

Wentz Post

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

WILLIAM BOURNE: The Farmstead's Artist for All Seasons

By Dick Anderl

A very grateful thank you to William Bourne for creating and donating the beautiful cover for the "Peter Wentz Cooks" cookbook. We are particularly appreciative that he did it for us on very short notice.

William "Bill" Bourne, who has lived in Worcester for more than 46 years is a watercolorist, dedicated to painting landscapes of the area's vanishing countryside and the old structures that adorn it.

Born in Abington and raised in Glenside and Lower Providence, Bill, 79, and his wife of 57 years, Virginia, settled in Worcester when they decided to start their family. Artistically inclined all of his life, Bill, a World War II Navy veteran and a retired draftsman and proprietor of a silk-screen business, taught himself to paint. Bill formed Bourne Graphics, and it has been at the current location for 38 years and 11 years at a previous location. Bill's son, Rik, and daughter-in-law, Wendy, have been running the business since 1995.

He started doing watercolors in 1965 as a hobby, finding it a way to relax and get away from the precision that's required when doing commercial art. Most of the landscapes he paints are within five miles of his home.

Bill has had a long time interest in the Peter Wentz Farmstead and has enjoyed watching it develop since the County bought it. He has painted over a dozen watercolors of

the Farmstead, from virtually every view and during all seasons of the year. He designed the County's Dutch Lilly motif, created a series of Christmas cards for the County, and did a series of pen and ink drawings of all the County historic sites that are sold at the Farmstead's museum shop.

Bill and his wife, Ginny, who was one of the original docents at the Farmstead, raised their three children in their 1840's farmhouse in Worcester. The house had been occupied by a succession of medical doctors before they moved there 36 years ago from another Worcester location.

Professional stints for Bill included working as advertising and display manager for Sears and as a staff artist for the Times Herald in Norristown. As a teenager, Bill had aspirations of becoming a cartoonist, eventually running a daily cartoon in the Times Herald about a teenage girl named Terry Hathaway.

Another consuming pastime for Bill over the years has been designing and building stage sets for local theater groups, including the Dramateurs in Jeffersonville, the Methacton Community Theater, and the Playcrafters of Skippack. Watercolors, however, continue to provide Bill with a consistent and passionate outlet for his creativity.

Bill is currently working on a project to model the Zacharias Creek and all of the mills and mill races that used to be along the creek in Worcester.



Wentz Post

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Peter Wentz Farmstead Hours of Operation

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

Closed Mondays and major holidays.
Reservations required for group tours.

Admission: FREE!

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

Welcome New PWFS Members

Drew Beasley and Carrie Mason Family
Michael Bilinski
Maryann De Lucia Family
Jennifer Jillson
Melinda McConnell
Margaret Schwartz
Michael Simeone Family
Christine and Lawrence Smith Family

New Business Sponsors

The Garis Agency
Shelter Associates, Inc.

PWFS Business Sponsorships

We welcome **Shelter Associates**, our third new Business Sponsorship Member, and also thank Trustee, Janice Muller, for her efforts in obtaining their membership.

We now have our new colorized business sponsorship brochure thanks to Anne Condon, Fred Reim and Chris L'Ecuyer. Janice, Anne, and Chris will be following up on additional business sponsorship memberships.

Millbrook Society Benefit Play Trip

By Dotty Hern

Thirty-seven people eagerly boarded the colorful bus driven by our favorite driver, Jerry Andersen, heading out for Plumsteadville Inn where we leisurely enjoyed an outstanding dinner. Then it was on to the Town and Country Playhouse to see "Beyond Therapy" performed in the 1767 barn that has been converted into a delightful theater. The actors did an admirable job performing a somewhat dated play, but as they say, "a good time was had by all". We were happy to be able to help support the Millbrook Society, those energetic folks doing the archeological dig at the Peter Wentz Farmstead.

Conservation Tree Donations

The 2004 Memorial Tree Program branched out to add a "conservation donation" to its list of ways donors can contribute to the landscape preservation program and help stabilize the watershed at the Farmstead. Contributor's donations have helped us to purchase 75 black gum, hornbeam and persimmon trees. These trees are young trees ranging from 3 to 4 years old. The purpose of these trees is to cluster groups in areas along the creek where erosion threatens.

