

Marcus Hook Preservation Society

Newsletter



Plank House Restoration Begins

Beginning in early 2019, the Marcus Hook Preservation Society applied for and was granted monies to begin restoration of the historic Plank House. The first of these projects begins with what we call Phase I and Phase II work. Phase I encompassed the major roof on the Plank House being torn off down to the lathe, replacing and/or repairing rotted beams, replacing crossbeams and braces and finally the cedar shake roof. Phase II involved demolition of the South addition, which was a 1970's addition, removing the back porch which was also a 1970's addition bringing the house back to its original state. Once the demolition was completed, the rear kitchen roof was replaced also with cedar shakes. New gutters were added to help deflect rain water run off so as to not cause further deterioration. The next part of the restoration came in the form of chimney stabilization in which the main support of the fireplace in the basement was cemented and secured as well as the chimney stack.



There is still much more to be done and hopefully we will be able to secure the funding to continue our work.



If you are interested in donating to this very worthwhile cause, please send donations to:
MHPS

P.O. Box 703

Marcus Hook, PA 19061

Indicate "restoration" on your check.
 We thank you for your support!

11th Annual Pirate Festival

This year's Pirate Festival was held on Saturday, September 21, 2019 from 11am until 6pm.

We featured some new food vendors such as Gumbo YaYa Catering, Ms. La's Surf and Turf and Tacos Mexigo. We also had the return of Pit Magic Smoked Cuisine, Zac's Hamburgers and Cippolini's Catering who have been with us for many, many years. The food was plentiful and delicious!

Music throughout the day was provided by Pirates for Sail, the Brigands and The Sea Dogs. Each of these bands has been with us since the very beginning, 11 years now and we look forward to having them join us again next year!

New to our Pirate Encampment this year was Clarisse Dillion Ph.D who provided a fun learning experience to all who were lucky enough to visit her tent. Ms. Dillion showed the children how spices were made and used during the Colonial times and she assures us that she will be back again in 2020 providing to all a glimpse of our past!

We would like to thank everyone who joins us year after year, making this festival such a popular Community event. Despite the rogue obstacles that may arise, we promise to do our very best to provide you with fun, learning, entertainment, good food and a good time and we hope that you will join us again in 2020!



*James
Rides
Pirates*

Our main fundraising event
Annual Pirate Festival
is held the third Saturday in September.



Plank House Facts



Since the Plank House is c1720's, do you realize that this house was there before the signing of the Declaration of Independence (1776)? This historic structure was built before our country was actually a country!

Question: What other house, besides the Plank House was fired upon, in these United States, by a foreign country?

AnsWER: None that we are aware of!

The Plank House is worth saving and it is our mission to restore it in order that we might preserve history for all future generations!

Artifacts Library

Our efforts continue in the cleaning and cataloging of our many artifacts. While there is little left to clean, the major task is in the identification of these wonderful pieces of history. Each piece tells a story and with the help of Dr. Mitchell Rothman and Dr. David Orr, the story will soon be complete. These two men have worked diligently for the past several years in our Library and when complete, each piece will have a special place. Our desire is to work with the school district to provide programs whereby the students can learn more about the

history of Marcus Hook and how it relates to them. We look forward to this project becoming a reality for all to enjoy!

If you are interested in helping with this project and would like to volunteer your time, please send us an email at mhps1@hotmail.com.

All help is greatly appreciated on this project and would assist in getting us ready for our educational programs to begin that much sooner!



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2019 Sponsors

We would like to thank the following
for their generosity and support:

**Radio/Metro Communications
Service Inc.**

Monroe Energy

PECO

The Borough of Marcus Hook



We would also like to thank

Fluid Gear Products Inc.,

Marcus Hook Florist

Herker Bldg. & Lawn Maint., Inc.

and

Towne & Country Café

for their donations.

Our Festival was supported in part by
the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts,
a state agency funded by the
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
and the National Endowment for the Arts,
a federal agency.



Marcus Hook Florist



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Hugh Duffy - *Web Architect*

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 17th 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



WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

If you would like to help us in any of the following areas, please email us at MHPS1@hotmail.com.

Research • Education • Events

THE MARCUS HOOK PRESERVATION SOCIETY

The Marcus Hook Preservation Society is a 501c3 non-profit organization. It was formed in 2004 to preserve the rich history of the Borough of Marcus Hook through educational programs, events, and community involvement.

The Society owns the Marcus Hook Plank House and is in the process of major renovations.

The Plank House, circa 1720, is our founding symbol, saved for restoration in 2004, and open by appointment.

The Marcus Hook Preservation Society meets once a month on the second Monday at 7pm at the Marcus Hook Community Center, 7 W. Delaware Ave., Marcus Hook, PA 19061.

Meetings are open to the public and guests are welcome to attend.



Marcus Hook Preservation Society
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