

THE MECHANICK'S ADVISER

for the week of Sept 20-26

Apothecary – They are compiling and analyzing primary source material on cleaning teeth and working on organizing info that they have on domestic medicine for the new Domestic Arts program.

Armoury:

Blacksmith – They are working on hand railings for the Market House, hardware for a lathe which is being made in the cabinet shop, a coin press to be used to exhibit early coin production, and an iron rim lock). Miscellaneous work includes small hardware for the Market House and Scale house to include nails, hinges, and slide bolts for the doors, brackets for hanging tin lanterns (which were made by the Tin Shop), shears for the Tin Shop, repairs to agricultural tooling for Great Hopes, and tooling for the Wheelwright Shop.

Tin Shop – They have been repairing watering cans from the Garden site, as well as a coffeepot and some broken stemware for the Breeches making program, some new chocolate pots and coffee pots for the Coffee House, and developing patterns for new projects for the advanced part of our apprentice curriculum. The new apprentice and intern are working on developing skills in fitting and soldering. They are both working on gill cups, patterned after a surviving cup found in the archaeology of the Custis Site here in Williamsburg.

Also, below is an article about the opening of a blacksmith shop in New York that Ken Schwarz participated in!

...mule parade will take place. Meet at the schoolhouse at 11:15 a.m., as the parade starts at 11:30 a.m. We invite the children to come to the schoolhouse at 10 a.m. to

...this year on Sunday, Aug. 9, right after church. For questions or to sign up for the boater course, email ytcbbpax33@aol.com.

Grand opening of blacksmith shop at the Hammond Museum

Hammond - The Hammond Museum announces the opening and dedication of the blacksmith shop Wednesday, July 8. There will be working demonstrations from 1 to 7 p.m., with Colonial Williamsburg master blacksmith, Kenneth Schwarz, as well as other area blacksmiths. A dedication ceremony will be held at 2 p.m.

The north country is familiar territory to Mr. Schwarz. He states, "My grandmother used to summer at Cape Vincent and my parents brought the family to Wolfe Island for a number of summers in the 1960s." He met John Scarlett in 1975 and spent summers working on his farm in Kossie. That developed into a lifelong friendship and he was a great inspiration to Mr. Schwarz in sharing his love for blacksmithing. By 1987, Mr. Schwarz earned journeyman status and in 2003, he became master of the Colonial Williamsburg, Va., shop, overseeing six blacksmiths and three tinsmiths.

The blacksmith shop at the museum was donated by Richard Champney on the Calaboga Road in Hammond. It had been operated by Everett Burns many years ago. John Scarlett, who has become a very skilled and nationally known blacksmith himself, was instrumental in overseeing the transfer and restoration of the building. He figured that more than 50 volunteers have assisted in this endeavor and he is very grateful for their time and various areas of expertise.



Kenneth Schwarz
Besides the blacksmith shop opening, there will be other artisans demonstrating and some outdoor or fireplace cooking. The farmers' market will also be starting its third season on that day, beginning at 3:30 p.m. From 4:30 - 7 p.m., a "Good-Bye Earl" pig roast will be served. The menu is barbecue pulled pork as well as regular roasted pork, salt potatoes, baked beans, coleslaw and desserts (homemade pies, cookies or brownies).

The museum, fully furnished stone house, carriage shed and barn will be opened for the day. There are plenty of hands-on activities for the children to enjoy as well.

For further information contact Donna Demick, 324-5731.

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Real Estate Transactions



Home sold

Elaine Storz has sold a home located at 0 Chub Lake Road, Hermon, to Wayne and Michele Cronk. The transaction was handled by Janet Handschuh of Heart Homes Realty.

Waterfront home sold

Constance Griffith, New Hartford, has sold a waterfront home located on Linden Cove Extension,

Manheim, Pa. The transaction was handled by Matthew Garlock, Garlock Realty, in cooperation with Logan Hollinger, Berkshire Hathaway CNY Realty.

Home sold

Jeremy Marshall, Farmington, has sold a residence located on Weaver Road, Watertown, to Kevin Nasworthy, Watertown. The sale was handled by Elizabeth Chaltain,

Artificer's Shop - They will begin construction of leather stays for use by the female Armory staff members, engage in alterations to leather breeches, and numerous odd jobs.

Basketmaker - They were able to get into the woods and cut some white oak this past week (HUZZAH!), so they will be splitting trees into basket material since they were down to almost none.

