

# Wentz Post

A Periodic Publication Of The Peter Wentz Farmstead Society In Conjunction With The Farmstead Staff Featuring News, Views And Activities...

## Gracious Gifts from Dr. Godshall

By Morgan McMillan

The Peter Wentz Farmstead Society recently received a generous gift of two pieces of fraktur originally from the Skippack-Salford area. Dr. Richard Godshall has been a collector of Pennsylvania German decorative arts for many years. His gift includes a fraktur by Joseph Cassel from 1841 and an unsigned fraktur beginning "An gottes Gnad und Milten segen..." that is probably from the late 1700s. These two hand-drawn and lettered documents reflect the style of fraktur produced by Mennonite schoolmasters in this region.

Both of these pieces were probably created by schoolteachers as gifts or rewards for their students. The Joseph Cassel fraktur is a religious text produced for Sarah Kemer. The "An gottes Gnad und Milten segen..." fraktur is an example of a *Vorschrift*, or writing sample. "An gottes Gnad und Milten segen..." begins the first two verses of an acrostic hymn, which are followed by another text and then a sample alphabet. **(Continued on page 4)**



Fraktur gifts shown by Dr. Godshall

## 2007 Society Scholarships Awards

by Carol Berardelli

The Peter Wentz Farmstead Society is very pleased to announce that three academic scholarships were awarded for 2007. John Karavage, a Kutztown University student from Ashland, PA, who has a major in Citizen Education and History and a minor in Pennsylvania German Studies, was awarded the Albert T. and Elizabeth R. Gamon Scholarship of five thousand dollars. **(Continued on page 6)**

## Reuniting the Historic Farm Land and Families

By Dianne Cram

Another chapter in the history of the Peter Wentz Farmstead was written on December 21, 2006 when Montgomery County Commissioners unanimously gave their consent to purchase the 19.96 acre farm of Robert and Doris Rothenberger that adjoins the Farmstead land. Funding for the purchase of the farm came from Montgomery County's Open Space Plan. **(Continued on page 3)**



Robert and Doris Rothenberger

**Peter Wentz Farmstead Society Board**

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 Wentz Post.....Dick Anderl  
 Albert Fritz

**Mission Statement**

The mission of the Peter Wentz Farmstead Society is to preserve and interpret the 18th century Pennsylvania German farmstead established by the Wentz and Schultz families, which is now on the National Register of Historic Places. The Society's goal is to stimulate public interest and support the site's heritage through educational programs and public events focusing on the architecture, crafts, customs, and furnishings of the period.

**Peter Wentz Farmstead Hours of Operation**

Tuesday - Saturday 10:00 AM-4:00 PM  
 Sunday 1:00-4:00 PM  
 Last Tour 3:30 PM

Closed Mondays and holidays.

New Year's Eve  
 New Year's Day  
 President's Day  
 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  
 Good Friday  
 Easter Sunday  
 Memorial Day  
 Flag Day  
 Fourth of July  
 Labor Day  
 Columbus Day  
 Election Day  
 Veteran's Day  
 Thanksgiving Day  
 Christmas Eve  
 Christmas

Reservations required for group tours.

Admission: FREE!

The Farmstead is located on Shearer Road in Worcester, PA, near the intersection of Routes 73 and 363 in Montgomery County.

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**Wentz Post**

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**Welcome New Members**

*By Donna Armstrong*

Leroy T. Allan Family  
 Scott D. Armstrong Family  
 Jonathon G. Carson Family  
 Sheldon Carter Family  
 Chambliss/MacKenzie Family  
 Adam D. Dakin Family  
 David E. Diehl Family  
 Jay T. Hendricks Family  
 Edward M. Horvath Family  
 Thomas M. Johnson Family  
 John Lennon Family  
 Elba R. Lopez Family  
 Gerald J. Rojewski Family  
 Stephen J. Rossi Family

