

der Wetterhahn

The Weathervane



Volume XIV, Issue I The Newsletter of Renfrew Museum & Park

Spring 2007

A Waynesboro Craftsman, John H. Johnston



The legacy of the Bell family of potters is well-known, but how many are acquainted with the life's work of John H. Johnston?

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Born in 1811, Johnston was first mentioned on the tax levy of 1832. His listed occupation was a gunsmith.

In the same year of 1832 Mr. Johnston rented, and later purchased in 1839, a 1/2 lot and house just below present day Grant Street. There he practiced his trade in that location until 1882 when he moved his business to the nearby southwest corner of North and Grant Streets. In 1889, at age 80, Mr. Johnston died at his home.

Curly maple, from the mountain ranges close by, was the wood of choice for his 41" octagonal barrel, long-rifles. Most had a dark finish and a very striking feature, silver inlays. The rifles he produced were sought after not only for the mechanical features, but for the artistry.

An example of Mr. Johnston's skill as a gun maker will be on view as part of the Back Parlor presentation in the museum this spring. The long-rifle display can be appreciated by both gun collector and casual visitor.

The rifle purchased for Renfrew Museum in 1993 by William S. Bowers is an example of another skilled craftsman and Waynesboro native, John H. Johnston.

Gunsmiths of Pen-Mar-VA 1790-1840-William S. Bowers.



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

- Donation of a U. S. Cookstove drier-manufactured by E. B. Fahrney, Waynesboro- Mr. and Mrs. Don McCleaf
- Seven English dinner napkins- Mr. And Mrs. Mitchel Smith
- A 1900 Cornhusker "The Boss" -Mr. Oliver R. Goetz
- An assortment of farm items-Steve Graham
- A six-inch John W. Bell crock—given in the name of Blanche Washington by Steve Graham
- Memorial gift for Mr. Donald Hovis-Pat and Jay Heefner and Glovelia Williams
- Seasonal pictures and link to Renfrew website from
- Waynesboro Day Care website—Gene Cooley
- Art prints-Willard and Virginia Rahn
- Reproduction photo work- Randy Kuhn Pictures Plus
- Framing of photo- Karen's Custom Framing
- Donation- Brothers of the Brush
- Un-ending volunteer assistance- Richard "Red" Mohn and David Hykes
- On-going inventory accounting-Alice McCleaf
- Agnes Harbaugh Memorial Garden Volunteers-Allie Kohler, Sherry Hesse, Doris Goldman, David & Julie DesJardins, Linda Hoffman.

**Renfrew Business Members
2007**

Ray's Heat & Air- Beginning
Antietam Dairy -Beginning
Advanced Financial Security, Inc.-Beginning
Douglas Burkholder & Company
Green Arbor Corporation- Beginning
Hagerstown Trust- Beginning
Dr. Melissa March-Beginning
Precision Underground- Beginning
Timothy Misner- Beginning
Wacco Properties, Inc.- Beginning
First National Bank of Greencastle-Standard
Accredited Services, Inc.- Standard
Theodore H. Cryer, M.D.,F.A.C.S.-Standard
Mont Alto Family Practice- Standard
Savage Family Pharmacy, Inc.-Standard
Craig, Friedly,Potter & Moore-Standard
Bonded Applicators- Executive
Remax Associates-Dawn Benedict-Executive
YORK Refrigeration North America

**Renfrew Committee, Inc.
Members-2007**

John W. Keller, President
Douglas Tengler, 2nd Vice President
David Hykes-Director
George Buckey-Director
Allison "Allie" Kohler-Director
Brenda Kline, 1st Secretary
Alice McCleaf, Assistant Secretary
Charles Strausbaugh, Treasurer

**Renfrew Executive Committee
Members-2007**

David Hykes, Chairman
George Buckey
Sue Smith, Acting Secretary
Richard "Red" Mohn
Thomas Moore
Allison "Allie" Kohler
Virginia Rahn
Charles Strausbaugh, Treasurer

**Renfrew Museum and Park
Staff-2007**

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

**In Remembrance of
Donald Hovis**

It is with great sadness that we advise of the passing of a dedicated Renfrew Museum docent, Donald Hovis. Mr. Hovis was a long-time, knowledgeable volunteer who shall be missed!



