

The Rooster Herald

All the news that's fit to crow about!



Renfrew Museum and Park

August 2019

Becky LaBarre Named New Executive Director



- Becky LaBarre

Becky LaBarre is the newest Executive Director of Renfrew Museum and Park. LaBarre, who began on May 20, is a seasoned historic preservation professional with over fifteen years' experience.

She most recently served as the Director of Planning and Historic Preservation for the Borough of Gettysburg, a position she held for two and a half years.

Prior to that LaBarre served as Assistant Curator for Glessner House and Clarke House Museums in Chicago, Illinois between 2010-2015. During her tenure she managed collections, guest programming, docent education, program development and interpretation of Clarke House (1836), the oldest building remaining in the original Chicago city limits. She served as Assistant Director of Glessner House Museum from 2015-2016 where she oversaw the administration, educational programming, interpretation, collections management, fundraising, and community engagement for Glessner House (1887), Henry Hobson Richardson's architectural masterpiece in Chicago's Prairie Avenue Historic District.

LaBarre describes herself as hands-on and hit the ground running updating the Renfrew website and posting to our Facebook page. She's participated in docent training and has been active in re-invigorating interpretation of the Renfrew summer kitchen.

During our *A Day in the Life of the Royer Children* she fired up the summer kitchen hearth, presenting period foodways to guests and interpreting how the kitchen would have been used seasonally by families like the Royers.

A scholar of mid-nineteenth century American life, she's been hard at work on the Civil War Encampment and Royer Farmstead Day designing an authentic experience for the guests who will be joining us.

Her immediate plans include preparing Renfrew to make the most of its upcoming 45th season. "This special anniversary is the perfect time to reflect on where we've been and where we'd like to go. Look for both enhanced and brand new programming in 2020, along with a targeted capital campaign to help grow the Renfrew endowment so we can continue to improve operations," explained LaBarre.

LaBarre has a Master of Science in Historic Preservation from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and a Bachelor of Fine Arts, Interior Design from Adrian College in Michigan. She and her husband, Steve, reside in Fairfield, Pennsylvania.

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Waynesboro, PA 17268

Phone: 717-762-4723

www.renfrewmuseum.org

Learning is not attained by chance. It must be sought for with ardor and attended with diligence. – Abigail Adams

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A Day in the Life of the Royer Children



-Melanie Desmond helps a guest.

On a hot July day Renfrew welcomed families from all over the tri-state area for our third annual *A Day in the Life of the Royer Children*.

The event, sponsored by John and Deb Beck, provided free admission, food and entertainment for our guests. Hot dogs, lemonade and Kona Ice refreshed guests while kids

surveyed the yard for which activity they would try first. In the middle of the lawn, under the shade, a petting zoo boasted over thirty animals.

Slim Harrison and the Sunny Land Band brought a festive mood as kids could play instruments and dance to the beat of the music while their parents looked on.

Kids were invited to spin yarn and add it to a keepsake bookmark they took home as a souvenir. At another table they could make hankie dolls. We offered spinning, tape loom and quilting demonstrations at various tables in the back yard.

Children were invited to walk back in time as they carried water with yokes and buckets, took turns washing clothes with the wash bucket and scrub board, and they beat rag rugs.

New this year kids had the opportunity to milk a wooden “cow”.

Wooden photo boards were placed around the yard so that families could capture the event.

Games consisting of checkers, pick-up-sticks, and dominos could be found on tables under the shade trees. Guests were welcome to use chalk and quill pens to write on boards and papers that were provided.

Our Visitors Center hosted a side-walk sale of gift shop items that guests browsed as they walked into the event.

Each guest was provided five tickets that they could redeem for food items throughout the day.

Summer Kitchen Cooking



A new addition to our programming for this year's *A Day in the Life of the Royer Children* on Saturday, July 13th included a special cooking demonstration in Renfrew's Summer Kitchen.

Thanks to the generous sponsorship of John and Deb Beck, we were able to prepare a summertime dinner meal over the open hearth for our

guests to view. Executive Director Becky LaBarre, Renfrew Committee Inc. board member Doug Parks, and volunteer Steve LaBarre presented information about the Summer Kitchen building and the afternoon's star dish – zucchini casserole.

Our recipe was adapted from Martha Washington's cookbooks at Mount Vernon and featured a layered dish of mashed zucchini, bread crumbs, and cheese seasoned with salt, pepper, and parsley, baked in a Dutch oven over coals.

A smart way to use up some of the abundant fresh summer squashes coming in from the garden this time of year, the dish is equally tasty prepared in the period method or in a modern oven.

Guests commented on how much they enjoyed seeing the Summer Kitchen working and that the demonstration was one of their favorite parts of the day. Photos and video of the cooking demonstration can be viewed on Renfrew's Facebook page, as well as the recipe.

