

The Graeme Park Gazette

JULY - SEPTEMBER 2015

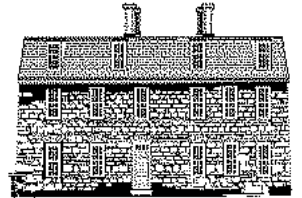
Homeschool Day

On Wednesday, September 23 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. homeschooling families are invited for a day of fun and learning on the grounds of historic Graeme Park. Interactive stations allow hands-on participation and observation of various period activities, including games, toys, hearth cooking, quill writing and more. In addition, noted storyteller and children's book author

Robin Moore will be on hand at 11 a.m. to entertain families with traditional and original stories, old-time living skills, music and audience participation. He will also be signing



books. Tours of the historic Keith House at Graeme Park will be given. Cost is \$6/person and kids must be accompanied by an adult.



Befriend the Past
The Friends of Graeme Park

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UPCOMING EVENTS

JULY 11
Brews & Blues

AUGUST 2
Yoga in the Park

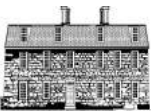
AUGUST 22
Military Flea Market

AUGUST 23
Living History Theater

SEPTEMBER 12
Volunteer Recruitment

SEPTEMBER 19
Paranormal Journeys

SEPTEMBER 23
Homeschool Day



GRAEME PARK



Graeme Park is the site of the Keith House, an 18th-century historic house, the only remaining home of a governor of colonial Pennsylvania. It is administered by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission in partnership with the Friends of Graeme Park, a 501c3 volunteer organization that raises funds, staffs, and promotes the site. The official registration and financial information of The Friends of Graeme Park may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement. Individuals who need special assistance or accommodation to visit Graeme Park should call (215) 343-0965 in advance to discuss their needs. Pennsylvania TDD relay service is available at (800)654-5984.

TOUR HOURS

Friday - Saturday

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Sunday Noon - 4 p.m.

Last tour starts at 3 p.m.

THE STAFF AT GRAEME PARK

Carla A. Loughlin

Mike MacCausland

THE PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION

Tom Corbett
Governor

James M. Vaughan
Executive Director

Andrew E. Masich
Chairman

From the President of the Friends

*Hot town, summer in the city
Back of my neck getting dirty and gritty
Been down, isn't it a pity
Doesn't seem to be a shadow in the city
All around, people looking half dead
Walking on the sidewalk, hotter than a match head*

THE LOVIN' SPOONFUL

"Summer In The City"

The Lovin' Spoonful 1966 hit just about sums it up and is still pertinent today.

But what was summer in the city in the mid-1700s? Much the same and worse. Among other things, it was hot, dirty and disease-ridden. The poor and working class had to deal with whatever the summer season threw their way as they toiled in 80, 90 and even 100 degree temperatures without any means of escape. The torrid, sultry conditions of Philadelphia with its stagnant, marshy ground and an inadequate sewer system contributed to disease and stench making summer in the city a very unpleasant place.

However, for those affluent enough to own a country retreat, they would pack their belongings and servants and leave the city for months at a time, taking in the cooler breezes and cleanliness of the country. The Graemes were one such family with their country estate, Graeme Park, in Horsham.

The summer months would find Dr. Thomas Graeme and his family residing in their bucolic, rural setting. The men would socialize, plant and tend to their farm animals while the women would keep busy with spinning, weaving and entertaining guests for weeks at a time. They were members of the social elite who were not forced to endure summer in the city.

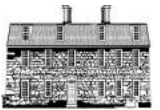
Today, Graeme Park in the summer is the same quiet, naturally beautiful place it was so long ago. Though located in the heart of suburban Philadelphia, its serene and tranquil atmosphere invites guests to slow down from the bustle of life and take in the calming effect of a summer's day in the country.

If you prefer a little more excitement, put our Brews, Blues and BBQ on your calendar for July 11. It's a day of music, craft beer tasting and food...an all-around good time.

For those wishing to learn more Graeme Park history, come visit us on August 23rd and witness Elizabeth Graeme's Loves and Losses. There is so much more depth to Dr. Graeme's youngest child than what we normally see on the surface. This living history program touches on her life's decisions and the unhappy effects that most of them had on Elizabeth for the duration of her time here on earth.

The staff and volunteers at Graeme Park welcome you as the Graemes would have done two hundred and fifty years ago. We look forward to your visit.

- Beth MacCausland



Graeme Park's Volunteer of the Year

At the Annual Meeting, the Friends of Graeme Park honored Marie Cherry as our 2014 Volunteer of the Year. We welcomed Marie to our organization early in 2012 and since the day she decided to come on board, she has clearly shown that she is one of our most dedicated and valued volunteers.

