

## 2017 EDUCATIONAL PERFORMANCES

# HOLIDAYS



## AT MOUNT HOPE

A Production of the Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire

Holidays at Mount Hope is a different kind of interactive experience. Through the doors of Mount Hope Mansion, you'll enter a Christmas party, time to meet and mingle with a host of characters and a variety of Holiday decorations. Sing along, share games and traditions, and rejoice in the spirit of the season with holiday characters.

### 2017 STORIES & CAST—

Christmas, 1899: Fredrick Schwartz Jr., Son of the founder of the FAO Schwartz Toy Bazaar is throwing a Christmas party fit for the end of a century. Filling the Grubb Estate in Mount Hope, Pennsylvania to the brim with the best examples of the toys and games that make children look forward to Christmas morning, Schwartz has transformed the mansion into a Santa's Workshop that can warm even the coldest heart. He's invited some of his closest friends over, including the game-loving Parker Brothers (and their sister, Dot), and they have put together a Christmas pageant for all of the guests. Fun, games, and heart-warming performances will fill this Christmas with the love, joy, and generosity of the season.

#### A CHRISTMAS CAROL, BY CHARLES DICKENS

The story of a bitter old miser named Ebenezer Scrooge, his transformation into a gentler, kindlier man brought on by visitations by the Ghosts of Christmases Past, Present and Yet to Come. Presented with warmth, humor, tradition and a bit of audience support, the enduring tale of A Christmas Carol springs from storybook to the stage.

#### A VISIT FROM ST. NICHOLAS, BY CLEMET CLARKE MOORE

Written as a Christmas gift for his six children, "A Visit from St. Nicholas," also known as "'Twas the Night Before Christmas," is largely responsible for some of the conceptions of Santa Claus from the mid-nineteenth century to today.

#### OTHER CAROLS & SONGS

Silent Night, Deck the Halls, Joy to the World, Jingle Bells, We Wish You a Merry Christmas, and more!

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| • <b>Fredrick Schwartz Jr.</b><br>Joshua Kachnycz           | • <b>Alice Potts</b><br>Haley Karlson                             | • <b>Theodore Parker</b><br>Brian Huff                          |
| • <b>William Parker</b><br>Jake Dailey                      | • <b>Dorothy "Dot" Parker</b><br>Megan Jones                      | • <b>Melissa Fisher</b><br>Mary Huff                            |
| • <b>Caroler &amp; Understudy W. Parker</b><br>Pete Hedberg | • <b>Caroler &amp; Understudy T. Parker</b><br>Nathan Landis Funk | • <b>Caroler &amp; Understudy Schwartz</b><br>Jake Duvall-Early |
| • <b>Caroler &amp; Understudy Fisher</b><br>Courtney Calato | • <b>Caroler &amp; Understudy D. Parker</b><br>Jules Schrader     | • <b>Caroler &amp; Understudy Potts</b><br>Katie Markey         |

For Character Descriptions and more, Please Visit [PaRenFaire.com/Holidays](http://PaRenFaire.com/Holidays)

## A DICKENS BIBLIOGRAPHY—

**1833**

"Dinner at Poplar Walk" (Story) Dickens first story:  
Appears in the December issue of *Monthly Magazine*  
under pen name "Boz."

**1836**

Sketches by Boz (Short Stories)  
The Strange Gentleman (Play)  
The Village Coquettes (Comic Opera)  
Pickwick Papers (Novel) - Begins in installments

**1837**

Pickwick Papers (Novel) - Published in book form  
Oliver Twist (Novel) - Monthly serial in *Bentley's Miscellany* between Feb. 1837 & Apr. 1839  
Is She His Wife? (Play)

**1838**

Nicholas Nickleby (Novel) - Begins in installments

**1839**

Nicholas Nickleby (Novel) - Published in book form

**1840**

The Old Curiosity Shop (Novel) - Weekly serial in  
*Master Humphrey's Clock*, Apr. 1840 to Nov. 1841

**1841**

Barnaby Rudge (Novel) - Weekly serial in *Master Humphrey's Clock*, Feb. 1841 to Nov. 1841

