

The Rooster Herald

All the news that's fit to crow about!



Renfrew Museum and Park

A Day in the Life of the Royer Children

August 2018



John & Deb Beck

A mix of history and modern day came together one Saturday afternoon in July at Renfrew Museum and Park. Our second annual *A Day in the Life of the Royer Children*, sponsored by John and Deb Beck, drew hundreds to the park on a breezy, sunny afternoon.

Little is known about the ten children Daniel and Catherine Royer had other than there were six girls and four boys and their names were David, Samuel, Elizabeth, Polly, John, Jacob, Susan, Rebecca, Catherine, and Nancy.

Under the shade of the Kentucky coffee bean trees, various activities and stations were set up around the back yard of the Museum House. Children were invited to take part in chore demonstrations of sweeping, washing clothes, spinning, and beating rugs. At the spinning station guests spun yarn and attached it to bookmark. Creating a souvenir showcasing

their hard work.

Games and activities were set up under canopies along the back wall. Visitors were shown how to make hankie dolls for either boys or girls. Kids chose either a wooden top, ball in cup or button on a string to replicate games the Royer children would have played when not doing chores.

Another table had chalkboards little ones could write on to simulate being in school and doing assignments. Quill pens provided children a chance to write their names and step back in time without the use of electronics.

The modern part of the event consisted of a petting zoo and Slim Harrison and the Sunnyland band provided an interactive musical experience for those brave enough to join the band.

The Beck's sponsorship also provided free hot dogs, lemonade, and Antietam Dairy for those in attendance. Over 400 hot dogs were served along with over 550 servings of ice cream.

This family friendly event promoted bringing families and friends together to enjoy the simplicity of how life use to be two hundred years ago. Guests saw how the Royer children would have lived, worked and played during the 1800's.

Guests were thankful and appreciative for the day. We thank the Becks for sponsoring a historical event with a couple of modern day twists.

Renfrew Museum and Park
1010 E. Main Street
Waynesboro, PA 17268

Phone: 717-762-4723

www.renfrewmuseum.org

"Play is the highest form of research."

Albert Einstein

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Certified Tourism Ambassador Tour

The Certified Tourism Ambassador (CTA) program launched in March by the Franklin County Visitors Bureau. The program has welcomed 65 CTAs with new classes offered monthly.

The local program is administered through the Tourism Ambassador Institute. The Certified Tourism Ambassador (CTA) Program is a certification program that serves to increase tourism by inspiring front-line hospitality employees and volunteers to work together to turn every visitor encounter into a positive, memorable experience.

In April, Judy Elden and Kim Eichelberger from our staff attended the training and became CTAs.

The class and training included a comprehensive history of Franklin County and the rich history located within the county borders. Potential CTAs received a study guide and were required to attend class and pass a

test to become certified.

CTAs are business owners, visitors, visitor center employees, and volunteers who wish to enhance the visitors experience in our county.

In June, Janet Pollard and Doug Harmon from the Franklin County Visitors Bureau hosted a bus tour to some of the local historical sites CTAs learn about in class.

CTAs met at the Waynesboro Country Club for lunch and began their bus tour at Renfrew Museum and Park. Our guests received a guided tour of the Museum House before boarding the bus and heading to the Mercersburg Inn. Mercersburg Inn was beautiful and the bus tour ended at the James



Buchanan home site and memorial. The eventful day concluded at the Waynesboro Country Club where CTAs were invited to attend the Chamber Mixer.

This beneficial program cross promotes locations throughout Franklin County and we were honored Janet and Doug kicked off their bus tour with a stop at Renfrew.

For information on being a CTA please contact Doug Harmon at 717-552-2977.

Flora, Fauna, and Folkways of Earlier Times Art Show Winner

The fifth annual Cumberland Valley Artists "Flora, Fauna and Folkways of Earlier Times" art show was a success. The art show ran from the middle of April through the end of June and welcomed guests from all over the country. Park guests enjoyed stopping in to see the artwork displayed in the Wagon Shed.

Paintings were hung along the wall of the Wagon Shed entrance and a room divider was added with paintings on both sides. New this year, we asked guests to vote for their favorite works of art.

After all of the votes were tallied, we

are pleased to announce the winner, "Farm with Charm," painted by Laura Lewis Shindle.

