# 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."

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**Volume 15 + Number 2 + March 2005** 

#### Office Facelift: New, Old and Recycled

e aren't finished yet, but have come a long way in our attempt to upgrade our office technology and reorganize and clean out the institute's office habitat. I admit it's hard to take down the warm fuzzy letter from a kindergarten class, taped to the wall in Fall 1992. The dust was falling off it in chunks. I'm comforted to know there will be more—both kid creations *and* dust. But for now, our institute office is looking a lot less cluttered. Our primary goal is to improve office efficiency and administrative production.

New bookshelves soon to be built behind the museum's gift shop will allow our professional library to be...well, more professional. These shelves, shared with the Renfrew Museum staff, are sure to fill up quickly! We are cleaning off old shelves, reorganizing, and trying to make more space. We've put the period clothing on a new rack, and have evicted 14 barn mice.

The most significant improvement has been in technology. Thanks to two funders, Waynesboro Beneficial Fund Association and Communities That Care, we have a new Apple eMac computer, HP Color Laser Jet printer, new software, an additional phone line with new phones and networked DSL internet access. We are sharing the DSL with Renfrew Museum, making faster service affordable for both organizations. With funding from Eunice Statler and Pat O'Connor, we are about to order a new laptop computer and a digital camera. This equipment will cut photo processing expenses and make PowerPoint and slide presentations more doable. The laptop and our old computer will provide additional work stations.

Joanne and Dick Hersh donated some nice office furniture from Joanne's insurance office, which closed upon her retirement. Institute assistant director, Tracy Holliday, now has a beautiful big desk and a chair without holes! Sherry Hesse, Director of Cultural Studies, also got a nice chair and there was even one left over for James Ross, museum curator. His old chair was missing an arm! Joanne also passed along desk trays, waste baskets and a potpourri of office supplies. We can't thank her enough. Thanks too, to John Frantz and James Smith for helping us haul the stuff from one office to another.

Our sincere thanks to everyone who has helped with our project —Pat Heefner for cleaning out drawers, Bev McFarland for the clothes rack and miscellaneous office organizers, Tracy Holliday, Sherry Hesse and Nora Slick for cleaning and organizing.

The museum staff, Jim Ross, John Frantz, Louise Kyser and Bonnie Iseminger are cleaning too—each taking care of his/her own "corner" of the visitor center. Working together we hope to make our mutual nest a bit more attractive and livable. Stop by when you have a chance and see our progress. We think it's a good combination of the new, the old and the recycled.

Melodie Anderson-Smith

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## From the Desk of Tim Rahn, President

#### **Last Chance To Say...**

The ground is snow covered and the sky is overcast. I am in Vermont watching blue jays and chickadees on the first day of a vacation while I fight a cold. Another storm is brewing: it is snowing in Waynesboro; it will snow here tonight.

This is my last chance to write a president's message for *Streamside*. The next issue will appear in July after I have left the board on June 30. June 30 seems a date too far in the future, the same way that looking back at my nearly eight years on the board seems too far in the past.

Writing about my transition from board member to former board member is not easy. I realize that I will soon reach a point of letting go of something that I have identified with and has identified me.

Especially since there is a lot left to do.

The board is starting again to look at strategic planning, a process we have struggled to begin several times since I joined the board. Strategic planning is difficult because it is filled with intangibilities, and hard to see immediate results. This time, however, it appears that the process may move beyond planning and we may produce a plan. Given what I know about this process for any organization, I doubt that a plan will be implemented before I leave the board.

In the meantime, more tangible plans are taking form in discussions about a new building at Renfrew. In addition, seemingly mundane, but equally important work continues. The annual process of developing an operating budget has begun. If the possibility of a new building can give me great hope, the first draft of a budget always gives me pause. We will develop and approve the budget. The staff and the board will also make the effort to find the funding that will support the budget.

While these are the "big ticket items" and the ones that will command the most attention from now until the end of June, a host of smaller items both ongoing and unknown will also need attention.

As you can see, these are exciting times at the institute. Frankly, I'll miss the fun of being part of the mix. I will leave knowing that we have a strong board, one ready to take on the challenges that come with the responsibilities of managing a nonprofit organization. The true strength of the institute board is the willingness of the individual members to work toward accomplishing our mission. This has often meant board members rolling up their sleeves to stir soup or sitting at a table for hours stuffing envelopes.

In my tenure as president, I have come to appreciate the dedication of the institute staff. For the last several years, we have used time at the start of board meetings to listen to staff describe the programs they teach. We began these presentations to educate board members about the programs. The obvious constant in all these presentations is the passion our staff has about what they teach.

The staff does more than teach—they also manage the teaching schedule, keep the books, write grant proposals, support board committees, help organize membership activities, coordinate programs, and perform a host of other administrative chores. Throughout the life of the institute, this effort has been led by our executive director, Melodie Anderson-Smith. Melodie's passion has undoubtedly been the inspiration for the passion that permeates the staff.

It has been an honor to serve on the institute board, in particular, as president. Today, while I wait for the snow to begin, I am already aware of the bittersweet feelings that come from making the transition from the board. I am also confident that the institute is poised to thrive and grow in the years ahead.



#### **Downstream**

with Angela Zimmerman

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Downstream* is a regular column in this newsletter. It features articles about environmental awareness and action that can help us be better stewards of our natural heritage.

## One Fish, Two Fish, Who Caught Your Fish?

In a low-carb crazy world, protein has become a major component in many American diets. Fish has been promoted as a healthy source of protein and we are encouraged to eat fish at least twice a week. You may assume that the selection of seafood available at the local grocery store or in restaurants has been harvested safely and poses no

threat to your health or the health of the ecosystem, but there are many factors affecting your fish.

#### **Fishing Techniques**

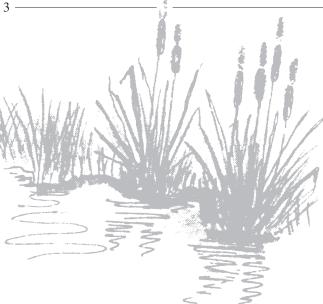
The demand for fish has caused a lot of environmental repercussions. The ocean is being over-fished and smaller fish are being taken, which means fish populations may be unable to recover. For example, twenty years ago the average Chilean sea bass weighed 150 pounds; today it is 10 pounds. Some popular fish have very long lifespans so it takes longer for juveniles to reach maturity, and many are caught long before that occurs.

While catching fish, other sea life is caught and killed in the process. This is referred to as "bycatch" and is well known with reference to tuna and dolphins. Unfortunately, "dolphin-safe" tuna kills many other animals such as sea turtles and sharks. For each pound of shrimp you eat, it is estimated between two and ten pounds of other sea life was killed in catching those shrimp. Birds, such as the endangered albatross, go after bait lying on the surface of the water and end up tangled in the lines. [The Empty Seas] Some types of fishing, including trawling, involve dragging weighted nets along the ocean floor. For example, scallops are harvested by dragging a chain mesh through the sand and mud on the ocean floor. Some scientists speculate that dredges harm the ocean more than any other human activity.