**(Reuniting the Historic Farm Land and Families - continued from page 1)**

This purchase reunites the two farms that were once part of the original 300 acre Wentz farm in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The history of the Rothenberger farm dates to 1818 when Melchior Schultz, who purchased the Wentz farm in 1794, subdivided his land to give his daughter Rosina and her husband Melchior Kriebel 60 acres on the south side of Zacharias Creek. A house was built in 1818 and further added to in the 1840s. Throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century ownership of the farm passed to Rosina and Melchior's son Ephraim and then onto his daughter Amanda Kriebel who married Edwin Rothenberger. Their son, Alvin K. Rothenberger, was born in 1896 and farmed the land throughout the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Alvin served as a County farm agent from 1912 to 1924. He raised chickens and operated a dairy farming enterprise. His son, Robert M. (Robbie) Rothenberger continued in the footsteps of his ancestors as a farmer and eventually inherited nearly 20 acres of the farm that had grown to 121 acres. Six generations of one family drew their living from this land, building, and at the same time preserving, a rich history.



Rothenberger home and summer kitchen, circa 1818 with 1840's addition

There is no doubt about how Robbie feels about his heritage. He chose to sell the farm to the County to ensure its continued preservation rather than selling to private individuals or potential developers. The Rothenbergers clearly made efforts to carefully renovate the old house, the barn and other structures. The farmhouse and the attached summer kitchen retain much of the 19<sup>th</sup> century exterior appearance. Other buildings on site include a tenant house built circa 1865 with a 1929 addition to the rear and a large mid 19<sup>th</sup> century stone bank barn with attached wagon shed and mid 20<sup>th</sup> century silos. A 1860s one and a half story brick structure served as a slaughter house, creamery and ice house with a meat/milk cold storage cellar beneath. Another "new barn" built in the 1930s served as a large chicken house. There is great potential to eventually develop and restore this farm to tell the continuing story of generations of Pennsylvania German farmers in Montgomery County right through the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

For the interim, Robbie and his wife Doris will continue to lease back the house from the County. The Peter Wentz Farmstead staff will begin to take on the care of the additional land and the farm's outbuildings. A master planning process is slated to begin in 2007 that will ultimately give the County a clear picture of the eventual progression of developing this site and making it accessible to the public. This has been a long awaited and hoped for acquisition. The Farmstead has regained a portion of the original land and the County has gained an important piece of history.



The Rothenberger home as viewed from the Farmstead



### (Gracious Gifts from Dr. Godshall - continued from page 1)

Both pieces are attributed to the Skippack/Lower Salford region because of their stylistic consistency with fraktur produced by schoolmasters at Mennonite schools in this area. Prior to 1850, schools in Pennsylvania were connected with religious institutions. Mennonite schools were not only attended by Mennonite students but were open to all children in the area. Teachers were paid directly by the parents per student. Joseph Cassel is thought to have been a school teacher, and the Cassel family had been teachers in the region for about 75 years by the time he created this fraktur. His artwork is unsurprisingly similar to that on fraktur by schoolteachers Christian Cassel and Hubert Cassel from the 18<sup>th</sup> century. It is even possible that Joseph lived in Worcester Township at some point in his life. A significant portion of the extended Cassel family had been landowners in Worcester since the late 18<sup>th</sup> century.

The two fraktur are currently at the Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts in Philadelphia for an evaluation of their condition and a proposal for treatment. We will keep you updated on their progress and let you know when the fraktur is on display in the Wentz house.

Many thanks to Dr. Godshall for his generosity in making this gift!

## Fabulous Fraktur

By Morgan McMillan

Pennsylvania Germans are well-known for the colorful decorations they applied to any number of objects. Furniture, glassware, and tinware were painted with bright patterns, and books and documents were sometimes brightly decorated as well. These decorated documents, as well as ink and water-color pictures in the same artistic style, are collectively known as fraktur. The word *fraktur* comes from the “fractured” design of the lettering. This type of folk art is a version of the illuminated writing produced for hundreds of years in Europe.

