

Streamside

Newsletter of the Renfrew Institute

MISSION STATEMENT

“Renfrew Institute’s mission is to guide the people of the Cumberland Valley Region to become stewards of their natural and cultural worlds.”



Celebrating 20!

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

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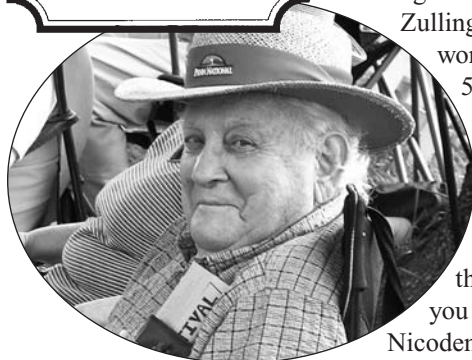
Publication of *Streamside* is funded in part through grants from **Martz Plumbing, Heating, & A/C, Inc.;** **Jeff & Shirley Rock; Pat O’Connor;** **Chey Larson & Deb Matthews** in memory of Colleen Larson & in honor of Frank Larson; Alice Mellott; and Lochstampf Funeral Home.



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 Renfrew 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.

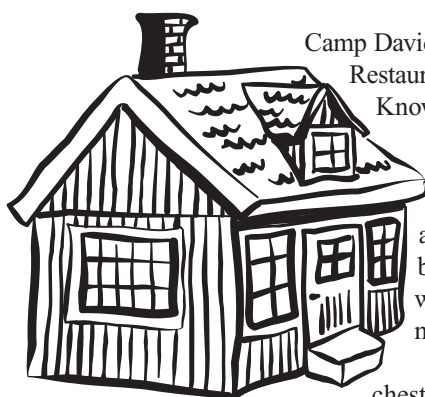
Having been with the institute from its inception, Ed is very pleased with what he sees there. “The staff of Renfrew Institute are wonderful,” Ed said. “They love doing what they do. The entire staff deserves high praise for their dedication to the programs they teach...if Mrs. Nicodemus could come back,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



The grove of American-Chinese hybrid chestnut trees behind Renfrew’s visitors center is part of the effort to establish new, blight-resistant trees across the country.

Sweet, protein-rich nuts added to the diets of deer, bear, wild turkey, squirrels, birds and Homo sapiens. People fattened their livestock, and ground the nuts to use in baking throughout the long winter. As a cash crop, the nuts (especially popular as a holiday treat sold in the big cities) provided agrarian families with many store-bought items, including clothes, shoes and school supplies.

Residents’ lifestyles in Appalachia’s hidden coves and mountainside farms experienced severe devastation when the chestnut blight fungus reached them by the 1930s and ‘40s. Lumbering profits dipped. Hunting declined. Autumn windfall cash harvests ceased. Many families became destitute, especially hard hit with the national economic depression.

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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



Renfrew Institute's new board members (left to right) Steve Graham, Debi Duffey, Jason Levick, Caroline Dean and Wayne Martz. Photo by Tracy Holliday.

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,

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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 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.

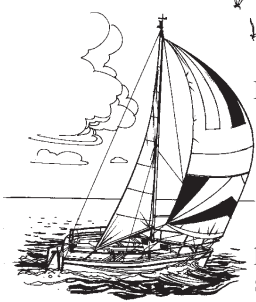
Ventilation was very important in order to keep the barn from catching fire. Ventilation was provided by designing slits in the stone or brickwork, through louvered windows or gaps in the board siding. An example is the Fahnstock Barn at Renfrew, which has both louvered windows and gaps between the wooden 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.



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.

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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 Supper: **Friday, June 25, 2010!!** If you'd like to be a part of the Bay Supper Committee, please call 717-762-0373.

~The Bay Supper Committee

Thank You...

Thanks to everyone who supported the supper including the following...

GRANT

Joann Hersh, State Farm Insurance Co. "Good Neighbor Grant"

SPONSORS

Advanced Financial Security, Inc.

