When Renfrew Institute began in January 1990, there was a feeling of satisfaction and security in knowing we had created a vehicle to ensure the continuation of educational programs for school children—the cornerstone of our mission—long into the future. If you are a new reader of Streamside, or one of our charter members, you may enjoy looking back with me for a few moments.

School programs began under Renfrew Museum and Park in the fall of 1986, and by 1989 had grown quickly in popularity, attendance and cost. The museum board, realizing that it could not sustain such an expensive, yet worthwhile extension of its operation, knew something should be done to keep the programs going and provide the resources needed.

Renfrew Institute was created as a separate, non-profit 501(c)3 organization with the charge to run the school programs and raise the funding needed to keep them going. That mission was destined to broaden and deepen, beyond the school programs and the school day. Rich learning opportunities in the areas of environmental education and cultural history would soon be offered to people of all ages in the Waynesboro regional community, and at varied times of the day, evening and weekend.

**Building Upon School Programming**

Since that formative time the Renfrew school programs have become an integral part of cultural and environmental learning for Waynesboro children. Local elementary schools (public and private) participate each year and at all grade levels. Though a few programs have been shelved or rewritten, and a few new ones created, most of the programs running in 1990 continue today.

The goal of those programs remains...to help students build connections to the past and to the natural world...and to promote stewardship through those connections. Today, school groups from all over the region—approximately 10,000 student visits annually—participate in the institute’s programs.

**Broadening our Scope**

As early as 1990 there was interest in offering weekend community events that would draw not only children, but also adults into the “building of connections.” The first Earth Day celebration was held at Renfrew Park on April 22, 1990. Environmental learning for the whole community had begun here.

On Saturday, April 17, 2010 we will celebrate the 20th anniversary of that event, which has grown to include 30 to 40 environmental exhibitors, music and food, and also a Festival of Art, featuring an
Ed Miller: Man About Town—and Country

Ed Miller was born just three miles north of Waynesboro, in a house still standing off Wharf Road in Zullinger. His father worked nearly 50 years as a cold storage engineer for Edgar Nicodemus, who owned the house. “If you worked for the Nicodemus family,” Ed said, “you became family.”

His birthplace could almost be said to have determined his destiny, as he began life in a Nicodemus house and spent nearly 50 years himself working for the Nicodemus family. He still lives in what used to be a Nicodemus house, adjacent to Renfrew Museum and Park.

When Nicodemus and his wife, Emma, bought the property in 1942, Ed was already working for them—he began working in their orchards while in high school. Ed eventually came to work full-time as caretaker of the Renfrew property.

When Mrs. Nicodemus bequeathed the property to the borough of Waynesboro in 1970, her will stipulated that Ed Miller remain superintendent of buildings and grounds, a position he maintained until retiring in 1994.

Ed was involved with the earliest school programming at Renfrew. Melodie Anderson-Smith [RI Executive Director] recalls, “Ed was instrumental in helping develop the props and park locations for the first Renfrew environmental education school program, Green Energy, launched in fall of 1986.” That was the beginning of formal school group programs at Renfrew and was at that time under the auspices of Renfrew Museum and Park. “Ed’s belief in the concept of bringing school programs to Renfrew made the realization of that dream come true,” Melodie said.

Ed was a hands-on assistant with the Green Energy program. “Especially notable was Ed’s help with the ‘Food Factory,’ a tent-like rendition of a leaf large enough for students to crawl into,” Melodie said. “While students were inside, the leaf ‘spoke’ to them through a hidden speaking tube, helping them learn about photosynthesis. Ed warmed up to this totally new—and somewhat odd—idea for Renfrew Park, and helped gather materials and create the leaf.”

Ed’s spirit of fun led to his playing the role of prospector Sam Slick in Green Energy. Sam was always searching for “gold”—sunlight energy gold, that is. “I wore a costume with a beard, an old leather slouch hat, rubber boots and baggy pants,” Ed recalls. “Kids would lean over and whisper to one another, ‘Who is that old guy?’ That was a lot of fun,” he said. Ed continued to play Sam Slick (with occasional stand-in help from Clay Moyer and Tom McFarland) until the program ended in the fall of 2003.

“Renfrew Institute is the second-best thing to happen to Renfrew, after Mrs. Nicodemus,” Ed said. “The institute perpetuates what Mrs. Nicodemus had in mind—something of value to last forever and not be a burden to tax payers. Institute programs reach the younger generation…they will remember and bring their kids back to Renfrew. You’ve got to keep the kids involved, one generation to the next.”

Ed continued to provide facility support for school programs as they developed. He served as non-board treasurer of Renfrew Institute from its birth in 1990 to 1994, and served on the RI board for two back-to-back three-year terms (1995–2001). During his tenure, Ed was on the Finance, Nominating and Membership committees, and continues to serve on both the Nominating and Membership committees.

“Ed is also our ‘go-to’ historical resource person for reference on both Renfrew and general community history,” Melodie said. That interest in history led Ed to serve as board president of the Kittochtinny Historical Society. He also served two terms on the Waynesboro Historical Society board.

Active in the Lions Club for more than 36 years, he recently received the 2009–2010 Lion of the Year Award. He is also active in his church, Trinity United Church of Christ. He is past president and current board member for the Waynesboro Welfare Association, where he has been on the board for 40 years. He has also served on the board of the local Fellowship of Churches for 40 years.

In addition to community service, Ed is an “actor extraordinaire” and has appeared in many theatrical productions. “I started acting at Trinity when Clay Moyer persuaded me to take a role in a play he was directing,” Ed said. “I was an introvert for many years but Clay kept after me to take the role. He had faith that I could do it, and it changed my life.” Ed has acted in several plays with the Potomac Playmakers, and recently appeared in Trinity’s production of Our Town. “I wanted to see if I could still remember all my lines,” he joked.

Having been with the institute from its inception, Ed is very pleased with what he sees there. “The staff of Renfrew Institute are wonderful,” Ed said. “They love doing what they do. The entire staff deserves high praise for their dedication to the programs they teach…if Mrs. Nicodemus could come back, she would really be happy to see what goes on here with the kids.”

We think she would be thrilled to know that Ed Miller is still a part of it all, too.

Andrea Struble
New Hope for an Old Friend
by Kathleen E. Seiler, Graduate Intern

Camp David. The Rolling Mill Restaurant. Red Run Lodge. Know the connection?
If you were on Jeopardy! and answered, “What are chestnut log buildings?” you would win the money!
The American chestnut tree (Castanea dentata) still survives today, although no longer as a major player in the crown layers of our Appalachian forest. Depending on the area, percentages of the American chestnut once ranged from one-fourth to one-third of the trees, extending from Maine to Georgia to Illinois. When the chestnuts bloomed, folks often described the mountains as “blanketed in snow.”

But that all changed in 1904 after a non-native fungus appeared in New York City’s Zoological Park. An unknown passenger from Asia had arrived, hidden in an imported plant. Called the “chestnut-tree bark blight,” Cryphonectria parasitica’s spores spread rapidly via the air, birds, animals, insects and humans. Penetrating cracks in the bark, the fungus attacked the cambium, the living layer of the tree, stifling the nutrients and water. With no natural defenses, an American chestnut tree often succumbed within a year.

The government and forest industry alike were powerless, no matter what method they utilized to slow or halt the inexorable tentacles of this invader. The blight quickly spread outward from New York at a rate of 24 to 30 miles per year, reaching Franklin County by 1911.

Pennsylvania enacted a Commission that same year, employing nationally prominent scientists with the goals of “prevention, control and eradication of the disease.” Men trained for two weeks at Camp Charter Oak near State College, learning to scour the woods for signs of the chestnut cankers. For $2.50 per diem, the scouts traveled in pairs, averaging 100 acres a day from dawn to dusk, marking infected trees on both private and public lands. Despite removing the diseased timbers and trying to cut out a “break” to thin the chestnut trees, the mortality count continued to climb due to the invasive fungus. Within two years the Commission, out of money and out of hope, disbanded.

Ninety years after the discovery of the disease, Melodie Anderson-Smith [Renfrew Institute Executive Director] invited my Waynesboro Area High School Ecology Club students to consider coming over the hill to Renfrew to help water some newly planted chestnut trees.

Dr. Doris Goldman (now an institute staff member) was one of the pioneers in the volunteer corps of The American Chestnut Foundation (TACF), which pursued the project of backcrossing American trees with their blight-resistant Chinese chestnut cousins. The young saplings behind the barn became some of the first hybrids for the scientists.

Melodie’s invitation was my first awareness of the once-majestic tree’s plight. In 2000, while reading Barbara Kingsolver’s novel, Prodigal Summer, I felt an emotional, visceral reaction to the loss of this American giant. Woven within this tale of southern Appalachia, details about this species and its intertwining with the area’s culture came to life.

The American chestnut provided some of the best timber, as it quickly grew straight and tall (80–100 feet) and was often branch-free for 50 feet. Lighter than oak and easy to cut, its many uses included everything from home construction, to the furniture within, to musical instruments for home entertainment.

In addition, a high tannin content made the wood as rot-resistant as redwood, perfect for fences and telegraph poles, and the tanning industry utilized the bark. Burning hot and nearly smoke-free, moonshiners readily employed the logs for their secret stills. Flowering late (June), spring frosts did not affect its reliable harvests.

(continued on page 11)
Welcome New Board Members

Renfrew Institute is pleased to welcome five new board members. Caroline Dean, Debi Duffey, Jason Levick and Wayne Martz were elected to the board in July. Last November, Steve Graham was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Tom Singer, who stepped down in order to accept a new professional opportunity in Ohio.

**Caroline Dean** is a Waynesboro native. She graduated with a bachelor’s degree in finance and accounting, and also earned an MBA, both degrees from Mount Saint Mary’s University in Emmitsburg, Md.

Caroline has been the Business Administrator for Waynesboro Area School District for six years.

“I have always thought that Renfrew is the shining star of Waynesboro,” she said. “The property is exquisite, and the activities that the institute does with kids there are wonderful.”

Caroline has a great interest in history, which draws her to Renfrew. “Although our country is relatively young, I enjoy any place where people have preserved our culture and heritage—it is so rich.” Renfrew exemplifies her love of history and heritage. “I go walking there all the time, and often take my 4-year-old great nephew,” she said. “We walk the trails. He loves it there, and calls it ‘our secret place.’”

Caroline serves as treasurer for Waynesboro Communities That Care, and as vice president of the board for Manito (alternative high school) in Chambersburg. She is also active in the Waynesboro Rotary.

RI board member Matt Gunder, whom she knows through Rotary, first contacted Caroline about serving on the RI board. “I was thrilled to be asked,” Caroline said. “I am looking forward to being a part of seeing the institute successfully grow and flourish.”

Caroline will serve on the Finance and Adult Education committees. She hopes to help get more adults in our community involved with institute activities.