The drenching rains of the summer of 2004 made all too apparent the areas along the creek that needed immediate attention. We are happy to announce that the memorial trees, already in place, held up terrifically through the floods.

Special thanks goes out to Marilyn Steinbright, E. L. Chambers, and Sue Kratzinger for their conservation donations, which were put to a very helpful purpose. Also, a special thanks to volunteers Erin Sweeney and Robin Forbes for their help in planting the trees.

STEPS TO THE PAST

By: Dianne Cram

Anyone who has recently entered the house at the front door would have noticed the deplorable condition of the wood porch. Besides being an eyesore, the rotting boards were a serious safety concern. Something had to be done, and the time is right to now restore a known historical feature of the house. Rather than replacing the wood porch we are putting back the wonderful stone steps that were removed in the 1970s and thankfully never disposed of. The stone steps are the earliest known feature for the entrance to the house. When we began thinking of taking on this project, we took a hard look at the historic photographs of the site (circa 1880-1900) and re-studied the 1975 archaeological report by Elizabeth Righter. What we concluded is that the stone steps definitely existed in the mid 19th century and that they possibly dated to the construction of the house. Although the archaeological report does not tell us when the stone steps were put in place, neither did it definitively sup-

port the theory that a wood porch ever existed.

The next puzzle to solve is whether or not the benches that flanked the front door originally existed. The historic photos show a pair of benches, however, they are placed closer to both sides of the door than the 1970s reconstruction. There are no architectural “pockets” in the stonework of the house to support the bench seats or backs. All that presently exists is a slightly chiseled indentation made to accommodate the newer benches. The location of the late 19th and early 20th century benches are marked only by a fine green paint line on the stone. Since our research, to date, does not support the existence of benches during the 18th century, we are not going to recreate them at this time. If additional research can determine their existence during the 18th century, we can add them in the future.

Stonemason Keith Childs has been selected to perform the restoration work on the front steps. He worked all

of the stone on the newly reconstructed smoke house and woodshed foundation. He also volunteered his time during our events carving beautiful date and decorative stones. When Keith saw the stone steps, he commented on how expensive the cutting of such large stones would have been. The stone for the steps had been carefully chosen, cut, and then fitted to be a part of an elegant home. An important aspect of historic restoration is that what we do can be reversed if future research brings new evidence to light. Although the front of the house will have a different look than what we are used to seeing, we are restoring the earliest documented feature for the front entrance of the Wentz/Schultz house.



Smokehouse (Schmokehaus)



Woodshed (Der Holzschopp)



Privy (Briwwe)

IN SEARCH OF ICEHOUSES

We are actively researching the icehouses that were in this region. If you know of any existing icehouses, or have photographs or information about icehouses, would you please contact the Farmstead and ask for Dianne. Our research may one day lead to reconstruction of the icehouse that was here.

LETTER FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

By Dianne M. Cram

Looking from the window of my office I believe that I could be looking through a window into another era, a time when this was a fully operational family farm. What I see is an array of farm related buildings that would have supported the daily lives of the Wentz and Shultz families – a smokehouse, a woodshed and, of course, the necessary (privy). What is more exciting, there is smoke rising out from under the rafters of the smokehouse and the air has that delightful scent of burning hickory wood. These three brand new buildings represent a scene from our past. The historical interpretation of this early farm fell far short without the many small but vital structures that completed the picture.

Thanks to the Peter Wentz Farmstead Society, the historical landscape of this farm is taking on a greater dimension. Every farm had a woodshed, usually located in close proximity to the kitchen and smokehouse. Our shed will be used for exactly what it was originally intended. The smokehouse is a wonderful demonstration site and already has had quite a bit of use with meats and cheese hanging from the hooks. The privy – well, we won't be using it as intended, but it certainly will be a great visual aid in telling the story of life on this farm.

A tremendous thank you goes to the PWFS and all who helped to make this possible. Rich Poole, trustee, was the project coordinator

who oversaw every detail from beginning to end. Norman Glass, restoration carpenter and Keith Childs, stonemason are the two exceptionally skilled craftsmen who built the structures with amazing attention to historical accuracy. Now that the project is finished I miss the flurry of activity. However, I can look out across the landscape and see that we now have a "farmstead" in the full sense of the word.