**1843**

Martin Chuzzlewit (Novel) - Begins in installments  
A Christmas Carol (Christmas Novella)

**1845**

Every Man in His Humour (Play)  
The Cricket on the Hearth (Christmas Novella)  
Pictures from Italy (Non-Fiction: Travelogue)

**1846**

Dombey and Son (Novel) - Written in 20 installments:  
Monthly serial, Oct. 1846 to Apr. 1848  
The Battle of Life: A Love Story (Christmas Novella)

**1848**

The Haunted Man (Christmas Novella)

**1849**

David Copperfield (Novel) - Monthly serial, May 1849  
to Nov. 1850

**1852**

Bleak House (Novel) - Monthly serial, Mar. 1852 to  
Sep. 1853

**1854**

Hard Time (Novel) - Weekly serial in *Household Words*, Apr. 1854 to Aug. 1854

**1855**

Little Dorrit (Novel) - Monthly serial, Dec. 1855 to  
June 1857

**1859**

A Tale of Two Cities (Historical Novel) - Weekly serial  
in *All the Year Round*, Apr. 1859 to Nov. 1859

**1860**

Great Expectations (Novel) - Weekly serial in *All the Year Round*, Dec. 1860 to Aug. 1861

**1861**

The Uncommercial Traveller (Short Stories &  
Reminiscences) - 17 episodes written between Jan.  
and Oct. 1860, published in single edition in 1861.

**1865**

Our Mutual Friend (Novel) - Monthly serial, May  
1864 to Nov. 1865

**1870**

The Mystery of Edwin Drood (Unfinished Novel)  
- Monthly serial, six of twelve planned parts  
completed between Apr. to Sep. 1870



## THE DAYS OF DICKENS: A TIME LINE—

### 1810 to 1819:

#### 1812

Charles John Huffam Dickens born on February 7 in Portsmouth, the second of eight children to John and Elizabeth Dickens

Britain and the US at war over shipping and territorial rights (War of 1812). Poet Robert Browning born.

#### 1814

Dickens family transferred to London where John Dickens is stationed as the Navy Pay

Jane Austen writes *Pride and Prejudice*. The *Star Spangled Banner* written by Francis Scott Key.

#### 1817

Dickens family moves to Chatham where John Dickens has been transferred.

#### 1818

Karl Marx born (d. 1883)

#### 1819

Herman Melville born (d. 1891)

### 1820 to 1829:

#### 1820

George III dies (b. 1738)

Sir Walter Scott writes *Ivanhoe* (historical novel)

Washington Irving writes *The Sketchbook* which included *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*.

#### 1822

The Dickens family moves back to London during Christmas time.

#### 1823

Dr. Clement Moore writes *A Visit From St. Nicholas* (*The Night Before Christmas*)

The Monroe Doctrine, President James Monroe's warning to Europe not to encroach on the Americas.

#### 1824

Dickens' father is sent to debtor's prison, accompanied by his wife and younger children.

Charles leaves school at the age of 12 to work at Warrens Blacking Factory

Dickens' father is released three months later and Charles continues his schooling until 1826 at Wellington House Academy, London.

#### 1826

James Fenimore Cooper writes *The Last of the Mohicans*

Deaths of Thomas Jefferson (b. 1743), John Adams (b. 1743) and Ludwig von Beethoven (b. 1770)

Fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

#### 1828

Noah Webster publishes *American Dictionary of the English Language*.

#### 1829

Dickens learns shorthand and becomes a law-court stenographer.

### 1830 to 1839:

#### 1830

Charles Dickens meets Maria Beadnell; he falls in love, but is rejected by her in 1833.

Poet, Emily Dickinson born (d. 1886)

Charles Lutwidge Dodgson (Lewis Carroll) author of *Alice in Wonderland* born (d. 1948)

#### 1831

Dickens becomes a reporter for the *Mirror of Parliament*.

London Bridge opened.

#### 1832

Dickens becomes a staff writer for the *True Sun*.

The First Reform Act in England extends the right to vote to about half of the middle class.

#### 1833

Dickens begins contributing stories and essays to magazines and newspapers at the age of 21.

Dickens publishes his first piece, "A Dinner at Poplar Walk" under the pen name Boz.