Noelker & Hull Assoc., Inc.

Savage Family Pharmacy, Inc.

Dr. Ronald F. Schultz

Today's Horizon Fund Contributors –

PenMar Development Corp., Nora Roberts Foundation & an Anonymous Donor

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Patricia & Richard Shew

Bill & Jo Spigler

John Stauffer

Eunice Statler & Jordan Trostle

John & Gloria Walker

Angela Grove Weagly

Rebecca Wertime

Special Thanks to auctioneer, Jerry Scruggs, for donating his services for the live auction

Thanks again to Steve Graham for providing the littleneck clams

Appreciation to Dave & Jane's Crab House, Fairfield, Pa., for procuring, preparing and delivering the crabs

More Thanks...

SILENT AUCTION DONORS

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Rolling Mill Restaurant
Nathan Rotz~Innernet.net Inc.
Zoë's Chocolate Company

And...A huge **THANK YOU** to these planning committee members & their helpers:

Event Chair: Pat Heefner

Emcee: Allie Kohler

Auctions: Joann Hersh (Chair), Dick Hersh

Heads & Tails Game: Allie Kohler

Food & Arrangements: Jo Ann Kohler (Chair),

Waynesboro Country Club– Executive Chef

Kris LeHardy, Roberta Harner, Ronda Kleppinger

& Staff

Invitations: Eunice Statler (Chair), Shirley Faith,

Barbara Gaydick, Pat Heefner, Jo Ann Kohler,

Angela Grove Weagly & Janet Zook

Decorations: Bay Supper Committee, Jordan Trostle

Window Dressing: from the Hersh & Kohler gardens

Balloon Helium Courtesy of
John Ingels, Eichholtz Flowers, Waynesboro

WASH All-School Production (2007) "Seussical" Fish

Created by Sue Kuhn & Angie Minnick



Allegheny Power

Kudos to Allegheny Power

for underwriting the cost of the crabs.



"Allegheny Power is proud to support Renfrew Institute and their environmental education programming, provided in part by the Chesapeake Bay Supper fundraiser. Allegheny Power also encourages our customers to use energy wisely. Our Watt Watchers program features information on energy conservation and efficiency. Conserving energy has two important benefits—reducing your bill and reducing the impact on the environment."—Edward C. Miller, Allegheny Power Regional Sales Manager & former Renfrew Institute board member

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 Aufdem-Brinke**. Jason, who sits on the foundation's board, visited our site this past spring to observe the "fruits" of the 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

gifts

New Sponsorships

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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—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



Helping with the ceremonial groundbreaking for Renfrew Institute's (RI) new four-square garden are (adults, left to right): Jim Rock, president of GRC General Contractors and past RI president; Waynesboro Mayor Dick Starliper; RI Director of Cultural Studies, Sherry Hesse; RI faculty member and garden director, Doris Armstrong Goldman; Ken Shockey; Marie Lanser Beck; RI Executive Director, Melodie Anderson-Smith; and RI board president, John Schall. Children (front, left) Alexa Levick, daughter of Michele and Jason Levick of Waynesboro, and Ella Hajel, daughter of Mandy and Doug Hajel of Hagerstown. Photo by Tracy Holliday.

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.



Sweet Shrub, one of several hundred plants commonly found in traditional four-square gardens.

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 fund-raiser 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

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Renfrew Institute intern, Kathy Seiler (right) and Jamie M. Flickinger, Wildlife Diversity Biologist, PA Game Commission, Southcentral Region, work on a habitat box for owls as part of the institute's cooperation with PGC's Barn Owl Initiative. Photo by Tracy Holliday.

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 research and publicizing 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.

