

AFHA AmeriCorps members kick of a new year of volunteerism



Greetings,

Even now that winter has started to creep in, and some counties have recieved their first several feet of snow, AFHA has been staying busy. We're excited to tell you what's happening within our organization and what's going on throughout the entire region. We've re-vamped our facebook page (don't forget to [like us](#)) and we'll be staying in touch with this monthly e-newsletter. Let us know what you think!



Photo: Nick Kazmierski

It's Official!

Friday, October 19th, 2012 marked the official start to a new year of the AFHA AmeriCorps program. New and



Experience the heritage of your area! *Sites of the Month* spotlights events and locations within the region, based on AFHA's four themes: forestry, history, culture, and nature.

stationed throughout six counties within the Appalachian Forest Heritage Area. The hands-on team, consisting of seven members, will travel as needed to serve on projects throughout the entire 18-county region.

The program was originally launched in October of 2007, and consisted of 10 members. Since its start five years ago, the AmeriCorps program has added to its numbers annually. If you have a historic preservation, conservation, or heritage development project within our region, contact AFHA about sponsoring an AmeriCorps member on your site. For more information, visit our [website](#).



From Our Museum to Yours

By Megan Ramsey, AFHA AmeriCorps Volunteer

Last year, as the first AmeriCorps member at the [Greenbrier Historical Society](#) and North House Museum in Lewisburg, West Virginia, I was exposed to nearly every aspect of the museum world. From collections conservation to hosting events, educational programming to creating exhibits, I feel like I've done it all. I have also had the chance to attend several training sessions, such as the West Virginia Association of Museums conference in Parkersburg, and a Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts disaster planning workshop in Huntington.

In my second year of service, I am excited to share some of my training with fellow AmeriCorps members in a workshop hosted by my site. Topics will include conservation of textiles, collections cataloging, PastPerfect software training, and emergency preparedness. Executive Director Beth McMullen

[Gaudineer Scenic Area](#)

Explore 50 acres of virgin red spruce forest. Don't forget to stop at the picnic area, where a mossy trail leads to a scenic overlook on Gaudineer Knob.



[C&O Canal National Historical Park and Visitors Museum](#)

Explore the rich history of transportation in the U.S. along this 184.5 mile canal in western Maryland.



[Carnegie Hall](#)

The Carnegie Hall in Lewisburg is one of only four still in continuous use in the world. Enjoy a performance, or view art on exhibit throughout the year.



[Cranberry Glades Botanical Area](#)

The largest area of bogs in West Virginia, Cranberry Glades is home to over 60 unique plants, including carnivorous species.

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historical sites in several states. Toni Ogden, museum coordinator, has an abundance of knowledge concerning museums, and is currently taking classes to receive her collections management certificate. Together with Beth and Toni, I hope to provide much needed information to sites across the [Appalachian Forest Heritage Area](#).

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