As we reflect on the events and developments of the last year, we are humbled by the enthusiasm and support of our many patrons and friends. We are encouraged by the ever growing interest in our mission to preserve and protect some of America’s finest examples of early 19th century residences, fine and original decorative arts within them, and the scenic landscapes and trails associated with these properties. This year has been filled with noteworthy milestones that have reminded us of the power of these historic properties to both educate and inspire, and to capture the interest of new friends and supporters after both face-to-face and virtual introductions.

This year we hosted over 20,000 visitors from around the country and the world, some old friends, and some new. We were pleased to receive incredible feedback from our guests about their experiences and the impeccable upkeep of these properties and landscapes, which could not be possible without the generous support from our donors, and the tireless dedication of the staff at each of these locations.

Once again, we opened our homes to donors and the general public for numerous events, both small and large. These events inspired new interest in our cause. From our sold-out Music at Millford to the first annual Appraisal Fair at Ayr, we continued to use these homes as places for gathering and celebration, as the original owners intended. In addition, Richard Jenrette’s dedication to historic preservation was also acknowledged by several foundations this year. Read about these events and awards in this newsletter compendium or go to our website (and Facebook Page) for more information and photos!

We are thrilled to continue this year of big milestones with events leading up to one of the organization’s biggest milestones to date – Ayr Mount’s 200th birthday in 2015. If the enthusiasm of our supporters this year is any indication, we know these events will be a perfect way to celebrate the history and legacy of this property, as well as the importance of preservation work. Another exciting news headline for 2015 is the addition of Peter Kenny, one of the nation’s foremost authorities on American furniture and a 30-year veteran of The Metropolitan Museum of Art, to join me as Co-President here at CAHPT.

We look forward to more adventures and to continuing this work, and it is your support that fuels our passion to preserve and protect America’s finest homes for years to come.

All the best,

Margize

Welcome Peter Kenny!

We here at Classical American Homes are excited for a truly historic 2015! This year we welcome Peter Kenny as Co-President of CAHPT. Peter is a 30-year veteran of The Met, most recently serving as Curator of American Decorative Arts and Administrator of the American Wing.

We know 2015 will be filled with learning and enrichment, celebration and surprise, and we can’t wait for Peter Kenny to join us for all that’s to come for CAHPT.

Peter Kenny, new CAHPT Co-President.
American Week in New York City

Although 2015 got off to a snowy start, we have been busy making arrangements for a full year of tours and events, with exciting milestones and visits from new and old friends to look forward to this year.

On January 20th, we welcomed to the George F. Baker House friends and guests from three influential museums – The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts (MESDA) and Winterthur Museum and Gardens – for a cocktail reception celebrating Americana Week and the 61st Annual Winter Antiques Show in New York City. The bitter cold weather once again did not prevent us from a night filled with spectacular company, laughs, and good cheer.

Other highlights from Americana Week included the 2015 Eric M. Wunsch Award for Excellence in the American Arts hosted at Christie’s, and of course, the Winter Antiques Show at the Park Avenue Armory.

Left to right: Dick Jenrette, Chairman of CAHPT, and Ragan Folan, President of Old Salem Museum and Gardens; (center) Mitchell Reiss, President and CEO of Colonial Williamsburg Foundation (CWF); (right) Colin Campbell, former CWF President, and David Roselle, Director of Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library.

Left to right: Coley Townsend and Margaret Pritchard; (center) Pemmie Frick, Greg Sullivan, Dick Jenrette, and Lisa Moore; (right) Leo Brette, Morrie Heckscher, and Rob Froelich.

Left to right: Dick Jenrette, Linda Wells and Jeff Nuechterlein, CAHPT Board Director; (center) Wilson Pace, MESDA Development Officer; Robert Leath, MESDA Chief Curator; and Laura Barry, CWF Curator of Paintings, Drawings and Sculpture; (right) Jack Smith, CAHPT Executive Vice-President of Operations.
As mentioned, one of the highlights of Americana Week was the third annual Eric M. Wunsch Award for Excellence in the American Arts, hosted by Christie’s on January 21st. This year the award honored Arnold Lehman, the Shelby White and Leon Levy Director of the Brooklyn Museum, and Jon Prown, Executive Director and Chief Curator of The Chipstone Foundation. Dick Jenrette and Classical American Homes, along with Linda Kaufman, were very fortunate to be the recipients of the award last year.

