief dolls were made. |
| April | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Archaeological excavation at the Forgerman's house was completed. ● CFHS participated at Library Fun Fair. ● CFHS participated in Bell and History Day ● CFHS participated in Every Kid in a Park. ● Heart of the Civil War FAM Tour visited Catoctin Furnace. ● CFHS participated in Thurmont Business Showcase. |
| May | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CFHS hosted the fifth annual Spring in the Village on Saturday, May 7 to Sunday May 8. ● CFHS participated in the summer reading club sponsored by Thurmont Public Library. ● Master Naturalist Program and the Concocheague Institute toured Catoctin Furnace. ● CFHS hosted visitors during the Mountain to Valley tour organized by the Seton Shrine. |
| June | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CFHS members attended the Silver Oak Academy Graduation. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Maryland SHA regraded the ditch and berm at the front of the Forgeman's House for restoration. ● CFHS was awarded \$1500 for conservation of the stoves by the Society for Industrial Archaeology. |
| July | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CFHS completed and received the 2015 \$6000 TRIPP Grant. ● CFHS hosted Vans Warped Tour Service Day. |
| August | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● |
| September | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Certified Tourism Ambassador held a networking event at Catoclin Furnace. ● CFHS and Silver Oak Academy students and faculty visited the National Museum of African American history. ● Mary Rae Cantwell made a generous donation to the society for the new museum. These items are now on display at the museum. ● CFHS participated in History Day at the Fair. |
| October | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CFHS participated in Fallfest ● CFHS hosted the annual Archaeological Society of Maryland meeting, where presentations on recent discoveries at Catoclin Furnace were given. Additionally, Dr. Doug Owsley and his Smithsonian team reported on the slave cemetery at Catoclin. ● CFHS, in partnership with Silver Oak Academy, Cunningham Falls State Park, and Harriet Chapel, hosted <i>Spirits of the Furnace</i>. ● CFHS hosted 2 tours: the Hood College Coastal Studies and the Mountain to Valley Weekend experience group. ● Flotation analysis at the Forgeman's House was completed, revealing a rich collection of non-botanical as well as plant macro remains. These finds include egg shells, leather, coal, slag, coffee beans, and a variety of nuts and seeds. |
| November | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● St Angelo Family was nominated as tourism ambassadors of the year for Frederick County. ● Pat Weddle donated a butter pat decorated with pineapple and metal beater, which were used by Ida Mae Kelly Fraley. ● DNA samples from the cemetery were submitted to the Smithsonian for further analysis. |
| December | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CFHS hosted 114 visitors at sixth annual Traditional Village Christmas. ● CFHS hosted 34 visitors at Museums by Candlelight. ● CFHS received 20 year lease on Museum of the Ironworker ● Ore Cart returned to Museum of the Ironworker after conservation ● CFHS members attended Silver Oak Academy Graduation. |