Born and raised in Waynesboro, **Debi Duffey** earned a business education degree from Elizabethtown College in Pa.

Debi is recently retired after many years spent keeping the books for numerous area businesses, including several years with Henicle’s Markets.

Activities related to children have always attracted Debi’s interest. She taught at Trinity Nursery School in Waynesboro for eight years, and still serves on their board as treasurer. She is also on the board of the Friends of the Library, a member of the Hospital Auxiliary and a volunteer at the hospital.

“My children grew up going to Renfrew, and we spent a lot of time there when the kids were young,” she said. “Now my children are grown—but everything comes around—my granddaughter is now interested in going to Renfrew.”

Debi views the institute as a connection with her other interests. “I’m excited that I can help inform young families at the library and at Trinity about Renfrew Institute activities,” she said. “It’s important to get young people more in tune with our community, and that’s hard to do with the pace of life these days. I hope to help young families get back in touch with the basics, like reading and enjoying the outdoors.”

Debi and her husband, Greg, have two daughters, Mandy and Jackie, and two grandchildren. [see Debi’s granddaughter, Ella, in photo on page 9]

Debi will serve on the Development and Finance committees. “I think how fortunate we are to have a YMCA, a hospital—and Renfrew—in this small community,” she said. “I was honored to be asked to serve on the board, and I am looking forward to learning more and becoming more involved.”

[ed. note: Steve Graham’s introduction appeared in the last issue of Streamside, but without a photo. It reappears here to accompany the photo.]

**Steve Graham** recently moved back to Waynesboro after living away for many years. Even from afar, Steve maintained a relationship with the Institute and Museum. An avid collector of antiques, he has made extensive donations to Renfrew Museum’s collection and contributed items for use in the Institute’s school programs. He currently serves on the Museum’s REC (Renfrew Executive Committee).

For the past six years, Steve has hand-delivered a generous donation of fresh Virginia clams for the Institute’s annual Chesapeake Bay Supper fund-raiser.

Steve holds a degree in psychology from Mount St. Mary’s College. He was the director of the Salisbury Zoo from 1972–77, then director of the Baltimore Zoo from 1978–1982. From 1982–92, he was director of the Detroit Zoological Parks Department.

His interest in animals led to many years of experience on safari in Africa including trips to Kenya, Zambia, (continued on page 14)
Cultural Currents

with Sherry Hesse

EDITOR’S NOTE: Cultural Currents is a regular column in this newsletter. It features articles about past ways of life in our area, and strives to help us better understand our cultural heritage.

The Barn: Heart of the Farmstead

As I travel around the country, I enjoy observing the architectural changes in barns from region to region. From the tobacco barns of the south, the New England barns of the northeast, to barns in the wide-open spaces of the west, each region has adapted the barn to the climate, landscape, crops and livestock of the area.

It has become a joke in my family to say, “Did you know that in Maine the barns are connected to the house?” On one of my boys’ early visits to New England, I must have used my “tour guide voice” to point out numerous barns. My sons, now teenagers and knowing my love for barns, recently gave me a lovely book about the preservation of barns, Barn: Preservation and Adaptation, by Elrich Endersby.

Some of the barns that I remember fondly are the weathered barns of upstate Pennsylvania where my parents grew up. Many sport faded paint advertising Mail Pouch Tobacco.

Another favorite is the famous “Star Barn” near Middletown, Pa., often the subject of photographs and paintings. Built in 1872, the name of this beautiful clapboard barn comes from the decorative star-shaped ventilation louvers on each end of the barn. The structure served its purpose during a long and useful life. However, as our society moved away from its agrarian roots, it fell into disrepair.

Preservation groups made an effort to save the barn and preserve its unique beauty. Plans are underway to move it from its current location to Lebanon County, where it will be part of an agricultural education center.

History & Structure

According to Eric Sloane (barn historian, artist and author), the word “barn” originally meant “a place for barley.” In this country, many early barns were log structures, due in part to the abundance of timber. These were often later covered with clapboard.

Dating old barns takes detective work. Tool marks, such as those left by saws and axes, can tell the educated eye what types of tools were used to build the structure, and during what era. The shape of nails also reveals clues about a building’s age; square, hand-wrought nails are older; round nails are newer.

The red color typical of many wooden barns was a matter of convenience. A paint containing iron oxide (rust) was used to protect the wood from the weather. Linseed oil was another ingredient in the paint, and came from the flax crop grown on the farm.

Later barns were built of brick, frame and stone. Many Pennsylvania German barns were stone. Most early settlers built crude sheds to house their animals. The Pennsylvania Germans, however, became well known for their good barns, which often surpassed the farmhouse in size and beauty.

The famous Star Barn was built in 1872 near Middletown, Pa. The historic barn is being relocated to an agricultural education center in Lebanon County, Pa.

The roofs of early barns were frequently made of thatched straw, which was afterward replaced with cedar or oak shingles. Later, slate was used, and tin became a common barn roof covering.

Ventilation was very important in order to keep the barn from catching fire. Ventilation was provided by designing slits in the stone or brickwork, through louvered windows or gaps in the board siding. An example is the Fahnestock Barn at Renfrew, which has both louvered windows and gaps between the wooden siding. When I am with students in the barn, I ask them if they think it’s a mistake that there are spaces between the boards. They often impress me with the knowledge that the spaces allow air to pass through, which keeps the hay cool and reduces fire danger.

(continued on page 20)
2009 Bay Supper Raises More Than $12,000!

The 12th Annual Chesapeake Bay Supper fundraiser was held on June 26, 2009, at the Waynesboro Country Club. This wonderfully successful annual event was attended by 166 hungry people who dined on steamed hard shell crabs, clams and lots of other goodies. Like swallows to Capistrano, many return year after year. We were pleased to also see several new faces, and hope they return in 2010 with friends!

The dinner and auctions netted $12,437, and the event remains the top fundraiser for the institute.

Allegheny Power once again made a significant contribution in underwriting the cost of the crabs, and Steve Graham, faithful benefactor of the institute, kindly repeated his donation of little neck clams. Joann Hersh secured a Good Neighbor grant from State Farm Insurance, which helped boost the bottom line.

Thanks go to all who attended, contributed, and donated their time and effort to make this such a special event. Be sure to mark your calendars for next year’s event. Be sure to mark your calendars for next year’s event. Thanks to everyone who supported the supper once again made a significant contribution in underwriting the cost of the crabs, and Steve Graham, faithful benefactor of the institute, kindly repeated his donation of little neck clams. Joann Hersh secured a Good Neighbor grant from State Farm Insurance, which helped boost the bottom line.

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Special Thanks to auctioneer, Jerry Scruggs, for donating his services for the live auction Appreciation to Dave & Jane’s Crab House, Fairfield, Pa., for procuring, preparing and delivering the crabs.
Renfrew Institute is Pleased to Announce New Underwriting Support

In these challenging economic times, we are privileged to be able to announce the new support of several area businesses and organizations.

WAM Enterprises, Inc.

WAM Enterprises has joined Renfrew Institute’s family of sponsors by supporting the Second Annual Salamander Scramble. The event’s planning committee set lofty goals for the final fundraiser of our fiscal year. Since the year saw retractions of program underwriting support to the tune of 24–25%, the Scramble was of paramount importance in helping us end the budget year “in the black.”

Although William Aiello of WAM indicated that their business was in the throes of the economic downturn, he and partner George Lulos agreed to sponsor the event as a gesture of community involvement. They were sympathetic to our needs in the face of declining revenues and understood the value of institute offerings to the community in which they conduct business.

Though you may not recognize the name WAM Enterprises, Inc., you should recognize the Antietam Commons community developed on North Welty Road. In bringing the site to completion, WAM worked with ad hoc Antietam Meadow Committee, institute partner organization Antietam Watershed Association (AWA), and Washington Township authorities to contribute a portion of the tract to the township as Antietam Meadow Park.

A beautiful “green space” has been preserved along the Antietam Creek, brought to fruition with engineering of streambank stabilization by the township and riparian (streamside) plantings by AWA with St. Andrew fifth- and sixth-graders, providing the community with a naturalized area for walking and wildlife observation.

In saying “yes” to my sponsorship request, William and George extended their commitment to the community. WAM Enterprises, Inc. assumed the role of sole event sponsor for Renfrew Institute’s Salamander Scramble 2009. We are grateful for this investment in our activities and look forward to WAM’s continued involvement.

Nora Roberts Foundation

Never underestimate the importance of the written word. Words are the stuff of love notes, and declarations of war. Their power impacts every life, from the humble to the enthroned. Words deliver forgiveness and pronounce death edicts. Words entertain and inform, guide crucial decisions, instruct precise procedures and usher readers into worlds of fantasy.

Nora Roberts has harnessed the power of words to entertain. As a prolific author of romance novels, mysteries and popular fiction, she has penned books that are snapped up by the millions by hungry readers. According to her website, there are more than 300 million of her books in print!

Roberts’ stories have even hit the big screen in the form of Lifetime Movie Network offerings, starring notables that include Heather Locklear in Angels Fall, John Corbett and Diane Ladd (Montana Sky); Claire Forlani, Oliver Hudson and Jacqueline Bisset (Carolina Moon); and Alicia Witt and Scott Bakula (Blue Smoke). For added whimsy, Roberts makes a cameo appearance in each film.

Her own story is one of resourcefulness and hard work. Roberts turned to writing while at home, raising her two sons. With discipline and attention to detail, she researches and crafts characters that capture the imagination of her readers. Her choice of plot and style inspire devotion from her fans that have made Roberts a wealthy woman.

Roberts harnessed more than the power of the word when she created The Nora Roberts Foundation. Her generous spirit, empowered by the economic engine of her work, has made a difference in lives around the world with donations made through the foundation. Among its focused targets are organizations providing opportunities for literacy and education.

Renfrew Institute is a fortunate recent recipient of this generosity. The foundation has made a five-year pledge of $10,000 annually to the institute’s Today’s Horizon Fund. These undesignated dollars are crucial in helping us execute daily operations, keep abreast of technology needs and maintain adequate staffing as we administer programs. They will also provide “seed money” for new projects and programs. This year, as we endured a retraction in sponsorship support resulting from the economic downturn, those undesignated funds provided reserves that helped us end our budget year in the black.

A pleasure at least equal to the power of the contribution was mine in spending a day with Nora’s son, Jason Auftdem-Brinke. Jason, who sits on the foundation’s board, visited our site this past spring to observe the “fruits” of the foundation’s gift. His admiration of his mother’s efforts was evident as he spoke about the foundation and his role in guiding its resources to community use.

