

Renfrew MUSEUM & PARK



Winter 2022

“Walk Back In Time”

der Wetterhahn

The Weathervane: News & Updates from the Farm

Our mission is to preserve, enhance, promote, and interpret the Royer family Pennsylvania German Farmstead, the Nicodemus and Bell collections, and the surrounding Park.

We are the Wünschers: Greeting the New Year at Renfrew with a Bang!

In this issue:

- ♦ A Message from Our Executive Director
- ♦ Wishing-in and Shooting-in of the New Year
- ♦ In-coming and Out-going Board and Staff
- ♦ Upcoming Programs and Events
 - An Evening With The Presidents
 - Floorcloth Workshop
 - Historic Hearth Cooking Lessons
 - 2022 Volunteer Info Sessions
 - Farmstead Taste & Tours — and more!

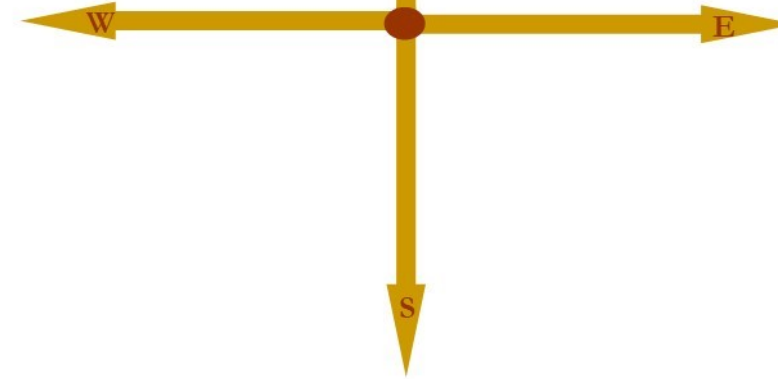
Visit us at www.RenfrewMuseum.org

Renfrew
MUSEUM & PARK



1010 East Main Street
Waynesboro, PA 17268

Address Service Requested



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

Renfrew Administrative Staff Contacts

Becky LaBarre
Executive Director & CEO
becky.labarre@renfrewmuseum.org

Steve LaBarre
Manager of Visitor Experiences
steve@renfrewmuseum.org

Gene Kelley
Manager of Buildings & Grounds
gene@renfrewmuseum.org

 (717) 762-4723
info@renfrewmuseum.org
www.RenfrewMuseum.org

HOURS OF OPERATION
Summer (Mid-April—Mid-October)
Tues.-Fri. 9am—4pm; Sat. 1pm—4pm
Winter (Mid-October—Mid-April)
Mon.-Fri. 9am—4pm
Park Grounds Open Daily, Dawn to Dusk

Our Mission

To preserve, enhance, promote, and interpret the Royer family Pennsylvania German farmstead, the Nicodemus and Bell collections, and the surrounding Park.

Our Vision

To be a welcoming and memorable destination where everyone can walk back in time.

Our Values

Integrity — With honesty and truth, we will adhere to the highest moral and ethical standards in all our endeavors.

Authenticity — We will interpret with historical accuracy all of our exhibits, collections, programs, and events.

Excellence — We will be exceptional in everything we do.

Follow Us on Facebook and Instagram!



Renfrew Museum and Park



@renfrewmuseumpark

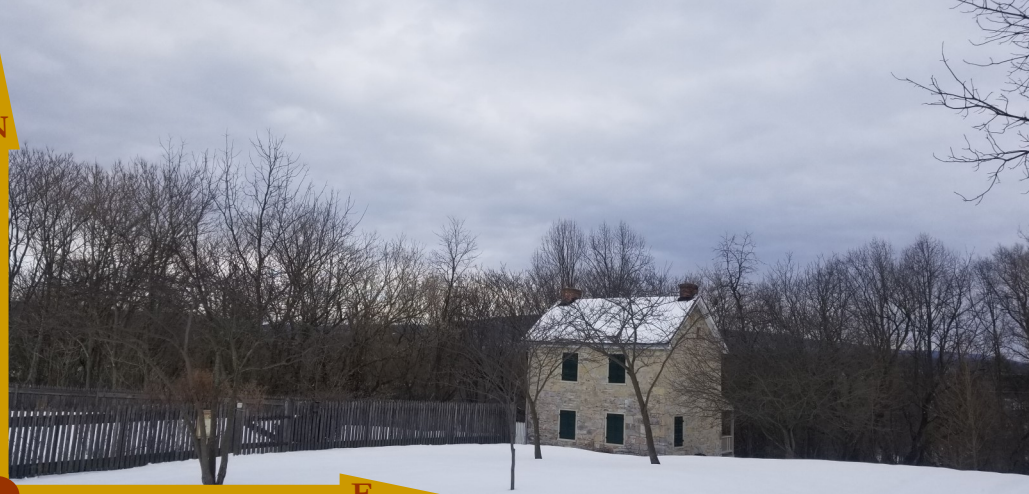
RENFREW COMMITTEE, INC.

