

Welcome Spring...a time of rebirth and new beginnings!

We can finally begin!

We hope this message finds you well and full of hope for the future. All of us who have worked with or supported this restoration effort have waited so long to say those words. At times, it felt as if this day would never arrive and that our fundraising efforts seemed small and fruitless. Now everyone's efforts are beginning to be realized.

Let's begin here....



The National Park Service has given their final approval of the plans to restore this home to its original appearance. With this approval, bids to replace and restore the Octagon House roof and chimney tops can be advertised and the most compatible bid chosen. This step is the first and most significant. Not only will it ensure a dry environment but will also be "something to see." Everyone wants to see where their support, our volunteers hard work, and the financial support from both the private and public sectors will be used. Without this support, we would not have been able to reach this goal. So, let's celebrate and begin this new journey together, helping this landmark become a window to this region's past, an inflection of who we are today, and a teaching tool for the future.

Many may ask the meaning of the previous statement. When the Foundation was formed, the singular purpose was to save and preserve this community landmark. As we have progressed, our mission has expanded to become more inclusive of what this building represents to all individuals. History is often viewed and experienced individually. We intend to provide an experience for all, whether as a rare architectural landmark and historical experience, an educational and cultural center, or a beautiful event venue that would not be found anywhere else.

In the meantime, and though construction should begin soon, we must continue in our efforts to raise funds. We are now bound to a limited time schedule if the project is to receive historic preservation tax-credits. Within five years, the project must be completed. FIVE YEARS.....this sounds like a long period of time. However, in the process of authentic restoration, this is a small amount of time as attention to detail is a must and multiple phases should be working at

once. These include the roof, to the sub-structure, to planting of garden spaces.....we cannot rest!

This is the reason your support, your willingness to volunteer time and effort, and your financial support are all that more important. The Board of Directors will continue to seek public, private, and grant funding but the heart of this project has, and always will be, the individuals and families who take part in this effort. Fundraising events, such as the ever-popular spaghetti dinners, will continue along with other special events.

How can you help? Our Board meetings are open to the public and are held every second Tuesday of the month, 6:00 pm, at the Adwolfe Fire Department and Community Center. Come joins us, **WE NEED YOU!** There are many different opportunities to participate -from committee participation to cleaning brick. Bring your friends and others who are interested. We welcome all and hope to see you there!

As always, thank you,

The Octagon House Foundation, Inc.