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The Weathervane

Wetterhahn

Celebrating our 25th Anniversary of service in 2000



Volume XI, Issue IV The Newsletter of Renfrew Museum & Park

Fall 2000

PUMPKIN FEST SET FOR SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21st *A new Exhibition, Antique Appraisal Day, and many other programs complete Renfrew Museum & Park's Exciting Fall Schedule*

Renfrew is delighted to announce that the Pumpkin Festival is set to make its return on Saturday, October 21st. This annual event took the year off in 1999 due to the numerous difficulties associated with the drought. "Last year we had no pumpkins and were not allowed to have open fires to cook our home-made soups," states Museum Curator, Jeff Bliemeister. "This year things are much improved. We have had numerous calls from people asking if the festival is on this year; there seems to be a real sense of excitement and enthusiasm all the way

around. We are really looking forward to a great event!"

The program begins at 11:00 am and runs through 4:00 pm. Admission is charged for the Pumpkin Festival. Rates are: \$5 for adults, \$3 for children ages 4 to 12 and free for kids under 4. Please enter the festival through Renfrew's parking lot off Welty Road.

- Some of the highlights for this year include -

- * FOOD (SOUPS & BREADS) * HAYRIDES * LIVE MUSIC by "FAST TRAIN" * BABY FARM ANIMALS (PETTING ZOO) * RENFREW CORN MAZE *PUMPKIN CHUNKING

We will also have pumpkins for sale. And, when you purchase your pumpkins at Renfrew, we will help you carve them for free! (Adult supervision and safety carving tools provided). Hot dogs and soda will also be available for an additional charge.

We hope you will make plans to join us as we celebrate Fall with the return of the Pumpkin Festival!

We wish to recognize M & T Bank for their ongoing sponsorship of the Pumpkin Festival We are grateful for their support of this program.

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A bountiful harvest of pumpkins from Renfrew's own patch are piled high on a wagon waiting for visitors at the annual Pumpkin Festival. Renfrew will have dozens of quality pumpkins available for purchase this year. Purchase your pumpkin at Renfrew and we will even help you carve it!



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**“Exploring Emma’s Attic”
-New Exhibition in October-**

Exploring Emma’s Attic: Seldom-Seen Treasures from the Nicodemus Collection is the final exhibition of the 2000 season.

In honor of our 25th year of operation, our last display of 2000 focuses on the collection of Renfrew’s benefactors, Edgar and Emma Nicodemus. The Nicodemuses assembled an outstanding collection of antiques, many of which visitors see when touring the museum and visitors center. However, they collected more than just objects from the Federal Period of American history, which is the time frame interpreted by Renfrew. The Nicodemuses also lived with their antiques so their collection covers much more than just furniture and decorative arts.

This temporary exhibition includes some of the most interesting pieces left with the Nicodemus Bequest that are not typically featured in our displays. Personal objects such as clothing, school books, travel souvenirs and toys help illustrate the lives and times of Edgar Nicodemus, Emma Geiser Nicodemus and her sister Hazel Geiser - the three individuals responsible for providing the people of Waynesboro with the treasure now known as Renfrew Museum and Park. The exhibition includes a variety of items, ranging from early 19th century spatterware to silver trophies won by Edgar Nicodemus’ horses in the 1950s to an autograph quilt probably done by Emma’s mother in 1885. All in all, these objects offer a fascinating glimpse into the lives of Renfrew’s benefactors, and a look back into the history of Waynesboro.

The exhibition is supplemented by seven original watercolor paintings of Renfrew done several years ago by Clyde Roberts. These beautiful works showcase some of the site’s buildings and include an overall interpretive view depicting what the Royer/Nicodemus Farmstead may have looked like during its heyday in the early to mid-19th century. Special thanks must be given to board members Becky Dietrich and Willard Rahn for their assistance with this part of the exhibition. Becky donated her time and talent to mat all seven of the paintings and



Original watercolor by Clyde Roberts depicting the Fahnestock Barn as it may have been used in the early 19th Century. This painting is one of seven now on display at Renfrew.

**Exhibition Update Continued
- Appraisal Day Set for Nov. 4th -**

Willard contributed his services for the framing. Thank you both for a job well done.



An assortment of fine silver from the Nicodemus Collection may be found in “Exploring Emma’s Attic.” Pictured above from left to right: Warmer/Serving Pan, Candelabra and Monogrammed Ice Bucket.