Even fish farming has its disadvantages. Mangrove forests in tropical nations, which serve local populations as a food source, are destroyed to make way for shrimp farms that supply the US, Japan and Europe. Farming fish generally requires the use of antibiotics to control disease. Sometimes farmed fish escape and spread disease as well as compete with native species for resources. [Monterey Bay Aquarium website]

#### Mercury

Unfortunately, even fish that were caught in sound ways can be damaging to your health. Mercury has found its way into our waterways primarily through air pollution



from chlorine chemical plants and coal-fired power plants. According to the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) website, 30% of American lakes, estuaries and wetlands are contaminated with mercury.

Mercury accumulates in the meat of the fish. As you move up the food chain in the aquatic systems, mercury levels increase. Fish such as tuna can have mercury concentrations that are 10,000 times higher than their immediate environment. When ingested by humans, mercury acts as a neurotoxin and interferes with the nervous system. Fetuses and young children are particularly susceptible to the effects of mercury, which can lead to mental retardation, deafness, blindness, and other developmental delays. [NRDC]

#### Lobsters

When you think of lobster, it's likely you think of the clawed New England lobster. However, most lobster tails and other lobster dishes (bisque, for example) use meat from the spiny or rock lobster, which is found in the Caribbean. In an article in *onearth magazine*, Mark Jacobson describes the horrific conditions in which some lobsters are harvested.

Spiny lobsters are often collected by hand from the depths of the Caribbean. Years ago, the lobsters were easily found in the shallow areas near the beaches. But as demand for lobster has risen, divers are forced to go deeper. Local Indian men are hired for the dangerous job of diving. Divers generally spend two weeks on small boats and make dives, using about 15 air tanks a day. The US Navy dive tables recommend only two to three tanks per day for safety reasons.

The divers often use faulty tanks, with no air gauges or depth gauges, and dive to depths of 140 feet or more. At those depths, the divers are at risk of developing the bends, a condition in which nitrogen-rich air bubbles form in the bloodstream. These bubbles can block capillaries and may lead to nerve and brain damage. The bends can be treated if the diver is taken to a decompression chamber, but this doesn't often happen.

(continued on page 12)

**Endowment Corner—Building a Foundation for the Future!** Our sincere THANK YOU to the following members and friends who made

contributions to Renfrew Institute's endowment fund in response to our winter supplemental giving campaign. Contributions are still coming in, so additional names will appear in the next newsletter.

The fund grew by \$5,367 to date, and is now over \$20,200! Two large gift amounts are yet to be added.

Of course we have a long way to go to reach our goal of one million dollars. Please keep Renfrew Institute in mind for next year and, if possible, put a few dollars aside for this fund again. You will receive the request in December 2005.

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 information about including Renfrew Institute in your estate

planning, please call our office 717-762-0373 or email us at renfrewinst@innernet.net.

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THE ENDOWMENT

CORNER

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#### **Corn Maze and Pumpkin Fest Final Tally**

Betsy Payette

Renfrew's Monster "Crazy Crop Circles" Corn Maze and the Pumpkin Festival were smashing successes this year! Net profits from these

fund-raising events were \$6,645 from the Corn Maze and \$3.014 from the Pumpkin Festival. Profits benefitted both Renfrew Institute and Renfrew Museum & Park.



of Renfrew's Pennsylvania German Four-Square Garden taken from a window in the nearby Fahnestock House by Harold H. Johnson. See more of Mr. Johnson's photographic images on pages 10–11.

A bird's eve view

### **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.

#### What's For Supper, Mom?

It is a winter morning, and as I begin the day my thoughts turn to what to feed my family for supper this evening. Perhaps I'll take some meat from the freezer to thaw. Or if it proves to be a busy day, I could resort to a frozen dinner kept on hand for just such occasions. A quick stop at the grocery store on the way home will yield a bagged salad to round out the meal.

Today's modern supermarkets provide a variety of foods year-round. Food is shipped in from all over, and we can eat imported strawberries in February if we choose. In the days before trucks, trains or planes, food choices were limited to products available much closer to home. What did our ancestors do to provide food for their families, especially during the winter season? Without fresh produce from the garden, one had to rely on provisions that were "put by" during harvest time.

School students who attend Renfrew Institute's program, From Field to Table: Pennsylvania German Food Preparation and Preservation, learn about how people in our region prepared and preserved food in the early 1800s. This program is part of our series interpreting the cultural heritage of the Pennsylvania Germans who settled in this area. Geared toward fifth graders, the program is taught by institute staff members Doris Goldman and Tracy Holliday. Doris and Tracy have a wealth of knowledge to share with their students. Among other things, children in the class learn about the following methods of preserving food: candying, salting, drying and cellaring.

Students learn that there are scientific reasons for food spoilage, which is caused by microscopic organisms. Several factors affect the ability of such organisms to grow, including type of food, acidity, time, temperature, oxygen and moisture. The program explores how various methods of preservation can solve the spoilage problem.

For optimal food preservation, students learn it is always best to begin with fresh food. In addition, most bacteria cannot live in acidic conditions. Temperature is also an important factor, as bacteria thrive between 40 and 140 degrees Fahrenheit. Processing food quickly limits the reproduction of bacteria. Removing oxygen also prevents the growth of "germs" except in rare circumstances, such as with the botulinum bacteria. Finally, drying food removes the moisture in which most bacteria flourish.

Today we use many of the same preservation methods



our ancestors did, although the process has been modernized. For example, think of candied fruit that you might buy in a jar. Did you know that in times past an animal bladder may have been used to seal the jar? A favorite Pennsylvania German food was sauerkraut (cabbage preserved with vinegar), which people still enjoy today. And dried apples and other fruits can be purchased at the supermarket.

In the early 1800s, cellaring was another way that some crops were kept for a period of time. Certain foods such as cabbage and root crops

were layered in a hole in the ground with an insulating layer of straw. The temperature underground prevented the vegetables from freezing, and they could be removed and used as needed. A simple hole in the ground may have been dug or a root cellar could have been used. Many root cellars still exist in rural areas. Of course, our modern substitute is the refrigerator.

Preserving meat is a challenge modern people solve with a freezer. The Renfrew Institute staff is always learning, exploring new ideas and honing skills. This winter, Doris and Tracy are exploring various methods of meat preparation using a venison haunch. Butchering and related topics may be discussed in a later

If you would like to read more about the foodways of the Pennsylvania Germans, you may enjoy the following

Martin, Thomas-Pennsylvania German Foods and Traditions, 1999. Landis Valley Museum.

Martin, Thomas- The Landis Valley Cookbook: Pennsylvania German Foods and Traditions, 1999. Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission and Landis Valley Associates, Lancaster, PA.

Weaver, William Woys-Pennsylvania Dutch Country Cooking, 1993. Abbeyville Press, NY, NY.

