

der Wetterhahn

The Weathervane



Volume XIII, Issue III The Newsletter of Renfrew Museum & Park Autumn 2006

Remembering...A Renfrew Harvest

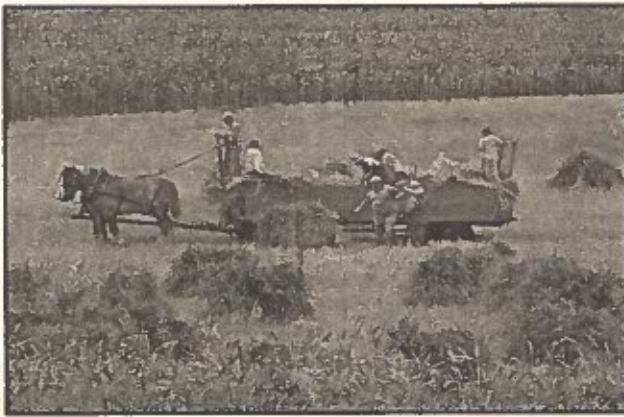


Photo courtesy of Patricia Rohrer

Harvest time varies depending upon the crop. For Renfrew's four acres of wheat, harvest time came during Waynesboro Fest 2006.

On Monday, July 3rd, a team of draft horses majestically pulled a 1934 John Deere binder through the wheat field. So began the Renfrew wheat harvest of 2006.

Much work was done on that pleasant day of July 3, with many shocks formed from the grain sheaves. Bracing against each other, they waited for the sun to "dry" the wheat for the next step.

Saturday, July 8 the day had finally arrived for threshing. Hay wagons transported the sheaves to the awaiting Frick threshers, driven by Frick and Geiser steam engines. Additional displays of Quincy engines, a Frick sawmill, and old farm tools added much to this picturesque agricultural scene.

As the sights and sounds reverberated through the valley, visitors were transported to an earlier time in farming history. Thanks to all who made this event so memorable!

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**Recognition of Individuals and Business
Organizations for Contributions to
Renfrew's Wheat Cutting &
Threshing Exhibits—2006**

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum
Commission - for Grant to support the exhibit
John Frantz -for many hours of dedication and
work to make the event a success
Dean Mason - Wheat sowing
Richard Martin - Pennal seed wheat and
spraying of field
James Bawell - Binder supplies
David Frantz- transporting John Deere binder,
Frick engine, tractor to run baler; transportation
of baler and tractor
Charles Lindsay - use of three horses on
July 2,3 and 8; use of two hay wagons
Herbert Frantz -John Deere binder;
Frick thresher and hay wagon
Chambersburg Waste Paper - wire for
stationary baler
D. L. George Trucking -moving a Frick engine,
Geiser engine and a tractor to and from Renfrew
Farmer's Union Co-op, Inc. - weighing wheat
before selling
Mohn's Lumber Mill -f logs for sawmill
Washington Township Police - escorting
equipment
Jacob Frantz -engine operation
Harrison Frantz - labor at exhibits
Jean Frantz - untiring assistance with exhibit
Louise Frantz - Assisting with exhibits
Eugene Lawson -Geiser engine; Frick thresher
and tractor to run saw mill
Frank Artz - stationary baler
John Gehr -digging hole for sawmill pit
Mike Rohrer - sawmill set up and Frick sawmill
Bill Waters -sawmill operation
LeErin Plasterer -pitch forks for display
James Notnagle -Quincy engine
Allen Webb -Quincy engine
Waynesboro Industrial Museum—co-operation
and publicity
Patricia Rohrer -digital photographs on CD
Patrick Brezler -digital photos on DVD
Warren West—digital photos

**Recognition of Individuals and Business
Organizations for Contributions to
Renfrew's Wheat Cutting &
Threshing Exhibits—2006**

To all those "unspoken" helpers who made the
Renfrew Wheat Cutting and Threshing Exhibit an
outstanding exhibition.
Appalachian Nurseries, Inc. - replacement pine trees

**Recognition of Individuals and Business
Organizations for Recent Contributions to
Renfrew Museum and Park**

THANK YOU!

Frank Artz -an ash sifter
Steve Graham -books and linens for the Steck/Graham
Collection at Renfrew
John Hykes - a book on World Glass
Bob North - a hand made tin candle
snuffer and tray
John Hykes-a book on glass development
William Swailes-hand-forged hinges
Virginia Rahn -decorations
Jack Handshaw-Pottery donation
Richard Mohn & Alice McCleaf-Untiring efforts to
inventory collections.
Anita Pfeuffer -decorations
2nd North Carolina Infantry-Civil War Re-enactors-
\$250 donation
2nd Maryland Artillery-Civil War Re-enactors- \$25 do-
nation
Donation from the YMCA of Waynesboro

**Recognition of Renfrew
Memberships-**

Mr. & Mrs. Willard Rahn
Mr. James Flohr



From: The Editor's Notebook
"A Season of Change"

As the saying goes, "change is inevitable". Whether it is in life or the seasons, change happens.