Jason’s professional talents include theatrical lighting, where his creativity helps bring words to life through dramatic performance. Much of the institute’s programming (continued on page 18)
Groundbreaking Ceremony Marks New Four-Square Garden Site

A groundbreaking ceremony on Monday, August 24 marked the spot for the new location of Renfrew Institute’s Pennsylvania German Four-Square garden. The re-built garden—one on a flat area at the rear of the meadow that separates the Royer House from the Fahnestock Farm complex—will be larger, measuring 66 feet by 66 feet, the traditional size of four-square gardens.

The level site and larger size will better accommodate visiting school children and make the garden more accessible to the public.

Generous donations totaling $14,000 have made the project possible. Many thanks to GRC General Contractor, Inc. and GRC president, Jim Rock, for excavation of the new garden and construction of the picket fence and gate. We also thank the Paul K. and Anna E. Shockey Family Fund, and an anonymous donor, for their donations of $6,000 each, and are grateful for the $2,000 donated toward the project by the late J. Edward Beck—“seed money” for this long-awaited project.

The garden is full of heirloom plants, and representative of Pennsylvania German gardens of the early 1800s. In keeping with typical four-square design, the garden is comprised of four vegetable beds, separated by a cross path. A border around the edges contains perennials, used primarily as medicines and spices, and a wooden fence surrounds the garden.

Renfrew’s four-square garden is planted entirely by school children (mostly second graders) who visit the park each year as participants in the Four-Squares program. Students are introduced to the garden and its importance in the lives of the Pennsylvania Germans of the 1800s.

The children practice hands-on activities including seasonal garden tasks (planting, watering, sorting, harvesting), and also learn concepts in historic preservation, farmstead culture, folklore, plant biology, natural history, ecology, and environmental awareness.

The general public also enjoys the beauty of the garden, and its presence enriches their understanding of Renfrew’s early 19th-century farmstead.

During the groundbreaking ceremony, project sponsors spoke to an audience of more than 50 people about why they contributed to the garden relocation. Jim Rock, GRC president and past Renfrew Institute board president, commented that the historic garden plays an important role in educating area children. “We need to be ever more conscious of our environment, and sometimes we can look backwards for guidance…the four-square garden exemplifies care for the environment and promotes understanding of nature.”

Ken Shockey said that his family was happy to help finance the new garden. “Our goal is to help create something of value that will continue for generations to come. This garden is a valuable asset that benefits the entire community.”

Representing her family, Marie Lanser Beck summed up the importance of the garden. “Connecting children to the landscape translates the past into a tactile, three-dimensional experience,” she said. “The garden is a bridge between the past and present, and an opportunity to taste, touch and breathe in the history of our area, and make it come to life.”

Phase II of the project will include building the beds in the interior of the garden, refurbishing and relocating the interpretive signs from the current garden, and moving the plants. Volunteers are welcome to help with this hands-on project! If you would like to volunteer for the garden relocation project, please contact us at 717-762-0373 or by email at: renfrewinst@innernet.net.

Sherry Hesse
Celebrating 20!  continued from page 1

array of professional and amateur artists displaying the beauty of the Earth through many mediums. On that day the institute also honors a peer-chosen artist with the annual Environmental Artistry Award. [see pg. 15]

Reaching beyond Waynesboro, the Franklin County Commissioners have participated in the Earth Day event since 1998, proclaiming April as Earth Awareness Month for the county and recognizing the work of Renfrew Institute in promoting a more environmentally aware citizenry.

In 2006 the Recycle/Reuse Yard Sale was added, bringing another dimension of living more ecologically through recycling our goods and treasures. By selling vendor spaces, the event also raises money for the institute.

The first annual Youth Festival was held in May of 1990. Our goal was to celebrate the youth of our community by bringing whole families together, beyond the school day, to share talents and skills, ideas and knowledge. Through workshops, physical activities and performances, local children and adults annually enjoy a day filled with fun and learning. Visiting professionals bring music and theatre to inspire the youngest of our community’s future performers. The festival celebrated its 20th anniversary on May 24, 2009 with the theme of “Ramblin’ Through the Years,” appropriate for our anniversary retrospective!

Adult/Teen Education

In 1991 the institute’s mission was deepened to include specific programming for adults. The adult education committee was formed, launching an ever-increasing line up of lectures, workshops and field trips to enrich and extend environmental and cultural history learning. From owl walks and geology explorations to fly-tying, tin piercing and bamboo flute making; from astronomy lectures and star parties to green roofs, gardens and wind energy; from period dance and Pennsylvania’s silk industry to antique furniture and farmstead architecture, the list goes on. As we say at the committee meetings, “the sky is not the limit” for interesting topics. These programs are designed for ages 15 and up, so “Adult/Teen Education” is the new category for these activities. Some events are open to families with children younger than 15.

Summer Programs for Kids

Summer programs for children began in 2004 with “Passing It On,” craft workshops featuring knitting, decoupage, tin work, cross-stitch, latch hook, Japanese folded book and string art. The heritage craft workshops have evolved with recent years offering pottery, tin smithing, quilting, basketry, leather craft, scherenschnitte/scissor-cutting, fiber fun and penny rugs. Special workshops in four-square gardening, log building construction and nature discovery have been offered successfully. Younger children gather weekly with parents, grandparents, caregivers and siblings under the horse chestnut tree in front of the visitor center to hear stories read by volunteers. Children also complete a craft to accompany the theme of the books read.

Annual Events Attract Community

Additional community events have been added through the years. A spring kite fly is held in early April, weather permitting. With the addition of the annual Jazz Festival in 1992, the institute’s reach was extended further, drawing huge crowds of local jazz lovers as well as visitors from the Baltimore and Washington D.C. areas. The 2009 event on August 23 drew nearly 900 people, the largest audience in the festival’s 17-year history. Another popular event is the annual Halloween Storytelling, an evening of spooky tales spun by professional tellers in the magical setting of the Fahnestock Barn at Renfrew.

Finding a Way to Do It All

Since raising funds is always a challenge, four annual fund raisers have developed, each with a signature theme drawing support from our members and the community at large.

Our fiscal year begins July 1 so the first fundraiser of the year is the annual Renfrew Pumpkin Festival in October. The community comes together to raise funds for both Renfrew Institute and Renfrew Museum. This joint effort has grown into one of the most popular fall events in the area.

No fund raisers are held through the winter months, but when spring returns the Recycle/Reuse Yard Sale, mentioned earlier, offers the thrill of the chase for bargains and brings in extra dollars of support.

The third fundraiser is the granddaddy of all for the institute. The Chesapeake Bay Fund-raiser Supper, held in June, ushers in the summer season and provides critical income to the Institute. See page 6 for a complete report.

As we close out our program year, the Salamander Scramble adds yet one more contribution to the fund-raising grand total. This wonderful activity, developed in 2008, has tapped a whole new community of institute supporters—area runners! Turn to page 12 to read more about this highly successful 5K race team and its commitment to our organization.

These programs and events represent the highlights, but there are many tendrils of the institute’s 20 years of work that reach far and wide and constantly amaze and inspire us.

Looking Forward

What will the next 20 years hold? We have a well-crafted strategic plan, developed by the board and staff in 2006, to guide our way. One by one we are checking off the actions outlined there, taking us closer to achievement of the entire plan. Soon it will be time to take stock and create a new “map” for the future. That’s all part of the process.

Our dedicated board of directors is invigorated each year through the tireless effort and experience of

(continued on page 11)
An Intern’s Insights
by Kathleen E. Seiler

EDITOR’S NOTE: Kathy recently completed requirements for a masters degree in geo-environmental studies from Shippensburg University. She spent the spring 2009 semester at Renfrew Institute as an intern, and reflects here on that experience.

Being blessed can take many forms. Personally, this past year brought a blessing for me during my first sabbatical—assisting Renfrew Institute (RI) with a spring internship.

Working the required 240 hours not only helped the institute and Renfrew Park, but enriched my life as well. Teamwork with the institute staff allowed me to re-envision my role as a community member, teacher and comrade, and I will challenge myself to re-purpose my time commitment to this “jewel of Waynesboro” on a continuing basis.

Do you know those special times in your life, when a memory is as crisp and clear as the present moment? One of my memory ‘snapshots’ is over 20 years old, when I was teaching 4th grade at Hooverville Elementary. My class visited Renfrew for a stream study—and there was Melodie [Melodie Anderson-Smith, RI executive director], standing in the water talking about the critters and stream flow and…well, I remember thinking to myself, “Wow! How cool is this!”—awakening more of the environmentalist within me.

Many of you know Melodie—she’s been the backbone of Renfrew Institute for many years, ably assisted by co-director Tracy Holliday. In addition to their many administrative duties, both Melodie and Tracy often don teaching caps!

In the institute office—tucked into a back corner of the Renfrew Visitors Center barn—camaraderie prevails through deadlines, unexpected visitors, workshop preparations, and even through the crazy days of spring classes with a flurry of teachers collecting supplies and changing into costume!

In my career as a teacher, I’ve enjoyed having “my own space” to work from. But at the institute, sharing space is a positive experience. Desks, tables, sink/kitchenette—all shared with equanimity and respect. Here, synergy of spirit and laughter buttress hard work and long hours.

Back to my blessings…another has been working with RI Cultural Studies Director, Sherry Hesse, and Bob North. We three were Hooverville hallway companions long ago and to be reunited again in teaching blessed me in true joy. These folks plan every detail assiduously, never fail to charm their students, and always find a moment for a chat. Thank you, Sherry and Bob, for your friendship and smiles.

Another pleasure was meeting the other “part-timers”—wow! For these faculty members, their weeks at the institute may be seasonal but their teaching days are full, from early-morning prep to afternoon clean-up—plus keeping up with dozens of eager learners bouncing off the buses! Thank you for your insights and friendships—it’s been a joy to learn from all of you: Doris, Pam, Lori, Steph, Nancy, Beth and Nora. My only regret is not being able to experience all the different classes—however, I have plans for the future...

If you haven’t had a chance to meet these fine folk, maybe you’d like to get involved—like volunteers Pat Heefner and Mary Ann Payne, “Jacquelines-of-all-trades” working behind the scenes at any number of tasks, along with many others on committees, mailings, and special events—it’s nice to know so many people share in the hum of our institute.

As an intern, I needed to know so much—where supplies are stored, how to code the schedule for posting, how to operate the copy machine and phones, how to prep the meeting room for programs, where the vacuum is kept for Friday clean-ups, how to change the road sign (and do it quickly before a thunderstorm hit!) and how to juggle a myriad of activities.

This was just the beginning. I learned to work with the Antietam Watershed Association (AWA) Water Quality Monitoring program and the institute’s teen monitoring group, WaterStriders. I helped research owls and bats in preparation for installing boxes for these creatures at Renfrew, and I also assisted with AWA’s riparian zone awareness program, Buffer In a Box. All of these programs involved inter-organization cooperation.