#### 1834

Dickens becomes parliamentary reporter for *Morning Chronicle*. Meets future wife, Catherine Hogarth.

Cyrus McCormick patents the reaper.

#### 1835

P.T. Barnum, founder of what would become Barnum and Bailey Circus, begins career as a showman.

Samuel Langhorne Clemens, also known as Mark Twain, born (d. 1910)

#### 1836

Dickens' essays and stories reprinted as *Sketches by Boz*.

Dickens employed to write *The Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick Club* (*The Pickwick Papers*)

Dickens marries Catherine Hogarth.

Dickens accepts editorship of a monthly magazine in which will appear *Oliver Twist*.

Davy Crockett killed at the Alamo.

## THE DAYS OF DICKENS: A TIME LINE—

**1837**

Pickwick Papers appears in book form.  
Dickens' first son, Charles Culliford born (d. 1896)  
William IV dies. Queen Victoria reigns in England

**1838**

Nicholas Nickleby appears in installments until 1839.  
Dickens' first daughter, Mary born (d. 1896).

**1839**

Nicholas Nickleby appears in book form.  
Dickens' second daughter, Kate born (d.1929)

### 1840 to 1849:

**1840**

Dickens begins writing The Old Curiosity Shop.  
Dickens edits Master Humphrey's Clock, a weekly periodical.  
Richard Henry Dana writes Two Years Before Mast.  
Queen Victoria marries Prince Albert.

**1841**

Dickens' second son, Walter Landor born (d. 1863)  
Edgar Allan Poe writes The Murders in the Rue Morgue.

**1842**

Dickens' first trip to America. Publication of American Notes. Begins Martin Chuzzlewit.

**1843**

Dickens writes A Christmas Carol, his first Christmas novel.  
Birth of novelist Henry James (d. 1916).  
Emily Bronte writes Wuthering Heights.  
Charlotte Bronte writes Jane Eyre.

**1844**

Completes second Christmas novel, The Chimes.  
Dickens' third son, Francis Jeffrey is born (d. 1886)

**1845**

The Cricket on the Hearth is published for Christmas.  
Dickens' fourth son, Alfred D'Orsay Tennyson is born (d. 1912)

**1846**

Creates and edits Daily News. Begins Dombey and Son which appears in installments.  
Dickens writes The Battle of Life: A Love Story which appears for Christmas  
Dickens moves to Paris.  
Potato famine in Ireland; 1 million die within 5 years.

**1847**

Dickens' fifth son, Sydney Smith Haldimand is born (d. 1872)  
British Factory Act: children 13 through 18 are permitted to work only 10 hours per day.

**1848**

Dickens' older sister Frances (Fanny) dies (b.1810)  
Dickens theatrical company performs for Queen Victoria.  
Dickens publishes fifth and last Christmas Book, The Haunted Man.

**1849**

Begins work on his personal favorite, David Copperfield.  
Dickens' sixth son, Henry Fielding is born (d. 1933)

### 1850 to 1859:

**1850**

Dickens starts a weekly magazine, Household Words.  
Dickens' third daughter, Dora Annie born (d. 1851)  
Robert Louis Stevenson, author of Treasure Island and Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde, born (d. 1894).

**1851**

A Child's History of England begins running in serial form in Household Words (until 1853).  
Dickens' father dies.  
Herman Melville writes Moby Dick.  
Isaac Singer invents modern sewing machine.

**1852**

Begins publishing Bleak House (until 1853).  
Dickens' last child, his seventh son, Edward Bulwer Lytton born (d. 1902)  
American abolitionist Harriet Beecher Stowe writes Uncle Tom's Cabin.

**1855**

Dickens' Little Dorritt begun.

**1856**

Purchases Gad's Hill Place, family returns to London.  
Sigmund Freud, Father of modern psychology, born (d. 1930)

**1857**

Dickens separates from his wife about which he writes in a personal statement in Household Words.

**1859**

Publishes A Tale of Two Cities.  
Arthur Conan Doyle, create of Sherlock Holmes, born (d. 1930).  
Charles Darwin publishes Origin of the Species.