Fraktur appears in many forms. The most common type among German Reformed and Lutherans are baptismal certificates called *Taufscheine*. Since Mennonites do not practice infant baptism, Mennonite fraktur often comes in the form of religious texts and penmanship samples or *Vorschriften* produced by schoolmasters as rewards of merit for students. Pennsylvania Germans of many religious persuasions decorated the title pages of hymnbooks and Bibles and produced book plates and family records. The artistic renderings of flowers, birds, and other motifs that were used to decorate these documents were sometimes produced by themselves, without text.



In the eighteenth and early nineteenth century, most fraktur were completely hand-drawn and lettered. During the 19<sup>th</sup> century, machine-printed certificate blanks for baptismal certificates and similar documents became popular. The personal information was lettered by hand on these printed *Taufscheine* and the images surrounding the text were often hand colored.

To learn more about fraktur, look for these books: *This Teaching I Present: Fraktur from the Skippack and Salford Mennonite Meetinghouse Schools 1747-1836* by Mary Jane Lederach Hershey; *Bucks County Fraktur* edited by Cory M. Amsler; and *Fraktur Writings and Folk Art Drawings of the Schwenkfelder Library Collection* by Dennis K. Moyer. Come visit these books in our library!

## Albert T. and Elizabeth R. Gamon Scholarship

One of the most important requirements for the Albert T. and Elizabeth R. Gamon scholarship award from the Society is a written essay explaining how the student's educational pursuits will benefit the promotion of Pennsylvania German history and culture. We thought our readers and members would enjoy the following essay written by John Karavage, the 2007 recipient from Kutztown University, and learn of his interests, philosophy and accomplishments.

### Gamon Scholarship Application Essay by John Karavage

Explain why you are interested in obtaining the Albert T. and Elizabeth R. Gamon Scholarship and how your educational pursuits will benefit the promotion of Pennsylvania German History and Culture.

A few semesters ago I took on a project in my college Honors Pennsylvania History class where I focused on several aspects of the Pennsylvania German Culture. This project began when I was searching a Pennsylvania German Bank Barn and discovered a cluster of old rusted and broken apart pieces of cast iron parts which no one knew anything about. Essentially, this discovery began a journey, starting with the rusted/broken pieces and ending with a fully restored 1906 Caldron Furnace; which is now on display at the Pennsylvania German Cultural Heritage Center. Along the journey I not only discovered thousands of facts about the artifact and Pennsylvania German Culture, I also discovered a strong personal interest developing for the Pennsylvania German Culture. This interest evolved through my in-depth research where I had the opportunity to meet and speak with many Pennsylvania German scholars and historians such as Dr. Don Yoder, William Woys Weaver, Dr. David Valuska and Dr. Robert Reynolds. Furthermore, I also met a variety of men and women within the Pennsylvania German Community, whose personal stories and lives gave me an intimate glimpse at a unique and interesting culture. Basically, turning my interest into a passion; not only for learning all I could about the culture, but also doing all I can to help its legacy

last into the future.

My interest and passion is why I am interested in obtaining the Albert T. and Elizabeth R. Gamon Scholarship. It would give me the opportunity and honor to take part in several different projects where the end results mirror the one I just explained. Such projects, if I was to receive the scholarship, would be done through work/interning with the Pennsylvania German Heritage Center on Kutztown University's campus during the summer of 2007. During this time I would complete many different projects, all of which promote the history and preservation of the Pennsylvania German Culture. Projects ranging from the preservation of Pennsylvania German buildings, to archiving Pennsylvania German manuscripts, photos, books and even creating certain Pennsylvania German historical exhibits. In the end, the work I would be a part of would give me a much stronger background and a chance for additional personal experiences to build upon the knowledge of information I have gained through pursuing the Pennsylvania German Studies minor, experiences and knowledge that I believe would be invaluable in pursuing my interest in this amazing and exciting culture.