Since 1997, Arnold Lehman has served as the Shelby White and Leon Levy Director of the Brooklyn Museum. Under his leadership, he has prioritized both the individual visitor’s experience and the community’s engagement with the Museum through the presentation of innovative exhibitions and reinstallations of the permanent collection. Mr. Lehman, praised as a visionary in the museum world, has recently announced his plans to retire in June, after 18 years as Director of the Museum.

The Chipstone Foundation promotes and enhances the appreciation and knowledge of American material culture (emphasizing the decorative arts) by scholars, students and the general public. Through exhibitions, digital projects, teaching opportunities as well as the study and preservation of their collection, The Chipstone Foundation encourages new research questions and topics centered around a “living” collection of fine early American furniture, historical prints and early ceramics.
The 61st Winter Antiques Show
January 23 – February 1, 2015

The 61st Annual Winter Antiques Show was held January 23 - February 1, 2015 in New York City. Featuring the “best of the best” from antiquities through the 1960s, the show consists of a loan exhibition, a Young Collectors Night, lectures, book signings, and 73 exhibitors (one-third who are specialists in Americana). This year’s loan exhibition Ahead of the Curve: The Newark Museum 1909-2015 showcased exceptional pieces from The Newark Museum in New Jersey. The Museum is celebrating its 106th anniversary this year. Here are some pictures from the Opening Night of the Winter Antiques Show.

We ended the busy Americana week by welcoming to the Baker House members from the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston and Historic New England for a tour led by Mr. Jenrette, who was in the city briefly before departing for Cane Garden.

Bidder 999 at Christie’s – part of the Allan Stone Collection, a 19th century carved, painted and polychrome – decorated ship figurehead.

Carswell Berlin presents a unique Duncan Phyfe cellarette c. 1815, New York.

Susan Stein, Senior Curator & Vice-President of Museum Programs at Thomas Jefferson’s Monticello in front of a Bertoia screen.

Arie Kopelman, Co-Chair of the Winter Antiques Show, and Dick Jenrette, Chairman of CAHPT.
The Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities (SPLIA)

braved a dismal weather report and came to the George F. Baker House from Long Island for a cocktail reception in January. Their members enjoyed an evening tour of the house and a fun-filled cocktail reception. Interestingly enough, three members in attendance are great-granddaughters of George Fisher Baker: Asia Baker Stokes, Joanna Baker de Neufville, and Samantha Boardman Rosen. We were thrilled and intrigued as they shared family stories about their fathers and grandfather in this very fitting setting - and especially Joanna, as she grew up at 69 East 93rd Street.

More Special Events

Shortly before Christmas, we hosted two separate events: a visit for Committee Members of The Garden Conservancy and the Annual General Meeting of The American Friends of the Georgian Group, with a fascinating lecture on Georgian follies by Charlottesville architect, Madison Spencer.

We always look forward to welcoming old and new friends and supporters to each of our properties. It’s never too early to begin planning an adventure with us to experience first-hand the many adventures with old houses that CAHPT offers.

If you have a group who would like to visit any of our properties, please visit our website, www.classicalamericanhomes.org to submit your tour request.

The Garden Conservancy

From the Garden Conservancy: Kevin Sharkey, Susan Burke, and Martha Stewart.

Pete McGee; Jenny DuPont, President and CEO of The Garden Conservancy; Maureen Donnell; Ben Lenhardt.

The American Friends of the Georgian Group

A warm fire to welcome The American Friends of the Georgian Group in December.

Madison Spencer, architect, discussing the topic of creative and extravagant examples of 18th century Georgian architecture.

An example of “Georgian Extravagance, Georgian Whimsy” from Madison Spencer’s lecture.
Profile: David Crowther
Site Supervisor, Cane Garden – St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands

This newsletter’s “CAHPT profile” will focus on David Crowther, site supervisor at Estate Cane Garden in St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands. David has been managing the Cane Garden property since 1994, when he began working for Richard Jenrette.

