

der

# Wetterhahn

The Weathervane



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

Summer 2007

## Harbaugh Memorial Garden...A Rebirth

Rebirth is defined as "rejuvenation", which is exactly what is happening in the Harbaugh Memorial Garden.

Since early this spring a group of dedicated souls have been tending the neglected plot. Under the direction of Sue Smith our dedicated volunteers— Allie Kohler, Sherry Hesse, Doris Goldman, David & Julie DeJardin, Linda Hoffman and David Hykes have pulled weeds, prepared soil and planted. Even the Administrator was seen to take a turn planting in the garden. "Many hands make light work" is the old expression and is definitely true for this "labor of love".

The garden was named for Agnes Newman Harbaugh. A gardener of considerable expertise, Mrs. Harbaugh spent many devoted hours of volunteer time at Renfrew. Whether it was pulling weeds or acting as a docent, she proved her love of the Renfrew house and grounds.

We also discovered through records that Agnes Harbaugh was a good friend of Mrs. Emma Nicodemus, Renfrew's benefactor.

### -IN THIS ISSUE -

**Feature –Harbaugh Memorial Garden...A Rebirth** Page 1  
**Renfrew Trivia and Spotlight on Visitors** Page 2

**History of a Snowhill Treasurer and An Estate Sale of Note** Page 3

**A Place with a View** Pages 4 & 5

**Renfrew Trivia Answers; Upcoming Events** Page 6

**Recognition of Individuals and Contributors; Renfrew Volunteers; Renfrew Committee, and Renfrew Executive Committee members; Renfrew Street** Page 7

**Renfrew Gift Showcase; Tools from the Past Highlighted** Page 8



The fruits of all who have labored on this project shall be enjoyed by all who will visit Renfrew.

Also, a new focal point to the bed is a stone mortar and pestle donated by Tish Gardner.

Stop by to visit the lovely blooming space, you'll be glad you did.

If you are interested in volunteering for the restoration of the garden, please give Sue Smith a call at 717-762-4723.

Source: A Renfrew History –Marilyn McCarney  
Betsy Payette

**Renfrew Trivia  
Challenge**

1. In an 1807 tax return what did Daniel Royer list as the value of his gristmill?
2. What name did the early settlers give the Antietam Creek?
3. What architectural feature was part of the spring house, which is now missing?
4. What activity would the garret have been used for during winter in the Royer house.
5. The present day dining room was know by what name during the time of the Royers ?
6. In what year was the only tannery listed on tax records for Washington Township and who owned it?
7. In the 1838 inventory of Daniel Royer what 3-volume set of books did he own?
8. What is the exact date of Daniel Royer's birth?
9. In the year 1813 what was the monetary value of the tanyard?
10. What material would have been used for the original roof on the smoke house?
11. What was the location of other business operations in which Daniel Royer was involved?
12. In 1814, Daniel Royer and his brother John bought land on Piney Creek. What did they do with the land?

Answers located on page 6.

**Pennsylvania Dutch  
Favorite Sayings**

An industrious wife is the best savings account.  
Morning showers and old women's dancing do not last long.  
He who rides slowly gets just as far, only it takes a little longer.  
He who digs a ditch for others fails in it himself.  
An honest hand goes a long way.

**Spotlight on Visitors  
Traveling Trunk  
Outreach Program**

The traveling trunk program was developed to reach out to audiences who can't travel to us, but have an interest in the Pennsylvania Germans and their lifestyles.

Developed this winter, the one hour interactive-program features many of our original and reproduction items from the collection. The history begins with the Royer family and continues through the Nicodemus family. An explanation of how it became a museum and park follows, thanks to Mrs. Emma Nicodemus. The "legend" of the Renfrew Sisters, Sara and Jane, is also added to give a little mystery.

Additional articles of clothing on Sue Smith, the presenter, adds to the program giving the illusion of traveling back in time to the early 1800's.

Now comes the "team" participation. Folks choose a partner and with curator's gloves inspect the artifacts. The inspection of the articles develops into much discussion, "what was it made from and how was it used". After "analysis time" the partners "show and tell" with the rest of the group. This leads to further remembrances and thoughts on the items.

