

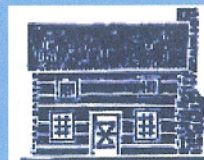
FORT NEW SALEM FOUNDATION, INC.

PO Box 186

Salem, WV 26426

WWW.FORTNEWSALEMFOUNDATION.ORG

NEWSLETTER



Fort New Salem

Mission: Fort New Salem Foundation, Inc. (a non profit 501(c) (3) tax exempt organization) will assist Fort New Salem in preserving and advancing the educational, historical, cultural and social aspects of nineteenth century West(ern) Virginia.

2007 - A Great Start

What a spring! In addition to the spring rains, our Fort has been flooded by “volunteer” rains!

Miracle Meadows School kicked off our work with a huge donation of time and energy (see Miracle Meadows Volunteers 40 Hours—page 3)! Our board spent time cleaning and organizing the business office. It was sort of a “maternal nesting experience” as we prepare the place for our new director. Thanks to a recommendation from the Fairmont office of Senator Rockefeller, we met with representatives of West Virginia University Department of History in April. We hosted our second company

IMMEDIATE NEEDS

1. Backhoe operators
2. Fund Raising Committee Volunteers
3. Volunteers to place French drains

sponsored work day (West Union Bank) and welcomed the first work week by Pruntytown Correctional Facility! They have adopted our fort as an ongoing project for 2007! We also gained a great supporter in Jim Moore, Jim Snyder,

Jim McClung and Paul Burnell. The latter three have been providing maintenance and carpentry work. Jim Moore milled boards for a new floor for the Tin Smith building and has pledged to help with the backhoe work.

Have you seen the new look of our parking lot? With all the brush cleared and everything being burned by the Salem VFD, the area looks huge! A new culvert is being placed in the driveway preparing for the eventual widening of our entrance thanks to Steven Kelley

With that said, much lies ahead. Our long range goal is to host our season of rebirth. Continued volunteers are crucial to our goals but our rehabilitations can only go as far as funding permits.

Thanks West Union Bank

Following our first company sponsored work day with Dominion, representatives of the West Union Bank contacted us to ask how they could help the cause. This led to our April 21st work day sponsored by their company and the restoration of the Tinsmith Cabin. Over twenty-five volun-



teers from the bank and the community convened around 9 AM on that Saturday morning to clean the grounds surrounding the building, replace the shake roof, place a new floor, repair a broken window, white-

wash the ceiling and stain the window frames, shutters and doors.

Sardis resident, Jim Moore, delivered more than enough poplar lumber for the flooring. While the building is now finished, the porch is marked for repair and a tin roof is to be placed on it.



We are working on



our third company sponsored work day. Check our web site for details as they are unveiled. Would your company like to be the next sponsor?



You can view the paintings and information about the silent auction on our website



Father of Fort Makes Donation

Through the vision and leadership of John Randolph, Fort New Salem was created in the early 1970's. John served as the initial director for 20 years.

Although John had been away from the fort physically for many years, his heart never left the facility. As the facility approached closure in 2003 and was ultimately transferred to us, he kept in contact with our foundation. Among John's many talents are the ability to tell tales and painting. While we hope you can hear John

tell a story or two as the facility is re-opened, you can have a representation of his artistic ability if you are the lucky winner of a painting from our silent auction.

John, the Father of Fort New Salem, has generously donated some original paintings from his collection for us to use to raise funds for the fort. They are *Deep Woods* and *Tree Lane*. Each are signed and dated.

Please visit our website to view the paint-

ings, to learn more about the auction or to see what is the current high bid. Offers by mail must be received by June 19 at:

Fort New Salem Foundation, Inc
PO Box 186
Salem, WV 26426

E-mail bids must be received by midnight June 19 at:

Foundation@
Fortnewsalemfoundation.org

The current leading bid will be listed on our website. Winners will be notified on June 20.

From The Chair

"The ping of the hammer coming from the Blacksmith Shop where my son apprenticed ..."

As we continue the process of preparing for the re-opening of the Fort it's been a fascinating experience going through the materials and documents from years past. Each old program announcing an event invokes an imagine of activities taking place in the

various shops and people strolling from dwelling to dwelling. The ping of the hammer coming from the Blacksmith Shop where my son apprenticed so many years ago and smoke spirals from the chimneys as traditional meals are being prepared for the visitors.

There is much to do and much to be accomplished but we are confident that with your help and support that image will be a reality once again.

