

**FRIENDS OF MOUNT HARMON, INC.**  
**2008 SEASON NEWSLETTER**  
**Upcoming Visitor Season Events, News & Information**



*Mount Harmon Plantation, Manor House*

**Tidewater Colonial & Natural  
History at Mount Harmon**

Spring at Mount Harmon brings the anticipation of a new visitor season, which promises to be full of opportunities for stewardship, education, and fun. Like spring, and true to its mission, Friends of Mount Harmon continues to shepherd in an era of productivity and promise.

FOMH's mission, to preserve and interpret Mount Harmon for the education and enjoyment of visitors, is blossoming as we enter the 2008 visitor season. Few locations offer such a pristine and educational experience of Tidewater colonial and natural history. Mount Harmon was recently named "favorite field trip" by fourth graders studying colonial history.

Though there remains a long "to do" list, FOMH's preservation efforts have been making steady progress, with the manor house and colonial kitchen exteriors recently restored. See the Capital Campaign & Restoration Update for information on additional preservation goals.



Coming this season is a new site map and network of nature trails, to better orient and allow visitors to explore Mount Harmon's points of interest and pristine natural setting. Renowned water color artist Geraldine McKeowen is creating the artwork for the map, featuring vignettes of Mount Harmon's historic buildings, natural features, and wildlife. American Bald Eagles have been seen nesting at Mount Harmon this spring.

Become a FOMH Member and receive free admission to the museum, and invitations and discounts to special events. Plan a visit this spring to Mount Harmon and discover one of the region's historic and scenic treasures.

The plantation manor house museum and grounds are open May through October, Thursday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mount Harmon is available year round by appointment for educational program tours and special group tours. Mount Harmon is also available for weddings, corporate retreats, and private functions.

**\* \* 2008 SPECIAL EVENTS \* \***



**MOUNT HARMON  
PLANTATION BALL**

Mark your calendars for the upcoming Mount Harmon Plantation Ball, Saturday, April 26 from 6p.m. to 10p.m. This spring formal dinner dance features an evening of fine dining and dancing, and will be a wonderful time to experience Mount Harmon's "Old World" grandeur and plantation hospitality.

The Plantation Ball features a delectable Plantation Buffet, with an array of local and seasonal gourmet specialties. After dinner, dance the night away to your favorite songs from Big Band to classic Rock and Roll. The Manor House will be open for tours during the social hour. A silent auction will feature artwork, jewelry, and specialty items.

Tickets for the Plantation Ball are available in advance for \$75 per person for FOMH Members, \$100 per person for non members. Renew today and take advantage of the benefits of membership! For tickets and information, call 410-275-8819. Proceeds from the event benefit Mount Harmon Plantation.

**\* \* MOUNT HARMON NEWS \* \***



**COLONIAL PLANTATION  
PICNIC**

One of the best times to visit Mount Harmon and experience its colonial history is at the annual Colonial Plantation Picnic. This year's annual picnic takes place on Sunday, June 1, 12:00 noon – 4:00 p.m. and features a gourmet Eastern Shore picnic, Colonial Demonstrations and Performances, Silent Auction, and Plantation Wagon Rides.

During the picnic there will be a silent auction, full of great gifts, antiques and specialty items, donated from area businesses and individuals to raise funds for Mount Harmon programs and projects. Tickets for adults are \$35 and \$10 for children. Please call 410-275-8819 if you have an item to donate for the auction.

**\* \* \* MOUNT HARMON \* \* \***  
**2008 SPECIAL EVENT CALENDAR**  
**Dates to Remember**

- Plantation Ball, April 26
- Colonial Plantation Picnic, June 1
- Bull & Oyster Roast, October 11
- Yuletide Tour, December 6 & 7

**\*\* 2007 SEASON HIGHLIGHTS \*\***



**VOTED "FAVORITE FIELD TRIP"**

Mount Harmon's education program features a tour of the manor house, colonial demonstrations, crafts and games, and a nature walk to the prize house. The Program provides a wonderful opportunity for area school children to learn first hand about Tidewater colonial and natural history.

