

Marcus Hook Preservation Society

# Newsletter



## Plank House Restoration Continues

The new South Wall planks and siding were funded by a grant from the Crystal Foundation. The work was done by Carl Popadick of Turks Head Carpentry. The beams in the kitchen area have also been replaced and this interior part of the Plank House has been secured.

This past year we have suffered a great loss in the passing of our dear friend, Carl. He was not only a very gifted master carpenter, but also Captain of the Sons of the Waves – a pirate reenactor, who has attended our Pirate Festivals for the last 14 years. He will be greatly missed.

We will continue our grant writing efforts so that we can complete the work that Carl started on the Plank House, to not only honor his memory, but also that we may move forward in our efforts to restore the Plank House to museum quality.



If you are interested in donating to this very worthwhile cause, please send donations to:

MHPS  
P.O. Box 703  
Marcus Hook, PA 19061

Indicate “restoration” on your check. We thank you for your support!

# 15th Annual Pirate Festival

With being a special year for MHPS, we celebrated with six food vendors and over twenty crafters and vendors. There was a petting zoo, pony rides and face painting provided by The Little Farm in Delaware, who was new to our Festival this year. There were Carnival games and Fire Engine rides and our Pirate Encampment was on full display! Our Beer Garden featured a new singing group, Twin Tides who performed songs from the '70's and '80's. Bedlam Bones was on hand to perform our much-loved Pirate tunes. Brigands and Pirates For Sail performed on stage throughout the day. To help us celebrate our 15th anniversary, "Big Package" performed a concert on stage from 5pm to 7pm. Their big band sound and songs really hit a high note for our celebration!

Thank you to all who attended and supported our 15th annual fundraiser, and to all who participated. We appreciate your support and look forward to our 2024 event.



## Plank House Facts and Mystery



William Penn wrote a letter to Roger Jackson, who was an attorney from Chester asking him to take care of a widowed woman who lived at Market Lane and Broad Street. At the time William Penn owned half the property and Roger Jackson owned the other half. This letter was written at the same time period that Blackbeard died... another mystery! William Penn granted the Market Square and the Plank House was used as a counting room to not only count money from the Market Square but to also record who was there.

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## Artifacts Library

Bones that had been discovered on the grounds of the Plank House during one of our very first digs back in 2005 have been sent to the University of Penn Museum for further study by Katherine Moore, Teaching Specialist. Once the study is complete, the bones and their story will be housed in our Library to be used as a teaching aid for students in our area.

In the Spring and Fall of 2022, Dr. Timothy Trussell of Millersville University brought students to the Plank House to dig for artifacts in areas that were not yet discovered. Their findings are currently being studied on Campus and their findings will be revealed soon.



## 2023 Sponsors

*We would like to thank the following  
for their generosity and support:*

**Metropolitan Communications Inc.**

**Monroe Energy**

**Wegmans**

**The Borough of Marcus Hook**

**PDS Insurance**



## Board of Directors

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Hugh Duffy - *Marketing Design*

## Our Mission

- To care for and preserve the Plank House and interpret for the public its legendary connection with pirates on the Delaware River
- To celebrate the significant historical features of Marcus Hook's social and cultural life from the 17th century to the present
- To offer tours and public educational programs designed to celebrate and preserve the history of the Plank House and the community of Marcus Hook



## WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

If you would like to help us in any of the following areas, please email us at [mhps1720@gmail.com](mailto:mhps1720@gmail.com).

**Research • Education • Events**

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## THE MARCUS HOOK PRESERVATION SOCIETY

The Marcus Hook Preservation Society is a 501c3 non-profit organization. It was formed in 2004 to preserve the rich history of the Borough of Marcus Hook through educational programs, events, and community involvement.

The Society owns the Marcus Hook Plank House and is in the process of major renovations.

The Plank House, circa 1720, is our founding symbol, saved for restoration in 2004, and open by appointment.

The Marcus Hook Preservation Society meets on the second Monday of each month at 7pm at the Marcus Hook Community Center, 7 W. Delaware Ave., Marcus Hook, PA 19061.

**Meetings are open to the public and guests are welcome to attend.**



### Marcus Hook Preservation Society

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Marcus Hook, PA 19061

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