Preparing for student classes presented new tasks to learn: prepping the smokehouse and the milkhouse, setting up props for various classes, folding handouts for each class, and learning how to tell when cream is about to transform into butter.

All of these learning opportunities “recharged my

(continued on page 25)
Chestnuts continued from page 3

Throughout the years, botanists experimented with hybrid crosses and searched for blight-resistant native trees. The American Chestnut Foundation was founded in 1983, connecting scientists and researchers to publicize the effort in order to gain support and funding.

According to their website, “the goal of TACF’s breeding program is two-fold: to introduce into the American chestnut the genetic material responsible for the blight resistance of the Chinese tree, and at the same time, preserve in every other way the genetic heritage of the American species.”

This work includes chestnut orchards where researchers carefully grow and monitor new generations of hybrids. TACF’s first and primary research farms are in Meadowview, Va., but hundreds have since been established, including sites in Maryland (Thorpewood, near Thurmont) and Pennsylvania (State College). Variations in the species are also specific to climactic regions, thus the need for varied locations.

The blight continues to reside in the Chinese chestnut trees growing in the United States. The reintroduction of our “new” American chestnut depends on the strength of hybrids. This method entails three backcrossings in a minimum of six generations. Our forests and woodlots await the re-emergence of a stately, productive giant that carries the gene for blight-resistance.

Today, thousands of American chestnuts grow on our ridges as stump-sprouts. They resemble bushes that grow perhaps a few years before falling victim to the blight. A few “tall” trees survive but barely attain 20 feet before their demise. However, one 50-foot tree remaining in Michaux State Forest served as a key player in the breeding process.

In 2008, volunteers from the Appalachian Trail hiking community assisted with a chestnut survey along the A.T. They counted the current population of clusters, and noted the presence any “big” trees that could provide pollen capture and/or nut retrieval. The Appalachian Trail Conservancy folded this data into its MegaTransect survey being conducted to get a picture of the present state of biodiversity along the Trail. Another count is scheduled for this year.

You can be part of the chestnut story, too.

Take a moment to stop by Renfrew and visit the chestnut trees behind the visitors center. Shut your eyes, and imagine their predecessors—up to 600 years old, four to five feet in diameter, taller than the barn, dropping some nuts by your feet as a fall breeze blows...then hope for the day when our children may once again see summer “snow” on the mountains.

Sources:
American Chestnut Foundation websites:
  http://www.acf.org
  http://www.patacf.org (Pennsylvania)
  http://www.vatacf.org (Virginia)


Personal interview with Sara F. Fitzsimmons, Northern Appalachian Regional Science Coordinator, The American Chestnut Foundation. 5 Dec. 2008; E-mail correspondence, Nov. 2008–March 2009.


Mont Alto Campus/Pennsylvania State University. Interpretive sign, sample plot of American chestnuts (behind the bookstore/cafeteria).


Celebrating 20! continued from page 9

veteran board members and officers along with the fresh energy and ideas offered by those newly elected to this incredible leadership group.

The talent, skill and passion of our professional staff does not waiver. The creativity and joy they bring to their work inspires and fulfills us as a team each day. We are also surrounded by the commitment of our many volunteers—devoting hours, enthusiasm, and smiles to get the job done. Our appreciation of them cannot be overstated.

Finally, to you our members, sponsors and friends... your new and renewed support of Renfrew Institute, your participation in our programs, your belief in our mission are all deeply appreciated.

We thank you all, and promise you that the institute’s journey into the next 20 years will be as rewarding as the last. You won’t want to miss it!

Melodie Anderson-Smith
Salamander Scramble Revisited…

What’s the best term for a large collective of salamanders on the run? Not a herd, surely, or a flock, not a gaggles or even a pod… whatever the nomenclature, we are inspired by the swelling ranks of Team Salamander—now 40 strong—and just on the heels of raising more than $5,000 to support Renfrew Institute’s programs and activities in the regional community.

Last year’s inaugural effort exceeded the event’s 2007–08 income goal of $2,500, thanks to the enthusiasm of 15 members of the original Team Salamander. This year, a goal was established to double both the size of the team and the income produced by runner/walker pledges. Both goals were more than met, with 40 team members committed, more than $5,700 raised through runner pledges, and a sponsorship from WAM Enterprises, Inc.

“Scramblers” enjoyed a variety of benefits through their participation. Weekly fun runs were organized to take harriers out onto the trails of Renfrew Park, returning to a cooler of icy drinks at the Visitor’s Center. Simone Heurich of Flowering Heart Yoga conducted a complementary yoga clinic for team members, focused on alignment and flexibility. The clinic was intended to aide runners in the prevention of injury. John Kelley coached “speedwork” at the WASH track for those who wished to improve on race times. John also kept folks well informed about opportunities to connect with other runners through OFAR (Out Front and Running), the local “running club” that was formed by charter members of Team Salamander. [OFAR now boasts 50-plus members!]

Team Salamander members also received an official technical/wicking Salamander Scramble shirt, along with a one-year membership to Renfrew Institute. We hope the greatest reward for participants is the satisfaction they feel for having contributed to the continuum of institute programs for youth and families in our community.

Race day on July 4 found individual team members poised on the starting line with a variety of goals…some seeking PR’s (personal records) on the Firecracker 5K course, while others sought simply to amble the course in the company of others who share their commitment to Renfrew Institute. The event has been intentionally modeled for inclusiveness, for everyone from amblers to elite athletes. As committee chair Bob Correll said, “Any and all are invited to run, walk, scramble or sight see as they complete the Summer Jubilee Firecracker 5K course wearing the Team Salamander jersey.”

New members of the Salamander Scramble committee, Diane Wilson, Fred Skroban and John Kelley have complemented Correll’s leadership this year. Each brought special talents to the event, with Diane’s enthusiasm landing her in the “recruitment” category, Skroban helping to explore future funding possibilities and Kelley handling “speedwork” and training guidance.

Though this has been a challenging year for the institute financially, we are fortunate for the care and support of our patrons. The community continues to show its support for our activities, which has been demonstrated by robust attendance at institute events as well as continued financial support by those individuals and organizations able to do so. Retractions by some donors who found themselves less able to help this year came with promises of resumed support next year if economic optimism prevails. The Salamander Scramble 5K Fundraiser, perched on the tail edge of our fiscal year, delivered a final flush of cash permitting us to close the books in the black for 2008–09.

Team members received special recognitions at the end of the run. In addition to prizes for category “winners,” all Team Salamander members receive our hearty and enduring gratitude for their support of Renfrew Institute through their participation in the 2nd Annual Salamander Scramble. [See sidebar, pg. 13 with runner “awards.”]

We extend special thanks to sole team sponsor, WAM Enterprises, Inc. [see story, pg. 7], and to Pat and Jay Heefner and Nora Slick, who shared the morning and their enthusiasm as they “staffed” Team Salamander headquarters.
First Place Team Finishes:
- Steve Ferree—One hour therapeutic massage, donated by Drs. Bui & Cao
- Michelle Benshoff—One hour therapeutic massage, donated by Drs. Bui & Cao

Most Funds Raised:
- Stephen Bui—Yoga session, donated by Simone Heurich, Flowering Heart Yoga

Spirit Award:
- Stephen Bui and Office Mates—donated by Antietam Dairy Ice Cream

Most Family Members:
- Skroban Family (Fred, Beth, Frederick)—Case of Clif Bars
- Sherman Family (SK, Pat, Nicole)—Case of Clif Bars

Youngest Runner:
- Will Manning—H20 Zone Stainless Steel Water Bottle

Senior-Most Runner:
- S.K. Sherman—H20 Zone Stainless Steel Water Bottle

First to Reach Fundraising Goal:
- Daryl Lehman—donated by Antietam Dairy Ice Cream

John Pearce Creates CFL Display

Need more information about those compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) recommended as energy savers? Well, thanks to John Pearce of Waynesboro, a student at St. Maria Goretti High School, you can now make comparisons and contrasts among different bulbs by stopping by Renfrew Institute’s office. John’s project, completed last spring as part of his required service learning for school, makes it possible to light up four different bulbs, including one on a dimmer switch, to see variations in brightness, color and size.

The institute also offers free fact sheets explaining cost benefits of the bulbs, mercury content, disposal methods and what to do if you break one.

The display will be set up for next spring’s Earth Celebration Day on Saturday, April 17. Before then, if you would like to stop by to check out the exhibit or acquire the fact sheets, just contact the institute office at 717-762-0373 or renfrewinst@innernet.net.

Kudos to all our Salamander Scramblers!

Just a few of our Scramblers as they passed photographer Nora Slick on Main Street. Go Team Salamander!!

John Pearce created a Compact Fluorescent Light (CFL) compare/contrast exhibit board as a school project.

Photo by Tracy Holland.
Editor’s Note: Sponsor Spotlight is a regular feature of this newsletter, highlighting Renfrew Institute’s programs or events and their underwriting sponsor(s). The generosity of these sponsors enables the institute to offer a variety of educational activities to our community.

Sponsor Spotlight
Nick Turano

It could be said that Nick Turano is the consummate businessman. His skillful leadership has guided multiple business entities to successful heights. In highlighting his entrepreneurial success with his company Warm Springs Machining, Turano was recognized in 1997 by Inc. 500 Magazine as leader of one of America’s fastest growing companies. To be considered for the list, companies must be independent and privately held.

Over the years and through involvement with several iterations of “the company,” Turano’s business acumen has permitted him to employ a blend of making the right decisions to ensure profitability while demonstrating generosity in sharing the bottom line.

Since 2003, Turano shared his bottom line success in the form of sponsorship for Renfrew Institute’s annual Jazz Fest. During his tenure as owner of Hess/Armaclad, local manufacturer of windows and doors, he not only continued the company’s institute contribution, but added additional support through another of his enterprises, Blue Ridge Mountain Cookery. BRMC manufactures high-end trailer-mounted stainless steel grills. The company boasts a client list that includes the restaurant/resort industry, the U.S. Military and the Federal Government, having installed equipment at Camp David for presidential use.

Turano and his investment partners have since sold Armaclad, having restored it from a company on the brink of bankruptcy to a successful enterprise. Blue Ridge Mountain Cookery continues production in Franklin County, while Turano explores new enterprises, with a seemingly unquenchable appetite for professional entrepreneurial challenges.

We are grateful for Nick’s longtime support of Renfrew Institute’s Jazz Fest, and for his friendship.

New Board Members continued from pg. 4

Zimbabwe, Botswana, Tanzania and Rwanda.

Other ongoing interests include the environment, history and education. Steve is on the Membership and Nominating/Governance committees, and is looking forward to working on behalf of Renfrew Institute.

Jason Levick is also a Wayneboro area native. “I grew up on Geiser Avenue, and I was always down at Renfrew as a kid—it was practically in my back yard,” he said.