ANTIQUe APPRAISAL DAY SET

Renfrew’s third **Antique Appraisal Day** is being held on Saturday, November 4th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Make your plans now to join us for this popular and exciting event.

“We have designed Renfrew’s Antique Appraisal Day to have the style of the *Antiques Roadshow* but on a level where everyone has the opportunity to participate,” states Museum Curator, Jeffrey Bliemeister. “The event features an outstanding staff of appraisers; they really take the time to look at each person’s object thoroughly and offer an honest evaluation of its worth and an informative opinion on its history. If you have an antique or unique object that you want to know more about, this is the place to be!”

After two years of conducting the Antique Appraisal, Renfrew has a real feel for the program. Steps have been taken to streamline registration and minimize the waiting period. This year, we will also have someone operating a camcorder full-time to broadcast the appraisal of special or interesting objects for those who are awaiting their appraisal session.

All of our appraisers from last year have returned for Antique Appraisal Day 2000; plus, we have added new talent to help cover some of the unique items people



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Antique Appraisal Day - continued -

seem to bring to the program. As in the past, all appraisers are generously donating their services. All proceeds go directly to the operation and restoration of Renfrew Museum and Park.

Antique Appraisal Day Staff for 2000

G. Craig Caba - G. Craig Caba Antiques & Auctions, Enola PA ***Suzanne Daly** - Certified Doll Doctor, Daly Designs, Chambersburg ***Clarke Hess** - Authority on PA German Antiquities, Clarke E. Hess Antiques, Lititz PA ***John Hykes** - Hykes Antiques, Waynesboro & Shippensburg ***Matt Hurley** - Matthew S. Hurley Auction Company, Waynesboro PA ***Emma Lohman** - Open Hearth Antiques & Greencastle Antique Mall ***Budd Moore** - Educator & authority on American Pottery & Glass ***Carl Ocker** - Auctioneer/Owner, Kenny's Auctions, Chambersburg PA ***Alesia Permansu** - Alesia A. Permansu Antiques, Greencastle ***Phyllis Potter** - Antique Crossroads, Hagerstown, MD

Appraisals will be conducted on a first come first serve basis, beginning at 10:00 am and running through 4:00 pm. The cost is: \$3.00 for a verbal appraisal and \$5.00 for a written certificate per item. In the interest of fairness to everyone, you will be limited to two objects per person for each appraisal session. Of course, you are welcome to register for additional appraisals after completing your first session!

Refreshments will be available, and Renfrew Museum will also be open for tours featuring our latest exhibition, "Exploring Emma's Attic." This promises to be an exciting event, so start exploring your attic now for that hidden treasure, and we will see you on November 4th!



The first of two new postcards now available at Renfrew's Gift Showcase. This card depicts Renfrew Museum in summer. The original photograph was taken by Robert Morrow and is reproduced in postcard form with his permission.

Calendar of Events October through December, 2000

The following is a list of all remaining events for the year 2000. For additional information on the Christmas program, please call the Museum in mid-November. Updates will also be posted on the Museum web site.

October 21st (Saturday), Renfrew's annual **Pumpkin Festival**. This program, co-sponsored by Renfrew Museum and Renfrew Institute, returns after a one year hiatus. See the front page for more information. The pumpkin crop looks good this year, so plan to attend this fall festival!

November 4th (Saturday), 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Renfrew's highly successful **Antique Appraisal Day** returns for the third year. Bring in your antiques and collectibles for a honest evaluation from our friendly and

Renfrew's volunteer appraisal staff speak with antique owners during a past Antique Appraisal Day program at the Museum.



November 9th (Thursday), 7:00 pm. Join us at the Museum for a program on the "**Care and Cleaning of Dolls**," by Certified Doll Doctor, Suzanne Daly of Chambersburg. Ms. Daly specializes in the repair and restoration of antique dolls and their clothing. She will discuss practical things you can do on your own to help preserve your treasured dolls. Attendees are invited to bring their dolls to the seminar for free estimates of repair or restoration work.

November 18th (Saturday). Celebrate the harvest with our annual **Open Hearth Thanksgiving Program**. This half day seminar offers participants a chance to learn about the Thanksgiving traditions of our ancestors while enjoying a delicious meal. Space is limited. Call the Museum for reservations or additional information.

