

NEWSLETTER & CALENDAR

Fall/Winter 2008

A Message From the President

Welcome to our first newsletter! The Grey Towers Heritage Association was founded just two years ago with a volunteer Board of Directors who are long-time devotees of Grey Towers and its historic heritage.

Our mission – to assist in education, improvements, promotion and conservation at Grey Towers National Historic Site – is one that we take very seriously.

Our goal — to educate others about Gifford Pinchot and the contributions he made as twice governor of PA and as the Father of Conservation – is one we are working diligently to attain.

Our focus – on Community, Culture and Conservation – enables us to reach out to the community to bring you closer to the ideals and philosophy of the Pinchot family.

We believe you'll want to join us in all our endeavors and hope you will become members of the GTHA. We will welcome you with grateful appreciation.

Barbara J. Buchanan
President

Grey Towers Heritage Association Connects Conservation, Community and Culture

In just two short years, the Grey Towers Heritage Association has grown from a handful of volunteers who are passionate about the 1886-French chateausque mansion located just outside of Milford to an organization working closely with the US Forest Service to preserve the heritage of the site and all that it represents and symbolizes.

Though originally a private home owned by the Pinchot family, Grey Towers has always had a very public use. The generous gift of the mansion and its surrounding acreage by the family to the American public ensures that this tradition continue for future generations.

Today, the Grey Towers Heritage Association is working to continue the legacy of one of America's most influential families and the heritage of their unique and beautiful home.

Here is a sampling of some of our accomplishments thus far:

Conservation and the Arts: James Pinchot was a patron of the arts and perhaps one of the first Americans to recognize the connection between the arts and nature. The GTHA has co-sponsored several literary productions at Grey Towers, including the popular dramatic readings by the American Readers Theatre; poetry readings by the Upper Delaware Writers Collective and Conservation Field Journaling workshops.



The GTHA sponsored a number of Conservation and the Arts programs, including field journaling workshops.



Free musical performances at the Grey Towers Festival of Wood were sponsored by the GTHA.

Community Outreach: The GTHA supports Grey Towers' annual Festival of Wood by contributing to the free musical performances and children's activities. This popular event attracts 3,000 people who learn about the significant contributions the Pinchots made to forest conservation in America and how they can help carry on that conservation ethic with a sustainable lifestyle today.

The GTHA also has helped bring the EnviroFest portion of the Black Bear

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Grey Towers Heritage Association Connects ... (continued)



Hundreds of visitors both young and old enjoyed the re-creation of Gov. Pinchot's ice cream social.

The GTHA provided free ice cream and music for this community event, and visitors learned much about what life was like at Grey Towers when the Governor lived here.

The GTHA supports the efforts of the US Forest Service to preserve and maintain the estate's historic integrity, to continue the tradition of Pinchot hospitality and to strengthen Grey Towers' connection to the community. If you have suggestions for programs or thoughts on our progress, or would like to join or support us, please contact us at 570-296-9625 or greytowersheritage@gmail.com. We'd like to hear from you!

Film Festival to Grey Towers the past two years, where more than 300 visitors enjoyed environmental films free of charge in this unique and inspirational setting.

Education: The GTHA donated more than 35 copies of "Gifford Pinchot, American Forester" to each area school and library in the tri-state region. Now every child in our community has access to this interesting story about how one person from Pike County helped change the way the nation manages its natural resources.

Re-instituting a Pinchot tradition: This year, for the first time since the 1930s, visitors from throughout the region enjoyed a good, old-fashioned ice cream social at Grey Towers, just as they did when Gov.

Gifford Pinchot and his wife Cornelia hosted this popular



GTHA Board members present the Delaware Valley School District with copies of a children's book about Gifford Pinchot.

GTHA Preserves Its Roots While Branching Off Into the Future

Even though our focus is on preserving the past, the Grey Towers Heritage Association has taken some steps to connect that past and the community with 21st century technology.

First, if you haven't yet visited our website at www.greytowers.org, please do so. You will find a user-friendly and aesthetically pleasing site that offers a mix of historical information, program details and more.

There also are links so that you can view a film clip of when President John F. Kennedy came to Grey Towers in 1963 and dedicated it as a conservation learning and leadership center. There is some footage of the crowd; you might see yourself if you were here that day!