Board of Directors

Dade Royer, President
Laurie Hovermale, Vice President
TBD, Treasurer
Harold Mumma, Secretary
Valorie Dick
Patti McLaughlin
Kari Saavedra

Staff

Becky LaBarre
Executive Director & CEO
Steve LaBarre
Manager of Visitor Experiences
Suzanne Toms
Visitor Experiences
Representative
Gene Kelley
Manager of Buildings and
Grounds
Guy Manson
Buildings and Grounds
Representative



A Message from our Executive Director:



Welcome to 2022!

Here at Renfrew, we can't wait to welcome you to a brand new year of high quality experiences at everyone's favorite farmstead. We're eager to wish you a Happy New Year and share with you everything we have planned for the winter season!

Our theme for this issue, "We are the Wünschers: Greeting the New Year at Renfrew with a Bang!", reflects our connection to Pennsylvania-German families of the past and New Years Day callers who honored their friends and neighbors with recitations, songs, and the shooting of rifles (see page 2). While we won't be shooting off any guns, Renfrew is pleased to wish-in the New Year by offering an exciting selection of educational programs and hands-on experiences for you to try in early 2022.

Join us on February 12 for the return of *Winter Workshop: Floorcloths* (page 6) where we'll learn the history of this common 19th century floorcovering and make our own versions using period-inspired techniques. You won't want to miss *An Evening with the Presidents* on Tuesday, February 22 (page 5) to view a special assemblage of fascinating presidential-related artifacts from both Renfrew's own exhibits and a private collection.

In late February, we'll host Renfrew's annual *Volunteer Info Sessions* (see page 9) for those wishing to become more involved with our organization. Then March heralds the return of our popular *Farmstead Taste & Tour* program (page 10) with a springtime tasting menu inspired by the seasonal rhythms of the farmstead.

Be sure to mark your calendar for Renfrew's 47th *Opening Day* on Saturday, April 9, 2022 from 10:00am to 4:00pm and the return of a reimagined *Terrific Tuesdays: Historic Activities for Families*, now a four-session farmstead adventure series, starting in March. More info on both these happenings to follow in your spring newsletter.

This winter, we are the wünschers—wishing you health, prosperity, hope, and joy this new year. Looking forward to seeing you soon at Renfrew Museum and Park!

Sincerely,

Rebecca J. LaBarre

's Neijohr a' winscha un a'schiessa

Or the "Wishing-in and Shooting-in of the New Year"



New Year's Day Calling, 1859
Harper's Weekly

Pennsylvania German tradition holds that the coming of the New Year and the departure of the old is announced by the 's Neijohr a' winscha un a'schiessa or the "Wishing-in and Shooting-in of the New Year." In its simplest form, the tradition is marked by well-wishers or "shooters" going house to house, presenting their New Year's wishes and firing their longrifles to mark the New Year. Dr. A. R. Horne's *The Pennsylvania German Manual* (1910) summarizes the practice. Home, born and reared a Pennsylvania German, learned the "character, habits, virtues, homelife and characteristics of the people thoroughly" and informs us that, "Coming of New Year and the departure of the old is announced by shooting. Those shooting go from house to house, present their New Year's wishes and shoot before the door. As we meet each other the first time on New Year we wish each other a Happy New Year. Each one tries to get ahead of the other in wishing."¹

An excellent detailed account is provided by Reverend John Baer Stoudt:

The party usually consisted of the wünscher (the reciter), and the shooters, five or six in number. The latter carried guns, usually old war muskets, and fired a volley at the conclusion of the greeting. The party assembled at the home of the leader and at midnight, after having wished well to the head of the house, they set out for the homes of the friends and neighbors. The "Wünschers," as the party was called, upon the arrival at a homestead would arrange themselves at the window of the kammer, where the head of the house slept, or beneath the window of the bed chamber in case he slept up-stairs, and would call him by name. Upon receiving an answer the reciter would begin to repeat the greetings. By this time the whole house was stirring, for everybody was anxious to hear the Wünschering and to witness the shooting. If the shooting was not agreeable to the family it was not indulged in, for permission always was asked before the volley was fired. Those to whom the salutations were conveyed usually recognized their indebtedness to the kind purveyors, by inviting them into the house to a warm stove and by "handing around" refreshments. Sometimes hot mince pies and brandy or rum were added to the customary cakes, apples and cider. After the luncheon the party wended their way, oftentimes through storm and snow, to the next farm house. To have been passed by the Wünsching party, was a mark of unpopularity and accepted by the family as an affront.²

A scene such as this would have been commonplace during the residency of the Royer and Fahnestock families in the early nineteenth century. In an era when the observance of Christmas was mostly a religious one, the more secular celebration of New Year's Day calling was practiced by the multiple ethnic groups which had settled Franklin and Adams counties including the Pennsylvania-Dutch, English, and Scotch-Irish.³ We here at Renfrew Museum and Park hope that you come calling and visit with us this season as we celebrate our 47th year in 2022! **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

¹ Abraham Reeser Horne, *Horne's Pennsylvania German Manual: How Pennsylvania German is Spoken and Written, for Pronouncing, Speaking and Writing English* (Allentown, PA: Democrat Publishing, Co. 1910), 127.

² Rev. John Baer Stoudt, *The Folklore of the Pennsylvania-German: A Paper Read Before The Pennsylvania-German Society At the Annual Meeting York, Pennsylvania, October 14th, 1910* (Lancaster, PA: The New Era Printing Company, 1915), 102-103.

³ For more information see, H. A. Schuler, ed., "Shooting-In the New Year: A Peculiar Pennsylvania-German Custom," *The Pennsylvania-German* 8, no. 1 (January 1907): 15-18.



John Masey Wright and John Rogers'
c. 1841 illustration of "Auld Lang Syne".

Welcome, New Board Member!

Renfrew Committee, Inc. is pleased to introduce Kari Saavedra as our newest member to recently join the board of directors. Kari brings a wealth of experience, enthusiasm, and special skills to assist with advancing Renfrew's mission and move our institution forward. Join us in welcoming her to Renfrew's leadership team!



Kari Saavedra, Board Member

Kari serves as Recreation Manager, Natural/Cultural/Therapeutic & Events Teams for the Frederick County, Maryland Division of Parks and Recreation. Prior to her current role, she was the Museum Manager for Frederick County Parks & Recreation at Rose Hill Manor Park & Museums from 2009 to 2020. She has worked in the museum field for 20 years with experience in visitor services, education and administration. She received her Master of Arts in History from the University of Maryland College Park (2006). Kari is a certified Master

Docent through the Frederick Historic Sites Consortium and serves as co-chair of the Consortium. She works closely with the local Tourism Board where she also serves as chair for the Frederick County Tourism Reinvestment in Program and Planning Grant program. Kari enjoys sharing her love of history with others and has been a guest lecturer for various organizations. In her spare time Kari volunteers with her church and enjoys spending time with her family. She and her kids count Renfrew among their favorite parks and love marking the holidays with the Christmas on the Farm event.

Special Thanks to Our Outgoing Executive Officers



Doug Burkholder, Treasurer

Doug B. joined the board of directors in 2016, but had been actively involved with Renfrew for many years prior. He generously gave his time to support various programs and projects, along with holding a position on Renfrew Executive Committee (REC).

As treasurer of Renfrew Committee, Inc. (RCI) Doug served as an integral member of the Budget & Finance Committee. As a professional CPA, Doug's expertise proved invaluable in advising the board on budget and fund allocation. Many thanks, Doug, for your years of faithful service to Renfrew!