Renfrew Memberships—2007

Life Members

Daniel W. Arthur
Mr. J. Martin Benchoff
Leonara R. Bernheisel
Mr. & Mrs. James Bowersox
Dr. & Mrs. Max Creager
Mr. & Mrs. Paul E. Dunlap, Jr.
Mrs. David E. Eddy
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Fleagle
Mr. William H. Gelbach, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. William George
Philip & Gail Hammond
Mr. & Mrs. Dwight F. Hastings
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Heefner
Mr. Max Hoover, Jr.
Doris R. Large
Frances W. Levick
Marilyn K. McCarney
Margaret L. McCleary
Mrs. Josephine McCleary
Mrs. Betsy Payette
Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd Savage
Mrs. Stanton Shank
Betty D. Thompson
Dr. Annette S. Warrenfeltz

Bell Society Members

Mr. & Mrs. John Bell
Mr. G. Thomas

Curator's Associates

Mike, Denise Beck & Family
Thomas & Helen Beck
Mr. & Mrs. George Buckey
John W. Keller
Eunice G. Statler
Angela Grove-Weagly

Sustaining Members

Terry & Linda Barkdoll
Mr. & Mrs. Robert W. Brown
Kathleen Calabrese
John and Jean Frantz
Thomas Moore
Dr. Kathryn Oller
Bill Savage
Sanford & Helen Smith
Dr. G. William Thorne
Charles A. Warner
Bill and Sandy Weagly
Mary Jane Weagly

Family Memberships

Louis & Jackie Barlup
Stephen & Maxine Beck
Robert S. & Shelley M. Benchoff
Donald & Dorothy Bollinger
William & Martha Brevard
Kenton H. Broyles
Mr. & Mrs. James G. Deegan
Greg & Debi Duffey
Chris & Kathy Dukes
Mr. & Mrs. G. Mark Elden
Sanford H. & Nancy L. Evans
James E. & Constance E. Fleagle
Aldus & Alma Frantz
Charlene L. Good
Stanley & J. Darlene Grube
Jay & Pat Heefner
Gordon & Sylvia Heidelberg
David, Diane & Amanda Hykes
Edgar & Ruby Hykes
Bob & Bonnie Iseminger
Joan & Paul Jones
William & Kathleen Kaminski
D. Mark & Elisabeth H. Keener
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Kercheval
Donald & Alice McCleaf
Dr. & Mrs. James G. McKenzie
Wayne & Debbie Martz
Richard & Martha Mathias
Mr. & Mrs. Leroy S. Maxwell

Family Memberships

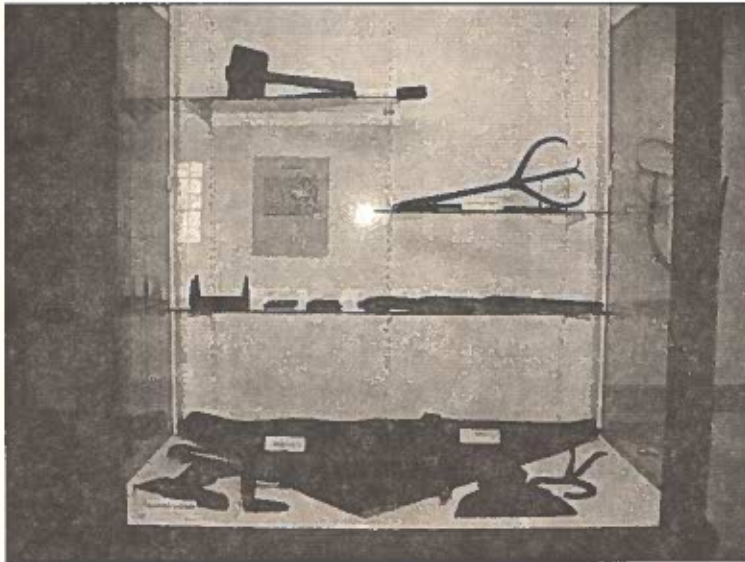
Dr. & Mrs. Joseph Miller
Richard & Wendy Mohn
Paul E. Mummert
Evelyn & James Oliver
John & Holly Oslzewksi
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Pflager
John & Carolyn Poffenberger
Murray B. Reed
Linden & Ruth E. Showalter
Susan E. Smith
Joe & Karen Stewart
Doug Tengler
Gordon W. Thomas
Dick & Peg Walsh
Mr. & Mrs. Ben Welty
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Willhide
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Yost, Jr.

