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Wetterhahn



Volume XII, Issue III

The Newsletter of Renfrew Museum & Park

Summer 2001

NEW BELL SOCIETY OFFERING UNVEILED

Reproduction "Turks Head" Cake Mold to Serve as Membership Incentive

Renfrew Museum and Park is proud to announce the second offering of its Bell Society membership program. This special level of membership, begun in 1999, is a limited program that is offered every other year. The Bell Society is a two year membership in the Friends of Renfrew Museum and Park that includes a special, limited-edition reproduction of a rare or unique piece of Bell pottery. For our 2001 offering, the membership is limited to 100 and the cost is \$250.

We are happy to report that Renfrew is working with a local potter to reproduce a small, seldom seen, John Bell

"Turks Head" Cake Mold that will be available in October of this year. Lynette King of the Gettysburg area has been commissioned to produce our limited-edition membership incentive piece.

Ms. King has over 25 years experience in ceramics, working as a studio potter and instructor. She received her bachelor's degree in fine arts from Dickinson College in Carlisle. Lynette has exhibited both locally and in traveling shows, winning awards for her work. She has also completed several special projects and artist in residency programs. Friends of Renfrew may recognize her as the artist responsible for the wonderful Bell reproductions done by the Nicodemus Center for Ceramic Studies. We are impressed with the quality of Lynette's work and delighted that she has agreed to assist us with this project.

To join the Bell Society, simply complete the form on page 5 and mail it to the Museum with your contribution. You may also call the office to reserve your membership space. All pieces will be consecutively numbered with current Society members having the option to continue with their existing number. Current Friends may deduct their 2001 contribution amount should they wish to join.

Bell Society membership is good for two years and includes all basic membership benefits plus the limited-edition reproduction. You will also be invited to a special dinner where you will meet the potter and receive your commemorative piece.

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Lynette King's workshop, Summer 2001. A row of completed molds shows the potter's progress in reproducing the 19th century John Bell "Turks Head" cake mold.





Summer 2001

Calendar of Events

- John Horner To Speak on Aug. 9th -

Renfrew is pleased to announce that Mr. **John Horner** of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania will present a program at Renfrew Museum entitled, "**Hell Holes of Dixie and Prison Pens of the North**," on **Thursday, August 9th at 7:00 pm**. The talk is an in-depth description of three Southern and three Northern prison camps showing how each started out with the best of intentions but eventually deteriorated into enclosures of disease, exposure, starvation and death.

Mr. Horner is a piano technician, author, historian and owner of Horner Enterprises of Gettysburg. He has deep roots in this area; his ancestors settled in Adams County about 1760 and he now lives in the homestead house built by his great-great grandfather in 1819 on land that was purchased in 1802. Mr. Horner had a number of ancestors who distinguished themselves in the American Civil War, namely Major Oliver Alexander Horner, Captain John Horner, and his son, John Ross Horner (who was killed at the Battle of Second Bull Run), Lieutenant William Horner and Private Ephraim Herr.

Some Friends of Renfrew may remember Mr. Horner's prior visit when he gave a presentation entitled, "Readings from 'Jimmy at Gettysburg'." Horner also has a wide repertoire of first person, uniformed presentations that include titles such as: "The Saga of Captain Sachs," "Sergeant Bigham's Romp in the Park" and "The Death of John Wilke's Booth."

We hope you will mark your calendar and join us in the Visitor's Center at 7:00 pm on August 9th. This should prove to be an excellent program and a great way to kick off our annual Civil War Encampment on the 10th-12th.

Civil War Encampment

August 11th - 12th

It is almost time for the Park to come to life with the sights and sounds of the Civil War! On the weekend of August 10th-12th, the 139th Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers invites you to attend their annual encampment at Renfrew Park. This year's program is being billed as "The Battle of Elk Horn Tavern."

The public is invited to visit all day on Saturday and Sunday. The Confederates will be camped in the front field, and the Union forces will have the woods. Food vendors and sutlers (merchandise & provisions suppliers) will be on hand. Public events are offered on both Saturday and Sunday. Please call the Museum at 762-4723 for a complete schedule.