Estate Cane Garden is idyllically set on a high hill – some 90 feet above sea level – overlooking 300 verdant acres and the turquoise-blue of the Caribbean, on the south shore of St. Croix. Originally owned by Count DuVal of France and later used as a monastery, the property was then acquired and owned by the Christopher McEvoy family for several generations. The McEvos were Scotch-Irish planters who obtained Danish citizenship and became wealthy from the production of sugar cane. The hundreds of acres of sugar cane surrounding the house on the hill gave it the name “Cane Garden.”

In search of an on-site caretaker for Cane Garden in 1994, Mr. Jenrette received a recommendation from David Crowther’s brother, Bill, who had been successfully managing Ayr Mount for ten years. Mr. Jenrette hoped to duplicate that success and hired David. David then moved to St. Croix with his wife, Dulcie, and took on the responsibility of overseeing and maintaining Cane Garden, which is a private residence of Dick Jenrette’s to be given to CAHPT at a later date.

Originally from Berwick, Maine, David grew up in a large family with five sisters and three brothers. After high school, David opted to work and extensively travel the United States. Along the way, David picked up scuba diving and eventually began working in the commercial diving field.

David’s task of maintaining and preserving Estate Cane Garden involves many diverse tasks and unique challenges. With the house’s location on a high hill overlooking the Caribbean Sea, weather and the elements present the need for constant upkeep of the house and grounds. David has also shepherded the property through many hurricanes over the years, some of which have proven quite destructive. He credits the great house with being resilient and sound during storms, while the carefully manicured lawns and gardens usually sustain heavy damage. David is also keenly interested in the house’s history and collection of island mahogany furniture and, along with Dulcie, acts as docent for tours of Cane Garden.

David and Dulcie have been married for 17 years and have two sons: Wylie, age 14, and Cooper, age 12. In his spare time, David enjoys recreational diving and snorkeling, and is an avid surfer, following the best breaks around St. Croix. He also plays guitar and is a singer/songwriter with friends in a local band.

Planning a trip to the Caribbean? Schedule a tour for your group, and go see the beautiful work David does to keep Cane Garden in tip-top shape!
With its writhing, scrolled, sea-serpent ends, this richly carved Grecian sofa is one of the most dynamic furniture forms made in early nineteenth century America. Presented to Classical American Homes Preservation Trust by Richard Hampton Jenrette in 2013, this sofa now stands in the foyer of the George F. Baker townhouse in New York, welcoming – and perhaps on occasion, frightening – the numerous guests who attend our Trust programs and receptions there.

Fourteen sculptural sofas of this type are known, including examples in the collections of the White House and the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The majority of these have relatively benign, blunt-nosed sea creatures on the ends, a feature that has earned them the name “dolphin sofas." However, two of the fourteen, including the CAHPT example, feature more fearsome creatures with gaping jaws full of jagged teeth, a far cry from the mythical dolphins of classical antiquity that were believed to be talismans who buoyed shipwrecked sailors to safety. The more fearsome creature was known as the *keto*, a monster that both fascinated and terrified the ancients.

The *keto* figures prominently in Greek mythology in the stories of Herakles and Hesione (fig. 1) and Perseus and Andromeda (fig. 2). Both of these myths center on the story of a man who has angered the gods and is then forced to pay the terrible price of having to offer his daughter as an appeasement to a vengeful Poseidon – who sends the *keto* to devour her. Luckily, Herakles and Perseus arrive just in the nick of time to save the damsels, slaying the *keto* with their scythe-like hooked knives.

A three-dimensional, sculptural *keto* on a sofa such as the CAHPT example would easily have conjured up these ancient mythological tales in the mind of a sophisticated, classically-educated client around 1820, when this sofa was made in New York. By this date, a new, richly ornamented Grecian style – an amalgam of French Empire and late English Regency design – had become all the rage there. In the vanguard of this new style were New York’s pre-eminent cabinetmakers of the day, Charles-Honoré Lannuier (1779-1819) and Duncan Phyfe (1770-1854), whose signature winged caryatid and griffin card and pier tables graced the parlors of elite clients from New York to the coastal American South, and even into the Caribbean. Neither of these great master cabinetmakers, however, seemed to have been involved in the production of these highly distinctive dolphin and *keto* sofas, leaving their authorship, at least for the present, a mystery of the deep.
Richard Hampton Jenrette Receives the Simons Award
Charleston, SC

On Thursday, November 6th, Richard H. Jenrette was awarded The Albert Simons Medal of Excellence for his dedicated work in historic preservation. Thomas Gordon Smith, Professor of Architecture at The University of Notre Dame, was also awarded the Simons Award for outstanding work in design and education.

