



Museum's 200th year



Der Wetterhahn

Volume X Issue 11 The Newsletter of Renfrew Museum & Park

Summer 2012

PA German Festival-Willkommen!

2012 marks the 200th anniversary of the Museum House here at Renfrew. The highlight of our year long celebration is the PA German Festival which will be held on September 8th from 8:00am through 6:00pm. The day long event will provide visitors the opportunity to journey through time, from the year the house was built in 1812, to when it was given to the Waynesboro community by Emma Nicodemus and her sister, Hazel Geiser.



The festivities will begin with a 5k Volksmarch. This run/walk event is suited for any age and fitness level. It will begin behind the Museum House and wind across the Renfrew property. Awards, prizes, and T-shirts will be given to all participants.

The opening remarks will be at 10:00am by Pennsylvania Deputy Secretary of State and Royer descendent, Shannon Royer. Mr. Royer will be followed by Waynesboro's own, Wayne Band. Entertainment will continue all day with folk rock band Grounded at noon, and bluegrass country Friends Creek Band at 2pm. A very special treat around 3pm will be the Little Sister Band. They are a group of siblings all under the age of 13 who can just flat out play fiddles. The entertainment will be topped off with scrappy old school rock band Lucky Punk at 4pm.

Renfrew Institute will be on hand doing some excellent educational programs for kids of all ages throughout the day including a dairy program at the Milk House, a flax demo, and a presentation at the Four Square Garden up by the Fahnestock House and Barn. The Smokehouse will be fired up as well. A hog dressing demo will be held and tours of the Museum House will be given from noon till 4pm.

Maxine Beck and Marie Lanser Beck will be releasing their new book, "The Royers of Renfrew, Threads of Change" at the festival. Copies will be available for purchase along with their first book, "The Royers of Renfrew, A Family Tapestry". A portion of the proceeds from their books go to Renfrew Museum and Park and Renfrew Institute.

Sprechen Sie Deutsch! Linda Zimmerman will be on hand with her group teaching the challenging German language to anyone who wants to give it a try. Food vendors will be plentiful with brats, pulled beef, barbecued chicken, ice cream, funnel cakes, and much more to tempt your taste buds.

The highlight of the festival will undoubtedly be all the traditional crafters and artisans.

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Among them are a dulcimer maker, tinsmith, rug braider, potter, as well as lace and embroidery demonstrations, and more.

A rare William (Bill) Moran knife collection will be on exhibit in the Visitor Center. We will have tractor pulled hayrides around the property with historical narration along with a display of antique wagons, steam, and farming equipment.

It promises to be a great time for all! Come and spend the day with us!

Go to our website at www.renfrewmuseum.org, for more information and to register for the Volksmarch.

Article by: Dade Royer

Grumbine Clock

A new addition to Renfrew's collections is a tall case clock made by Peter Grumbine. It was most likely made between 1830-1840 of cherry wood. The dial bears the name of Grumbine in plain block letters and the town is noted as Waynesboro, the name adopted in 1831. Both the clock face and works were imported from England.



A silversmith as well as a clockmaker and watchmaker, Grumbine was first listed on the tax roles in 1827 and thereafter taxed only on his trade, apparently having no property. In 1846 his yearly income as a silversmith was listed as \$100.

He and his son operated a shop "one door east of Miss Seider's Millinery Store and nearly opposite the Saddler's Shop of William P. Weagly" where they made, sold and repaired goods in their trade. It was located to the east of the diamond on the North side of Main Street.

Mr. Grumbine died after an illness of several months at age 60 on April 5, 1867, leaving no will. His son continued the business until 1862.

Information and photo from *Crafts of Franklin County, 1784-1984*, by William Bowers.

PA German Society

Earlier this month, Thomas Gerhart, from the Pennsylvania German Society stopped by to donate a number of their publications to Renfrew's research library.



The titles range from publications such as "Bilder un Gedanke: A Book of Pennsylvania German Verse," "Pennsylvania German Secular Folksongs," two volumes of "The First Century of German Language Printing in the United States of America," and a "Pennsylvania German Dictionary," to more popular titles such as "Horse and Buggy Mennonites," "Plain Women," and "Pewter in Pennsylvania German Churches."

