

der

The Weathervane

# Wetterhahn

Celebrating our 25th Anniversary of service in 2000



Volume XI, Issue II

The Newsletter of Renfrew Museum & Park

Spring 2000

## RENFREW TO OPEN 25th ANNIVERSARY YEAR WITH 16TH ANNUAL SPRING FEST PROGRAM and ROBERT MORROW PAINTING EXHIBITION

Spring is here and Renfrew is preparing for its 25th yearly opening. It is our tradition to begin our season with the Spring Fest Program, a weekend-long celebration of 19th-century crafts and trades. Many people are hard at work to insure that this event is truly first-rate. We hope you will pay us a visit on Saturday April 29th or Sunday April 30th to take a step back into the 19th Century.

Renfrew is also delighted to begin the new year with an outstanding exhibition in our changing gallery. We are pleased to offer "Renfrew Park - Paintings by Robert

Morrow," from April 28th through June 29th, 2000. This exhibition will feature approximately 35 original works by the Waynesboro artist, all painted within the last several years. The subject matter covers virtually every building and major site feature at Renfrew. It also includes the artist's interpretation of some of our more dramatic special programs, such as the Civil War Encampment and Steam-Powered Grain Cutting and Threshing.

Mr. Morrow is a native of Waynesboro. He studied at the Art Institute of Pittsburgh and is a graduate of the Famous Artist's School of Illustration. His works have been shown in many exhibits and have taken numerous awards. Mr. Morrow's oil paintings, photographs, and pen-and-ink prints are in public and private collections not only in the United States, but overseas as well.

In addition to Renfrew, his subjects include local landscapes, barns, stone buildings, Civil War re-enactors and the rocky coast of Maine.

We hope you will pay us a visit and view this special collection, painted and brought together by Mr. Morrow to help us commemorate Renfrew's first 25 years.

### IN THIS ISSUE

**Feature** - Renfrew Museum and Park prepares to open for the 2000 season. Our annual Spring Fest Celebration and several new exhibitions are on tap for your enjoyment. Friends of Renfrew are invited to preview *Renfrew Park, Paintings by Robert Morrow* on Friday April 28th from 6-8 pm. **Page 1**

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**Renfrew Tidbits** - Work is completed on Renfrew Museum's "new" front porch; an Eagle Scout Project adds a new bridge along the Service Entrance; the Visitors Center receives many updates; several Renfrew buildings undergo re-pointing work; interpreters are still needed, and the Archaeological Society begins a new project at Renfrew **Pages 4- 6**



*Renfrew's Fahnestock House, circa 1790, by Waynesboro artist, Robert Morrow. This, and many other Renfrew originals, will be on display in the Museum's Changing Gallery.*



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## Calendar of Events - 2000 25th Anniversary Year

The following is a tentative list of events for Renfrew Museum and Park for the year 2000. All dates are correct at the time of printing. Any changes or additions will be noted in the Summer issue of *der Wetterhahn*. Please mark your calendar now and make plans to join us over the course of the year!

**April 22nd** (Saturday), 1:00 pm. Join the Brothers of the Brush as they hold their annual Easter Egg Hunt in Renfrew Park. The event is open to all with no admission charge.

**April 28th** (Friday), 6-8:00 pm. Exhibition Preview for Friends of Renfrew. Join us at the Museum as we preview a special series of works by Waynesboro artist, Robert Morrow. Our changing gallery will be filled with a collection of paintings, most done within the last few years, that cover the architecture and natural beauty of Renfrew Museum and Park. Renfrew is proud to offer this outstanding gallery display as its first exhibition of 2000; what an appropriate way to begin our 25th Anniversary Celebration!

**April 29th & 30th** (Saturday and Sunday). The Museum opens for the season with our annual Spring Fest Weekend. Take a step back in time as Renfrew turns back the clock to the 19th Century. On hand will be dozens of traditional craftspeople demonstrating their techniques and offering their wares. We will also have storytelling, music and mini-lectures on both days. This program includes everything from blacksmiths to sheepshearers! There is no charge for admission to the program. Renfrew Museum will be open for guided tours at our regular rates.