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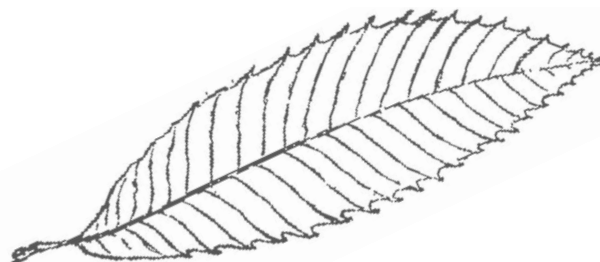
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Celebrating 20! *continued from page 9*

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!

Salamander Scramble Revisited...

by Tracy Holliday



What's the best term for a large collective of salamanders on the run? Not a herd, surely, or a flock, not a gaggle 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 continuance 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 good 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."



Renfrew Institute's 2nd Annual "Salamander Scramble" team wore their signature green t-shirts with an original logo designed by local artist and teacher, Tom McFarland. Runners included (left to right): Front row kneeling or seated: Bobbie Helman, Will Manning, May Cao, holding Kiley, Stephen Bui, Quan Tran. Second row: Michelle Benschhoff, Nicole Prorock, Pat Sherman, Beth Skroban, Melodie Anderson-Smith, Najiah Faour, Lauren Meckley, Sheila Wright, Lori Eigenbrode. Third row: Tracy Holliday, Vicki Stinebaugh, Kathy Seiler, Bea Boccalandro, Diana Lyon Loftus, Mary Britsch, Steve Ferree, Pat Vores, Daryl Lehman, John Kelley, Jeremy Bowersox, Frederick Skroban, Michele Wilhide. Back row: Greg Lyon Loftus, Bob Correll, Rod Teach, Mike Wright, Fred Skroban, SK Sherman, Bill Pflager with his running partner Max, Harry Morningstar. Missing from the photo are Michael Bercaw, Sara Makin, Deborah Shemill, Ashlyn Shockey, and David & Diane Wilson. Photo by Nora Slick.

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

the community continues to show for our activities. This 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.



Awards & Prizes

FIRST PLACE TEAM FINISHES:

- **Steve Ferree**—One hour therapeutic massage, donated by Drs. Bui & Cao
- **Michelle Benschoff**—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**—H2O Zone Stainless Steel Water Bottle

SENIOR-MOST RUNNER:

- **S.K. Sherman**—H2O Zone Stainless Steel Water Bottle

FIRST TO REACH FUNDRAISING GOAL:

- **Daryl Lehman**—donated by Antietam Dairy Ice Cream



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

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!!

Photos by Nora Slick



Sponsor Spotlight Nick Turano

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.

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.



Blue Ridge Mountain Cookery's underwriting support helped bring a "trumpet summit" to the Institute's Jazz Fest 2007. Musicians, left to right: Paul Bollenback, Ugonna Okegwo, Ingrid Jensen, Jon Wikan and Brian Lynch. Photo by Tracy Holliday.

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," Jason said, "and we enjoy several of the community events. We always go to the [Recycle/Reuse] Yard Sale, and we love the Pumpkin Festival."

The Levicks' 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

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Denny Bingaman Receives Environmental Artistry Award



Denny Bingaman (right) is congratulated by Bridget Brown after receiving the 2009 Environmental Artistry Award during Earth Celebration Day in April. Photo by Kathy Seiler.

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!

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

in memory of...

Joyce Ceyler

and in honor of...

Eunice Statler

by Richard Ceyler

in memory of...

Harry D. Catts

by Bernie & Rosemarie Roberts Family

in memory of...

James E. Heikes

by Mr. & Mrs. James Heikes, Jr.

A Family Memorial Gift

The Bernie & Rosemarie Roberts family recently made a 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, Christiahna Roberts, Jeanine Roberts, John & Jeanne Roberts DeGennaro, Laura DeGennaro, Emily DeGennaro, Thomas Roberts and Jim Roberts.

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 Vandereau. The event will be held in the Fahnstock 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.

Renfrew Institute Members & Sponsors

Includes 2008–09 members and new/renewed for 2009–10 * = Honorarium—for donation of special time, talent and/or materials.