Stay tuned for more opportunities to experience the Renfrew Summer Kitchen in the coming months.



-Becky LaBarre at the hearth.

Renfrew Launches PA-KY Longrifle Collection & Interpretive Display

-written by Bob Benchoff



-Bobby Crouse and Wayne Martz

Renfrew Museum and Park invites all Pennsylvania-Kentucky (PA-KY) longrifle enthusiasts to share in its vision to grow and preserve its collection of PA-KY longrifles, powder horns and accoutrements through a permanent interpretive display.

Interested donors and volunteers may contact Renfrew Museum and Park directly at the phone number or email address listed on page one of this newsletter.

The first longrifle which Renfrew acquired in 1993 was made by Waynesboro gunsmith, John H. Johnston, and came from well-known original Renfrew board member, Master Woodworker and Craftsman, William S. Bowers. Mr. Bowers, also a noted researcher and historian, authored four books including *Gunsmiths of PA-MAR-VA 1790-1840*.

In May of last year, longtime Renfrew volunteer and former board member, Wayne Martz, donated a John H. Johnston flintlock longrifle. Soon after, Wayne explained his idea for Renfrew to create the collection and interpretive display to the Accessions Committee and Executive Director, Dade Royer. Accessions Committee member Jim Markell pledged \$1,000 to the project.

In January of this year Renfrew's Board of Directors embraced and approved the Accessions Committee's recommendation to proceed by accepting Wayne's generous offer to build the first ten-gun showcase and to donate two more longrifles; a John H. Johnston fowler and a Great Western Gun Works longrifle. With this offer Renfrew also acquired another John H. Johnston flintlock longrifle from the collection of Donald Stoops.

With the showcase design and plans prepared and shared with the Accessions Committee and Executive Director, Dade Royer, Wayne and fellow woodworker, Bobby Crouse, started planing cherry selected from Renfrew's lumber supply. Additional cherry lumber was needed and donated so the project could progress.

Renfrew is very appreciative of Wayne's leadership, time, cabinet-making talent and donation of various materials in bringing this project to fruition. In addition Renfrew thanks each of the other donors to this project: Bobby for his time, cabinetmaking skills and cherry lumber, Butch Rotz for the use of his 20" planer and gift of cherry lumber, and Steve Rost for his \$500 donation to purchase the Lexan needed for the viewing areas of the case.

The interpretive display and showcase containing the five longrifles will soon be placed in its permanent location in the Wagon Shed room of the Visitors Center and will be dedicated on Sunday, November 3rd at 6:00 PM.

The dedication will be preceded by Renfrew's Public Longrifle Show & Sale scheduled from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM in the second floor ballroom of the downtown Eagles Club, Inc., 22 East Main Street, Waynesboro, PA 17268.

Renfrew held two similar shows in 2013 and 2014, and is thrilled to be able to hold this larger venue show with the help of the Kentucky Rifle Association and the Eagles Club's generous donation of the use of their facility.

Exhibitors will display and discuss longrifles, gunsmiths and accoutrements with the public. The show is slated to draw over 50 long rifles. The cost of the event will be \$5 per adult, \$2 per person ages 12-18 and children 12 and under will be free.

Antique firearms sales will be permitted on-site and must follow all federal and state rules and regulations. Security and gun bearers will be provided.



Don't miss our #FoodieFriday feature every week on Facebook! Look for period recipes, videos, and interesting tidbits related to historic foodways . If you haven't already, like and follow Renfrew on Facebook!



Renfrew Partners with OSI and The ARC of Washington County

Renfrew, along with Occupational Services Inc. (OSI), and the ARC of Washington County (MD), are just about to complete our second year partnership.

Three days a week the clients come and assist our maintenance staff with weeding and light outdoor work.

We can't thank the clients enough for showing up each week with a smile on their face and a positive attitude. They arrive prepared for the job at hand and always complete their task list.

They are led by their job coaches who are just as friendly and helpful. Clients and job coaches enjoy taking a walk on their breaks and eating their lunches outside under the shade of the trees.

The crew representing OSI comes

to the park every Wednesday and tackles the weeds that grow around the museum house and in front of the visitors center.

The ARC of Washington County brings out various crews on Tuesday and Thursdays to pick up sticks and to help with weeding along the stone wall in the museum backyard.

Our partnership in its second year has provided clients with an additional worksite during the week and our staff enjoys seeing the clients come in and interacting with them.

Gabby Snider, program specialist with OSI stated, "I'm excited, for the second year in a row, OSI has had the privilege to volunteer at Renfrew Museum and Park. The individuals appreciate and look forward to the opportunity to work outdoors and

visibly witness the results of their hard work. It's an opportunity the OSI individuals look forward to each year!"

