



COUNTRY HERITAGE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



CEO'S REPORT

As we step into 2025, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible work happening at Country Heritage Park and share my excitement for the road ahead. I am also honored to officially step into the role of CEO on a permanent basis. Over the past several months, I've had the privilege of learning from so many of you—diving deeper into CHP's history, meeting the people who make this place special, and witnessing firsthand the impact CHP has on the community. I truly love everything that CHP is and everything it can be.

One of the things I appreciate most about CHP is its deep commitment to education—not just for students, but for everyone who steps onto this land. Education here isn't limited to classrooms or lectures; it happens in the fields, in the barns, in the workshops, and even in the day-to-day work of keeping this place running.

Behind the scenes, our team and volunteers have been hard at work updating our educational programs to launch in September 2026. These programs will bring hands-on, immersive learning to a whole new level, ensuring students leave CHP with a real understanding of agriculture, food systems, and sustainability. But learning at CHP isn't just for students— even our maintenance team plays a key role in education. Just this week, our co-op students worked alongside our maintenance team, tackling minor repairs and building vent covers. Seeing them gain practical skills and confidence while contributing to CHP reminds me why I love the work we do here. Every moment at CHP is an opportunity to teach, learn, and grow.

One of the greatest joys of my role is getting to know the people who make CHP what it is. I love hearing the stories of how CHP has grown and changed over the years, the ideas and dreams that members have for the future, and the connections that keep this community so strong. The lunches, the field trips, the impromptu history lessons—they've all given me a deeper appreciation for the passion and dedication that fuel this place.

Another thing I love about CHP is that everyone has a role to play, whether it's teaching, preserving history, growing food, caring for the land, or simply sharing knowledge. This is why I want to expand our volunteer team and invite more people to be part of this work. If you are interested in volunteering, we would love to have you. Email us and let us know how you'd like to get involved—whether it's helping with events, lending a hand in education programs, or supporting our day-to-day operations, there's a place for you at CHP.

CHP has always been many things—a museum, a farm, a place of learning, a community hub, an event space. The reality is, we are all these things, and that is what makes us so special. But to ensure we can continue this important work, we must also be a financially self-sustaining organization.

As I continue in my role, my focus is on building that future—one that preserves our history while ensuring CHP remains vibrant, relevant, and impactful for generations to come. A big part of my job is grant writing to secure funding, but just as important is learning from our current members and growing alongside new ones. Your insights, feedback, and ideas are what will help shape CHP moving forward, and I want to hear them.

Over these past months, I have fallen in love with CHP—not just the land, but the people, the purpose, and the possibilities. I feel honored to be part of this community, and I couldn't be more excited for what's ahead.

Thank you for welcoming me so warmly and thank you for everything you do to make CHP such a special place. I look forward to growing and building with you all.

Warm regards,

Taylor Henderson, CEO
Country Heritage Park

EDUCATION REPORT

Happy New Year!

2025 has seen us swing into full gear in the Education Department, with a higher than average Education Program booking rate for December, January and February. Our renewed Christmas Traditions Program, hosted in December only, was a success with great feedback gathered that we will apply not only to next Christmas season, but also to our main programming.

Bookings have increased overall, with the months of April and May almost completely full for Field Trip bookings. Inquiries come in daily, so we are confident that we will have a great finish to the 2024/2025 school year.

We continue to evaluate and reboot our Education programs, in consultations with our staff, Board, community groups and more – and while we can't rush such an important process, we are very happy with the changes made so far. And the feedback from program participants in the rebooted programs has also been positive!

Summer Camp registration has launched, and we are confident that our themes and activities will hit the spot, and see our popularity increase as an Educational program.

We also have partnered with a new business to offer two weeks of Summer Camp for students in Grade 7 and 8, focussing on hands-on experience and career exploration. Very exciting summer ahead!

Speaking of exciting summers, planning for our Annual Summer Fair is in full swing, with our Committee remaining dedicated to making sure that 2025 is another stellar year for the CHAS Annual Fair! Mark the date, on Father's Day Weekend, and we hope to see you at the Park!

Jillian Treadgold,
Education Manager & CHAS
Fair Coordinator



CHP SUMMER CAMP!

COUNTRY HERITAGE PARK

July 7th - 11th 2025
Wilderness Wonders
Exploring the Farm, Geocaching, Habitat Exploration & Building with Nature

July 14th - July 18th 2025
Magic & Mystery
Step into a world of enchantment, where young adventurers explore the wonders of illusion and spellbinding challenges.

July 21st - July 25th 2025
Under The Sea
Explore Undersea Habitats and Animals with crafts, games and activities!

August 11th - August 15th, 2025
Silly Science
Get Hands-On, Curious and Explore Silly Science Experiments and Activities!