It is my belief that in order for the Pennsylvania German Culture to stay strong and maintain its

unique and interesting features that the younger generation must be involved both personally and educationally. For this reason, the past few years I have been a part of several different projects within the Pennsylvania German community. Examples such as promotion by working the Kutztown Festival, preservation by taking part in restoration work at the Pennsylvania German Heritage Center and the Hottenstein Mansion and educationally through my process of attaining the Pennsylvania German Studies minor at Kutztown University. It is my hope to obtain this scholarship and have many more opportunities to promote and preserve such an interesting culture. Also, to perhaps serve as a positive example for other young students, showing them the importance of promoting, preserving and learning about a culture that has grown to be a part of me; the culture of the Pennsylvania Germans.

**(2007 Society Scholarships Awards continued from page 1)**

**John Karavage** will apply his award towards his studies at Kutztown University and research at the Pennsylvania German Cultural Center which is located on the Kutztown campus. John has been a student curator at the Center and has been greatly involved there with historic restoration, research and the setting up of exhibits.

The Peter Wentz Farmstead Society Scholarship which is a five hundred dollar award, was given to two of our Farmstead volunteers who are seniors in high school.

One recipient is **Michael Morse**, who attends Plymouth Whitemarsh High School and will be attending college in the fall. Michael has been an apprentice at the Farmstead for several years. His involvement at Peter Wentz goes back to third grade when he attended summer Colonial Camp. Michael has worked at the Farmstead in many capacities, as a guide, demonstrator and even as Belsnickel's escort.

The other recipient is **Allison Reinert** who attends North Penn High School. Allison has also been a volunteer for a few years and has served the Farmstead in the many costumed roles that the apprentices are asked to assume at our various events. Allison worked at Colonial Camp in the summer and has also worked with the Goshenhoppen historians. She will be attending Southern Methodist University in September.

We wish to congratulate these creative, energetic and bright young people and are proud that the Society can support a part of their education.

## PWFS Scholarship Application Essay by Michael Morse

A student can only learn so much, studying history from textbooks, even with the most dedicated of teachers. Being able to "re-live" history, however, totally changes the learning process by opening magical doors into the past. Having the opportunity to be a part of the Peter Wentz Farmstead as volunteer and interpreter has given me just that good fortune to encounter history:"firsthand" and hands-on, by opening doors into Montgomery County's 18<sup>th</sup> century Pennsylvania German past.

In class we read about events but experience them through 21<sup>st</sup> century eyes. We memorize important dates but do not appreciate their true significance. Teachers show us pictures of what life was like but these do not help us understand the nitty-gritty of daily life.

The Farmstead has filled these gaps. In third grade, starting in the Colonial Day Camp, I was shown how to care for farm animals, how to make butter, play colonial games, dip candles, cook colonial fare, and other daily activities. Those first introductions into hardships and the involvement of the whole family in the backbreaking and unending work needed to make things we take for granted such as bread, soap, and clothes were eye-openers for me. I now appreciate the good aspects of industrialization and 21<sup>st</sup> century life more. The workshops and events I attended and fellow "living historians" I met over the years have also proved invaluable for giving me a fuller picture of early American life.

As I grew older I volunteered more, giving occasional house tours and joining annual events such as the Colonial Day Camp, Candlelight Tours and Laerenswaert. For me both learning about the Farmstead's specific history (the Wentz and Schultz families) and its broader historical context (General George Washington's stay during the difficult period before Valley Forge) have definitely been worth learning!

When not a 21<sup>st</sup> century high school senior I am an 18<sup>th</sup> century farmhand, wearing linen shirt and homespun breeches, threshing wheat by hand. My transformation transports me back more than two and a half centuries to 1744 when the Wentz farmstead started. Thirty-three fateful years later Washington used it as emergency headquarters. I mentioned above how dates often are just dates to most of us, even those imprinted on our national consciousness (e.g., July 4, 1776), but walking the same floorboards as Washington did in the fall of 1777 adds depth to my understanding of those extremely hard times – just before his army's brutal winter encampment at Valley Forge.