Jason has a degree in recreation from Lock Haven University, Pa., and has worked at Grove-Bowersox Funeral Home for 10 years.

Jason’s wife, Michele, is a second-grade teacher at Summitview Elementary School in Waynesboro. “Michele often visits Renfrew Institute programs with her students,” said Jason, “and we enjoy several of the community events. We always go to the [Recycle/Reuse] Yard Sale, and we love the Pumpkin Festival.”

The Levick’s four-year-old daughter, Alexa, plays a big role in Jason’s interest in the institute and in Renfrew. “In the past, I was involved in other local organizations—the Lions Club is one—but after Alexa was born my focus shifted to spending more time with my family.” [see Alexa in photo on page 9]

Jason sees his involvement with Renfrew Institute as complementary with his life as a parent of a young child. “I want to support my community and I think it’s important to give back when I can. With the institute’s focus on children’s activities and education, being involved there is good fit for my family.”

The institute is a good fit for Jason, too. “I am very comfortable there since I know a lot of the people already involved—I grew up with many of them or with their children, and several are neighbors.”

Jason will serve on the Nominating/Governance, Pumpkin Fest, Salamander Scramble and Membership committees. He especially enjoys hands-on activity and work. “Setting up and tearing down for special events is fun,” he said. “I am willing to help in whatever way I can.”

Wayne Martz has been around the world, but is happy to call Waynesboro home.

Wayne was born here, and except for five years in the Navy when he traveled to South America and the Mediterranean, has lived and worked in Waynesboro all his life.

Wayne earned an associate’s degree in engineering at Penn State Mont Alto before joining the Navy.

After leaving the service, Wayne worked several years for Grove Manufacturing. He then went into business with his father at Martz Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning. Wayne spent 30 years working there before his recent retirement.

It was in connection with Martz Plumbing that Wayne was introduced to Renfrew Institute. “We contributed to some of the educational programs, and sponsored
Denny Bingaman Receives Environmental Artistry Award

Denny Bingaman of Waynesboro received Renfrew Institute’s 2009 Environmental Artistry Award at Earth Celebration Day & Festival of Art on Saturday, April 18, 2009. Denny is well known for his extraordinary wildlife photography, which was on display and available for sale at the Festival.

Denny’s website describes his work, which has been published in national and local wildlife magazines along with a manuscript on wildlife photography methods and the natural history of the subjects.

His photography is displayed in the Desert Botanical Gardens in Phoenix, Arizona for educational purposes, and used for wildlife and bird identification in the desert South West. The United States Fish & Wildlife Service employs several of his images for brochures, internet and other purposes.

Denny’s prints are also featured in permanent displays at the Wildwood Wildlife sanctuary in Harrisburg, Pa. Denny sells his work at fine art wildlife and nature-oriented shows, and in local stores and galleries.

You can see Denny’s beautiful photography on his website, www.dennybingamanwildlife.net.

Congratulations, Denny!

A Family Memorial Gift

The Bernie & Rosemarie Roberts family recently made a special donation to Renfrew Institute in memory of Harry D. Catts, who died tragically following a motorcycle accident. Their gift will be used to underwrite the second grade environmental program, Earth Encounters.

Harry drove a school bus in Washington County, Md. and visited institute programs on many occasions with his young charges. He often chose to linger nearby in order to observe programming.

In a note from his sister-in-law, Rosemarie Roberts, she shared, “Harry really felt that the Institute was doing a good job and enjoyed seeing the children learn and enjoy their day.”

The following family members contributed to the Harry D. Catts memorial gift: Bernie & Rosemarie Roberts, Michael & Andrea Roberts, Michelle Roberts, Christianna Roberts, Jeanine Roberts, John & Jeanne Roberts DeGennary, Laura DeGennaro, Emily DeGennaro, Thomas Roberts and Jim Roberts.

Thank you to the following who have each made a special donation to Renfrew Institute

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and in honor of...
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in memory of...
Harry D. Catts
by Bernie & Rosemarie Roberts Family
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Fall 2009 Calendar of Events

16th Annual Renfrew Pumpkin Festival
Saturday, October 17, 11 AM–4 PM
Underwriting support provided by M & T Bank and by Today’s Horizon Fund contributors: PenMar Development Corp., Nora Roberts Foundation & Anonymous Donor
Co-sponsored by Renfrew Institute and Renfrew Museum as a joint fund-raiser. Pumpkins sold and a team of artists will help carve them (no charge). Bluegrass music by the Boro Boogie Pickers, pumpkin-hurling trebuchet, hayrides, face painting and more. Admission $7 adults, $4 kids 4–11, and free to kids 3 and under. Includes lunch of soup, cider and bread. Hot dogs, sodas & baked goods sold separately.

Halloween Storytelling
Wednesday, October 28, 6:30–8:00 PM
Underwriting support provided by Patriot Federal Credit Union
Annual evening of spooky tales featuring professional teller, Jennifer Vandezande. The event will be held in the Fahnestock Barn or another site on the property. Suitable for all ages. Bring flashlights.

Creatures of the Night: Family Owl Walk
Thursday, November 5, 6:30 PM. Meet at Visitor Center
NOTE: LIMIT OF 50—PLEASE REGISTER AHEAD
Renfrew Institute faculty member, Lori Schlosser, will conduct this outdoor walk to areas of Renfrew Park most likely to attract owls, including the Barred and Great Horned owls. Schlosser will use taped owl calls to attempt to draw owls close enough for viewing. A brief pre-walk information session will help participants learn more about these nocturnal creatures and the methods used to locate them. The event is free and open to adults and children accompanied by adults. Dress warmly and bring flashlights.
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Includes 2008–09 members and new/renewed for 2009–10  * = Honorarium—for donation of special time, talent and/or materials.

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Franklin County Master Gardeners  
Nicosodens Center for  
Ceramic Studies  
Renfrew Museum & Park  
TriState Astronomers  
Strawberry Hill Nature Center  
Waynesboro Historical Society  

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New Sponsorships continued from pg. 7

is built around a “story,” sometimes launched with a puppet character, and always relying on the power of the natural world to inspire wonder. Jason’s artistic sensibilities made it easy for him to embrace the “drama” he observed. In hearing him speak of his own life and interests, I sensed his awareness of the importance of nurturing a connection to the past and to the natural world.

Among the programs Jason observed was a new institute offering, *Once Upon A Farm*, the farmstead interpretive experience designed for some of our youngest visitors. Program development and piloting this past spring was possible through the undesignated dollars provided through the Today’s Horizon Fund.

Ironically, the simplicity of historic play featured within that program was one of the notable moments of his day. In recounting his observations, Jason declared, “There were so many wonderful moments, but the best was watching the gameboy/ipod generation get excited about drawing a hopscotch course in the dirt with a stick and then jumping through it.”

This kind of “authentic” experience that kids can “jump into” with their whole bodies is a hallmark of institute programming. It may involve an historic game that transports kindergarten students to the 19th century, or the experience of seeing, touching and smelling wetland detritus (stinky soil, ripe with decay of organic matter) as sixth-grade students conduct scientific field studies. No matter the grade level or area of exploration, institute programs are designed to engage students in sensory experiences that are meaningful and memorable.

This important gift from the Nora Roberts Foundation is likewise meaningful and memorable to Renfrew Institute. We are deeply grateful for Jason’s attention to our activities, and to the Nora Roberts Foundation’s investment in our work and mission. Both have made a difference in lives within our regional community!

**Law Office of Anne M. Shepard, LLC**

Sponsorship of Renfrew Institute’s capstone farmstead interpretive program, *The Royer Legacy*, was recently adopted by the Law Office of Anne M. Shepard, LLC.

Anne visited our office in June as she made plans to attend the Chesapeake Bay Supper Fundraiser. During a conversation to help her gain an understanding of activities supported by the supper’s proceeds, Anne learned more about the institute’s environmental and Pennsylvania German historic culture school program offerings.

It was with excitement that she declared a familial connection to the Royer clan when she learned of *The Royer Legacy*. Anne’s husband, Patrick Minnick, claims Royers on both sides of his family tree. Anne was quick to offer support for the program, tickled not only with her family connection, but also by the opportunity to contribute to the student experience enjoyed by grade six youth from the Waynesboro community.

During their visit, students enjoy a walking tour of the farmstead that invites understanding of how it functioned as an entrepreneurial entity, housing a tannery, gristmill and limekiln in addition to serving as the base of the family’s agricultural pursuits.

In the years preceding grade six, students ask institute faculty, “Do we get to go in the big house?” Each year, they’re reminded that they will tour the Royer house as a part of their sixth grade visit. Finally, they are invited into the Royer mansion, where they learn about life in an early Pennsylvania German household. They also gain an understanding of how Renfrew Museum and Park benefactress Emma Nicodemus made her gift to the community, along with an endowment from her sister Hazel Geiser. Students then learn about the role of museum administrators in maintaining the site as a treasured community resource and public destination.

Anne limits her legal practice to family law, including adoptions, re-adoptions, custody, divorce, prenuptial agreements, and support matters. She practices in the 39th Judicial District of Pennsylvania (Franklin and Fulton Counties) and in Adams County, and is a member of the Franklin County Bar Association, the Pennsylvania Bar Association (PBA), and the Family Law Section of the PBA. Anne is a member of the 39th Judicial District’s

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court-appointed Adoption Committee, Juvenile Court Rules Committee and the Divorce sub-committee of the Family Law Committee. Her office is located at 116 West Main Street in Waynesboro.

We welcome Anne to the institute’s family of school program underwriters and look forward to her visit to The Royer Legacy program this fall.

Franklin County Visitor’s Bureau

Jazz as an art form is readily available in metropolitan communities…think NYC, Newport, Rhode Island, Montreux, Switzerland—and Waynesboro, Pennsylvania! Okay, Waynesboro might not come to mind when you think of live-world-class jazz, but perhaps it should! Thanks to a new grant from the Franklin County Visitor’s Bureau, Renfrew Institute recently hosted its 19th annual Jazz Fest on the beautiful site of Renfrew Museum and Park.

Past institute board member Andrew Sussman has truly put Waynesboro on the jazz map, orchestrating this community offering over nearly two decades. Sussman has jazz chops of his own, having worked in the NYC jazz community as performer, critic and author of liner notes. His connection to the arts community has endowed him with resources that permit him to assemble world-class ensembles for this “home town gig.”

Attracting its largest crowd to date (estimated at about 900), the concert featured longtime Jazz Fest anchor and guitar virtuoso Paul Bollenback, with organ legend Joey DeFrancesco, drummer Byron Landham and vocalist Chris McNulty.

The performance drew attendees from a wide region, attracting folks from nearby rural communities whose residents may not have access to metropolitan venues, but also included visitors from the urban communities, who came “out to the country” for an opportunity to hear world renowned musicians in a bucolic setting.