Changes have occurred at Renfrew in the last year and we are moving forward.

As part of that "move" a new person, Sue Smith has been selected to be the Visitors Services Supervisor.

A resident of Greencastle, Sue brings to Renfrew a background of working at Williamsburg in various areas, in Elderhostel programs at Pittsburgh and William and Mary College.

Recently Sue has been involved in selling real estate in the area. She will continue to pursue that field on a part-time basis.

With her knowledge of elder programming, Sue will have an opportunity to use her expertise to develop an elder program at Renfrew.

Sue will also be able to expand our volunteer program, perhaps even adding a "junior" volunteer base.

As we move toward the season of being thankful, we have much for which to be grateful. Certainly Mrs. Emma Nicodemus comes to mind, for giving the community this beautiful property we enjoy today. Also, the countless volunteers who have given freely of their time over the years.

Looking forward with the addition of Sue Smith, we can embrace this "season of change" and move toward a more involved community in making Renfrew Museum and Park a treasure to all!

Renfrew Trivia

Test your Renfrew Trivia knowledge with the questions below. It's just for fun, no grades will be given.

Answers can be found on page 7. Good luck!

1. What were the names of Daniel Royer's children?
2. Where was Daniel Royer born?
3. When did Daniel Royer buy his first land?
4. At what age did Daniel Royer drive cattle to the starving troops at Valley Forge?
5. In what year did Daniel Royer serve as a tax collector of Waynesburg?
6. How many stoves were listed in the 1838 inventory of Daniel Royer?
7. How many horses were listed in the 1838 inventory of Daniel Royer?
8. How many chimneys are on the museum house?
9. To what church did Daniel Royer's father, Sebastian, belong?
10. Why are the Burns family buried on Renfrew property in the Covenanters Cemetery?
11. What relative of Emma Nicodemus was well-known in Waynesboro and elsewhere?
12. What area church did Frederick Nicodemus, great-great grandfather of Edgar, help found in the area?



**Renfrew's Changing Gallery Exhibit
Glass
Circa 1800-1920**

Through the ages, glass has been one of mankind's highly versatile creations. The Egyptians, Persians, Romans, and Italians marked their place in history by fashioning luxurious and beautiful examples. Later the carefully guarded skills and craft of glassmaking spread to Germany and numerous European countries. Finally, other decorative characteristics and changes were brought to America when workers immigrated from Europe. These early craftsmen founded and worked at many of America's most famous glass factories of the time.

Lacy Glass Era, circa pre 1825 – 1845

Lacy Glass is the term given to the first glass products pressed by machine in America. Designs were ornate in order to hide manufacturing flaws caused by the pressing machine or its operator. The busy, delicate and attractive patterns featured geometric, hearts, scrolls, flowers and overall criss-cross designs on a finely stippled background. Among the first pieces made were heavy knobs, cup plates and master salts. During the later half of the Lacy Period, creamers, bowls, plates and other large items were manufactured. The glass houses were located primarily around Boston and Pittsburgh. Lacy glass had high lead content and was called "flint glass" which has a characteristic tone or ring when tapped.

Flint Era, circa 1845-1865

Flint glass is a name that refers to the lead glass that was produced in the United States and the United Kingdom prior to the 1860s. It particularly is applied to the pressed pattern glass that was made from the 1820s through the 1860s.

**Renfrew's Changing Gallery Exhibit
Glass
Circa 1800-1920**

The term, "flint glass", was given to the better glassware that was perfected in England in the 1670s as it contained powdered flint added to the glass compound. At a later date, lead was added and it was found that it gave the glass much more clarity, resonance, and weight. Soon after, flint was dropped from the glass mixture, but the name stuck.

These two decades saw great improvements in the pressing machines and the techniques of the glass artisans. The patterns became simpler and more elegant. Specific patterns with a wide range of pieces all in the same pattern were available from glass factories as far west as Ohio and West Virginia. Glass formulas that added color to the final product were well-guarded secrets of each factory. Most colored glass produced during this period was milk glass (opaque white), originally called 'opal' by the artisans. The opalescent ranged from an opaque white to fiery milk white. Glass was also made in amethyst, several shades of blue, canary (yellow) and red. All colored glass of this period is scarce and red is extremely rare.

