

The Tavern Tribune



Harmony in Hanover

The 2009 *Harmony in Hanover* concert series got off to a great start thanks to local folk-artist Susan Greenbaum and her band. Tavern guests enjoyed the spring evening with wine and hors d'ouvres on the front porch and throughout the historic rooms. The band performed in the 156-seat Bradley Theater for over two hours and the music selection featured Carol King hits familiar to the crowd. The intimate setting and fabulous food provided by *Michelle's* made for a special night to enjoy all that Hanover Tavern has to offer.

The concert series has another important function, serving as a series of fundraising events for the Hanover Tavern Foundation, the mission of which is to utilize and preserve Hanover Tavern as a community, educational, and cultural resource.

Fundraising events such as *Harmony in Hanover* provide funding for educational programming and exhibits throughout the year for the public. Due to these fundraising efforts, the Foundation is able to provide educational opportunities to the community at no charge.

The fundraising committee, a group of community volunteers headed this year by Margaret Huzek and Marla Ferguson, organizes the concert series which so far has raised over \$30,000. Thanks to our sponsors and the people who purchase tickets, Hanover Tavern Foundation gets the community support it needs. And everyone has fun at the same time!

Our July concert will feature bluegrass band Jackass Flats on the Tavern grounds with beer and food available for purchase during the event. Tickets are \$25 and going fast so please call today to purchase yours. Just think, for \$25 you can support a worthy cause, enjoy a concert at your favorite local venue, and you just might accidentally learn something about history while you're there.

Future *Harmony in Hanover* Events?

September 18 – Kings of Swing

November 7 – Richmond Philharmonic

Fall concert tickets are \$50 each and include a wine & cheese reception before the show.

Call 804.537.5050 for ticket information.
We look forward to seeing you at Hanover Tavern!

*Hanover Tavern
Foundation
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804.537.5050, ext. 24

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Laura Curzi
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*From the
President's Desk*

History, new programs, new exhibits, a new gift shop and new and old faces continue to help the Foundation fulfill its mission: "to restore, preserve and utilize the Hanover Tavern as a historic, educational, community and cultural resource center." This newsletter will give you a great glimpse into what's new at the Tavern.

A "THANK YOU" to Board members, volunteers, and staff and a WELCOME to new Board members: Many thanks to Immediate Past President Dick Denecker for his leadership and the Board for all its good service in 2008-09. Special thanks to: (i) our new Executive Director, Katarina Spears and our Site Manager, Laura Curzi, whose hard work since February of 2009 has brought wonderful new exhibits and historic programming to the Tavern; (ii) to the volunteers led by Mae Taylor who serve tirelessly in many roles at the Tavern, from tours to gardening and much more; and (iii) to the Fundraising Committee volunteers led by Margaret Huzek and Marla

Ferguson. The Fundraising Committee's Harmony in Hanover events of 2008 and 2009 generate income needed for the operation of the historic Tavern and also bring fun musical events to the community. Finally, a hearty welcome to our five (5) new Board members: Tom Bishop, Carey Carlisle, Sean Link, Amy Marschean, and David Ross.

Look to the Tavern's website (www.hanovertavern.org) for information about programs and activities this summer and fall. COME JOIN US for some of these events and experience HISTORY, FUN, FOOD AND MORE at historic Hanover Tavern.

Barbara M. Rose
President, Hanover Tavern
Foundation



Family Tavern Nights Are Back!

Hanover Tavern will feature two Family Tavern Nights for summer 2009—Wednesdays, June 24th and August 26th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Join us for good old-fashioned family fun: Colonial lawn games (provided by Scotchtown staff), pie-eating contests, crafts, music and more. And the best part, it's free for the whole family!

Michelle's restaurant will provide burgers and dogs plus all the fixin's for only \$5 per person.

Volunteer efforts ensure that we can continue to offer these events to the community free of charge. If you are interested in volunteering (kids too!) please

To make reservations or to schedule a special event call 804.537.5050.

For information about facility rentals, weddings and more, ask for restaurant manager, Sara Dickerson.