JUST 'MILLING' AROUND

By Kimberly D. Praria

When Cindy Weigand, an eighth grade teacher at a middle school in Bucks County, contacted me about fulfilling some of her sabbatical requirements at the Farmstead, I was so excited about her offer that I danced for joy. But, where to begin? What, of the many topics, could she prepare for a tour curriculum? AAAAHHHHH....

After Jim and I had met with her and discussed some of the possibilities, we all decided to incorporate the 1877 Schultz mill into a program targeted towards third and eighth grade students. Cindy began her research in September and has made major progress on general mill history in this region, including those found along the Perkiomen, Wissahickon, and Zaccharias creeks. We have visited the Newlin Grist Mill, a restored 18th century mill that still grinds corn into cornmeal, and

the Evans-Mumbower Mill, a mill undergoing archaeological excavation and restoration. After gaining all of this information, more than either one of us ever imagined, she began to develop pre-visit worksheets intended for both age groups. She has incorporated the state educational standards into this program that include science and technology, history, geography, and economics.

The completed project will focus not just on the mill on-site, but how the mill operated, affected the local community, and reflected national trends in technology. We hope to develop 'stations' where each student will have the opportunity for a hands-on approach to learning about these aspects of mill operation, including a scale model of a mill with working parts. As I look back over the past few months,

I am amazed at how much she has accomplished and am excited about this and other programs in development for school groups.

When I first started working here I had dreams about offering this caliber of programming to our younger visitors. And although the road has been long and the ride rough at times, it excites me greatly that the work crew is beginning to smooth over the coarse areas, and so proficiently.



Trustee Pete Roman and Recording Secretary Chris L'Ecuyer receive Appreciation Certificates at the Fall Meeting for their years of service on the Board of Directors.



Trustee Rich Poole receives an Appreciation Certificate at the Fall Meeting for his dedication and efforts as Project Manager of our New Structures project. Jayne Poole received special recognition for her ongoing support of the Society, the Farmstead, the archeology work by the Millbrook Society at the site, and for her support of Rich.

FALL MEETING 2004

Janice Muller, a Trustee of the Society, spoke on her extensive doll collection. Janice brought an excellent sampling from her very large collection of over 1000 dolls, some of which date from 1860, and gave an enjoyable overview of her collecting expertise and history of the dolls on display. At the conclusion of the presentation, Janice invited everyone to come up to examine the display, which was especially meaningful after the talk.

New Officers and Trustees were elected including Sally Graybill as President, Ruth Guimond as Treasurer, Carol Berardelli as Corresponding Secretary, Chris L'Ecuyer and Dick Clauser as Trustees. Special Appreciation Certificates were presented to Pete Roman and Mike Wentz for their three years as Trustees, to Chris L'Ecuyer for her four years as Recording Secretary and to Ruth Guimond for her six years as Treasurer. An Appreciation Certificate was also presented to Rich Poole for his extensive efforts and excellent job as project manager for the construction and dedication of our new structures; the smokehouse, the woodshed and the privy. Special thanks were also expressed to Jayne Poole for her support of Rich, of the Farmstead and of the Society.

No Longer Shiftless

By Morgan McMillan

The Farmstead recently received the donation of a linen shift from Karen Dougherty. This shift was probably made around 1800-1820, and has initials embroidered in faded red thread at the neckline. A shift was the main undergarment worn by women from before the colonial period through the late 19th century. Worn next to the skin, the shift provided protection against the rougher fibers of outer clothing, and also protected outer clothing from sweat stains. Stays, petticoats, and a short gown, jacket or gown were worn over the

shift. The shift is currently on display in the bedchamber on the first floor.

Other recent acquisitions include:

- © A brass candlestick, purchased in memory of Frances Gensler through the generosity of Margaret Schweitzer
- © A niddy-noddy and an umbrella swift, devices used for measuring and winding yarn, purchased from Marty Van Atta
- © *America's Historic Places* donated by Bill Ditter
- © Photo postcard of Peter Wentz house c.1910s donated by Jack Regenhart

Wentz Post Now Online At Our Website

Ron Higgins has graciously taken over the duties of Webmaster for our website (PeterWentzFarmsteadSociety.org) from Dave Correale.

