

# Lunch & Learn

April 12, 2017

Lecture  
at Graeme Park

## Health Care: 18th Century Style

Any assessment of health care in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, when life expectancy on both sides of the Atlantic averaged about 43 years, must include personnel ranging from educated physicians through barbers and midwives to neighborhood quacks. Diseases were attributed to superstitions, to bad behavior, or inhalation of foul air. Remedies included everything from herbal extracts, poultices, and cold baths to the most “advanced” treatments of bloodletting by non-sterile instruments or even leeches. During the entire century people lived in constant fear of smallpox and yellow fever. Important events happened in the last decade of the century regarding these two diseases: the horrendous epidemic of Yellow Fever in Philadelphia and the startling circumstances that led to development of a vaccine for smallpox.



The lecture will include an overall assessment of health care in colonial America and England; specific treatments and procedures available at the time and a demonstration of several items of medical equipment used during the period; and a focus on two events in the last decade of the 18th century – the Yellow Fever epidemic in Philadelphia and the development of smallpox vaccine in England.

*Presented by Jim Miller. Jim is a Graeme Park volunteer and former board member. He holds a Ph.D. in Microbiology and was a professor at Delaware Valley University before retiring.*

### Lunch will include:

- Hot entrée
- Deli tray with rolls and sandwich “fixins”
- Vegetarian option
- Salad, dessert, beverages

### Schedule

- 10:15 a.m. - Check-in & breakfast begins
- 11:00 a.m. - Lecture
- 12:00 noon - Lunch
- After Lunch - Tour of the Historic Keith House

**Graeme Park - 859 County Line Road - Horsham, PA 19044**

**www.graemepark.org | 215-343-0965**

**\$25/person\***

*Includes lecture, continental breakfast, lunch & tour*

Please add my email to your list to receive occasional notices of Graeme Park news and events including the next Lunch & Learn Lecture

My check for \$25/pp is enclosed. Please make checks out to “The Friends of Graeme Park”

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**\* \$20 / Members**