The Society, founded in 1891, is "an educational organization devoted to the study of the Pennsylvania German people and their more than 325-year history in America," according to their website. It promotes scholarly research,

information on Pennsylvania culture and dialect, music and film of Pennsylvania Germans, and offers high-quality reproductions of painted chests and other items for sale.

Their latest publication on fraktur is titled "The Heart of the Taufschein: Fraktur and the Pivotal Role of Berks County, Pennsylvania," Vol. 46 in a continuing series written by two well-known authorities on this art, Corinne and Russell Earnest.

Renfrew will maintain a continuing relationship with the Society to provide our members and the community with a link to an excellent source of information on the contribution of the Pennsylvania Germans to this area.

For additional information on the Society, check their website at www.pgs.org.





Devil's Den

Laid out in the children's bedroom is a diorama of the Devil's Den battle at Gettysburg. This historic reproduction of the boulder-heaped area was made by Don Biesecker, a re-enactor at Renfrew Museum for some 26 years. He is one of two members of Company F of the 139th Regiment of the Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry from Waynesboro.

"This is the first diorama I have ever done, and I picked Devil's Den as it was the most familiar to me and it did not take a lot of space," said Biesecker. "I did a personal inspection of the site about a year ago to confirm my plan."



He started painting in June 2011-concertrating on the soldiers, horses, and cannons- and finished in October. The 100 figures are made of molded plastic; the confederates are outfitted in tan colored uniforms, closest to the butternut shade used in their standard dress.

At the start of the battle, the Union troops were forced off the rocks. "Unlike most pictures you see of that time period no pictures of the stone wall the Confederates used to crawl up in their advance are shown. Some time after the battle and with the growth of tourism, the stone wall was dismantled only to be restored to its original appearance later."

For the landscape, Biesecker used chicken wire to shape the terrain and applied craft paper sprayed with glue and stapled to a piece of plywood. "I bought some containers of loose earth and pre-cast rocks at the Train Shop in Blue Ridge Summit and placed them on the landscape."

Before retirement Biesecker worked at Wayne Tool Company for some 26 years. He and his wife, Billie have three children.

"My next project is the Battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas (also known as Elk Horn Tavern) fought March 6-8, 1862 in northwestern Arkansas near Garfield, he noted.



Devil's Den Diorama



Emma Nicodemus and "friend" Tiddly

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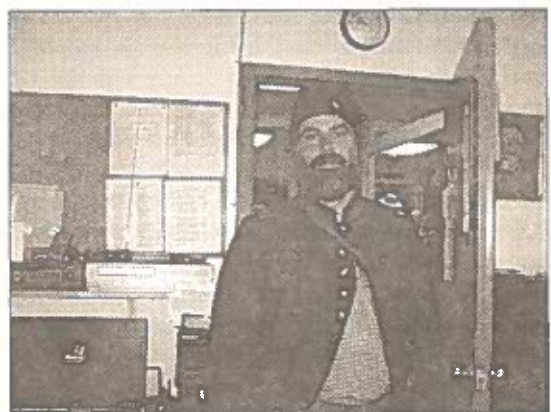
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Scenes from the
Windjammers visit
on
July 19, 2012