Today's Horizon (\$3,000 or more)

Anonymous Donor
Nora Roberts Foundation
PenMar Development Corp.

Heritage Society (\$1,000 or more)

Allegheny Energy
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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 game-boy/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



Jason Aufdem-Brink of the Nora Roberts Foundation shares a “whiff sundae” with a student in Mrs. Boward’s (Hamilton Heights Elementary) kindergarten class. Photo by Tracy Holliday.

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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New Sponsorships *continued from pg. 18*

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 adjust to the realities imposed by the current economic climate. When lives are challenged by the stresses of doing more with less, an outlet through the arts is more important than ever. Music provides an escape from the worries of the day, and live performances have even greater transformative powers to take us out of ourselves and into something universal.

We are grateful for funding dollars ably guided our way by Visitor's Bureau's **Janet Pollard**, director of tourism and her colleague, **Mary Harris**. Community residents from throughout the region demonstrated their gratitude in the record crowd that gathered in Waynesboro, Pennsylvania, for live world-class jazz!

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

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Barns: Heart of the Farmstead *continued from page 5*

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

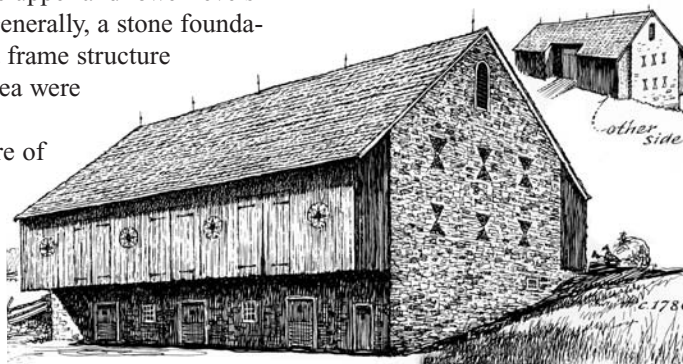
The lower level of the bank barn was divided into stalls to house animals (mostly horses and cows), with an aisle between the stalls (der Foodergang) that allowed access to feed troughs and hay racks.

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.



Pennsylvania Bank Barn (also called Swisser or Sweitzer barn) with cantilever forebay and banked animal stalls below. From An Age of Barns by Eric Sloane.

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.

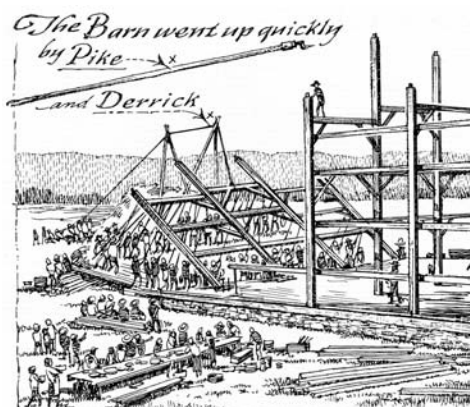
The wooden frames, or “bents,” were built on the ground. A bent, used in timber frame construction, consisted of vertical and horizontal posts that form the frame of the building. These were attached without nails, using the mortise and tenon technique, with the end of one post fitted into a slot in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



Raising the barn was a community event with help from neighbors from miles around. From An Age of Barns by Eric Sloane.

(continued on page 21)

Barns *continued from page 20*

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.

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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.”