The Albert Simons Medal honors individuals who have excelled in one or more of the following areas: civic design, architectural design, historic preservation, and urban planning. The award was presented by the Historic Preservation and Community Planning Program of the College of Charleston School of the Arts. Prior recipients of the Simons Medal include: His Royal Highness Prince Charles - The Prince of Wales, Mayor Joseph P. Riley, John D. Milner, Andres Duany, Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk, and Allan Greenberg.

Dick Jenrette receiving the Albert Simons Medal of Excellence from Valerie Morris, Dean of the College of Charleston School of the Arts.

Music at Millford
Featuring Robert Demaine and James Wilhelmsen
Pinewood, S.C.

Classical American Homes Preservation Trust and the Friends of Millford presented our third annual Music at Millford on Sunday, September 21. Over 150 friends joined us on this beautiful, late summer day in Pinewood, South Carolina. Guests enjoyed exploring the gardens and grounds, taking a look inside private rooms not usually open during public tours, and sipping on a cool drink on Millford’s porches. A few friends even brought along a picnic – a perfect way to experience the splendor of this historic landmark. Millford looked magnificent, even with concert seating in place of the suite of Duncan Phyfe furniture that usually graces the Double Parlor!

The concert – an energetic and moving performance by Robert deMaine, Principal

(Continued on page 10)
Classical American Homes Preservation

Help us protect these homes.

1815
Ayr Mount
- Portrait of Thomas Jefferson by Ezra Ames - Ayr Mount
- Cane Garden is extensively remodeled in the classical taste by the McEvoy family

1820
Edgewater
- Portrait of George Washington by Harriet Peale – Roper House

1825
Edgewater is built for Lowndes and Margaret Brown by her father, John R. Livingston

1820
Cane Garden
- Portrait of George Washington by Harriet Peale – Roper House
- Danish Pier Glass and Console – Cane Garden

1841
Grecian bedstead by Duncan Phyfe made for Millford

1841
Millford is completed by John Laurence and Susan Hampton Manning

1840
Danish Pier Glass and Console – Cane Garden

1810
French mantle clock, *The Astronomy Lesson* – Baker House

1815
Classical dining chair by Duncan Phyfe – Edgewater

1815
Portrait of Thomas Jefferson by Ezra Ames – Ayr Mount

1838
Roper House is built on Charleston’s High Battery by Robert William Roper

1885 1905
Millford Plantation donated to CAHPT

1931
George F. Baker House complex is completed

1993
Richard Hampton Jenrette (RHJ) establishes CAHPT with the gift of Ayr Mount

1925
Octagon Library added to Edgewater in early 1850’s

1935
Ayr Mount’s West Parlor

1945
Baker House’s elegant oval Dining Room

1955
Ayr Mount added to the National Register of Historic Places

1965
RHJ purchases Roper House

1975
Millford Plantation and Roper House are designated National Landmarks

1985
Baker Houses are added to the National Register of Historic Places

1995
RHJ first purchases the Baker House at 67 East 93rd St.

2004
Baker Carriage House donated to CAHPT

2008
Millford Plantation donated to CAHPT

2013
CAHPT celebrates its 20th Anniversary

2015
Ayr Mount turns 200 years old!
Music at Millford
Featuring Robert Demaine and James Wilhelmsen
Pinewood, S.C.

(Continued)

Cello of the L.A. Philharmonic, and pianist James Wilhelmsen – was simply outstanding in delivering a program of Debussy, Beethoven, Vaughan Williams, and Brahms. The audience was enthralled. Music at Millford has been quite a success and has more than tripled in size since our inaugural concert in 2011, which featured the piano duo of Marina Lomazov and Joseph Rackers. Tickets sold out a few weeks prior to the event this year, so we were saddened to have had to turn guests away. We hope all will be able to join us next year – it was suggested we might have to add a music wing to Millford! Below is a selection of photographs – more can be found on our Facebook Page.