Case no. 4





**Renfrew's Changing Gallery Exhibit
Glass
Circa 1800-1920**

**Renfrew's Changing Gallery Exhibit
Glass
Circa 1800-1920**

**Pressed Pattern Era
circa 1865-1910**

Manufacturing processes by 1865 were perfected and the mold craftsmen were designing some fantastic motifs. During the 1870s color became common at most factories. Lead rapidly disappeared from the glass formulas due mainly to lead shortages and need for bullets for the Civil War. Soda or lime was able to replace the lead and it was cheaper and more plentiful. Glass made by this new formula is referred to by some today as "soda glass" or "lime glass". The products were cheaper and the glassmakers were better paid. Pressed glass was very popular, with hundreds of patterns being introduced each year. Some patterns included 100 or more different forms.

In 1880 a significant development occurred in the American glassmaking history when Harry Northwood emigrated from England to the United States. Harry, from a long line of glass artisans, was a very talented young man and was astute in business. He quickly found that his forte was an ability to capture the expectations of the American glass consumer and then supply the exact items to satisfy the needs. The first of his many companies was founded in 1888 and the production of fine glass continued under his guidance until his death in 1923.

By 1891 the United States was deep into a recession that would last about eight years. The glass factories' overproduction in the previous fifteen years cost them; as the supply exceeded demand and factories went bankrupt almost daily. Two large companies survived, The National Glass Company that existed only four years, and the U. S. Glass Company, formed in 1891, closed in 1940.

Quality of the glass suffered as factories used the molds well past their useful lives. During the "Gay 90s patterns that imitated cut glass came into favor with the buying public. Sears Roebuck and Montgomery Ward sold glass in department stores and catalogs.

New colors were developed, such as emerald green, and techniques of applying color after the glass solidified were used to add red, amber and gold touches to some patterns. "Vaseline" is a latter-day term for 19th century glass that the makers called "canary" - after the color of the bird. Around 1900-1910, the dealers started calling it "Vaseline", due to its similarity to the color of petroleum jelly. The term to Europeans means any kind of creamy yellow glass shading to white, a coloring that resembles Vaseline ointment as it used to be. In America, the term means specifically any kind of transparent yellow-green glass, which glows brightly under ultra-violet light because it contains uranium.

The A. H. Heisey Company was organized in 1896 and other companies responded by improving the quality of their glass. In the early 1900s some spectacular glass was produced in Greentown, Indiana and by the Northwood Company of Wheeling, West Virginia. Several very collectible patterns were made after 1910, but by 1910 the Victorian Era had ended.

Case no. 3





**Renfrew's Changing Gallery Exhibit
Glass
Circa 1800-1920**

**Renfrew's Changing Gallery Exhibit
Glass
Circa 1800-1920**

Art Glass, circa 1910-1929

Advances in materials and techniques allowed glass to continued to evolve in color, effect and form. Louis Comfort Tiffany spearheaded the art glass movement. The variety of glass produced by Louis Comfort Tiffany was remarkable in that about 5000 types and colors were offered each year. His lifetime dedication to chemical reactions, iridescence, and decoration incorporated into the body of the glassware revealed fantastic results.

The C.F. Monroe Company became renowned for its elegant and finely decorated Victorian opal glass known as "Wave Crest" – a name that has virtually become a synonym for the Monroe Company itself. The company was formally incorporated in 1892 and flourished through the Art Nouveau era. Taste and times changed and business declined. By 1916 the company closed its doors and the corporation was officially dissolved the following year.

Mount Washington Glass Works was among the most prolific of American glass companies, despite numerous business problems that eventually resulted in its takeover by Pairpoint. The company created many different product lines, each one comprising a wide variety of forms. Mount Washington is the company that made form follow function.

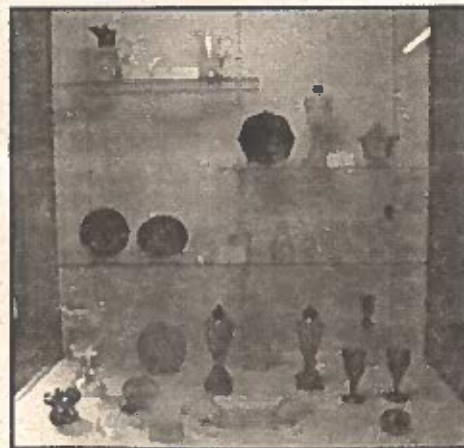
The above information represents only a small fraction of the types and manufacturers of glass from 1800 to 1920. The need for utilitarian wares in glass has paved the way for a vast array of collecting possibilities.