In adopting the role of funding partner, the Franklin County Visitor’s Bureau met their charge of promoting Franklin County to visitors, and restored a portion of Renfrew Institute’s lost funding that permitted “the show to go on.” Arts funding is currently at risk as communities, who came “out to the country” for an opportunity to hear world renowned musicians in a bucolic setting.

Waynesboro Area Education Association

It is with special pride that we announce new underwriting support of institute school programming by the Waynesboro Area Education Association (WAEA). The cornerstone of Renfrew Institute’s mission is education. Our consumers are students from throughout the region and our partners include area educators.

WAEA represents the over 300 teachers, nurses and counselors of the Waynesboro Area School District. Leadership currently includes President Jessica Bryan, Vice-President Angela Cales, Treasurer Susan Shull Murphy and Secretary Tawnya Finney.

I spoke with recent past president Mike Engle, who explained the organization’s purpose. Engle described WAEA efforts to bargain with the district to improve member salaries and benefits, advocate for properly supplied classrooms to enhance learning experiences, and its work to elect school board members who place the education of children as their primary responsibility.

WAEA has added Renfrew Institute to a long list community charitable groups with which it has a relationship. The group hosts Basket Bingo to support three $1,000 scholarships presented to Waynesboro Area Senior High School students each spring. During the past two years, $2,200 was raised through “Dress Down for Cancer,” where participants pay to “dress down” once a month.

Last spring, WAEA raised more than $1,700 for the Ronald McDonald House in Hershey, and collected more than a ton of glossy magazines that Ronald McDonald House was able to recycle and exchange for cash. WAEA also donated to the Waynesboro Area Business Education Consortium (WABEC), TV Tune-In and the Mont Alto Toy Drive, and volunteers from the group helped serve food at the Mont Alto Carnival.

WAEA is committed to a role of building support for educators and students in the community. Their support of Renfrew Institute demonstrates awareness of the power of investing in community partnerships in education.

Their contribution will be put to work immediately as we host first-grade students in our environmental program, Fall Walk. Young visitors put their heels to the trails of Renfrew to learn how changes taking place in the fall help plants, animals and even people to prepare for the coming winter. They learn an explanation of leaf color change, discover “traveling seeds” and gain an understanding of the need for some seeds to move away from the “mother plant” in order to establish themselves in a place where they won’t have to compete for space, light and moisture.

The culminating activity transforms each child into a wee chipmunk that must locate winter quarters, gather nuts and stay safe when the neighborhood hawks (think parents and teachers) swoop in for a meal! This game of “tag” ends with all the “parts” of nature getting what they need to survive until spring, even if individuals are “sacrificed” for the common good.

The second part of WAEA’s split gift, designated for (continued on page 22)
Pennsylvania Bank Barn Style

Our region is well known for the bank barn. Sometimes called a Sweitzer or Swisser barn, the bank barn is truly an American barn, reflecting a melting pot of traditions (German, Swiss and American) in its design. It became popular around the late 17th century.

Bank barns were built into the side of a hill (or bank), allowing access to both the upper and lower levels from the outside without steps. Generally, a stone foundation was built into the hill, with a frame structure above it. Ramps into the upper area were either natural or manmade.

Another architectural feature of the Pennsylvania German bank barn is the forebay or overshoot, in which the upper level projects about six feet over the lower level. This cantilevered feature provided some shelter from the weather.

Local Examples

Two striking features of Renfrew Museum and Park are its fine examples of bank barns—the large white Victorian barn (circa 1900) that houses the Visitor Center, and the smaller red Fahnestock Barn at the back of the property.

There is something magical about walking into these structures. The downstairs of the Visitor Center has been converted into modern offices, exhibit and meeting space, and public restrooms. However, upstairs one can still see shafts of light through the rafters and old wood.

Renfrew’s Fahnestock Barn is a great example of an early Pennsylvania German bank barn, built in the early 1800s when Daniel Royer owned the property. This old barn was in a state of grave disrepair in the late 1980s when a group of visionary folks raised money to restore it, using old tools and techniques. The restoration was a community project, complete with a barn raising.

Livestock and Threshing

The lower level of the bank barn was divided into stalls to house animals (mostly horses and cows), with an aisle between the stalls (der Foodergang) that allowed access to feed troughs and hay racks.

Upstairs, large doors could be opened to allow wagons and other equipment to move in and out. Just inside the upper doors was the threshing floor. Here grain was threshed (hit with a wooden tool called a flail) to remove the seeds from the husks. It was hard, dusty work and a smaller door (opening into space) allowed fresh air to fill the barn.

After the threshing was complete, the grain was winnowed, a process which separated the chaff from the grain. The threshed grain was put in a shallow basket or winnowing tray, and tossed up and down, allowing the wind to blow away the lighter chaff. The grain was then stored in the granary. In many barns the granary was plastered in order to keep out insects and rodents.

Next to the threshing floor was the haymow. Hay was stacked in a loose pile in the days before bales became available. A built-in ladder provided access to the top of the pile, and a trap door on the floor enabled the farmer to fork hay down to the animals on the lower level.

Building a Barn

Building a barn in the days before mechanization was a huge and important undertaking. Most barns were built with a carpenter in charge of the construction. The foundation was built first, most often of stone. To construct the frame, logs (usually oak) were cut and hauled to the building site, where they were squared off using tools such as a broad axe and an adze.

The wooden frames, or “bents,” were built on the ground. A bent, used in timber frame construction, consisted of vertical and horizontal posts that form the frame of the building. These were attached without nails, using the mortise and tenon technique, with the end of one post fitted into a slot in the adjoining beam. Roman numerals chiseled into each matching piece ensured a proper fit.

The pieces were held together with handmade oak or hickory pegs, which were hammered with a heavy mallet into predrilled holes, created with a hand drill, of course. (The Fahnestock Barn is a three-bent barn, and the beams are hand hewn. Most are new logs that were fashioned using old hand tools.)

Raising the Barn

When all the materials were ready, friends and neighbors came to help “raise the barn,” which meant pulling up the

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frames or bents. A tool called a “pikepole” was used to push up the bent. It was made from a sapling with a metal spike in the end, and allowed the frame to be raised beyond arm’s length. As many as several dozen men were present on the day of the barn raising.

After the frame was raised, food and festivities followed. Preparation for the barn raising took many months, but the work continued afterward, when the farmer or barn builder put on the siding and roof. It was an amazing feat to create such a practical, and yet beautiful edifice.

As more and more old barns disappear from our landscape, the barns at Renfrew remind us of a time gone by. Perhaps they will inspire us to preserve and protect others like them.

References:
www.thestarbarn.com

New Board Members  continued from pg. 14

Streamside, a tradition the business continues,” he said.

He became more acquainted with the institute as executor of a friend’s will. “Part of my friend’s estate was left to Renfrew Institute,” he said. “I liked what I saw going on, especially the educational programs for children.”

Ed Miller asked Wayne to serve on the institute board. “I’ve known Ed for a long time—I used to buy an awful lot of Lions Club ham sandwiches from Ed,” Wayne said. He was pleased to be asked to serve on the board. “I feel the need to give back a little to the community where I’ve lived and made my livelihood. I think it’s important to help where I am able to.”

Wayne also serves on the board of the Franklin County Shrine Club. “My father was active with the club, and I’ve been involved with it most of my adult life,” he said. Shriners hospitals provide free medical services to children in need. Wayne works to organize an annual fundraising golf tournament, sometimes drives area children to the Philadelphia hospital, and helps in whatever other ways he can.

Wayne is on the Facilities, Adult Education & Pumpkin Fest committees. He and his wife Debbie have two grown daughters, Audra and April.
Endowment Corner—Endowment Fund Update
with George P. Buckey, Chair, Endowment Trustees

Renfrew Institute’s members and friends have continued to support the growth of our Endowment Fund. Donations last year (2008–09) totaled $6,675.66! The value of the fund as of September 15, 2009 is $105,128.90. Though a portion of the fund invested in mutual funds suffered a loss during the economic recession, those funds have climbed significantly in recent weeks. Funds held in CDs continue to grow. Overall, we are pleased with the progress we are making and welcome your continued support.

You will receive a mailing in December 2009 for our annual supplemental giving campaign for the fund. Enclosed will be our Legacy Giving brochure, which encourages potential donors to consider several options for planned giving to Renfrew Institute. Please look over the brochure and see if a legacy giving option might be a good fit for your future as well as for the institute’s.

Contributions are welcome year round. Please make your check payable to Renfrew Institute (memo “endowment”) and send to: Renfrew Institute, 1010 E. Main St., Waynesboro, PA 17268. For more information, please call our office 717-762-0373 or email us at renfrewinst@innernet.net.

Our sincere thanks to the following donors who supported the fund in 2008–09 and in the new year since July 1, 2009:

Advanced Financial Security
Dora J. Ambrose
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Donald W. Yost, Jr.
& the late Carrie E. Yost
Sarah K. Zimmerman

New Sponsors continued from pg. 19
From Field to Table, will help grade five students travel back in time on the Royer farmstead to learn how farm families of the 1800s planned ahead for food needs by growing, harvesting and preserving food.

After a short “chemistry and biology skit” that offers an explanation of spoilage—and methods to prevent it—students are launched into seasonal tasks that make the experience authentic. The labors of the day include grinding grains and making sauerkraut. Groups return to school with a small bit of fresh ground corn meal that may be used for baking bread or muffins, so the lesson becomes “edible!”

WAEA’s contributions will touch both our youngest and more seasoned learners through programs offering glimpses into the ways of the natural world, and into the past. It is our hope and belief that engaging young students in conversations about natural and cultural history will help them develop greater awareness of the importance of saving special places like Renfrew, planting seeds for future stewardship.

Gold’s Gym
Suria Ryckis gets excited about recycling! In fact, Suria, Vice President of Gold’s Gym, Waynesboro, and her husband, Kevin, Gold’s President, have “recycled” an entire building for their fitness business, located at 118 Walnut Street.

It was not a surprise, then, that she jumped on the idea of providing underwriting support for the purchase of biocompostable cups for our Recycle/Reuse Yard Sale.

In previous years, our fundraising food stand offered bottled water for $1.00. Although it would mean an income sacrifice (we sold hundreds!), the decision was made to abandon the sale of bottled water in order to model wise resource use. In spite of the fact that water bottles may be recycled, many still wind up in the waste stream. Plastic bottles are petroleum products. Their production, and subsequent recycling requires energy inputs.