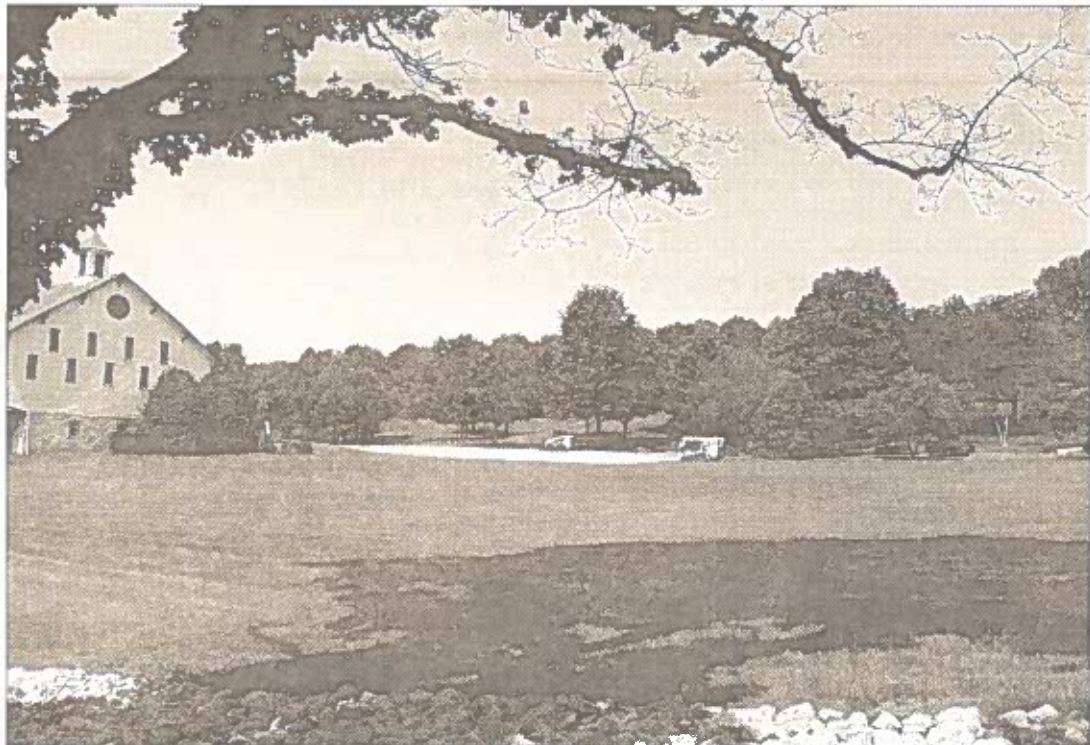
Young entertainer



John Miller lends his expertise



Volunteer
John Curfman
talented
fence painter
and
Wayne
Martz
at the
Visitors
Center



View from road of the new addition to
Visitor's Center parking lot.



Meet Kurt and Sarah Schlosser

Lori Schlosser, an instructor of Renfrew Institute, has not one but two children working for Renfrew Museum and Park this summer.



Sarah, the eldest, is a sophomore at Penn State studying occupational therapy. Her plans are to obtain her degree and then head for Wilson College for a degree in equine management and equine facilitated therapeutics. "I started riding at six years of age and have continued to do so on and off," she said.

She was active in sports while attending Waynesboro High School, including track and field and discus. And reflecting her interest in horses, she likes biology-both human and equine.

Kurt, Sarah's brother, is in his junior year at Waynesboro High School with plans to go on to Penn State—two years at Mont Alto and two at the main campus—in mechanical engineering. "It's just fascinating," he said, describing his interest in this field..



Kurt is now engaged in a three-phased Eagle Scout project at Happel's Meadow. The first step was building two bridges, one 40 feet and the other 24 feet, to provide a way to cross the trail when it rains hard. The second phase will include removing some invasive plants and different grasses which block wildflowers, such as wild mustard brought over by German immigrants. Phase three includes putting up 4x4 wooden signs with details on native wild species and plants.



Renfrew Society Membership

G. P. Royer, PhD.

Individual Memberships

William Brevard
Carol Mac Dougall

Family Memberships

John Curfman Family
Dr. and Mrs. William Magee

Meet Frederick Skorban, III

Frederick Michael Skroban, III, the son of Beth Skroban, also an instructor at the institute, has been engaged in carpentry and minor construction. Home schooled, he graduated with honors in science; has an Associate Degree from Hagerstown Community College, and is now studying general management at Shippensburg University.



"My career goal is to work in law enforcement, preferably with the U.S. Marshalls," he noted.

He has been a camp counselor for ten years, four at Saddle-Up Ministeries (now closed) and six years at the Cove Valley Youth Camp (for both summer and winter sessions). He works with the Cedar Ridge Children's Home in Williamsport, Md. where he trains students in challenge and rope courses.

And, if that is not enough, he also works part-time for Stoneham's, a position he has held for four years, as an outside sales person.