Ron added the Wentz Post to our website and you can now download the PDF file to your computer.

FAMILIAR FACES

Dick Anderl, a quiet and self-effacing man, has kept the Society on a steady path through the terms of his Presidency. The past four years at the Farmstead have weathered many transitions, among them new Site Administrators and new Officers and Trustees of the Society. One of Dick's more obvious accomplishments is helping to bring Society membership and financial records into more current business practices through computerization. Although Dick's physical stature is prominent, he tends to work gently and quietly behind the scenes and is always willing to help in a myriad of ways. He has previously served as Society Treasurer and Vice President and has provided a wealth of talent to the Farmstead.

Before Dick took early retirement from Unisys he was involved with 36 years of direct customer quality support which later evolved

into management support of the field organization.

Born and raised in Sioux City Iowa, Dick and his wife Ruth moved from Bloomington, MN to Worcester in 1987. Daughter Carrie, a sixth-grader at the time, was interested in studying history, and bringing her father along with her, became active in PW summer camp and junior interpreter programs. Carrie is still a familiar face at many of the Farmstead's special events.

Dick cites working with a group of so many good people who are dedicated to the betterment of the Farmstead and the Society as the highlight of the past four years. Their ideas have fueled many improvements such as increased personal and business memberships and the construction and completion of three new structures at the Farmstead

which were totally funded by the Society and donated to the Montgomery County-owned site.

As Dick's term of President comes to a close, he hopes that the Society will be able to maintain its corps of dedicated volunteers, increase publicity, and continue to raise funds for maintaining the Society's goal of educational programs and public interest and support for the Farmstead.

Dick, good luck in your "retirement" and we look forward to seeing you at the Farmstead frequently.



Photo taken at the December Board Meeting at the Farmstead. From left to right: Dick Clauser, Trustee; Carol Berardelli, Recording Secretary; Chris L'Ecuyer, Trustee; Jerry McAndrew, Financial Secretary; Sally Graybill, New President; Dick Anderl, "outgoing" President; Ruth Guimond, Treasurer; Bill Ditter, Trustee; Mike Wentz, Trustee; Janice Muller, Trustee; Anne Condon, Vice President; and Darlene Bentley, Corresponding Secretary. Not present; Trustees Pete Roman and Connie Walsh.

Calendar of Events

- Jan. 29 Meat Smoking Demonstration 10:00-3:00.
Feb. 17 Folklore and Folklife in PA Heritage.
Guest Speaker Dr. Simon J. Bronner.
7:00 pm at the Farmer's Union Hall in Worcester.
- Feb. 19 Martha Washington's Cookbook,
10:00-3:00.
- Mar. 5 Basket making with Cindy Scaton
11-2:30 [FEE].
- Mar. 19 Open-hearth cooking with Karen Dougherty
10 - 4:30 [FEE].
- Mar. 31 Guest Speaker Dr. David B. Eller
7:00 pm at the Farmer's Union Hall
in Worcester.
- Apr.-Oct. Millbrook Society Archeological Digs
at PWF. 10:00-4:00 on Saturdays.
*Specific dates to be announced.
- Apr. 16 Sheepshearing Day, 10:00-3:30.
Apr. 20 Spring Meeting at Schwenkfelder
Church, 7:00 p.m.
- Apr. 30 Lecture and Tour the Farmstead's
Ecosystems. Speaker TBA.
1:30-3:30.
- May 12 Pennsylvania's Prehistoric Heritage
Guest Speaker Dr. Barry Kent.
7:00 pm at the Farmer's Union Hall
in Worcester.
- June 4 Experience 18th Century Farm Life
at the Farmstead, 10.00-3:30.
- June 20-24 Colonial Day Camp, 9:00-2:00.
*Pre-registration required.
- July 16 Colonial Trades Demonstration,
10:00-3:00.
- Aug 20 Colonial Childhood Experiences,
10:00-3-00.
- Sept. 24 Colonial Pretzel Making, 10:00-3:00.
Oct. 15 Laerenswaert 10:00-3:30.
Oct. 19 Fall Dinner Meeting at Schwenkfelder
Church, 6:00 pm.
- Nov. 10 In or Out: Fences of the Past, 7:00 p.m.
Guest Speaker James Ryan.
- Nov. 19 Mincemeat for the Season, 10:00-3:00.
Dec. 3 Candlelight Tour, 3:00-9:00.