On April 10th the first "Traveling Trunk" program took place at the Providence Place in Chambersburg . Donna Sollenberger, the Activities Director, said this about the program, " The residents really enjoyed talking and sharing about the history of Renfrew. Thank-you!" Two other programs are scheduled for Menno Village and Penn Hall in Chambersburg in November.

If you or anyone you know would like to schedule this program please contact Sue Smith at 717-762-4723 or email at: [renfrew@innernet.net](mailto:renfrew@innernet.net)

## The Weathervane, Page 3 Summer 2007

### History of a Snowhill Treasure

Indenture typically is not a word thought of as a contract, but this is definition of the document we have on display at Renfrew.

On loan to Renfrew from Terry Barkdoll is a deed, dated 1 April, 1839, the Seventh Day Baptist Monastical Society of Snowhill was selling property to Frederick Hess.

The deed was recorded by Mr. Henry Ruby, Recorder in the Recording office in Chambersburg on the 11th day of April A. D. 1839.

For the sum of seven hundred and thirteen dollars and seventy-five cents Frederick Hess purchased land consisting of fourteen acres and forty four perches from the Monastic Society. The document was signed by Samuel Snowberger, President of the Snowhill group.

The tract was part of land which the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania by patent dated the Eleventh of May 1803 granted and confirmed unto a certain Andrew Snowberger. On the 22nd day of September 1823 Mr. Andrew Snowberger granted and confirmed part thereof to the Trustees of the Seventh Day Baptist Monastical Society.

We are very fortunate to have the Snowhill deed on loan. To view this fascinating and important piece of local history, please visit our Snowhill Room in the Museum house.



### An Estate Sale Of Note

Much has been written about John Bell, but we have on loan a notice of a public sale of Myrtle Deardorff.

Myrtle Elizabeth Bell Deardorff was the granddaughter of John Bell the Master Potter. Her grandfather's pottery was located on South Potomac Street, a short distance from the Deardorff Homestead at 36 South Potomac Street.

Items were sold at sessions during the day of the sale. The evening session (7 p.m.) brought the 800 pieces of John Bell pottery, including 100 flower pots. The remainder would be sold the following day.

A John Bell piece of note included a whippet hound, a grey-green glazed floral jug dated 1871, a rare brown glazed toy horse and pair of brown cuspidors dated Feb. 8, 1873 both with an inscription for Myrtle E. Bell.

The miniature toy collection of various animals would have been a sight to behold and purchase.

A copy of the Deardorff public sale notice is available for inspection at the Visitor's Center during regular museum hours.

The notice is yet another example of the abundant and rich history of Waynesboro and Renfrew. Thank you to Terry Barkdoll for sharing this document.



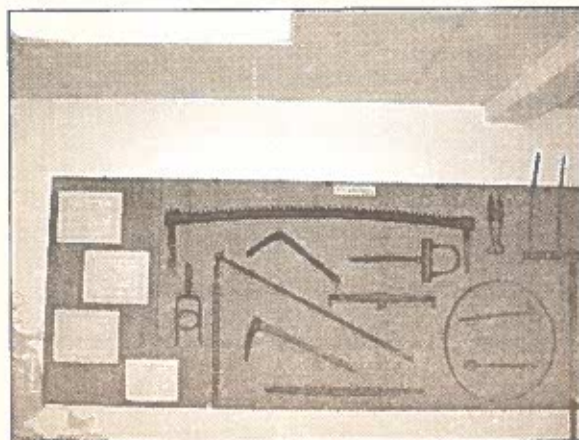
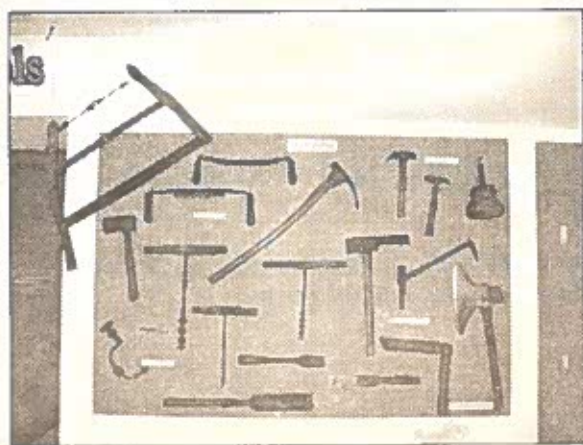
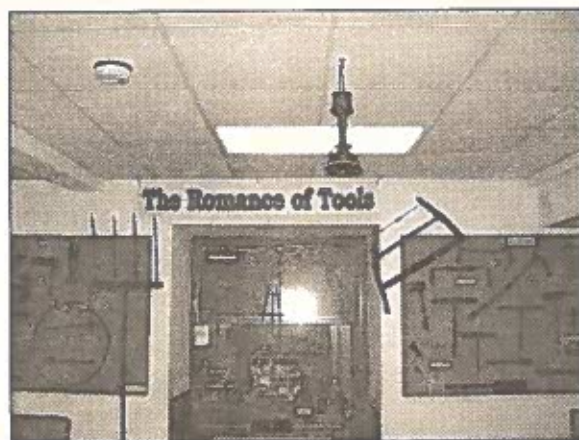