Donor Memberships

Alberta R. Barkley
Grace M. Baylor
Ferdinand & Frances Betts
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Bittner
C. Robert Brezler, Jr.
Patrick Brezler
Mrs. Jean Brinser
Donald & Phyllis Brothers
Elizabeth Cook
Gene Cooley
James H. Craig, Jr.
Mrs. Ruth M. Davis
Becky (Mrs. Dan) Dietrich
Rosalie K. Dull
Debra Flinchbaugh
Paul & Pat Flogle
Doris Armstrong Goldman
Dr. W. Lehman Guyton
Margaret B. Honodel
Howard Hutton
Phyllis & Ralph King
Allie Kohler
Randy Kuhn
Ann Markell



A Family



Case #1



Case #2

When we reveal our "first" exhibit in the Changing Gallery, as part of the season opening on April 14th, we will recognize a great friend of Renfrew, Steve Graham.

Born and reared in Waynesboro, the creator of the Steck/Graham collection, Steve wanted to honor the members of his family by assembling household and tradesmen tools using the familial names. Renfrew Museum was the location he chose to display the objects for all to enjoy and learn from the past.



Of Collectors



Case #3

Dining Room Table



Case #4

The artifacts carefully selected for the Changing Gallery groupings are truly representative of the utilitarian items within the collection. Necessities of everyday life in the home, on the farm, in butchering and barrel-making are included.

Battensburg linens from Alyce McCoy, an aunt of Steve Graham, will bedeck the dining room table making Renfrew's spring opening a tribute to a family of collectors.



Renfrew Memberships—2007

Donor Members

Harry Morningstar
Aldine N. Moser, Jr.
Mary Ellen Selvaggio
Mrs. Eileen L. Smith
Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Smith
Melodie Anderson-Smith and
James Smith
Mitchel and Katherine Smith
William O. and Doris Spangler
Dr. and Mrs. Robert G. Steiner
D. Roy and M. S. Barbara Stoner
Doug and Deb Stine
Mr. and Mrs. James K. Stock
Mrs. Don Stoner
E. A. Stonesifer
Roy Struble
Mrs. Deloyce Watkins
Philip and Ruth Ann Wert
Mrs. Louise B. West
James R. White

Individual Members

Bonnie Barlup
Raymond T. Bercaw
Cheryl M. Bomar
Nancy K. Brake
Ruth Campbell
Ruth E. Durbin
Paul Englestad
James S. Flohr
Helen F. Hykes
John R. Hykes
Kim Kleppinger
Brenda Kline
Mrs. Adele B. Lombard
Ritchard Lyon
Elizabeth S. Mose
G. Barr Newcomer
Delmos E. Oldham
Doris Pensinger
Anita Pfeuffer

Individual Members

William R. Russell, Sr.
Mrs. Helen E. Shelley
Elizabeth M. Snively
Mr. Richard Starliper
Lois Good Thompson
Mary B. Unger
Sarah K. Zimmerman

Renfrew's
Wish List

Card tables
Wheelbarrow
Items for Children's Bedroom
Counter-top revolving post card stands
Small farm equipment
Books of PA German holidays
Flynt glass tumblers (6 matching)
Wooden dishes for kitchen
Children's serving pieces for kitchen
Stoneware bowl and pitcher sets

If you have any of the above-mentioned items or would like to help us purchase one of them, please call the museum at 717-762-4723 or via email address renfrew@innernet.net

If you need assistance with a pick up of items, we will be happy to arrange a time.