All events are at the Farmstead unless otherwise noted.

VOLUNTEER PICNIC

The Peter Wentz Farmstead Society would like to express our sincere appreciation to the Farmstead Staff: Dianne, John, Morgan, Kim, Jim, Jay and Annabelle, for sponsoring this enjoyable and memorable event on Friday, September 17. Over 100 volunteers attended and the staff's thoughtfulness is most appreciated.

LAERENSWAERT 2004

We nearly broke the PWF event "weather curse" on Saturday, October 16th and had an almost rain free day for Laernswaert that was attended by over 500 people. Thanks to everyone who participated or attended.

CANDLELIGHT TOUR 2004

The weather for the Candlelight Tour on Saturday, December 4th was beautiful. "Der Belschnickel" delighted the children with questions and treats. Over 800 people attended and enjoyed the ambiance of the candlelit house, barn and sheepfold; and of the colonial holiday season. It was a most festive event! Again, thanks to all the volunteers and to the staff for all of their work and participation.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEND A CARD...

Howard Gross, Director of Montgomery County Department of History and Cultural Arts has not been well and continues to recuperate. Anyone wishing to send a card may send it in care of: Pam Evans, Dept. of History & Cultural Arts, Court House, P.O. Box 311, Norristown, PA

PWFS'S BOSTON TRIP

By Frank Luther

On the foggy morning of Monday, September 13, nineteen members and guests of the Peter Wentz Farmstead Society began their trek to a magnificent five-day visit to Boston.

"Listen, my children, and you shall hear" of our awesome adventure. After a short stop for a breakfast break, the group traveled on, chatting and napping until the next stop---a *FRIENDLY'S* lunch, even with ice cream sundaes for dessert! Boston's streets were never designed with motor coaches in mind! Arrival in Boston was a real challenge for the motor coach driver, Bob Bergey, but he managed to rise to the occasion. After check-in at the Copley Square Hotel, everyone had the chance to relax and then to enjoy a dinner together in the hotel.

Early Tuesday morning the rested travelers were off for a guided tour of the Nichols House, a Federal mansion exhibiting the 16th to 19th

century furnishings of the family.

Tuesday afternoon was spent at the J.F.K. Library and Museum where memories of the 1960's came alive. On Tuesday evening, members of the group set out searching for special restaurants such as the American Fish Company, Legal Seafood, and Cottonwood, to name just a few.

On Wednesday a tour of the Prescott House, a Federal house built in 1808 and designed by architect Asher Benjamin, was enjoyed. Lunch was a cheerful experience at CHEERS on Beacon Hill. Norm and his friends were not there to greet us, but the charm of the establishment and the friendliness of the wait staff made up for that! And the size of the portions made the lunch even more cheerful.

On Wednesday afternoon, the group had a guided tour of Otis House Museum, a 1796 house de-

signed by Charles Bulfinch. The house now serves as the headquarters for the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities. Wearing the shoe covers was a new experience!

Thursday was an adventuresome day as well. Mr. William Kuttner, the head docent at the Shirley-Eustis House, provided a brief bus tour of Boston and a thorough tour through the Isabel Stewart Gardner carriage house and the Shirley-Eustis House, built in 1747 in the Georgian style for Royal Colonial Governor William Shirley.

A few hours were spent at Faneuil Hall and Quincy Market, and on personal tours of the city. Later in the afternoon, the group was welcomed at the Old North Church. This had to be one of the many *highlights* of the trip! Not only was there a tour of the church and an explanation of the part it

Continued on page 11

TRIP TO WHEATON VILLAGE AND RENAULT WINERY

By Frank Luther

Thirty-five members and friends of the Peter Wentz Farmstead Society traveled to New Jersey on Tuesday, November 9. The group was welcomed to Wheaton Village with a continental breakfast in the Paper Waite Restaurant. Following the repast, the group had a one-hour guided tour of the Museum of American Glass. The museum has one of the finest collections of American glass ranging from Mason jars to Tiffany masterpieces. Glass from America's first successful factory, Wistarburgh, to works of 21st century masters such as Paul Stankard and Dale Chihuly could be admired. The group proceeded to the T. C. Wheaton Glass Studio to observe a young artist in

the process of free blowing a vase. Of course, time was allotted to stroll through the village, visit the Down Jersey Folklife Center with its Mexican exhibit, or browse in the various gift shops.

