Mid-Atlantic ALHFAM Regional Conference and Meeting
Saturday, March 28, 2020

Location:
East Jersey Old Town Village
Piscataway, NJ

Co-Hosted by
Middlesex County (NJ) Division of Historic Sites and History Services
and
The Association for Living History Farm and Agricultural Museums

Due to the generosity of Middlesex County, MAALHFAM 2020 will be a free event!
However we can only accommodate a maximum of 65 participants, so registration for specific workshops and sessions will be required. Be sure to register promptly to ensure you are able to participate in the workshops and sessions that are of the greatest interest to you. Register on the Regional Conferences section of www.alhfam.org

Conference Day at a Glance
7:00 - 8:00am: Registration; Silent Auction Item Drop-off
8:00 - 8:35am: Opening Remarks
8:45am -12:00pm: Concurrent Sessions and Workshops
12:00 -1:00pm: Lunch and Regional Meeting, Silent Auction opens
1:15 - 6:00pm: Concurrent Sessions and Workshops
6:15 - 8:00pm: Dinner
7:00pm: Silent Auction Closes

Enjoy visiting the Cornelius Low House, located just up the road:
1225 River Rd, Piscataway, NJ 08854, 12-4pm Saturday and Sunday.

For additional local museums, please refer to your registration packet.

Conference Day Schedule and Sessions

Look for sessions marked with the STP (Skills Training and Preservation) Logo. This logo denotes workshops with high levels of participant interaction which will teach you the basics of a new skill, in keeping with ALHFAM’s mission of training and preserving skills of the past and skills of presenting living history.

Some sessions have a maximum number of participants, so make sure to register in advance on www.alhfam.org. Sessions that say “No Maximum” mean that there are unlimited participants allowed.

7:00-8:00am: Registration and Silent Auction Item Drop-off
Location: Indian Queen Tavern, East Jersey Old Town Village

8:00-8:35am: Opening remarks by Mark Nonestied, Middlesex County Historian, Division Head, Middlesex County Division of Historic Sites and History Services

8:45am-11:45am: 3 Hour Session

Letterpress Printing: Rachel Lee, East Jersey Old Town Village
Participants will learn the technical process of letterpress printing, how it differs from other forms of printing, and a brief overview of the history of print. As a group, participants will design, set-up, and print a simple piece of text, incorporating decorative elements such as ornamental type and borders. An edition equal to double the number of participants (or greater, if time allows) will be produced. Max. 10 people

8:45-10:15am: Concurrent 90 Minute Sessions

The Revolutionary War Sergeant’s School: Nathan Schultz, Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, & Ed Schultz, Colonial Williamsburg
What was it like to be a soldier during the Revolutionary War? It was a life of discipline and duty highlighted by extreme risk and excitement during battle. We can’t show you the battle part, but we can show you how they fought by learning the drill that gave them the skills to win. This immersive workshop puts the participant in the shoes of the private soldier and in the mind and voice of the sergeant who had to teach them. Moving between roles deepens the understanding of what it took to drive the enemy from the field by lethal force. Max. 12 people

The goals of this session are to:
• Foster an understanding of the individual soldier’s role in winning the war.
• Grasp the concepts of this type of programming and how it might fit into your site.
• Enhance interpretive skills in military interpretation.
• Move, speak and feel the role and weight of a Sergeant’s duty to succeed in battle.
Introduction to Beekeeping: Pat Evans, Central Jersey Beekeeper’s Association & East Jersey Old Town Village

The goal of the presentation is to introduce the art and science of raising and sustaining honey bees. This is useful for those considering beekeeping as a hobby as well as anyone interested in protecting bees through beneficial environmental practices. These principles are applicable to all bees and pollinators. A PowerPoint presentation explains the life of a bee, beneficial plants, threats to bees’ existence, and proper care. The key hardware and equipment used in beekeeping will be demonstrated, explaining its unique purpose. Some items will be passed around for a close look and feel. Locally produced raw honey will be tasted and compared to generic store-bought honey.

Try Your Hand!: New Jersey Living History Advisory Council
Join members of the New Jersey Living History Advisory Council as they host short workshops in which you can learn historic skills, some of which may have applications in our modern lives. These workshops will be ongoing throughout the course of the allotted timeframe, and you can move throughout them at your own pace.

10:30am-12:00pm Concurrent 90 Minute Sessions

Ewe Necked, Pig Eyed, Cow Hocked, and Parrot Mouthed: Evaluating the Conformation of Livestock:
Barbara Corson, VMD
The conformation of an animal –how it is “put together”– influences that animal’s function, health and usefulness to humans, so the ability to evaluate the conformation of livestock is important to farmers and others involved in animal husbandry. This workshop will address the basic anatomy of horses, cattle, sheep and pigs, with emphasis on how conformation can enhance or conversely, limit performance. Topics for discussion include conformation traits that are desirable in a horse for draft, carriage work or riding; in a dairy cow or working steer; and in a sheep or pig selected for breeding.

