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The Weathervane

# Wetterhahn



Volume XIII, Issue II

The Newsletter of Renfrew Museum & Park

Spring 2002

## RENFREW PREPARES TO OPEN FOR 2002

### *Essential To The Trade: Hand Tools Of The 19th Century Set As The Museum's First Exhibition Of The Year*

Renfrew will officially open its doors for the 2002 season on Saturday, April 27th. Our first exhibition of the year is entitled, *Essential to the Trade: Hand Tools of the 19th Century*. This fascinating display of early American and imported tools comes to Renfrew courtesy of a private collector. The exhibition is scheduled to run from April 27th to July 28th in Renfrew's Changing Gallery.

In preparation for our reopening, Renfrew staff has updated many of the Museum's exhibition areas, adding artifacts that were donated over the fall and winter months. We think new visitors will enjoy the Museum and returning Friends will find the updates rewarding.

#### \* EXHIBITION PREVIEW \*

Friends of Renfrew are invited to attend a special exhibition preview on **Friday, April 26th** from 5:30 to 7:30 pm.

This is a perfect chance to see the exhibition before it opens to the public. Museum staff and the collection's owner will be on hand to answer questions about the exhibition.

Refreshments will be served and you may come anytime between 5:30 and 7:30. All Friends of Renfrew are welcome, and members are encouraged to bring a friend or neighbor. There is no need to RSVP.

#### - IN THIS ISSUE -

**Feature** - Renfrew reopens for 2002 on Saturday April 27 with an exhibition of tools - **Page 1**

**PA Conservation Corps Update** - Meet another member of our PCC crew and learn about the work they are doing at Renfrew - **Page 2**

**In The Spotlight** - Clean-up Day 2002 a success, Renfrew staff member celebrates a milestone birthday and a list of thank-yous - **Page 3**

**New Donations** - Renfrew adds four more artifacts to its permanent collection - **Page 4**

**Renfrew's Wishlist** - We are looking for a variety of items and we need new vols.! - **Page 4**

**New Projects** - The Museum porch receives new period style lights - **Page 5**

**Membership Application** - Use it for your renewal or pass it on to a friend - **Page 5**

**Schedule of Events** - A list of upcoming programs at Renfrew - **Page 6**



*One of our many spring thank-yous goes to Stanton's Flooring of Waynesboro for their generous contribution of the carpet runner seen above. This donated item replaced an old and well worn section of carpeting that had been in place for more years than anyone could remember! Many thanks to Stanton's for improving the looks of the first area visitors see upon entering the Museum.*



Spring 2002

PA Conservation Corps  
- Update -

After getting a late start, our PCC crew is working hard to complete many of the projects proposed in our original grant application. With the up and down changes in the weather, crew leader, Paul Snyder, has kept his workers busy with a wide variety of indoor and outdoor tasks. Paul has also recruited another crew member since the publication of our winter issue.

The newest addition to our PCC crew is **Alan Meyers** of Chambersburg. Alan joined us on February 11th. He found out about our project from a friend who serves as a member of the PCC crew working at Tayamentasachta in Greencastle. A graduate of Highland View Academy in Chambersburg, Mr. Meyers hopes to continue his education this coming September. Right now his plans are to either attend broadcasting school in Baltimore or study human development at Penn State, Mont Alto.

Alan is currently working 40 hours per week at Renfrew. He hopes to complete 900 hours of work to qualify for the federal government's Americorp Award, which will help with his college tuition. To date, he has worked to rebuild the back porch on the Fahnestock House and helped with the fencing projects at both the Fahnestock House and Visitor's Center Courtyard. While at Renfrew, Alan hopes to acquire some basic carpentry skills. With the wide variety of tasks on our project list, he should acquire a great deal of hands-on knowledge.

When he's not at Renfrew, Alan enjoys skiing, mountain biking, playing basketball and shooting pool. Thanks for joining us at Renfrew, Alan. We're glad to have you as part of the crew!