August 18th - August 22nd, 2025
Spy School - CHP
Come to CHP Spy School and use all your detective skills to solve riddles, look for clues and become a certified CHP Secret Agent!

August 25th - August 29th, 2025
Olympic Madness
Step right up for the CHP Olympics! Participate in different activities, sports and games each day, and make your own medals!

REGISTER NOW!

Call our Education Department at (905) 878-8151, or email us at education@countryheritagepark.com

PROJECTS & CO-OP REPORT

Happy New Year! It's now 2025, and with a new year comes new opportunities.

The end of the school year means saying goodbye to our two co-op students, Madden & Sofia, who are both wonderful people and will be missed. However, the new semester provides us with the opportunity to host new students who will be the first to experience our newly structured co-op program! In this new program we hope to give students the chance to learn a variety of skills throughout the different facilities of the park, ensuring they get the chance to explore their interests while also learning something new. They will get the chance to work closely with, and learn from, our employees with experience in maintenance, plant care, animal care, bee keeping, education, and beyond.

We've welcomed 3 new co-op students this term. Eric comes to us for a chance to learn some new maintenance skills, enjoy some time helping in the gardens and to develop a range of social, technical & leadership skills on the way.

Anouk is an arts SHSM student with an interest in social media & graphic design and will be working closely with us managing our company pages, creating visual advertisements, and developing the communication and technical skills she'll need in the future. Mohammad is our last and newest student, joining us as part of a health & wellness SHSM. We will be working with him to develop a multitude of general life skills as well as giving him a chance to explore the physical aspect of our jobs including landscaping and working together with our maintenance staff.

We are currently on track to receive our 2025 honeybee nucs to kickstart honey production and pollination around the park by end of May. Our three new beehives include observation panels as well, providing us with the ability to both better monitor our honeybees and provide a teaching opportunity about how bee hives and colonies work. In conjunction with our plans to install native pollinator gardens, this will help us with some of our project goals for this year regarding sustainability.

Speaking of projects, our big project goal for this year is our upcoming ARTifacts Re-Imagined program. We have reached out to multiple organizations including ARTS Milton, Halton Black Voices, and Indigenous groups with the hope that they will join us in our goal of bringing together the arts and community in a meaningful way. This project will focus on bringing together artists and community members to engage with agricultural artifacts and create artistic works, inviting the community to interact with and learn about agricultural history.

**Kaleigh Lozon,
Horticulture & Programs
Lead, Co-op Coordinator**



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Call out to all those interested in volunteering!

We are looking for volunteers to assist us with essential maintenance & repair tasks here at the park, as well as ongoing outdoor clean-up. We want to keep our space safe, clean and welcoming for all who come! Whether it's an hour or two or a full day, your help will be greatly appreciated!

Volunteer opportunities include:

- General maintenance & repairs
- Keeping outdoor areas clean and accessible
- Gardening & landscaping
- Other tasks as needed

Any interested individuals can reach out to us by emailing Jo@countryheritagepark.com. We hope to hear from you!



MEMBERSHIP FEES REMINDER!

A reminder to all our members that your membership fee is due by **April** this year.

Members receive free admission to the CHP Annual Fair; newsletters, volunteer information, voting privileges at the Annual General Meetings, and eligibility for nomination to its Board of Directors.

All memberships and donations provide funds to expand our wide range of education programs, support the care of the farm animals, help maintain and preserve our rural and farm buildings, and provide tools for staff and the many volunteers who contribute their time and talents to the upkeep of Country Heritage Park.

Forms can be found either in-person at the park or on our website at countryheritagepark.com under Support CHP.



RECENT EVENTS



PIVOT POINT GRAND OPENING

We are thrilled to announce the Grand Opening of Pivot Point here at Country Heritage Park, and have been more than excited to welcome the community to celebrate. Members of Pivot Point made and served their own refreshments for the community to enjoy during their event.

We'd like to thank everyone who attended and made Pivot Point's Grand Opening a memorable day, and look forward to seeing them grow and continue their journey here with us!



VALENTINES DAY DANCE

Our recent Valentine's Day Line Dancing event was a great success. Many in the community came out to our Gambrel Barn to have a good time and dance the night away with line dancing lead by Urban Cowboy Line Dancing. It was great to see so many people out on the floor learning, dancing and having fun all night!

MEET & GREET



We enjoyed seeing everybody at our Holly Jolly Meet & Greet this December before the holidays and consider it to have been a wonderful time for all involved! Being able to speak with everyone and share some delicious refreshments was a fabulous way to start off our holiday break.



UPCOMING EVENTS

We've got some fantastic events coming your way and would love for you to be a part of them! Keep your eyes peeled for more information about upcoming events such as:

- COMMUNITY CLEANUP DAY
- MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH
- CHAS FAIR