Bob Fulton

Search For Director Continues

The Foundation is progressing nicely in its search for our Director. Our recent posting attracted numerous candidates on a national and local level. The

highly competitive process approaches its final phases. It is anticipated that our new director will be on board very soon. Please check our web site for the

latest announcement. It is expectation that this will be our sole paid employee for 2007 as we fund raise and rehabilitate Fort New Salem.



Check our site for details about our director search!

Here's To You

As a supporter of Fort New Salem, you have memories of visits over the years that include sights, sounds, tastes, smells, and events that you could share. Future issues of our Newsletter will feature these memories and / or pictures that you send. We

encourage your remembrances to share with readers of the newsletter. If you submit a photo, include your name and address on the back, and mail to us at PO Box 186 Salem, WV 26426. Otherwise, send your submissions by e mail to our

editor, Dr. Joseph Audia, at JAudia2845@aol.com.

Becky Nesbitt, longtime employee of the fort and current member of our board, submitted the entry that follows.

Helen Jones



MMS students piling brush.

Becky's Memories

The Fort is blooming—literally. The flowers in the old garden spots are jumping to life. The jonquils in the Lady's garden are showing their yellow faces. The daffodils are in flower. The lilacs are leafing out. Can grape hyacinths be long in blooming?

The Fort is blooming figuratively as well. Walkways are being unearthed by diligent volunteers. Brush is being

cleared away. Several buildings are set to be renovated.

All this activity put me in mind of Spring's past when the staff was busy with garden preparations, school tours, planning for summer activities. Jeff and David avidly tended their respective gardens—Jeff in the Hurley Garden behind the Meeting House and David in the Heritage Vegetable garden down by the Farm House. Dawn and

I cleaned and prepared the buildings for the hoards of school children about to descend upon us for our legendary tours. Once that bus pulled in, we would all be involved--from director on down. When the kids left for the day, planning sessions (and staff lunch) took place. What workshops, what concerts, what other activities to have during the summer? Lots of thinking.

Becky Nesbitt



View from the road on a March MMS work day

Miracle Meadows Volunteers 40 hours

Miracle Meadows School (MMS), brought a team of volunteers for eight afternoons at the Fort. Under the guidance of MMS faculty, approximately 20 students spent eight afternoons assisting on various projects.

Students continued the process of cleaning and sorting bricks from the Salem fire site. They also uncovered all the sidewalks on the grounds and edged the walkways. Brush was cleared from behind the

office and some brush from last falls cut was placed into our burn zone. In all, MMS spent approximately 40 hours in service at the Fort over a two week period. Jasmond Cheeves, a student volunteer said, "Working at the fort was amazing! When I first saw the place I was a little discouraged, but then I realized that the work we did made a difference. Working on the fort was a blessing!" Marisol Burdick added, "we got dirty,

sandy, sweaty and sometimes even wet, but we also had fun. It was tedious work but it was fun because the staff and students bonded."

We are proud to have MMS as a supporter of Fort New Salem. They joined us in 2006 assisting with brush removal and periodic mowing of the grounds.

MMS is a Seventh-day Adventist church sponsored facility, located outside Salem.

"Working at the fort was amazing! ... I realized that the work we did made a difference."

Work Days Planned

Join us on **May 12, 2007** from 9 AM to 5 PM as we host a public work day. Drinks, equipment and work materials will be provided. Bring a sack lunch. Visit our web for the latest details on this and future work days. Please e-mail us or call us to let us know if you plan on attending any work day so we can plan the appropriate refreshments and work supplies.

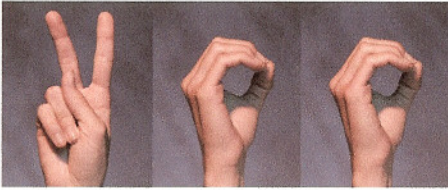


WAYS YOU CAN HELP

1. Volunteer your time
2. Make an individual donation
3. Join the 200 Club
4. Sponsor a company based work day
5. Adopt a cabin

Wanted

Have you joined the 200 CLUB? Our club was established to secure long term pledges to assure our foundation of a financial base of \$200,000 for the operation of the Fort. Our goal is two-hundred members who pledge their financial contribution over a three year period of a minimum of \$1000 per year. Visit our website for an application or write for more information.



Changes and Copies

Please forward any changes of address for your future mailings as well as the names of individuals, groups or businesses you would like added to our mailing list. Copies of our newsletters are available as an Adobe ® pdf file from our website. Please send us an e-mail as we are compiling an e-mail list for future information dissemination.

Thanks to MCM Business Systems for the printing of this newsletter.

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