# A Place W





# With A View



**The Weathervane, Page 6  
Summer 2007**

**Renfrew Trivia  
Challenge - Answers**

1. The gristmill was valued at \$2000.
2. The name was "The Old Indian Creek"- from the Leni Lenape Indians. "Antietam" meaning rushing water.
3. The architectural feature was a bell atop the building.
4. The activity in the garret would have been a woman's spinning work area.
5. The dining room would have been referred to as a "stube".
6. In the year 1794 Daniel Royer was listed as the only tanner in the Washington Township tax records.
7. The three volumes listed in the 1838 Daniel Royer inventory-- a three volume set titled "Laws of the United States".
8. Daniel Royer's exact date of birth was April 26, 1762.
9. In the year of 1813 the monetary value of the Royer tanyard was \$6000.
10. The original material used on the smokehouse roof would have been wood slats.
11. The location of the other business operations Daniel Royer was involved in was Woodbury Township, Huntingdon County, in Pennsylvania.
12. In 1814 Daniel Royer and his brother John established a forge village, including the iron masters' house.

Source: Renfrew Park-- Dan Arthur and  
Ron Keiper

**"I find the harder I work, the more luck I  
seem to have." Thomas Jefferson**

**"Well done is better than well said."  
Benjamin Franklin**

**Tools from the Past  
Highlighted**

In the Visitors Center is a new permanent display, "The Romance of Tools". A creation of Sue Smith and Sherry Hesse.

With peg board, burlap and hooks, David Hykes formed the basis for this very interesting assortment of "necessary" tools.

On loan to Renfrew Institute from Bill Nitterhouse are tools in a display dedicated to building. The items here would be used to cut down trees, shape wood for building furniture and drilling implements.

Accessioned articles from Steve Graham (Steck/Graham Collection at Renfrew) are the focus of this farming tool display. Sometimes a one-of-a-kind tool needed for a specific purpose will be evident here.

Test your working knowledge of the "old" tools. Get a glimpse of the displays on page 5.

**Renfrew Museum and Park  
Orientation Tour**

A new offering this summer is a Orientation Tour to learn about the area's rich German heritage.

The tour will be approximately one hour and include the 1812 Royer museum house, milk house, smoke house, Fahnstock house, and Fahnstock barn.

Familiarization of this 'jewel of the area' is "first-rate" for a newcomer or long-time resident.

The price per person is \$7.00 with children 6 and under -FREE!

This program is offered every Saturday and Sunday in the months of June, July and August.



