

December 2014

Volume 3

# Marcus Hook Preservation Society Newsletter

## Special Interest Articles:

- W3R-  
Washington/  
Rochambeau  
National Historic  
Trail  
Celebration
- Family Night  
Spaghetti  
Dinner
- Ghost walk with  
Black Beard  
Pirate Festival
- Pirate Festival



## ABOUT MHPS



### OUR MISSION

To care for and preserve the Plank House and interpret for the public its legendary connection with pirates on the Delaware River

Celebrate the significant historical features of Marcus Hook's social and cultural life from the 17<sup>th</sup> century to the present

Offer tours and public educational programs designed to celebrate and preserve the history of the Plank House and the community of Marcus Hook.

## W3R- WASHINGTON/ROCHAMBEAU NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

Marcus Hook Preservation Society And The Washington – Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Association held its 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebration and Ice Cream Social on Saturday, September 6, 2014. The day began at 12:30 with a brief tour and discussion of the historic 18<sup>th</sup> century Plank House, which the Marcus Hook Preservation Society is raising funds to restore. At 1:00pm we followed the SAR Color Guard to the Historic St. Martin's Cemetery where Borough Manager Aubrey Mulholland and guests honored those patriots from Marcus Hook who fought in the Civil War and are buried

at St. Martin's. Each year we chose one Civil War veteran to honor and this year's veteran was Zachariah Derrick born in 1756 and was the grandson of Joseph Derrick who came to America with William Penn in 1681. The family settled in Marcus Hook and owned a fair amount of land. Zachariah joined the Pennsylvania militia and served loyally for 7 years, through the Revolution and was called up again for service to quell the Whiskey Rebellion in 1791. Following the ceremony we returned to the Community Center for a lecture given by Mr. Andrew Miller, a graduate of

Villanova University with a MA in History and who is a full-time History Instructor at Neumann University. Mr. Miller is the founder and advisor to the University History Club and has also developed courses on the American Revolution, Civil War and many other topics. Mr. Miller has been the featured speaker at various public libraries and historical societies. His first novel The Winter Soldiers was published in 2004. This event was sponsored by Chester Water Authority. We appreciate their dedication and support of our society. Drinks and ice cream were donated by Wawa.

## FAMILY NIGHT SPAGHETTI DINNER



On Friday, September 19, 2014 we held our annual Family Night Spaghetti Dinner, cooked by Blackbeard himself (aka Michael Manerchia, president of the Marcus Hook Preservation Society). With special thanks to the board members and volunteers we served over 125 dinners, including take out. MHPS would like to thank Wawa, Giant Food

Stores, Giovancci's Family Meat Market, Buono Bros. Marcus Hook Deli and Target for the donations of food and dinner supplies and Safeway, Acme, Kyj's Gourmet Bakery, Italianos Restaurant, Sungate Diner, and Sweeney's Bakery for their donations of desserts. A special thanks to Pirates for Sail for providing the musical entertainment for the evening. Minnow, the

Mermaid made a special guest appearance during dinner.

A special thanks to our many volunteers who helped cook, serve and clean up. We greatly appreciate your dedication!

## 6TH ANNUAL PIRATE FESTIVAL



This year's 5th Annual Pirate Festival was held on Saturday, September 20, 2014 We would like to thank our visiting pirate crews, Valhallas, Sons of the Waves, Bloody Historical, Recreating History, Arc Angel, Vigilant, and The Mermaid, who provided demonstrations at their encampment throughout the day. A special thanks to Valhallas for their performances and piratical skits. Musical entertainment on stage was provided by Pirates for Sail and the Brigands

and our traveling musicians, the Sea Dogs. Thank you also to our Wench of Ceremonies, Catey Hill, from radio station 99.5 who introduced our entertainment and provided guests with "tattoos". Live arms fire as well as cannon fire could be heard every hour, on the hour, throughout the day. We would like to thank our many crafters and merchandise vendors for their display of unique wares. We would also like to thank our many food vendors who showcased

their special dishes. We could not have asked for a more perfect day. The weather was beautiful, and the community was out to show their support. Thank you to Fulginiti Insurance for advertising on their digital sign at 5 points in Aston. Thank you Marcus Hook Borough for all your help and support for this year's festival and we hope that you will join us next year for a great time of pirates, music, food and fun.

If you are interested in volunteering to help us with our 2015 Pirate Festival, just send us an email at [mhps1@hotmail.com](mailto:mhps1@hotmail.com).

## NEW FOR 2015 – DESIGNER BAG BINGO



### DESIGNER BAG BINGO

All proceeds benefit the MHPS, the restoration of the Historic Plank House and Artifact Library.