I am interested in the Peter Wentz Farmstead Society's award because it will help me expand on my love of history in college. The idea of enrolling in more selective history courses is exciting. I suspect that my Farmstead experiences might continue to continue to open doors into the past and the future, especially combining my love of history with film production, my intended major. Perhaps, the Farmstead just might be the "star" of the next blockbuster historical film!

## Servitude Program at the Farmstead by Kimberly Boice

On Saturday May 19<sup>th</sup> from 10am-3pm, visit the Farmstead to learn about the experiences of servile labor in Montgomery County during the late 18<sup>th</sup> through early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. This program will include first-person interpretations by skilled historians of African-American members of the Continental Army, farm laborers, and indentured domestic servants- including the topics of home healthcare and medicines, open-hearth cooking, and childrearing practices.

Joe Becton will portray a former slave working in the Continental Army as a member of the First Rhode Island Regiment. Karen Dougherty will interpret the hired Wentz cook while interacting with Hannah, General Washington's enslaved cook, as reenacted by Ajena Rogers. Ruth Konrad will depict a woman hired to take care of the Wentz children. Noah Lewis will represent Edward "Ned" Hector, a well documented teamster and artilleryman of the Third Pennsylvania Artillery Company. John Sexton brings his knowledge of colonial blacksmithing to the program by portraying a farm hand that was responsible for the care of the horses. Chris Witmer will interact with visitors as a Pennsylvania Dutch redemptioner working for a family in southeastern Pennsylvania. The first-person format will allow visitors to interact with each persona in a way typically not proffered on-site. Each visitor will receive a brochure noting the various peoples represented and general site information to properly acclimate them with this format. Interpreters will be able to "step out" of character to permit a more informal discussion with visitors and to answer questions.



### Servitude in Montgomery County

Visit with historians located throughout the Site to learn more about the various types of servitude used throughout the region during the colonial period.

Slavery ~ Indentured ~ Hired  
Farm Laborer ~ Domestic



This program has been supported in part by the Pennsylvania Humanities Council, the Federal-State Partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities and also by the funds provided by the Peter Wentz Farmstead Society. We hope you will join us for this innovative program and experience this aspect of history for yourself.

## Summer Camps, New & Full by Kimberly Boice

This summer will prove quite busy due to the two camps offered. Each will provide campers with an opportunity to learn about colonial life in a hands-on format.

I am pleased to offer a half-day summer camp for children aged four and five years old, *Wentz Wonder Kids Camp*. With the guidance and assistance of Linda McMillan, a local preschool teacher and mother to Morgan and Matthew, we have developed a program that will educate and entertain this inquisitive group of young people. Each day will have a general theme related to the site and activities that coordinate with the theme. For example, "I wonder what the bugs, trees, and plants looked like?" day will find the kids observing the water life found in the Zacharias Creek and walking along portions of the nature trail. As of printing, this camp still has a few openings, so be sure to register your youngster today.

However, *Colonial Camp* is already full with campers eager to attend. After last year's deluge that forced a number of the craftspeople to cancel, I can only hope that this year will be less eventful concerning the weather. I look forward to meeting the new campers and getting reacquainted with those that have returned for another fun and educational week.

Many thanks to all who provide their assistance during the busy week of camp...only a few more months to go!

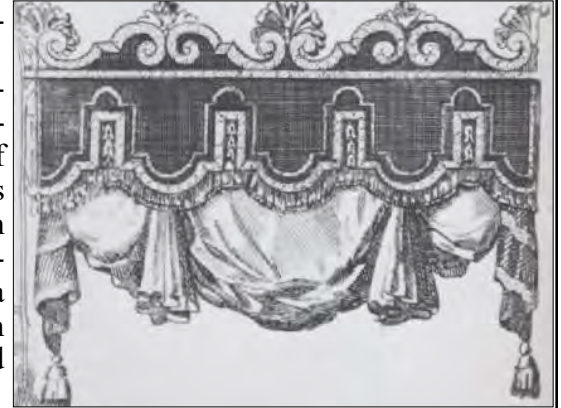
# Historic American Window Treatments: Colonial Period 1700-1776

By Diane Richardson

An historic perspective of window coverings is invaluable to correct interpretation in American period museums and private homes. Although styles evolve on a continuum, identifiable designs can be attributed to specific time periods. In this article, we will delve into the styles of window coverings popular during the Colonial Era.