December 2nd and 3rd (Saturday & Sunday). Renfrew's annual **Yuletide celebration**. Join us for natural decorations, refreshments and an array of holiday music.

Programs With Unconfirmed Dates

Renfrew plans to host a **Gingerbread House Making Seminar** sometime in November. This program will co-incide with the **Gingerbread House Contest** held in conjunction with the Yuletide holiday celebration.



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Renfrew Tidbits Stereo Viewer & Cards to be Raffled

Renfrew is pleased to announce a new fundraising project. Beginning with the Pumpkin Festival on October 21st, the Museum will be selling raffle tickets for a unique prize - an antique stereo viewer and set of 11 exclusive stereo view cards of Renfrew!

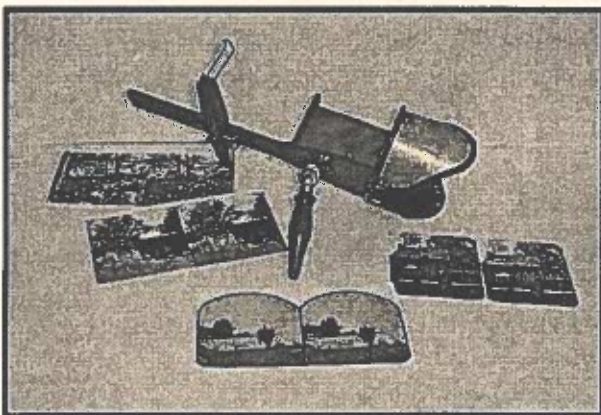
The original stereo views were taken several years ago by Donald Yost, Jr. of Mont Alto. With his permission, board member, Becky Dietrich had them professionally duplicated on cardstock. The result is a set of ten beautiful view cards featuring the museum, Fahnestock Barn, smokehouse, king's truss foot bridge and several images of the Antietam and other natural features.

The cards are marked on their reverse sides with: "Stereo View Set Number 1." Each card also includes a short paragraph of text describing the image. They are printed on heavy weight stock for years of use.

Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00 with all proceeds to benefit the Museum. An advertising poster at the Museum illustrates all the stereo views. The drawing will be held during our Yuletide weekend, December 4th - 5th. For tickets or more information, please call or visit the Museum.

Stereo View Slide -Subjects

Renfrew Museum in Fall * Smokehouse * Lime Kiln
Stone Wall * Arch Bridge * Kings Truss Footbridge
Bridge at Route 16 * Fahnestock Barn * Antietam Creek
Corn Shocks in a Farm Field



Antique Stereo Viewer and limited edition card set to be raffled by Renfrew Museum this holiday season. Tickets are available at Renfrew. They may also be purchased through the mail.

☆ In The Spotlight ☆ Renfrew Gift Show Case continues to grow

The Gift Showcase at Renfrew Museum continues to grow with new objects added monthly. The contents of the case have changed dramatically over the last six months due to the efforts of Becky Dietrich. The two postcard images found in this issue of *der Wetterhahn* represent the latest additions to the case.

With many locally-made craft items, the Renfrew gift showcase is the perfect spot to find a special birthday or holiday present for those on your shopping list! Stop in for a visit today and see what we have to offer.

The second of Renfrew's new postcards is a view of the Visitors Center in winter. The original image was taken by Robert Morrow and is used with his permission.



VOLUNTEER GUIDE UPDATE

The staff and board of directors would like to acknowledge the following people who have contributed time as volunteer interpreters this season at Renfrew Museum:

Bonnie Barlup, Linda Blubaugh, Mildred Elia, Jean Hastings, Carolyn Krouse, Phyllis King, Louise Kyser, Ellie Miller, Clayton & Polly Moyer, Gretchen Potochney, Virginia Rahn, Nancy Savage & Roy Struble

Renfrew's interpreters, and all other Museum volunteers, were offered the opportunity to participate in an appreciation trip to the Pittsburgh area on October 19th to visit the Phipp's Conservatory and the Frick Mansion. This trip is one of the ways Renfrew says thank you to those who generously give of their time.

Although the season is just about over, we are already looking for new volunteers to help us in 2001. If you or someone you know is interested in getting involved with the Museum and Park, please call either Shirley or Jeff at 762-4723. We currently have need of new interpreters as well as individuals to help with our gardens, artifact inventory, Christmas decorating and other special projects. It takes only a few hours each month to become involved.