Calendar of Events

- PA-German Culture Series, Etc. -

Last year, Renfrew Museum and Institute combined efforts to produce a very successful speaker's series on Pennsylvania-German Culture. The programs were sponsored by the Pennsylvania Humanities Council. We are happy to report that the series will return with three different topics for 2001! All three will take place at 7:00 pm in the Visitor's Center. These programs are free of charge and everyone is welcome.

PA -Humanities Speakers Series

August 23rd: *John B. Frantz, Ph.D., "Benjamin Franklin & the Pennsylvania Germans."* Initially, Franklin was impressed with the PA-Germans and their society. He then castigated them for not providing defense against the French. This talk covers the history of the sometimes volatile relationship between Franklin and the Pennsylvania Germans.

September 20th: *Karen Z. Huetter, "Moravian Culture on the Colonial Frontier."* In this slide illustrated presentation on the Protestant group from Germany that settled in Bethlehem in 1741, Ms. Huetter examines the unique economic and social systems of the Moravians that fostered fine examples of pre-industrial revolution industry, art, education and music.

October 18th: *David Valuska, Ph.D., "The Pennsylvania Dutch: 17th Century to Today."* Dr. Valuska will discuss the immigration years from 1683 to 1808, tracing the patterns of groups coming from Germany, France, Switzerland and Austria. He will also examine the theological differences among the various German religious sects.

ETC.

September 1st (Saturday): Annual Cumberland Valley Guild of Craftsman show in the Park. The show runs from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, but come early for the best selection!

October 20th (Saturday): Annual Pumpkin Festival. Family fun for everyone; co-sponsored by Renfrew Museum and Renfrew Institute.

November 3rd (Saturday): Antique Appraisal Day. Join us from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm to find out what your treasures are worth!

December 2nd (Sunday): Christmas Open House. Join us from 1:00 pm to 8:00 pm for natural decorations, music and refreshments. All are welcome. No admission charged.



Summer 2001

☆ In The Spotlight - Volunteers ☆
Phyllis Crosson

Renfrew is pleased to welcome Phyllis Crosson as the Park's newest volunteer. Phyllis began working at Renfrew about six months ago and, has since devoted countless hours weeding, pruning, and watering the grounds of the Park. Even during this period of extremely hot weather, she is often the first one to arrive each morning, working until the heat becomes oppressive, then taking an afternoon break and returning for more in the evening!

Phyllis is a native of Waynesboro and has lived here most of her life. Her maiden name is Blubaugh and her family roots in this area go back many generations. Her father, Merle Blubaugh, worked at Landis Machine Company for 47 years and she still has many relatives in Waynesboro and the surrounding towns.

Ms. Crosson is a former employee of Fort Ritchie who retired during one of their early buy-outs. She spent 33 years as a medical transcriptionist. She currently works part-time in Gaithersburg and also volunteers at the Circle of Hope Therapeutic Riding Clinic in Barnsville, Maryland.

Her love of old houses was one of the main reasons she initially began working at Renfrew. She told us that the Museum house is about the same age as her former residence. She also appreciates that Renfrew exists as a beautiful public retreat, preserved in the middle of much development.

When not at Renfrew or her other work and volunteer responsibilities, Phyllis enjoys spending time with her six children and eleven grandchildren. She also likes walking the trails at Renfrew. Thank you, Phyllis, for helping maintain the natural beauty of Renfrew. Your enthusiasm and dedication are much appreciated!



Phyllis Crosson takes a break from her work, long enough for the Museum Curator to snap this quick photograph. Phyllis has contributed countless hours to the beautification of the courtyard and other areas near the Museum House and Visitors Center.

☆ In The Spotlight - Summer Intern ☆
Eric Denslow

During the Summer of 2001, Renfrew hosted an intern from Shippensburg University. We were happy to have Eric Denslow on board from the middle of May through the end of July. Eric is a senior history major, set to graduate in December of this year. He is from Southern New Jersey, but has called Central Pennsylvania home since beginning at Shippensburg as a freshman four years ago.

Eric Denslow at work in the Renfrew office. Eric completed several computer based projects during the course of his summer internship.



During his time at Renfrew, Eric assisted the staff and volunteers with the ongoing computer inventory of the collections. He leaves Renfrew with several new-found skills including digital photography and the ability to edit graphic images in the computer.