**The Weathervane, Page 7  
Summer 2007**

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

Website development assistance - Mike Cermak  
Pen and ink drawing of our sycamore tree-  
Becky Dietrich  
Family tree certificate-Bob Iseminger  
Money and plants for Harbaugh Memorial Garden-  
Doris Armstrong Goldman  
"My Farm at Goose Pond-Shenandoah Valley" -  
10 books - Rudolf Lemperg, MD, PHD  
Bow saw-Ronald Harbaugh  
Lester Stone pen and ink drawing of Renfrew  
Museum-Lester Stone  
"Plain and Fancy- American Women and Their  
Needlework 1700-1850" (book)-Anna Harford  
Loan of a Snow Hill Land Grant -Terry Barkdoll  
Loan of a public sale notice for Myrtle Deardorff-  
Terry Barkdoll  
Mortar and pestle (old stone), antique high chair, linens ,  
walking canes, birdhouse books, milking stool and butter  
mold-Letitia (Tish) Gardner  
Bo-Peep Story Book- William Gelbach, Jr.  
Pottery Fest musician assistance-Dick & Della Boschert  
Water tank for watering trees-Pat O'Connor  
Clay marbles ( for children's bedroom) and birding  
book- Steve Graham  
Bands for the Cumberland Valley Pottery Fest - Marty  
and Pat Blair; Anna Cox and the Home Comfort Band

**Renfrew Museum and Park  
Docents -2007**

Bonnie Barlup	Virginia Rahn
Linda Blubaugh	Sara Seabold
Anna Harford	Helen Shelley
Mia Hoover	Lauren Smith
Carolyn Krouse	Roy Struble
Phyllis King	Louise West
Barbara Kulusik	Peggy Wright
Ellie Miller	
Rev. Clay Moyer	
Anita Pfeuffer	
Gretchen Potocheny	

**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

**Renfrew Members  
2007**

Individual member—Janet N. Frantz  
Sustaining members-Willard & Virginia  
Rahn  
Beginning Business- Thomas Radley

**The Weathervane, Page 8  
Summer 2007**

**Renfrew's  
Gift Showcase**

Now that warm weather is finally here, everyone wants to be out and about.

Do stop by the Renfrew Museum Gift Showcase and see what's new. Our hours are:  
Tuesday through Friday noon until 4 pm.  
Saturday and Sunday 1-4pm. Closed on Mondays.

New items to choose from: birdhouses, gemstones, glass wasp-catchers and Renfrew note cards.

See you soon!

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

der  
**Wetterhahn**

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

**Renfrew  
Upcoming Events**

Sat. & Sun. August 11 and 12-The Civil War Encampment. Battle reenactment at 6:30pm on Aug. 11- Herbst Woods from Gettysburg.

Sat. Oct. 13-Pumpkin Fest- 11am-4pm- Our second annual pumpkin pie baking contest is part of this family fun event.

Fri. Nov. 9th-Second Annual German Heritage Dinner-7pm. Guest speaker will be Joyce Horst. More details later.

Sat. Nov. 17 and Sat. Dec. 1- Winter Workshops at Renfrew- more details in our fall issue.

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Waynesboro, PA  
17268  
Permit No. 405



## **Renfrew Museum Winter Workshops**

**“Traditional Christmas Ornaments” with Anita Pfeuffer  
Saturday, November 17 and Saturday, December 1, 2007  
10:00 – 12:00**

The first hour of this class will focus on the ancient art of paper folding. You'll learn how to fold a “Froebel” star from paper strips for decorating your Christmas tree in style. You'll also learn how to cut a “Scherenschnitte” (paper cutting) snowflake or heart ornament.”

*Participants are requested to bring a pair of small, fine pointed scissors with them.*

**“Create a Critter” with Kay Fitz  
Saturday, November 17, 2007  
1:00 – 3:00**

Gather with us and learn how to create a cute little mouse, owl or other critter from seedpods, nuts, and other natural materials. These ornaments may be used on your tree, table or mantle during the holiday season or for any other special time of the year! *Please bring your own hand pruners and any special materials you'd like to include in your critter.*

**“Make a Holiday Centerpiece” with Virginia Rahn and Sue Smith  
Saturday, December 1, 2007  
1:00 – 3:00**

This class will provide you with a beautiful centerpiece for your holiday table. Join us as we give you pointers for creating this decoration by using an oasis foam block, evergreens and other materials you can find in your own backyard! *Please bring your own hand pruners.*

**Fee for each class is \$15 for Members of Renfrew Museum and Park and \$20 for Nonmembers. All materials are included in fee. Ages 12 and up. Class size is limited and pre-registration is required. Please call 717-762-4723.**