

SEASONS at the FARM



PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

The Taylor-Bray Farm was originally settled in 1639. The farm property is owned by the Town of Yarmouth. The grounds are open daily, year-round, dawn to dusk. The farm offers picnic tables, short woodland walking trails, and beautiful views of Black Flats marsh, which was once harvested for its salt marsh hay to feed the farm animals. Farm buildings are not open to the public, but local publications feature announcements of seasonal farm events.

The Association, which maintains the Taylor-Bray Farm for historic preservation and conservation purposes, was founded in 2001 and is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization.

2016-2017 TBFA officers
President - Marty Murphy
Vice President - Jack MacLelland
Treasurer - Bob Clark
Clerk - Carol Smith

TBFA COMMITTEES
Buildings
Education
Events
Grounds and Livestock
Nominating
Publications
Website

Spring / Summer 2018
TAYLOR-BRAY FARM
108 BRAY FARM ROAD NORTH
YARMOUTH PORT, MA 02675
www.taylorbrayfarm.org

News from the Farm

This is the time of year for our Annual Membership drive. Included in the News Letter is your membership renewal form. Please make sure to fill out your e-mail address and telephone number, even if you believe we already have it, so that we can keep our records up to date.

This winter we had some damage on the farm from the three major storms. The worst damage was the end of the boardwalk broke off when the marsh flooded with ice flows on an unusual high tide. The damage was repaired thanks to the Department of Natural Resources, (DNR) and the Barnstable Count Sheriff's community service program. We also lost the Osprey platform which has been replaced by DNR.

So far three lambs have been born at the farm. Two males and one female. There may be more to come. Stop by and see the lambs running around in the pasture.

This year the Association applied for another grant to the

Town of Yarmouth through the Tourism Revenue Preservation Fund Program in an effort to offset some expenses associated with the Annual Sheep Festival and Fall Festival. The application was prepared by Bob Clark. He requested \$3,500.00 to be spent on the Sheep Festival and the Fall Festival. The Town awarded the grant and it will help in raising the bottom line for both events. In addition Bob and Maureen have continued to seek additional sponsors for both the sheep festival and the silent auction. If you know of a business who would like to donate an item or certificate for the silent auction please encourage them to do so. The Sheep Festival is our largest fund raiser of the year.

I look forward to seeing you at the 17th Annual Sheep Festival. Let's hope for another sunny day.
Marty Murphy

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marty Murphy".

President, TBFA

What's going on at the Farm!

THE BEST FISHERMAN ON CAPE COD



The Ospreys returned to Taylor-Bray Farm on March 28th. Ospreys live an average of 15 to 20 years and return to the same nest called an Eyrie, year after year. They are known as Fish Hawks and fish make up about 99% of their diet.

If you observe them for some time you will see them hover for a bit, then dive feet first into the water and grab a fish. They can dive as far as 3 feet into the water and have the ability to close their nostrils shut to keep water out. Fifty to seventy per cent of their strikes result in a catch. They are very successful fishermen.

In flight, they turn the fish parallel to their body head first to take advantage of aerodynamics on the way back to the nest. It is easy for them to hold the fish as they have x shaped talons, two in the front and two in the back and the outer two are reversible.

Ospreys produce offspring in the spring laying about 1 to 5 eggs. Usually one egg will hatch first and this older chick will boss the other younger chicks around. Bossy older siblings! What else is new? My apologies if you are the oldest child in your family.

Head on over to the boardwalk at Taylor-Bray Farm with a picnic lunch, where you can enjoy watching these wonderful birds. You will see them in and around their stick-built Eyrie which is on a pole out in Black Flats Marsh.

by Rob Goodwin

WHAT IS AN OUTHOUSE?

by Rob Goodwin

A London plumber named Thomas Crapper manufactured one of the first widely successful lines of flush toilets around 1850. Before that, people used "Outhouses". We have one at Taylor-Bray Farm.

For you kids out there, an outhouse is basically a small building with toilet size openings inside and it sits over a trench dug in the ground.

The Moon cutout in the door is there for ventilation, but it also identifies it as a Ladies Room. A Men's room would have had a star cutout. If a family only had one outhouse it more than likely had a

moon cutout in the door. (Ladies Rule)

My wife and I have fed the animals in the morning when the temperature was 3 degrees and the wind was whipping across Black Flats marsh. It made it feel even colder! Can you imagine having to make the trip to an outhouse in weather like that or the recent Nor'easters? Of course, you could always stay inside and use what looked like a giant coffee cup, otherwise know as the Chamber Pot. You can see one in the historic farmhouse. But then you would have to empty it. Oh happy task!

Outhouse posters available for purchase at the farm and the Sheep Festival!



