



COBBLESTONE FARM ASSOCIATION

Founded 1974

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

Celebrating the 43rd year of the Cobblestone Farm Association

The 2017 event year at the Museum was our busiest yet. The following are highlights of events.

Winter Evening was a success with about 81 people in attendance. There was music in the parlor enhancing the smell of cooking on the woodstove. Candlelit rooms throughout really made the event special.

The 2016 Annual Meeting was held in the Barn. The program featured E. Edward Wall on *The Origins of the Mallette Creek Settlement of 1824*. The talk was followed by tours of the house.

Spring Fling meant games on the grounds and some cleaning in the house. Bed ticks and rugs hung on the line for beating. Cooking in the kitchen again tempted folks with wonderful smells. This year, the Girl Scout Troop assisted with the lawn games for 33 participants.

At our Independence Day event, the reading of the Declaration of Independence is always eagerly anticipated. There were games for the kids supervised by our Girl Scout volunteers, tours of the house with a weaving demonstration on the second floor by Barb Schutzgruber, music in the parlor, wool spinning in the exhibit room, and cooking in the kitchen for 60 attendees.

Hallow Harvest had its usual spooky activities with 62 people attending. The museum volunteers added more decorations this year to celebrate Halloween. A weaving demonstration was upstairs, music was in the parlor, and there was cooking in the kitchen. Outside on the grounds were activities run by our Girl Scouts along with cider pressing and a hot dog vendor for 93 people.

Country Christmas showcased the house decorated for an 1830 – 1840 – 1861 holiday with our Girl Scouts helping throughout the house. Holiday music in the parlor was provided by Kevin Gilson on the Dulcimer. Great smells from the kitchen complimented this wonderful event for 101 people.

We hosted 6 preschool to 3rd grade groups. The tours started in the 1837 Harris log cabin, a visit with the animals and a walk around the farm yard tours of the house, and activities for the children to do. These included making butter, shelling feed corn, and washing clothes.

The Ticknor-Campbell Farm

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We also hosted 23 wedding open house tours of the House for their wedding guests. The fees collected added substantially to our budget.

I want to thank our Girl Scouts and their leaders, Heidi Ellis and Sherry MacKay, for their contributions.

We also sponsored the Cobblestone Farm Farmer's Market. The market hired a market manager this year. We are looking forward to another good year with them.

This year we had an intern from the EMU Historic Preservation Program. Jane Henry did her final project on deaccessioning items from our collections. She worked from April to December, after which she received her graduate degree.

I would like to personally thank Kevin Gilson for his yeoman effort for the Farm. Also all of the board members for their diligent work. Our newest board member is Max Cope from the Historic District Commission of Ann Arbor.

Restoration of the log cabin interior was an Eagle Scout project that took a couple of months. Chase Taylor my grandson from Troop 240 in Ypsilanti was the project leader. They re-chinked the inside of the cabin and gave it a fresh coat of whitewash. I am very proud of my grandson and his troop for the work they did. He will have a short report at the Annual Meeting.

We have moved into our new office space thanks to the work of the AA Parks crew. New carpet, upgrading of the kitchen and bathroom and lighting make the space formerly the hired men's room and caretaker residence. New paint and lighting fixtures, cabinets and counter tops make the space wonderful. We purchased new and used office furniture for the space. The former office space will be repurposed into a research room.

We also added a second intern with the arrival of Amber Besonen. She is helping with reorganizing the office and assisting in other museum activities. She is our intern from the UM Museum Program who joined us in December.

Looking ahead, please join us in 2018 for these possible happenings:

- Restore our 19th century Owosso-made sleigh and Studebaker gig
- Aligning our student education programs with the Michigan Schools Curriculum

Please join us in these efforts.

Interesting additional figures for 2017:

1,573 volunteer hours

1,545 visitors through the house

Respectfully,

George Taylor
President
Cobblestone Farm Association