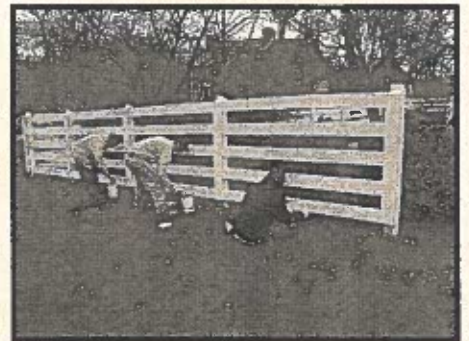
Alan Meyers of Chambersburg is the newest member of our Pennsylvania Conservation Corps work crew. He has been on the job at Renfrew since February.

PA Conservation Corps  
- Update -

The PCC is having a busy spring at Renfrew Museum and Park. Paul Snyder and his crew are currently involved in several projects at the Fahnestock House, Visitor's Center Courtyard and other areas throughout the park.

Below are a selection of photographs showing the crew at work over the last few months. We are glad to have the PCC here at Renfrew and look forward to telling you about their ongoing accomplishments.

*(Right) Renfrew's PCC crew paints the new fence they recently installed at the Visitor's Center courtyard. The replacement fence really improves the looks of this area, and it offers an addi-*



*tional convenience with a second entrance on the north side.*

*(Right) Crew members at work on the porch at the Fahnestock House. The porch is currently being rebuilt by the PCC. To date, they have re-sized the deck to fit the dimensions of the house, stabilized the supports and installed and painted new floor boards. Custom-turned wooden posts for the two levels are on order to finish the project.*



*(Right) Working with the Renfrew staff and members of the Fahnestock Committee, the PCC has undertaken the reconstruction of the stable area in the Fahnestock Barn. This area was not finished as*



*part of the barn's initial restoration in the 1980s. The completion of this area will open up new opportunities for site interpretation.*



Spring 2002

☆ In The Spotlight ☆  
Clean-up Day 2002

Renfrew's annual spring Clean-up Day was held on Saturday, March 23rd. Traditionally, Renfrew has had excellent weather for this event and a good turn-out from the community. This year, we had plenty of sunshine, but a strong, cold wind, discouraged attendance and made it challenging for those who gave up a Saturday for Renfrew.

We are happy to report that, despite the weather and low attendance, we were able to accomplish a great deal and the park is in good shape for our guests.



"Volunteer power" moves the flatbed wagon through the pine forest. Downed tree limbs and debris were removed from this area on Saturday morning by a dedicated crew of about a half dozen volunteers.

Thank You To The Following People!

Clean-up Day Workers

- |                           |                 |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Marty Amrhein             | Harrison Frantz |
| Don Biesecker             | Tracy Holliday  |
| Jeff Bliemeister          | Sherry Hesse    |
| George Buckey             | David Hykes     |
| Bruce Francis             | David Koons     |
| John Frantz               | Jim Oliver      |
| Jean Frantz               | Willard Rahn    |
| Louise Frantz             | Tammy Wetzel    |
| Jr. Girl Scout Troop 1005 |                 |

Contributors

- Waynesboro Tree Service - use of their skidloader
- Wayne Distributors, Waynesboro - donation of soda
- Martin's Food Store, Waynesboro - donation of soda



A second group of volunteers worked in the picnic area. At left, John Frantz, David Hykes and Don Biesecker demonstrate their raking techniques

Renfrew's Thank You List  
Staff Birthday Celebrated!

We are pleased to acknowledge the following businesses and individuals who have contributed goods or services to Renfrew Museum this spring. Many thanks for your support!



Grove Worldwide provided us with a Man-Lift for gutter work and painting on the Fahnestock House. The lift was brought to Renfrew by D. L. George & Sons and returned to Grove by D. A. Helman Excavating.

Grove Worldwide loaned Renfrew a T-80 Man-Lift to help us with the restoration of the Fahnestock House.

Martin's Food Stores in Waynesboro provided soda for the Park Clean-up Day.

Pictures Plus Studios contributed their services to shoot photos of several artifacts for a forthcoming publication.

Stanton's Flooring donated a runner for the kitchen entry.

Wayne Distributors gave us soda for our park Clean-up.

Waynesboro Tree Service loaned us their skid-loader to help with Park Clean-up Day.



Renfrew's PCC crew used a Grove Man-Lift during the month of February to repair the gutter system on the Fahnestock House. They also painted the trim and side of the porch.