Eric also completed several research projects involving Renfrew's board minute books, compiling reports on our donor history and board composition over the last 25 years. As a final project, he prepared an interpretive booklet for the second floor of the Museum. This booklet features photographs and text that illustrate and explain the rooms and artifacts of our upper level, bringing this area to life for our visitors who are unable to negotiate the stairs.

Eric wishes to pursue a career in either museums, public history or archives work. Right now he is beginning to look for post-graduation employment while also investigating the possibility of attending graduate school.

All of us at Renfrew wish Eric the best with his career. We enjoyed having him as part of our staff and appreciate his contributions to the site!





Summer 2001

New Program The "Monster Maze" is Coming!

If you are a regular visitor to the annual Pumpkin Festival, you know that Renfrew has created several interesting and challenging mazes as part of the event. This year, we are excited to offer a much larger maze, both on its own and as part of the Festival.

We are calling the attraction, The "Renfrew Monster Maze." What is a "Monster Maze?" In the words of its chief designer and organizer, Dr. Garrett Blanchet, "it is a classic Alice in Wonderland type geometric corn maze, covering approximately the same area the maze at Shippensbrug did in past years; it includes at least a mile and a half of trails cut through corn stalks. Locally designed by twisted minds, it is entirely original."

The maze covers four acres of corn field at Renfrew, near the Fahnestock Barn. It was planted on April 28th and has been in preparation through the spring and early summer with the aid of many local businesses, scout troops, Vision Quest and church youth groups.

Renfrew's "Monster Maze" is designed to be fun for the whole family. It includes a kiddie maze for children 3 to 7, a central tower to help people stay oriented, and receive help if lost, 8 emergency exits. Visitors should not expect an easy path as a real challenge awaits!

We will start spreading the word on the maze during the month of August. Look for maze clues and "puzzle pieces" in the paper and at local businesses to help you find your way. Please call the Renfrew office later in the month for more details on this program, including prices and hours of operation.



Dr. Garrett Blanchet (in chainmail!) poses by the corn maze from last year's Pumpkin Festival. Garrett's hard work organizing and constructing last year's maze got his imagination working over time on what we might be able to accomplish in 2001. Look for a multi-acre maze as part of this year's Festival and on its own as the "Renfrew Monster Maze" Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays during the month of September!

Grant Updates PCC & Museum Assessment

The Spring issue of *der Wetterhahn* announced the good news that Renfrew was awarded a grant from the Pennsylvania Conservation Corps to host a work crew for one year. The Crew will work on the restoration of the Fahnestock House, repairs to the Museum, streambank stabilization and other projects as outlined on our grant application. PCC projects run from July 1st to June 30th of each year.

We were excited to begin our project on July 1st. The PCC had hired a crew leader and brought him to Harrisburg for training. The crew leader was set to begin at Renfrew during the first week of July with the recruitment of his work crew as his first task. Unfortunately, our crew leader resigned and moved on to another job before actually beginning work at Renfrew. Right now, we are at the beginning of August with no crew leader and no crew on site at Renfrew.

We have kept in contact with the PCC and they are currently working to hire another crew leader. We anticipate having the project up and running within the next month. Just last week the *Record Herald* ran a nice update on the project which has yielded several potential crew leaders and a half dozen possible crew members.

If Friends of Renfrew know of any individuals who might be interested in serving as our crew leader, please have them get in touch with us right away. Crew leaders should have some experience in construction and/or restoration work and an interest in working with young people on a daily basis. This is a paid position and requires a one year commitment. Application materials may be obtained through the Franklin County Career Links office in Chambersburg. Jeff Bliemeister, Museum Curator and John Frantz, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds, can also provide general information on the PCC and outline the specific duties of the project. Jeff and John may be reached at 717-762-4723.

MAP 1 GRANT AWARD

Renfrew Museum and Park was recently awarded a Museum Assessment Program (MAP 1) Grant to take place in late 2001 or early 2002. MAP is a special project administered by the American Association of Museums and funded by the federally operated Institute of Museum and Library Services. The award pays to bring an independent consultant to Renfrew to conduct an institutional review. The consultant's report will be used to aid with our long range planning. More information on this project will follow in our fall issue.



