

House of Yoder News (September 2007)



House of Yoder Envisions the Future-The House of Yoder board met in a special session on March 31, 2007 to do visioning work for the future of House of Yoder. We noted the following accomplishments over the past 15 years: the successful completion of a colonial-style house with architectural integrity without incurring ongoing debt; the building of meaningful relationships with both Yoder and non-Yoders thereby inspiring others to explore and appreciate their family and faith heritage; successfully hosting a National Yoder Reunion in October 2006; and using the house in a variety of other ways (e.g. Grantsville Summerfest, Christmas in the Village, reunions, showers, house church services, and Christmas parties).

The board also brainstormed many ideas for the future. The following strategic needs were identified: 1) clarifying our mission, 2) broadening and developing our financial base, 3) developing a marketing strategy, and 4) working at board development. In our August 25 board meeting, the theme of board development was highlighted as one of our priorities. This will entail both the development of the current board and the recruitment of new members for the board. If you or someone you know would have interest and gifts which could be used on the board as we move forward, please share those names with our board president, Doris Ours, at 304-726-4321.

WE NEED YOUR ONGOING FINANCIAL SUPPORT-Now that the house is completed, we will be moving into a programming phase. However, new initiatives will be limited by financial constraints. Therefore, it is important to continue to find ways to support the ongoing effort. One such way to support House of Yoder is to either **renew or extend your membership**. If there is a "red X" in the upper right-hand corner of this newsletter, then your subscription has either expired or will expire on December 31, 2007. Please consider a timely renewal or extension of your membership by sending your membership renewal/extension amount to Lonnie Yoder (membership coordinator) at 1066 Smith Avenue, Harrisonburg, VA 22802. If you have questions about your membership status, please contact Lonnie at 540-432-6467, yoderld@emu.edu

The **12th annual meeting of House of Yoder, Inc.** will be held at the Yoder House in Grantsville, Maryland (Spruce Forest Artisan Village) on **Saturday, November 3** from 10 a.m.-12 noon. Following our annual business meeting, the program will be arranged by Kenneth Yoder. All interested persons, especially those with the Yoder name and/or Yoder ancestry, are welcome at the annual meeting. www.houseofyoder.org.