## THE DAYS OF DICKENS: A TIME LINE—

### 1860 to 1870:

#### 1860

Dickens begins writing *Great Expectations*

Abraham Lincoln elected 16th President of the United States.

#### 1861

*The Uncommercial Traveller* published.

American Civil War begins.

Julia Ward Howe, *The Battle Hymn of the Republic*.



Photo by (George) Herbert Watkins, 1858

#### 1863

Lincoln's Gettysburg Address.

Emancipation Proclamation frees American slaves.

#### 1864

*Our Mutual Friend* published.

#### 1865

Dickens suffers stroke leaving him lame.

Dickens involved in Staplehurst rail accident, causing change ending of *Our Mutual Friend*.

Rudyard Kipling, author of *The Jungle Book*, *Kim*, *Captains Courageous*, born (d. 1936)

Confederate States surrender at Appomattox.

President Lincoln assassinated.

#### 1867

Dickens tours the U.S.

Dickens' fourth son, Alfred D'Orsay Tennyson is born (d. 1912)

#### 1869

*Mystery of Edwin Drood* begun, left unfinished.

Mahatma Gandhi born (d. 1948).

#### 1870

Dickens dies on June 9 at Gads Hill Place, Rochester, United Kingdom after suffering from another stroke.

## Want To Discover More?

If you want to know more about Charles Dickens and his contemporaries, the Internet has a wealth of information. Visit these websites for Biographies, Selected Works and more!

**Charles Dickens Museum, London**

[www.dickensmuseum.com](http://www.dickensmuseum.com)

**The Works Of Charles Dickens**

[www.online-literature.com/dickens](http://www.online-literature.com/dickens)

**The Dickens Fellowship**

[www.dickensfellowship.org](http://www.dickensfellowship.org)

## Christmas Traditions & Possible Classroom Ideas

Christmas traditions are celebrated throughout the world, and many of these traditions predate Victorian England. Below are some Holiday traditions and their history. These histories can be read during the holidays to introduce students to some vocabulary and traditions connected with Christmas Traditions.

### CLASSROOM ACTIVITY:

- » Divide students into four groups. Assign each group one of the Christmas Traditions topics.
- » Students read the assigned topic & individually write four questions for each other to answer in order to check comprehension of the reading and understanding of the topic.
- » In the assigned groups, students ask their group members the questions they have written.
- » To expand this idea, have each group present their questions to the other groups in a mock game show.

## CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS



### THE CHRISTMAS TREE

The Christmas tree had its beginnings long before the time of Christ. Many cultures, such as ancient Greeks and Romans, trace their beginnings to a legend involving trees. Middle Eastern cultures trace their roots to a world tree, and the Chinese tell ancient stories of a sacred willow.

Although trees in general were very important to early people, the evergreen tree was especially honored. When all the other plants dropped their leaves and stood bare and stark in winter, the rich green firs and pines reminded people that life would continue. For this reason, the evergreen became a central symbol in many midwinter festivals. In ancient Rome, people decorated evergreens with small candles and figures representing their sun god during Saturnalia and used the fragrant boughs to decorate their homes. The ancient Celtic Druids in France, Great Britain and Ireland decorated their sacred trees with candles and golden fruit during the winter solstice.

The Christmas tree began as a German tradition, then was introduced to England by Queen Victoria's consort, Prince Albert, in 1840, to amuse the Royal children at Christmas time.



### THE YULE LOG

In the cold, dark winters of northern countries, the shortest day of the year, December 21, was a day of great celebration. The Norsemen rejoiced that the days would begin to lengthen and the sun's light would return to warm the earth. To celebrate the return of light and heat, the people burned huge logs on December 21. They thought of the sun as a wheel of fire rolling toward and away from the earth as the seasons changed, and

the enormous pieces of wood were called yule logs from the Norse word for wheel: hvelo.

While the people of Victorian England no longer worshiped the sun, the yule log was often a part of their holiday celebrations. Triumphant, the yule log would be dragged home, and all those it passed would bow respectfully and raise their hats. Lit on Christmas Eve as the family gathered, the yule log would burn through the night. A piece of the old log was sometimes saved to use when lighting a new log the following year.