In the afternoon, arriving at the historic Renault Winery, the group was greeted by a hostess who welcomed everyone with a glass of blueberry champagne, a drink produced only at Renault. The champagne was unique and tasty! Walking through the beautiful Italian gardens added to the warm welcome.

Lunch was then served in the wine cellar. A salad, pickled beets, baked chicken, meatballs, dessert, and a sampling of seven wines provided a pleasant and relaxing experi-

ence. Following lunch, the hostess took the group on a tour of the winery, presented a history of the winery, and shared anecdotes such as those dealing with the cleaning of the large oak barrels, usually by a grandchild of the owners. The group had an opportunity to visit the wine and gift shop and was ready to head back to the Farmstead after a magnificent day!

Let's Do the Twist

By Karen Dougherty

No, not that twist! The one that has been done for about 1,400 years: The Pretzel Twist.

On October 30th about fifty people came to the Farmstead to learn the history and folklore of the pretzel – something that we take for granted today. We eat them with ice cream, while drinking beer or soda, served with dips, and spread with mustard. On October 30th some people twisted their own soft pretzels and took them to bake at home.

Legend has it that sometime around 610 AD in Southern France or Northern Italy, a monk who was a skilled baker was preparing unleavened bread for Lent. There were pieces of unused dough that bothered him. His vow of poverty did not permit him to waste anything. But what could he do with the leftover strips of dough? As he worked he thought of prayer and realized that if he rolled the dough into thin ropes he could twist them into the shape of a person praying. (Christians of the day prayed by folding their arms across their chests – with each hand on the opposite shoulder.) The twisted loops that resulted were placed in the oven to bake, and the monk was delighted with the tasty result. He thought the biscuits were delicious, but wasn't sure what to do with them. The monk decided he would give the scrumptious biscuits as rewards to the children who learned their prayers correctly. The treats were a success and the children were motivated to learn their lessons.

It is assumed that the monk's name for his tasty creation was *pretiola*. *Pretiola* is a Latin term that means "little rewards," "little treats," or "little prayers." Another theory is that the root word for pretzel is *brachiola*, a Latin diminutive of the word *brachia*, meaning "arms," or *bracellae*, which means "little arms." As people's travels

spread the pretzel throughout Europe, each group gave it a new name. When it reached Germany, the translation of "little rewards" or "little arms" became *brezel*, the Old German for "arm", then *bretzel*, and finally *pretzel*.

The pretzel flourished along with the church and the three holes were said to represent the Trinity. The pretzel shape turns up again and again in medieval art. An example of this is found in the Book of Hours, an illuminated Latin prayer book created about 1450 AD for Catherine of Cleves.

We do not know if the pilgrims brought any pretzels to America with them on the Mayflower in 1620, but they certainly brought the knowledge. The town records of Beverwyck, NY refer to a court case brought against a pretzel baker and his wife in 1652. It seems that Jochem and Gertrude Wessels were selling pretzels, buns, and cookies to the Native Americans at a large profit. What got them in trouble was that they were using the choice flour for the Native Americans and inferior flour to bake bread for the citizens of Beverwyck. The case resulted in a prohibition of the sale of all white breads and cakes to the Native Americans.

One region in America became the home of the American pretzel. The Palatine Germans helped to make the central and eastern part of Pennsylvania "the pretzel basket of America."

Up until the middle of the 19th century pretzels were soft baked from various types of bread dough. Like bread they retained their freshness for only a day or two so the bakers needed to bake every day to satisfy their customers.

There are many stories about how hard pretzels came into being. One story is that an apprentice baker left in charge of an oven full of soft pretzels fell asleep and the fire died

down. When he awoke he thought the pretzels had not baked enough, so he fired the oven up again. In doing so, he actually baked the pretzels twice and to a crisp.