Weaver, William Woys-Sauerkraut Yankees, 1983. University of Pennsylvania Press, Philadelphia, PA.

[Many thanks to Doris Goldman and Tracy Holliday for providing background information and expertise for this article!]



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.

Since 1991, the organization we now know as M&T Bank has supported the work of Renfrew Institute. Then doing business as First National Bank and Trust Company, the bank lent support to bring the University of Maryland Baltimore County production company, "Shakespeare on Wheels," to Waynesboro. Over a period of seven years,

this traveling drama troupe presented *Hamlet*, The Tempest, Othello and Windsor at Renfrew Park, with underwriting support from First National Bank and Trust of Waynesboro each year.

When that group lost their own grant funding and was unable to continue their traveling road show, the bank shifted their support to Renfrew Institute's Summer Story Fest and the farmstead education program, Von Gras Zu

Milch: From Grass to Milk, Dairy Culture of the Pennsylvania Germans. Their support for these events continued through the years. An additional gift in 2000 helped underwrite the cost of a celebratory public event marking the 10th Anniversary of Renfrew Institute.

In 1999, the bank's support shifted once again, this time to help underwrite the institute's farmstead educational program, Four Squares: The Pennsylvania German Garden. From that time to the present, the institution

which became known as M&T Bank in 2000 has been a steadfast supporter of Four Squares.

During this two hour program, students are introduced to the four-square garden and its importance in the lives of the Pennsylvania Germans of the 1800s. They also learn the significance of the four-square garden design. Hands-on activities involve students in seasonal garden tasks (planting, watering, sorting, harvesting). Concepts in historic preservation, farmstead culture, folklore, plant biology, natural history, ecology and environmental awareness are included. Instructors dressed in period clothing help students compare and contrast life in the 1800s with modern life. Students and adults alike seem to delight in getting dirt under their fingernails and tasting traditional goodies, such as fig tomatoes and dandelion leaves.

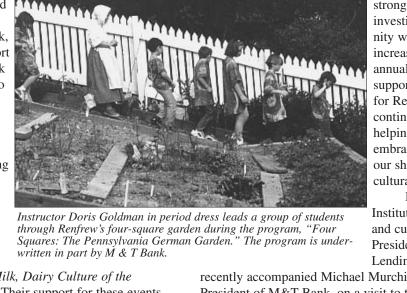
Last year, the popularity of *Four-Squares* surged, with over 1,000 area students participating. This increase of students brought proportionate increases in the cost of

> delivering the program. M&T demonstrated its strong commitment to investing in the community with a substantial increase in the size of its annual gift. This kind of support makes it possible for Renfrew Institute to continue our work of helping area youth embrace and understand our shared natural and cultural heritage.

Past Renfrew Institute board member and current M&T Vice President of Commercial Lending, Dawn Keller,

recently accompanied Michael Murchie, Regional President of M&T Bank, on a visit to the institute. Murchie reflected on M&T's guiding philosophy regarding community support. "M&T feels the health of the community is intertwined with the health of the bank."

We thank M&T Bank sincerely for their support, and thank Dawn and Michael for their visit.







## Renfrew Institute Members & Sponsors: 2003–2005

Includes 2003–04 members and new/renewed for 2004–05. \* = Honorarium-for donation of special time, talent and/or materials.

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(continued on pg. 14)

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### Pat Heefner— Volunteer Extraordinaire

Pat Heefner was surprised to hear she'd been selected for Top of the Mushroom

honors. "Gee, I feel like I just won \$10,000 from Ed McMahon!" she said.

No one who knows Pat would be surprised, though. Pat is a faithful Renfrew Institute volunteer who comes into the office weekly and also helps with special events.

Although Pat was born in Virginia, her mother was from Waynesboro and married her father when the military brought him to the area in the 1940s. A self-described "Army brat," Pat lived in several places before her family returned to Waynesboro in 1959. She graduated from Waynesboro Area High School, and spent 25 years working in the high school library. For nine of those years, Pat served as literary advisor for the WASH yearbook.

Pat retired in 2000, and began volunteering for various local organizations. "A few years ago, I heard there was a call for help with Renfrew's Corn Maze, so I volunteered," Pat said. Her association with the institute evolved from there. "Until you get involved you don't realize what's happening at Renfrew," she said. "It's like a four-leaf clover under the community's nose."

Pat's weekly office chores at the institute range from routine tasks like copying, filing and cleaning to tying up corncobs for the winter kindergarten program. "Whatever jobs they have, I'll do it," she said. In addition to office support, Pat has co-chaired the institute's



Pat Heefner does a variety of office tasks on a weekly basis at Renfrew Institute.

annual fundraiser, the Chesapeake Bay Supper, for three years. "It is always a lot of fun," she said. "The people on our committee have a great time working together."

Pat continues to help with the corn maze and other special events. Institute director, Melodie Anderson-Smith, said, "Pat Heefner sincerely cares about her community. She is curious, well-read and involved. Her dedication and commitment for the public good is so inspiring. Not only that, but she is really fun to be around! We are so thankful for all she does for the institute and our staff."

Pat also serves on the board of directors of the Waynesboro Historical Society and the Antietam Watershed Association. She and her husband, Jay, live in Waynesboro and have two grown daughters and two grandsons.

Congratulations and thanks to you, Pat, for all your dedication and hard work. Enjoy the \$10,000 view from on top of the mushroom!

Renfrew Institute's Ninth Annual Chesapeake Bay Supper Fund Raiser Invitations will arrive in spring. "Super Crab" says Mark your Tell your friends and come out calendars now! to support Renfrew Institute S.C. & his committee with a great evening of have some fun new ideasthis event is sure to be all it's food, fun and frolic! "cracked up" to be! FRIDAY, JULY 1, 6PM • WAYNESBORO COUNTRY CLUB

Renfrew Institute is pleased to announce new underwriting support from several members of the local business community.

❖ Mountain Valley Real Estate proprietor, Carol Hill, brings special enthusiasm with her support of the *Green Energy* program. She attended the program with her daughter, Sarah this fall. Carol indicated that she views the institute and its programming as a community jewel which she gladly shares with newcomers in her work as a real estate professional.

\* Local York Refrigeration representative Scott Sutton was instrumental in alerting his company to the good work of the institute. York has also become a *Green Energy* sponsor. York International is the largest independent supplier of heating, ventilation, air-conditioning and refrigeration systems and solutions in the United States, and a leading competitor globally. We at Renfrew Institute appreciate that a large company such as York recognizes the importance of caring for the smaller communities in which their employees work and live.

The *Green Energy* program teaches fourth grade students concepts of energy flow and food chains with a special emphasis on photosynthesis and the role of plants. In session one, students meet "Sam Slick," a friendly character whose golden notes lead them to new discoveries.

In the second session, students follow an adventure map down a three-station concept trail where they learn the basic components of energy flow.

During the third session students learn to use scientific testing equipment. Working in teams, students measure air and soil temperatures, perform a soil pH test, identify plant species, search for insects, and record data. Students also enjoy Magic Spot times—quiet moments in nature, with time for personal observation and creative writing.

