Renfrew Institute’s 20th Annual Bay Supper Fundraiser was a record-breaking success! Proceeds after expenses $18,158!!

See page 21 for details!
Mark your calendar for next year...
Friday, June 22, 2018
Meet the New Director!

As a young mother with two children in tow, I first appeared on the Renfrew Institute scene in 1992 as a volunteer at the invitation of friend and institute board member, Andrew Sussman, where I assisted with planning for the third annual Youth Festival.

I was truly impressed with the institute’s passionate staff and fun loving fellow committee members. My volunteer involvement continued through spring of 1996 when I was approached about joining the institute’s staff, as outgoing assistant director, Trish Sheppard relocated to Massachusetts.

That happened to be the year my youngest child would begin first grade, so I happily seized the invitation for a spot on the faculty and administrative staffs, excited about new professional opportunities and collegial relationships.

In the ensuing years, I’ve worn many institute hats...secretary, schedule master, faculty member, assistant director, grants administrator, associate director, photographer, newsletter contributor, four-square gardener, flax and small grains cultivator, Salamander Scrambler, partnership builder and all around cheerleader. Even in my new role as executive director, I’ll be rooted to that initial involvement with this year’s 29th Annual Youth Festival!

For the past quarter-century, I’ve witnessed the institute grow and thrive, thanks to the efforts of many. My colleague, the institute’s “fearless leader” since 1993, Melodie Earthwalker Anderson-Smith has led with boundless energy and wisdom. [see history/tribute on page 3] She nurtured my own nonprofit leadership skills in what turned out to be an extended on-the-job-training session lasting 23 years.

I assume the role of executive director confident that the right ingredients are in place for continued fulfillment of the organization’s mission. Institute faculty staff members are a supremely loyal and resourceful group of professionals who deliver the program magic joyfully.

Our seasoned administrative team is extremely hard working, well networked, forward looking and creative. A steady stream of dedicated individuals has served over decades, and new highly-engaged “givers” continue to serve as the organization’s directors and trustees.

Current board president Jay Heefner has been instrumental and attentive to ensuring the organization’s strategic plan will serve as a roadmap for the near and longer term future. Legions of community members have been, and continue to be generous supporters and worker bees, helping to keep it all going.

continued on page 2
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE: A Year of Changes

2017 has been a very busy year for Renfrew Institute and the board of directors! We have completed a very successful transition in our executive leadership. As most of you know, our long time executive director, Melodie Anderson-Smith, has entered into semi-retirement. However, she remains quite active at Renfrew in her “new” part-time position as director of environmental studies.

Transitioning into Mel’s old job we are so lucky to have Tracy Holliday assuming the position of executive director. Tracy brings a wealth of experience with her Renfrew Institute background. And, to assume the position of assistant director, we welcomed aboard Jessica Watson. [see article on page 26]

The great news is this major transition has been very, very smooth. Renfrew Institute’s operation and mission have not missed a beat! It certainly has made my job as president so much easier.

My wish for 2018 is the continued success of the institute’s youth and adult programs. There is so much work that goes into the planning of these programs. But, with the staff and committees we have taking lead ownership, success is always a given! An additional wish is for as many of you as possible who have not participated in, or observed these programs in action to make a resolution to do just that! You’ll be amazed!

Renfrew Institute has become one of the Waynesboro area’s educational gems! On behalf of the board of directors I extend my personal thanks to you for your continuing contributions to its mission and success!

Jay Heefner

Meet the New Director continued from pg. 1

Community partnerships and alliances abound, creating a “sum of the parts” that exceeds what we could accomplish on our own.

I am so proud of Renfrew Institute, and grateful to all who have helped the organization become a valued community resource.

It is my honor to lead the charge, to continue to deliver excellent educational offerings and inspiring experiences, forge new alliances, invite new explorations and guide the institute into the next decade.

We hope you enjoy this issue of Streamside as you learn more about the institute’s work, and ways in which you may become involved.

Join us! There is much to anticipate, from citizen science (see page 14) to Shakespeare in the Park (see page 36).

Finally, I extend thanks to you for your unwavering belief in and support of Renfrew Institute’s mission!

Tracy Holliday

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Endings…and Beginnings!
A History and Tribute

In his 1980s groundbreaking book, *Transitions*, English professor William Bridges declared that every transition begins with an ending and ends with a beginning.

Renfrew Institute’s beginning was envisioned by then Renfrew Museum and Park curator, James Smith. In the fall of 1986, the Museum and Park instituted a school program series called *Man and His Environment*.

**A seed is planted**
Growing from the kernel of an idea planted by then stay-at-home mom and former early childhood classroom educator, Melodie Stewart, the program combined studies in historic farmstead life and environmental education.

Melodie had approached James with an interest in the creation of a nature center on the site of Renfrew Museum and Park.

James envisioned an educational alternative to the establishment of a nature center as a means of advancing Renfrew’s mission by interpreting the ways in which the early Pennsylvania German inhabitants of the farmstead were dependent on and shaped by the natural world that surrounded them.

The resulting series of lessons took elementary school students beyond observations of the material culture they left behind, combining an interpretive history lesson with an environmental science experience.

**Taking root**
The educational series blossomed from 360 student visits in the fall of 1986 to more than 7,000 throughout the next three years.

As popularity of these educational offerings grew, so did the costs of administering and delivering programs, becoming unsustainable for the museum.

It was at that juncture that James recognized the value of establishing a separate 501 (c) 3. In 1990, Renfrew Institute was officially established with a charge of developing, delivering, administering and funding educational programs on the site of Renfrew Museum and Park.

James served as executive director of the institute during its infancy until 1993, when Melodie was hired as executive director.

**A vision for the future**
In an article that appeared in the *Record Herald* in May 1989, James stated that he saw Renfrew Institute as “a teaching and learning facility that will serve students from pre-school all the way through graduate school and beyond.”

Just as he had envisioned at its inception, the institute continues to “help the people of our communities gain an understanding of the relationship between themselves and the natural world around them, and to instill in those communities the importance of preserving the richness and diversity of their cultural and natural heritage.”

**Vision fulfilled**
The organization currently serves students from pre-school through grade six with its school program series. Through partnerships with several regional colleges and universities, it also serves undergrad and graduate student interns.

In addition, a full range of experiences delivered through the institute’s Adult/Teen education series engages learners of all ages. Family festivals and celebrations throughout the year help connect people to the past, to the natural world, to Renfrew Park and to one another.

Nurtured and sustained over decades, Renfrew Institute has grown to its present iteration under the unwavering leadership of the woman we now know affectionately as *Earthwalker*, Melodie Anderson-Smith. Through her steady and capable guidance, a corps of talented and devoted professional staff colleagues was cultivated. They continue to serve, fulfilling James’s early vision formulated nearly three decades ago.

**Transitions**
For Melodie, the recent end of her 24-year tenure as the organization’s executive director does truly represent a beginning. Freed from the responsibilities of overseeing the now sizable day-to-day operations, she is able to narrow her focus in her new half-time role as Director of Environmental Studies, a continuation of the work in which she has been passionately engaged over decades.

For Renfrew Institute, this end is also a beginning...a time in which new education initiatives may come to life, and new partnerships nurtured as the organization continues to serve the community with experiences that inform, entertain and inspire.

It is my honor to recognize, with gratitude, James’s and Melodie’s shared vision that seeded the beginning of Renfrew Institute. Together, they harnessed that vision and inspired many to join them.

I invite each of you, old friends and new, to journey with us into “next things” as Renfrew Institute looks to the future and celebrates beginnings!

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Tracy Holliday
An Introduction to Daniel and Catherine Royer

Renfrew Museum and Park and the Renfrew Institute occupy what used to be a thriving early nineteenth-century farmstead that included a stone house, a barn, a smokehouse, a milk house, fields, a gristmill, a tannery, a large-scale kiln, and an assortment of outbuildings.

The farmstead was owned and operated by Daniel Royer, his wife Catherine (Stoner), and their ten children.

The Royers were members of a large faction of early German settlers, a group known as “Pennsylvania Germans,” which was comprised of several different religious sects.

Some have described the Royer family’s faith as German Baptist, and others categorized them in the German Reformed Church. After much research, it appears that the Royers were members of the Brethren Church.

Why is there value in determining the spiritual heritage of the Royer family?

Religion motivates people, influences behavior, and promotes a certain lifestyle. To understand Daniel Royer, it is prudent to explore what shaped him, what encouraged him to live life as a community-minded man.

Unmasking his religion provides us with a more complete portrait of the man.

There is a lack of primary source material concerning the Royers (original journals, diaries, letters, newspapers, etc.) in the Renfrew collections. Yet, enough evidence is available to reveal the kind of Protestant faith Daniel and his family practiced.

In Search of Daniel Royer’s Heritage

The discrepancy with regard to the spiritual heritage of the Royers is due largely to the lack of original documents.

In search of such sources, I scoured the local Waynesboro library and visited the Cumberland County and Blair County historical societies, as well as the Blair County Genealogical Library. I also consulted with several local historians—all in the hope of finding conclusive evidence that the Royers were of a specific religious sect.

I believe I found enough evidence to place the Royers in the local Church of the Brethren.

The term “heritage” implies a need to look back to previous generations. What did Daniel’s ancestors pass down to him in terms of a religious faith?

Tracing the Royer lineage back takes us to Sebastian (Reyer) Royer.

Sebastian Royer—The First Royer

Sebastian Mathias Royer (1676–1758) emigrated from the Palatinate region, located between France and Germany, because of religious persecution.

In 1726, he and his sons, Emig (Amos), George, Samuel and Henry, arrived in the Philadelphia area and eventually settled in what is now Brickerville, in Warwick Township, Lancaster County, Pa. A widower, Sebastian married his second wife, Agnes Flockirth/Flockerth, and they had three daughters.

Sebastian was a strict Lutheran, as noted by Reverend J.G. Francis in his tome concerning Sebastian Royer and his descendants.

In this book there is a story in which Sebastian is confronted by his older sons. Upon reaching Pennsylvania the boys informed their father of their decision to practice their faith as they saw fit, attending church services where and when they chose.

Sebastian, according to the story, was heartbroken and wished he had never set sail for Pennsylvania.

continued on page 5
If factual, this second generation set in motion a fluidity in faith. Separating themselves from their strict father enabled the young men to forge a faith that they were passionate about, rather than embracing a dogma that was handed to them.