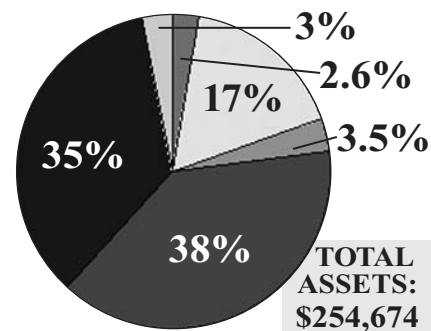
Wayne also serves on the board of the Franklin County Shrine Club. “My father was active with the club, and I’ve been involved with it most of my adult life,” he said. Shriners hospitals provide free medical services to children in need. Wayne works to organize an annual fundraising golf tournament,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

Renfrew Institute’s Financial Health

Renfrew Institute Financial Statement 2008-09			
(July 1, 2008–June 30, 2009)			
Operating Income		Operating Expenses	
Memberships	\$33,591	Salaries, Benefits, FICA (faculty & admin.)	\$133,011
Bequests, Memorials	4,277	Community Events	6,967
Student Fees (inc. adult/teen wksp)	44,208	Fund Raisers	11,063
Grants/Sponsorships (educational programs)	26,850	Suppl., Printing, Postage (programs, office, newsletter, etc.)	11,056
Grants/Sponsorships (community events)	6,428	Professional Devel.	821
Grants/Today’s Horizon Fund (devel. support)	16,000	Admin./Consult. Fees	1,875
Fund Raisers (Pumpkin Fest, Yard Sale, Bay Supper, Salamander Scramble)	35,301	Phone/Internet/Equip. Maint.	1,509
Other (special projects, interest, misc. donations, etc.)	3,296	Insurance	2,045
		Misc. (petty cash, bank fees)	248
		Restricted Expense (rain ponchos)	449
Total Income	\$170,401	Total Expense	\$169,044

Renfrew Institute Assets as of 6/30/09



2.6%—Checking Account—\$6,547
 .039%—Petty Cash—\$100 [not on chart]
 17%—M&T Securities (reserve/holding)—\$43,058
 3.5%—Today’s Horizon (prepaid, held in CD)—\$9,000
 38%—Bequest Trust Fund—\$97,667
 35%—Endowment Fund/Margaret Keller Fund—\$90,386 (these two combined)
 3%—Accounts Receivable—\$7,608
 .012%—Prepaid Expenses—\$308 [not on chart]

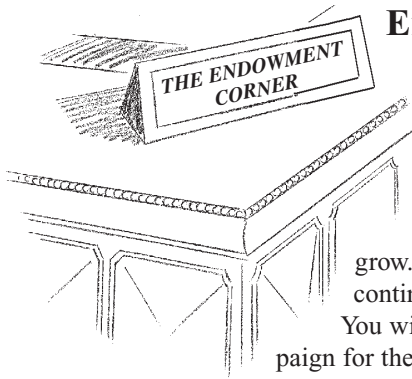
Farewell Board Members *continued from pg. 23*

and Nominating/Governance committees. The job that kept her most busy however, was being the bread chair for the Pumpkin Festival. Donna also helped at Jazz Fest each year.

Outgoing Board President **Linda Zimmerman**, also know as “Board Builder,” chaired the Nominating/Governance Committee leading the way through bylaw changes and board member recruitment. She worked to strengthen the board succession structure to maintain continuity and

experience while introducing fresh new faces, skills and ideas to the board. The administrative staff expresses its sincere thanks to Linda for her guidance and unwavering support during her two years as president. During her six years on the board, Linda also served as vice president and as a member of the Youth Education and Membership committees. Linda has promised to continue her involvement on several institute fronts.