\* Mercedes-Benz of Hagerstown has provided funding support for the farmstead program, Four-Squares: The Pennsylvania German Garden. During the past year, more than 1,000 area students experienced seasonal garden tasks like those done by farm children of the 1800s. While in the garden, students learn the significance of the four squares, then delight in getting dirt under their fingernails as they plant, harvest and explore the abundance of life (both plant and insect) in the garden. Their visit includes an opportunity to taste "chicken guts," a plant named by the Pennsylvania Germans for its stringy stem that reminded them of another farmlife chore! We appreciate funding support for this program from Mercedes Benz of Hagerstown as many participating students travel from Washington County, Maryland. It is important as a regional center that our support be distributed throughout the area, as is our student population. We look forward to welcoming Charles Driscoll of Mercedes-Benz to the garden this spring to do some exploring, and tasting if he dares!

❖ The third grade environmental education program, Trail of Trees has received funding support from **The Lumber Yard**. Todd Saylor, manager of The Lumber Yard in Waynesboro, noted that his own children had attended institute programs, and he was glad to help fund Trail of Trees. During the program, third grade students travel the "trail of trees" in search of puppet character,

Old Hickory. Along the way, they learn about the structure and importance of trees, including ecological, botanical,

cultural and economic factors. Children collect letters for a secret word to answer the question, "Are leaves important after they fall off the trees?" They discover that fallen leaves are an important ingredient in SOIL, helping to nourish the trees from which they fall. As a major supplier in the lumber industry, The Lumber Yard connects especially to the lesson in which students consider human uses for trees.

**Sponsorships** \* A generous gift from institute member, Angela Grove-Weagley in memory of

her sister, Joyce Ceyler, will help underwrite three areas of programming in 2004-05. The institute staff benefited directly from Angela's gift this past fall when seven farmstead staff members traveled to Gunston Hall in Northern Virginia, where they attended professional development activities centered around the theme of seasonality in early American life. The day included presentations by experts in early textiles, food preservation, and decorative arts of the period.

New

Earth Celebration Day activities will also be supported by Angela's generous gift. April 24th will find Renfrew Park aglow with lovers of the Earth and activities built around celebrating and protecting our planet. This annual event attracts families from throughout the region and features many exhibits, music and all around fun.

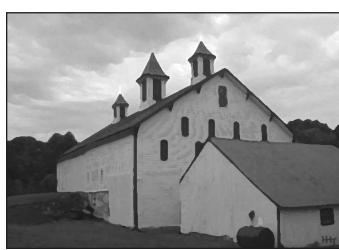
Renfrew Institute's farmstead program, *Von Gras Zu Milch: Dairy Culture of the Pennsylvania Germans*, will benefit from Angela's gift as well. In this popular program, (attended by more than 1,200 children last year), first grade students meet "Nancy Royer," as interpreted by institute staff. They learn the important role butter played in the lives and economies of early settlers of the region. Students make their own butter, and take a sample home to share with their families.

❖ The David S. Keller Family, and Ed and Marie Beck have made memorial gifts in honor of Al Dudley to support Renfrew Institute's Jazz Festival. Dudley, father of first institute board president Martha Dudley Keller, was a jazz enthusiast and attendee of Renfrew jazz concerts.

As our reach extends to greater numbers of students and families, it is crucial that our funding opportunities grow. We thank these organizations and individuals for their new support of Renfrew Institute and welcome them to the family of program and event underwriters.

Tracy Holliday







#### **Inspirations from Renfrew**

The natural beauty and the historic built environment at Renfrew have long inspired artists, photographers and poets. On these pages we are pleased to feature the work of two such creative people, J. Robert North and Harold H. Johnson. Both men are educators, and each has created an artistic tribute to Renfrew.

J. Robert North is a retired fourth grade teacher from Hooverville Elementary School. He was involved in the restoration of Renfrew Park's Fahnestock barn during the late 1980s, and was inspired by that experience to write several poems. Bob has written many poems over the years inspired by his visits to Renfrew. Bob is also a skilled tinsmith, and shared his talents with students during last summer's heritage crafts for kids series, Passing It On.

Harold H. Johnson is an industrial arts teacher at the Franklin Learning Center. Harold visited Renfrew Institute's Four-Square Garden program last spring with colleague, Virginia Akers and an enthusiastic group of students. While here, he photographed the farmstead from some unique vantages. He scrambled to the attic of the Fahnestock House and peered through the bubbled window glass, and later captured a bucolic scene through a knothole in the Fahnestock Barn. He then modified his photographs

A BARN'S AGE

No dust

How old is this barn?

not pegs,

Tells, dark and fine

Telling, telling...

Dust, dark and fine,

Tells the age.

by its smell,

by its taste,

Dust, stirred from habit,

ancestral rats,

ages of insects,

—J. Robert North,

August 1988

not saw mark,

nor hand-cut threads.

its strength to cling.

generations of pigeons,

Dust tells the age,

with Photoshop filters. The artfully rendered results were compiled onto a CD and sent to the institute inside a beautiful card bearing some of his art work, along with gracious permission for use of the photographs by the institute. We thank you, Harold, for capturing these stunning images and look forward to future opportunities to display your work.

[Ed. note: Though reproduced here in black and white, *Mr. Johnson's images are in full vibrant color.*]

Tracy Holliday

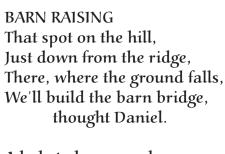


BARN RAZING Where held the nails skin to frame Where held the pegs beam to hewn beam, Where held the mortar stone to stone.

There drive the wedge, There gain the bite, There pull the bar.

Lever away, and Sever the bonds of the barn of the dream that was...

> -J. Robert North, February 1989



A hole to be scraped, Then quarry for stone, There's timber to hew, This work is our own, said Daniel.

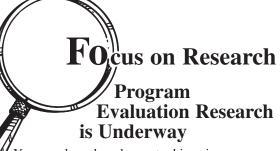
The foundation is laid, The framing lays ready, We'll look to our neighbors, True, strong, and ready, prayed Daniel.

So stone upon stone, Beam to hewn beam, Backs bent to labor. And realized the dream of Daniel Royer.

> —J. Robert North, February 1989



All images on pages 10-11 by Harold H. Johnson

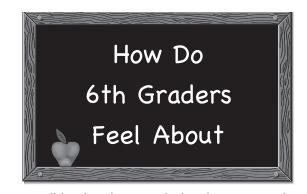


You may have heard recent whisperings about Renfrew Institute conducting an evaluation of their environmental education program. Well, the project has been launched!

In mid-January, sixth graders from all four Waynesboro Area School District elementary schools, and St. Andrew School, took a 24-question survey designed to reveal student attitudes about the environment and Renfrew Park, based on the institute's program objectives.

Survey questions specifically addressed one or more of the institute's K–6 environmental programs. General questions were also included, which were designed to provide an overall sense of student environmental attitudes and feelings toward Renfrew Park.