Becky Dietrich organized the art show and was pleased with how the art show went, happy with the attendance, and appreciates the artists who participate year after year. Renfrew is grateful for the opportunity to showcase local artists and their talents.

Voting was close and the second and third runners up included "Waiting Patiently" by Laura Lewis Shindle and Almost Hidden –Royer House Rabbit by Kathleen Renninger.



Farm with Charm

Remembering Terry Barkdoll



Terry Barkdoll was a jovial man. Always smiling and quick to make a funny comment. Renfrew was fortunate to have Terry serve on our board and be an active volunteer for many years.

Sadly, we lost Terry far too soon on February 25, 2018. Terry was active on our accessions committee and brought a wealth of knowledge about John Bell pottery and antiques. He'd arrive each Wednesday morning carrying donuts where the committee would enjoy a social session before getting down to business. Terry kept the committee updated on auctions and possible acquisitions the museum would be interested in acquiring.

Terry was always willing to give a hand and could be found cooking hot dogs during the A Day in the Life of the Royer Children and stirring up and serving soup during Pumpkin Festival.

For Christmas on the Farm, Terry and his wife Linda would arrive with trays full of cookies they made to offer patrons attending our three day holiday event.

Terry was known to joke around and send cards to staff that were unsigned thanking employees for all that they do. He was outgoing and a hard worker. He loved his family and collected John Bell pottery. The Barkdoll family named Renfrew Museum and Park as a beneficiary. The funds received in Terry's name were used to purchase a six gallon John Bell storage jug. Ironically, the piece was once owned by Terry. It now has a permanent home showcased alongside the nation's largest public collection of John Bell.

The jug is a fitting memorial to Terry and a ceremony was held to honor and dedicate the piece to Barkdoll's family. Linda attended the accessions meeting where stories and memories of Terry were shared. The accessions committee along with Dade Royer, Executive Director, presented the piece that would be housed in the showcase for Terry.

A park bench with a bronze plaque was installed in the backyard of the Museum House in Terry's memory. From the bench, guests will have a breathtaking view of the property and a constant reminder of Terry's giving spirit.



Linda Barkdoll at the dedication ceremony

Oktoberfest

Our Third Annual Oktoberfest will be held on Saturday, October 6 at the Main Street Park in Waynesboro. The outdoor venue will provide guests an authentic beer garden experience.

The cost to attend is \$40 per person until September 15 and then the price will be \$50 per person. The Eagles Club Inc. will provide the food for the evening and is our event sponsor.

The Shippensburg Blaskapelle German Band will perform and provide music during the evening for guests to enjoy as they eat and play games.

This event is one of Renfrew's largest fundraisers of the year. The silent auction will run throughout the evening and the live auction will be held during the band's break.

Traditional German fare will be served and a specially crafted beer made for our event will be on tap.

As it was last year, the heads and tails game will be played over the course of the evening. Admission will include dinner, beer, and entertainment.

We hope you will consider joining us for an evening of authentic German fun. For ticket information

please call the office at 717-762-4723 or visit www.renfrewmuseum.org.



Renfrew partners with the ARC of Washington County & OSI



We are pleased to announce Renfrew and the ARC of Washington County and Occupational Services Inc. (OSI) in Chambersburg have formed a partnership. Clients from both sites have joined us this summer to paint fences, weed flower beds, stain benches, pick up sticks and rake up lucky beans fallen from trees.

The ARC of Washington County was founded in 1952 and promotes community involvement, independence and dignity for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Sarah Logie, from the ARC of Washington County stated, "I can attest to the fact that it has been an overall very positive experience for us. The people we support enjoy coming and request to come to Renfrew. They have also found that Renfrew is a fun area to explore and enjoy recreationally, as a result of coming up to volunteer there."

OSI was created in 1956 and assists individuals with disabilities or other barriers to employment to lead more productive and meaningful lives by maximizing their abilities to achieve their highest potential through vocational programs and employment services.

The teams show up weekly with smiles on their faces and they work hard during their shift. Most of them enjoy being outside and love the park. They bring their lunches and eat under the shade trees at the picnic tables or benches.

OSI and their clients appear to be just as pleased with the partnership. According to Gabby Snider, "both the individuals and the job coaches look forward to volunteering at Renfrew every week. They really enjoy the opportunity to be outdoors, especially on the beautiful property. I believe it's been a great partnership and we look forward to working with you on an ongoing basis."



