

THE MECHANICK'S ADVISER

for the week of November 8 - 14

On November 13-15, CW¹ will celebrate the 30th anniversary of its Rare Breeds Program. As part of that weekend, certain Trade Shops will be interpreting how they use animals and/or animal products in their trade. Please see the attachment for the specific information.

Apothecary - They helped a donor with details about their antique drug jar. Sharon is working on a winter training presentation. The survey team is trying out their survey this week.

Artificer's Shop - They have completed the move to the Magazine shop. At this time, they have completed all outstanding work and are beginning on new projects. If you know that your shop or work unit has needs from them in 2016, it is not too soon to contact them so that it can be put on the list. In the meantime, the shop is working on a few small items bound for products.

Basketmaker - The shop is closed due to the Wythe property maintenance.

Bindery - They continue to work on a rule book for the Cabinetmaker and a music book. They have begun working on two cookbooks for Great Hopes.

Brickmaker - They are busy constructing their clamp, or kiln, where the bricks made this summer will be fired Nov 18-22. Work will include stacking the 27,000 or so bricks, encasing the green bricks first with previously fired bricks and then a layer of clay, and of course, stacking firewood.

Candlemaker – This week, they looked at items needed and their prices, and prepared a brief for the Director, Peter Seibert. Tom Redd talked with Ted Boscana and Karen Clancy about possibly using some buildings adjacent to the planned Candlemaker site and their best potential uses. Peter Stinely reported that he has some candlemaking equipment in his shop, from the old program. Tom will pick that up next week. Karen Clancy offered the use of a large, slightly damaged, copper pot, if they can get it fixed. It will, of course, be available for the Weavers if they need it back, with a little advance notice. By the end of the week, they will have sent a (short) list of needed iron and steel tools to the Blacksmiths, mostly stands and grates. They have the beginnings of a job description written for the shop interpreters and need to schedule a time to work with HR to get that into conformity with current CW standards.

Foodways - They are working with Aleworks on a test batch of porter. They are also working on a series of pre-made punch mixes based on 18th-century recipes and practicing on some sugar work for next year's confections program.

Great Hopes Plantation - They will be working with the Brickmakers to re-daub all of the chinking in the Slave House this and next week.

Farming: After an inch of rain, they have to wait to plow again. Hopefully, the ground will be dry enough on Saturday. Meanwhile, they continue to build rail fences on the east side of the site, pick cotton, and pick the seeds out. Woodworking projects include a soap mold for soap making later this month and troughs.

Domestic Arts: They are hosting Chef Travis Brust's apprentices at the site on Thursday and sharing with them middling-class foodways. They continue to wash Hog Island sheep wool in preparation for spinning. The fall greens look really well in the garden.

Historic Garden - A donor had donated money for and requested that a bench be put in the Garden as a memorial for a late husband's favorite spot in CW. This new bench is finished and ready to be put in the Garden once the brick pad that it will sit on is finished, which they are now working on. Bricks were delivered yesterday by Lisa and the oxen from the Brickyard for the new brick pad that will be located under their cherry laurel tree. They have cleared and dug the spot for the bench, and now they are making the wooden frames for the brick pad and should be laying bricks soon. They have also collected seeds from a stand of wild Senna (*Senna marilandica*), a native yellow flower that would have been seen in the botanically-minded garden in the eighteenth century, that they would like to incorporate into their perennial flower portion of the Garden. They have planted these in small clay pots sunk down into the soil in their propagation beds under the grape arbor. They also collected acorns from a Georgia oak (*Quercus georgiana*) and have planted those as well, in hopes that they will have these up and ready to transplant by spring. As always, because of the nice weather and much moisture, small weeds are ever present around the new onion and garlic shoots. They will be working to stay on top of keeping those area cleared.

Joiners - They will be building tables for the new Weaver Shop. They will be building two crates for Products to use at the Market House, and they are continuing to work on boxes for the Native-American programs.

Printers - They are continuing the presswork for "The Articles of Confederation;" and when away from the press, they are assembling stitched books.

Tailors - They will be exhibiting the following during Mount Vernon's annual George Washington Symposium: the reproductions of the Office and Sleeping Marquee along with its interior tents, the Dining Marquee, and the Baggage Tent. The tents are furnished with reproductions of some of GW's campaign furniture, including the 18 camp stools, 3 tables, 3 chests, 2 valises, 2 canteens, and the folding field bed. The bed is furnished with a wool mattress, horsehair mattress, feather bed, bolster, pillow, 4 sheets, 2 pillowcases, and counterpane. These objects are the collective work of the Tailors, Tentmakers, Joiners, Blacksmiths, Wheelwrights, Weavers, Milliners, and Toolmaker. The completed camp will be owned and used by the forthcoming Museum of the American Revolution (Philadelphia) for educational programming and as a traveling exhibit at other historic sites.

Wigmaker - They are constructing a Bob Wig, comprised of human and horse hair, which Debbie saw in Germany, a wiglet for one of the AI's, and a hand-knotted base for a new wig for Richard Schuman (Patrick Henry). They also continue to do daily maintenance on wigs used by CW staff to support various programming (plays, Ghost Tours, Rev City, and commercials).

ANIMALS AND HISTORIC TRADES

In 18th-century Williamsburg, the use of animals extended far beyond transportation and the meat that appeared on the table. Visit our

Historic Trades shops to learn more about the wide variety of animal products used to manufacture goods as well as items made for use in livestock husbandry.

Learn How:

The **Artificer** uses leather, horn, bone and hair.

The **Blacksmith** makes ox shoes, crooks and curry combs.

The **Brick Yard** uses oyster shell, animal hair, and draft power.

The **Cabinetmaker** uses hide glue, tallow and leather.

The **Cooper** makes water tubs and feed buckets.

The **Garden** uses manure.

The **Gunsmith & Foundry** uses horn, leather and sheep fat.

The **Harpsichord Maker** uses crow quills, boar bristles and leather.

The **Kitchen** uses meat, milk, eggs and fat.

The **Milliner & Tailor** use wool, silk, horn, bone and feathers.

The **Printing Office & Bindery** use skin, wool, glue, and bone.

The **Shoemaker** uses leather and boar bristles.

The **Silversmith** uses wool and horn.

The **Tin Shop** uses horn and makes dairying tools.

The **Weaver** uses wool and insects.

The **Wheelwright** makes carts and wagons.

The **Wigmaker** uses animal hair and feathers.

Great Hopes Plantation uses draft animals, meat, leather and wool.

Colonial Williamsburg

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