The information gathered will allow Renfrew Institute to determine whether its program goals are being met. Further, the data will identify program areas of success, and areas in need of improvement and/or modification. The institute's goal is to develop and implement high quality



non-traditional environmental education programming for all the students it serves.

This project is the result of a partnership between Renfrew Institute, Waynesboro Area School District, St. Andrew School, and Holly Hosford Smith, a graduate student at Shippensburg University. In addition to measuring the influence of institute programs on the environmental attitudes of students, this project also satisfies the requirements for independent graduate research leading to a master's degree in Geoenvironmental Science for Ms. Smith.

The research paper outlining survey results and analysis will be completed on March 1st. After that date, Smith and institute director, Melodie Anderson-Smith, will be sharing results with interested parties, either by providing copies of the research paper or via formal presentation.

Holly Hosford Smith

#### **One Fish. Two Fish...** (continued from page 3)

A survey of local divers showed that nearly 100% of them had neurological damage, and many have lost limbs or died as a result of the deep dives. Are the men who hire these divers concerned? No. One is reported to have said, "You can buy these Indian divers for five or ten bucks a day, and when they quit or get bent that's no problem ...there's always plenty more." The divers continue to work because in one diving trip they may earn as much as they would make by farming for an entire year.

Central America's lobsters are primarily destined for the United States. These spiny lobsters are used in a lot of popular casual dining restaurants, such as Red Lobster. Although Red Lobster denies using diver caught lobster, activists have traced shipments of diver caught lobster from the Caribbean processing plants to the restaurant chain.

So what can we as consumers do? Mainly, we need to be very careful when selecting the fish we eat. To help you make better choices, several organizations have created guides available on the internet. The Monterey Bay Aquarium and the Audubon Society have printable cards that rank fish based on fishing techniques and fish populations. To help you monitor how much mercury is in your diet, visit the NRDC website. There is a guide to selecting fish with low levels of mercury as well as a calculator to add up how much mercury is in your diet.

Renfrew Institute also offers hand-outs from 2003 Environmental Defense, New York, NY entitled Seafood Selector, which lists seafood by Best Choices and Worst Choices [call our office 717-762-0373 or email renfrewinst@innernet.net].

So, by all means, do not stop eating fish or seafood. Just ask where it came from before you buy it.

#### **Fish Selection Guides**

Monterey Bay Aquarium-

http://www.mbayaq.org/cr/cr\_seafoodwatch/sfw\_regional.aspx Audubon Society - http://seafood.audubon.org/

#### **Mercury Information**

Natural Resources Defense Council-

http://www.nrdc.org/health/effects/mercury/index.asp

#### **Resources:**

Audubon Society- http://seafood.audubon.org/ DeMont, John. The Empty Seas. Maclean's November 3, 2003. Jacobson, Mark. The Hunt for Red Gold. onearth. Fall 2004. Monterey Bay Aquarium-

http://www.mbayaq.org/cr/cr\_seafoodwatch/sfw\_regional.aspx Natural Resources Defense Council-

http://www.nrdc.org/health/effects/mercury/index.asp



#### **Magic Spot Reflections**

This page contain poems inspired by the beauty of nature at Renfrew Park. Students and teachers attending the 4th grade program, Green Energy, are encouraged to record their thoughts or write a poem during "Magic Spot" time. The poems, written in the Fall of 2004, are unedited.

The Birds are sweet even with a tweet They have a sound that is so beautiful all around Kylie, Fairview Elementary

I hear a bird call.

It sounds so good.

I hear and feel the creek.

If only I could stay here.

I wish I could.

Brett, Summitview Elementary

"Trees Trees"

waters wishing

nature is everwere

Hannah, Fairview Elementary

Apples are sweet

and good

So come on down and

get a bite tonight.

Jacob,

Fairview Elementary

The sun is red and good But it is a big stare And good too. Gage, Fairview Elementary

Birds cherp and whisl They do not care there sound goes throughout the air. Morgan, Fairview Elementary

"The Sun" Red, Orange, Gold, Yellow Volcanic, Shiny, bright, light, Round, Sphere, Energy, Star, Flaming, humid, hot, warm, Butiful, plants. Dee & Classmates,

Fairview Elementary

Trees need sun to grow Listen to the river flow Leaves fall upon the groud as the wind gently blows them around. Katelyn, Fairview Elementary

The trees, the birds Nature is buttyful as can be. I can hear flowers and the trees talk. so the butty is like no other then Nature, Nature, Nature. Ben, Summitview Elementary

Running water through the streams all that does is make me dream, falling leavs in the Fall, nice breas to cool you off, Happy smell through the air, all I think about is next time I come here. John, Summitview Elementary

Trees Trees everwere Fishers fishing and

The sun is shining, The birds are sing. The crike is floing. The squrls a chasing, The leves are falling from the sky, The bugs are peesful by my side, You can heer stuf careful if you are quiet. Connor, Summitview Elementary

I like lisining to mother nature sounds Where the pretty leafs are dropping down Erin, Fairview Elementary

#### Members & Sponsors 2003–2005 (continued from pg. 7)

Family continued Richard & Peggy Walsh John & Holly Wheeler Charles & Dorothy Willhide Sara & Neil Yost David & Connie Zimmerman Dr. Bob & Linda Zimmerman Mr. & Mrs. Wilbur J. Zook Associate Carolyn S. Abbott American Legion Home Association June & Harry Anderson Dan W. Arthur Carolyn Ausherman Bonnie Bachtell Alberta R. Barkley Mr. & Mrs. Richard Baumgardner Mary Lou & Paul Beals L. Joe & Liane Miller Benchoff Beta Chapter Y-Gradale Sorority Frances & Ferdinand Betts, Jr. Donald & Dorothy Bollinger Clint & Mary Bolte Joan Bowen Joseph & Christine Bradley Hermione H. Brewer Neal & Jacqueline Brewer Judith Bricker Jean Brinser Phyllis & Don Brothers Doug Burkholder Lee & Marie Campbell Rodney & Holly Carey Jane & Ernest Charlesworth Maggie Cisar Dr. James H. Craig

Becky Dietrich Eagles Club, Inc. Carolyn Eddy Norman Epstein Robert L. Evans Exchange Club of Waynesboro Harry L. Fisher Janis P. Foster Bruce & Dori Francis Julianne Griffin Kathryn Helfrick Carol L. Henicle Vicki Hess Sherry & Scott Hesse Dorothy Hill Steve Hoffman\* Blaine & Mildred Holliday The Holliday-Ledden Family Vicki Jo Huff George Hurd Ginny Ingels Mr. & Mrs. Paul J. Jones William & Kathleen Kaminski Phyllis & Ralph King Larry H. Klotz Diane Krebs Bonnie Larson-Brogdon John R. Lashley Adele Lombard Dick & Penny Marks Christine & Phil Marne Frank & Judy Martin Marilyn McCarney Dr. & Mrs. Dennis McCullough Douglas & Phyllis McCullough Beverly McFarland Katherine (Kaddy) Menz Mary Louise Misner