King For A Day!

Renfrew's Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds, John Frantz, celebrated a milestone birthday on February 17th. The staff commemorated the day with a special party in his honor! Homemade pies and a custom crown highlighted the celebration.

Happy Birthday, John, and thank you for your dedication. We appreciate all of your hard work!



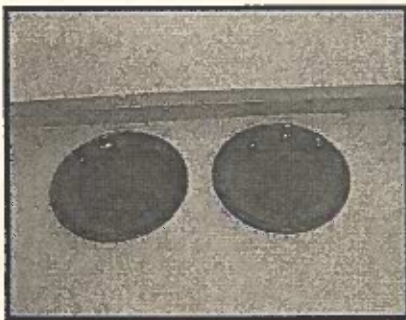


Spring 2002

## Museum Donations New Artifacts for the Collection

Over the last few months, Renfrew Museum and Park has received several new additions to the collection.

**Dade and Shannon Royer** of New Cumberland, Pennsylvania brought us two redware pie plates made by John W. Bell in Waynesboro. The plates were from the estate of Harry Royer. We are delighted to have two outstanding additions for our Bell collection. It was also



*John W. Bell pie plates given to Renfrew Museum by the estate of Harry Royer. Both plates are redware - one has chocolate interior glaze, the other, orange.*

nice to have them delivered to Renfrew by a descendant of Daniel Royer, the site's 19th century founder.

Former board of directors member, **David Thomas** of Fairfield, gave us an early blown glass decanter, which we have placed on display in the back parlor.

Renfrew was also fortunate to receive a very nice 19th century crock manufactured locally by the D. M. Baker Pottery.

This redware vessel is stamped under the lip with: "Baker's Pottery, Waynesboro, PA." The crock was given to Renfrew by **Paul Dunlap** of Waynesboro.



The Museum extends its thanks to all of our recent donors. All four of these artifacts have been placed on display and may be seen when we reopen on Saturday, April 27th.



*(Top) Blown glass decanter with matching stopper, given by David Thomas (Left) Redware crock made by the Baker Pottery, Waynesboro and given to Renfrew by Paul Dunlap.*

## Renfrew Wishlist Tour Guides Needed for 2002!

The Renfrew Wishlist has become an ongoing feature of the newsletter. Please take a look at our list of needs to see if there is anything you can help us with. Your contribution may be tax-deductible and we can make arrangements to pick-up large items.

### CURRENT WISHLIST

**Table Saw (electric)** to use for woodworking/restoration.

**Hand Tools** (wrenches, screwdrivers, wood-working tools, electric skill saw, etc - new or used).

**Metal Folding Chairs** for use in the Visitor's Center.

**Wooden Shutters** for the Fahnstock House and Museum (sponsorship to have them reproduced at a cost of approximately \$300.00 per pair).

**Volunteer Tour Guides** (no experience required - we will train!). Volunteers to help with our gardens are also needed.

**Crew Members** for the Pennsylvania Conservation Corps (contact Paul Snyder, PCC Crew leader at Renfrew).

**Members** (Friends of Renfrew Museum and Park) Spread the word by asking your friends and neighbors to join!

### TOUR GUIDES NEEDED

Renfrew Museum has an ongoing need for volunteers to serve as tour guides. This is a great opportunity to spend time in an historical setting while meeting interesting people from all over the world.

Guides at Renfrew give tours seasonally on Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays from the hours of 1:00 to 3:30 pm. Our current guide staff features men and women of varying ages and backgrounds. No prior experience is required. All you need is enthusiasm and an interest in history. Renfrew will provide you with training and all the background information you need.

Each year our guide staff takes a special trip. Last August, we visited Jefferson's Monticello in Charlottesville, Virginia for a behind the scenes tour of the house. This year's trip is still in its planning stages, but may include a visit to Winterhur Museum in Delaware.

Our next guide training session will be held in early May of this year. Supervisor of Visitor Services, **Tammy Wetzel**, is currently rewriting Renfrew's outdated guide manual for distribution to our staff. If you are interested in joining us, or would like more information, please give the Museum a call at 762-4723.