Melodie Anderson-Smith



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	Dorothy Fawks	Douglas & Virginia Parks
Dora J. Ambrose	Patrick & Jane Fleagle	Betsy Payette
June & Harry Anderson	Steve Graham	Debbie & Bill Pflager
Thomas & Pamala Anderson	Jay & Pat Heefner	The late Lewis R. Purnell
Anderson-Smith Family	Vicki Hess	Edna L. Rice
Bonnie Bachtell	Blaine & Mildred Holliday	M. James & Barbara Rock
Grace M. Baylor	Tracy Holliday & Kevin Ledden	Rouzerville Lions Club
Mike & Denise Beck & Family	John W. Keller	Mary Ellen Selvaggio & Patric Schlee
Mr. & Mrs. Robert W. Brown	Barbara H. Kercheval	Richard & Patricia Ann Shew
Kenton & Audrey Broyles	Patricia Kugler	Eunice Statler
George P. & Martha B. Buckey	Franklin J. Larson	Carroll & Louanna Sturm
Ronald H. & Mary Jane Collins	Lynn Y. MacBride	Gordon Thomas
Mr. & Mrs. Max Creager	Martz Plumbing Heating & AC	Tower Bank
Col. & Mrs. D. B. DeDona	Beverly McFarland	WACCO Properties, Inc.
Jean Dienstag	Mr. & Mrs. Edward A. Miller	Donald W. Yost, Jr.
Greg & Debi Duffey	Carl & Bonnie Monk	& the late Carrie E. Yost
Paul & Barbara S. Dunlap	Bob North	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)



Sandy Beaumont and Sue Von Rembow helped “peddle” items donated by Renfrew Institute board and staff members at the Recycle/Reuse Fundraiser April 18, 2009. Photo by Tracy Holliday.

Sold on Recycle/Reuse Yard Sale

Sunny skies and warm temperatures greeted visitors to Renfrew Institute’s 4th Annual Recycle/Reuse Yard Sale on Saturday, April 18. Vendors displayed their “treasures” and reported good sales. Food was plentiful and varied with “signature” items such as Ploughman’s lunches and homemade pita bread and hummus, along with the ever-popular hot dog and yummy baked goods.

The event continues to grow in popularity. Partnering the event with Earth Day activities has contributed to the spirit of the day as well as to its financial success. Profit from this year’s event was \$1,955.83, slightly short of our \$2,500 goal. Sales at the institute table netted just over \$265, vendor spaces brought in \$325, and food sales generated \$1,500.

Thanks to all who helped make the event a success. Our sponsors included **Advance Auto Sales, Dru’s Books N’ Things, Total Vac, First National Bank of Mercersburg** and new this year, **Gold’s Gym**, who sponsored the purchase of compostable cups for drinking water.

The decision was made to abandon sales of bottled water since, even though the bottles are recyclable, they are a petroleum-based product requiring energy inputs in the recycling process. Many still wind up in the landfill. [See article on page 22 under *New Sponsors*.]

The following area businesses were very generous, donating 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!

Tracy Holliday

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 Super 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 through 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

(continued on pg. 21)

New Sponsors *continued from pg. 22*

the use of a nice large cup for the entire day, with unlimited refills from our cooler of ice-cold water. (Markers were provided to label with names.) Though the cost of the cups was underwritten by Gold’s Gym, the charge was imposed to emphasize that the cup should be reused for the day, rather than “grabbing a new one” for each drink.

Purchased through World Centric, these cups are made from NatureWorks polylactic acid (PLA), which is derived from corn grown in the USA. They are fully biodegradable and compostable, and are ASTM D6400-99 certified for “compostable plastics.” Though they are indistinguishable from normal plastic and as light and strong, they fully degrade into water, carbon dioxide and organic material when composted. It was an easy choice to adopt the use of these readily renewable resources, avoiding use of petroleum based plastic cups, which create toxicity and environmental pollution.

We’re grateful to Suria and Kevin for helping us make this important move toward sustainable resource use.

Tracy Holliday

Members & Sponsors *continued from page 17*

Student (\$10)

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)