19th Century Baseball in the Modern Era: Lawrence Major, The Liberty Base Ball Club of New Brunswick
This session provides an explanation of the early days of baseball in New Brunswick and the greater Northeast Region. Demonstrators will explain the rules and customs, including period-appropriate equipment and uniforms. Then, participants will be invited to play several innings! *This session will only be available if weather permits
Max. 18 people

Fats in Baking: Margaret Quinn, Mercer County Park Commission, Howell Living History Farm
This session explores how different fats affect the outcome of different baked goods. What fats are best for what job? And of course, there will be an opportunity to taste test various baked items prepared with different fats!

12:00-1:00pm: Lunch and Regional Meeting; Silent Auction Opens
1:15-2:00pm 45 Minute Session

What Is It? When Was It? Engaging Your Audience: Sarah Bent, Monmouth County Park System, Historic Walnford

I am offering my tried and true tips and techniques for captivating a multi-generational audience with simple, low-budget hands-on displays (portable for outreach opportunities) that invite curiosity and provide historical context. I’ll share the format we will discuss how to adapt this model to support your interpretive time period and reinforce your site’s mission.

Max. 20 People

1:15pm - 2:45pm: Concurrent 90 Minute Sessions

Feel Comfortable Shooting and Editing your SkillClip: Lauren Muney and Pete Watson, ALHFAM Skills Training and Preservation (STP) Committee

ALHFAM’s new STP initiative encourages teaching and learning skills as a way of keeping history vibrant as well as creating a resource for learning living history methods. One important aspect of keeping skills alive is to videotape skills used on your site or learned at another site. We have smartphones in our pockets or tablets: these include mobile video cameras that are perfect (and easy) for capturing the action and giving quick but effective living history lessons. The goal of this session is to help participants feel comfortable shooting and editing SkillClips at any skill level. No maximum

The workshop expects to cover:
- Planning the video and the shoot
- The basics of editing on a mobile device
- Point of View (POV) shooting
- Basic “tools” (tripods, other devices)
- Ideas for inexpensive video shooting

From Reenactor to First Person Interpreter: David Biser

Persons taking this workshop will explore the transitional aspects of moving from reenacting a time period to the development and implementation of a first-person character. No maximum

3:00pm - 6:00pm: Concurrent 3 Hour Sessions

Plowing Workshop and Match: Pete Watson, Mercer County Park Commission, Howell Living History Farm

This session will begin with a workshop on plowing fundamentals, including field layout, hitching with a single horse and a team, how to adjust and turn furrows with a plow, and how to judge the quality of plowing. After everyone has had a chance to practice, all will participate in a just-for-fun plowing match, with ribbons awarded for the straightest and most uniform furrows. Max. 8 People

Try Your Hand!: New Jersey Living History Advisory Council

If you were not able to participate in the morning session, never fear! The members of the New Jersey Living History Advisory Council will host their short workshops where you can learn historic skills, in which may have applications in our modern lives a second time! These workshops will be ongoing throughout the course of the allotted timeframe, and you can move throughout them at your own pace. No maximum
Visit the Museum Exhibits, the Museum Gift Shop and our Silent Auction!

Weather depending, East Jersey Old Town Village will have museum artifacts, such as tractors and corn shellers, on display and running for hands-on demonstrations. Check at the Registration table for times and locations.

6:15-8:00pm: Dinner  (*7pm: Silent Auction Closes)

Silent Auction!

As you all know, regional conferences and workshops are the primary way ALHFAM regions raise money to fund fellowships for their members to attend future regional and annual conferences and workshops.

This year, thanks to the generosity of Middlesex County, we are excited to offer you the opportunity to attend a FREE conference! **However that does mean that our only fundraising will be through our silent auction.**

We are asking that every participant bring at least one item for the silent auction. You will be asked to indicate a general item category for your donation when you register to attend.

Do you have an old book you never use, because you don’t work in that region or your site is in the wrong time period? Put it in the Silent Auction! Or are you the reigning County Fair champion for your award-winning jam? We’d love to bid on it! This will be your opportunity to raise funds to send folks to annual and regional conferences in the years to come.

So, don’t forget to bring your wallet! Bid numbers will be available for purchase at Registration for $1.

**The Silent Auction starts at 1pm and closes at 7pm**

Conference Hotel:

**Home2 Suites by Hilton**
858 New Durham Rd., Edison NJ 08817
732-248-6546

Please reserve your room directly with the hotel using this Group code: MID ATLANTIC ALHFAM CONFERENCE . Our contact has been Darshan Sharma, Director of Sales

We have reserved a block of 10 rooms for March 27 and also March 28 at the Home 2 Suites by Hilton. Our group rate is $109 plus tax. Reserve your room by March 6 to get the guaranteed group rate.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Any cancellation must occur by 6pm, **48 hours before check in date**, or you will be charged a one-night room fee plus taxes.

Hotel Link: An All Suite property with the largest square footage in the market - every room is equipped with a full kitchenette and sofabeds in every Suite. Free Wifi, Free Parking, 24 Hour State of the Art Fitness Center, Free Breakfast, Indoor Saline Pool, Pet Friendly