Below is a picture of the complete collection of baskets made by them for the Market House:



Bindery – They are working on two quarto bindings in calf skin, a full binding, and a half binding, all for Prentis Store. They are also starting a fifth music book in folio to be sold, and continuing the rebinding of A Complete Housewife for Great Hopes.

Brickmaker – They are continuing brickmaking with clay in the pit for treading, prepping the kiln for construction to begin in October and the firing scheduled Nov 18-22, and working on a lime kiln at Great Hopes located next to the Windmill.

Cabinetmaker – They continue work on the replication of two case pieces and an easy chair, as well as the upholstery for a half set of side chairs. Work on the treadle lathe is also underway. The harpsichord makers are preparing materials for two new spinets and their presentation to the 2016 Working Wood Symposium.

Carpenters – They are completing the stalls for the Market House, helping with lighting installation, and readying the Market House for the city building inspection. They are also helping the Joiners build fixtures.

Coopers – They have finished one of two large tubs to be used as covers for modern coolers at the Market House and have also finished the production of three beer kilderkins (18 gallons capacity) as part of a larger order for the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation. They continue the repair of about twenty casks that will be used for programming by the Actor Interpreters and the making of a number of small tubs to be used as dog bowls around town.

Also, a young lady named Stephanie Matthias from the University of Munich, and studying U.S. History, worked with the Coopers on Wednesday, September 16. Below is a picture of her at the shop:



Also,

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, getting ready for the first brewing program of the fall on September 27th, and practicing on some sugar work for next year’s confections program.

Great Hopes Plantation –

Historic Farming – The tobacco is still curing but will be struck soon and bulked up into a pile until they can sort and tie it into hands. A fair amount of the straw from threshing out the wheat has gone into making the straw-covered tent frame at the Military Encampment. They plowed some this week with Pat and Mike, the oxen, and will harrow it off soon.

Domestic Arts – They will be working on planting the fall crops of lettuces, cabbages, and root vegetables in both the Planter and Slave gardens, as well as tending to the seedling peas and coleworts, already planted. In addition, they are working on preserving the last of the summer beans that are still in the process of being pulled up.

Gun Shop/Foundry – They are still making a rifle flintlock, which takes about 50 hours, and 2 flintlocks for a cased pair of pistols. The founders have about finished a hand bell for the opening of the Market House and pewter spoons and candle sticks for Prentis store.

Historic Garden – The last of the summer produce is now being harvested. The pepper plants are being pulled and cleaned to make room for the parsley and radishes. The butter beans require picking nearly daily now, and the sweet potatoes are being pulled to make room for the onions, garlic, and shallots.

Joiners – They are continuing to work on the fittings for the Market House. These include 7 large work tables as well as the Poulter's stall, which is the last major component. These items will be installed this week. They will continue to build boxes and crates as well.

Also, they have a lot of shavings and small pieces of wood to use for kindling. If you would like some, please stop by their shop.

Millinery – They are constructing an exact copy of a woman's Quaker cap from our collection and working on a new gown for Aislinn Lewis to wear.

Printers – They are folding and gathering sections of "A Pretty Story...", readying them for sale as a stitched book. They are also correcting the third of four forms for "The Articles of Confederation" (expecting to have this in production soon).

Shoemaker – They will be making shoes.

Silversmith – They are working on various sorts of spoons and salt shovels, Gurney Bowls and a fluted bowl, a "skittle ball" teapot, a pair of patty pans, a small dram cup, Revere Beakers and raised beakers, a thistle cup, trade silver jewelry, rings and letter charms, a 12-inch Montieth, 2 copper vessels (one being raised by the intern, the other by an apprentice), and a silver ingot will be cast by the intern and scraped and filed clean. Please note that at any given time, not all of these items will be being worked on, but all will be available to be seen and discussed with anyone who is interested.

Tailors – They are finishing a worsted coat, a pair of knit cotton breeches, and beginning mattresses and curtains for Washington's camp bed.

Weavers – They are doing programs for Home Schoolers on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at Great Hopes – spinning and preparing fibers. They are finishing a navy and blue coverlet for Prentis Store, and they have finished a Logwood leather sample.

Wheelwright – They will be finishing the cart body for the Market House and continuing work on the wheels. Repair of a cart for the Greenhow Store is almost complete. They will start the repair of the ox cart on Tuesday, Sept 22.

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).

Two Historic Trades personnel notes:

Betty Myers is out for several weeks to recover from her knee-replacement surgery. We all wish her the best.

Our new Floating Trades Interpreter, Tim Logue, starts on Sunday, Sept 20th. Welcome, Tim!