Cinetic 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,*

Wake 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

Chey Larson & Deb Matthews,

in memory of Colleen

Larson & in honor of Frank

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

Patterson, Kiersz & 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

Eunice Statler, in memory of

Charles Statler - *Nose to*

Nose with Nature

Susquehanna 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 Walk, 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	Sara Makin & Debra Shemill
Amy Dingle Baker	Will Manning
Michelle Benshoff	Concetta Maryjanowski
Mike Bercaw	Lauren Meckley
Bea Boccalandro	Molly Snyder Moran
Jeremy & Andrea Bowersox	Tim Parry
Mary Britsch	Elva Pentz
Drs. Stephen Bui & May Cao	Nicole Prorock
Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Campbell	Nora Roberts Foundation
Caroline Dean	Bernie & Rosemarie Roberts
Barrie & Sarie Dickey	Nicole Rolls
Dennis & Patricia Eckstine	Mark & Connie Senft
Lori Eigenbrode	Lynn & Jackie Shaw
Dr. Najiah Faour	Law Office of
Steve Ferree	Anne M. Shepard
Karen Fitzgerald	Patricia & S.K. Sherman
Jim & Connie Fleagle	Ashlyn Shockey
Ruth Gembe	Paul K. & Anna E. Shockey
Walter & Katherine Gembe	Family Fund
Golds's Gym	Mr. & Mrs. William Short
John & Kira Hamman	Linda & Sam Stevenson
James & Jean Heikes, Jr.	Loree & Bryan Stevenson
Bobbi Helman	Tim & Christina Stevenson
Derek Hine	Vicki Stinebaugh
Amanda Johns	Rodney Teach
Melissa Johns	Quang Tran
Cassandra Johns	Pat Vores
John Kelley	Martha Wagner
Will & Jill Kessler & Family	WAM Enterprises, Inc.
Stephen Leaman	Waynesboro Area
Daryl Lehman	Education Association
Jody & Bernie Lenrow	Michele Wilhide
Jason & Michele Levick	Diane & David Wilson
& Family	Sheila & Michael Wright
Dennis & Tonya Majkowski	Johnson & Bonita Yocum

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.

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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 Wayne Martz
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 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

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WaterStriders Instructor
 Stephanie Kober, *Faculty*
 Robert J. North, *Faculty*
 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 Kiersz (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
 Debi Duffey
 Dick Hersh
 Dennis Koons

Facilities Committee

Richard Mohn (Chr.)
 Bob Correll
 Marc Desrosiers
 Dick Hersh
 Wayne Martz

Finance Committee

Dick Hersh (Chr.)
 Caroline Dean
 Marc Desrosiers
 Debi Duffey
 Richard Mohn
 Pat Shew

Historian

Mary Ann Payne

Membership Committee

Maxine Beck (Chr.)
 Steve Graham
 Matt Gunder
 Carol Ann Henicle
 Dennis Koons
 Jason Levick
 Edward A. Miller
 Edward C. Miller
 Willard Rahn
 Angela Grove Weagly

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 Bachtell
 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 Pfeuffer–*Penny Rugs*
 Liane Benchoff–*Volunteer*
assistant

Nose-To-Nose With Nature

Stephanie Kober
 (Staff Instructor)
 Nora Slick (Staff Instructor)

Old Friends Are Worth Saving

Robert Benchoff
 (Guest Instructor)
 Robert North
 (Staff Instructor)

WaterStriders

Melodie Anderson-Smith
 (Staff Instructor)
 Nancy Hall (Staff Instructor)
 Doris Goldman (Staff
 Biologist)
 Kathy Seiler (Intern)
 Danielle Bautista
 Amy Draper
 Danae Draper
 Caleb Jones
 Esther Jones
 Nathan Jones
 Kurtis Kenney
 Chance 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 Flohr (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)

Danielle 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 Chilcate
 Sherry Clayton, Casey & Dale
 (Franklin Co. Planning
 Commission)

Dan Crum, Jr.
 Laura Danyluk
 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 Hurd (Penn State
 Cooperative Extension)
 Esther, Nathan & Caleb Jones
 (WaterStriders)
 Curtis Kenney (WaterStriders)
 Bert Kramer (Annapaca Farm/
 The Alpaca Shop)
 Rudolf Lemperg (My Farm at
 Goose Pond)
 James Lis

Florine & Russell Long
 (Long's Tree Service)

Lenny Mazza
 (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 Peck (Boyer's
 Woodstoves LLC)