## HOLIDAYS AT MOUNT HOPE ACTIVITIES-



### CHRISTMAS CARDS

Children in Victorian England were assigned the task of writing greetings to their parents in their very best handwriting. Sometimes adults wrote Christmas letters to each other, but this required a great deal of time. The printed Christmas card solved this problem. The first recognized commercial Christmas card was produced in England in 1843 by Henry Cole, the founder of the Victoria and Albert Museum. Cole did not have time to write letters to each of his relatives, so he asked an artist, John Calcott Horsley, to design a card for him (seen to the left). It was a

hand colored print showing a family scene flanked by scenes of Christmas charity. This was inscribed with the words: "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to You" with space at the top to put the name of the recipient and at the bottom for the name of the sender. About 1,000 of these cards were printed and those not used by Sir Henry were sold by the printer for one shilling. This was not cheap, which may be why they did not sell very well. With the introduction of the "penny post" in 1840, it became cheaper to send mail, and, as a result of color printing and the invention of printing machines, cards could be printed faster and cheaper.

However, it was not until the 1860's that the Christmas card as we know it came into being. The first company to print and sell Christmas cards on a large scale was Charles Goodall & Sons of London in 1862. Initially, these were small cards with a simple greeting set within an embossed border. However, as the demand for Christmas cards grew, the cards became larger and more elaborate. Folded sheets of white paper were ornamented with borders of overlapping lace that lifted to form a raised framework for a central picture and turkeys, fireside scenes, plum puddings, etc. became popular themes.

The founder of the American Christmas card is said to be Louis Prang of Boston who printed a wide variety of album cards and visiting cards. In 1875 he issued seasonal greeting cards, which were an immediate success. By 1880 the popularity of Christmas cards was such that many prominent artists of the time had their work reproduced in this form. It was also the first year that the familiar 'Post early for Christmas' plea was issued.



### MISTLETOE

Mistletoe and holly have long-standing histories, as well as meanings connecting with Christianity. Ancient Druids felt trees to be sacred, and they thought that mistletoe was magical. During their winter festivals, they cut it from the branches of an oak or apple tree with a curved, golden knife and caught it in white cloths before it could touch the ground. They believed that the green leaves and waxy, white berries brought love and good luck to those who hung sprigs of the plant in their homes.

As Christianity spread, early followers saw the evergreen leaves as a symbol of God's everlasting love, and they connected the red berries with the crucifixion.

Today, mistletoe and holly wreaths and swags decorate doorways and fireplaces. The shiny evergreen holly leaves and bright berries combine the traditional Christmas colors of green and red. Tradition says that if someone stands under the mistletoe, they must be kissed or will be unlucky in love during the coming year.



### PARLOUR GAMES

In English-speaking countries, wintertime games were played in the family's sitting room, or parlour, and they became known as parlour games. One of the oldest of these associated with Christmas is Blind Man's Bluff. Someone is blindfolded and tries to catch and identify another player—everyone calls out at once, trying to distract his or her attention. Whoever is caught first becomes the next "blind man." Other old Christmas games include riddle asking, guessing games, coin tossing, and playing hide-and-seek. Singing and dancing were also popular Christmas activities, and many people thought these would help settle their stomachs after a huge Christmas dinner.

# Activities for “Holidays at Mount Hope”

## FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS:

### ACTIVITY ONE:

Read the selection on parlour games (pages 10 & 11) and make up your own. Use the rubric to help you write it, then play it at home or in class.

4: Game's rules are well-written, fully explained and easy to understand. Object of the game applies to the Christmas Season. The number of players is indicated. Necessary props, if any, are listed. Conventions: Varied sentence structure, no spelling errors, correct punctuation and capitalization.

3: Game's rules are well-written, fully explained and easy to understand. Object of the game applies to the Christmas Season. The number of players is indicated. Necessary props, if any, are listed. Conventions: Good sentence structure, one or two spelling errors, correct punctuation and capitalization.

2: Game's rules adequately explained, can be understood fairly well. Game applies to the Christmas Season. The number of players is not indicated. Props, if any, are not listed. Conventions: Adequate control of sentence structure, three or four spelling errors, sufficient control of punctuation and/or errors in capitalization.

