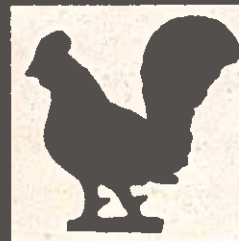


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Volume XIV, Issue II

The Newsletter of Renfrew Museum & Park

Autumn 2003

“Looking To The Future”

A Message From Renfrew’s New Director/ Curator

Dear Renfrew Family,
I want to thank everyone for the heartfelt welcome I have been receiving during my first few months in my new position. The entire extended Renfrew family seems to be a hard working and close-knit group and I am proud to have the opportunity to represent all of you.

I have spent my entire life absolutely fascinated by the subject of history. After serving in the United States Coast Guard out of high school, I persued and received a degree in American History from Bloomsburg University. My first museum position was as an educator at the Fort Myers Historical Museum in Florida. I then accepted the position of Public Programs Coordinator with the Manassas Museum System. I most recently worked as the Executive Director of Rock Ford Plantation in Lancaster.



Renfrew Museum and Park is at a critical juncture in its develepmnt. All of us can agree that Renfrew has remarkable potential. With our outstanding property, collection and people, I genuinely believe Renfrew can become a formidable regional tourist attraction.

My early goals can be expressed in a single phrase “expansion through visitation.” I will be working with RCI and REC on a new marketing plan called *Operation Open Doors*. This will be an aggressive multi-year strategy to help transform Renfrew Museum and Park into a competitive family attraction that continues to enrich the lives of area residents for many years to come. This plan will involve expanded hours and visitor options.

I look forward to meeting all of you and hearing your personal visions for the future of Renfrew Museum and Park.

Sincerely,
James Ross

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- Park Information - PCC Restoration Projects

The Pennsylvania Conservation Corps has returned to Renfrew Museum and Park! As a site under active restoration and redevelopment Renfrew requires a lot of assistance.

The majority of the work will center around the preservation of the Fahnestock House and Museum. Providing for proper drainage and a solid basement floor are very high on the list. PCC crew leader Paul Snyder know Renfrew well. Paul led the 2001-2002 crew as it accomplished a number of projects in and around the Fahnestock House and Barn. As of October 2003 the works seems to be advancing well.

James Ross, Renfrew's new Director/ Curator, believes the Fahnestock House and Barn represent a valuable example of an early american agricultural unit. James would like to see them develop as a vibrant living history site.



Holiday Open House Changes Planed

OVERVIEW OF PCC PROJECT GOALS

1. RESTORE EXTERIOR, BASEMENT AND SECTIONS OF FIRST & SECOND FLOORS OF FAHNESTOCK HOUSE
2. REPLACE ROOF ON PICNIC PAVILION
3. REMOVE INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS THOUGHOUT THE PARK
4. REBUILD FENCE AT CEMETERY
5. BUILD AND INSTALL MUSEUM HOUSE SHUTTERS
6. CONSTRUCT COW STABLE IN FAHNESTOCK BARN

This year's Holiday Open house will have a few notable changes. On December 5th, 2003 Renfrew Museum will host exclusive membership candlelight tours. This evening event is our way of thanking our members and showing the house at a magical time of year. All current members will be receiving two free tickets to this event in the mail. We are asking members who plan on attending to R.S.V.P. after receiving these tickets so we will have a count of how many to expect.

This evening event will also be at the heart of our new membership drive that will kick off in November. Invitations to this event along with two free tickets and membership applications will be mailed to an ever growing list of potential new members. If you have any friends or family you would like to receive free tickets to this event please contact the museum or let us know when you R.S.V.P.

Along with the Candlelight tours on the 5th, the Museum will still host its traditional Holiday Open House to the public on December 7th from 1-8 PM. Both events will feature refreshments and music. The house will be decorated for the holidays and will feature the theme of "A Child's Christmas."



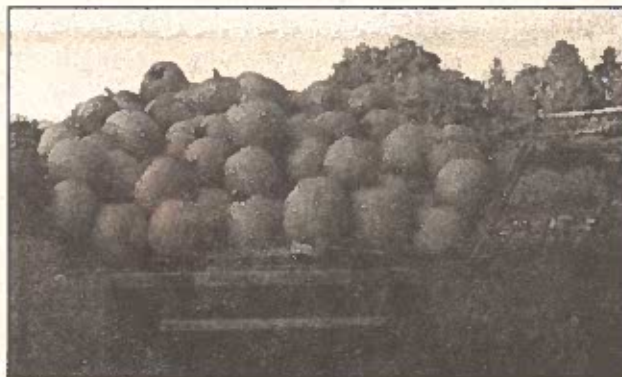
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Fall Events - Big Success

This year's corn maze has once again been a major success. Despite nights of questionable weather the many brave maze volunteers have worked overtime to ensure that this event is a success. In addition to this, the annual Pumpkin Fest was also a big success.



Above is a photograph of last year's Pumpkin Fest



Despite the fact that this year's pumpkin harvest was not as large as in some past years, we always acquire enough for Pumpkin Fest

Event Committee Members Needed

This issue highlights the wide variety of special events that Renfrew Museum and Park holds every year. In addition to this, we are currently working on ideas for some new events. These events require large active committees. Contrary to what you may think, volunteers do not need to be members of REC or RCI to sit on event committees. Contact the office today if you are interested in helping us plan future events.

In The Spotlight Plans for New John Bell Exhibit

Renfrew Museum and Park is collaborating with the Nicodemus Center For Ceramic Studies to bring Waynesboro a premier John Bell pottery exhibit. Thanks to the generous funds made possible through the Franklin county hotel tax grant and a grant from the Pennsylvania Museum and Historical Commission the work for the exhibit will begin this winter. The new exhibit will be placed in the visitors center.

This new exhibit will give us the flexibility to highlight specific portions of our pottery collection. The exhibit will be centrally located in the visitors center adding to the visitor's experience. Renfrew Museum holds one of the nation's most important collections of John Bell pottery. James Smith, Curator of The Nicodemus Center For Ceramic Studies has assembled early plans for the exhibit that will also free up some new space in the visitors center.



Visitors will be delighted by the new exhibit of John Bell Pottery that is planned. This modern exhibit will be one of the centerpieces of the visitor's center.

Arts Festival Highlight by Perfect Weather

Thanks to hard working committee members and volunteers, Renfrew Museum held yet another successful Arts Festival this year. The perfect weather highlighted an event that had twice as many community organization exhibiting organizations as last year. Expert craftsmen from all over the region had an opportunity to sell items to the public. Visitors enjoyed music and vendors selling refreshments. We at Renfrew want to thank everyone for their hard work on this event. Without the many hours of volunteer work this would not have been possible.



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Gift Shop to Expand

An additional benefit to the instillation of the new exhibit of John Bell pottery will be increased room in the visitors center. Some of this space has been earmarked for gift shop display. Look to future issues for sale specials!

A Brand New Volunteer Opportunity

As part of Renfrew's new Marketing strategy entitled "Project Open Doors" we are looking for volunteers interested in interpreting our wide variety of outbuildings for the visiting public. These programs will involve dressing in period clothing and discussing the working farm and life of the families that occupied Renfrew. All necessary training will be provided and scheduling is flexible. These daily programs will begin in April 2004. A meeting for interested people will be held on November 21st at 4 PM at the visitor's center. Contact James Ross at 717-762-4823 for more information.

MARK YOU CALENDER!

REC Meeting

Tuesday, November 25th, 4 pm

Holiday Open House

Membership Candlelight Tours
Friday, Dec 5th, 7-9 pm

Open House, Sunday Dec 7th, 1-8 pm



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