**May 4th** (Thursday), 7:00 pm. *"The Pennsylvania German Farmhouse," a Pennsylvania Humanities Council Program featuring Irwin Richman, Ph.D., Professor of American Studies and History, Penn State University, Harrisburg.* "Why do German houses often have two front doors?" During this presentation, Irwin Richman will answer this and many other puzzling questions about the distinctive PA German farmhouse. In this slide-illustrated presentation, he explores the continental origin of the unique house forms and traces them as they have been adapted over the years. *This is now a confirmed program. Please join us!*

**June 22nd** (Thursday), 7:00 pm. *"The Pennsylvania Germans: 'A Persistent Minority,'" a Pennsylvania Humanities Council Program featuring John B. Frantz, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History, Penn State*

## Calendar of Events -Continued-

*University, University Park.* Arriving in Pennsylvania as early as 1683, PA Germans came in ever-larger numbers throughout the Colonial Period. Often called "Dutch" - probably because immigration officials mistranslated the word "Deutsche," which really meant "German" - this "persistent minority" has preserved its distinctive culture for over three centuries. John Frantz focuses on the background of German and Swiss emigration, the settler's development in PA, and the preservation of PA-German culture. *This is now a confirmed program. We hope you will make plans to join us!*

**June 30th - July 2nd** (Friday - Sunday). The Society for Creative Anachronism returns to Renfrew for the weekend with its Renaissance Fair. Please call for details on this fascinating program that will take you back in time.

**August 11th - 13th** (Friday - Sunday). Civil War Encampment weekend. Join us for the annual Encampment of the 139th Pennsylvania Infantry at Renfrew Museum and Park. A special feature of this year's encampment will be a "barn dance" on Saturday evening with period music and atmosphere. Please call for a schedule of demonstrations and events.

**September 2nd** (Saturday), 9:00 am - 4:00 pm. Cumberland Valley Guild of Craftsmen's Annual Show. Visit Renfrew for this juried show and shop for some of the finest crafts in the county.

**October 21st** (Saturday), Annual Pumpkin Festival. This program, co-sponsored by Renfrew Museum and Renfrew Institute, returns after a one year hiatus. Let's hope for a good pumpkin crop!

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

**November 18th** (Saturday). Renfrew's Annual Open Hearth Thanksgiving. This program 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 program information.

**December 2nd - 3rd** (Saturday & Sunday) Renfrew's annual Yuletide Christmas Program. Details to follow in subsequent newsletters.



Calendar of Events  
- continued -

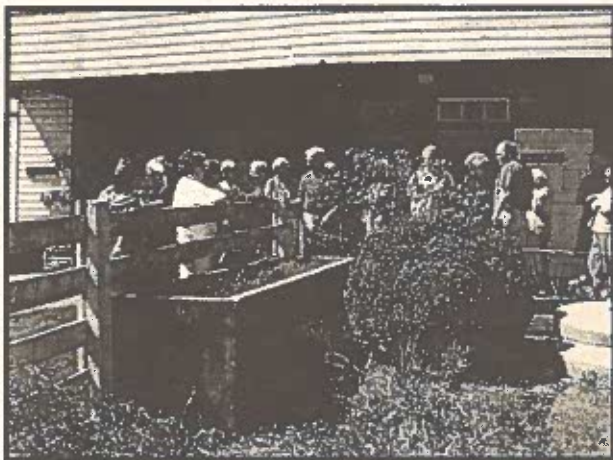
Renfrew will also be hosting a *Gingerbread House Making Seminar* sometime in November. This program will coincide with the Gingerbread House Contest held in conjunction with the Yuletide Christmas celebration.

Renfrew Holds Its Second Annual  
**SPRING GARDENING SYMPOSIUM**

Renfrew Museum and Park held its second Spring Gardening Symposium on Saturday, April 1st. The program offered a full schedule of lecture/seminars as well as an outdoor area for demonstrations and displays.

Many thanks to **Maggie Cisar** and **Judy Bricker** who served as volunteer Chair and Assistant Chair-persons for this program. Maggie, Judy and Renfrew Staff member, Shirley Baker, deserve much credit for assembling the program for this year's event. Without their efforts, Renfrew would not have this outstanding event.

It must also be noted that Maggie and Judy originally came to Renfrew two seasons ago to assist us in revitalizing our herb garden. They have contributed many hours to Renfrew over the last two years, transforming this once neglected area into a beautiful spot we are proud to show off to our visitors. Thanks again, Maggie and Judy, for the significant contributions you make to Renfrew.