Joan O'Brien
 (Gardens By Grace)

Jack & Holly Olszewski
 (Mother Earth Creations)

John Pearce
 Gretchen Plotkin
 (Hundred Fold Farm)

Steve Rettig & 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)

Andy Smetzer
 (Tri-State Astronomers)

Susan Stampien (Natural
 Alternatives & Energy
 Vitamins & Health Foods
 Store)

Bob Thomas (Franklin Co.
 Commissioners)

Megan Warner (A Lily Pad
 Floral Affaires)

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 Archeology, 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)
Mary & Joseph Shoemaker (lampwork beads & jewelry)
Betsy Tresselt (Handmade Jewelry)

Jazz Festival 2009

Andrew Sussman (Chr.)
Mariae Beck
Maxine Beck
Monica Beck
Mike Cordell
Caroline Dean
Debi Duffey
Pat Fleagle
Matt Gunder
Pat Heefner
Carol Ann Henicle
Lisa Johnson
Denny Koons
Jason Levick
Wayne Martz
Tom McFarland
Red Mohn
Pat & Richard Shew
Bob Steiner
Angela Grove Weagly
Bob & Linda Zimmerman

Youth Festival 2009

Kathy Bourdeau (Co-Chr.)
Kim Sheffler (Co-Chr.)
Traci Walizer (Co-Chr.)
Beth Angle
Maxine Beck
Curry & Family
Valerie Dudash
John, Jean & Harrison Frantz
Steve Graham
Carol Ann Henicle
Denny Koons
Laura Koons
Trevor Madsen
Karen Manderson
Tom McFarland
Anita Pfeuffer
Amber Ryckis, Gold's Gym

Kathy Seiler
Dan, Moriah & Jenny Sheffler
The Walizer Family
Saint Andrew Youth Group – Concessions

FUND-RAISING EVENTS

Earth Day Recycle/Reuse Yard Sale 2009

Debbie Pflager (Chr.)
Grace Baylor
Sandy & Rob Beaumont
Maxine Beck
Erica Besecker
Ruth Coe
Bob Correll
Caroline 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 Bocalandro
Jeremy Bowersox
Mary Britsch
Dr. Stephen Bui
Dr. May Cao

Bob Correll
Lori Eigenbrode
Najiah Faour
Steven E. Ferree
Bobbi Helman
Tracy Holliday
John Kelley
Daryl Lehman
Diana Lyon-Loftus
Greg Lyon-Loftus
Sara Makin
Will Manning
Lauren Meckley
Harry Morningstar
Bill Pflager
Nicole Prorock
Kathy Seiler
Pat Sherman
S. K. Sherman
Ashlyn Shockey
Beth Skroban
Fred Skroban
Frederick Skroban
Vicki Steinbaugh

Rodney Teach
Quang Tran
Pat Vores
Michelle Wilhide
David Wilson
Diane Wilson
Michael Wright
Sheila Wright

Bob Benchoff teaches a student how to use one of the "people-powered" tools featured in the Old Friends Are Worth Saving program.



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: *An Instant Guide to Weather*, by Eleanor Lawrence & Borin Van Loon; Gramercy Books, 1992.
- ❖ Book: *Beetles*, Peterson Field Guide, by Richard E. White
- ❖ 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: *Marvels in the Muck*, by Doug Wechsler, Boyds Mill Press, 2008
- ❖ Book: *A Guide to Common Freshwater Invertebrates of North America*, by J. Reese Voshell, Jr.
- ❖ 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
- ❖ **Steve Graham:** Iron kettle for use in farmstead programs; early pewter candlestick; and rustic butchering bench. Books—Audubon Society *Field Guide to North American Birds*; Peterson Field Guides, *Eastern Birds*; *Tree Flowers of Forest, Park & Street* by Walter E. Rogers
- ❖ **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!

Streamside

Renfrew Institute for Cultural and Environmental Studies

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www.renfrewinstitute.org

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