Upon his death in 1758, Sebastian was buried in the cemetery adjoining Brickerville Lutheran Church. His son, Samuel is also buried there. Apparently, not all of the boys abandoned the ideology of their father

**Samuel Royer—Daniel's Father Comes to Franklin County**

The timeline becomes a bit skewed at this point. Samuel’s son, also named Samuel, was born in 1738 in Warwick Township. He married Catharine [Laubsher/Lampshear] in 1761 in Lancaster County, and in 1768 they migrated to the Five Forks area in what was then Cumberland County, Pa. (Franklin County was formed in 1784.)

Samuel served as a captain in the Cumberland County Militia during the American Revolution.

Following the war, Samuel struggled financially. He and Catharine had six children: Daniel, Samuel, John, Jacob, Elizabeth, and Catharine.

Upon his death in 1823, Samuel was buried in what is locally recognized as the Mack or Mack-Royer Cemetery. It is referred to as the Mack Cemetery because it contains the remains of Johannes Mack, son of Alexander Mack, the founder of the Church of the Brethren. The Mack Cemetery near Waynesboro, Pa. Some prominent figures in local history are buried here, including several Royers, as well as Johannes Mack, the son of Alexander Mack, who founded the Church of the Brethren. Photo by Marty Zimmerman.

Defining the Church of the Brethren

In 1708, Alexander Mack founded the Church of the Brethren. They were cast as radicals in Europe and fled from persecution by both Catholics and Protestants associated with established or state-sponsored churches, primarily the Lutheran and the Reformed churches.

They were radicals, as they were influenced by Anabaptist theology and “radical pietism.” In the shadow of the Reformation were spiritual leaders that believed it had not gone far enough in establishing a church that honored Christ.

Anabaptists “didn’t want to merely reform the church; they wanted to wholly restore it to its initial purity and simplicity. Such a church, they held, consists only of people who present themselves to be baptized.”

Their ideas concerning baptism earned them intense persecution. Unlike the Catholic Church and other Protestant denominations, which practiced infant baptism, the Anabaptists baptized adults. The term Anabaptist literally means to be baptized again.

The Brethren formed just one denomination under the umbrella of Anabaptists, and they practiced triune immersion in their baptismal services. The candidate kneeled in shallow water and was dunked three times in a forward position, representing the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

The Anabaptists supported the idea of separation of church and state, so that the church could operate without governmental interference. They also opposed church hierarchy and preferred the idea of congregationalism, where each congregation governed itself in a democratic style. These beliefs separated the Anabaptists from their fellow Protestants and earned them scorn and derision.
Alexander Mack was also influenced by “radical pietism.” Pietists “stressed a personal experience of salvation and a continuous openness to new spiritual illumination. They also taught that personal holiness (piety), spiritual maturity, Bible study and prayer were essential towards ‘feeling the effects’ of grace.” These teachings stressed the importance of the individual strengthening his or her own faith.

Mack’s teachings eventually became rooted in South-Central Pennsylvania in what became known as the Antietam Congregation. In 1752, John Price traveled to the area and became a minister in one of the Antietam Congregation’s five churches.

This church would become known as Price’s Church, and it existed for decades before a church building was constructed. As reported by J. Linwood Eichelberger in *A History of the Church of the Brethren in Southern District of Pennsylvania*, the congregants “were willing to open their homes in a hospitable manner in accord with the teachings of the New Testament. They not only ‘entertained strangers’ but opened their homes to the community where all who would could meet and worship God and study His Word together.”

This was a community-minded church family that took pride in fellowship with one another, and offered hospitality to outsiders.

**The Antietam Congregation and the Royers**

Reverend Eichelberger’s edited volume contains a key piece of evidence for my claim that the Royers were in fact Brethren, and it is succinctly spelled out. It states that, “Among the more prominent families in the church before 1800, were the Bonebrakes, Foremans, Friedleys, Holsingers, Kneppers, Macks, Prices, Royers, Stovers, Snivelys, Stoners, and Snowbergers.”

This brief passage reveals that there was a common thread that ran between the Royers, Macks, Stoners, and Snowbergers, and may explain how the families were joined together via marriages.

These families were neighbors, but beyond that it would seem that they were also acquainted through their shared faith. The information from Eichelberger’s edited history, coupled with where Daniel and Catherine are buried (the Mack Cemetery), points to the conclusion that the Royers practiced the Brethren faith.

Some may find it difficult to reconcile the Brethren’s pacifist stance with the military service of both Daniel and his father, Samuel. However, an article from the Conestoga Area Historical Society reveals that unlike the Quakers, members belonging to the Church of the Brethren had more latitude in making a personal choice in whether or not to serve in the militia.

This seems to fit the nature of the Church, which permitted the congregation to govern itself. It promoted the idea of each member following their conscience in strengthening their own faith. Although the Church may have preferred a pacifist attitude, the ultimate decision fell to the individual.

Daniel may also have considered the repercussions of not serving in the militia, given his prominence in the community—choosing not to serve may have stifled his fruitful business ventures.

**The Royer Legacy**

To measure the vibrancy of the Royers’ faith, one need only read a letter written to Daniel’s son, Samuel from his second wife, Martha. The letter, from the Blair County Historical Society, was a rare primary source discovered in my research.

In the letter, dated March 29, 1844, Martha recounts some of the events unfolding in Hollidaysburg, news about local ministers and about the death of a local man.

Towards the middle of her letter she writes:

“My dear Samuel, my soul this morning is filled with love and gratitude to God since commencing to write looking

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The Royer United Methodist Church on Royer Road in Williamsburg, Pa. (Blair County) bears the name of Samuel Royer, Daniel’s son. The author states that Samuel showed a certain fluidity regarding personal faith, demonstrated by his move to a (then) Methodist-Episcopal church upon relocating to Williamsburg. The Royers enjoyed a good reputation in Blair County and were generous in giving land and money to their community. A church and a school were established because of the Royers in Blair County. Photo by Marty Zimmerman.
out of the window thinking what I should write at the same time viewing the works of creation and providence and also brought to reflect on what the Lord has done for my soul. I am constraint to magnify my great Creator Preserver, and Redeemer and exclaim of the length, breadth, height, and depth of the love of God. Glory be to God for such provision wrought out for poor, sinful man.”

The language is striking because it reveals a depth of character in Martha Royer. Surely, her husband shared some of her ideas and beliefs about God and what it meant to live as a Christian. It seems certain that Samuel learned the basic tenets of the Christian faith from his parents, Daniel and Catherine.

Although I write with certainty that the Royers were indeed members of the Church of the Brethren, there is no evidence that reveals how dutiful they were in practicing their faith. There are no personal Bibles, no church attendance records, nothing tangible to indicate how “religious” they were.

Apart from assigning them to a certain faith or denomination, the Royers lived life according to Christian principles. Daniel’s farmstead in Waynesboro and his son Samuel’s iron operations in Blair County demonstrated that the Royers were committed to their communities, and worked to provide goods and services to their neighbors.

In Conclusion

My conclusion is based on the evidence I found during extensive research for this project. Should something be found to contradict my interpretation, I am open to discussion.

This project developed out of collaboration with local historians and experts, historical societies and libraries. Sharing knowledge and resources is a good practice and allows many people to benefit from joint effort. I hope more projects like this will come about.

I am grateful for the support given me by the Renfrew Institute and the Renfrew Museum & Park, and appreciate the opportunity to have this article published.

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Martha (McNamara) Royer, Letter to her husband, Samuel, March 29, 1844. [From the collection of the Blair County Historical Society in Altoona, Pa., and used with permission courtesy of Cindy Rajala, Curator.]

EDITOR’S NOTE: Those interested in an in-depth study of this topic may find Marty Zimmerman’s full research paper on Renfrew Institute’s website: renfrewinstitute.org

Find the Internships page tab under the About menu.
2017 Environmental Artistry Awards Honor Charles (Charlie) Brown

This year’s award was presented to Charles (Charlie) Brown by local artist and historian, Becky Dietrich during ceremonies at Renfrew Institute’s Earth Celebration Day on April 29, 2017.

This is an excerpt from Becky’s presentation:

When Charlie Brown, originally from Hagerstown, Md., moved from Buffalo, New York to Chambersburg in 1994, he began to pursue art full time. He had taught art in Buffalo and painted whenever he had a chance from his full-time job.

Charlie, my dear good friend, was not only a mechanical engineer and artist, but I call him my rocket scientist! He played a significant role in developing rockets for space exploration. After 40 years on the job, he retired and joined us here in our valley, for which I am grateful.

He is one of the “Monday Painters” who meet at my house every Monday from October through April. All summer long, we meet in various places throughout the Cumberland Valley to paint on location.

And I must add that Charlie has been a boon to our group with his recommendations when we need guidance with our watercolors.

When he is not painting, Charlie is a superior cabinet-maker and he also designs and fabricates scale models from his meticulous drawings of construction and service vehicles, complete with their lifts and intricate functions. On display today you can see photos of his models as well as his excellent watercolor paintings of Renfrew’s harvesting events.

Charlie Brown has been selected by the Renfrew Institute to receive this year’s Environmental Artistry Award for his outstanding contributions.

Becky Dietrich

Earth Celebration Day Brought Crowds to the Park

In addition to dozens of exhibits by environmental groups and artists, Earth Day included the Ed Miller memorial tree planting arranged by the Shade Tree Commission, Waynesboro Lion’s Club and Renfrew Museum, Slim Harrison’s Sunnyland Band, and the annual Earth Day proclamation. Thank you to our event sponsors, Angela Grove Weagley, Lucinda D. Potter, CPA, and Millennium 3 Energy. Photos by Tracy Holliday.
Hello Everyone,

With a happy heart and the best career memories a person could ever have, I greet you in this season of renewal and energy. It’s a new year, time to start afresh, summon new energies and set goals.

Granted, with age our “batteries” take a bit longer to charge. However, I’m inspired with each new day. It has been six months since I stepped down as executive director of the institute—just enough time to readjust, pass the torch and relish sleeping in on a good many mornings!

Some thanks and tributes are in order. All of you reading this have touched my life in some way. The connections we have with each other are truly amazing, reinforcing and sometimes indirect.

I THANK YOU for the synergy that swirls through Renfrew Institute, affecting every entity of the organization.