1: Game's rules are confusing and the game is not fully explained. Games does not apply to the Christmas Season. Number of players not indicated. Props, if needed, are not listed. Conventions: Faulty sentence structure, more than four spelling errors, faulty or inadequate punctuation and/or errors in capitalization.

### ACTIVITY TWO:

Class Project. Each person in the class will create their own Christmas card. Send the cards to people serving in the armed forces, or deliver them to a nursing home or hospital.

### ACTIVITY THREE:

Design and make a Christmas ornament, then exchange it with others.

Possible base material for Ornament:

- » Light bulb that no longer works
- » Styrofoam Shapes
- » Wooden Clothespin
- » Small Basket
- » Small Cardboard or Wooden Box
- » Large Pine Cones
- » Large Bells
- » Small Clay or Plastic Flower Pots
- » Plastic or Wooden Animal Figures
- » Small Picture Frame
- » Small Mirror

Possible decorations for base material:

- » Ribbon, Lace, Colored String/Cord/Yarn
- » Sequins, Gems, Beads
- » Paint
- » Glitter, Fake Snow, White/Colored Sand
- » Dried or Silk Flowers, Straw, Raffia
- » Pipe Cleaners
- » Pom-Poms, Small Pine Cones
- » Small Bells
- » Bits of Cloth
- » Construction/Tissue Paper
- » Stickers

### ACTIVITY FOUR:

Write your own Christmas carol. You may use a tune that is already written and just write new lyrics; or you may score it yourself. If you choose to score it, as your music teacher for music paper. Don't forget to include time, rests, stops, etc. Make your song at least two verses long with a refrain.

## HOLIDAYS AT MOUNT HOPE ACTIVITIES-

### FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS:

#### ACTIVITY ONE:

Choose a character you saw in one of the stories presented. Write a letter to that character telling how you enjoyed his or her performance. Tell how they made the story come to life. If you want to, decorate your letter. For an addition to this activity, your teacher could hang up your letters or send them to PRF Productions to give to the performer. They love to hear from visitors to the shows!

#### ACTIVITY TWO:

Class Project. Each person in the class will create their own Christmas card. Send the cards to people serving in the armed forces, or deliver them to a nursing home or hospital.

#### ACTIVITY THREE:

Design and make a Christmas ornament, then exchange it with others.

Possible base material for Ornament:

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- » Plastic or Wooden Animal Figures
- » Small Picture Frame

Possible decorations for base material:

- » Ribbon, Lace, Colored String/Cord/Yarn
- » Sequins, Gems, Beads
- » Paint, Stickers
- » Glitter, Fake Snow
- » Dried or Silk Flowers, Raffia
- » Pipe Cleaners
- » Pom-Poms, Small Pine Cones
- » Small Bells
- » Bits of Cloth, Construction/Tissue Paper

#### ACTIVITY FOUR:

Word Scramble! Directions: Match the correct words with the jumbled words.

Dickens

Scrooge

tree

Belle

Tiny Tim

nutcracker

Drosselmeyer

yule log

traditions

Clara

mytiint

glyeuo

rcala

coegros

staidtnoir

eret

rcntuaekrc

nckieds

rmdsolesyree

lebel

## Victorian Parlour Games

Contrary to popular belief, Victorians did love games, indoors and out. Here are some Parlour Games to put you in the mood for a Victorian Christmas!

### LOOK-ABOUT

The host shows everyone a little knick-knack in the room. All the guests are to leave while the host hides it. When they return, everyone is to look for the item until they spot it. They are then to sit down. The last one to find it loses (or has to be "it"). It makes it a bit more difficult if guests continue to mill for a few seconds before they sit down.

### YOU'RE NEVER FULLY DRESSED WITHOUT A SMILE

One person is selected to be "it." That person is the only one in the group who is allowed to smile. He or she can do anything they want to try and get someone to smile. If the person smiles, he or she becomes it. The person who never smiles is declared the winner.



### BLIND MAN'S BLUFF

One person is blindfolded, and all other guests scatter around the room. When the blindfolded person catches someone, they then have to tell who it is they have captured or the prisoner is then freed and the blind-man must continue his/her pursuit until he/she can identify the person caught. The blindfold then changes hands.