Thomas O. Moore, Jr.
Partner
Extension 7

CFP & M
Craig, Friedly, Potter, & Moore
INSURANCE AGENCY

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E-Mail: tom@cfpandm.com



**Renfrew Committee, Inc.
 Members -2012**

Allison (Allie) Kohler, President and Director
 David Hykes, Vice President and Director
 George Buckey, Treasurer and Director
 A. J. Benchoff, Director
 Greg White, Director
 Barbara Gaydick, Secretary and Director
 Alice McCleaf, Assistant Secretary and Director

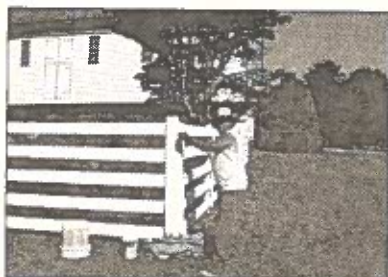
**Renfrew Executive Committee
 Members -2012**

David Hykes-Chairman
 George Buckey-Treasurer
 Allie Kohler
 Terry Barkdoll
 Robert Benchoff
 Doug Burkholder
 Steve Graham
 Wayne Martz
 Barbara McCracken
 Richard "Red" Mohn
 Tom Moore
 Virginia Rahn
 Dade Royer
 Rick Shindle

**Renfrew Museum and Park
 Volunteers-2012**

Bonnie Barlup
 Cookie Beck
 Marilyn Bender
 Billie Biesecker
 Irene Blackburn
 Linda Blubaugh
 Michelle Brown
 Ned Brown
 Daniel Carbaugh
 Anne & Bill Conrad
 Phyllis Croson
 Emily Elden
 Peggy Etter
 Connie & John Huet
 Deborah Kimberley
 Phyllis King
 Chris Kostka
 Carolyn Krouse
 Patricia Kugler
 Carol MacDougall
 Gene Martin
 Alice Noll
 Anita Pfeuffer
 Virginia Rahn
 Helen Shelley
 Roy Struble
 Mary B. Unger
 Pamela J. Wagner

John
 Curfman
 at
 work!



**Renfrew Museum and Park
 Staff -2012**

Bonnie Iseminger-Administrator
 John Frantz-Supervisor of Buildings and
 Grounds
 Bob North-Traveling Trunk Outreach
 Cheryl Keyser-Visitor Services Personnel
 Judy Elden-Visitors Services Personnel

**Renfrew Museum and Park
 Summer Staff-2012**

Sarah Schlosser-lawn mowing
 Kurt Schlosser-lawn mowing
 Frederick Skroban- maintenance

**Recognition of Individuals and Business
 Organizations for Recent Contributions to
 Renfrew Museum and Park. Thank you!**

Donation of book owned by David Royer- Michael Flohr
 Planting of a sweet berry tree in the name of Judge Keller-
 Ms. Nancy Funk
 Donation for purchase of a tree in the name of Judge Keller-
 Spiros and Rosemary Kourliouros
 Donation of inside/outside speaker system- Kenneth Duncan
 Delivery of speaker system- Rick Shindle
 Additions to Steck/Graham Collection- Steve Graham
 Plantings, work on gardens around Museum House and
 Visitors Center- Wayne Martz; Barbara McCracken and
 Phyllis Croson
 Plants and dogwood tree for Visitors Center- Terry Barkdoll
 Assistance with Navy Cruisers Concert- Wayne Martz, Rick
 Shindle, Virginia Rahn, Emily, Sarah and Jessica Elden, Dade
 Royer, Girl Scout Troop #80880, and George Buckey
 Painting of Visitors Center fence- John Curfman
 Donation of railroad ties for parking area-John Gehr
 Donation of extra copies of engineering report-R. Lee Royer
 Digging for new electric line-Travis Buffington
 Expanding of electric lines- Star Electric/Denny Martin
 Labor for wagon shed-Brad Royer Construction
 Restoration of letter writing desk- Thomas M. Maley
 Assistance with gardens work- Troop #31- Cameron Holden-
 Eagle Scout nominee
 Waynesboro memorabilia- Mrs. Jan Shafer
 Volunteers for Windjammers-Alice Noll, Virginia Rahn,
 Pam Wagner, Connie Huet, Patty Kugler, and Marilyn Bender
 Money for tree in memory of Judge Keller, Franklin County
 Bar Association
 Donation to the Memorial Fund for Willard Rahn-Kraemer
 and Bruce Becker
 Donation for purchase of event shirts- Steve Graham



Renfrew's Gift Showcase

Renfrew's Gift Showcase has new hours with the opening of our season on April 21-Monday through Friday noon until 4 p.m. On Saturday and Sunday the hours will be 1:00 -4:00p.m



Cold bottled water



available!