A tribute to my family. My maternal grandmother, Jammy, gave me a love for nature, especially it’s flowers (the Earth’s way of smiling). She was an artist with an eighth-grade education, a few art classes and a lot of natural talent. She painted, sculpted, crafted and passed down her love of everything beautiful on the planet.

Her husband, my grandfather, brought music and gentle smiles to us grandkids every time we were together.

My paternal grandmother, Annie, was a bird lover. Upon arrival at her house, it was a quick sprint to the dining room window to watch her well-fed “redbirds” (cardinals) at the window feeder.

My mother was a career first-grade teacher and church organist who taught me that curiosity is always the best teacher and that exploring the natural world will keep a little girl busy for hours at a time.

My dad was a generous community guy, civic leader and loving father. I learned from him about organization, speaking to groups and “making a difference.”

My sister continues to be my cheerleader, loving me no matter what.

My husband and best friend, James, paved the way for me at Renfrew. He is my solid rock and my loving champion. My children, stepchildren and grandchildren are the joys of my life. THANK YOU.

A salute to the RI staff and board. What a committed, caring, talented “family” of professional colleagues! To Tracy (Holliday), now RI executive director, my heartfelt THANK YOU for taking the reins with confidence, care and passion. Your experience and vision will carry the institute forward for the benefit of all.

Pam (Rowland), director of cultural studies, Andi (Struble), director of public relations, Bev (McFarland), accounts manager—as admin staff you provided for me (and continue to provide) the “magic” that makes every program, every event, every meeting buzz with efficiency, attention to detail, creativity and excellence.

Jessica (Watson), our new assistant director—wow and bravo! Having you aboard completes the circle of administrative strength. Welcome!

To our faculty...it is an honor to work beside you, to see your students’ faces light up with excitement and discovery, thanks to your skill and passion.

To the institute board of directors, current and past...your dedication to the mission, your support of the staff, and your joy in serving the community cannot be overstated. THANK YOU.

Jay Heefner, good friend and supportive president...thanks to your presence by my side, your counsel and your care, my last years as ED were so rewarding. THANK YOU.

Recent president Maxine Beck and those who came before, THANK YOU for being there every time, through the tough decisions as well as the easy ones. Your expertise, patience and wisdom provided wings so we could lead together with depth and skill. THANK YOU.

And to the members and friends of Renfrew Institute... you sustain with your donations, you believe with your attendance, you inspire with your suggestions. The institute would not exist without you. THANK YOU.

I look forward to a few more years of professional life with RI. And there’s always volunteering. There are programs to develop, children to nurture, interns to coach, projects to organize and so much yet to learn.

Renfrew Institute is a well-oiled, fast-moving train with so many cars they disappear behind the bend. Let’s keep ’em rolling!

With my sincere gratitude and best wishes for the new year,

Melodie

Melodie Anderson-Smith
Director of Environmental Studies
Lyme disease seems to be a household name these days. The dangers of the disease are on the lips of every outdoors person warning others of the deer tick (*Ixodes scapularis*).

Most have heard of the bulls-eye rash and the joint pain and other telltale signs and symptoms. But where and when did it start? Who first described it? How did we get where we are with the disease today?

Dr. Rudolph J. Scrimenti published the first occurrence of a sign of Lyme disease in 1970: 

“To my knowledge, this is the first case of *erythema chronicum migrans* in the United States. Eruption and radicular pain followed a wood tick bite. Treatment with benzathine penicillin G (Bicillin) was curative.” ¹

**Mysterious Disease in Lyme, Connecticut**

In 1976 the Connecticut State Department of Health released Circular Letter #12-32. This letter to Directors of Health detailed 51 cases of mysterious symptoms in residents of Lyme, Connecticut and its surrounding communities. The letter states that there were 4.3 cases per 1,000 residents. Thirty-nine of the original 51 were children.

The symptoms varied between individuals: "It has been characterized by usually short and mild but often recurrent attacks of pain and swelling in a few large joints, especially knees, with longer intervening periods of no symptoms at all. No patients have had permanent injury to joints. Although almost half the patients had only joint symptoms, others had fever, headaches, weakness and a skin rash as well. One quarter of the patients had an unusual skin lesion before the onset of joint symptoms." ²

Medical professionals considered arthritis to be the cause of the symptoms. They speculated that the arthritis was being transmitted by biting insects because of the presence of a skin lesion. Blood studies conducted at the time were unable to find any definite causal agent.

Dr. Douglas S. Lloyd, Commissioner of the Connecticut State Department of Health, pressed in this letter that they should find the cause of the disease before they took measures to “prevent contact with an unknown virus carried by an unknown insect...” ² as it might cause panic.

**Identifying the Cause**

The first person to isolate the bacteria that causes Lyme disease was Dr. Wilhelm “Willy” Burgdorfer. He was a medical entomologist from Switzerland who studied at the Swiss Tropical Institute.

His studies there focused on the *Borrelia* bacteria that were causing relapsing fever in Africa. *Borrelia duttoni* bacteria are found in the soft-bodied tick *Ornithodoros moubata*. B. duttoni is a spirochete. It is important to note that a spirochete is a spiral-shaped bacteria that causes these
diseases. Spirochetes have tiny flagella that move, allowing the bacteria to “swim” and travel throughout the host.

All forms of Borrelia are spirochetes, though not all tick-borne illnesses are caused by spirochetes. Rickettsial bacteria, such as the ones that cause Rocky Mountain spotted fever, are more likely to be shaped like small rods and are easily discernible from spirochetes by a trained eye.

To detect bacteria in a tick, it is dissected. The hemolymph, roughly the blood of the tick, is collected, usually by removing a leg. The hemolymph is smeared on a microscope slide and chemically stained. The stain highlights the cells being viewed in the sample, allowing the viewer to see them more clearly. Dr. Burgdorfer used this method to find the spirochetes in ticks that were causing the relapsing fever in Africa.

**Dr. Burgdorfer’s Breakthrough Discovery**

Dr. Burgdorfer came to the United States in 1951 to work at the Rocky Mountain Laboratory in Hamilton, Montana as a Research Fellow. His research focused on ticks and tick-borne pathogens.

He extended his fellowship to continue his research and became a United States Citizen in 1953. In 1954 he began doing national defense-related work that focused on the “rapid identification of pathogens that may be used against the United States.”

After the germ warfare work, Dr. Burgdorfer continued research on various tick-borne pathogens, including Colorado tick fever virus, rickettsiae, tularemia, and spirochetes that caused relapsing fever. He also worked with fleas and the black plague, and with mosquitoes and yellow fever.

From 1971 to 1976 there was a spike in cases of Rocky Mountain spotted fever (Rickettsia rickettsii) in New York State. There were 124 cases reported, eight of which resulted in death. Officials suspected the dog tick, Dermacentor variabilis as the main vector. Sampling of the local tick populations did not yield conclusive results. The percentage of the infected dog tick population seemed insignificant.

These tests led to a search for another culprit. The other tick species with a large presence in the areas of infection was the deer tick. The Rocky Mountain Lab received the first deer ticks for dissection in 1979. This was the first time Dr. Burgdorfer had worked with Ixodes scapularis. Dr. Burgdorfer found R. montana in these ticks, but this form of Rickettsia does not affect humans.

By 1981 Dr. Burgdorfer was still looking for harmful strains of Rickettsia in the deer ticks. There were spiral-shaped bacteria in the digestive system, or midgut of an eastern deer tick from Shelter Island, New York, on the Long Island Sound.

He realized almost immediately that these were spirochetes. He examined them under a dark field microscope and watched them move. He knew that they were indeed spirochetes because of the way the bacteria moved translationally (the motion by which a body shifts from one point in space to another) and rotationally.

Dr. Burgdorfer and his colleagues ordered blood samples from patients showing Lyme arthritis to be tested. He used direct fluorescent antibody testing to identify the presence of the bacteria in the patient’s blood. Genetic testing of the bacteria determined the spirochetes were Borrelia. They named the new species *B. burgdorferi* after the man who discovered it.

**The Spread of an Ancient Bacteria**

Despite the only recent discovery, studies have shown that the *B. burgdorferi* is prehistoric. The Yale School of Medicine examined the genetic makeup of the bacteria to see how the disease could have distributed itself around the country. They believe that the bacteria has existed for thousands of years and spread from the East Coast westward to Wisconsin.

The range became fragmented at some point, most likely due to deforestation, leading to the independent emergences of Lyme disease in multiple places.
There is also evidence that Borrelia burgdorferi exists in Europe. Range expansion of the deer tick is a major reason why Lyme cases are on the rise. White-tailed deer (Odocoileus virginianus) populations provide blood meals and mating areas for the ticks, but are not good reservoirs for the bacteria. The name ‘deer tick’ almost draws our attention away from a more important reservoir of the disease. The deer mouse (Peromyscus maniculatus) and the white-footed mouse (P. leucopus) are major vectors of B. burdorferi. The ticks pick up the disease from the mice and ticks can dry out, which causes them to die, but the humidity allows them to stay hydrated over the winter or during hot, dry periods. Some researchers view acorn crops as a major factor in Lyme disease occurrence. The acorns provide food for both the deer and the mice and can bring them all together, which spreads the ticks and the bacteria. Climate change is also a factor in the spread of Lyme disease.

Warmer temperatures and mild winters allow more ticks to survive throughout the year. There are more hospitable places for the mice and ticks to live. Exotic invasive species such as Japanese barberry (Berberis thunbergii) also play a major role in tick survival. Underneath a Japanese barberry is a microclimate with elevated relative humidity. The humid microclimate provides a nice habitat for mice and ticks. Ticks can dry out, which causes them to die, but the humidity allows them to stay hydrated over the winter or during hot, dry periods.

Some researchers view acorn crops as a major factor in Lyme disease occurrence. The acorns provide food for both the deer and the mice and can bring them all together, which spreads the ticks and the bacteria.

Climate change is also a factor in the spread of Lyme disease.

Protect Yourself from Ticks
Lyme disease and deer ticks are a growing problem but there are measures you can take to defend yourself from them. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), treating your clothing with permethrin spray and using insect repellent containing 20% DEET is a good way to protect yourself from a tick bite. Always check your body for ticks and check your clothing too. Wearing light-colored clothing can aid in seeing any ticks that may be walking on you. Placing your clothes in the dryer and tumbling them on high heat for 10 minutes will kill any ticks still on them.