To learn more about upcoming shows, or to purchase tickets, please call the Barksdale box office at 804.282.2620 or visit www.barksdalerichmond.org



Interns Jordan McIntire and Joshua Epps organize the Tavern's archives and collections storage spaces.

Interns Reorganize HTF Archives and Collections Storage

Jordan McIntire and Joshua Epps are both interning this summer at the Tavern to fulfill program requirements and earn extra credit. Josh is a senior at Virginia Commonwealth University, studying history, and is also a part-time employee of the Tavern's neighbor, Pamunkey Library. Josh will be working on the archives and collection, while also helping to implement an oral history project.

Jordan is also studying history and pursuing a certificate in arts management. Her work at the Tavern will fulfill a 40-hour service requirement for that certification. A junior at Sweetbriar, Jordan has been a great help in getting the archives and other spaces clean and organized.

Josh and Jordan are learning firsthand that working at a historic site isn't all glitz and glamour. They have spent time painting, cleaning, reorganizing research files, inventorying artifacts and archiving old business records dating back 20 years. We are grateful for their hard work and hope they will stay lifelong friends of the Tavern. If you see them working away when you stop by, be sure to say 'hello' and tell them to keep up the good work!

P.T. Barnum *[Never] Slept Here*

In the late spring of 1836, P.T. Barnum, his circus proprietor Aaron Turner, and his traveling circus company of 35 men and boys arrived in Hanover County. Wagons, carriages, tents, horses, ponies, and band pulled up to Hanover Tavern soaking wet. The weather was atrocious with heavy rain, strong winds and knee-deep mud in the roads.

Upon arrival, the company decided to cancel their performance scheduled for that afternoon and head south for Richmond. The tavern keeper informed Turner and Barnum that they were contracted to eat three meals, and lodge for one night—no exceptions. The bill would remain the same if they were to depart then or the next morning. Negotiating back and forth angered Turner, Barnum and the tavern keeper until Turner came up with a foolish but workable plan.

The performers would have dinner at noon, supper at half-past twelve, lodge at one o'clock that afternoon, and enjoy their breakfast at half-past one. Amazed at this ridiculousness, the tavern keeper suggested just serving the men all three meals at once. Turner refused and added that the table had to be cleared off and reset with clean dishes before each meal. Also, the keeper could not re-hash one meal and make it work for another meal.

The keeper got to work, and by noon the group was comfortably dining on a light dinner.

Supper was served immediately after and finished punctually by half-past twelve o'clock. By one o'clock Barnum and his troupe had devoured as much as they could and were guided to their bedrooms.

While tumbling into bed, Turner said to the tavern keeper "Do see sir, that our breakfast is all ready and on the table smoking hot in half an hour." While Turner took the business of negotiations very seriously, Barnum viewed the whole situation as a big joke. A half-hour later the men dressed, gathered their belongings, and marched down to breakfast. Quickly consuming another full meal, they then hit the road to Richmond for their next scheduled performance.



1850 Lithograph of P.T. Barnum
*Image courtesy of The Barnum Museum,
Bridgeport, Connecticut*

If you would like to learn more about P.T. Barnum and his traveling troupe, plan a visit to the Barnum Museum in Bridgeport Connecticut. Too much of a hike? Visit their website at www.barnum-museum.org

2009 Speaker Series

The 2009 Speaker Series kicked off with National Park Service historian Bob Krick presenting on the 1862 Battle of Hanover Courthouse. We're so fortunate to have such knowledgeable, engaging people available here in Richmond to make the 2009 Speaker Series such an interesting collection of events (especially speakers like Bob who volunteer their time!).

Please join us on July 15th at 7:00 p.m. for our next event in the series when Connie Lapallo will speak about her book *Dark Enough to See the Stars in a Jamestown Sky*, published in 2008 by Llumina Stars press.

New! Art Workshop Series

Working with Art on Wheels, Hanover Tavern Foundation will feature a new series of art workshops this fall, designed to appeal to family members of all ages. With your children (or grandchildren) spend two hours making paper from scratch, designing your own Polaroid transfer, or exploring the historic process of printmaking. For each of these workshops there is a \$15 charge per person, which includes all materials, instruction, and lunch. You'll walk away with an original work of art of your own making, and a fabulous memory that will last a lifetime. For more information visit the

Tavern Gift Shop Expanded



Hanover Tavern recently expanded its gift shop to include a wider variety of merchandise. There is something for everyone in the new shop, now located in the Nelson Taylor, Jr. Room on the main level.