As an alternative, the Recycle/Reuse Yard Sale planning committee chose to offer “free water” with the purchase of a biocompostable cup. For 25 cents, one had (continued on page 23)
Farewell to Four Board Members

Bidding adieu to departing board members is always bittersweet. We celebrate the contributions they made during their board service, but we know we will miss their presence at board meetings and in the office. It is with deep appreciation that we say goodbye to the following:

Liane Miller Benchoff, also known as “Quiet Pillar of the Backstage Scene,” has been the behind-the-scenes worker extraordinaire. Liane served on the Membership, Community Events and Youth Education committees and helped with fund-raisers. An instructional aide at Mowery Elementary, Liane has a remarkable rapport with youngsters, particularly those with special needs. As an assistant with our youth programs, she often made the difference for those who needed a little extra reassurance. She has agreed to be called upon for such assignments in the future.

Mike Cordell, aka “Smiling Ambassador” earned his moniker by showing exceptional skill at the meet-and-greet table during RI community events. His “always ready to help” attitude also included pumpkin carving, Bay Supper dining/bidding, Earth Day table hauling and Jazz Fest CD selling. Mike even had a perfect attendance record going for board meetings through nearly three years, until work pressures interfered during the economic downturn last spring. We thank Mike for his steadfast support, and for his rescue of the Home Sweet Home environmental program though his own business sponsorship. Mike served on the Community Events and Membership committees.

Donna Steiner earned the moniker of “Event Tender.” As chair of the Community Events Committee she often took the microphone when presentations needed to be made or introductions given. She served as secretary of the board and also as a member of the Youth Education Committee.

New Sponsors

The following area businesses were very generous, providing bread, apples, rolls, doughnuts, hummus, coffee and tea: Food Lion, Waynesboro; Frank’s Pizza, Waynesboro; Johnnie’s Restaurant Supply, Chambersburg; Krumpe’s Do-Nuts, Hagerstown; Martin’s Famous Pastry Shoppe, Chambersburg; Martin’s Food Market, Waynesboro; Port City Java, Hagerstown; Rinehart Orchards, Smithsburg.

Individuals helped by baking pita bread, brownies, cookies, and even energy bars. Board and staff members donated good used items for the sale table and delivered tasty baked goodies. Most importantly, many people gave of their time on a beautiful spring day to help make it all a reality. We couldn’t do it without you!

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Members & Sponsors continued from page 17

Student
(S10)
Maddie Devlin

Non-Member Donation
Becky Dietrich
Betty Williams

SPONSORS
A. C. & T. Company, Inc. - Lifesavers of the Chesapeake Bay
Advance Auto Parts - Recycle/Reuse Yard Sale
Advanced Financial Security, Inc. - Chesapeake Bay Supper
Anonymous - Adult Education
Anonymous - Four Square Garden Relocation
Anonymous - Today’s Horizon
Allegheny Energy - Chesapeake Bay Supper
The late J. Edward Beck, Sr. - Four Square Garden
Relocation
Beck Manufacturing, Inc. - Discovering Wetlands
Leonora Rocca Bernheisel (Mary’s Delight Farm) - Wool Culture, Royer Legacy & Faculty Chair
Bonded Applicators, Inc. - Royer Legacy
Buchanan Auto Park - Annual Fun Fly (kite fly)
Cinetric Landis Grinding Corp. - Jazz Festival
Michael Cordell, Assoc. Broker, Jack Gaughen Realtor ERA Carlisle - Home Sweet Home
Corporate Office Properties Trust - Discovering Wetlands
Craig, Friedly, Potter & Moore Insurance - Discovering Wetlands
Dru’s Books N’ Things - Recycle/Reuse Yard Sale
F&M Trust Co. - Earthseekers, Hike Up Earth, It’s Spring
Franklin Co. Visitors Bureau - Jazz Fest
First National Bank of Mercersburg - Recycle/Reuse Yard Sale
Gold’s Gym of Waynesboro - Recycle/Reuse Yard Sale
GRC General Contractors, Inc. - Trail of Trees
Grove-Bowersox Funeral Home - Fall Walk
Industrial Printing Solutions - Chesapeake Bay Supper
Johnson Controls, Inc. - Lifesavers of the Chesapeake Bay
William & Kathleen Kaminski - Fall Walk
Land O’Lakes Mid-Atlantic Grants Program Foundation - Dairy Culture
Doris R. Large, in memory of J. Warren and Jessie O. Large - Park Ranger Training Program, Earth Encounters
Chery Larson & Deb Matthews, in memory of Colleen Larson - Streamside
Lochstampfor Funeral Home - Streamside
M & T Bank - Four Square Garden
Martz Plumbing, Heating & AC, Inc. - Streamside
McDonald’s of Franklin Co. - Jazz Festival
Mountain View Reclamation, a Waste Management Co. - Water Striders (after school program)
William & Diane Nitterhouse Foundation - Four Square Garden
Noelker & Hull Associates, Inc. - Chesapeake Bay Supper
Patricia O’Connor - Streamside
PA Partners in the Arts - Jazz Festival
Patriot Federal Credit Union - Halloween Storytelling
Patrick, Kiertz & Murphy, P.C. - Chesapeake Bay Supper
Betsy Payette - Flax Culture
Mary Ann Payne, in memory of Helen Herr Moyer - Wonderwalks for Preschool
PenMar Development Corp. - Today’s Horizon Fund
Lucinda D. Potter, CPA - Sidney’s Wonder Web, Old Friends Are Worth Saving
Re/Max Associates–Dawn & Darwin Benedict - Chesapeake Bay Supper
The Nora Roberts Foundation - Today’s Horizon Fund
Jeff, Shirley & Kelsey Rock - Streamside
Rotary Club of Waynesboro - Wake Up Earth, It’s Spring
Savage Family Pharmacy - Chesapeake Bay Supper
Dr. Ronald F. Shultz - Chesapeake Bay Supper
Law Office of Anne M. Shepard - The Royer Legacy
The Paul K. & Anna E. Shockey Family Fund - Four Square Garden Relocation
State Farm Insurance Co. - Chesapeake Bay Supper
Eunicia Statler, in memory of Charles Statler - Nose to Nose with Nature
Sussquahanna Bank - Youth Festival
Total Vac - Recycle/Reuse Yard Sale
Tower Bank - Dairy Culture
Charles & Undine Warner - Adult/Teen Education Lecture Series
V.C. Enterprises Industrial Printing Solutions, Inc. - Summer Stories for Children
Waynesboro Lions Club - Discovering Wetlands
Angela Grove Weagly, in memory of Joyce Grove Ceyler & in honor of Richard D. Ceyler - Earth Celebration Day & Festival of Art
Waynesboro Area Education Association - Fall Field, From Field to Table
Walmart Foundation - Flax Culture
WAM Enterprises, Inc. - Salamander Scramble
Glovelia H. Williams - From Field to Table

Book on Four Square Garden Debuts

Renfrew Institute is proud to announce a new publication by faculty member and staff biologist, Doris Armstrong Goldman. Doris has written a comprehensive volume covering more than 400 plants—cultivated and wild—grown and used by 19th-century Pennsylvania Germans (also called Pennsylvania Dutch) in their traditional “Four Square” gardens. More than 100 botanical illustrations highlight the text.

A valuable reference tool, each plant entry includes the scientific, Pennsylvania Dutch and common English names, plus geographic origin, when the plant was first used, and how it was used by the Pennsylvania Dutch and others.

Tips on traditional medicinal uses, recommended historical varieties and hints for cultivation are also included.

Published by Renfrew Institute, the publication was typeset by Joann Woy of Blue Moon Editorial Services, Waynesboro. Joann donated her work. Mary Ann Payne proofread the manuscript.

The book has been produced in electronic format and is available on CD with universally accessible PDF files. Price is $20. To order a copy, contact the institute office at 717-762-0373 or email renfrewinst@innernet.net.

Saffron, an illustration from the book
**WELCOME**

**New Members!**

Note: New members sponsoring specific programs are listed under Gifts—New Sponsorships on page 7.

* = Honorary - for donation of special time, talent and/or materials

Bill & Karen Adams  
Amy Dingle Baker  
Michelle Benshoff  
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Jeremy & Andrea Bowersox  
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Waynesboro Area Education Association  
Michele Willhide  
Diane & David Wilson  
Sheila & Michael Wright  
Johnson & Bonita Yocum

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**Intern’s Insights** continued from page 10

batteries” with the energy of the outdoors and of the institute’s vision of education. I look forward to working with my senior high school students, finding ways to help them reconnect to their natural and cultural heritage, and to Renfrew.

How long has it been since you’ve walked a back path through the woods, upon the hilltop fields, or along the Antietam (perhaps wondering about water monitor training)? Have you meandered by the four-square garden, offering to meet Doris for a morning of weeding? Have you savored a walk in the park in the gloaming of the day, as the final sunrays touch 10,000 shades of green?

Come, and savor, and be a part of something special. Stop in to see if Tracy or Melodie can use a hand, and share a smile. Ask about the new runner’s group supporting “fun fundraising” with the Salamander Scramble 5K Run. See if there’s something you can take home to help prepare class materials. Consider offering extra financial support, even without a membership reminder. Check the “Wish List” in this newsletter to see if you can fulfill an item or two. Plan to be involved in the 20th anniversary celebration of Earth Day next spring, or perhaps another special event.

Share the magic that is Renfrew with family and friends—perhaps invite someone who’s never been to the park, and find your own blessings in our shared backyard.

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**Thanks**

…to **Pat Heefner** for help in the institute office.
…to **Dyane Hummel** for preparing teaching supplies for the kindergarten program, *Once Upon a Farm*.
…to **Karen Manderson** for sewing clothes for *Once Upon a Farm*.
…to **Mary Ann Payne** for continuing work on the institute’s archives, *EarthSeekers* awards and other program related tasks.
…to **Emma Lewis** for weekly help with office and program tasks.