At your home you can mow your lawn and trim weeds, especially next to walkways, to reduce contact with ticks.

If a tick does become embedded in your skin you remove it with tweezers. Do not rely on the notion that household products such as soap, petroleum jelly, peanut butter or anything of the sort will make the tick retreat. Methods like these only kill the tick while it is embedded and make it harder to remove with tweezers. Burning the tick can make the tick expel its gut contents back into the wound, increasing risk of infection.

In Conclusion
It is good to know the history of the dangerous disease that affects Pennsylvania and is still a real threat to our health. The discovery of the disease and studies of its spread are only parts of solving the overall problem. Diagnosis and treatment are still difficult. There were 7,400 reported cases of Lyme disease in Pennsylvania in 2014, 84 of which were reported in Franklin County. It is important to consult your physician if you suspect you have Lyme disease. You can find a list of signs and symptoms on the CDC website: www.cdc.gov
References


Volunteer Benefits:
- Learn about the historic Pennsylvania German 4-square garden
- Sharpen skills
- Pick produce for personal use
- Help maintain the garden used for teaching area school children about history and gardening
- Harvest Dinner • Field Trips
The garden is located in Renfrew Park
1010 E. Main Street, Waynesboro, Pa.
For more information, call 717-642-8802
Citizen Science Takes Off at Renfrew Institute

Citizen Scientists

Citizen science is not a new activity for our organization, but interest and energy has definitely been building over the past couple of years.

From 40 years—yes, that long!—of bird watching to the more recent water quality stream monitoring and tree tracking, Renfrew Park goers have been out there...observing, recording, reporting.

Citizen science involves local people monitoring nature’s happenings. Citizen scientists observe plants and animals in the field, record data about the presence or activity of those organisms and report the findings to professional scientists who can make use of that information.

Citizen Scientists, Local Experts

Citizen scientists do not have to have a science background, just an avid interest and some dedication. They receive training in field procedures and methods so that the work they do is accurate and usable.

The data they collect provides important insight into natural cycles (like seasonal change), ecological relationships, species diversity and the effects of human activity on natural systems. It is interesting and important work.

Over time, citizen scientists become very familiar with the landscape they monitor. Since data is collected on a regular and long-term basis, the dedicated monitor who stays with it for several years becomes the local expert on that monitoring site and its life.

What better way to get out in nature and enjoy such an intimate bonding with the creatures and plants that share the Earth with us?

Bird Walks

Renfrew Institute currently has three citizen science programs functioning. First, the Saturday morning bird walks. The first leader, the late Willard Rahn, made notes as he led the walks on Saturday mornings through the months of April and May each year.

Willard's son, Tim Rahn (former institute board president) lives in Takoma Park, Md. Tim thinks he can come up with some of those old notes to add to a database started by the institute about two years ago.

Jack Olszewski took over the leadership of the spring walks after Willard stepped down. Jack continues to lead the walks every Saturday in April and May.

Additional bird walk leaders, Larry and Sharon Williams, expanded the walks to the first and third Saturdays of the remaining 10 months of the year. This was a big boost for the program since species sightings could be recorded year round.

In addition, Larry offered to send reports to the institute office each week and Jean McBride, retired teacher and bird enthusiast, sends the reports in a weekly email to participants.

Group member and photographer, Lisa Luny, suggested a name for the group—and SOAR (Study- ing Ornithology at Renfrew) was born. Most recently, the weekly species report has been recorded in an Excel database, SOAR-Track, maintained by our environmental interns.

Stream Monitoring

The second citizen science initiative is the stream-monitoring program of Antietam Watershed Association (AWA), which is headquartered at Renfrew Institute (RI).

Fifteen citizen scientists, along with RI interns, regularly monitor 35 stream sites scattered up and down both the East and West branches of Antietam Creek.

The database for this program holds 10–12 years of data with some sites studied since the start of the program in 2005.

The monitors are trained by RI instructors with assistance from the Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring (ALLARM) at Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pa. ALLARM provides free consulting service to local watershed groups. Funding for the program (including chemical kits, boots, nets, staff time) is provided through grants.

Monitors record the following chemical and physical parameters: dissolved oxygen, pH, alkalinity, water temp, turbidity, nitrates and phosphates. New monitors are always welcome.

Tree Tracking

A third citizen science initiative began after an RI workshop in 2015 that taught us about phenology (the study of cyclic and seasonal natural phenomena). Six trees on the Renfrew property were tagged for seasonal monitoring. Changes such as flower and leaf bud break in the spring, leaf color change and leaf fall in autumn are tracked.
This activity is part of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy’s AT Seasons: Tracking Phenology from Georgia to Maine program.

Global Citizen Scientists with NASA

On August 21, 2017 the institute organized a solar eclipse event featuring NASA scientist and Waynesboro resident, Todd Toth. Todd brought NASA’s citizen science activities to hundreds of attendees during the awe-inspiring solar eclipse with several activity tables set up in the backyard of the museum house. Nearly 1,000 people attended the event with many using cell phone applications to record scientific eclipse data (i.e. cloud cover, air and ground temperatures, humidity) and submit the data to the NASA website.

In follow-up to the eclipse event and to open new possibilities, Todd presented NASA’s Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment program (GLOBE), during a public lecture at Renfrew on January 11, 2018. RI is exploring new ways to become involved in the GLOBE program in concert with the Waynesboro Area School District.

Our hope is that local school children as well as adults in the community will find more ways to become citizen scientists using our own backyards, public parks and trails as our laboratories.

Melodie Anderson-Smith
Director of Environmental Studies

For more information about GLOBE and AT Seasons, visit the following websites:
- www.globe.gov
- www.appalachiantrail.org/home/conservation/landscape-protection/phenology

For information on SOAR or the stream monitoring program, contact Renfrew Institute: info@renfrewinstitute.org or call 717-762-0373. Watch for more news on all of these opportunities on RI’s website: www.renfrewinstitute.org, and on our Facebook page.

Wildlife Watchers

Strong and growing interest in wildlife and outdoor activity can in-turn support citizen science initiatives.

“In 2016, more than 101 million Americans—a staggering 40 percent of the U.S. population ages 16 or older—participated in some form of wildlife-associated recreation, including fishing, hunting, bird watching, photography and more.

Wildlife watching was the most popular (86 million), followed by fishing (35.8 million) and hunting (11.5 million). This translates into 35 percent of Americans participating in wildlife watching, 14 percent fishing and 5 percent hunting.”

[2016 Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation as reported by Kathy Reshetiloff in the Bay Journal, December 2017]

Young Citizen Scientists

Members of WaterStriders, Renfrew Institute’s water quality monitoring program for middle school students, examine and analyze samples drawn from the stream. WaterStriders is sponsored by John and Erin Hershey and Jay and Pat Heefner. Photo by Jessica Watson.
Renfrew Institute Membership
Includes 2016–17 members and new/renewed for 2017–18

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The Recycle Reuse Yard Sale committee was grateful for another good year—profitable, and fun! Proceeds after expenses were more than $3,000! Thank You to Our Event Sponsors—Lead sponsors Drs. Jerzy Kornilow O.D. & Alison Ridenour, O.D., Antietam EYE Associates and Hadley Farms Bakery, plus Dave Neterer, Sterling Financial Management, and Total Vac. Mark your calendar for next year's Recycle/Reuse Yard Sale—Saturday, April 28, 2018

Fun and Exploration in the Great Outdoors!

In April 2017, the Fun Fly brought families to the park for kite-flying fun. During this annual event, flyers can bring their own kites or make one in the kite workshop. Kite masters Sam and George Adams are on hand each year to provide expert flying guidance. Fun Fly is sponsored by Buchanan Auto Park. Photo by Tracy Holliday.

Shippensburg University Geoenvironmental Studies interns, Olivia Allen, Selma Baltic and Eric Peregord, walked the Appalachian Trail to collect water samples near one of Renfrew Institute's stream testing sites. Photo by Melodie Anderson-Smith.
“Unity in the Community!” was the theme for Renfrew Institute’s 28th annual Youth Festival that took place on Sunday, May 28, 2017. Thanks to a sponsorship by BB&T, and involvement by volunteer committee members Jessica McCleary, Cheryl Mankins, Becky McLean and Colleen Tidd, children and families gathered in the park for a free, fun-filled afternoon during which they enjoyed a variety of workshops, demonstrations, activities, and entertainment throughout the day.

In keeping with the theme, the event featured guest entertainment, Cantaré. Billed as a musical journey to Latin America, the program featured native Argentinians Cecilia Esquivel and Dani Cortaza who invited kids to learn some dance moves. Kids had a blast taking a turn with some traditional instruments, and moving to some lively Latin tunes.

Mark your calendars now for the next Youth Festival, set to take place Sunday, May 27 beginning at 1:00 p.m.

Stay tuned for workshop and performance details!
2017 Bay Supper Fundraiser
a Record-breaker

The 20th Anniversary Chesapeake Bay Supper fundraiser
on June 23, 2017 at the Waynesboro Country Club
broke the records and raised an all-time high of $18,158!
These funds are used in support of the many
school programs and family activities
provided to educate and inspire the local community.

This year’s event was dedicated in memory of
Ed Miller, former institute board member, long-
standing member, actor playing Sam Slick in the first
RI educational program, Green Energy...heart, soul,
and keeper of the spirit of Renfrew Institute.

Mark your calendars now for Friday, June 22,
2018. Hope to see you there!

Thank you to everyone who supported the supper:

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Our wonderful planning committee & their helpers:

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Alan Peck for donating his live auction services
Debi Duffey for donation of the Anniversary Cake
Cordless microphone system courtesy of Phantom
Shadow Entertainment with technical
assistance by Frank Conway
Coldwell Banker-Waynesboro for balloon helium

Hats off to everyone who made
our 20th Anniversary a great
one! Check out the photos on
the inside front cover.
Renfrew Institute’s Board of Directors


Missing from group photo and pictured at left: Jeb Keller, Megan Shea Burton, Dick Walsh, Andrew Everetts.

Welcome New Directors

Maxine Beck has a long association with Renfrew Institute. She served on the board from 2008–2014, three of those years as board president.

After leaving the board, she continued her connection with the institute by chairing the Pumpkin Festival committee, and will continue in that capacity at least for awhile, she said.