Doug Parks, Vice President

Doug P. has served Renfrew Museum and Park for many years, and most consistently since 2015. During his early volunteer years, he was influential in helping to get the summer kitchen and bake oven up and running for historical interpretation. Doug's commitment to moving Renfrew forward in fulfilling its mission led him to serve on Renfrew Committee, Inc.'s board of trustees. During his time on the board Doug also chaired the Renfrew Executive Committee (REC), Property & Grounds Committee,

served on the Policies & Procedures Committee, and more. Thank you, Doug, for all you've done to support Renfrew!

Special Thanks to Our Retiring Staff



John Frantz, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds

Retiring at the end of the 2021 season, John Frantz served Renfrew Museum and Park for just over 25 years as Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds. John has been a life-long resident of Waynesboro, growing up on the family farm along Buchanan Trail / PA 16. A product of the Waynesboro Area School District, John was active in 4H and Future Farmers of America (FFA) during his high school years. After graduation, he worked on the family farm and at various local feed mills. For four years he had the opportunity to travel with the Schlitz 40 horse hitch and the O's

Gold 40 horse hitch, both based in Zeoring, Iowa. Prior to working at Renfrew, he was employed at the former Grove Technical Retreat Center in the grounds department.

John's wife of 43 years, Jean, recalls fondly how he came to take on the position of Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds at Renfrew. She recounts that when she and their children were



on a walk at the park one day, they ran into Renfrew's original caretaker, Ed Miller (1929-2017) who mentioned to Jean that he would be retiring soon and that Renfrew would be looking to hire his replacement. Upon returning home, Jean told her husband

"Have I got a job for you!" — and the rest is history. John signed on to work with the Borough of Waynesboro, beginning his new position at Renfrew on April 4, 1996. When Renfrew Committee, Inc. (RCI) was established in 1997, John's position transferred to the nonprofit which he has served faithfully ever since.



During his tenure with Renfrew, John lead the maintenance staff in daily care and stewardship of the 107-acre property, ensuring the historic buildings, trails, and natural features were always well-kept and ready to receive our many visitors. Along with his regular duties, John also lent his hand at educating and interpreting for the public. John's extensive



knowledge of historic farming techniques and technology, along with that of his family, were called upon often for special events at Renfrew including wheat threshing demonstrations, presentations and exhibits on the Conestoga Wagon Company, "Meet the Mares" program, hay rides, and more. Renfrew is eternally grateful to John and the entire Frantz Family for over a quarter century of devoted service to this organization. As we like to say, "It's not good-bye, just see ya later!", and we wish John the very best as he begins his retirement.





Programs & Events

PRESENTATION:

An Evening With The Presidents

Tuesday, February 22, 2022 at 7:00pm
\$5 per person / Free for Renfrew Members

TWO WAYS TO ATTEND:

1. Online via Zoom (*Link will be emailed*)
2. In-Person Watch Party at Renfrew (*Limit 40*)

Renfrew Museum & Park Executive Director, Becky LaBarre, and Manager of Visitor Experiences, Steve LaBarre, will be your hosts as you enjoy *An Evening with the Presidents*. Gather in the Wagon Shed Room as Becky and Steve share a special selection of presidential and associated artifacts from Renfrew's collection, along with some interesting antiques of their own. Uncover the fascinating stories about America's presidents hidden in pictures, prints, ceramics, items of personal adornment, and more. Only those attending in person will be able to view this unique assembly of fascinating objects up close, but everyone registered will have the chance to enjoy a fun slideshow presentation on the background of each presidential piece lead by Renfrew's resident material culture experts. Hope you'll join us!



Register online at:
[RenfrewMuseum.org/
presentations-and-workshops](https://RenfrewMuseum.org/presentations-and-workshops)



WINTER WORKSHOP: FLOORCLOTHS

Saturday, February 12, 2022 at 10:00am—1:00pm

\$30 per person / \$20 for Renfrew Members

Limit 12 participants

Do you enjoy the folksy look of painted canvas floorcloths? Ever wanted to make one of your own? Discover the beauty and history of this traditional craft with Manager of Visitor Experiences, Steve LaBarre. Following an illustrated presentation about the history of painted floorcloths, you'll create a mini-mat of your own using period techniques that you can replicate on larger pieces at home. Participants receive a prepared 18" x 18" blank canvas mat. Paint and stencils will be provided. Class size is limited to twelve (12) so make your reservation today! Children ages ten and up are welcome to attend with a responsible adult.

