



## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Old House Fair in Bellefonte

**Save the Date!: April 28 & 29, 2017**

**The Pennsylvania Match Factory • 100 Match Factory Place • Bellefonte, PA**

[CentreHistory.org/OHF](http://CentreHistory.org/OHF)

**BELLEFONTE, PA** – [The Bellefonte Historical and Cultural Association \(BHCA\)](#), the [Centre County Historical Society](#) and [American Philatelic Society](#) are partnering to host the “Old House Fair” program on Friday and Saturday, April 28-29, 2017 at the [Pennsylvania Match Factory](#) in Bellefonte, PA.

**WHAT IS THE OLD HOUSE FAIR?** The Old House Fair is two days of workshops, tours and time with kindred “old house” spirits that will feature an internationally known authority on historic preservation, [Ed McMahan](#), along with over a dozen state and local experts in old house restoration, historic architectural styles, period landscaping and building management.

The Fair will open on the morning of Friday, April 28th with a day of workshops designed for professionals but available to everyone interested in historic preservation. Continuing education credits are available for qualifying professionals for the Friday program. We hope to attract local leaders and professionals from all corners of the Commonwealth to this part of our Fair.

On Saturday, the Fair will offer participants their choice of sixteen different sessions offering useful information about historic landscaping, old house styles, and historic masonry among many other topics. There will be practical and theoretical presentations, two tours and individual consultations.

**WHEN IS IT?** April 28 & 29. Mark your calendar! Check [CentreHistory.org/OHF](http://CentreHistory.org/OHF) for updates.

**WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?** Old houses and buildings are part of a community's memory, but also an integral part of its future. The Old House Fair is a way for residents and professionals, who are interested in preserving these treasures to better understand their role in making our communities places where we want to live, work and raise our families.

Comments received from participants in 2016 about what they found most useful:

*"The attention it focused on the value of old buildings."*

*"Friday's speakers were inspiring for future historic preservation efforts."*

*"It would be great to make it an annual event! So many topics to cover! I liked being in the company of fellow old-house owners, too."*

*"[The tours of Bellefonte] made me look at Bellefonte in a new light."*

*"Historical information to support proper restoration of old homes."*

*"Networking with local gov't officials and other old home owners within Centre County."*

**WHERE IS THE FAIR?:** The Old House Fair will take place in the American Philatelic Society's national headquarters located in the sensitively rehabilitated Pennsylvania Match Factory at 100 Match Factory Place in Bellefonte, PA. A large and once abandoned industrial complex at the edge of downtown Bellefonte, the Match Factory embodies the benefits of preservation. Tours of the repurposed facility will complement the sessions offered within its century old walls. Bus facilitated tours of Bellefonte Historic District will start from the Match Factory as well.

#### **WHY HAVE AN OLD HOUSE FAIR?**

1. Provide a forum featuring the beautiful Bellefonte National Register Historic District and its Victorian built environment for learning about new ideas, materials and techniques for rehabilitating, furnishing and maintaining an older building.
2. Celebrate the region's historic structures and architectural character that gives it its unique sense of place.
3. Provide an exhibit area to bring together homeowners with retailers, suppliers and other professionals in home improvement, historic preservation, renovation, interior furnishings and construction.
4. Help understand the historic treasures in our care as a first step in encouraging the improvement of these structures.
5. Inspire commitment to historic preservation as pathway to economic revitalization through maintaining historic structures and a historic downtown.

## HOW MUCH DOES IT COST HOW DO I SIGN UP?

**SATURDAY:** \$10 for the entire day of workshops(8:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

### **FRIDAY:**

\$20 A full day of professional sessions designed for architects, planners, attorneys, realtors and municipal officials, yet of interest to all old house enthusiasts.

\$60. Reception, Banquet & Keynote Speaker: The Secret of Successful Communities – Ed McMahon (5:00—8:15 p.m.)

*\*Continuing education credits are available for Friday's program to qualified professionals for an additional fee.*

Online registration will open by March 10, 2017. Programs and the banquet and are on a first come first served basis depending on seating capacity. Registration is required for the banquet, and highly encouraged for all of the programming in order to secure a seat at the programs that you would like to attend. Banquet registration will close by April 21 or when we have reached seating capacity, whichever comes first.

### **MEDIA CONTACTS:**

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For more general information, contact information for speakers and how to purchase reservations to the event:

Mary Sorensen - 814-234-4779 or [msorensen@centrehistory.org](mailto:msorensen@centrehistory.org)

## **Website for information and registration:**

**[CentreHistory.org/OHF](http://CentreHistory.org/OHF)**



**Old House Fair Partner Organizations:**

- [Bellefonte Historical & Cultural Association](#)
- [American Philatelic Society](#)
- [Centre County Historical Society](#)



Speaker Sue Hannagen 2016 Old House Fair



Ken Martin, executive director APS and speaker Richard Pencek



Masonry bus facilitated tour of Historic Bellefonte