Over the past few years, Maxine’s avocation as a writer has connected her more deeply to Renfrew. With her sister-in-law and long-time friend of Renfrew, Marie Beck, Maxine authored a series of historical novels featuring the Daniel Royer family who built the Renfrew Museum manor house. The first book opens in 1812 and the fourth ends in 1838.

“It was wonderful getting to imagine the property and local history through the Royers’ eyes from so long ago,” she said.

Born and raised in Waynesboro, Maxine graduated from Virginia University with a bachelor’s degree in secondary education Language Arts, and completed her master’s degree in English at Shippensburg University.

She taught English at Waynesboro High School, where she worked for nearly 18 years.

Her community involvement includes Renfrew Institute’s Four-Square Garden group, the Waynesboro Garden Club, Noah’s Ark Day Care board, and Friends of the Alexander Hamilton Library.

Maxine will serve on four board committees, Pumpkin Fest, Youth Education, Adult/Teen Education, and Nominating/Governance.

Megan Shea Burton has fond memories of attending Renfrew Institute’s school programs as a student at Summitview Elementary School. She also remembers spending time at the park with her parents and friends, hiking the trails, and attending Pumpkin Festivals.

“My personal experiences, both as a youth and an adult, have shown me the value of grassroots
Welcome New Directors  continued from page 22

education and the importance of taking an active role in one’s community to make a positive impact on youth,” she said.

Megan moved to Waynesboro at the age of two, and lived there until graduating from college. She earned a bachelor’s degree in social studies education from Shippensburg University and a master’s degree in administration and supervision from Frostburg University. She taught middle school social studies, and is now a high school assistant principal for Washington County Public Schools.

Megan will serve on the Pumpkin Fest, Adult/Teen Education, and Youth Education committees.

“I fully believe in and support conservation through education, and know there is nothing like learning through experience, especially when it comes to local history and preserving our environment.”

A member of the board of directors for Girls Inc. of Washington County since 2013, Megan lives in Hagerstown, Md. with her husband, Matt and their dogs Stirling (a Shih Tzu) and Rusty (a Chesapeake Bay Retriever).

Andy Everettts was born and raised in Greencastle, Pa., and has lived there all his life.

In keeping with supporting the viability of a small town, Andy’s position as a commercial loan officer with M&T Bank allows him to help small businesses get the financing they need to be successful.

It was an M&T colleague who introduced Andy to Renfrew Institute. Tim Parry, a former institute board member, asked him about joining the board.

Since then, Andy said, “I continue to be amazed at all the great programs and events that happen at Renfrew. What a benefit the institute is to the community!!”

Andy has a bachelor’s degree in business administration from Shippensburg University and a master’s degree from Mount St. Mary’s University. He also holds an associate degree in specialized training from the Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science.

Active in his community, Andy is president of Greencastle-Antrim Old Home Week. He is also involved with Leadership Franklin County, and is a member of the Waynesboro Rotary and the Antique Automobile Club of America.

The antique cars have a family connection. “I was fortunate that my grandfather was a Buick dealer in Greencastle (Fox Buick),” he said, “and I inherited a few from his collection. My favorite is a 1948 Willy’s Jeepster that my grandfather and I restored together.”

Andy lives in Greencastle and has two children, daughter Quinn (2), and son Grant (4 months).

The committees Andy chose to serve on are the Bay Supper, Adult/Teen Education, and Youth Education committees.

“Education has always been important in my home as my parents were both teachers,” he said.

“I have always enjoyed history and believe our local history is very important to teach our youth.”

Originally from Baltimore Co., Md., Sean McFarland’s family moved to the Waynesboro area in 1977—Sean considers himself an ‘almost native.’ He is manager of the Washington Township Municipal Authority.

Always a fan of Renfrew Park, his children attended institute school programs as students at St. Andrew School.

“We also attended many institute events over the years like the Jazz Fest and Pumpkin Fest,” he said.

Sean is a veteran of the institute’s July 4 Salamander Scramble. “The first time I ran in the Scramble was 2013, and my 9-year-old son, Jimmy also joined the team.”

Sean holds bachelor’s degrees in marketing and management, and in business administration, from Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pa., where he met his wife, Jenny, when they were freshmen.

A member of the Waynesboro YMCA board, Sean lives in Waynesboro with his wife, kids Jimmy and Lily, and two Italian Mastiff dogs, Chunk and Peanut.

Sean will serve on the Salamander Scramble, Facilities, and Development committees.

“Now that my kids are a little older, I have more time to give back to our community with volunteer work,” he said. “I am looking forward to keeping an active role in the Scramble and other events.”
Three friends, with much in common—Sue Von Rembow, Sandy Beaumont, and Bonnie Rhodes. All three are educators, all have kids who attended Renfrew Institute programming, all are active in their community in a variety of capacities—and all reunite each year over a table filled with ‘another man’s treasures’ at Renfrew Institute’s annual Recycle/Reuse Yard Sale.

And now, all three will share Renfrew Institute’s special place of honor, On Top of the Mushroom!

The trio of friends have been involved with the Recycle/Reuse Yard Sale since its inception in 2005, recruited to join the committee by their mutual friend, Debbie Pflager, the event’s creator and first chair. Over the years this fundraiser, held in conjunction with Earth Celebration Day, has raised an average of $3,000 annually.

Sandy grew up in York, Pa., and Sue is from Phoenixville, Pa. Both came to Waynesboro for jobs in the Waynesboro Area School District—Sue’s husband, Ron as a teacher and coach, and Sandy and her husband, Rob both accepted positions with the district.

Bonnie was raised in Zullinger, and her family connections to Waynesboro—and to Renfrew—run deep. Her father was Zane Miller, and her uncle, Ed Miller was Renfrew’s long-time caretaker and a champion of Renfrew Institute since it’s fledgling days.

When their children were young, Sue, Sandy and Bonnie became friends, holding play dates, visiting Renfrew Park, and eventually becoming involved with Renfrew Institute’s events and programs.

Sandy was introduced to Renfrew Institute school programs through her children. “I was so impressed by the educational programs our children became involved in while in elementary school, and by the mission and philosophy behind all of the programs here,” she said.

“When the Youth Festival began (late 1980s), I became a volunteer and headed up that event,” Sandy said. “This eventually led to my becoming a board member.” Sandy served on the institute’s board of directors for seven years, from 1993 to 2000.

Sue’s involvement began as a parent. “My earliest involvement with the institute was as a parent helper as my children attended the educational programs,” she said. “I had the opportunity to accompany them and experience the wonders that Renfrew Institute offered area students.”

Later, when Sue returned to the classroom as a first grade teacher at Summitview Elementary School, she accompanied her students to institute programs.

“This is where I met Goldenrod [now executive director, Tracy Holliday] and many other engaging teachers so focused on sharing the importance of taking care of our natural world,” she said. “Our first grade classes participated in several Earth Day events.”

Bonnie was also introduced to institute programming through her students. Bonnie taught at Mowrey Elementary School, “and my students had opportunities to take part in the institute’s educational programs throughout the years.” Bonnie accompanied many classes on field trips to Renfrew Institute’s school programs.

(continued on page 25)
Bonnie’s husband, Jeff, served on the institute board of directors from 2000 to 2003, so that provided another link to the institute.

In 2005, “Debbie [Pflager] contacted me to see if I wanted to be involved in the Reuse/Recycle Yard Sale. My response was yes!” Bonnie said. “The yard sale is such a fun time to be reunited with the girls and help out Renfrew Institute at the same time.”

The yard sale will mark its 13th year this April, and all three volunteers plan to be there.

“At the yard sale table, we have endured all types of weather from thunderstorms to cold temperatures. You never know what the weather will be like in April,” Bonnie said.

“Over the years, the yard sale event has been most memorable for me as I have the opportunity to share it each year with wonderful friends,” Sue said. “We enjoy spending the day together and catch up with each other while we support the institute. What could be better?”

Sandy agrees. “I love Renfrew and enjoy volunteering or attending everything that goes on here!” she said. “It’s fun—being with so many people from our community. It’s a joy to see and connect with both old and new friends!”

All three also volunteer for other area organizations, supporting their community in many ways. Sandy serves on the board of the Antietam Watershed Association, and is active with the Waynesboro College Club, which is dedicated to providing scholarships for local students.

Bonnie is actively involved with the Waynesboro Gala Cancer Auction. “I also volunteer weekly at a church in Chambersburg with their outreach mission project, and at my own church I coordinate ‘soup making day,’ sing with the Praise Band, and volunteer at Hershey Park.”

Sue is a reading specialist and travels between Summitview and Hooverville elementary schools. “Since I work full time, I’m not able to be as active a volunteer as I’d like, but I am a member of the Franklin County Reading Council, Friends of the Library, and Waynesboro College Club.”

Renfrew Institute’s motto is “Building connections…to the past and to our natural world.” Ultimately it is the connections with community and friendship that keep this trio involved with the institute.

Bonnie feels a deep connection to the institute and to Renfrew Park. “My son (when he was little), loved to play in the creek at Renfrew and look for crayfish, and now my two oldest grandsons love doing the same thing,” she said. “Renfrew will always hold a special place in my heart, partly because of my uncle Ed Miller. When I see Renfrew—I see Uncle Ed.”

“The staff and volunteers who are a part of the institute are wonderful people to be around,” Sandy said. “I have enjoyed seeing the continued growth and expansion of Renfrew Institute. It has come such a long way from its early years... and has stayed dedicated and true to its mission throughout all of these years.”

Sue loves the park and the institute programs held there.

“Renfrew is such a special place for connection...to nature, to history, to our families and friends, and community. For me, it has also been a great, quiet place to connect with myself, as I enjoy walking on Renfrew’s many trails...”

“Institute programs give children (and adults!) opportunities to spend time in and learn about the environment and our cultural heritage.”

With gratitude for all they have done and continue to do, all of us at Renfrew Institute hope that Sue, Sandy and Bonnie enjoy their view from On Top of the Mushroom!

Andrea Struble

“The activities and programs that are provided by Renfrew Institute bring a historical value in connecting the past to the present in such a meaningful way.” —Bonnie Rhodes

Come greet our Mushroom Trio at this year’s Recycle/Reuse Yard Sale on Saturday, April 28, 2018! Rent a table and sell your stuff, or shop for new treasures!
The past year brought changes in Renfrew Institute’s administrative staff. After more than a quarter-century as executive director, Melodie Anderson-Smith stepped down from that role in July to become the institute’s Director of Environmental Studies. [see pg. 9] Former associate director, Tracy Holliday became the institute’s new executive director. [see pg. 1]

In August, Renfrew Institute welcomed Jessica Watson as the new Assistant Director. To join our team, Jessica left a part-time position as the administrative assistant at the Greater Waynesboro Chamber of Commerce, where she had been since 2012.