### PASS THE SLIPPER

You take an object, the "slipper," then form a circle with your group, pick a person and put them in the center. They must close their eyes while the "slipper" is passed from person to person. When the center person opens his/her eyes, the passing immediately stops and he/she must hazard a guess as to who holds the "slipper." If he/she is correct, they trade places. If wrong, the eyes are closed and the passing begins again.

### THE NAME GAME

Provide each guest with 10 small pieces of paper and a pen or pencil. Ask them to write down the names of 10 famous people—leaders, movie stars, authors, sports figures, politicians, artists, inventors, scientists, etc. Encourage them not to make it too easy! Fold the papers and put them into a hat, bowl or basket. Seat guests in a large circle. Each round is limited to 30 seconds, so have a timer available. Player one pulls out a piece of paper and tries to get the person beside him/her to guess the name by giving clues, but never actually saying the name or what it starts with. Gestures are also not allowed. After the name is guessed, the clue giver can continue pulling names out of the hat until their time is up. The guesser gets to keep their pieces of paper as tally of how many they got correct. The bowl is then passed to the next person and the clue giver now becomes the guesser. The bowl proceeds around the circle until everyone has guessed and everyone has given clues. The one with the most guesses correct wins.

## More Parlour Games

### I'M THINKING OF SOMETHING

One person picks something and commits it to memory (national monuments, an item in the room, etc.). They do not tell what this item is but they say, for example, "I'm thinking of something large." The guests are then allowed to ask yes or no questions; "Is it a building?" "No." "Is it an animal?" "No." "Is it a monument?" "Yes." "Is it in Europe?" "No." and so on until one person guesses the item correctly. If the person guesses incorrectly, the game still ends and the wrong person must choose a new something. Players should never guess until they are completely sure that they know the answer.

### DICTIONARY

Each person needs paper and a pen or pencil and you need at least one dictionary to play this game. Each person uses the dictionary in turn to look up a word (hopefully one unknown to most people) and writes down the real definition (in simplified form) and then makes up two or three others. The word and the definitions are read to the rest of the players and each has to guess which definition they believe is the correct one. The player gets points for each person he/she fools. The dictionary makes as many rounds as you would like, and the player with the most points at the end wins.

#### EXAMPLE:

Somnambulist

- a. a person who practices rituals
  - b. a person who likes to be alone
  - c. a person who sleep walks
  - d. a person who is solemn and serious
- (answer is c)



### SIMILES

Similes is a fun Victorian Parlour Game, and can actually be used in classrooms to teach similes. A simile is a figure of speech that compares to unlike things using like or as. One of the most famous come from Robert Burns, who wrote "My love is like a red, red rose." To play this game, you need a list of similes and a group of people. One person, we'll call him/her the "teacher," goes around the room and picks people. The "teacher" picks one person and begins a simile "Love is like a....." the player must finish the simile by stating...."rose." If the player finishes the simile incorrectly, the "teacher" thanks them but gives them the correct ending and moves on. The "teacher" should be fairly well versed in well-known similes so as to be able to accept variations or answers that are close (or even very creative!) Here are a few well-known similes:

- » Blind as a bat
- » Quiet as a mouse
- » Hairy as an ape
- » Stubborn as a mule
- » Busy as a bee
- » Slippery as an eel
- » Sweet as sugar (or honey)
- » Delicate as a flower
- » Slow as a snail (or turtle)
- » Sharp as a tack (or nail)
- » Light as a feather
- » Strong as an ox
- » Vast as an ocean
- » Skinny as a rail
- » Free as a bird
- » Quick as a flash
- » Happy as a lark
- » Sly as a fox
- » Flat as a pancake
- » Wise as an owl

# The History of Mount Hope Estate

## The Home of Charles & Daisy Grubb and the Setting For Our Show

What a grand property this Mount Hope Estate! With a history spanning four continuous generations of the Grubb family, dating back to the original patriarch, Peter, of nearby Hopewell, who established the famous iron furnace in Cornwall in 1784. Peter's son, Henry Bates Grubb, built the Federal Mount Hope Mansion in 1800 and laid out the formal gardens that surround the house today.

