

Lodge and Cascades earn seventh Pinnacle Award

Successful Meetings magazine has awarded the Williamsburg Inn, Williamsburg Lodge and the Cascades their seventh consecutive Pinnacle Award.

Readers bestow Pinnacle Awards by voting on the 25 best meeting hotels in five regions of the United States (Northeast, Southeast, Midwest, Southwest and West) and in two international groupings: Canada/Mexico and Offshore/International.

Using a ballot in the January issue, readers selected winning properties based on service, meeting rooms and equipment, recreational facilities, quality of food and beverage, exhibit space, accessibility and social consciousness.



"Nearly one thousand hard-to-impress critics cast more than 9,000 votes electing the 1991 winners," publisher Richard M. O'Connor said. "Many are full-time planners, but most are busy executives who use meetings to accomplish business goals. They demand excellence from you because they demand it of themselves."

"As a Pinnacle Award winner, Williamsburg Inn, Lodge and the Cascades are in outstanding company. In every nation, winners of this award have demonstrated to very demanding customers that they have the commitment to service that is essential for greatness."

"Winning the Pinnacle Award for the seventh year in a row shows that we are recognized by meeting professionals for providing expert service and quality facilities to our conference guests," said Gary Brown, Colonial Williamsburg director of hotel sales. "It is a reward that

is well-respected by meeting planners and by our peers in the hospitality industry. It lets the world know that you're above and beyond many other properties in today's competitive conference market.

"Meetings and conferences accounted for roughly one-third of our business in 1990, and we look to that segment of our market for further growth. Many of the changes we're making in Colonial Williamsburg's hotel properties--the new golf course, the renovations at the Williamsburg Lodge--are aimed at providing the best in service and facilities for our business guests."

Winners of the 1991 Pinnacle Awards will be published in the magazine's August issue.

Softball takes to field at Matthew Whaley

Eleven Colonial Williamsburg teams are playing in this year's softball season.

The four men's league teams: **Landscape, Outlaws** (Golf Course Maintenance), **Mod Squad** (Mechanical Operations and Building Maintenance), and **King's Arms Tavern**. Seven coed league teams: **Composite Order** (Architectural Research and Architecture & Engineering), **Lodge, The Finist** (Information Systems and Finance), **Colonial Stars** (Laundry and Commissary), **Capitol Offenders** (Collections and Conservation), **KATastrophe**, and the **Williamsburg Inn**.

Games are Monday through Thursday afternoons and evenings at Matthew Whaley School. Check your bulletin boards for the schedule. Come out and cheer for your co-workers and friends!

African-American history programs in N.Y. Times

The New York Times will feature an article on Colonial Williamsburg's African-American programs in the Sunday, July 14 travel section. The New York Times has a Sunday circulation of 1,706,013.

Bowling Fun Night is rolling your way

It's time to round up your bowling team and register for the annual Employee Bowling Fun Night Tournament. The whole Williamsburg Bowling Center is ours on Wednesday, August 21. You have a choice of bowling on the 5:45 p.m. or 8:45 p.m. shift (or both if space is available).

Teams must be four-person. They can be all male or female or mixed, as long as all bowlers are employees.

There is a \$1 registration fee per person listed on the team roster/registration form. You can pick up forms outside Room 150 in the Franklin Street Office Building or call Sue Houser at ext. 7029 #4 and a form will be mailed to you. **Please note: If you want to bowl with another team, please write the team name at the bottom of your form. We will pair you.**

Team registration deadline is Wednesday, August 14. Requests are honored on a first come, first serve basis. Forms will not be accepted without the registration fee.

What's happening

- ✓ Fencing, Tuesdays, 5:45 p.m. in the PTB.
- ✓ Town Criers Toastmasters, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, noon, PTB.

Please leave the apples for cider



What was one of colonial Virginia's favorite drinks? Cider, of course!

This thirst was known by Gentleman and slave alike. Although it was a common home product, we also imported cider from Europe during the 18th century. This homemade product ranged from a high quality French-style sparkling cider to a field drink of low alcohol content and having a vinegar taste.

Estate inventories indicate cider equipment was part of many households. It also seems that many Virginians cultivated apple orchards.

Newtown Pippin, Redstreak and Virginia Crab are just a few of the apple varieties that found their way into the press.

Most cider makers preferred to use an assortment of apples, blending them to get just the desired taste. A combination of aromatic, tart and astringent tastes were blended using the cider maker's skill and experience.

This produced a variety of tastes, as many blends of cider as cider-makers. Each farmer had his own recipe, usually a well-kept secret.

The principle ingredient in most recipes was the Virginia or Hughes Crab. This crab apple, grown by many farmers, gave a sharp, clean taste to the cider. This apple became so popular it was sometimes the sole apple in a pressing.

There is no doubt that cider making was an important part of the planter's year.

We at the Rural Trades site would like to present a program on cider making in the near future. We have been successful in our experimentation, producing bottled cider in a variety of grades.

This effort began more than five years ago with the construction of the mill and press. With the equipment and expertise in hand, all we need is apples.

Colonial Williamsburg has, in the restored area and at Carter's Grove, varieties of apples needed to produce good cider. Our problem is *getting* the apples to the mill. Those crab apples make nice jelly and pippins are a tasty apple for brunch, but...

Wesley Green and the landscape department are working hard to produce a good crop of apples for us to put up as cider and utilize in our food programs.

Specifically, our interest lies in the early varieties of apples we are growing at Carter's Grove. To get a good press, we will need at least ten bushels of apples.

So, as tasty as they may seem, leave them for us to pick and then you can see them milled and pressed into cider in the fall. Thanks.

—Kerry Shackelford and Terry Thon

Looking for ways to save money?

Colonial Williamsburg employees can save money at certain retail shops, at the Tazewell Club Fitness Center, and on tickets to King's Dominion.

Except for Tazewell Fitness Center memberships, these discounts are available to retirees and dependents as well as employees.

The Tazewell Club Fitness Center offers mid-day and one-year discounted memberships. For information call Bob Sweel at ext. 7479 or Cindy Greczek at ext. 7468.

Colonial Gardens, at 5406 Airport Road, offers a 10% discount on all regularly priced merchandise bought at the garden center and on all lawn services (landscaping, irrigation systems and lawn maintenance). Call Peggy Bender at ext. 7185 for additional information.

American Health Foods of Virginia, 455 Merrimac Trail, offers a 5% discount on all merchandise in the store. The discount cannot be used with any other in-store sale or discount policy. Call Peggy Bender at ext. 7185 for information.

You can save \$6 off the \$21.95 general admission ticket to Kings Dominion for the weekends of August 2 - 4, 9 - 11, 16 - 18 or 23 - 25. Pick up discount coupons from the plexiglass holder between Rooms 149 and 150 in the Franklin Street Office Building.

Health & Safety Fair coming in October

Have you put the Health & Safety Fair scheduled for Thursday, October 17, on your calendar?

Opportunities to check your health and challenge your safety awareness are being brought to you by Employee Relations, Safety & Security, the Tazewell Club and Williamsburg Community Hospital.

Check us out—it's your life!

The *Extra* is published weekly by the Communications Department. Deadlines are 5 p.m. every Tuesday. Call Sally Riley, ext. 7968, for assistance. Send announcements via interoffice mail to *CW News Extra*, GBO. Or, FAX them to Sally Riley, ext. 7702.