While the part-time position worked well for her young family, she was ready to pursue full time work to continue her professional career.

Upon graduating from Kutztown University in 1999, Jessica used her art education degree and certification to its full extent at the Susquehanna Art Museum and Harrisburg Area Community College, where she was an education coordinator and adjunct instructor of Art History.

In 2008 she started her family with her husband Matt Watson, and built their home in his native Blue Ridge Summit, Pa. They enjoy their home in the woods with daughters Anna, 7 and Lyla, 5. She is active in her daughters’ lives, which include Girl Scouts, soccer and classroom activities.

Jessica also serves on the board of directors for the Arts Alliance of Greater Waynesboro and the fundraiser committee of Alexander Hamilton Memorial Library. She has brought her creativity, community connections and experience with event planning to these two nonprofit organizations that serve the community.

Here at the institute Jessica has made an easy transition into the rhythm of daily happenings. She has stepped into membership and events coordination as well as the formidable task of program scheduling with visiting schools. Thanks to her engaging social media posts, the institute’s Facebook page increased by over 100 followers within two months.

“Going back to work full time was a big transition for my family, but Renfrew Institute has taken me in with open arms and has been incredibly welcoming and professionally supportive,” Jessica said.

“The move to this position has been very natural for me; it’s my hope to help nurture this organization and continue on with its amazing contribution to this community.”

In the short time she has been here, Jessica has made a fitting connection with our staff, volunteers and board members. Her experience in education, nonprofit work, program organization, and boundless creativity will no doubt add strength to Renfrew Institute.

Welcome, Jessica!

Nora Slick, Melodie Anderson-Smith and Jessica Watson donned staff tee-shirts for the annual Pumpkin Fest in October.
Departing Board Members:
Jeremey Bowersox, Tim Parry, Lucinda Potter & Anne Shepard

In July, Renfrew Institute ushered in a class of four new board members. Naturally, that means we also bid adieu to four devoted directors who “retired” from their board posts with the traditional induction into the “Order of the Wooden Cookie.”

Each was presented with a wooden cookie necklace, inscribed with a specially selected moniker recalling their board service.

Jeremy Bowersox was affectionately dubbed “Salamander-in-Chief” as his six years of service were marked by leadership of the Salamander Scramble Fundraiser 5K. In celebrating the 10th anniversary of the race last year, Jeremy and his committee led the event to record financial success, netting just over $10,000.

Through the power of an invested committee and tremendous community generosity, the Scramble has become a crucial part of the institute’s financial underpinning. Jeremy also served on the Membership and Development committees, with valued input on matters like engaging our membership family, fundraising, and endowment policies. And signatures—lots of them—on letters for our membership renewal campaigns.

We are grateful that Jeremy will remain in a leadership role for the institute’s 5K fundraiser, maintaining his esteemed post for now, as Salamander-in-Chief.

Tim Parry was respectfully dubbed “Financial Finesser” as he stepped away from a six-year term. Serving as treasurer, Tim’s steady hand on the financial helm helped guide the institute through a period of budgetary growth that strengthened the organization and helped provide a solid foundation for the future. Tim was reliably mindful and supportive of staff as he fulfilled his duties as treasurer.

Attendees of Pumpkin Fest were greeted by Tim’s cheerful presence as he led admissions efforts for the event during a time of record attendance growth. His thoughtful guidance led to improvements in moving as many as 1,500 people through the “gate,” speeding them along to get right into the fun.

Tim’s service on the Adult/Teen Education Committee contributed to an engaging slate of programs annually, and he often volunteered at institute functions. We’re pleased that Tim has elected to remain on the Finance and Adult/Teen Education committees.

Lucinda “Cindy” Potter was inducted into the Order of the Wooden Cookie as “Gentle Board Booster.” Cindy also established a Pumpkin Fest presence over her six-year term. Whether appearing with boxed bundles of newspaper for scarecrow capers or serving in the soup and bread line, Cindy could be relied upon to show up with a smile. She, too, served on the Development Committee, offering important input around fundraising and endowment decisions.

Her service on the Facilities Committee continues, for which we are grateful as we search for solutions to the need for improved office facilities and a plan to better serve students in outdoor programming during inclement weather.

Cindy is thoughtful and soft spoken, and we’re grateful for the care she puts into these important deliberations.

Anne Shepard, “Rockin’ Lifelong Learner,” served as Vice-President during the latter half of her six-year term, and provided valuable guidance during an especially challenging set of governance decisions.

Anne also served as chair of the Adult/Teen Education Committee and will remain a member. An amateur spelunker, her enthusiasm for adventures made her a natural fit for helping plan excursions for others.

Through her service on the Membership Committee, Anne’s input led to new channels of donor engagement. Thanks in part to her urging, the institute is able to engage its members in the digital world. She even gets some credit for the institute’s presence, finally, in the Facebook community.

Although Anne helped us step into the digital world, she also understands the importance of personal touches, whether signing a membership request with a personal note, or offering a special gesture to institute staff.

Pumpkin Fest visitors are also familiar with Anne’s sunny smile as she served hot dogs and coffee each October. She continues to volunteer there, and at the Recycle Reuse Yard Sale food concession. For many years she was “Our Lady of Lemonade,” when she and hubby Pat mixed 20–30 gallons of lemonade for an appreciative Jazz Fest crowd.

As with all transitions, there is a little bitter with the sweet. We’re sad to see these directors leave, but are delighted that they remain involved at the committee level. Who knows...institute bylaws permit a return to board service after a year away...Perhaps one of them will return for more!

Tracy Holliday
Memorial & Honorial Donations

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

Please see additional memorials under Sponsorships (page 18).

In memory of
Michael M. Miller of Spencer, WV
Daniel Arthur

In memory of
Steve Waltz: Jazz Fest
Steve Graham

In honor of
Dr. Doris Goldman
Blue Ridge Garden Club

In memory of
Mike Snively
Steve Graham

In memory of
Betty Casteluccio
Steve Graham

In memory of
Deborah M. Singer
donated by her close friends

In memory of
William Werzyn
Waynesboro Hospital Medical Staff
Melodie Anderson-Smith & James Smith

In memory of
Emma Lohman
Colleagues of John McIntire at US Amry, Fort Detrick DPW O&M
Carol Bailey
Cynthia Gettins
Dorothy Wetherald

In memory of
Ed Pelger
Peggy McCleary, Susie Crouse, Kathleen Kaminski & Elaine Shugart

In memory of
Ed Miller
Melodie Anderson-Smith & James Smith
Ed & Marie Beck
Steve & Maxine Beck
James & Barbara Bowersox
Maryellen Schaller Burker
Doris Goldman & Family
Steve Graham
Carol Henicle
Sherry & Scott Hesse
Tracy Holliday
William F. Kaminski
Doris Large
Wayne & Debbie Martz
Susan & Larry McBride
Helen K. McCabe
David A. McCarney
Bev McFarland
Tim, Candy, Lauren Moffatt & Susan Cramer

The Monday Morning Breakfast Crew
at Brothers Restaurant
(Marty Schorn, Larry Shifflet, Pete Clark,
Frank Conway, Otto Colborg)
Mary Ann Payne
Debbie & Bill Pfleger
Mr. & Mrs. J. Christopher Richwine
Pam & Bruce Rowland
Angela G. Weagly

Bequest
From the Estate of
Judge John W. Keller
A gift of $600
Young naturalists got Nose to Nose with Nature in Renfrew’s pine forest and the Antietam Creek with Renfrew Institute’s Director of Environmental Studies, ‘Earthwalker’—Melodie Anderson Smith. Magical moments abound, such as the discovery of this Lesser Grapevine Looper Moth, a member of the inchworm family. The Nose to Nose Summer Institute experience is underwritten by Steve and Maxine Beck. Top photo by Beth Skroban, bottom photo by Tracy Holliday.

Dr. Doris Goldman, Renfrew Institute’s Four-Square Garden director, invited children to join her Down a Garden Path. Kids dug, watered, picked and played as they learned about plants and critters in this special place where food is grown and fun is happening! Down a Garden Path is sponsored by Max Creager, in memory of Nancy Hess Creager. Photo by Pam Rowland.

Children gathered under the horse chestnut tree at Renfrew to hear some wild tales each Tuesday for several weeks last summer during the Summer Stories sessions. Stories were read, and a fun thematic activity followed, thanks to institute volunteers Kathy Helfrick and Jane Glenn. Summer Stories are sponsored by John and Debbie Beck. Photo by Tracy Holliday.

Children in grades 4 to 6 were invited to Take a Hike during a new Summer Institute happening. Participants explored the Salty Grimes, Blue Heron and Edmapoja trails at Renfrew with institute staff members Pam Rowland (hike leader), Beth Skroban and Melodie Anderson-Smith, stopping along the way for fun, nature-related experiences. Youth volunteer Jessie Elden accompanied the group. Photo by Melodie Anderson-Smith.
It was a Perfect Day for Sizzling Summer Jazz

Jazz Fest 2017 on August 27 featured an all-star band with Vincent Herring, Conrad Herwig, Jared Gold, Paul Bollenback, and Jeff “Tain” Watts. About 1,000 music fans came out to enjoy the day!

Former Institute Interns Present Work at Mind@Work Conference

Lindsey Amsley (left) and Nicole Wilt presented their oversized poster on the Effects of Land Use and Geology on Water Quality as Observed by Different Monitoring Techniques at the Minds@Work conference at Shippensburg University (SU) last April.

Students from all disciplines present their research and creative work during the Minds@Work event.

Geoenvironmental Studies students at SU, Lindsey and Nicole worked on the project as interns at Renfrw Institute.
Professional Development Field Trip to Shank’s Mill

Renfrew Institute’s staff visited Shank’s Mill near Fairfield, Pa., for a professional development experience.

The area that the mill is located in was home to many water-powered mills, and Shank’s Mill is believed to date from the early 19th century.

Current mill owners Nina and Tom Dolly provided a grand tour of the property where staff members saw the old millstones, a cider press, and authentic artifacts of the mill’s past.