Encourage your school to include Mount Harmon as an annual field trip and help students discover a love for history and nature. For an Education Program Brochure, call FOMH at 410-275-8819.

**A CELEBRATION OF COLONIAL & EASTERN SHORE TRADITIONS**

Mount Harmon's history and eastern shore traditions came to life last fall with special events like the Sultana Sunset Sail, the Bull & Oyster Roast, and new for the holiday season, the Yuletide Manor House Tour. These events were important fund raisers for Mount Harmon, and could not have taken place without help from our event sponsors, volunteers, and donors. Mount Harmon events generate vital funds for the plantation's operations, maintenance and preservation.

**THANK YOU EVENT  
SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS**

A special thank you to the Sultana Foundation for making the FOMH Sultana Sunset Sail possible. Visit the Schooner Sultana's website at [www.schoonersultana.org](http://www.schoonersultana.org) to learn more about this historic replica and its array of educational programs and cruises. Like Mount Harmon, the Sultana Foundation is a Chesapeake Bay Gateway site and is dedicated to providing educational opportunities in Bay history and environmental stewardship.

Thank you to all of our Bull & Oyster Roast sponsors and silent auction donors – you all helped to make the event a success. A very special thank you to the Greenfingers Garden Club, who brought the holiday spirit to Mount Harmon, with the exquisite Williamsburg style arrangements they made for the Yuletide Tour. Many thanks to Sandy Simonson, who helped to plan the event, and was instrumental in the event's success. The event featured a greens sale and hearth cooking in the colonial kitchen. Proceeds benefited Mount Harmon.

Many thanks to Nancy and John Gardner, colonial reenactors, who brought Mount Harmon's history to life with their wonderful costumes and knowledge of colonial holiday traditions. Nancy is an authority on colonial food ways, and prepared gingerbread and wassail punch in the colonial kitchen, for delighted visitors.

**\* \* HISTORIC PRESERVATION \* \***



**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN  
& RESTORATION UPDATE**

Thanks to recently received grants and contributions from supporters like you, significant progress has been made toward addressing the restoration and capital improvement needs of this important historic landmark. Of the \$250,000.00 Capital Campaign goal, over \$150,000.00 has been raised to date.

These funds have enabled Friends of Mount Harmon to complete Phase I and II exterior restoration of the manor house and colonial kitchen. FOMH is actively seeking additional funding to update the HVAC system in the manor house, preserve and research the FOMH archives, restore the serpentine walled garden, upgrade public facilities, and convert the stables into a Plantation Education and Discovery Center.

**HOW YOU CAN HELP**

There is still time for you to help. Please send in your contribution today and help to preserve this important historic and pristine natural site – every donation makes a difference and helps to preserve Mount Harmon for you, your friends and family, and for future

generations. FOMH memberships are another great way to support Mount Harmon (see attached membership form and join today). We depend upon your annual membership contribution to help maintain and preserve Mount Harmon.

**\* EDUCATION & VISITOR \*  
PROGRAM UPDATE**

Thanks to funding and support from the Chichester du Pont Foundation and Chesapeake Bay Gateways, Mount Harmon is making progress on its Visitor and Education Program Initiative project. The Project includes the creation of an interpretive master plan, updated brochure and website, new site map and nature trails, and signage, to better orient and educate visitors about Mount Harmon's Tidewater colonial and natural history. The fruits of this project are being sowed and will be sprouting this visitor season, so be sure to come out and enjoy our updated programs.

**CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS**

Mount Harmon's successes are a team effort. Throughout the year, the plantation needs help with everything from assisting with our school program and giving tours, to clearing nature trails and helping with special events. Please call 410-275-8819 if you would like to volunteer your services.

**VOLUNTEER WISH LIST**

Volunteer docents to give house tours and assist with FOMH visitor programs.