We would like to express a heartfelt thank you to all of our Benefit Committee members for their efforts and support in making Music at Millford a success. A special acknowledgement to Christina Clark (at left), who meticulously guided and nurtured this program into the wonderful event it is today, is also in order. As one of our guests wrote us, “The weather, the architecture, the music, the friendship – everything was just perfect!” We were pleased to see many old friends and to welcome many new friends to Millford.

Friends of Millford and music enthusiasts.

Left to right: the gardens at Millford; at right: Dick Jenrette, Buddy Jenrette, Jack Simmons, Courtenay Daniels.

Left to right: Sharon Brown, Tom Cox, Freddy and Hornor Davis, Priscilla Jordan; at right: Dick Jenrette and Lou Hammond.

Left to right: Bill Crowther, Site Supervisor of Ayr Mount, and Louie Hall, Site Supervisor of Millford; at right: Ginny Bush, John and Marie Land.

Left to right: Christina Clark at Millford; at right: Sponsors and Benefactors at Music at Millford.
At Ayr Mount
Events and Gatherings
Hillsborough, NC

The past, the present and the future all seemed to converge at Ayr Mount during the month of September. This Federal-era plantation house (at right), built in 1815, may be turning 200 years old, but Ayr Mount is certainly characterized by a youthful vibrance and energy that local partnerships and community events bring to the site. The house museum, gardens, and grounds, in addition to nearly 300 acres of woodlands and trails across the Eno River, are situated within a dynamic community that celebrates its history while looking forward to new and exciting projects highlighting all the best that North Carolina has to share!

On September 4-5, 2014, Friends of the Mountain-to-Sea Trail convened for its first ever Trail Towns Conference. Speakers at the event shared their insights on how a community can benefit from its relationship with a long distance trail like the Mountains-to-Sea Trail. Representatives from twenty-two North Carolina counties attended, including tourism and economic development professionals, elected officials, and government staff. All the conference members gathered to celebrate on the grounds of Ayr Mount.

The same weekend, Ayr Mount hosted the Preservation North Carolina’s (PNC) Orange County Ramble. Also known as their Diamond Anniversary Roadshow, this celebratory event included tours to showcase houses in Hillsborough and Chapel Hill that PNC has helped to preserve.

Across the Eno River from the Ayr Mount Historic Site is the Historic Occoneechee Speedway Trail (HOST), which was the original speedway track for NASCAR. Placed on the National Register for Historic Places in 2002, this 44-acre site now has four miles of trails along NASCAR’s only surviving dirt speedway from its 1949 inaugural season.

Every year the Historic Speedway Group in Hillsborough organizes a Celebration of the Automobile and reunites racers as well as car aficionados at Ayr Mount’s HOST. This year was the 8th annual event, honoring the legendary Wood Brothers: Leonard and Glen Wood. It attracted 7,500 people. The famous brothers formed their team in 1950, using the number 21 on their main car, and hold the distinction of being the oldest active team in NASCAR. See below pictures from the day!
Profile: Earnest Townsend  
Site Supervisor, Roper House – Charleston, S.C.

This newsletter’s Profile highlights Mr. Earnest Townsend (Earnie), Site Supervisor at Roper House in Charleston, S.C. Richard Jenrette first acquired Roper House in 1968 and began a process of restoring and conserving Roper House in 1980. Earnie Townsend had been working as a painter and plasterer with a local contractor in Charleston who came to work for Mr. Jenrette at the Roper House. Impressed by Earnie’s talent, work ethic, and cheerful demeanor, Mr. Jenrette offered him a full-time position upon the completion of this nearly two year, initial project. Earnie happily accepted and became caretaker at the Roper House, overseeing the upkeep and maintenance of the house and grounds.

Earnie’s role has expanded over the years, and he now operates as a one man army at the Roper House, in charge of everything from keeping up the impeccable gardens and lawn surrounding the house, to the constant painting, roof repair, and maintenance required by the house’s close proximity to Charleston’s East Battery.

