



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
 Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
Ephrata Cloister
 632 West Main Street
 Ephrata, Pennsylvania 17522

December 2, 2016

Dear Classmates,

We're in the last month of the year, which means Winter History Class is just around the corner! The Class is among our most popular programs, filled not only with great information, but wonderful fellowship which makes the cold winter months fly by quickly. As usual, the class will be held in the Ephrata Cloister Visitor Center each Thursday morning from 9:00 a.m. until noon. **The first session will be offered on Thursday, February 2, 2017.** No matter what the ground hog sees that morning, we'll be here!

There's a great roster of speakers this year. We'll start off right talking about coffee, tea, distilling and cider making. Then it's off to explore comets and take a journey on the Underground Railroad. Dr. Patrick Spero, director of the American Philosophical Society, will help us discover Pennsylvania's early frontier, and we'll take a second look at troubles in the Tulpehocken. Of course there are the people: Maria Eicher, George and Henry Landis, early settler Mouns Jones, ironmaster Robert Coleman, and Peter Miller to name a few. The field trip be on April 6, and will take us to Bartram's Garden, home of the "Royal" botanist of the colonies, and Harriton House, home to the Secretary of the Continental Congress. Final details of the field trip are not confirmed at this time, but will be available at the first class on February 2, and we'll start to reserve seats at the second class on February 9. While the schedule is filled, there will be plenty of time for the most important things: fellowship and refreshments!

SNOW POLICY: We will try to hold class whenever possible. If winter weather forces a change, check the television or radio and listen for the actions of the Ephrata Area School District. If the Ephrata schools are one hour late, our class will start one hour late at 10:00. If the Ephrata schools are closed, our class is canceled for the day. We will attempt to make a special announcement on the WGAL Channel 8 television station, and you can always check their website at www.wgal.com. In the event that our class is canceled, we will make every attempt to reschedule the speakers.

Before all this learning can start, there is some simple homework you need to complete. First, please return the attached form along with your tuition. To avoid confusion, please address this to Michael's attention. Current members of the Ephrata Cloister Associates are admitted to all 9 sessions for a total of \$40.00 and the general public is invited to attend the classes for \$50.00 (this helps to defray the cost of coffee, cups, photocopying, and related class expenses). If you'd rather pay for only one or two days, the fee is \$8.00 per day. The day-long field trip on April 6 is an additional fee which will be announced at the first class. Second, please share the class information with your friends—we always love to see new people. Last, prepare your mind with questions and comments for another season of fun-filled learning! If you have any questions about the program, please don't hesitate to call the Ephrata Cloister at (717) 733-6600.

I look forward to sharing time with you during History Class again this year. Until then, best wishes for a happy holiday season and a bright New Year.

Sincerely,
 Michael Showalter,
 Museum Educator

 Winter History Class 2017

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Tuition: \$40.00 current Ephrata Cloister Associate member
 \$50.00 not yet a member
 \$8.00 for a single day, please indicate which day(s) if known _____

Enclosed please find a check for \$ _____ made payable to the Ephrata Cloister Associates.
 Please return to: **ATTN: Michael Showalter**
 Ephrata Cloister, 632 West Main Street, Ephrata, PA 17522