Master Gardener, Elmer Greey, of Shippensburg demonstrates proper pruning techniques in front of the Visitors Center. Mr. Greey was one of several specialists who spoke at the second annual offering of Renfrew's Spring Gardening Symposium.

☆ In The Spotlight ☆  
Spring Gardening & Clean-up Day

On Saturday, March 25th, Renfrew conducted its annual *Park Clean-Up Day*. Our long streak of good weather for this event continued as the rain held-off long enough to get in a full day's worth of work.

A great deal of work was accomplished in the parking lot, picnic area, museum grounds and Fahnestock complex. The staff and boards of directors of Renfrew Museum and Park are grateful for the assistance given by the following individuals. We also apologize in advance for any names we may have accidentally omitted.

**Tiger Cub Den 19** (Scouts & Family Members)

Branton Starliper	Tony Starliper	Kellee Schade
Kyla Schade	Ashlee Schade	Daniel Schade
Cathy Mentzer	Tom Mentzer	Benjamin Bender
Gene Bender	Stanley Grube	Andrew Gembe
Dwayne Gembe	Brad Freeman	Harold Smith
Frank Larson	George Buckley	John Keller
Kim Bricker	Tom Moore	Bill Amos
Don Bollinger	George Crouch	Doug Stine
Dorothy Bollinger	Roy Leckron	Roy Stoner
Edgar Hykes	Harold Smith	Jim Hale
Alice McCleaf	Judy Bricker	Willard Rahn
Danny Blount	John Frantz	Jean Frantz
Louise Frantz	Harrison Frantz	David Hykes
Diane Hykes	Amanda Hykes	Chelsie Horton
Emily Bliemeister	Max Bliemeister	Doris Goldman
Jeff Bliemeister	Melodie Anderson Smith	

*Thanks also to:*

Ken Pryor - Waynesboro Tree Service - for use of his Front End Loader.

Jeff Smith - for use of his Backhoe

Wayne Distributors - for providing soda and ice for our volunteers.

Martins Grocery Store, Waynesboro - for supplying soda for our volunteers

**IN MEMORIAM**

It is with sadness that Renfrew Museum and Park acknowledges the passing of **George Payette**.

George and his wife Betsy were long-standing supporters of Renfrew. The Payettes, working with Marilyn McCarney, researched and wrote, *Renfrew: A History* in 1993. This comprehensive manual chronicles the first 20 years of Renfrew's history and includes numerous interviews and photographs.

Our thanks to all who have made memorial contributions to the Museum and Park in his name.



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## Friends of Renfrew *and* Volunteer Guides - *update*

In the Winter issue of *der Wetterhahn*, we ran a list of all of the current friends of Renfrew Museum and Park. Or, I should say, we thought we had listed all of our current Friends! Due to a computer error, we missed about one dozen of our members, including everyone whose last name begins with the letter "Z." We also failed to list our Museum Interpreters. These volunteers provide a vital service to Renfrew by bringing the site to life for our visitors.

The following list is a supplement to our first effort. In addition to those we mistakenly omitted, we have also included the names of those who have recently joined us as new Friends of Renfrew Museum and Park.

Thank you very much for your support, patience and understanding.

### *Friends of Renfrew Museum and Park*

Ruth Durbin, Fayetteville  
 Mrs. John C. Grundy, Waynesboro  
 Katherine Whetstone, Waynesboro  
 James & Kathleen White, Fayetteville  
 Landis Brent Whitsel  
 Mr. & Mrs. Charles Willhide, Waynesboro  
 Sarah J. Wingert, Waynesboro  
 Elizabeth S. Wolff, Waynesboro  
 Mr. & Mrs. Donald W. Yost, Jr.  
 Ruth D. Ziegler, Lewisburg  
 Sarah K. Zimmerman, Waynesboro

### *Current Renfrew Interpreters*

Linda Blubaugh, Waynesboro  
 Mildred Elia, Hagerstown  
 Jean Hastings, Waynesboro  
 Phyllis King, Waynesboro  
 Carolyn Krouse, Waynesboro  
 Louise Kyser, Waynesboro  
 Eleanor Miller, Waynesboro  
 Clayton & Polly Moyer, Waynesboro  
 Martina Pfeuffer, Waynesboro  
 Gretchen Potochney, Waynesboro  
 Virginia Rahn, Waynesboro  
 Patti Ridenour, Waynesboro  
 Nancy Savage, Waynesboro  
 Roy Struble, Waynesboro