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**Organization Exchange** The Accokeek Foundation Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay

Antietam Watershed Assoc. Conococheague Institute Franklin County Master Gardeners Renfrew Museum & Park

Dr. & Mrs. Joseph H. Stewart III Waynesboro Historical Society Student

> Phillip Kauffman Tess Kongkeattikul

(continued on pg. 15)

### Members & Sponsors 2003–2005 (continued from pg. 14)

**SPONSORS** A. C. & T. Company, Inc. -Green Energy\*\* AgChoice Farm Credit -From Field To Table\*\* Anonymous - Earth Celebration Day Anonymous - Earth Encounters Anonymous - Four Square Garden interpretive signs Armaclad, Inc. - Jazz Festival Barley Snyder, Attorneys at Law - Adult Education Programs & Hands-on workshops Ed & Marie Beck in memory of Al Dudley - Jazz Festival Leonora Rocca Bernheisel (Mary's Delight Farm) - Wool Culture, \*\* Royer Legacy\*\* & Faculty Chair Blubaugh's Tire & Wheel Sales - Chesapeake Bay Supper Blue Ridge Cookery -Jazz Festival Bonded Applicators, Inc. -Corn Maze Ads Buchanan Auto Park -Annual Fun Fly (kite fly) Citigroup Foundation - Flax Culture\*\* Citizens Bank of Southern PA Youth Festival the Colorworks, Claire Hunter & Vince Cahill - Summer Stories

for Children & Corn Maze

Insurance - Discovering

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\*\* Educational programs for school children Savage Family Pharmacy -Chesapeake Bay Supper & Corn Maze Ads State Farm Insurance Co. -Marvin Visits Earth\*\* Nick & Jan Turano -Chesapeake Bay Supper Charles & Undine Warner -Adult Education Lecture Series Wayne Heights Animal Hospital-Chesapeake Bay Supper Waynesboro Area Community Prevention Collaborative -WASH Art Dept. Independent Study, Family Star Party, Passing It On-Summer Crafts for Kids, Royer Legacy\*\* Wavnesboro Construction Co., Inc. - Sidney's Wonder Web\*\* Waynesboro Internal Medicine Associates -Chesapeake Bay Supper Waynesboro Lions Club -Discovering Wetlands\*\* Angela Grove Weagly in memory of Joyce Ceyler Earth Celebration Day. Professional Staff Development, Dairy Culture\*\* York Refrigeration -Green Energy\*\*

Thank you all for your support!

- ...to Ron Harbaugh for hand-crafting Taranza's woodland house, based on a pixie character in a fairy tale written by Dana Harrington, former institute student teacher.
- ...to **Pat Heefner** for weekly help in the institute office.
- ...to Mary Ann Payne for continuing work on the institute's photo albums and other tasks.
- ...to board member and chair of facilities committee, Allie Kohler, for cutting points on new pickets for repairing the four-square garden fence.

#### A belated special thank you to Harold Johnson

... for artfully rendered digital photographs taken during the Franklin Learning Center's visit to the Four-Square Garden Program. (See pages 10–11)



#### PA Taxpavers: Wildlife Needs Your Help!

Remember to mark the check-off box on your state tax form to help preserve Pennsylvania's wonderful wildlife!

#### RENEWAL REMINDER:

Please check the back page of this newsletter. If you see a green Earth Stamp (like the one shown here), that means you have not yet renewed your membership for 2004–05. Please do...we need your support. Thanks!



Note: New members sponsoring specific programs are listed under Gifts—New Sponsorships on page 9.

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

American Legion Home Association Mr. & Mrs. Richard Baumgardner Doug Burkholder

> Jean Cashin\* Maggie Cisar Bob Correll

Barbara H. Gaydick

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Steve Lohman Pictures Plus

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Shook

Smith Elliott Kearns & Co. (Chambersburg) Cole & Kathy Werble

Thank you to the following who have made memorial donations to Renfrew Institute

Inc.) - Chesapeake Bay Supper

in memory of...

Al Dudley

by Ed and Marie Beck by David S. Keller Family

in memory of...

Joyce Ceyler, David Grove & Charles Statler by Richard Cevler

in memory of...

Joyce Grove Ceyler

by Eunice Statler by Angela Grove Weagly

in memory of...

Colleen Larson by Deb Matthews

#### **Composting Toilets Installed At Renfrew Park**

Renfrew Park now has two composting toilets in a historically appropriate new building near the Fahnestock Barn. This part of the park is used by hundreds of school children

taking spring and fall classes at Renfrew Institute, but is far from the visitor center restrooms, and is not connected to water or sewer

Many thanks to Martin Goldman for his work in getting

the facilities installed. Martin completed this major project in two phases. The first part was his Crew 97 Eagle Scout project, and the second was his 2004 Waynesboro Area High School graduation project.

For his Eagle Scout project, Martin researched waterless toilets, coordinated the building design, led a fund-raising drive, and obtained materials, including a large donation from Waynesboro Construction Company. Mike Christopher, Jerry Ziegler, the Washington Township supervisors, and Renfrew Museum & Park's staff and board members helped Martin obtain the necessary variances and official approvals.

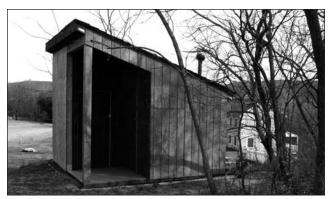
Site preparation and this phase of construction were supervised by Jonathan Scott of F & S Home Improvements. Over 20 volunteers put 200 hours of labor into architectural design, site preparation and construction of the foundation, floor, and frame.

Electrical work, toilet installation, and the remainder of construction made up Martin's high school graduation project. This phase took another 300 hours of volunteer work and was supervised by Dr. Garrett Blanchet, former institute board member, with electrical inspection by Accredited Services.

Martin's scout advisor, Ted Sottong, is a registered architect and designed the restroom building. It incorporates a number of special features. The exterior of the building has an early 1800s look that fits into the historical time period of the Fahnestock farmstead. The shed roof is covered with hand-made oak shakes, and the entry porch is clad in antique barn siding donated by Rebuilders Unlimited. In accordance with park policy, no treated lumber was used, so joists and flooring that contact the soil are made of 100% recycled plastic lumber from Milmar Plastics. The building is constructed in a way that allows it to be moved to a different area of the park. It can be retrofitted for winter use or for larger capacity facilities. One restroom stall is wheelchair-accessible.

Materials or expertise were donated by The Lumber Yard, Swope's Rent-All Service, McLaughlin's Heating Oils, Quincy Hardware, and Flohr Lumber and Hardware.

Other individuals who contributed time or expertise to this project include Melodie Anderson-Smith,



The composting toilets are housed in a historically appropriate new building constructed specifically for that purpose.

David Hykes, John Frantz, Ron Harbaugh, Jim Ross, Doug Henneberger, students from WASHS, and scouts from BS Pack 97, Troop 97, and Venture Crew 97.