The shop features everything from beeswax candles to a history-themed board game. Much of the

inventory includes products made in Virginia such as Byrd Mill baking mixes, Virginia Chutney Company products, and The Parsonage soap and lotions. The best part—virtually everything in the shop is priced at less than \$10!

Book selections include Virginia cookbooks, local authors, and children's books that make learning about history fun. New items are always being added so stop by whenever you are visiting for a meal or an event. We will feature seasonal items throughout the year, but most especially in the holiday season. Here you can find that unique gift or get cranberry chutney for your Thanksgiving dinner.



For now, the gift shop is open only limited hours which we hope to expand as we build up a cadre of trained volunteers to serve as store clerks. Volunteers to staff the shop are needed on an almost daily basis. If you can commit two hours per week (or more), the Tavern could really use your help. Revenue from shop sales supports the mission of the Hanover Tavern Foundation by funding exhibits, programs and other educational opportunities for the community. Store clerks are needed from noon until 2:00 Tuesday through Sunday, and from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. on Thursday – Sunday.

If you can commit to the same two-hour shift per week, Tavern staff will provide complete training on the cash register and in other shop functions. Volunteers can work alone or with a partner. Store clerks are also needed during special events so sign up for our “on-call” list of shop volunteers.

HANOVERTAVERN.ORG

Under the Red Roof

There's always something happening under the red roof. Check out our summer specials, shows and feature events. For more information call the front desk—804.537.5050.

Beer and Bluegrass July 10

Join us Friday, July 10th for a rockin' good time when local bluegrass greats, Jackass Flats, perform on the Tavern grounds. Burgers and BBQ will be available for purchase. Bring your picnic blanket, bug spray, and a love of music. 5:30 gates open, 7:00 concert begins. \$25/person for the show. Concessions additional.

Sunday Date Night Summer Sundays

Bring your beau for a romantic evening of exquisite southern cuisine at a great price. Enjoy a soup or salad, two of any Tavern Standard entrees, and a shared dessert for only \$39.95.

No time for romance? This deal is good for you and a friend too. We recommend the ribs!

Summer Theater July 24th – August 30

The Lady With All the Answers—For decades, newspaper columnist and Chicago icon Ann Landers dispensed wit and wisdom to those in need of advice.

Now she finds herself writing a column about a new dilemma—her own. Drawn from her life and letters, this touchingly comic portrait will remind you why so many put their faith in this wise, funny, no-nonsense woman.



**The Must-Have
Item this Season:
BUG HATER'S BAR**

Don't let the pesky bugs hold you back this summer!

One of The Parsonage's best selling soaps can now be found in the expanded Hanover Tavern Gift Shop.

Made of all natural ingredients, this one bar of soap will keep the bugs off and your skin smelling great. It makes a fun gift—and it's only \$3.50!



**The Must-Attend
Event this Season:
TAVERN
FAMILY NIGHT**

Bring the whole family to an evening of fun at our Tavern Family Night!

Games, crafts, sweets and smiles guaranteed.

Michelle's is also providing inexpensive, yet yummy food for the whole family – only \$5 a meal!

We'll see you June 24th and August 26th from 6-8pm in our backyard.

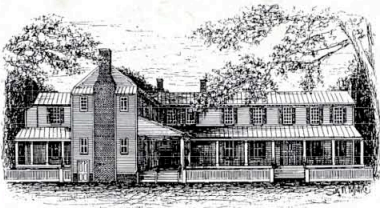
**The Must-See
Artifact this Season:
THE ICE CHEST**

Can you imagine a summer without fruity popsicles or ice cubes?

In the 19th century, the technology was not available to make frozen household treats.

At that time a family's perishable foods had to be kept in an ice chest atop blocks of ice harvested the winter before.

Come see our ice chest and other artifacts from the 18th and 19th centuries on exhibit at the Tavern.



HANOVER TAVERN
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