**Date: Friday, April 24, 2015**

COMMUNITY CENTER  
7 W. DELAWARE AVE, MARCUS HOOK, PA

6:30pm – 10pm

**COST: \$30/per person – includes food & non-alcoholic beverages**

- \*10 GAMES OF BINGO
- \*CHANCES FOR RAFFLE BASKETS FOR PURCHASE
- \*50/50 CHANCES FOR PURCHASE



CONTACT FOR TICKETS:  
[mhps1@hotmail.com](mailto:mhps1@hotmail.com)

Anna Glisson – [a.glisson@hotmail.com](mailto:a.glisson@hotmail.com)  
Cell: 267-438-4161

Designer Bag Bingo – Please join us for our first ever Bingo night to be held on Friday, April 24, 2015 at the Community Center. 10 games of Bingo, Raffles, 50/50, Cash Games, snacks and beverages. 6:30pm to 10pm. All funds raised will help with the completion of our Artifact Library.

Tickets are \$30 each and are available for purchase.

Please contact [a.glisson@hotmail.com](mailto:a.glisson@hotmail.com) or call Anna at 267-438-4161. Hurry as seating is limited!

## PLANK HOUSE

Our Plank House features a new Artifact Library that we have been working on. The walls and flooring have been installed. Next we will be raising funds to complete the cabinetry necessary to house all of our artifacts and a central area designated for educational programs. If you would like to donate towards this project, just go to our website and click on the “donate now” button. As always, we thank each and every one of our many supporters.



## TALKING PLANK HOUSE

As you drive by the Plank House at 221, Market Street in Marcus Hook, if you will tune your car radio to 1650 AM, you will hear a brief history of the house – loud and clear!

Drive by, listen, and then if you'd like a tour, just send us an email to schedule an appointment, it's that easy.

[mhps1@hotmail.com](mailto:mhps1@hotmail.com)



## GHOST WALK:



The October Ghostwalk was filled with fun stories of ghosts, spirits and other worldly drama as well as factual history provided by Blackbeard and author Laurie Hull. Guests followed along on a one, square block tour and learned of factual historical events as well as local folklore. Even though it started out as a raining, dreary day, the weather cleared up for our walk!

## PLANK HOUSE ARTIFACTS



Dem bones, dem bones, dem historic bones! One of the scariest things about the Plank House is the amount of bones that we recovered. At one point, we had three 5 gallon buckets of nothing but bones. When we first started digging they were everywhere. It wasn't until the archaeologists got there that we found out that they were animal bones and this all started to make sense because there was no trash pickup. People would eat their food and if there were bones left they would just throw them out back and a trash pit would develop. Of course you had your rodents moving all

those bones around and taking some back to their hiding spots in the old nooks and crannies of the house. Even though learning this it still is creepy! We did however find some human teeth as well as cow, horse, rodent and wild boar teeth. One thing is for sure the people in the house ate a lot of meat. There was also small game such as squirrel, rabbit and birds some of which were identified by the archaeologist-whether they were joking or not, one of the archaeologists even pointed out a left leg and a right of the bird skeleton. Another archaeologist

actually found an entire cat skeleton next to the sidewalk on market lane was there any human bones not to our knowledge but then again we haven't done the entire yard and we haven't checked all the buckets of bones so the only real people that know are the ghosts of the owners of those bones.

## 2014 SPONSORS PAGE

*We would like to thank the following for their generosity and support: Radio Communications Service Inc., Monroe Energy, Catania Engineering Associates, Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, Barbacane Thornton & Company, Connolly's Pub, Gretz/Budweiser and The Borough of Marcus Hook and our many volunteers.*

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— Radio —  —  
— Communications —  
— Service, Inc. —  —

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## ABOUT OUR ORGANIZATION...

### **Marcus Hook Preservation Society**

P.O. Box 703  
221 Market St.  
Marcus Hook, PA 19061

PHONE:  
(610) 587-7409

FAX:  
(610) 494 6509

E-MAIL:  
Mhps1@hotmail.com

***Help Us Restore***

***The Plank House.***

***All Donations are***

***Tax Deductible***

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.marcushookps.org](http://www.marcushookps.org)

Facebook

*The Marcus Hook Preservation Society is a 501c3 organization. It was formed in 2004 to preserve the rich history of the Borough of Marcus Hook through educational programming, events, and community involvement. The Society owns the Marcus Hook Plank House, and is in the process of renovating it, and at the same time, sponsors an active archaeological dig on its grounds.*

*The Marcus Hook Preservation Society meets once a month on the second Monday at 7 pm at the Marcus Hook Community Center, 7 West Delaware Ave., Marcus Hook, PA 19061. Meetings are open to the public and guests are welcome to attend. Please e-mail mhps1@hotmail.com with questions.*

#### **Board of Directors:**

##### **Officers:**

*Michael Manerchia,  
President  
Virginia Hughes, VP  
Annamaria Glisson,  
Sec/Treas*

##### **Board Member:**

*Sandra Tonge*

**W3R:** *Anna Glisson*

**Website:** *Hugh Duffy,  
Ginny Hughes*

##### **Volunteers:**

*Valerie Felker,  
Kim Galandak-O'Connor,  
Jenn Estep*

*Pam Foulke*

*George Widger*

*Lorriane Daliessio*