Sources of information for the study of historic window treatments include pattern books, historic art, invoices and inventories, advertisements and extant window treatments. A survey of inventories from the Philadelphia County Court House reveals that only one in ten listed window treatments in the early 18<sup>th</sup> Century. Between 1700 and 1775, the number of window treatments doubled in the Philadelphia area. City homes were ten times more likely to list window treatments as were homes in the country. Households of the wealthy, merchants, tradesmen and widows accounted for most of the window treatments during the Colonial Period.

Three types of fabric window treatments prevailed during the Colonial Era and these were Venetians, festoons and straight-hung. The Venetian style window treatment consisted of fabric hung from the top of the window. In the “down” position the fabric hangs straight but is pulled up via cords. The illustration of a Venetian is from the design book by Daniel Marot, Amsterdam, circa 1707. This particular example is drawn up under a stiff upholstered valance. The Philadelphia Museum of Art has reproduced a Venetian in one of the American rooms. One can also view a more simple style of Venetian, comprised of green wool baize, at Independence Hall.



Venetian Style Window Treatment

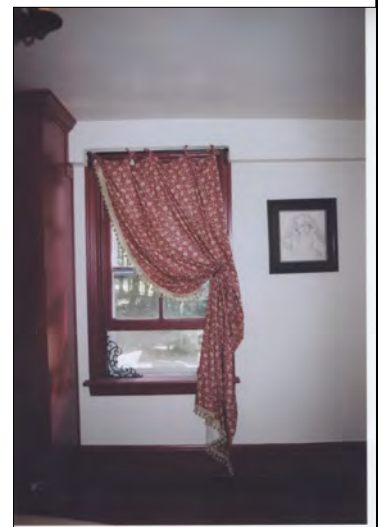


The festoon is the second type of window covering popular during the Colonial Era. Stenton located in Germantown, built in 1730 by James Logan, assistant to William Penn, owns extant festoon curtains. Festoons were hung from the top of the window and pulled diagonally to the sides by cords. Reproductions of these important festoons hang in an upstairs bedroom at Stenton. The windows at Stenton also sport interior wooden shutters commonly found during the Colonial Period to keep out direct light, retain heat and provide security.

Festoons at Stenton in Germantown

The third type of cloth window covering found during the Colonial Era was referred to as straight hung or alternately curtains. This type of soft window covering was simple sill-length single or double width of fabric gathered on a wooden rod or hung from tape loops or cloth straps. This type of window treatment was likely to be found in homes of modest means rather than festoons or Venetians.

Diane Richardson is the owner of an interior design firm, Richardson Interiors, located in Wyndmoor, PA. She is actively involved in the field of historic preservation and research of historic interiors and has been a volunteer and long time supporter of the Peter Wentz Farmstead.



Straight hung curtain in 1730 farmhouse

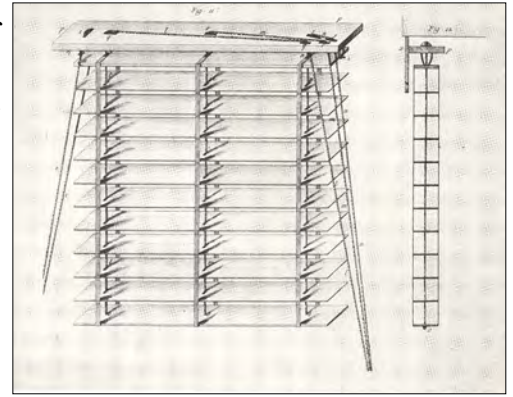
(Continued on page 9)



**(Window Treatments continued from page 8)**

Amazingly, Venetian blinds were available before the third quarter of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century. The earliest known advertisements for window blinds date from 1767 when John Webster offered to the public: “the newest blinds for windows on the best principles, stain’d to any color, moves to any position, so as to give different lights.”

