

MENOKIN



A FIELD

A periodic newsletter chronicling the preservation of Menokin Plantation.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



This continues to be a landmark year for Menokin. The first phase of the project to stabilize and document the Menokin ruin has been accomplished, the King Center is nearing completion, and the digital modeling of the Menokin house has been completed (see story on page 3).

Back in April more than 500 people attended our "Americana Music Festival" that featured bluegrass, folk, and gospel music. Vendors sold their arts and crafts, and the Rotary ran a beer garden and food stand. Other food vendors sold barbecue and specialty items. Visitors hiked the new trail to Menokin Bay, and kids participated in pie eating contests and egg tosses. It was a good time for everyone. We are going to have our "Second Annual Americana Music Festival" at Menokin on April 30th of next year.

My dear friend Martin King's legacy and vision for Menokin is with us as we move into this new phase of activity and education. As soon as the King Center is completed, we will re-open Menokin to the public on a daily basis and begin a series of symposia and presentations about the history and culture of the Northern Neck and the contributions of Francis Lightfoot Lee and his friends and colleagues in the building and shaping of our Republic.

Summer 2004

Elsewhere in this newsletter is an abbreviated list of projects and programs that are part of our strategic plan that we will undertake at Menokin in the ensuing years.

As always, we struggle for the funds to implement these programs, but that is a challenge faced by nearly all organizations like Menokin. We shall continue to work hard as we build an endowment that will help us to sustain and carry out Menokin's mission more effectively.

Ten supporters of Menokin have come forward in the last few months to become "King Center Builders" and will have their names engraved on the plaque that will be placed in the entrance hall of the new building. We welcome more "Builders" and encourage you to let us hear from you soon so that your name can be added to the plaque by dedication time October 17.

Please put October 17 on your calendar and come to Menokin that day for the dedication and celebration. More information will come as we get closer to the date.

Have a great summer!

Helen

KING CENTER DEDICATION SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 17

On October 17, just a few days after Francis Lightfoot Lee's 270th birthday, the Menokin Foundation will dedicate its first permanent new building at Menokin -- the Martin Kirwan King Conservation and Visitor's Center.

Construction started on the Center in April and will be completed in July. The July 19 meeting of the Menokin Board of Trustees will be held at the King Center, although, as director Doris Lackey said, "we may have to bring our folding chairs and card table." The official move from the old office-trailer to the King Center will take place at the end of July.

The King Center is the place to greet and orient visitors to Menokin. It will house exhibits, the research library and classroom, the conservation room for the historic woodwork, and offices.

Architect for the King Center is Carlton Abbott of Williamsburg. The construction contractor is John S. Hillary and Associates of Sterling, Virginia.



King Center construction under way