Renfrew welcomes new staff member



Renfrew Museum and Park is pleased to welcome Melanie Desmond. Melanie joined us in the Visitors Center and is our new costume and textile conservation coordinator.

Melanie works part-time and started in July. She may look familiar to many of you as she also works for the Renfrew Institute as an instructor during the school year.

A retired school librarian from Washington County, Maryland Melanie enjoys spinning and weaving in her spare time.

She likes history and looks forward to participating in 18th century re-enactments.

Melanie will be helping us clean and repair textiles. She will ensure they are stored properly and the accessions numbers assigned to the piece coincide with the accessions numbers in the computer.

After her training is complete, she will give Museum House tours.

Welcome aboard, Melanie.

J. H. Johnston Rifle Donation



Wayne Martz

Another local piece of history found its way to Renfrew Museum House through the generosity of Wayne Martz. Martz gifted the 1840 J.H Johnston rifle to Renfrew in May. The rifle, in excellent condition, has a forged steel inlay and a tiger maple stock. The rifle measures 56 1/4 inch long.

The latest acquisition sits atop the fireplace in the Museum House kitchen. The handsome piece is a nice accompaniment to the Johnston rifle mounted above the fireplace in the men's parlor.

Shortly after his donation, Martz and his family came for a visit to the house and we were able to capture the moment he saw the rifle

displayed over the fireplace in the kitchen.

The Martz family enjoyed their tour and seeing the rifle that Wayne donated to Renfrew Museum and Park.

James Hampton Johnston was described as the founder and sole proprietor of the Great Western Gun Works. He was born in the town of Waynesboro on December 16, 1836. He grew up in Waynesboro and learned the trade of gun making in Franklin County. Prior to the Civil War, he relocated to the Pittsburgh area and was appointed Master Armorer at their arsenal. While in Pittsburgh, he re-opened his Great Western Gun Works and it rapidly became a business success.

Johnston died in Pittsburgh on June 28, 1917 and is buried in Allegheny Cemetery.

We are grateful to Wayne Martz for making such a generous donation to the Museum and are proud to showcase it as guests begin their Museum House tours.

Pumpkin Festival

Mark your calendars for our 25th annual Pumpkin Festival. Pumpkin Fest will be held on Saturday, October 20 from 11 am to 4 pm. We look forward to providing guests a delicious lunch of soups, homemade bread, and apple slices. Hot dogs, soda, and bottled water will be available for purchase.

Mountain Ride, a PA bluegrass band fancying both progressive and traditional facets will provide this years entertainment. In addition to the live entertainment, we will offer scarecrow making, kids games, face painting, hay rides, and the always popular pumpkin chuckin' trebuchet.

New this year we will have Pumpkin Festival t-shirts available for purchase.



Museum Needs

- Community Partnership Opportunities: Renfrew is excited to offer three new community partnership levels to sponsor park events and programs. Please contact Kim Eichelberger or Dade Royer for additional information.
- We are in search of creamers and sugar bowls made of china still in good condition to add to our tea collection. Thank you to everyone who has donated tea pots, cups, and saucers.
- Newsletter Sponsors: The total cost per printing is \$450. The newsletter features your business card or simply a "sponsored by" section with your name if you do not have a business to represent. Please contact Kim Eichelberger.
- We are in the process of archiving and storing textiles and in search of 100% Cotton Sheets. The sheets will be used in the packing and storing process. If you would like to help, please contact Melanie Desmond.

If you are interested in sponsoring any of these endeavors, you do not have to give the full amount. Any amount is welcome and appreciated.



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Waynesboro, PA 17268

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Our Mission— Our mission is to preserve, enhance, promote, and interpret the Royer family Pennsylvania German farmstead, the Nicodemus and Bell collections, and the surrounding Park.

Our Vision— Our vision is to be a welcoming and memorable destination where everyone can walk back in time.

Our Values—

Integrity—With honesty and truth, we will adhere to the highest moral and ethical standards in all our endeavors.

Authenticity—We will interpret with historical accuracy all of our exhibits, collections, programs, and events.

Excellence—We will be exceptional in everything we do.

To renew your membership or to become a member, please contact Judy Elden or visit our website and go to the “Join” tab for more information.

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Renfrew Museum and Park



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