According to a purchase order from August 3, 1768, Benjamin Chew, the owner of Cliveden in Germantown, purchased from Jonathan Gostelow, Philadelphia cabinetmaker, two altering window blinds for 0.3.0 pounds. Therefore the current interpretation of Cliveden features wooden Venetian blinds.



Wooden Venetian blinds

Montgomery, Florence M. *Textiles in America 1650-1870*, New York, W. W. Norton & Company 1984

## President's Report by Sally Graybill

Welcome to all the new Society members, many of them families of 2007 Colonial Campers. Membership is key to our strong organization. Round up your neighbors, families and friends and bring them out to the Farmstead to enjoy some of the many excellent programs planned throughout the year.

Many thanks to Donna Armstrong and June Morse for the excellent job they do keeping Society membership records and reminders up to date. These ladies spend hours each month on the job and they are greatly appreciated.

Dr. Richard Godshall's donation of two fraktur adds a new dimension to the Society's collection. Thank you, Dr. Godshall for your very generous gifts.

Welcome to new Board members Lee Leslie who is serving as Society Treasurer, Dini Vigliano as Corresponding Secretary, and Richard L'Ecuyer as Director. The Board of Directors, a dedicated group of folks, meet regularly to guide and govern Society activities.

Montgomery County's acquisition of the adjacent Rothenberger property holds great potential for development and the Society eagerly awaits plans for the site.

The Scholarship Committee, chaired by Carol Berardelli, has spent many hours developing an excellent program. Congratulations to 2007 scholarship winners, Allison Reinert, Michael Morse and John Karavage.

Thank you to Melanie Kilgannon and her group of helpers who provide outstanding hospitality for the Society's Spring and Fall Meetings and to all the other volunteers who give so generously of their time and talent. We couldn't do it without you!

## Letter from the Administrator By Dianne Cram

A great chapter in the history of the Peter Wentz Farmstead has just recently been realized – the long awaited for and hoped for acquisition of the adjacent Rothenberger farm. The County's purchase of the farm reunites the land with what was once part of the Wentz/Schultz farm. This also brings together the history of families; Schultz, Kriebel and Rothenberger, who have been the stewards of this farm for generations. It is to their combined efforts that we must give credit for being the first concerned with preservation of their heritage and the land they loved. It is now our turn to carry on the responsibility of preserving the tradition and the rich history of this farm.

Too many of our historic landmarks and landscapes quickly disappear in the name of development throughout this region. We can now breathe a sign of relief knowing that at least a small, albeit important, acreage has been saved. And we look forward to expanding the interpretation of the Peter Wentz Farmstead to include the rest of the story of Pennsylvania German farmers lovingly tending the land that has nurtured their families for generations.

**Calendar of Events  
Spring 2007**

***Colonial Revival Gardens***

**Guest Speaker: Jenny Rose Carey**

Thursday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 7pm

Whether you wish to improve your own garden or recreate a revival garden, join us for an evening with the director of the Landscape Arboretum of Temple University Ambler, Jenny Rose Carey. Program held at the Farmer's Union Hall of the Worcester Township Historical Society (Rt.363/Valley Forge Rd.).

**Servitude in Montgomery County**

Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup> from 10am-3pm

Visit with interpreters located throughout the site to learn more about the various types of servitude, slavery, indentured, domestic & farm laborers, used throughout the County during the colonial period.

***Colonial Treats with Martha Washington: Celebrating 276 Years***

Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10am-3pm

Enjoy the sights and aromas of colonial era foods as you learn more about the life of the first First Lady, Martha Washington, in celebration of her 276<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**Colonial Camp**

Monday-Friday, June 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> from 9am-3pm

Students entering fourth through sixth grade have the opportunity to attend a week-long, hands-on camp to learn about childhood of the colonial period.