As an active member of the board of directors, Marie is current on all the complexities involved with the day-to-day running of the site. She is always willing to add thoughts and ideas and just as willing to tackle follow-up responsibilities to see a task through to completion. During an event, we can always count on Marie to, not only work the program, but to recruit volunteers from her own family and friend network to fill all voids.

Marie's most outstanding quality, however, is her diligent effort given to our WWII Weekend and our Soldiers' Christmas programs. She leaves no stone unturned when planning these events from the largest job of coordinating with the director of reenactors, to ensure a vast number people on board, down to

securing tablecloths, banners and flags, not to mention everything in between. This past year, Marie was instrumental in starting a donation program for our troops in Afghanistan and received a formal thank-you and citation for her efforts from The 111th Attack Wing, expressing their gratitude for the many supplies gifted to our soldiers. However, the most dynamic quality she brings to these events and to Graeme Park is her ability to tirelessly raise funds and sponsorships, welcoming on board such corporations as Verizon and PECO, as well as a host of smaller organizations and retailers. It is through these donations that The Friends of Graeme Park is seeing more productive programs, allowing us to expand the educational quality of events.

For all of the above and so much more, The Friends of Graeme Park thank you, Marie, for everything you do to make the site a better place.



NEWSBRIEFS

Yoga in the Park

Enjoy an outdoor yoga class sponsored by [Open Aire Affairs](#) and [Joshua's Catering](#). Instructor Kate Garza will take you through a rejuvenating, healing sequence designed to bring you into a deeper awareness of what your body really needs. Please bring your yoga mat, beach towel and water bottle.

A refreshing, energizing luncheon will follow class with fresh fruit, healthy wraps, smoothies, salad & homemade mini-desserts provided by Joshua's Catering. Cost: \$40 per person. Sign in at 9:30, yoga begins at 10:00 a.m. Contact Rae@openaireaffairs.com to register.

Donations to the Library

Board member Laura MacBride recently donated a number of books on archaeology, material culture, architecture and preservation to the Friends of Graeme Park's library. Next time you're in the office, feel free to peruse.

Volunteer Recruitment Breakfast

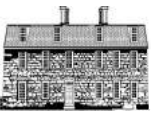
We will be holding a recruitment breakfast for those wishing to learn about Graeme Park and how to get involved on Saturday, September 12 at 10 a.m. Current volunteers are also invited to share their experiences and partake in the waffles, donuts, fruit, and other breakfast goodies.

Military Flea Market

On Saturday, August 22 the grounds at Graeme Park will host a military flea market from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Spaces are available for \$20 (10' x 12') and there is no charge for the public to attend. For information please email Mark at vwdiesel1@verizon.net or Jim at ratpatrol1943@gmail.com

Hatboro Beer Festival

Come out for a fun summer Saturday at Graeme Park, sponsored by Hatboro Beverages. The proceeds benefit Veterans Continued Services, which supports the Hatboro YMCA! The mission of this organization includes veterans mentoring youth through sports programs and life coach seminars. Live Blues Music by Little Red Rooster (www.littleredrooster.com/). Beer Sponsors: Crooked Eye Brewery (www.crookedeyebrewery.com/) and Gretz Beer Company (www.gretzbeer.com/). Tickets are \$25/each or \$40/pair and available online at www.eventbrite.com/e/veterans-supporting-the-hatboro-ymca-tickets-16928831591



THE FRIENDS OF GRAEME PARK

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Friends of Graeme Park is to provide on-going support of preservation, maintenance, development, interpretation, education and promotion of Graeme Park.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Beth MacCausland
Vice President	Jack Washington
Secretary	Marie Cherry
Co-Treasurer	Diane Horan
Co-Treasurer	Melissa Kurek
Member at Large	Tony Checchia
Member at Large	Jim Cherry
Member at Large	Deedie Gustavson
Member at Large	Toni Kistner
Member at Large	Donna Mitchell
Member at Large	Gary Oswald

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Education	Carol Brunner John Brunner
Finance	Bruce Rader
Fundraising	Marie Cherry
Governance	Jack Washington
Grants	Beth MacCausland
Hospitality	Vacant
Insurance	Vacant
Legal	Vacant
Membership	Donna Mitchell
Museum Shop	Carol Brunner Carla Loughlin
Newsletter/Publicity	Carla Loughlin
Programs/Events	Beth MacCausland
Volunteers	Beth MacCausland
Website	Tony Checchia Melissa Kurek