The new restroom building will become an environmental teaching tool in addition to its functional use once signs are in place to explain the environmental benefits of composting toilets. See below for more information.

Doris Goldman

#### **Composting Toilets Are Environmentally Friendly**

Learning about the new restroom building at Renfrew Park can be a lesson in caring for our

- Renfrew's composting toilets use no water.
- Small electric heaters and ventilation fans and small amounts of peat moss and enzymes speed up the composting process.
- Composting toilets can reduce pollutants in our water supply and conserve energy.
- Nationally, flush toilets account for 25% of indoor water use.
- Locally, sewage plants account for 40% of the nitrogen and phosphorus going into the Chesapeake Bay. Excess nitrogen and phosphorus overfertilize the water, leading to algae blooms, decreases in water oxygen content, and fish kills.
- Removing nitrogen and phosphorus after they enter our water supply is necessary for our health and our food chains, but greatly increases water treatment costs.

Each of the Sancor Envirolet Waterless Self-Contained Multi System 10/3 composting toilets can be used about 20 times a day, or more for occasional events. The capacity of the toilets can be increased by retrofitting them with pre-sediment filter drains or larger "remote" tanks.

## WATER STRIDERS:

Even Though Winter is Upon Us... We Are Still Water Testing!



That's right, even as you read this update, we may be pulling this month's water samples at Renfrew Park. Rain or shine, hot or cold, Water Striders continues to meet to monitor the overall health of the East Branch of the Antietam Creek.

These last few months have been both challenging and exciting for student participants, as we have been breaking in new equipment provided by the AWA (Antietam Watershed Association). Challenging in that the new equipment is much more advanced and precise than our old test kits. Exciting in that we have been able to more accurately evaluate a full battery of water quality parameters. For the first time, we have been able to detect low levels of nitrate nitrogen. Our old test kits were simply not sensitive enough to provide accurate readings. We will continue to fine-tune our testing methods over the next few months.

Additionally, we are anxiously anticipating the macroinvertebrate training that will be provided by The Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring (ALLARM) on Saturday April 16, in conjunction with the AWA's monitoring program. It is always a great time catching, picking and identifying bugs!



Mary Harsh

#### **Around the World and Back A Note From Water Striders Instructor**

It is my pleasure to be back in charge of the Water Striders program after a hiatus that took my husband, Matt and I over 10,000 miles from Waynesboro, PA. Although we fell in love with the south island of New Zealand, it is always nice to come home! It has been exciting to see firsthand all that has happened at the institute in our absence. I look forward to meeting you for the first time, or catching up with old friends in the weeks and months to come!

-Mary

#### **Exciting Things Are Happening at AWA**



The last few months have been busy ones for the Antietam Watershed Association. New board members were elected,

expanding the number to 14. A Legacy grant of \$100,000 was awarded to AWA in August 2004, by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF). AWA was one of only two organizations in the Chesapeake Bay watershed to receive that amount. Much of the funds are earmarked for projects approved by NFWF, but all will support efforts to improve water quality of the Bay and it's watershed.

A stream monitoring program is in its infancy, under the guidance of Julie Vastine, of The Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring (ALLARM) at Dickinson College. A small group of dedicated volunteers are taking samples from different locations along the East Branch of the Antietam Creek, which will provide baseline and ongoing data that can help citizens and decision-makers protect local water resources. In another initiative, a group of AWA members continues to pick up trash along Rattlesnake Run Road, which runs through sensitive watershed sites in Michaux Forest.

Streamside planting is a major volunteer activity for the association. Saturday, April 2nd has been designated for the next project. The Chesapeake Bay Foundation is partnering with AWA to plant approximately 660 native trees and shrubs on the Burhman farm, along an east branch Antietam tributary, which flows through the property. Anyone can help! The farm is slated for a new housing development. Lee Royer, the developer, is setting aside land on both sides of the tributary, and will construct a walkway there.

The entrance to the farm is at the intersection of Gehr and Stottlemyer Roads. Signs will be posted. Times are 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, with lunch provided. Bring gloves, boots, and a shovel, if you have one (not to worry, the holes are already dug). This is a great activity for young and old, families, friends, and organizations. What better way to greet the spring!? For photos of prior projects, visit the AWA website at www.antietamws.org <a href="mailto://www.antietamws.org/">http://www.antietamws.org/</a>

You can contact AWA at 717-762-9417.

Pat Heefner **AWA Event Recap:** What: Streamside Planting



When: Saturday, April 2, 9 am–1 pm Where: Burhman farm, at Gehr and Stottlemyer Roads. Who: Everyone welcome! Notes: Lunch provided. Bring gloves, boots, and a shovel, if you have one.

Renfrew Institute is an official partner with Antietam Watershed Association.

18———

#### Spring/Summer 2005 Calendar of Events

#### **Adult Fly Tying Workshop–Beginners**

Saturday, April 2, 9 AM-12 noon, Visitors Center

Presented through a partnership between Renfrew Institute and Antietam Fly Anglers

"Make and take" workshop led by Sterling Buzzell, President of Antietam Fly Anglers. Complete instruction & tying materials provided. Tools and equipment provided for use by Antietam Fly Anglers. Fee \$12/members of Renfrew Institute, \$15/non-members. Sponsored by Adult/Teen Education Committee.

Pre-registration required. Ages 15 & up.

#### Bird Walks at Renfrew

Saturdays in April & May, 7:30–10 AM

Underwritten in part by Barley Snyder of Chambersburg

Willard Rahn leads bird walks along the hiking trails at Renfrew Park. Walks begin at Renfrew's lower parking lot off Welty Road. Participants should wear comfortable walking shoes and may bring identification books and binoculars. Free to the public.

#### **Spring Lecture Series: The Fascinating World of Insects & Spiders (3-Part)**

Thursdays-April 7 & May 5 & 26, 7:00 pm, Visitors Center

Underwritten in part by Charles and Undine Warner

On **April** 7, a Master Gardner from Franklin County Extension will present *Integrated Pest Management* (*IPM*)—how humans can take advantage of insect services in the garden. On **May** 5, *Eight-legs...Spiders* & *Such*, an interactive program with arachnid hobbyist, Eric Darlington, who will bring live specimens to see, study, and yes, touch! On **May** 26 biology teacher and lepidopterist, John Laskowski, also known as Mothman, will inform and entertain with his upbeat presentation about moths, from caterpillar to adult. Sponsored by Adult Education Committee. Admission is free.

#### Twelfth Annual "Renfrew Fun Fly"

Saturday, April 9, 10 AM-4 PM

Underwritten in part by a grant from Buchanan Auto Sales

Kite flying (10 AM–4 PM) and children's kite workshop (11:00 AM–noon) with kiteman, Bill Flohr, in the meadow behind the museum house. Kite workshop material fee, \$1. No fee for free flying (bring your own kite). Open to all ages.

