

Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, Inc.: 2017 Accomplishments

January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SUCCESS Program students continued cleanup and trail work behind the Museum of the Ironworker. • Maryland Conservation Corps (MCC) volunteers cleared debris around the Forgeman's House.
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4th Annual "In Their Own Voices" – A Living History and Heritage Food Event Commemorating Black History Month. Students from Silver Oak Academy performed in the Harriet Chapel parish hall, and a delicious lunch was prepared and served by the culinary students. A special thank you to Kathy Abbott, who provided fabulous costumes for the event. • Hosted <i>Abraham Lincoln in Song</i> and <i>Oh Freedom, Songs of the Civil Rights Movement</i> at Springfield Manor. Thank you to Springfield Manor and to Homewood at Crumland Farms for their generous support.
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in Museums at the Mall. More than 350 people stopped by our table to learn about Catoctin Furnace. • Elizabeth Comer presented a CFHS research update at the Master Docent Series workshop. • Attended Mount St. Mary's University Career Fair. • Five papers focusing on Catoctin Furnace were presented at the Mid Atlantic Archaeological Conference.
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended the Ausherman Family Foundation seminar. • Soft opening of The Museum of the Ironworker.
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosted the sixth annual Spring in the Village, Art at the Furnace. A presentation by American Girl author Valerie Tripp was a festival highlight. An estimated 1000 visitors attended the two-day event. • Attended the Consortium Meeting and participated in the Thurmont Business Show. • The window sashes in the Forgeman's house were painted, and historic wavy glass was installed in all panes. Mullions were installed in the windows at the Museum of the Ironworker to imitate historic windows. • Members attended the Colonial Market Fair at Fort Frederick. • Hosted a HCWHA Social Media meet up in the village and premiered the hashtag created at the event (#preservecatoctin). • Kathy Abbott conducted a clothing workshop and measured volunteers for costumes. • Submitted MHAA and TRIPP grant applications.

June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CFHS Members attended the Silver Oak Academy graduation. ● Participated in the Lavender Festival at Springfield Manor. ● Member Jim Robbins and the SUCCESS students moved the trail (owing to water issues), and archaeology undertaken in advance recovered 2 firebricks from Woodland Fire Brick and Mount Savage. (These match furnace records from December 1881 regarding relining of the stack.) ● Hosted the Outdoor Afro tour group. ● Received an Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Subaward through The Johns Hopkins University (\$24,440), to be used for exhibit creation in the Museum of the Ironworker. ● Received the Joy Reese Derr Award from the Frederick Historic Sites Consortium for outstanding museum-community relations. ● With funding from HCWHA, hosted consultant Beth Maloney for a Museum Education Initiative workshop in order to craft a tour aimed at middle and high school students. ● Participated in the Frederick Arts Festival, attended Colonial Market Days at Banneker Park, and participated in Home School Days at Rosehill Manor. ● Received a \$15,000 Tripp Grant for the Museum of the Ironworker. ● The Riffle family loaned a c. 1843-58 Peregrine Fitzhugh stove.
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Model A Car Club visited the village. ● Facilitated a historic foods presentation with Henry Ward at Silver Oak Academy. ● Catherine Comstock, who has been cataloging items from the Forgerman's House, gave a presentation of her findings at the July Meeting. ● Mt. St. Mary's University graduate intern Brinleigh Bouch completed transcribing and uploading audio files of CFHS oral histories to our website. ● Raised beds were installed behind the log house in the Harriet Orth Gardiner kitchen garden, and a special sign to mark the garden was ordered. ● Attended Thurmont Regional Library Fun Fair.
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hosted a Historic Basket weaving workshop with Joan Betzold. ● Hosted a student group from Baltimore's Living Classrooms program.

September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Participated in History Day at the Great Frederick Fair. ● Began hosting the poetry group “Catoctin Voices” for monthly events. ● Hosted a 60-person Star-Spangled Tour group from Montgomery County. ● Selected CMW Design as the architects for the renovation of the Museum of the Ironworker. ● Attended the 2017 B’More Historic Conference. ● Elizabeth Comer presented a paper on Catoctin Furnace at the ICAHM conference in Bagamoyo, Tanzania. ● Unveiled our new “Cat/Fur” Soap, made by Jody Darner. ● Participated in the Thurmont and Emmitsburg Community Show and the Hood College Community Service Fair. ● Attended meetings with MD Dept. of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, the Maryland Historical Trust, and Silver Oak Academy to discuss the creation of a Historic Building Trades Program (we already have a signed agreement with Silver Oak Academy). ● Awarded a \$90,000 MHAA grant from MHT for the restoration of the Museum of the Ironworker. ● Submitted an application to MHT for a non-capital grant to undertake tree-ring dating in the village and related buildings. ● Attended HCWHA and MHAA grants workshops. ● Nominated for a Maryland Traditions Heritage Award.
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Participated in Fallfest, at which Silver Oak Academy students, with the help of CFHS members, boiled apple butter using traditional methods. ● In partnership with Silver Oak Academy, Cunningham Falls State Park, and Harriet Chapel, hosted a very successful <i>Spirits of the Furnace</i>, with record attendance! ● Hosted The Jack and Jill Club of Western Maryland for a tour and interesting discussion. ● Submitted grant applications for mini grants to the Maryland Humanities Council and the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area. ● DAR presented CFHS’s Elizabeth Comer with the Historic Preservation Medal. ● Hosted a group of seniors from Walkersville High School.
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Awarded a Maryland Humanities Mini Grant in the amount of \$1200. ● Received the sign for the Harriet Orth Gardiner historic kitchen garden. Dedication of the garden will take place in the spring. ● Signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the FBI/Quantico to assist with DNA analysis on the clothing found in the Forgerman’s House. ● Welcomed new intern Bethany Allen.

December	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hosted 100+ visitors at seventh annual Traditional Village Christmas.• Hosted approximately 12 visitors at Museums by Candlelight.• Hosted an awards luncheon at Mountain Gate Restaurant for the Silver Oak Students graduating from the Historic Preservation Building Trades Program.• Students in the Museums and Society Class at JHU presented their final plans for Museum of the Ironworker exhibits to CFHS's Elizabeth Comer, Rob Wanner, and Jane Seiter, who co-taught the class at Hopkins.• Members attended Silver Oak Academy Graduation.
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