THE GRAEME PARK GAZETTE

is published quarterly by The Friends of Graeme Park in cooperation with the PA Historical and Museum Commission

Editor: Carla A. Loughlin



Befriend the Past
The Friends of Graeme Park

School Tours at Graeme Park

The Friends of Graeme Park had a total of 827 school student visit during the 2014-15 season. We started the year with the Homeschool Festival in September, with 125 paid visitors. Then, sixty-six students, teachers and adult chaperones came from California, to visit historic Philadelphia and Graeme Park, with the Valley Forge Freedom Foundation. We also gave tours to 2nd graders from Central Bucks School District, 2nd, 4th and 5 graders from Hatboro-Horsham School district, and 7th graders from Our Lady of Mercy Academy. Thanks to all of the volunteers who made the Homeschool Festival and our school tours possible. Many thanks to Mary and Jack Washington, Jim Miller, Julie Thiebeau, Bill Sparke, Susan and Robin Tafel, Margaret and Pete Choate, Beth and Mike McCausland, Carol and John Brunner.

Membership has its Privileges



All membership levels receive:
Free House Tours,
Free Admission to All Non-Reserved Events,
Quarterly Newsletter,
10% Shop Discount

See our website at www.graemepark.org for additional member benefits.

Household _____ \$40 Individual _____ \$25

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State/Zip _____

My check payable to the Friends of Graeme Park is enclosed

Please bill my Visa/MC/Discover Card # _____

Security Code _____

Exp. Date _____

Billing Zip Code _____

Mail to: Graeme Park, 859 County Line Rd, Horsham, PA 19044



Living History Theater: Elizabeth Graeme's Loves & Losses

Elizabeth Graeme Fergusson was privileged and well-educated. She was engaged to William Franklin and friends with many men and women who made names for themselves in Colonial America. Her friend, Dr. Benjamin Rush, referred to her as a "glittering gossip" and she was a renowned salon hostess who surrounded herself with educated and talented writers, musicians, doctors, and lawyers.



On the surface, she seemed to have it all, but an ill-fated marriage to Scotsman Henry Hugh Fergusson and the subsequent Revolutionary War, in which Henry remained loyal to the British, were to drastically alter the course of Elizabeth's life. Her last years were spent in virtual seclusion. She alienated all but her closest friends, her husband returned to England while she fought to regain title to her ancestral home. In the end she did not know what became of Henry and she moved out of her beautiful estate at Graeme

Park to take up rooms as a boarder in someone else's home.

Learn about Elizabeth's loves and losses on Graeme Park's Living History Theater tour, featuring costumed actors portraying scenes from Elizabeth's life in vignettes throughout the historic Keith House. Tours are being held on August 23, every half hour between 12:30 and 2:30 p.m. and are \$10/person which includes light refreshments.

Paranormal Journeys Expo & Ghost Hunt

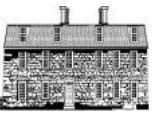
On Saturday, September 19 the Paranormal Journeys Expo will be returning to Graeme Park for their second year. Designed to bring a greater understanding of the paranormal to the public, the event will feature exhibitors including local and regional paranormal societies, lectures on various topics, food and fun in a family-friendly atmosphere. The exhibit hall part of the expo is free and lectures are just \$5/each, or purchase a VIP pass for \$40 which admits you to all of the lectures and the nighttime ghost hunt in the historic Keith House at Graeme Park.

Lectures include:

Researching Haunted History – Laurie Hull
History of Paranormal Investigation in the Victorian Era – Shannon Jones
Ghost Hunting Groups:
Scientific vs. Hobbyist vs. Assistance/Resolution – Dave Juliano
U.F.O. Sightings in Pennsylvania – Tom Conwell

Plus two paranormal roundtables and two topics yet to be announced.

The Expo runs 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. and the ghost hunt, with Ghost Detectives, runs 8 p.m. – midnight. Tickets can be purchased at www.pje.midnightwatchmen.com.



Painting the town red ...

... or parts of the barn anyway. John Piergallini, of Troop 542 from Supplee Presbyterian Church in Maple Glen recently worked on refreshing some of the red paint on the Visitors' Center doors, window frames and railing, as well as the information kiosk at the entrance for his Eagle Scout project. The existing paint was badly faded and starting to peel and the new paint job has really helped to spruce up the front of the barn so that it presents a better face to our visitors.



Other Barn Repairs

While we're on the subject of the 19th century barn/Visitors' Center, the PHMC made a few repairs to the wooden siding this year, replacing some of the old board that were beginning to warp with new wood. Hopefully they'll age quickly and begin to blend in with the patina of the old boards sooner rather than later.