You can also download a podcast of "Gifford Pinchot, A Life of Leadership" to your computer or iPod. This one-hour lecture by noted historian Dr. Char Miller offers a fantastic peek into the life and accomplishments of Gifford Pinchot. After listening to this presentation, you will have a new appreciation for the monumental contribution that Pinchot made to our nation's conservation heritage.

Realizing that it may be difficult to sometimes get to Grey Towers to purchase tickets for events or to buy gifts or merchandise, we have opened an on-line store through our website. Shopping is secured by PayPal. You now also have the option of signing up as or renewing your GTHA membership with just a few clicks of your mouse.

And finally, you can contact the GTHA at: greytowersheritage@gmail.com.

Contact us, let us know what you think of our website, give us some feedback on what kinds of programs you would like to experience at Grey Towers and please, "Come Grow With Us!"

DECEMBER

A Celebration of the Season

Saturday, Dec. 6, 2 pm & 7 pm and **Sunday, Dec. 7,** 2 pm: Dramatic reading, "A Christmas Carol," by Joe Plummer and son. Tickets, \$15 pp, available at Grey Towers, by mail or charge. 570-296-9630.



Friday, Dec. 12, 6-8 p.m.: Holiday Open House kick-off. Music by the Delaware Valley High School concert choir. Luminaries line the walkway. All three floors beautifully decorated by the Milford Garden Club. Free.

OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE:

The mansion is beautifully decorated by the Milford Garden Club. Come enjoy all three floors; \$4 per person.

Weekdays, Dec 15-19, Dec. 22-23: Guided tours of all three floors, 1 pm and 3 pm ONLY.

Weekends, Dec. 13-14, Dec. 20-21, Dec 27-28 AND Dec. 29-30, Open House, 1-4 pm.

Closed Dec. 24-26 & 31.

Saturday, Dec. 13,

1 pm: Dingman-Delaware Elementary Chorus sings traditional holiday songs in the Great Hall.

2 pm: Enjoy the woodwind sounds of traditional holiday music by the River Gap Recorders Consort.

4:30 pm: Gifford Pinchot Audubon Annual Holiday Tea. Public Program: Global Warming And Its Effect on Birds, Habitat and Migration. Refreshments provided by Audubon Society volunteers. Free. Snow Date: Dec. 14.

Sunday, Dec. 14, 1-4 pm: Lost Art Lacers of North Jersey demonstrate the long-lost art of lacemaking, a favorite of Mary Pinchot's. A visit from Santa with a forestry-related gift for children.



Saturday, Dec. 20: Holiday vocal concert in the Great Hall. Sponsored by the Kindred Spirits Arts Program. Tickets required. 570-296-4299; www.kindredspiritsprograms.org

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Yes, I want to join the Grey Towers Heritage Association.
Please choose your membership level. (*Memberships are annual except where noted.*)

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

- Individual Associate:** \$30 – (Senior Citizen: \$25, Student: \$10) Free tour ticket to Grey Towers for the calendar year.
- Associate/Household:** \$50 – Two free tour tickets to Grey Towers for the calendar year, and Tree In A Box gift.
- Patron:** \$250 – Two free passes to Grey Towers for the calendar year and a GTHA recycled cotton tote.
- Sponsor:** \$500 – Two free passes to Grey Towers for the calendar year and copy of *Gifford Pinchot & the Making of Modern Environmentalism*.
- Sustainer:** \$1,000 – Four free passes to Grey Towers for the calendar year, copy of *Gifford Pinchot & the Making of Modern Environmentalism* and GTHA recycled cotton tote.
- Lifetime Benefactor:** \$5,000* – Two lifetime passes to Grey Towers, copy of *Gifford Pinchot & the Making of Modern Environmentalism*, GTHA recycled cotton tote and one-of-a-kind piece of Grey Towers-inspired art. *50% goes toward endowment (*Leave A Legacy*).

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

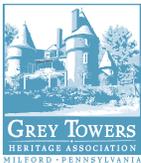
Email _____

Make check payable to: Grey Towers Heritage Association, and mail to: GTHA, P.O. Box 188, Milford, PA 18337.

GTHA IS A 501 (c)(3) charitable organization; contributions are tax deductible. Thank you!

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Grey Towers Heritage Association
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