Henry's son, Clement Bates Grubb, purchased the estate in 1885. It was Clement's daughter, Daisy Elizabeth Brooke (1850-1936) who was the last of the family to live in the Mansion. It was she, in 1895, who Victorianized the manor home while still preserving the most important Federal elements of the original architecture.

Daisy actually was harbinger of entertainment at the Estate. There were concerts, poetry readings and drama. Indeed, Daisy herself painted some of the ornate artwork on the ceilings, having studied fine art in Florence, Italy. She added a ballroom for dancing and a billiard room where the men could retire after dinner to smoke their cigars. While visiting, notice on the mantel of the grand fireplace, the symbols of an eye and a daisy. Because women, not even Daisy, were permitted in the billiard room, she wanted to remind the men that "Daisy is watching."

Miss Daisy passed away in 1936, and the Estate was subdivided and sold. It passed through several owners until December 1979, when it was purchased by Chuck Romito, himself a patriarch of sorts if you consider he's certainly the father of what we today lovingly call the Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire.

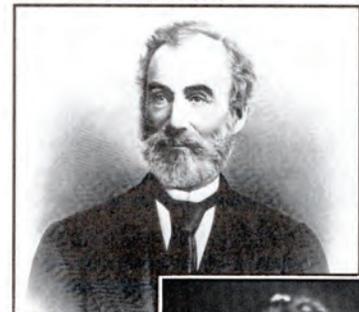
The Mansion is utilized for the highly popular Edgar Allan Poe Evermore and A Charles Dickens Victorian Christmas. There could not be a better setting to bring the works of both Poe and Dickens to life.

Today, the second and third floors of the spacious Mansion are used by the staff of Mount Hope Estate as offices and new owners, Scott and Heather Bowser, have dedicated themselves to the continuation of teaching and educating through living history. Extensive renovations to the home have been undertaken and continue today, all with an eye and an ear for entertainment and culture, and with the understanding that the Mansion at Mount Hope is to be a home for all to enjoy. We think Miss Daisy would be pleased.

For information on all of the Educational Programs, contact the Group Sales Director, Nicole Sutton at (717) 665-7021, ext. 148 or email her at [Nicole@PaRenFaire.com](mailto:Nicole@PaRenFaire.com).



Clement



Henry



Daisy

# Theater Etiquette

**An excellent learning opportunity.** Review these theater etiquette pointers with your students and give them an extra credit assignment—Put their knowledge of Theater Etiquette in practice while attending Poe Evermore and receive extra credit!

Our indoor Educational Programs are a wonderful way to enjoy theater. These shows are held in small theater spaces, unlike the vast area of the Renaissance Faire. Your experience at the Mansion performance will be much closer to a standard theater experience, so remember a few general theatrical rules of etiquette while visiting.



- 1. Save your commentary for intermission.** The rooms are small and, therefore, sound carries. Any comments you make can be heard not only by your neighbor, but also the whole room, including the performers. Each show lasts only 45 minutes, so give your full attention to the performance and talk about it afterwards. Remember that at Mount Hope, we invite you to give us any commentary or ask questions after each performances has ended.
- 2. Stay seated throughout the performance.** Once a performance has begun, it is impossible to excuse yourself from your seat or the room without disturbing the show or audience. So please only do so if it is absolutely necessary.
- 3. No catcalls or heckling.** It is never appropriate to heckle a performer under any situation. You will only embarrass yourself by being escorted from the performance.
- 4. Be respectful of audience and performers.** Remember that the theater is not home. It is not acceptable for you to lounge across the seats like you're home on the couch. Keep your feet on the floor and not on the seat in front of you. Stay only in your designated seating area. Do not touch a performer's props or move stage furniture for your convenience.
- 5. Turn off cell phones and pagers.**
- 6. Enjoy yourself!** Above all, Mount Hope wants you to enjoy your theater experience. Be aware, and prepared. If you're asked to respond during a performance, feel free to answer the performer's question as so directed.

**HOLIDAYS**  
  
**AT MOUNT HOPE**