Our two donkeys had their own winter games this year. Sam and Nestor are miniature Mediterranean donkeys. They are friendly half brothers, that love to play. On the colder wet days in the winter they are left in the area close to their barn. A kind neighbor had bought them a new ball. On this particular day they decided to play tug of war with the ball. One would drop it and the other kicked it so he could pick it up. All the romping around attracted the attention of the goats, Rusty and Dusty. They could have been the judges, I was not sure. You can see by the photo they were enjoying the show. As the days grow longer and warmer, the donkeys will be out in the pasture more. You can still see them. They will sometimes be at the gate, looking to see who is around.

by Jean Seymour



Amazon smile is a program operated by Amazon that generates donations for 501(c)(3) public charitable organizations. Taylor-Bray Farm is now registered and all of your future Amazon purchases will generate cash for the farm if you make them through the Amazon Smile. Our direct link is smile.amazon.com/ch/22-3825677. We will also have direct links on our web site and Facebook page. Using the program costs you nothing and benefits the farm. Thanks for your consideration!!

Family time on the farm.



Fiona and Chloe her step-sister, our two Scottish Highland Cows, pose for their picture!

Please cut on dotted lines and mail along with your check to:

Taylor-Bray Farm Preservation Foundation,
P.O. Box 66, Yarmouth Port, MA 02675

**Taylor-Bray Farm
17th Annual
Sheep Festival
Sunday, June 17, 2018
9 am – 4 pm rain or shine**

ON-GOING HIGHLIGHTS:

- Sheep Herding – David Kennard – Wellscroft Farm
- Sheep Shearing – Andy Rice – Hogget Hill Farm
- Haywagon rides
- Archaeology display & demonstration dig, Plymouth Archaeological Recovery Project
- LARGE Silent Auction
- Open house – Tour the restored & furnished Farm House.

DEMOS AND SALES:

- Cape Cod Spinners Guild

- Cranberry Rug Hookers
- Kelly Knight, Weaver

SALES: Taylor-Bray Farm Hats, T-shirts, Activity books and shopping bags

REFRESHMENTS:

“The X-GRILL”, The Dr. of Grillology, Breakaway, Hall Oil Co.

“Come join us for a fun filled day at this beautiful historic farm”.

SUGGESTED PARKING DONATION:

\$5 Please NO DOGS on the day of the festival.

The Association depends upon your MEMBERSHIP DUES to help feed all of our animals.

Taylor-Bray Farm Preservation Association

P.O. Box 66, Yarmouth Port, MA 02675 www.taylorbrayfarm.org

Annual Membership Renewal 2018

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$25.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$45.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$50.00 I/we are making a gift |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Additional Donation _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Business \$50.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Business Sponsor \$100.00 donation to TBFFA |

Authorization to send Annual Meeting notice and Proxy via e-mail- _____
Signature

Help us make our membership records more effective. Note your telephone number and e-mail address so we may keep you informed.

telephone number

e-mail address

This year - please consider an additional donation!

Volunteers interests and skills.

Please check box above for your donation and make any changes or corrections to your name or address.



Taylor-Bray Farm Farmhouse

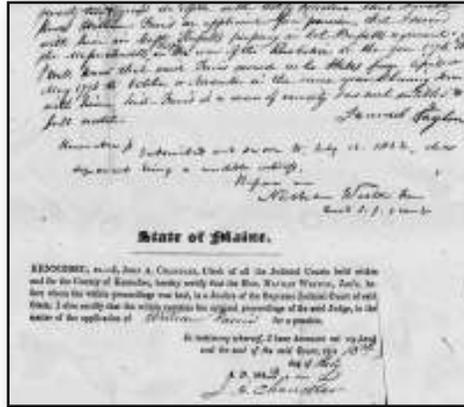
The Farmhouse
will open for the season
with the
Sheep Festival

TBF Website!
Check out the
colorful and
informative
website for
Taylor-Bray
Farm. Learn
more about
farm history, our
animals, the
archaeology
program, events,
volunteer
opportunities
and more.
www.taylorbrayfarm.org

IN THE LATE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY SAMUEL TAYLOR RETURNED FROM SERVICE DURING THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR, MARRIED LUCRETIA AND BUILT THE FARMHOUSE.

I Samuel Taylor of seventy two years do upon oath testify & declare I know William Farris an applicant for a pension, that I served with him in Capt. Russell's Company in Col. Bassett's regiment of the Massachusetts Troops in the War of the Revolution in the year 1776. I well know that said Farris served as he states from April or May 1776 to October or November in the same year. I having served with him said Farris is a man of veracity & as such entitled to a full credit. Samuel Taylor

Subscribed and sworn to July 13, 1832, that informant being a credible witness before
Judge Nathan Weston



You can also
follow us
on Facebook!

In July 1832, an elderly Samuel Taylor traveled to Kennebec County, Maine to give a deposition on behalf of a fellow Revolutionary War soldier who was applying for a pension. Samuel must have been in good health to make such a long journey even if it probably was a summertime sail from the Cape or Boston to Maine. Samuel maintained friendships with other Revolutionary War veterans who remained in Yarmouth, but what was it that caused Samuel and William Farris, originally from Yarmouth, to stay in touch after Farris moved to Maine in 1802?

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