Editor: Bonnie Iseminger
Contributors: Cheryl Keyser and Bonnie Iseminger
and Dade Royer
Photos: Bonnie Iseminger and Bertha Thompson

Renfrew Upcoming Events

August 11 and 12-Civil War encampment Sat., Aug. 11-
9:00a.m.-8:00p.m. -Battle of Shiloh at 7:00 p.m.
Sun., Aug. 12 8:00 a.m-1:30p.m.

Thur., Aug. 23-Free concert by the U.S. Navy Country
Current -6:00p.m.- FREE ice cream!

Sat., Sept. 8-Pennsylvania German Festival- 8:00am-
6:00 pm- artisans, food and more

Sat., Oct. 15- Annual Pumpkin Fest- 11:00a.m.-4:00p.m.



In case of inclement weather the Navy County Current
concert will be held in the auditorium at Waynesboro
Middle School.

der Wetterhahn

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(717)762-4723 Email: renfrew@innernet.net
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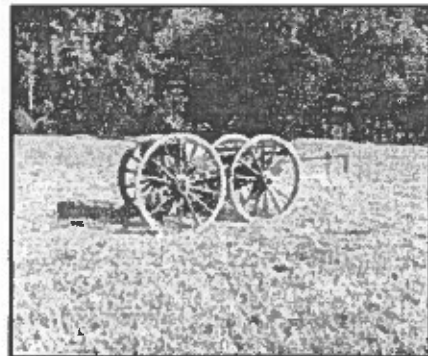
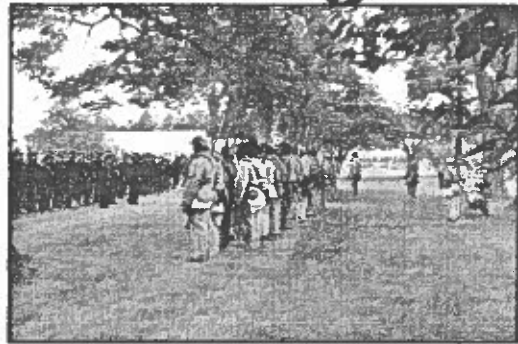


Civil War Encampment at Renfrew Park August 11 & 12, 2012 *“The Rebs are Coming”*

Schedule of Events

Saturday

- 7:00 am Reveille
- 8:00 am Camps open to the public
- 9:00 am Dress Parade/Colors—back yard of Museum House
- 10:00 am Tactical
- 12:00 noon Lunch
- 1:00–3:00 pm Demonstrations for ladies interests in 1865—in Fahnestock House
- 3:00 Military nine count firing competition
- 4:00–6:00 pm Supper
- 7:00 pm Battle of Shiloh (April 1862 in Tennessee)
- 8:00 pm Camps close to public



Sunday

- 7:00 am Reveille
 - 8:00 am Camps open to the public
 - 9:00 am Dress Parade—back yard of the Museum House
 - 10:00 am Period church service— backyard of Museum House
 - 1:00 pm Battle
 - 1:30 pm Camps close to the public
- Call 717-762-4723

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Pennsylvania German FESTIVAL

Saturday, Sept. 8

8 AM–6 PM • RAIN OR SHINE

Renfrew Museum & Park • Waynesboro, PA

Authentic Pennsylvania German Farmstead

Live
Music!

FAMILY FUN for All Ages!

Food
Vendors

All-day Entertainment & Activities

- 5K Volksmarch Run/Walk at 8 AM
- Traditional Artisans & Crafts
- Live Animals
- Hayrides with Historical Narration
- Antique Wagons, Steam & Farming Equipment Displays
- 19th Century Farmlife Demonstrations—Interpretors in Period Dress
 - Renfrew Institute activities include Flax, Dairy/Butter-making & Pennsylvania German Four-Square Garden
 - Butchering Demo
- William ('Bill') Moran Knife Collection
& Much More!

ADMISSION

Adults: \$5 • Children 6 to 12: \$2
Age 5 & under: FREE

FREE
PARKING!

For more information:

www.renfrewmuseum.org



717-762-4723

Proceeds benefit Renfrew Museum & Park



Daniel Royer house, built in 1812