#### **Earth Celebration Day**

Sunday, April 24, 1–5 PM, Visitors Center and park grounds

Underwritten in part by Angela Grove Weagly in memory of Joyce L. Ceyler, and by IESI PA

Renfrew Institute celebrates the spring season with environmental exhibitors, student clothesline display, music and more. In cooperation with the Franklin County Commissioners and the Planning Department, the event will help recognize April as Franklin County's Earth Awareness Month. Rain site: Waynesboro Area Middle School. Free admission.



#### Youth Festival 2005

Sunday, May 29, 1–5:30 PM

Underwritten in part by a grant from Citizens National Bank of Southern PA

A celebration of youth with a variety of workshops, demonstrations, activities, exhibits and entertainment. Admission is free. Pre-registration for workshops. Rain site: Waynesboro Area Middle School.

#### **Children's Summer Stories**

Tuesdays at 1 PM, June 21–July 26 (to be confirmed)

Underwritten in part by the Colorworks

Children gather under the tree near the Visitor's Center to listen to stories and enjoy related hands-on activities. Preschool and up. Free. If inclement weather, call to confirm.

#### **Summer Heritage Crafts for Youth**

One full week in July or August (to be confirmed)

Underwritten in part by grants & sponsors to be announced

A variety of craft workshops will be offered at Renfrew for youth ages 8-18. Participants will learn a craft skill common to past generations and will make a product using that skill. Workshops will be announced as

they are confirmed. Instructors are skilled artisans and teachers from the local region. Registration required. Sponsored by the Youth Education Committee.

#### Renfrew Institute's Ninth Annual Chesapeake Bay Supper Fund Raiser

Friday July 1, 6 pm, Waynesboro Country Club

Show your support of Renfrew Institute. Join us for an enjoyable evening of steamed blue crabs from the Bay, delectable side dishes and dessert, educational Bay displays, raffle, silent auction and other Bay-related activities. Reservations required. Cost to be determined.



Over 70 people of all ages crammed the Renfrew Visitor Center on Thursday, February 10 to hear University of Maryland astronomy instructor and NASA's liaison to amateur astronomers, Elizabeth Warner, explain the project underway to smash a comet and study the crater (if the impact makes one) and debris.

With a beautifully illustrated slide presentation Warner impressed the audience with a detailed description of NASA's Deep Impact project. A spacecraft launched on January 12 is traveling on an intentional collision course with comet Tempel 1. The two-part spacecraft has a "fly-by" vehicle and a smaller "impactor." After a 268 million mile voyage, the impactor will be released into the comet's path for a planned collision on July 4.

The collision will create a crater up to the size of a football stadium. Debris ejected from the crater will reveal the material beneath. For the first time, scientists will have an opportunity to study pristine material inside the comet dating back to the formation of our solar system.

Warner's ability to relate complex scientific information to a general audience was underscored as she interacted with audience members during a question and answer session that went on for a full 30 minutes. The event drew many local families with youngsters of all ages. Especially notable was Warner's rapport with these young and curious participants. One boy asked, "What if the two spacecrafts (fly-by and impactor) just crash together and disintegrate? Will your project be a failure?" Others, "Is there life for the spacecraft after the impact, if it's not destroyed?" "Is the impactor traveling at hypervelocity?" Additional discussions after the talk included debate over the expense of the project and justification for such research.



Homeschooler, Cody Millin of Waynesboro, asks more questions of NASA speaker, Elizabeth Warner. Cody, son of Brian and Mary Millin, regularly attends Renfrew Institute adult education programs.

#### **Adult Education Committee Keeps Events Coming**

Renfrew Institute's adult education committee members were pleased to see such an appreciative and engaged audience for the NASA Deep Impact program. Some people lingered to enjoy a look at the night sky through a telescope set up in the museum house backyard by Dan Kaminsky and Andy Smetzer of Tri-State Astronomers, who helped the committee organize the program.

The committee, which meets monthly, offers lecture programs and hand-on workshops for adults and teens age 15 and up. [See calendar of events, pg. 18 for additional information]. The committee also welcomes suggestions for future programs—call 717-762-0373.



"Deep Impact" talk draws capacity crowd at Visitors Center.

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#### Our Wish List...

- ❖ Reflector oven–period 1820 reproduction, or funding to purchase one (\$400–450)
- ❖ Book: Hands-On Nature, Information and Activities for Exploring the Environment with Children, edited by Jenepher Lingelbach & Lisa Purcell, Vermont Institute of Natural Science (new or used)
- ♦ One or two pairs of wool carders @ \$45/pair
- ❖ Additional underwriting sponsor(s) for this newsletter (\$250 to \$1,000)
- ❖ Funding for 40 additional rain ponchos for use by school groups (\$400)
- Garden cart with bicycle-style pneumonic wheels (new or used, in good condition)
- \* Adjustable-arm desk lamp (new or used)

#### Wish List "Thank Yous"

- \* Frank & Susan Conway: walkie-talkies
- **❖ Beckie Dietrich:** book− *A Museum of Early American Tools*, by Eric Sloane
- ❖ Steve Graham: book– An Age of Barns, by Eric Sloane

#### Beyond the Wish List...Thank You Too!

- \* Doris Goldman: old sheep shears
- \* Steve Graham: books—Aunt Arie: A FoxFire Portrait, ed. by Linda Garland Page & Eliot Wigginton; The Season of America Past, A Reverance for Wood and I Remember America, all by Eric Sloane.

#### Beyond the Wish List Thanks...Continued

- ❖ Montessori School Chambersburg: contribution of excess school fees
- \* Pat O'Connor: children's books— I'm A Caterpillar by Jean Marzello, Sailing to the Sea by Mary Claire Helldorfer, Blueberries for Sal by Robert McCloskey, The Whale in Lowell's Cove by Jan W. Robinson, Snow Music, by Lynne Rae Perkins
- \* Betsy Payette: copy of original *Renfrew History*, researched, edited and written by Betsy and Marilyn McCarney, with assistance from the late George Payette, 2000
- \* Phil & Jerry's Meats & More: Lebanon balogna "tastes" for 20 classes of students participating in the institute's farmstead program From Field to Table.
- ❖ Virginia Rahn: book- Historic Tools & Gadgets by Bobbie Kalman
- Pam & Bruce Rowland: extra replacement jar for butter churn
- ❖ Mary Ellen Selvaggio: book- Visiting Our Past: America's Historylands, National Geographic Society
- ❖ William Krouse: Contribution for professional library shelving (made at St. Andrew Church Alternative Gift Fair, December 2004)
- \* Joanne & Dick Hersh: office furniture & supplies
- Doris Goldman: miscellaneous colonial toys and cookbooks
- **❖ Bev McFarland & Birgitt Oesterling:** miscellaneous office supplies



Don't forget to renew your membership for 2004–05!
An "Earth Stamp" here means we're missing you!

## **Streamside**

Renfrew Institute for Cultural and Environmental Studies 1010 East Main St. Waynesboro, PA 17268 (717)762-0373