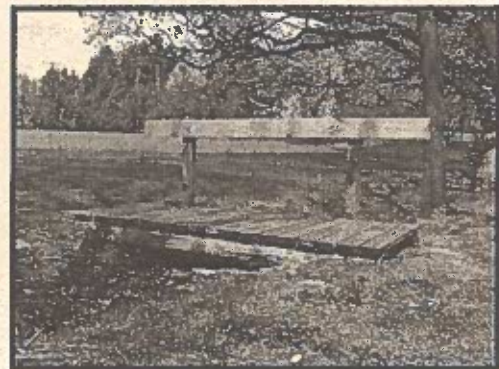
*We could use your help with the 2000 season. If you are interested in joining us as a volunteer interpreter, please call the Museum at 762-4723. All you need is enthusiasm; we'll provide the training!*

## Renfrew Tidbits Construction/Restoration

We have had a busy spring season at Renfrew. Guests will be pleased to see many improvements throughout the park.

As you enter Renfrew through the Service Drive off Route 16, you will notice a new bridge to your right. This structure was built by Chris Elkins of Waynesboro

*Foot bridge at Renfrew's Service Entrance - built by Chris Elkins as an Eagle Scout Project.*



as his Eagle Scout Project. Chris is a member of Otterbein Scout Troop 88 in Waynesboro.

This bridge is a functional and very attractive addition to Renfrew.

We wish to thank Chris for choosing Renfrew as the site for his project, and congratulate him on receiving his Eagle Scout Award.

We are also happy to report that the work on Renfrew's front porch is nearly complete. This project, which began just before Christmas, was done by partners, **Steward Chambers** of *Millennium Houseworks* and **Tony Gipe** of *Treasured Centuries*.

The porch project started out as a minor restoration job, but as work progressed, more and more damage was uncovered. Now, Renfrew has a period porch that has been repaired using both restored original materials and hand-crafted and appropriate replacement parts. The final primer and paint is currently being applied by **Bill Kohler**. Thanks to everyone who has contributed to the success of this important project.



*Bill Kohler primes a repaired porch rail at Renfrew Museum. Prior to this job, Bill painted the interior of the Visitors Center and both Rest Rooms.*



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## Renfrew Tidbits Construction/Renovation Continued

In addition to our new bridge and renovated porch, Renfrew has also undergone significant repointing on several of its stone structures. In addition, the Visitors Center received a carpet cleaning, a new coat of paint, and a reorganization of its Bell Pottery exhibitions.



*Richard Ressler repairs the pointing on the North side of Renfrew's Smoke House. Mr. Ressler spent over a week at Renfrew, repairing exterior areas of the Smoke House, Museum and Visitors Center Barn. He also tackled two of the fireplaces inside the Museum. This is one of the many maintenance projects that have taken place at Renfrew this spring.*

Thank you to Bill Kohler, Red Mohn and John Frantz for their assistance with this work.

## Renfrew Tidbits Archaeological Society Update


The Cumberland Valley Archaeological Society, an organization that holds its monthly meetings at Renfrew (and has been featured in a past issue of *der Wetterhahn*) is currently conducting a dig at the Park.

After conducting several unsuccessful exploratory digs to find the site of an original log cabin structure at Renfrew, the organization has begun excavation of the site's original chicken or turkey house.

This structure is located near the Fahnestock House. The most recent building on the site featured a concrete floor; however, Society President Douglas Stine reports that the dig has turned up some wrought iron nails and other small signs that might indicate an earlier building. More information will follow as the group makes progress on the excavation.


The Society is conducting this dig to demonstrate archaeology as part of our ongoing 25th Anniversary program. Anyone interested in participating in the dig or joining the organization is asked to contact either Doug (762-8629) or the Museum (762-4723) for additional information.

As we begin our 25th anniversary celebration, 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.



### 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 _____  <i>Optional Information:</i> Telephone Number _____ Email Address _____	<p><i>Membership Categories</i></p> 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.
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Please send me information on volunteer opportunities at Renfrew: \_\_\_\_\_



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“Renfrew Tidbits” - Help Wanted!