Creations in this medium throughout the centuries afford us the opportunity to collect by designer, artistic quality, color, pattern, form, function and rarity. Today, many pieces and patterns are still readily available and can be the basis for a fascinating collection of glass.

The facts and information for the article are from the following:

1. The Antique Trader Weekly Annual Addition of 1977, "Art Glass of the Connoisseur" by John A. Shuman, III.
2. The Antique Trader Weekly Annual Addition of 1977, "The Lovely Glass of Duncan" by Fern Angus.
3. Patternglass.com, History, created by Bill & Elaine Henderson, Albuquerque, NM.

Case no. 2



Case no. 1





RENFREW'S WISH LIST

Listed below are a few of the items that would enhance our programs and facilities. Remember all contributions to Renfrew Museum and Park are tax deductible, as allowed by law. If you need assistance with a pick up of items we will be happy to arrange a time. Thank you for your continued support!

2 Comfortable Chairs
2 Table lamps
Small farm equipment
Counter top revolving post card stand
Books on Pennsylvania German Holidays
Books on Chalkware
Antique table linens
Wheel barrel
Card tables

Renfrew Trivia Answers

1. David, Samuel, John, Catherine, Jr., Jacob Elizabeth, Polly, Susan, Rebecca and Nancy.
2. Brickerville area of Pennsylvania.
3. Daniel purchased mountain land at age 13.
4. Daniel Royer drove the cattle at age 15.
5. In 1799 Daniel Royer was the Washington Township Tax Collector.
6. Daniel Royer had 6 stoves in the inventory.
7. There were six horses-Elsie, Mike, Coolly, Luther, Punch and Tilley.
8. There are three chimneys on the house.
9. Old Warwick church in Brickerville.
10. Some accounts have the cemetery land owned by the Burns family.
11. Peter Geiser (an uncle) was an inventor of creamery and farm equipment.
12. Salem Reformed Church in 1778.

Source: Renfrew Park-Dan Arthur & Ron Keiper.

Renfrew Business Members 2006

Bonded Applicators - Executive Member
Wayne Heights Animal Hosp. - Executive Member
Johnson Controls - Standard Member
Savage Family Pharmacy - Standard Member
Dr. Melissa March - Beginning Member
Timothy Misner, Attorney - Beginning Member
Kipe-Ramey Insurance Agency - Beginning Member

Renfrew Committee, Inc. Members-2006

John W. Keller, President
Delmos Oldham, 1st Vice President
Douglas Tengler, 2nd Vice President
David Hykes
George Buckey
Brenda Kline, 1st Secretary
Alice McCleaf, Assistant Secretary
Douglas Burkholder, Treasurer

Renfrew Executive Committee Members-2006

David Hykes, Chairman
George Buckey
Becky Dietrich, Secretary
Richard "Red" Mohn
Thomas Moore
Delmos Oldham
Willard Rahn
Douglas Burkholder, Treasurer

Renfrew Museum and Park Staff Members -2006

Bonnie Iseminger - Administrator
Sue Smith-Supervisor of Visitor Services
John Frantz - Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds
Ron Harbaugh - Building and Grounds personnel



**WHAT'S NEW
AT THE GIFT SHOWCASE?**

We are into the fall season at the Gift Showcase. New items have been added to our inventory. It's never too early to start the Christmas shopping.

We now have available the John Bell Faux Stoneware Pottery books at \$45 each. Also on hand are the CD's for the Faux stoneware at \$10 each. A gift for any occasion.

Gift Showcase hours will continue through winter. The hours (after October 31) will be Monday-Friday from 11:00 am-4:00 pm. See you soon!

Contributors to "der Wetterhahn"
David Hyles-Renfrew's Changing Gallery Exhibit -
Circa 1800-1920
Bonnie Iseminger—Editor

**UPCOMING EVENTS
AT RENFREW**

October 14-Pumpkin Fest-from 11:00 am-4:00 pm enjoy this annual event for the family. (Please see the insert regarding our Pumpkin Pie Baking Contest.)

November 10-German Heritage Dinner-come to a special dinner, starting at 6:30 pm with a social gathering time. (Please see the insert for advance reservations.)

December 1 and 2-A Renfrew Christmas- from 6:00 -8:00 pm on December 1 and 2 come experience the beauty of the season at Renfrew. FREE for all to enjoy!

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Wetterhahn

Renfrew Museum and Park
1010 East Main Street •Waynesboro, PA 17268
(717)762-4723 Email: renfrew@innernet.net
Website: www.renfrewmuseum.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

