

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

The Friends of Cornwall Iron Furnace will once again be holding the annual “Christmas at Cornwall” event on Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022. This family-friendly day will begin at 9:00 a.m. and end at 4:00 p.m. Hopefully it will be a great way for you and your family to begin the holiday season.

Historically, the furnace operated 24 hours a day, seven days a week, irrespective of holidays. From 1829 to 1861 the furnace was in blast during Christmas every year except 1831 (there are a few other years in this period for which we do not have information). For most of the furnace workers during that period Christmas day was a workday. In that tradition, guides will offer guided tours of the furnace throughout the day.

The museum store will be open for your holiday shopping, and children’s crafts will be offered in the Blacksmith Shop. No holiday visit would be complete without seasonal refreshments, including lots of cookies and Christmas tea. Live seasonal music will be provided, and, to the delight of adults and children alike, a model train displayed by Brian’s Model Trains will be running under the furnace’s large, decorated tree.

As in years past, Cornwall Manor will partner with us in providing access to their wonderfully restored buildings. They are also hosting their “Cookies, Carols, Crafts & More” event from 10 am – 1 pm at Freeman Community Center. Here is a list of activities available on the campus of Cornwall Manor:

- Tours of the public areas of the 19-room Buckingham Mansion (from 10 – 4)
- Tours of the 1860s Paymaster’s Office (from 10-4, with a visit from Santa Claus)
- “Cookies, Carols, Crafts & More”, which will include the singing of Christmas carols, sale of homemade cookies and crafts, and holiday gift wrapping by donation
- Model railroad display of the Cornwall area complete with scale models of the major buildings, located in the stable (from 10-1)

Tickets will be sold on the day of the event at the Cornwall Iron Furnace Visitor Center located at 94 Rexmont Road, Cornwall. Cornwall Iron Furnace is administered by the Pennsylvania Historic Museum Commission (PHMC) and is the most complete cold-blast furnace in North America. The cost is \$8 for adults, \$7 for senior citizens and AAA members, and \$4 for youth (ages 13-17); ages 12 and under are free. Please call the furnace at 717-272-9711 and check the website at [www.cornwallironfurnace.org](http://www.cornwallironfurnace.org) for updated information.