At the end of the summer we host an appreciation party for the clients with pizza and cupcakes. Each client is given a certificate of appreciation. The celebration is just a small thank you for the amount of work and hours the clients put in during our season.

We hope that we will be able to continue the partnership next summer.



-OSI Clients with their job coaches

Fourth Annual Oktoberfest



Oktoberfest is our largest single fundraiser of the year. Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 5, 2019. Doors open at 3 pm and the event begins at 4 pm after the kegs are delivered by a horse drawn wagon driven by the Mayor.

Oktoberfest is \$45 per person and will be sponsored by and held at the Eagles Club Inc., located at 16 East Main Street, Waynesboro.

Admission includes a delicious German buffet, specially crafted beers wine, tea, water, and desserts. Live entertainment will be provided by the Die Shippensburg German Band. Each guest will receive a commemorative beer mug.

Staff and volunteers have been working hard to acquire auction items for guests to bid on. We will offer a silent auction as well as a live auction during the evening.

The live auction will include a couple of unique dining experiences for

groups here at Renfrew. These special meal packages will be revealed at the Oktoberfest event.

We may have a few other surprises in store for guests. Registration forms will be mailed out soon and we will have an option to register and pay online coming soon.



-Oktoberfest 2018

Gift Shop



New gift shop items have arrived and we invite you to stop by the Visitors Center. The gift shop has a fresh new look with a farm theme and a variety of new items that were not available prior to the update.

We now offer gifts for any occasion. If you are looking for house warming, birthday, wedding and thinking of you gifts, we've got you covered. We carry men's baseball caps, toys, trinkets, crocks, earrings and postcards.

Join us on Saturday, August 10 from 11 am to 4 pm for our sidewalk sale. The sidewalk sale will consist of items that have been in the store for a while and are priced to move.

We are working on making gift shop items available on a website with a shipping option. More details will be released in the coming months.



2019 Gettysburg Civil War Show

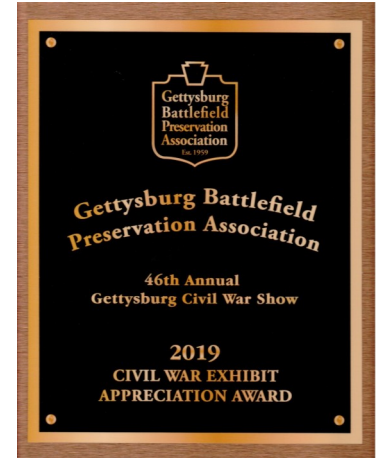
Renfrew presented a two-day exhibit featuring three of our Johnston longrifles and small selection of accoutrements at the 46th Annual Gettysburg Civil War Artifacts and Collectibles Show on June 29 and 30, 2019.

Our display was well received earning Renfrew an Appreciation Award from the show's host, the Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association.

Dealers, collectors, and enthusiasts, many who had never heard of Renfrew, were able to admire our beautiful and rare longrifles as well as learn a bit about J. H. Johnston, his work, and the development of the Great Western Gun Works of Pittsburgh by his son and grandson.

Additionally, we were able to promote Renfrew's upcoming longrifle show and sale to be held Sunday November 3, 2019 at the Eagles Club, 16 E. Main Street, Waynesboro from 11:00 am-4:00 pm.

In addition to the connections made at the Gettysburg Civil War Show we are pleased to announce that the Kentucky Rifle Association is helping to promote our longrifle show and sale as well.



Upcoming Events

August 15— US Navy Band concert at the Waynesboro Area High School 7 pm

August 22— New Horizon Band Concert 7 pm

August 29—Center of Gravity Concert 7 pm

October 5—4th Annual Oktoberfest at Eagles Club 3-9 pm

October 19— Pumpkin Festival 11 am to 4 pm

November 3—18th & 19th Century PA-KY Long Rifle Show

December 6-8 Christmas on the Farm

Museum Needs

- We are in search of a used, but working, **washer and dryer** if someone has one they'd be willing to donate. Please contact Becky LaBarre.
- **Docents and Volunteers** wanted: whatever your interest or availability, if you can help, let us know. Please contact Kim Eichelberger.
- **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.
- **Community Partnership Opportunities:** Renfrew is excited to offer three community partnership levels to sponsor park events and programs. Please contact Kim Eichelberger or Becky LaBarre.

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.

Renfrew Museum and Park
1010 East Main Street
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 Visitor Services Representative Suzanne Toms or visit our website and go to the “Join” tab for more information.

Follow Us on Facebook and Instagram!



Renfrew Museum and Park



@Renfrewmuseumpark