Spring 2002

## Upcoming Exhibition Your Help Is Needed!

Our second exhibition of the year is entitled: *"I Had That! - Post War American Toys."* The idea of the display is to gather together a wide variety of toys that will make our visitors stop and think, "I remember playing with that when I was a kid!"

Unfortunately, Renfrew does not have very many toys that meet the exhibition's criteria. The Museum staff is spreading the word every chance it gets. Now, we are turning to our Friends of Renfrew for help.

If you have toys that were made in America between 1945 and 1975 that you are willing to let us borrow for this exhibition, we would be most appreciative. "We are looking for all types of toys, including things such as play sets, action figures, and kitchen items, to name only a few. We want to illustrate the variety of mass-produced items made by the big companies such as *Marx, Hasbro* and *Mattel*" states Museum Curator, Jeffrey Bliemeister. Please think of Renfrew while you're doing your spring cleaning; take a look in your attic or basement for your old family play toys.

The exhibition is scheduled to open in early August and run through the end of October. All loans to the museum will receive the same care as our accessioned artifacts. They will be placed under plexi-glass (if size allows) while on display and covered under our insurance policy while at the Museum. If you can help us out, please call either Jeff or Tammy at 717-762-4723.

## Renfrew Projects Museum Porches Get New Lighting

The Museum was recently upgraded through the addition of period style lighting on both front porches. Renfrew Executive Committee chairperson, **David Hykes**, located a coppersmith in Abbottstown who constructed two lights specifically for our use. While both lights are similar in style, they differ in shape to better match the size of each porch. The museum really needed these new lights. They improve visibility at night and they add to our historical interpretation, as they replaced two fixtures that were not appropriate to our period.

Over the last month, David also installed a motion sensitive light at the back corner of the Visitor's Center barn. Come to an evening event at Renfrew this spring or summer and see the improvements first-hand!

*Custom-made copper light recently installed above the porch on the kitchen entry of Renfrew Museum. A second light - similar in style but smaller - was also installed above the main door.*

*Both museum porch lights, and a modern, motion sensitive light behind the Visitor's Center barn, were installed by David Hykes. Thanks, David, for volunteering your time to help Renfrew!*



### 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 \$250\* \_\_\_\_\_

Curator's Associates \$200\* \_\_\_\_\_

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.

\_\_\_\_\_ Please send me  
\_\_\_\_\_ information on  
\_\_\_\_\_ volunteer  
\_\_\_\_\_ opportunities  
\_\_\_\_\_ at Renfrew:  
\_\_\_\_\_



Spring 2002

**- SCHEDULE OF EVENTS -**

**Birdwalks at Renfrew:** Saturdays in April and May, 7:00 -10:00 am. Willard Rahn leads a tour of the hiking trails at Renfrew. Meet at the lower parking lot off Welty Road (Renfrew Institute).

**Greener Homes and Gardens** (lecture): Thursday, April 18, 7:00 pm in the Visitor's Center. Learn about the latest on safe home, lawn and garden pest and weed control. (Renfrew Institute).

**Earth Day Celebration:** Sunday, April 21, 1:00 to 5:00 pm. Celebrate the season with environmental exhibitors, music and more.

**Museum Exhibition Preview:** Friday, April 26th, 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Come and see "Essential to the Trade: Hand Tools of the 19th Century" prior to our public opening.

*This picturesque view of Renfrew was taken by former Waynesboro resident, David Reye, who was visiting from his home in Florida. Thanks, David, for sending the photo via the net.*



**Museum Opening:** Saturday, April 27th, 1:00 pm. Renfrew Museum and Park reopens for the 2002 season. Our regular museum hours are 1:00 to 4:00 pm (last tour begins at 3:30) on Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays. Tours may also be arranged for other times by special appointment. Please call 717-762-4723 for more information. The season runs from the last weekend of April to the last weekend of October.

**RENFREW'S PICNIC PAVILION IS AVAILABLE FOR RENTAL!**  
*(Please call 717-762-4723 for more information)*

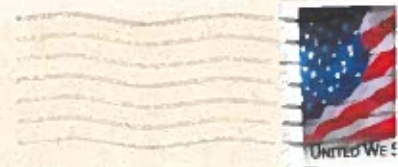
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