Professional development activities are sponsored by Richard and Peggy Walsh, Donna and Tony Haugh, and Karen and Edmund Herald.

Photos by Tracy Holliday.
The 10th annual Salamander Scramble got underway at 8 a.m. sharp on July 4, 2017. Walking, running or “scrambling” in support of Renfrew Institute’s efforts to inform and inspire, our Team Salamander was remarkable in a very special 10th-Anniversary way!

Here’s what the team looked like on July 4, 2017...

- 78 Members
- 21 Youth – 57 Adults
- 13 First-timers
- 8 Charter members (participation since the 1st Annual in 2008!)
- 13 Scrambled from remote locations (3 in Raystown Lake, 2 in Montana, 2 in Utah, 3 in Annapolis, 3 in Hagerstown)
- Youngest Scrambler: Kensie Ledden, age 3 months
- Senior-most Scrambler: John Lefebure, age 74
- Most Family Members: The Mannings, 6 present
- Farthest traveled: James Kim, Bethany Bui, Bobby and Tu Mai from New Jersey
- Top Fundraiser: John Kelly, Winner of Orioles tickets for four

Fundraising Details
Scrambler pledges: $7,138
Sponsor support: $4,750
Record Scramble net proceeds in support of Renfrew Institute’s programs...

Just over...get ready for it...

$10,000!!!

Thanks to Our Sponsors!

LEAD SPONSOR: Arlene Unger, ReMax Associates, Inc.—Eco-tech Team Jerseys

Grove Bowersox Funeral Home—Icy Cool Finish Line Towels

Cornerstone Family Dentistry
John Hershey, III—Hershey Fitzsimmons Group

WACCO Properties, Inc.
Waynesboro Physical Therapy
Eichholz Flowers
Waynesboro Waterworks Car Wash

Thanks to Salamander Scramble Committee!
Jeremy Bowersox (Chair) Stephen Bui
Lori Eigenbrode John Hershey
Jeb Keller Sarah Klink
Fred & Beth Skroban Bob Correll (emeritus)

Thanks to our prize donors!

John and Erin Hershey—Orioles tickets for Four
Caledonia Golf Course—Foursome golf outing
River and Trail Outfitters—Mellow Water Float for Four
Waynesboro YMCA—(2) Three-Month Memberships
Gift cards from:
Active Life Solutions and Advanced Chiropractic Care
—Drs. Bui and Cao
(6) $25 discount codes for Active Life Solutions website and (1) pair of Vionic sandals
Waynesboro Municipal Golf Course
(2) 18-hole rounds/two laser caps
Mark and Sarah Klink—Outback and Amazon cards
Nicodemus Center for Ceramic Studies—Youth class
Waynesboro Water Works Car Wash—3 Deluxe Car Wash
Fred Skroban—Hammer Tumblers

Thanks also to volunteers—
Jenna Moreland and Genia Gordon of Sprint/Nextel
Rod and Lynn Teach and Shippensburg University intern Eric Peregod!

It takes true teamwork to create an event like this!
We are so grateful for this remarkable demonstration of support of Renfrew Institute’s activities in the community—

Go Team Salamander!!!
The 10th Anniversary Team Salamander Raised $1,000 for Each of the Event’s 10 years = $10,000!!!
Another Successful Pumpkin Fest
We stuffed a record 288 scarecrows, and even sold out of pumpkins!
We had 1,500 visitors + 200 wonderful volunteers + 54 donations. Net profit for the event was approximately $7,582! This amount will be shared equally by Renfrew Museum and Renfrew Institute.
We couldn’t have done it without all our wonderful volunteers!

Photos, clockwise: The field was full of pumpkins and we still sold out! David Hykes pours soup into the kettle. Face painting, scarecrows, and greeters in pumpkin outfits (Mount St. Mary students) all added to a fun fall day.

All photos by Trey Gelbach

Renfrew Institute’s Financial Health
2016–2017

Renfrew Institute Financial Statement 2016–17
(July 1, 2016–June 30, 2017)

Operating Income

| Membership | $33,839 |
| Bequests, Memorials | 7,616 |
| Student Fees | 46,981 |
| Grants/Sponsorships (educational, programs, publications, prof. dev., tech support) | 78,037 |
| Grants/Sponsorships (community events) | 13,317 |
| Grants/Today’s Horizon Fund | 26,000 |
| Fund Raisers (Pumpkin Fest, Recycle Yard Sale, Bay Supper, Salamander Scramble) | 55,526 |
| Other (special projects, interest, misc.) | 29,781 |
| Endowment Income | 7,098 |

TOTAL Capital Income $298,135

Operating Expenses

| Salaries, Benefits, FICA (faculty & admin.) | $200,526 |
| Community Events | 9,820 |
| Fund Raisers | 17,619 |
| Program Supplies, Printing, Postage (programs, office, tech, newsletter, etc.) | 19,080 |
| Prof’l Devel. & Chamber Memberships | 1,483 |
| Admin./Consult. Fees/Bank Fees | 2,416 |
| Phone/Internet/Equip. Maint. | 2,112 |
| Insurance | 3,490 |
| Misc. (petty cash, vol. apprec., mtg. snacks) | 267 |
| Facilities Contrib. (to Renfrew Museum) | 3,000 |
| Facilities Expense | 1,775 |
| Restricted Expense | 2,935 |

TOTAL Capital Expense $263,843

Renfrew Institute Assets as of 6/30/17

| 1% — Checking Account: $6,758 |
| 26% — Savings: $186,461 |
| <1% — Petty Cash: $100 (not on chart) |
| <.5% — Equipment: (less depreciation) (not on chart) $3,140 |
| 10% — M&T Money Mkt (operations reserve): $71,642 |
| 14% — Beneficial Interest in Perpetual Trust: $99,862 |
| 48% — Endowment Fund/M. Keller Fund: $338,700 (mutual funds & bonds investments) |
| 1% — Accounts Receivable: $8,712 |
| <1% — Prepaid Expenses: $329 (not on chart) |

TOTAL ASSETS: $715,704
Renfrew Institute’s Endowment Fund continues to grow, thanks in part to our attentive trustees, and to favorable market conditions over the past year. Of course, that growth is also thanks in great part to the generosity of our supporting members.

Although a portion of the endowment’s value lies in the financial security it provides for the future, there is great value in accessing the fund’s earnings to help support our annual operations budget. **In fact, the principal value continues to grow, standing at $352,648.31 as of the end of December 2017.** We were able to realize earnings of $7,038 for use in the 2016–17 operations budget, providing a valuable funding stream that helps keep the programming wheels in motion.

Thanks to the generosity of members during our annual supplemental giving campaign in 2016-17, we received 43 gifts designated for the endowment fund, totaling $10,655 newly invested in principal. Our current endowment/supplemental giving campaign (2017–18) has just gotten underway. If you’ve already made a donation, thank you for helping to grow this important nest egg.

Contributions to the endowment fund are accepted year round. Please make your check payable to Renfrew Institute (memo Endowment) and mail to:

Renfrew Institute
1010 East Main Street, Suite A
Waynesboro, PA 17268

You may also choose to include Renfrew Institute in your estate planning, or by making a gift of appreciated stock. Such gifts may be designated in support of our endowment, or for current use as we serve the community with programming today! Please call our office at (717) 762-0373 or email us at info@renfrewinstitute.org for more information.

Our sincere thanks to the following individuals and businesses that have made endowment donations since our last *Streamside* publication:

### $1,000–$2,500
- Leonora Bernheisel
- Greg & Debi Duffey
- William & Diane Nitterhouse Foundation
- John & Peggy Maynes
- Lucinda Potter, CPA
- Martz Plumbing, Heating & AC
- Angela Weagly

### $500–$999
- Mike Beck
- Carl & Bonnie Monk
- Eunice Statler
- Angela Grove Weagly
- Lynn MacBride

### $100–$499
- David & Ethel Boon
- Rob & Kathy Bostic
- Grace & Bob Brown
- George & Martha Buckey
- Matt & Megan Burton
- Bob & Terri Dee
- Paul Dunlap & Barbara Shank Dunlap
- Bill & Twila Flohr
- Franklin County Conservation District
- Bill & Liz George
- Steve Graham
- Dean & Dorothy Hebb
- Gregg & Lois Hershberger
- Blaine Holliday
- Melissa Graham Johns
- John & Martha Dudley Keller
- Barbara Kercheval
- Jerry & Mary Jo Kowallis
- Gregory & Diana Lyon Loftus
- Walter & Karen Manderson
- Noelker & Hull Associates
- Matt & Tana Oyer
- Betsy Payette
- Bill & Debbie Pflager

### $100–$499 Continued
- Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Richwine
- James & Barbara Rock
- Dr. & Mrs. Earl O. Strimple
- Doug Tengler
- Cole & Kathy Werble

### $1–$99
- Blubaugh’s Tire & Wheel Sales
- Jane & Ernie Charlesworth
- Susan Cipperly
- Ronald H. & Mary Jane Collins
- Becky Deitrich
- Barry & Lisa Donohoe
- Walter & Catherine Gembe
- Gregg Hershberger
- Vicki Hess
- Tracy Holliday & Kevin Ledden
- Beverly McFarland
- Ann Miller
- H. Clayton Moyer
- Mary Ellen Selvaggio & Patric Schlee
- Melodie & James Smith
- John Stouffer
- Mr. & Mrs. Michael Szynal
- Karen’s Custom Framing
- Greg & Laura White

Thanks so much…
…for helping us grow!
Four-Square Garden Class Quilt
Kathy Helfrick created this beautiful quilt, which gives students a bird’s eye view of the four-square garden before they begin their garden activities. It is used to teach the children about the various garden beds and plants, as well as the symbolism of garden’s design. Many thanks to Kathy for the gift of this lovely and colorful teaching tool!

Something wicked this way comes...
Annual Halloween Stories sent chills up the spine for a fun evening of spooky entertainment.

Storyteller Jennifer Vanderau (in photo above—which one is Jennifer?) held a rapt crowd spellbound during Halloween Stories. The event is sponsored by Patriot Federal Credit Union. Photo by Tracy Holliday.

Assistant director, Jessica Watson prepares the crowd for an evening of spooky tales. Photo by Tracy Holliday.
Chesapeake Bay Supper Fundraiser
Friday, June 22, 2018 • 5:30 PM
WAYNESBORO COUNTRY CLUB

Mark your calendars now! This event really IS all that it’s “cracked up” to be!