YOGA IN THE PARK

Sunday, August 2, 2015
10am

Graeme Park
859 County Line Road
Horsham, PA 19044

Open Aire Affairs invites you to enjoy an outdoor morning yoga class in their secluded grove in the heart of Graeme Park.

Bring your yoga mat, beach towel and water bottle and instructor, Kate Garza, will take you through a rejuvenating, healing sequence designed to bring you into deeper awareness of what your body really needs from you.

A refreshing, energizing luncheon will follow the class with fresh fruit, healthy wraps, smoothies, salad and homemade mini-desserts provided by Joshua's Catering.

openaireaffairs.com joshuasevents.com



WWII WEEKEND



This year's WWII Weekend, held annually on the first weekend of May, was our best yet, with beautiful weather and lots of things for families to see and do. Approximately 1,500 individuals came out to enjoy the living history encampments, vehicle displays, battle reenactment, musical entertainment, swing dancing and more. So many volunteer hours go in to producing this weekend: the planning committee who spends nearly a year putting everything together, the reenactors who transform the park with their displays, the veterans who share what the experience was really like, the politicians and township officials who help us honor them, and the many hands who



help with all the non-glorious tasks of parking cars, pitching tents, cooking hotdogs and more, we are so grateful for their dedication to making this such an engaging event. Make sure to mark your calendars for next year – April 30-May 1, 2016.



Address Service Requested

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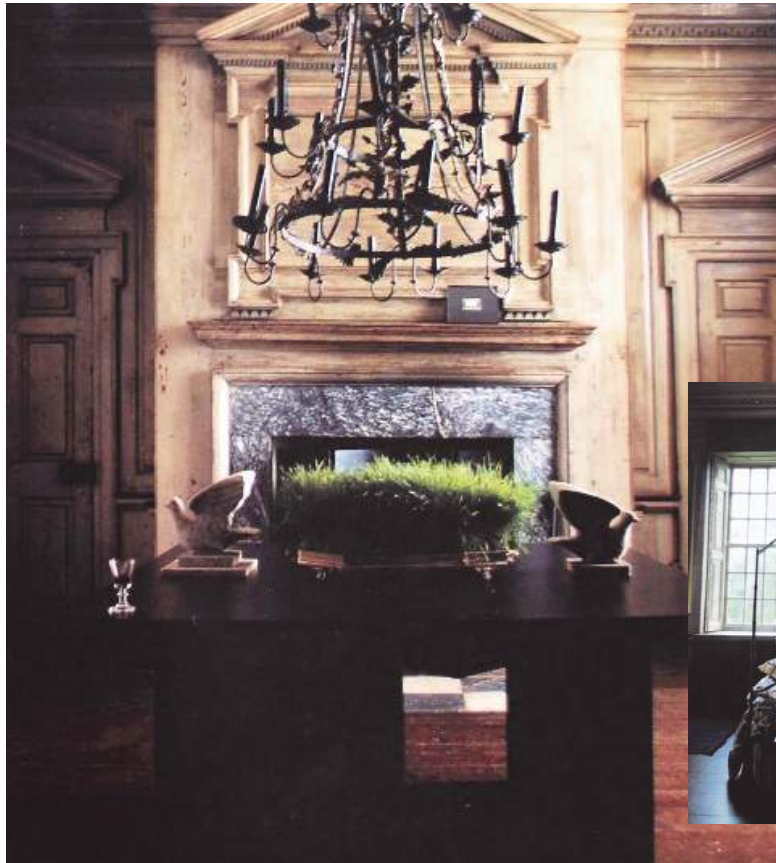
859 County Line Rd.
Horsham, PA 19044
(215) 343-0965
www.graemepark.org

Living History Theater: August 23

Volunteer Breakfast: Sept. 12 | Homeschool Day: Sept. 23

From the Archives

Special Places: 1989 Photo Shoot at Graeme Park



During a recent cleaning and reorganizing of our library bookshelves, I came across an interesting little booklet called "Special Places." Flipping through pictures of old properties I suddenly stopped on a familiar image: "That's Graeme Park. But that's not our furniture! What is this?" Looking more closely at the captions, I realized it was a catalog for Martex bedding. They had used Graeme Park, and several other historic properties, as settings for their product lines. None of the locations are identified, although Fonthill in Doylestown is rather distinctive and recognizable and one of the other locations looks to be Ephrata Cloister (also a PHMC property). Please see our blog at www.graemepark.blogspot.com for more pictures of Graeme Park and the other properties. If anyone can identify the other locales, we'd love to hear from you.

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