Renfrew Museum is still looking for a few good men and women to serve as volunteers. You may have noticed an excellent Guest Editorial from Renfrew Board member, Rebecca Dietrich, that appeared in a recent issue of the *Record Herald*. In her editorial, Becky touched on many of the key reasons we need volunteers at Renfrew. With a paid staff of three, Renfrew relies on its volunteers to accomplish a wide range of tasks, many of which take place behind the scenes. If you have a special skill or interest, we can probably put you to work at Renfrew! Right now we are looking for individuals to assist us with our gardening projects and collections inventory. We also have an immediate need for additional volunteer interpreters (tour guides). A few hours per month is all we ask; please give us a call today!

Exhibition Wish List

Renfrew’s second exhibition of the season will feature dolls and doll houses. If you have any dolls or houses that you might consider lending for this temporary exhibition, please let us know. The display will run from July to August 2000. All items will be protected and fully insured while on display in Renfrew’s Changing Exhibition Gallery. All lenders will also receive a public acknowledgment of their loan (if desired) and our sincere thanks! Please give us a call if you have items you would like to share with the public. Thank you.

We are also still looking for any photographs, mementos and personal stories that you might have related to Renfrew to help commemorate our 25th Anniversary celebration.



The cupolas of Renfrew’s PA-German Bank Barn as seen in a new painting by Robert Morrow.

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



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You are invited to attend~  
**A Lecture Series on  
Pennsylvania German Culture**

\*\*\*

Thursday, April 6, 2000 at 7:00 PM  
Thursday, May 4, 2000 at 7:00 PM  
Thursday, June 22, 2000 at 7:00 PM

**In the Visitors Center  
at Renfrew Museum & Park**

**Co-sponsored by Renfrew Museum and Renfrew Institute**

**I. Commonwealth Speaker Richard MacMaster**

Independent Historian, Researcher, & Writer, Elizabethtown

**THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION AND THE PLAIN PEOPLE**

Thursday, April 6, 2000 at 7:00 PM \* Visitors Center, Renfrew Museum & Park

During the American Revolution, patriots wanted every adult male to stand up in defense of American liberty and were prepared to brand any who refused military service a "traitor." Many who sought religious freedom in Pennsylvania—including the Amish, Mennonites, and Quakers—had ethical objections to bearing arms, and offered alternative ways of serving the cause. Dr. MacMaster examines how the experience of these people helped reshape the Pennsylvania tradition of religious freedom that was eventually accepted across the United States. Using primary sources, Dr. MacMaster allows the people of that time to tell their own stories.

**II. Commonwealth Speaker Irwin Richman**

Professor of American Studies & History, Penn State University—Harrisburg College

**THE PENNSYLVANIA GERMAN FARMHOUSE**

Thursday, May 4, 2000 at 7:00 PM \* Visitors Center, Renfrew Museum & Park

"Why do German houses often have two front doors?" During this presentation, Irwin Richman will answer this and many other puzzling questions about the distinctive Pennsylvania German farmhouse. In this slide-illustrated presentation, he explores the continental origins of the unique house forms and traces them as they have been adapted over the years. Dr. Richman will reveal how the Pennsylvania Germans influenced one of America's greatest political myths.

**III. Commonwealth Speaker John Frantz**

Associate Professor of American History at Penn State University, State College

**THE PENNSYLVANIA GERMANS: 'A PERSISTENT MINORITY'**

Thursday, June 22, 2000 at 7:00 PM \* Visitors Center, Renfrew Museum & Park

Arriving in Pennsylvania as early as 1683, Pennsylvania Germans came in ever-larger numbers throughout the Colonial Period. Often called "Dutch"—probably because immigration officials mistranslated the word "Deutsch," which really meant "German"—this "persistent minority" has preserved its distinctive culture for over three centuries. Dr. Frantz focuses on the background of German and Swiss emigration, the settlers' development in Pennsylvania, and the preservation of Pennsylvania German culture. The presentation emphasizes the reasons for German and Swiss emigration to Pennsylvania and looks at their economic, political, religious, and artistic development.

**\* THESE PRESENTATIONS ARE FREE-OF-CHARGE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. \***

The presentations of Dr. Irwin Richman and Dr. John Frantz are programs of the Pennsylvania Humanities Council (PHC), supported in part by a grant from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.

The presentation of Dr. Richard MacMaster is a program of the Pennsylvania Humanities Council (PHC), supported in part by a grant from Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania.

Sponsored by:  
**PHC** Pennsylvania  
Humanities  
Council  
The state affiliate of the National  
Endowment for the Humanities

**For More Information,  
call 717-762-4723 or 717-762-0373**

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