



1800 CENTER

Arkansas Governor's Mansion: The Center of Southern Hospitality

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First Lady Susan Hutchinson

Springtime at the Mansion: Time for Tea and Lunches

As I write this column, the grounds are exploding with color as everything seems to be "coming up" tulips, daffodils and azaleas at 1800 Center Street in downtown Little Rock. Signs of new life and new beginnings surround me during my frequent strolls through the Mansion gardens, and I'm reminded of the Psalmist's declaration, "How many are your works, Oh Lord!"

Putting away the heavy coats and winter sweaters, I look forward to the warmer days and the increase of sunshine which heralds the upcoming events at the Governor's Mansion. It is my great delight and privilege to share this beautiful home and its surroundings with fellow Arkansans. So I hope you will join me for these events, beginning with the annual **First Lady's Tea on Sunday, May 21, 2 p.m.**

This event has become one of my most cherished memories here at the Mansion. Opening up the house and Grand Hall to the laughter and fellowship of mothers, daughters, sisters, grandmothers and good friends, makes my heart glad. I also

love to admire all of the beautiful hats, dresses and gloves! The delicious food prepared by the Mansion culinary team is always scrumptious.

Also exciting is "**Lunch at the People's House,**" to be held **June 13 and 14, 11:30 a.m.** Last year's response to our summer and fall lunch offerings was incredible, so much so, that we decided to offer them again this year. You, your friends, colleagues and co-workers will not want to miss "Lunch at the People's House." Tickets are available online at: www.friendsofthemansion.org, or by calling, 501-324-9805.

Ticket sales for these events support the Governor's Mansion Association, the non-profit organization charged with raising funds for the renovation, improvement, furnishings and endowment of the Mansion.

I hope you will join us as we celebrate spring at the Arkansas Governor's Mansion.



2017 First Lady's Tea

Buy Your Tickets Today!

\$50 adult - \$35 Child
May 21, 2 pm

www.friendsofthemansion.org

“The Helen Benton Story”

Mansion Association Celebrates Helen Benton with Evening of High Fashion

Arkansas' premier clothing designer, Helen Benton, was honored March 10 at the Governor's Mansion before a sold-out crowd. The event called, "The Helen Benton Story," included a New York-style fashion show featuring Benton's wedding gown collection, as well as several pieces from her vintage children's collection. Other Benton gowns on display that evening included First Lady Susan Hutchinson's inaugural gown, as well as gowns worn by several former Arkansas First Ladies. Miss America 2017, Savvy Shields, also made a special appearance during the evening. All proceeds from the event benefited the Arkansas Governor's Mansion Association.



Tickets Now On Sale

First Lady's Tea and Lunch at the People's House

2017 First Lady's Tea May 21

Preparations are underway for this year's First Lady's Tea on, Sunday, May 21, 2 pm, at the Arkansas Governor's Mansion. If tradition holds, the Grand Hall will be brimming with beautiful ladies wearing dresses, hats, and gloves. Tickets are available online at www.friendsofthemansion.org. Don't miss this opportunity to treat your daughter or granddaughter to this delightful afternoon. Miss Arkansas will also be on hand to help First Lady Susan Hutchinson welcome guests.



"Do Lunch" at the Governor's Mansion

Ok, Arkansas...you made "Lunch at the People's House" a hit! So, we're offering it again this June. Start gathering your friends, colleagues and co-workers and don't miss your chance to have a delicious lunch at the Arkansas Governor's Mansion on June 13 - 14, 11:30 a.m.

You and your guests will enjoy a choice of three delicious entrees, as well as the decadent dessert buffet. While menus have not yet been finalized, be assured that your meal will be scrumptious! Vegetarian and gluten-free options are always available.

Don't wait! Purchase your tickets today by going to: www.friendsofthemansion.org, or by calling: 501-324-9805.



www.friendsofthemansion.org

Mansion Celebrates Holidays with Handel

The Governor's Mansion celebrated the 2016 Christmas season in grand style with its "Tribute to Handel" theme, in which the 30,000 square foot home and Grand Hall were transformed into a European-style hall and cathedral, reminiscent of the venues where George F. Handel once performed.

"It was so exciting to see the Mansion décor pay tribute to Handel and to one of history's most famous oratorios, 'Messiah,' with its great emotion and uplifting messages," First Lady Susan Hutchinson said.

One of the Mansion's most anticipated holiday events was the "Tribute to Handel" concert on December 9, which featured choirs from Ouachita Baptist University and Fellowship Bible Church, Little Rock. During the week of December 12, over 850 people from across Arkansas attended Christmas High Teas at the Mansion, and enjoyed an afternoon filled with music, fellowship, and of course, delicious treats prepared by the Mansion chefs.

All proceeds from these holiday events benefited the Arkansas Governor's Mansion Association, a non-profit organization that raises funds for the renovation, improvement, furnishings and endowment of the Mansion.



2017 First Lady's Tea
Sunday, May 21, 2017 2 p.m. Arkansas Governor's Mansion

Tickets: \$50 adults, \$35 children (10 and under)
Available Online at: www.friendsofthemansion.org or by calling, 501-324-9805