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**Renfrew Institute Board of Directors**

John Schall, President  
Dennis L. Koons, Vice-President  
Richard I. Hersh, Treasurer  
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Matt Gunder  
Patricia F. Heefner  
Jason Levick  
Wayne Martz  
Richard A. Mohn  
Cheryl S. Plummer  
Patricia A. Shew

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**Renfrew Institute Staff**

Melodie Anderson-Smith, Executive Director  
Tracy Holliday, Assistant Director/Grants Administrator  
Sherry Hesse, Director of Cultural Studies  
Beverly McFarland, Accounts Manager  
Andrea Struble, Director of Public Relations  
Doris Goldman, Faculty  
Nancy Hall, Faculty/WaterStriders Instructor  
Stephanie Kober, Faculty  
Robert J. North, Faculty  
Pamela Rowland, Faculty  
Lori Schlosser, Faculty  
Beth Skroban, Faculty  
Nora Slick, Faculty/Summer Institute Coordinator
Institute: Organization & Volunteers, January 1–August 1, 2009

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
(effective July 1, 2009)
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STAFF
(effective July 1, 2009)
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Pamela Rowland, Faculty
Lori Schlosser, Faculty
Beth Skroban, Faculty
Nora Slick, Faculty/Summer Institute Coordinator
Graduate Intern (Winter/Spring 2009)
Kathy Seiler (Geo-Environ. Studies, SU)

Accounting Consultant
Showalter & Miller, CPA

Educational Programs & Office Assistance Volunteers
Pat Heefner
Emma Lewis
Lauren Meckley
Mary Ann Payne
Nancy Richmond

COMMITTEES
(effective July 1, 2009)

Adult Education Committee
Pat Heefner (Co-Chr.)
Marge Kierse (Co-Chr.)
Maxine Beck
Garrett Blanchet
Caroline Dean
Bob Dee
Wayne Martz
Tom McFarland
Andy Smetzer

Community Events Committee
Donna Steiner (Chr.)
Richard Mohn
Lynn MacBride

Development Committee
John Schall (Chr.)
George Buckey
Bob Correll
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Bob Correll
Marc Desrosiers
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Richard Mohn
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Debi Duffey
Richard Mohn
Pat Shew

Historian
Mary Ann Payne

Membership Committee
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Steve Graham
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Carol Ann Henicle
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Jason Levick
Edward A. Miller
Edward C. Miller
Willard Rahn
Angela Grove Weagley

Nominating/Gov. Committee
Sherri Plummer (Chr.)
Steve Graham
Matt Gunder
Dudley Keller
Allison Kohler
Jason Levick
Edward A. Miller
Linda Zimmerman

Personnel Committee
John Schall (Chr.)
Dennis Koons
Maxine Beck
Dick Hersh

Technology Committee
Marc Desrosiers (Chr.)
Pat Heefner

Youth Education Committee
Sherri Plummer (Chr.)
Bonnie Bachtel
Pat Heefner
Pamela Rowland
Pat Shew

Rita Sterner-Hine (WASD liaison)

YOUTH AFTER SCHOOL/ WEEKEND/SUMMER PROGRAMS & PRESENTERS
Children’s Summer Stories
Claire Hunter (Chr.)
Dorothy Fawks

Heritage Crafts
Ed Beard—Leatherwork
Jack Handshaw—Pottery
Karen Manderson—Quilting
Susan Matson—Basketry

Robert North—Piercing Tin & Tin Cookie Cutter Workshops
Anita Pfeffer—Penny Rugs
Liane Benchoff—Volunteer assistant

Nose-To- Nose With Nature
Stephanie Kober

Old Friends Are Worth Saving
Robert Benchoff

WaterStriders
Melodie Anderson-Smith

Nancy Hall (Staff Instructor)
Doris Goldman (Staff Biologist)

Kathy Seiler (Intern)
Daniele Bautista

Amy Draper
Caleb Jones
Esther Jones
Nathan Jones
Kurtis Kenney
Chalcey Kenyon
Steven Nanadiego
Nathaniel Skroban

COMMUNITY EVENTS:
Annual Spring Bird Walks & Trips
Pete & Carol Bailey
Jack Olszewski
Tom Rahn
Virginia Rahn
Willard Rahn

Annual Kite Fly
Bill Flolhr (Chr.)
[cancelled due to rain]

Earth Celebration Day & Festival of Art 2009
Nora Slick, Earth Day Exhibits Coordinator
Bridget Brown, Artists Coordinator
Bill Barns & Jeff Knepper (Hagerstown Honda)

Dannielle Batista
WaterStriders

Jessica Bird
Dave Bort & Alice White
(drum circle)

Vertis Bream
(energy Options)

Judy Bricker & Maggie cisar
(Flower Buds—Waterside Gardens)

Roy Burkepile (Franklin Co. Master Gardeners)
Cassie Chilamate
Sherry Clayton, Casey & Dale (Franklin Co. Planning Commission)

Dan Crom, Jr.
Laura Danylik
Justin Dennis
Jenna DePaola
Lisa Donohoe

Amy Draper (WaterStriders)
Danae Draper (WaterStriders)
Erin Earhart
Debbie Geiss (Children’s Art)
Girl Scouts in the Heart of PA
Shirley Gossert (The Record Herald)
Tammy Gross & Donna Hayes (Franklin Co. Conservation District)
Nancy Hall (WaterStriders)
Jake Hamburger
Kelsey Harris
Kim Harbaugh (Harbaugh’s HVAC/Refrigeration, Inc.)
C.C. Hough
George Hurst (Penn State Cooperative Extension)
Esther, Nathan & Caleb Jones (WaterStriders)
Curtis Kenney (WaterStriders)
Bert Kramer (Annapapa Farm/Alpaca Shop)
Rudolf Lemperg (My Farm at Goose Pond)

James Lis
Florine & Russell Long
(Long’s Tree Service)
Lenny Mazzu
(Hundred Fold Farm)
Chris Mayer (Fulton Center for Sustainable Living)
Tom McCarty (Groundwater/Penn State Coop. Extension)
Mike Mowen & Tom Smith (Franklin Co. Rock & Mineral Club)
Billy Mullarky
William Peak (Boyer’s Woodstoves LLC)
Joan O’Brien (Gardens By Grace)
Jack & Holly Olszewski (Mother Earth Creations)
John Pearce
Gretchen Plotkin
(Hundred Fold Farm)
Steve Pettig & Pat Heefner (Antietam Watershed Assoc.)
Hillary Rowe
Shelby Rowe
Stina Sauter (Fulton Center for Sustainable Living)
Edward Santiago
Kathy Seiler (general help)
Mary Ellen Selvaggio (School Exhibits)
Cheryl Shields (Waste Management)
Nathaniel Skroban (WaterStriders)
Andrew Smetzer (Tri-State Astronomers)
Susan Stampien (Natural Alternatives & Energy Vitamins & Health Foods Store)
Bob Thomas (Franklin Co. Commissioners)
Megan Warner (A Lily Pad Floral Affairs)
Ashley Weaver

(continued on page 27)
Organization & Volunteers continued from pg. 26

Cody Wible
Travis Wiles
Clarence Wroblewski
Pandy Yeakle (Cumberland Valley Chapter #27 of the Society for PA Archaeology, Inc.)

Festival of Art
Bridget Brown (Chr. & Decorative Folk Art)
Gary & Kath Anderson (iron forging)
Jacqueline Bayer (jewelry & visual art)
Denny Bingaman (wildlife photography)
Becky Dietrich (watercolor)
Arthur & Sara Gernand (hypertufa planters)
Penny & David Goldstein (fine art & pottery)
Nathan & Caleb Jones (framed art)
Elaine Longenecker (basketry)
Michael McIntyre (FireRobin Farm Pottery)
Patric Schlee (Wind Song)

FUND-RAISING EVENTS
Earth Day Recycle/Reuse Yard Sale 2009
Debbie Pflager (Chr.)
Gracie Baylor
Sandy & Rob Beaumont
Maxine Beck
Erica Besecker
Ruth Coe
Bob Correll
Carolyn Dean
Bob Dee
Marc Desrosiers
Debi Duffey
John Frantz
Doris Goldman
Charlene Good
Nancy Hall
Pat Heefner
Dick & Joann Hersh
Allie Kohler
Denny Koons
Lynn MacBride
Bev McFarland
Liane Miller-Benchoff
Richard ‘Red’ Mohn
Alice Noll
Bob North
Ginny Parks
Bill Pflager
Julie Pflager
Kristin, Bonnie & Jeff Rhodes
John Schall
Mary Ellen Selvaggio
Marcy Shea
Pat & Richard Shew
Tom & Jean Singer
Nora Slick
Bob & Donna Steiner
Sue & Ron VonRembow
Travis Wiles
Judy Zafft
Linda & Bob Zimmerman

Chesapeake Bay Supper
[PLEASE SEE COMPLETE LIST OF BAY SUPPER VOLUNTEERS, PATRONS AND SPONSORS, PAGE 6]

Salamander Scramble 5K Run 2009
Bob Correll (Chr.)
John Kelley
Fred Skroban
Diane Wilson
Jay & Pat Heefner (event day support)
Nora Slick (event day support)
Tracy Holliday
(Staff Coordinator)
Team Members:
Melodie Anderson-Smith
Michelle Benchoff
Mike Bercaw
Bea Boccalandro
Jeremy Bowersox
Mary Britsch
Dr. Stephen Bui
Dr. May Cao

Summer Fun at Renfrew

Summer Institute once again brought lots of kids to Renfrew Park. A full slate of activities kept kids engaged and learning while having some old-fashioned summer fun! The always popular Summer Stories continued again this year. On Tuesdays from late June through July, young children gathered in the shade under the horse chestnut tree near the visitors center for stories and related hands-on activities.

Also in June and July, Wednesday mornings found young school-age children going Nose to Nose with Nature, a fun-filled exploration of nature in the park, including wading in the creek—always fun on a hot summer day! Old Friends Are Worth Saving, a hands-on workshop on historic preservation for kids, enabled young folks to assemble a log cabin and learn about tools of the past.

And the week-long Heritage Crafts program featured invited artists who taught workshops on tinsmithing, pottery, penny rugs and basketry. Students learned some of the timeless crafts of our ancestors, and created beautiful finished products to take home.

Students and instructors worked hard to assemble a log cabin during the Summer Institute program, Old Friends Are Worth Saving. Photos by Nora Slick.
Our Wish List…

- Card tables—used, in good condition
- Book: *Animal Tracks*, Peterson Field Guide
- Book: *Soil! Get the Inside Scoop* by David L. Lindba; Soil Science Society of America; available online at www.societystore.org or by phone 1-608-268-4960 (item #: B60913) OR donate $23 to Renfrew Institute for purchase of the book (includes $3 S&H) and we will order it!
- Book: *Aquatic Entomology*, by W. Patrick McCafferty, 1981
- Donation to purchase durable and identifiable recycling bin for use during public events ($100)
- Donation to purchase ceramic butter churn ($135)
- Reproduction toys for children’s program: small wooden buckets, children’s rustic brooms (can be made by donor, institute will provide instructions), Jacob’s Ladder, ball/cup, other “old-fashioned” toys.
- Funding for replacement items in period clothing for instructors—any amount appreciated!
- Additional underwriting sponsors for this newsletter, educational programs or community events

Beyond the Wish List… Thank You!

- Pat Brezler: Donation of trapper basket with men’s reproduction clothing
- Jane Charlesworth & daughter, Maeve: 2-CD set—*Voices of American Owls*, Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology
- Lovell’s Nursery: Potting soil for school programs
- Pam & Bruce Rowland: Book—*Project Learning Tree* (PLT), Secondary Environmental Education Program, *Exploring Environmental Issues, Places We Live*
- Wayne & Debbie Martz: Drink cooler
- Charles Good: Narcissus/daffodil bulbs & iris rhizomes

Pumpkin Festival

ATTENTION Everyone!

Renfrew’s annual
Pumpkin Festival
is coming up SOON—
OCTOBER 17!
Come enjoy a full day
of fun and great food!