Volume 5, Issue 2

Spring 2014



Popular Barn Dance Returns

Put on your dancing shoes for a night of family fun as the Readington Museums hosts its bi-annual Barn Dance on Saturday, May 10, 2014 from 7:00-9:30 p.m.



The dance will be held inside the pre-Revolutionary War Wade-Wyckoff Barn at the Bouman-Stickney Farmstead located at 114 Dreahook Road in the Stanton section of Readington Township. This event is a wonderful way to have fun with the entire family as no experience is necessary. Caller Betsy Gotta will give easy to follow instructions before each dance so even a beginner will be able to dance the night away. There is a suggested donation of \$5.00 per adult and \$2.00 per child. For more information, call Program Director Margaret Smith at 908-236-2327.



Wanted: Garden Volunteers



Readington Museums is looking for volunteers to help maintain the gardens at the Bouman- Stickney Farmstead and/or the Eversole-Hall House. Volunteers can set up a schedule that fits their needs – from basic weeding to adopting the entire garden. It is a great opportunity for service projects or for scouts to finish badge requirements. Please call the Program Director, Margaret Smith for more information at 908-236-2327.





Students practice tin-smithing while making designs as part of the Partners in History School Program

Readington Museums

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Antique Clocks

First of the Friday Night Lecture Series

Do you have an antique clock that collects dust or just won't work? Do you want to know more about the history and designs of early American clocks? The Readington Museums opens their popular Summer Lecture Series *Antique Clocks – Made in America*, on Friday, June 27 beginning at 7:00 p.m. and ending at 8:30. Marty Ritter, specialist in 19th and 20th century American clocks, will explain how these clocks were designed and manufactured. Audience members are also encouraged to bring their own antique clocks for Mr. Ritter to discuss.

What started out as a hobby, Marty Ritter quickly turned into a business 18 years ago. His shop is located in Washington, Warren



County. Mr. Ritter also volunteers at Millbrook Village, a restored 19th century village just north of Blairstown in the Delaware Water Gap National Park as the "resident clock-maker".

This lecture is held inside the historic Wade-Wyckoff Barn located at the Bouman-Stickney Farmstead, 114 Dreahook Road in the Stanton section of Readington Township.

There is a \$5.00 suggested donation for adults. Refreshments will be served and reservations are not needed. For more information please call Program Director Margaret Smith at 908-236-2327 or visit www.readingtonmuseums.org.

Antique Tool Open House Draws Enthusiastic Crowd



Bob Garay shows his corner brace drill. Used to drill holes in tight corners in house construction.

During the Sunday, May 4th Open House, historic tool enthusiast Bob Garay showcased, Antique Tools of New Jersev. He displayed an eye opening assortment of spectacular tools that have survived the past 100+ years in fine condition. An emphasis was placed on the tools and tool makers of New Jersey. As visitors were encouraged to bring their own tools for a show-and-tell format, one particular man named Joel, brought original tomato boxes filled with antique planers as a gift for Mr. Garay. First belonging to Joel's father, the tools sat in the basement most of Joel's life. The tools were identified by Mr. Garay as late 19th century planers originating from Philadelphia.

Bob Garay is president of CRAFTS, the New Jersey antique tool club; has written articles for the *Tool Shed*, a publication of CRAFTS; has worked with the History Channel on their series about the history of tools, *The Toolbox*; and was recently a featured guest on WNTI radio show *Value This*, with Brian & Leon. Mr. Garay is a Navy veteran where he was a metal worker for six years, and a retired shop teacher where he emphasized the use of hand tools to develop craftsmanship.



Joel (right) presents Bob (left) with boxes of 19th century planers as gift.

Page 2 PARTNERS IN HISTORY

Photo Walk Take Two

In April, The Bouman-Stickney Farmstead played host to another successful photowalk. Beginning with a tour of the 1741 home, Program Director, Margaret Smith shared stories of the home's history while photographers recorded historical views with their cameras. Enthusiasts then hiked throughout the property and the 68 acres of trails and open space, all while snapping shots of emerging spring blossoms and capturing new wildlife.

Photographer, Donna Herrmann led the group while encouraging participants to exchange photo tips and tricks throughout the afternoon. Donna brought photographer "toys" such as a crystal ball to enhance the perspective of interesting views.

Donna Herrmann has been a photographer most of her life and has held several photo walks, exhibits, and has won numerous awards on the county & state levels. She offers on-location sessions, historical photo documentation, event coverage, and also provides freelance photography for the Hunterdon County Democrat. Donna Herrmann can be found at www.DAHerrmann.smugmug.com.





Monday Mornings in August at the Museums



We are pleased to announce the return of Monday Mornings at the Museum for kids ages 5-12. These handson craft programs will be held on four consecutive Mondays-August 4,11,18, and 25, between 10:00 a.m. and noon, and will be held at the Bouman-Stickney Farmstead.



Children will have a chance to make a historical or nature inspired craft with a new theme offered each week. The cost of each program is \$3.00 per child, per day.

Contact Program Director, Margaret Smith at Readington Museums to register, 908-236-2327 or readintonmusums@gmail.com



Page 3 VOLUME 5, ISSUE 2

Calendar 2014

The Bouman-Stickney Farmstead is located at 114 Dreahook Road, in the Stanton section of the township. Donation for all lectures and programs are gladly accepted.

Saturday, May 10

7:00-9:30 p.m.
Barn Dance with Betsy Gotta \$5.00 per adult and \$2.00 per child. Refreshments served.

Friday, June 27

7:00-8:30 p.m. Lecture: Marty's Clock Clinic Martin Ridder

Friday, July 25

7:00-8:30 p.m. Lecture: NJ Militiamen Larry Kidder

Friday, Aug 22

7:00-8:30 p.m. Lecture: Hunterdon County in the Civil War John Kuhl

Sunday, September 7

1:00-4:00 p.m. Open House

Sunday, October 5

1:00-4:00 p.m. Open Hearth Cooking Joan and David Healy

Saturday, October 18

7:00-9:30 p.m. Barn Dance with Betsy Gotta \$5.00 per adult and \$2.00 per child. Refreshments served.

Sunday, November 2

1:00-4:00 p.m. Open Hearth Cooking Connie Unangst

Sunday, December 7

1:00-4:00 p.m. Dutch Christmas