Fall 2000

Renfrew Tidbits Building Maintenance Notes

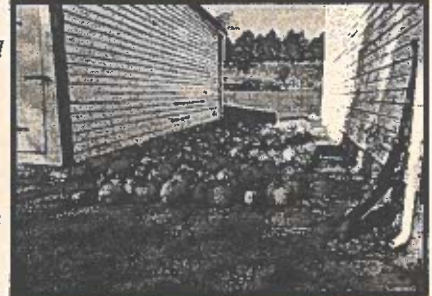
Fall has arrived in grand style and there is much activity to get Renfrew ready for the winter months that will soon follow.

Below, the **Fahnestock Barn** receives a new coat of red oil from **Handy Tone Renovators** of Blue Ridge Summit. The staff of Handy Tone gave the entire barn a brighter look with new stain for the boards and fresh rustoleum on the metal hardware.



Renfrew Tidbits Building Maintenance Notes

Renfrew's pumpkin patch recently yielded almost 300 quality pumpkins for use at the Pumpkin Festival on Oct. 21st. All 300 were picked and hand-washed by John Frantz and George Buckley.



We are also pleased to announce that **Rod Shade** continues to work on the plaster walls and ceilings of the basement area. As reported in the last issue of *der Wetterhahn*, Mr. Shade is donating his time to repair several areas in the basement of Renfrew Museum that have deteriorated due to dampness and water damage.

Steward Chambers of *Millennium Houseworks* has just completed repair work on the west gable end of the Museum. This area which ties into the porch Mr. Chambers rebuilt earlier this year, was in need of new siding and other miscellaneous repairs.

As we celebrate our 25th anniversary, we would like to ask for your help. It is our hope to make 2000 the year that people in the community "Rediscover Renfrew" and all that the Museum and Park have to offer. When you are finished with your newsletter, please pass it along to a family member, neighbor or friend. As a Friend of Renfrew, you are our best ambassador in the community. Thank you in advance for helping us spread the word. Also, why not consider giving the gift of membership in the Friends of Renfrew this holiday season. We will happily send a gift announcement to the recipient of your choice.



Renfrew Museum and Park

1010 East Main Street, Waynesboro PA 17268 (717) 762-4723



FRIENDS OF RENFREW - Application for Annual Membership

Name _____

Address _____

City/Town _____

State and Zip Code _____

Optional Information:

Telephone Number _____

Email Address _____

Membership Categories

Life \$1,000 _____

Bell Society* _____

Curator's Associates* _____

Sustaining \$125 _____

Family \$50 _____

Donor \$25 _____

Individual \$15 _____

Student (ages 6-15) _____

Endowment Fund _____

(Endowment Fund Donations help to build Renfrew's future. They are invested for long-term growth, not incorporated into our operating budget). Bell Society and Curator's Associates are categories with unique benefits and characteristics. Please call for more information.

_____ Please send me
_____ information on
_____ volunteer
_____ opportunities
_____ at Renfrew:



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UPCOMING PROGRAMS

October 21st - Pumpkin Festival (This Saturday!)
November 4th - Antique Appraisal Day
November 9th - Seminar, "Care & Cleaning of Dolls"

November 18th - Open Hearth Thanksgiving
December 2nd & 3rd - Christmas at Renfrew

Museum Wish List

Renfrew is still in need of additional folding chairs for use in the Visitors Center. Well attended events, such as the upcoming Antique Appraisal Day, clearly demonstrate the need for more seating at Renfrew. We are actively searching for individuals or businesses that may have extra folding chairs that they are willing to donate to the Museum and Park. Renfrew Committee, Inc. is a registered 501C(3) non profit organization and any contribution is fully tax deductible as allowed by law.

Anyone interested in contributing should call the Museum. Chair pick-up by Museum staff can be arranged. Thank you!

New Exhibition Now Open - Visit this fall to see "Exploring Emma's Attic: Seldom-Seen Treasures from the Nicodemus Collection." Details on page two inside this issue.



Seven Clyde Roberts original watercolors, including this interpretive view of the Royer Farmstead as it may have looked during the first part of the 19th Century, will be on display as part of "Exploring Emma's Attic," the final exhibition of 2000.

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Renfrew Museum and Park
1010 East Main St. Waynesboro, PA 17268
(717) 762-4723 E-mail: renfrew@innernet.net
Web site: www.innernet.net/renfrew



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