For more information, call (717) 762-0373 info@renfrewinstitute.org www.renfrewinstitute.org

Make plans now to be a part of this fabulous, fun & delicious event!

FirstEnergy Foundation
Lead Sponsor Blue Crab Level!

Don’t miss this FUN annual event!

Playing in the Creek...
Is WaterStrider Jack Hubbard contemplating making Melodie Anderson-Smith take a full plunge into the chilly waters of Antietam Creek? Or is he just holding that heavy thing (a rock-weighted leaf pack) until Melodie needs it? Being a stream monitor can be fun! Photo by Kirsten Hubbard.
Garden Volunteers Keep Us Growing!

All year round, a dedicated group of volunteers works to keep Renfrew Institute’s Four Square Garden beautifully maintained. The care provided by all these “green thumbs” is reflected in the bountiful garden!

Thanks for all your time and effort!

2016-17 Four Square Garden Volunteers:

- Becky Alfled
- JoEtta Brown
- Kathy Morrisey
- Michael Birt
- Barb Bailey
- Carolyn Crampton
- Leitha Rountree
- Maggie Rovelstad
- Shelley Benchoff
- Priscilla Harsh
- Andy Rovelstad
- Mike Hill
- Maxine Beck
- Patricia Keeney
- Lew Thomas
- Ben Bender
- Pat McClain
- Marilou Thomas
- Jane Birt
- Marty Zimmerman

Garden Wish List:

- Wheelbarrow for everyday use, modern is fine.
- A couple of 1800s-style wheelbarrows, one small “child size” and one medium-size (often available on eBay).
- Children’s garden gloves (15 pairs)
- Variety of gardening implements:
  - Pick
  - Small sledgehammer
  - Pitchforks (2)
  - Pruning shears (3)

Several of the institute’s garden volunteers gathered to enjoy a Christmas party and holiday festivities. Photo credit Trey Gelbach & Bruce Rowland.
Renewal Reminder

We are grateful for the many membership renewals coming in daily. If you haven’t renewed your membership, please consider doing so today!

We need and value your support!

Renew Online
Use link on homepage at:
www.renfrewinstitute.org
Or call us for a renewal form, 717-762-0373

Dear Renfrew Institute,
Thank you for a wonderful time at the owl walk! My brother and I really enjoyed ourselves. Although we didn’t see or hear any owls (and it was cold!), walking through Renfrew by moonlight was quite magical. I hope to do more owl walks in the future!

-Carly McFerren
2018 Calendar of Events — See our website for details!

All events supported in part by Today’s Horizon Fund contributors: The Nora Roberts Foundation; Alma W. Oyer; APX Enclosures, Inc.; The Carolyn Terry Eddy Family: Carolyn, with daughters Connie Pleagle & Kim Larkin; and the The John R. Hershey Jr. and Anna L. Hershey Family Foundation.

Note: Events that occurred before the publication date of this issue of Streamside have been included here. Many of these events happen annually...be sure to check our online calendar!

“SOAR” Fall/Winter Bird Walks 1st & 3rd Saturdays, Sept. 2–March 17 7:30 to 10 a.m. • Renfrew Park Larry & Sharon Williams lead bi-weekly bird walks along park trails. Free.

Creatures of the Night: Family Owl Walk Thurs., Nov. 2 • 6 p.m. Visitors Center, Renfrew Park Naturalist Lori Schlosser conducts a walk to areas of Renfrew Park likely to attract owls. Pre-registration required. Free.

Solar Eclipse Event Follow-up with Todd Toth Thurs., Nov. 16 6:30 p.m. • Visitors Center, Renfrew Park NASA scientist Todd Toth discusses the August 21 eclipse and NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center. Free.

Star Party Thurs., Dec. 7 • 6:30–8:30 p.m. • Backyard of the Renfrew Museum house, Renfrew Park In partnership with the Tri-State Astronomers. A telescope viewing of the night sky. Free.

NASA’s Citizen Science Programs Thurs., Jan. 11 • 6:30 p.m. Visitors Center, Renfrew Park NASA’s Todd Toth discusses citizen science program, GLOBE. Free.

Ukrainian Egg Workshop Sat., Jan. 20, 2018 • 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Visitors Center, Renfrew Park Create a pysanka, an intricately decorated egg, using techniques of the traditional Ukrainian folk craft. Hands-on instruction by Holly Olszewski. Workshop Fee: $25 for RI members, $30/non-member. 15 & up. Limit 10.

Astronomy: What Cassini Told Us About Saturn Thurs., February 1 7 p.m. • Visitors Center, Renfrew Park Presented in partnership with Tri-State Astronomers. Dr. Lawrence Marschall discusses the dramatic end of the Cassini spacecraft mission to Saturn. Free.

Creatures of the Night: Adult Owl Walk Thurs., February 8 • 6 p.m. (snow date TBA). Meet at Visitors Center, Renfrew Park Naturalist Lori Schlosser conducts an outdoor walk to areas of Renfrew Park likely to attract owls. Pre-walk information session. Age 15 & up. Limit 60. Pre-registration required. Free.

Lecture Series 2018: Keep the Wheels Turning I Thurs., March 8 7 p.m. • Visitors Center, Renfrew Park The Wheel That Grinds: Mills in Renfrew’s Past. Archaeologist Will Sheppard presents a program on the mills associated with the Royers, who settled the Renfrew property in the early 19th century. Free.

Telescope Clinic—How to Use Your Telescope! Sat., March 10 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Visitors Center, Renfrew Park Presented in partnership with Tri-State Astronomers. Maximize your use of a telescope. Pre-register for consultation time. Free.

Lecture Series 2018: Keep the Wheels Turning II Thurs., March 15 7 p.m. • Visitors Center, Renfrew Park Keeping Antique Cars Rolling Along. Bill Calimer presents a program on antique automobile wheels and how they are replicated for use today. Free.

Renfrew Rocks! The Rock Detective Strikes Again Thurs., April 5 7 p.m. • Visitors Center, Renfrew Park In partnership with the Franklin Co. Rock & Mineral Club. Geologist Jeri Jones presents a fun and educational program on the geology of the area between Gettysburg and Interstate 81. Free.

“SOAR” Spring Bird Walks Sat., April 7–May 26 • 7:30–10 a.m. Renfrew Park Naturalist Jack Olszewski leads weekly bird walks along trails in Renfrew Park. Walks begin at the lower parking lot off Welty Road. Free.

Joint Program with Antietam Watershed Association Thurs. in April, TBA • Visitors Center, Renfrew Park An educational program of local or regional environmental interest. Free.

Kite Fly Sat., April 14 • 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Field behind Museum house Free kite flying with expert help from Kite Masters Sam and George Adams. Bring your own kite. Build a Kite workshop 11:00 a.m.–12:30, $1.

Earth Celebration Day/Festival of Art/Recycle Yard Sale Sat., April 28 • 9 a.m.–3 p.m. Yard Sale, 11 a.m.–4 p.m. Earth Day Renfrew Park grounds Environmental exhibits, live music, food stand, and drum circle. Area artists will display, demonstrate, and sell their works. Shop or sell at yard sale!

Geology Field Trip: Stomping Through Time Sat., May 5 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Meet at Visitors Center, Renfrew Park Geologist Jeri Jones takes us “Stomping Through Time: The Great Valley and South Mountain.” Visit Specialty Granules (the “grit” mill) in Blue Ridge Summit, a prehistoric quarry, and other local sites. More details TBA. Adults only, age 15 and up. Transportation by bus only, provided. Pre-registration required. Fee: $50. Renfrew Institute member discount: $5 per seat. Bring bag lunch.

Public Forum: Tiny Creatures—Big Trouble Thurs., May 17 7 p.m. • Visitors Center, Renfrew Park Experts discuss ticks and the many problems they cause. Landscaping solutions and tips for staying tick free provided. Organized by Institute intern & Penn State University senior Ben Bender. Free.

Youth Festival Sunday, May 27 • 1–5 p.m. • Renfrew Park Grounds This fun, free event features a variety of workshops, demonstrations, activities, exhibits, and entertainment throughout the day. Theme TBA.

Birding Field Trips to Gettysburg Battlefield Sat., June 2 & 9 7:30 a.m. to approx. 10 a.m. Meet 7:30 a.m. at the Virginia Memorial on Confederate Avenue, on Gettysburg battlefield Led by naturalist Jack Olszewski. RSVP appreciated. For more information or directions, call Jack at 301-241-3846, or RI at 717-762-0373. Free.

Summer Institute June & July, dates and details TBA A variety of fun, educational activities for kids throughout the summer.

Shakespeare in Park Sat., June 16 • Time TBA Renfrew Museum Back Yard MEG (Maryland Entertainment Group) touring production of Hamlet. Free.

Bay Supper Fundraiser Friday, June 22 • 5:30 p.m. • Waynesboro Country Club Members, friends, and families come together to support the institute with food, fun, and frolic. Bay-themed menu with steamed blue crabs and Bay-related activities. Silent and live auctions. Reservations required.

Salamander Scramble Wed., July 4 • 8 a.m. • Waynesboro Summer Jubilee Held in conjunction with Fourth of July Jubilee Firecracker 5K Run. Lace up your running/walking shoes and join Team Salamander as we “scramble” around Waynesboro to raise funds for Renfrew Institute.

Jazz Festival Sunday, August 26 • 2–4 p.m. • Renfrew Museum Yard Annual jazz festival spotlights top professional artists with stellar performances that light up the outdoor stage with hot summer jazz. Details TBA.

Pumpkin Festival Sat., Oct. 20 • 11 a.m.–4 p.m. • Renfrew Park Exciting pumpkin-chuckin’ trebuchet, pumpkin carving, hayrides, live music, activities and fun games. Fundraising event benefits both Renfrew Institute & Renfrew Museum and Park. Admission fee.


Check our online calendar at www.renfrewinstitute.org for details on these & other great programs and events!
School programs are at the heart of Renfrew Institute. Children come to learn about the cultural heritage of Pennsylvania Germans—making butter, shredding kraut, weaving flax, and much more—and also about the role each of them plays in our natural world, experiencing the many wonders of the earth in our environmental programs.
Students learn to make traditional sauerkraut during the school program, *From Field to Table*. Photo by Tracy Holliday.