Renfrew Tidbits
Web Site Update/New Staff Member

It is now easier than ever to find Renfrew on the world wide web! If you are a surfer of the net, you may know that the Museum and Park has had an internet presence since 1999. We now have a simplified address: www.renfrewmuseum.com.

The new address is our official registered domain name. For those of you who have previously visited our site at www.innernet.net/renfrew and bookmarked the page, there is no need to make any changes. Our home page can be accessed through either address.

- RONALD HARBAUGH JOINS RENFREW STAFF -

The staff and boards of directors at Renfrew are delighted to announce that Ronald Harbaugh of Waynesboro has joined the staff as our new Assistant Grounds Keeper. Ronald has been with us since June and is doing a great job assisting John Frantz with our groundskeeping and general maintenance.

Mr. Harbaugh and his wife live in Waynesboro. Ronald spent 33 years at AMP, Inc. before his retirement. His new part-time job at Renfrew is a good match for everyone involved. He enjoys the beauty of the place and likes working outside and on restoration projects; we appreciate his hard work and good spirit!

When he's not at Renfrew, Ron enjoys pitching horseshoes and entering throwing tournaments. He recently returned from the Moose International Tournament in West Palm Beach, Florida.


Renfrew Tidbits
Renfrew's Wish List - Back Again!

As part of our long range planning, the staff and boards of Renfrew have compiled a master list of repairs that need to be done on the buildings and items we need to better do our job. We first ran this list in the Spring issue of *der Wetterhahn*. While we have had some response, there are still many items that we need. So, here we are again with our wish list.


Renfrew's needs come in all shapes and sizes. Some items must be purchased new, while others need to be old. We also need manpower! Please review the list below. All contributions to Renfrew are tax-deductible as allowed by law. Thanks for your help!

- *Chain Saw, 18 inch (new or used)
- *Bubble Glass for Museum Window Panes
- *Fiberglass Step Ladder, 4 to 5 foot (new or used)
- *Upright Vacuum Cleaner (new or used)
- *Metal Folding Chairs
- *Matching Antique Style Lights for Museum Porches
- *Wooden Shutters for the Fahnstock House and Museum (sponsorship to have them reproduced)
- *Volunteer Tour Guides
- *PCC Work Crew Leader (paid position - see update on page 4) - please call the Museum at 762-4723 and ask to speak with either Jeff Bliemeister, Curator, or John Frantz, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds, for additional information on the two job listed above.

If you can help us with any of these items, please contact the Museum at your convenience. We will gladly make pick-ups or delivery arrangements when required. Thank you for your support!



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 _____ Telephone Number _____ Email Address _____	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Optional Information:</i></p> <p><i>Membership Categories</i></p> Life \$1,000 _____ Bell Society \$250* _____ Curator's Associates* _____ Sustaining \$125 _____ Family \$50 _____ Donor \$25 _____ Individual \$15 _____ Student (ages 6-15) \$5 _____ 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: _____



Summer 2001

PAVILION RESERVATIONS

Renfrew is still taking pavilion reservations for the 2001 season. Our pavilion is the perfect place to hold a family reunion, church event, wedding reception or community program. Individuals and organizations are encouraged to call now while summer space is still available.

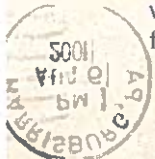
Also, we can take reservations up to one year in advance. If you know your date for Spring or early Summer 2002, now is the time to book your space!

EXHIBITION UPDATE

Our current exhibition, "From Grandma's Kitchen to the Collector's Cabinet: Graniteware," is receiving great reviews from visitors. If you have not seen the display, you now have to the end of September to make your visit, as the exhibition has been extended an extra month. Beginning in October, we will fill the changing gallery with antique tools and hardware on temporary loan from a private collection.



Reproduction John Bell "Turks Head" mold, produced by Lynette King from the 19th century original, borrowed from a private collection. This mold will serve as the incentive piece for our second offering of the Bell Society level of membership in the Friends of Renfrew Museum and Park. For more information on this special 100-year program, please see the cover page.



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