Earnie points out that the house is built on marshland, and cites rising water as his greatest nemesis over the years. This was never the case more so than when Hurricane Hugo unleashed its wrath on the city of Charleston in 1989, only weeks before Prince Charles was scheduled to stay at Roper House while in town for a conference. Earnie had shrewdly moved all of the furniture and artwork upstairs from the first floor before the storm hit, and rode out the storm at the property along with Mr. Jenrette’s mother and her staff of nurses (Mrs. Jenrette had moved into the Roper house shortly after turning age 90 and lived there until her passing at age 101). Earnie watched out for Mrs. Jenrette and the Roper House through the storm, although the first floor of the house was inundated with five feet of water from Hugo. Earnie quickly took up the enormous task (often working around the clock) of coordinating the rewiring and repainting of the entire first floor, and replanting of all the adjoining gardens. Everything was in tip-top shape just in time for His Royal Highness’ arrival, and the visit went splendidly.

In addition to keeping the house and grounds in pristine condition, Earnie is also the official tour guide at the Roper House, greeting the thousands of visitors who come to the Roper House each year for tour groups and special events. Earnie’s comprehensive knowledge of the house’s history, coupled with his charisma and knack for storytelling, make for a fun and enriching the Roper House experience. He says his favorite part of the job is having the chance to meet and interact with so many different people from different places, and he loves seeing how much people enjoy visiting the property. Earnie lives just outside of Charleston in West Ashley, S.C., and while he reminds us that his job is a 24-hour-a-day responsibility, he does enjoy spending time with his family, working around his own house, gardening, and golfing when he has spare time. If you haven’t had the pleasure of visiting the Roper House and meeting Earnie, schedule a tour in Charleston soon!
Tours and Events
July, August And September
South Carolina to New York

The unusually mild weather was a bonus for people visiting our houses and gardens in the late summer and early fall, which boasted wonderful foliage and fabulous blooms at each of the six locations. The quieter summer months (compared to the spring tour season) allowed the site supervisors to catch their breaths and gear up for fall tours. Here are some highlights:

At Millford, we continued to have a good response to the Open Public Saturdays, which were well attended during the months of July, August and September. These tours provide a wonderful opportunity to visit for individuals who may not be able to schedule a group tour. Moreover, as these Saturday tours are geared for individuals, guests can take their time enjoying the grounds and perhaps a picnic lunch after their tour and before moving on to their next destination.

Later in September, Ayr Mount also hosted the Mosely and Bowman nuptials and reception, as well as a dinner for the UNC Richard H. Jenrette Scholars and the Dean of the Kenan Flagler Business School. Ayr Mount is open to the public Wednesdays through Sundays from March to December, and the adjoining scenic trails, Poet’s Walk and Historic Occoneechee Speedway Trail (HOST) are open year-round.

At Edgewater, Mr. Jenrette was able to greet members of Historic Deerfield during a visit just after Labor Day, as well as members of the Allyn’s Creek Garden Club of Rochester, NY, who were received mid-month. We so enjoy welcoming garden clubs to our properties for group tours!

Members of the Tuckahoe Garden Club of Westhampton and the James River Garden Club of Virginia also recently visited the Roper House.

Left to right: Dick Jenrette giving a tour of Edgewater to the Historic Deerfield group (picture at right and below).

Left to right: touring the gardens and grounds at Edgewater; at right: relaxing on the lawn, facing the Hudson River.

We are delighted to introduce Mr. Louis Hall (Louie), our experienced and dedicated site supervisor at Millford Plantation in Pinewood, South Carolina. Louie, as he prefers to be called, came to Millford in June 1982 as the caretaker for the Emory Clarks. When Dick Jenrette purchased the house and grounds from the Clark family in 1992, Louie continued as the site supervisor to this 400-acre property. Evident to anyone who has visited Millford, the immaculate condition of the buildings, the collections and the surrounding landscape are a reflection of Louie and his family’s care and dedication to this extraordinary site.

Louie and his wife, Paula, along with their three sons, Luke, Matthew and Adam, all play a role in the efforts that continue to make Millford sparkle. The property consists of 15 buildings and structures, over 550 collection objects, and at least 30 acres of lawns that are maintained daily. Paula, who Louie describes as his “right-hand lady,” coordinates the public tours and cares for the buildings’ interiors. Matthew and Adam concentrate on the maintenance of Millford’s extensive grounds and gardens. Luke, who is a Sergeant at the Sumter County Sheriff’s Department, keeps an unofficial eye out for Millford. On any given day, you will find Louie doing “hands-on” work: whether it be climbing a high ladder to inspect a roof, driving the tractor, overseeing the installation of new shutters, or doing all of those things – and then getting ready to greet a group of visitors for a tour!