Learn more and register online at:
RenfrewMuseum.org/presentations-and-workshops

Mark Your Calendar!

(More info and registrations to
follow in future issues.)

- ♦ **Judy Elden Memorial
Summer Concerts in the
Park Series**
Thursday Evenings
June-July 2022
from 6:30-7:30pm
- ♦ **#RenfrewOnTheRoad:
Gettysburg Civil War
Relic and Collector Show**
Saturday, June 25 &
Sunday, June 26, 2022
- ♦ **Farmstead Day**
Saturday, July 16, 2022
from 10:00am-4:00pm
- ♦ **7th Annual
Oktoberfest**
Saturday, September 17,
2022 from 12:00-5:00pm
- ♦ **#RenfrewOnTheRoad:
Mainstreet Waynesboro
Market Day**
Saturday, October 1, 2022
from 9:00am-4:00pm
- ♦ **"Treasures from the
Collection" Members
Only Event**
Thursday, October 6, 2022
Reception 6:30pm,
Program 7:00pm
- ♦ **Christmas on the Farm**
Friday, December 2, 2022
from 3:00-8:00pm and
Saturday, December 3,
2022 from 12:00-8:00pm

Historic Hearth Cooking Lessons

Personalized instruction for groups of up to four guests.

Renfrew
MUSEUM & PARK



Now booking for the 2022 season!

www.RenfrewMuseum.org/historic-hearth-cooking

HISTORIC HEARTH COOKING LESSONS

\$300.00 for a 3-hour session

Select Dates Only, 10:00am to 1:00pm

One to Four Participants

Pre-registration is required.

Private Lessons for up to Four Guests

Enjoy an intimate, hands-on culinary experience inside Renfrew's 1814 Summer Kitchen. Guests will be taught the basics of early nineteenth-century open hearth cooking techniques by preparing their own period meal under the guidance of our domestic life historians in period dress. Menu selections reflect the seasonal ingredients available to local families like the Royers during the early nineteenth century and can be tailored to participants' dietary needs. You will learn about historic hearth equipment, how it works, and use it safely to create a delicious and hearty repast. Nothing tastes better than a hearth-cooked meal made by your own two hands! Select from one of the dates listed below for your personalized instruction in historic cookery today.

Select Your Date!

Monday, May 2

Saturday, May 14

Saturday, June 11

Monday, June 13

Thursday, September 1

Wednesday, September 21

Monday, October 3

Saturday, October 8



47th Opening Day Celebration

Saturday, April 9, 2022

10:00am to 4:00pm

Free Admission

Planning is underway for this free event to kick off our new season and enjoy springtime at Renfrew. Activities include Museum House tours, historic demonstrations, wagon rides, family fun area, and more! Our gift shop and Visitors Center galleries will be open along with the Royer farmstead outbuildings for all to enjoy. We look forward to welcoming you to Renfrew Museum and Park for our 2022 season!



Stay tuned for more information in the coming weeks and check RenfrewMuseum.org/opening-day for more updates



TERRIFIC TUESDAYS:

Historic Activities for Families

Hands-on Farmstead Adventures!

Learn about life on our historic Pennsylvania German Farmstead by visiting four of Renfrew's historic features: Pennsylvania Foursquare Garden, Milk House, Summer Kitchen, and Fahnestock Farm. Students will make fun craft projects inspired by the authentic stories found in our collections, buildings, and landscape.

3/29 Gardening—Pennsylvania German Foursquare Gardens

6/28 Dairying—Milk House

8/23 Architecture—Fahnestock House, Barn, & Lime Kiln

9/27 Cooking & Baking—Summer Kitchen

Tuesday Mornings from 10:00am-12:00pm

Four (4) select dates starting in March 2022

\$10 per child / \$8 for Friends of Renfrew Members

Limit 20 students per session.

Recommended for kids ages 6-13.

Must be accompanied by a responsible adult (admitted at no charge).

Registration information coming soon.

2022 Volunteer Info Sessions

Thursday, February 24, 2022

at 10:00am or 6:00pm



learning how you can help us advance Renfrew's mission, please plan to attend one of our mandatory informational meetings.

