



Bridge Construction Complete

Next time you visit, or hike the trails of the Bouman Stickney Farmstead, take a minute to cross our brand new bridge and enjoy the view of the brook and heart shaped pond. The wooden post bridge adds to the charm of the property and is a replacement for the older bridge which was damaged in 2009. The Readington Museums wishes to thank Scott Jesseman, Scott Hulcher, Colby Hudecek, Wade Warner, and James Bolek of

Readington Township Public Works who built the beautiful bridge.

Hikers will be pleased to see a freshly painted kiosk and new trail map box located the parking area. The kiosk was renovated by Eagle Scout candidate Michael Biondo, of Troop 186 of Three Bridges. New trail markers were also added along the pathways. Please feel free to stop by and pick up one of several maps available.



The BSF as seen on the other side of tour new bridge just completed. Photo by John Costa

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Gunsmithing Open House Well Attended

With over thirty years experience in gunsmithing and colonial life, Harry Greenberger, demonstrated the fine art of producing a quality weapon to forty one visitors on Sunday September 11, many of whom stayed for the entire three hour program. Audience members listened to Mr. Greenberger talk about production of the Pennsylvania Long Rifle, incorrectly referred to today as the Ken-

tucky Long Rifle. He allowed visitors to hold a variety of different guns and even allowed two guests to fire one of his guns. Visitors were also given a tour of the Farmstead where they saw the new exhibit on previous owners Dorothy Stickney and Howard Lindsay. Open House Sunday programs are always held the first Sunday of the months Feb-May and Sept-December from 1:00-4:00 p.m.



Gunsmith Harry Greenberger explains to a visitor the intricacies of an 18th century Pennsylvania Long Rifle.

One for the Road: Ghost Tales of New Jersey



Interpreter, Katy Costa shares tales of ghostly happenings with guests.

Visitors to October's Sunday Open House program were treated to tales of haunted happenings of New Jersey. Program Director Kimberly Costa and daughter Katy Costa portrayed women of the past recounting ghostly happenings and spooky stories to a large

gathering of local families. The Ghostly tour began at the Wade-Wyckoff Barn with cider and cookies, then rotated throughout the Bouman-Stickney home for family friendly stories. Each story was based on real ghost tales of New Jersey during the 18th and early 19th centuries.



Last Newsletter?

In an effort to streamline the newsletter mailings, and to ensure it is going to those of you whom wish to receive it, we will be asking for your help early next year. A letter will be mailed to you containing a postcard, which we would ask you to mail back to us. The post card will list a variety of options you may choose from, including continued paper copy, PFD or please remove me from the list. It will help us reduce costs and streamline delivery. Your help in this effort will be GREATLY APPREICATED!

Christmas is Coming, the Lights are on the Tree

Please join us as we celebrate Dutch Saint Nikolaas Day, Sunday, December 4, from 1:00-4:00 p.m. Visitors to the Bouman-Stickney Farmstead will be treated to the sights and sounds of a real Dutch Christmas. Open Hearth cook Connie Unangst will be in the kitchen preparing Dutch foods. A font of food history knowledge, she will be happy to answer your questions about preparing a feast for the holidays. For those who wish to trip the floorboards there will be 18th

century dance lessons for guests of all ages. These country dances were part of any colonial gathering and are easy, family friendly and fun. No experience necessary! Guests will also have the opportunity to make a needle case to bring home with them. Finally stitched needle cases were often made by young people to give as small tokens to family members and friends during the holidays. The event is free, but donations are always graciously ac-



Open Hearth cook Connie Unangst will be on hand once again to treat visitors with the sites and smells of 18th century Dutch cookery.

cepted. Groups of more than six please call for a reservation.



Museum Assistant Margaret Smith helps students with their orthography.

Orthography, ciphering, recitation and map making were routine tasks for the fourth graders who traveled back in time during their visit to our

Fourth Grade Travels back in Time to 1828

1828 Cold Brook School. Wearing costumes students "toed the line" and passed a cleanliness check. During their orthography lesson, students proved to be experts as ABC Darians and spelling while writing on slates. They showed mastery of ciphering and map skills by calculating problems dictated by the school Mistress, and scaling a map of the property. Recitation was one of the most important skills of the time period. When a lesson was recited perfectly, the student could move on to a higher level. Educational theorists be-

lieved that recitation kept the brain from atrophy. So in the spirit of reenacting the 1828 lesson, the students prepared a moral verse to recite for the teacher. The students also enjoyed learning the skill of the quill pen. They practiced dipping the pen into the inkwells and forming loops and lines into their copy books. The most exciting part of the day was recess and snack. After playing with hoops and sticks, and tag, the students enjoyed delicious bread with jam and apple cider.

Readington Museums
114 Drea-hook Road
PO Box 216
Stanton NJ 08885



Calendar 2011-12 All programs held at the Bouman-Stickney Farmstead unless noted

The Bouman-Stickney Farmstead is located at 114 Drea-hook Road, in the Stanton section of the township. \$5.00 suggested donations for all lectures and programs.

2011

Sunday, November 6
1:00-4:00 pm
Open Hearth Cooking

Sunday, December 4
1:00-4:00 pm
Dutch Saint Nikolas Day

2012

Sunday, February 5
1:00-4:00 pm
Cooking with Mother Goose

Sunday, March 4
1:00-4:00 p.m.
Hand-painted floor cloths

Sunday April 1
1:00-4:00 p.m.
Lace making demonstration

Sunday, May 6
1:00-4:00 p.m.
TBA

Saturday, May 19
7:00-9:30 p.m.
Barn Dance

Friday, June 29
7:00 p.m.
Lecture: Finding Polly Bergen
with author Sue Huesken

Friday July 27
7:00 p.m.
Lecture: The Camden and Am-
boy Railroads with John
Kilbride

Friday, August 31
7:00 p.m.
Lecture: TBD