Thank you for your continued support!



**Spotlight on Visitors
-Pavilion Rentals-**

Did you know that for just \$45 you can rent the Renfrew Pavilion for 4 hours? With its' charcoal grills, electricity, plenty of tables and parking this facility is perfect for birthday parties, family and class reunions or just getting the gang together for a picnic. You are permitted to set up your own horseshoe, volleyball and badminton equipment but call me first if you have specific questions about what you can bring and where you are permitted to set it up. For \$85 you may have the facility for the entire day, sunrise to sunset.

This is a particularly lovely place in the spring, and for just \$175 you can rent the pavilion for the entire day and have a walk-up wedding ceremony on the grounds adjacent to the 1812 Royer house. Let me know and I'll be happy to arrange a tour of the property so you can see what is possible here at Renfrew. Please note that you may not set up tables, chairs, audio equipment, tents, etc. on the museum grounds. A simple and elegant walk-up ceremony is performed on the rock patio directly behind the 1812 Royer house.

With the East Branch of the Antietam Creek just up the path from the pavilion and 107 acres of Renfrew Park to explore, the setting for your event is quite special. We can also arrange tours of the house and outbuildings (not included in your rental) for your guests and ensure that the Gift Showcase is open for anyone who would like to shop! With all of this at your doorstep, I do hope you consider Renfrew pavilion for your next gathering. Call me, Sue Smith-Supervisor of Visitor Services, to make your reservation at 717-762-4723.

**Renfrew Museum's
New Website**

Check out the new website for Renfrew Museum and Park -renfrewmuseum.org. it has a fresh new look! Let us know what you think.

**Exhibit
News at Renfrew**

With the arrival of spring there are definite changes to be seen around us. In Renfrew Museum there have been changes made in the exhibits.

The Snow Hill Room is now re-located adjacent to the Changing Gallery. The location is more inviting for visitors and more spacious for the contents.

Another addition is a Children's Bedroom located where the Snow Hill Room was. This space for displaying everyday items children would have used now has the exceptional model of the Renfrew Museum house crafted by J. E. Beck of Waynesboro. Mr. Beck has not only created the museum house, but models of the Fahnestock house and the Fahnestock barn located in the Visitors Center.

Our guests this season should be delighted by the rearrangements made over the long winter.

**Agnes Newman Harbaugh
Memorial Garden**

A group of enthusiastic volunteers is undertaking bringing back the Harbaugh Memorial Garden. It will be no small task, and anyone or group who would like to take a section of the garden to maintain would certainly be welcome!

Agnes Harbaugh, once a docent at Renfrew and friend of the Nicodemus family, was a noted horticulturalist. A memorial garden was designed in her honor at Renfrew.

We encourage anyone who has remembrances of the design and development of the memorial garden to contact Sue Smith or Bonnie Iseminger at 717-762-4723. We would be very interested in any information regarding the creation of the garden.

Also, please contact us if you or your group is interested in volunteering in the garden.



Renfrew's Gift Showcase

With spring approaching and people are able to venture forth into much more agreeable weather, we invite you to come see the Renfrew gift showcase.

We have new Jack Handshaw and Eve Adkins' pottery for spring to help brighten up any home.

Operating hours of the gift showcase will be the same as our museum hours for the 2007 season.

Hope to see you soon!

Contributors to "der Wetterhahn"
Sue Smith-Spotlight on Visitors Services
Bonnie Iseminger—Editor

Renfrew's Calendar of Events

April 14- Opening of Renfrew Museum for the season

June 2 and 3- Third annual Pottery Fest at Renfrew - 10-4 on June 2nd
- 12-4 on June 3rd

July 6-8 -Renaissance Faire ?

August 10-12-Civil War Encampment

October 13-Annual Pumpkin Fest

November 9-German Heritage Dinner

November 17-Winter workshops-Christmas ornament or scherrenshnitte

December 1-Winter workshops-Make a wreath or schrenneshnitte

December 2 -3 - Christmas open house program (times announced later)

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Website: www.renfrewmuseum.org

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