Renfrew is seeking volunteers! As we approach our 47th Opening Day, we're looking for friendly, community-minded people to help us provide great experiences to our visitors during the upcoming season. Volunteers at Renfrew Museum and Park assist professional staff with a wide variety of tasks including our popular programs and events, gardening and grounds keeping, tours, interpretation, artifact collections and exhibits, guest engagement, outreach, and so much more! If you're interested in

THREE WAYS TO ATTEND:

1. In-Person at Renfrew
(Limit 40 at each session)
2. Live Online via Zoom
(Link will be emailed.)
3. View recording within one week of program
(Must be pre-registered to receive recording)



The meetings will be held in the Wagon Shed Room located at the Visitors Center with simultaneous livestream online via Zoom. A recording will be distributed to all registrants so, even if you can't join us live, you'll still be well-informed. This hour-long session will be led by Renfrew's Executive Director, Becky LaBarre, and Manager of Visitor Experiences, Steve LaBarre. Join our dedicated team of volunteers and help Renfrew fulfill its vision "to be a welcoming and memorable destination where everyone can walk back in time."

Pre-Registration Is Required by Monday, February 21 (no walk-ins)

Register Online at:

RenfrewMuseum.org/volunteer-info-sessions

or register by phone at (717)-762-4723

All current and prospective volunteers must register and attend via one of the three options (no exceptions).

***Note:** If you are interested in becoming a docent you must first attend the Feb. 24th volunteer info session to be eligible for further interpretive training at Renfrew.

Please mark your calendar and plan to attend the two-day mandatory docent training session on Saturday, March 12, 9:00am—4:00pm and Saturday, March 26, 9:00am—12:00pm.

Renfrew MUSEUM & PARK



Offering guests the opportunity to sample seasonal, locally sourced fare inspired by the traditions of our historic Pennsylvania German farmstead.

Springtime (March & May)

Breads

White, Rye, Cranberry Apple Muffin

Preserves

Lemon Curd, Rhubarb Jelly, Freshly Churned Butter

Soup

Creamed Asparagus

Salad

Strawberry, radish, spinach w/ vinaigrette dressing

Sandwiches

Cranberry Chicken, Egg Salad, Cucumber & Carrot

Dessert

Assorted Cheesecakes, Cherry Shortbread Cookie, Carrot Cake

Beverages

Ice Tea, Water, Switchel – Matcha, Lime, & Mint

For more info about other seasonal menus see program webpage

Three-Hour Program Package from 11:00am to 2:00pm

Select 2022 Dates Only:

Tuesday, March 15 Friday, March 18 Friday, May 6

Tuesday, August 16 Friday, August 19

Tuesday, Dec. 6 Friday, Dec. 9

Tuesday, Dec. 13 Friday, Dec. 16

Treat yourself or someone special to a delicious farm-to-table dining experience at Renfrew Museum and Park this season. Our Farmstead Taste & Tour program offers guests the opportunity to sample seasonal, locally sourced fare inspired by the traditions of our historic Pennsylvania German farmstead. Your meal will be hosted in Renfrew's Wagon Shed Room inside our converted Victorian barn. Servers dressed in authentic early 19th century period clothing will wait upon you with old-fashioned hospitality.

Start with a hearty coursed meal of salad, soup, and a selection of fresh-baked breads accompanied by Dutch Valley preserves and creamy, churned butter followed by a trio of sandwiches. After lunch, enjoy a tour of the farmstead outbuildings and 1812 stone Museum House, then return for a scrumptious dessert.

Our menu changes seasonally and reflects the rhythms of life on the farm. For listing of menus go to:
www.RenfrewMuseum.org/taste-and-tour

Produce is sourced from Greensburg Farms, Hagerstown, MD and prepared by our friends at Keystone Family Restaurant, Waynesboro, PA.

Sold by the table. Limit 20 people per session.
Seating available as:

- (4) tables of up to 2 guests – \$60 each
- (3) tables of up to 4 guests – \$120 each

Must register no less than 48 hours in advance. No refunds will be given after registration window closes. Tables will be distanced 6'-0" apart and must be reserved by family unit, household, or party. Please select your table choice and indicate total number in your party at checkout. Table need not be filled to capacity to participate, but table price still applies. Thanks for your cooperation and we look forward to serving you at Renfrew Museum and Park!

To Reserve Your Table Go To:
www.RenfrewMuseum.org/taste-and-tour