**Pre-registration required & fee charged.**

**Lenni Lenape Culture**

**Guest Speaker: Darius Puff**

Saturday, July 14<sup>th</sup> (time and location to be determined)

Visit the site to learn more about Lenape culture and folklore from Lenape tribe member, Darius Puff.

**Pretzels of the Colonial Period**

Saturday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> from 10am-3pm

Try twisting your own pretzel as you learn more about the long history of this Pennsylvania German treat.

**Laerenswaert**

Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup> from 10am-3:30pm

A hands-on colonial crafts fair with demonstrations of domestic and agricultural skills "worth learning". Also includes house tours by costume interpreters, military camp life, and open-hearth cooking.

***Celebrating a Pennsylvania German Christmas***

**Guest Speaker: Nancy Roan**

Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 7pm

The Pennsylvania Germans that lived and worked in this region maintained much of their folk culture, especially at holidays. Learn more about their Christmas traditions from Nancy Roan, Goshenhoppen Region historian. Program held at the Farmer's Union Hall of the Worcester Township Historical Society.  
(Rt.363/Valley Forge Rd.).

**Mincemeat for the Season**

Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup> from 10am-3pm

Visit the Summer Kitchen to learn about this period dish that allowed for the use of meat throughout the winter season.

**Candlelight Tour**

Saturday, December 1<sup>st</sup> from 2-8pm

The Farmstead will be all aglow to offer the experience of a traditional Pennsylvania German holiday celebration, including a visit from *Belsnickel*-St. Nicholas in furs.

**Museum Shop** *by Phyllis Yergey and Charlotte Herman*

We've put the snowmen and snowladies to rest for the warmer weather. In their place you'll discover attractive rain gauges to measure the Spring showers and a large gourd birdhouse. Many new items are in the Museum Shop. Check out our new redware and the clay animals adorning the windows. Our puddle duck and baby birds are carved by hand, made in America. Discover hand forged nails, butter mold, herb crushers, and spatulas hanging from the pegs. Once again, we have a portable writing box displayed on an attractive woven runner. For the young folks, there are kits to create a basket or Jamestown Pouch, birdhouse or they can learn to crochet or embroider a picture. Deaccessioned books from the Peter Wentz Farmstead Library will be on sale at very reasonable prices.

**The William Penn Connection in Bucks County**

**William Penn, the founder of Pennsylvania, realized his dream of creating a colony in the new world where men and women could worship as they pleased without threat of imprisonment.**

**Join the PWFS Thursday, June 21, 2007 for a trip to Pennsbury Manor and Fallsington. Wrap up the day at Peddler's Village and enjoy dinner at the Cock and Bull Restaurant.**

**Call the Farmstead for additional information (610-584-5104).**

# Membership in the Peter Wentz Farmstead Society

Our Society continues to grow, and if you are not already a member, please join us. There are two meetings a year which feature speakers and/or slides and movies on subjects of historical interest. Your membership fee entitles you to discounts on our day trips and overnight excursions to historical sites, discounts on selected museum shop purchases, and a subscription to our newsletter. Join us in the worthwhile project of preserving the 18th century way of life at the Farmstead. The PWFS is registered as a 501(c)(3), not for profit organization. Donations are tax deductible.

**Please Print:**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

(Company, if applicable)

Address \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

(Street)

(Town and State)

(Zip)

Check if:  Wentz descendant  Schultz descendant

Check one:  New member  Please renew my membership

Check one:

- Student ..... \$10.00
- Individual ..... \$20.00
- Senior Family (both over 65) . \$25.00
- Family Membership ..... \$30.00
- Life Member..... \$500.00
- Business Sponsorship.....Contact us for details

Additional donation:..... \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount enclosed:..... \_\_\_\_\_

Please contact me concerning volunteer activities

Mail to:  
Peter Wentz Farmstead Society  
P.O. Box 240  
Worcester, Pa. 19490-0240

610-584-5104

WENTZ POST  
Peter Wentz Farmstead Society  
Route 73 and Shearer Road  
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