Louie is a devoted family man who enjoys camping and spending time with his six (soon to be seven!) grandchildren. He is known as a one-man Humane Society with ten dogs and two cats (mostly strays and rescues he has taken into his home). With his warm and welcoming nature, most cannot resist his offer to try one of his beloved treats: a Moon Pie microwaved for precisely eight seconds or a honey-bun with freshly sliced bologna!

When asked about his favorite spot at Millford, Louie describes a very specific location and time – standing on the mansion’s elegant porch, looking East toward the Spring House at around 4 o’clock in the afternoon. At this serene hour, Louie loves to watch the long shadows being cast across the front lawn, highlighting the majestic beauty and grandeur of this unique place.

This month Louie celebrates his 32nd anniversary as a caretaker and site supervisor at Millford. On behalf of Dick Jenrette and Classical American Homes Preservation Trust, thank you to Louie and his family for their years of dedicated service and stewardship of this National Historic Landmark. Hats off to the Halls!
Spring Patrons Party
The George F. Baker Houses, New York, NY

'Twas the Spring Patrons Party that put some spring in our step! Over 200 friends and guests joined us at the Baker Houses on May 22nd. Many thanks to everyone who came out that evening to make it such a fun event. It is always such a pleasure to see all of our friends and supporters gather together to have a cocktail, share in some laughs, and catch up with one another at our annual get-togethers! Here are just a few photos from the evening... more pictures are available on our Facebook page, not to mention behind-the-scenes sneak peaks of our team at CAHPT getting ready for the event! Cheers!

Left to right: Dick Jenrette, Joe Roby, Sharon Jacquet. Center (left to right): Kathy Nye, Andrew Holter, John Hays, Peter Kenny. Right (left to right): Jane Mack Gould and Judy Donner.

Left to right: Marlee and George Pushkar. Center (left to right): Hornor, Tilden and Warren Davis. Right (left to right): William Ivey Long and Ken Jennings.

Left to right: Dupie Cochran, Tony James, Peyton Cochran. Center (left to right): Margize Howell and William Banks. Right (left to right): Mark Gilbertson and Andy Blum.
Press and Other Coverage

Our houses are featured in two recent articles.

WALTER magazine (May issue) published an in-depth interview with Richard Jenrette by P. Gaye Tapp. Reflecting on his love of old houses and restoring them for future generations, this article describes the “heart” of what we do at Classical American Homes Preservation Trust and the man behind our mission. We even made it on the cover! Ayr Mount is at the “top” of the state!

MILIEU magazine (Summer issue) highlights the legacy of Richard Jenrette and the work of his foundation to open the doors of six historic homes to the public.

Media coverage this year also included UNC-TV’s series “Collecting Carolina” showcasing Ayr Mount. In the Spring, Richard Behre, a weekly columnist on architecture and preservation for Charleston’s The Post & Courier, wrote an article on “Richard Jenrette leaving a rich legacy of old houses and new museums.” Martha Stewart also wrote about and photographed extensively her visit to Cane Garden for her blog, themarthablog.com.
The fifth grade classes from the Laurence Manning Academy visited Millford on May 5th and toured the plantation with site manager, Louis Hall. The students were excited to visit the home of their school’s namesake, John Laurence Manning, who built Millford Plantation before becoming Governor of South Carolina from 1852 to 1854. Each student wrote a letter to thank Mr. Jenrette and Mr. Hall and also included drawings of Millford and other scenes on the grounds. Their enthusiasm is inspiring and we were proud to host these young, future preservationists!

Some quotes from students:
“Dear Mr. Jenrette, This was a field trip to remember! Sincerely, Bailey Moore”
“I loved the flying staircase, it was amazing! Thank you, Austin D. Kirby”
“I love history now! Thank you so much, Grace Lane”
Visit Our Houses

To schedule a tour, please go to:
www.classicalamericanhomes.org

Our mission at Classical American Homes Preservation Trust is to preserve, protect and open to the public examples of classical American architecture, surrounding landscapes and scenic trails, as well as fine and decorative arts of the first half of the 19th Century.

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