When the master baker returned he was furious. All the moisture had been baked out of the soft pretzels and what was left was dry and crusty. Before he threw them away he tasted one, out of curiosity. He was surprised that it was crisp, crunchy, and delicious. What pleased him even more was that the pretzels were still good several weeks later, which meant that he no longer had to bake every day.

And the rest, as they say, is history.



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Dick Anderl

I can't find the words to express how much I have enjoyed the last four years of being your President and have appreciated having the opportunity to work with such a friendly, dedicated, creative, and generous membership and Farmstead staff. It has been a wonderful opportunity for me to learn and grow. The Society is now 26 years old and continues to be such a wonderful organization because so many have provided so much over the years.

I was able to start with a well-organized Board and structure thanks to the efforts of previous President, Adrienne Hiser. We have made much progress thanks to the great ideas, and willingness to work to accomplish them, that

have been provided by the many wonderful people that I have been privileged to work with. Thank you all for your input and support.

Our new President, Sally Graybill, has been very involved with Society and Farmstead activities and brings a great deal of enthusiasm and new ideas to the position. Please let her know your thoughts for continuing to improve our fine organization and the Farmstead.

Thanks to Pete Roman and Mike Wentz whose three-year term as Trustees is ending and to Chris L'Ecuyer, Recording Secretary for four years, for all of your involvement and support. Welcome to new Trustees Dick Clauser and Chris L'Ecuyer and to new Record-

ing Secretary, Carol Berardelli. A special thank you to our Treasurer, Ruth Guimond, for continuing into her seventh year of service.

Meet Our New President

Please join us in welcoming Sally Graybill as the new President of the Peter Wentz Farmstead Society. Sally joined the Society in 1996 starting as an interpreter. She began helping at summer camp and was Camp Director for five years. For the last five years, Sally has done the bank deposits, maintained our membership records, provided the lists of people going on Society trips, done general bookkeeping and reported the closing information for each month. Sally loves the site and has been very involved in all aspects of Society events and business.

Sally has served as a Girl Scout leader for 12 years, was a Vice President of the League of Women Voters in Tyler Texas, volunteered for the Red Cross, served on the Citizens' Advisory Council for the Northwestern Lehigh School District and was a

Physicians Assistant and Office Manager in Allentown. She attended the School of Nursing at the University of Pennsylvania and has been married to her husband, Jim, for 46 years. Sally and Jim have 5 children, three of them local residents, and 11 grandchildren. Many of her grandchildren have participated in the summer camp and apprentice programs, and Jim and her children have helped at camp and at the Farmstead's special events.

Sally brings a lot of enthusiasm and many good ideas to her new position. She is most interested in your input and suggestions.

Peter Wentz Farmstead Society Board

| | |
|----------------|------------------|
| President | Sally Graybill |
| Vice President | Anne Condon |
| Treasurer | Ruth Guimond |
| Recording Sec. | Carol Berardelli |
| Corresp. Sec. | Darlene Bentley |
| Financial Sec. | Jerry McAndrew |

Trustees

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Richard Clauser | Christine L'Ecuyer |
| Janice Muller | William Ditter |
| Richard Poole | Connie Walsh |

Committee Chairs

| | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Capital Campaign | Paul Bartle |
| Decorative Arts | Elizabeth Gamon |
| Events | Richard Poole |
| Finance | Jerry McAndrew |
| Membership | Donna Armstrong |
| Museum Shop | Phyllis Yergey |
| Scholarship | Carol Berardelli |
| Ways & Means | Elizabeth Gamon |

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.

ED DOUGHERTY MEMORIAL TREE FUND

Karen Dougherty has been a long time volunteer doing demonstration cooking in the summer kitchen of the Farmstead at all of our special events. To share Karen's love of colonial cooking and life, her husband, Ed, became involved with the First Pennsylvania Continental Regiment of Foot and participated in Farmstead and Regiment events. He joined the Regiment in 1997 as a Private. Due to his height he was always in the second rank when firing weapons for he could shoot over the heads of the shorter soldiers who were placed in the first line. Ed's favorite interest was baseball, which was also shared by Karen.

Ed recently passed away and is missed by the First Continental Regiment, the Farmstead staff and the Society. The Regiment has established a Memorial Tree Fund to obtain a Scarlet Oak tree in Ed's memory. Any contributions would be welcomed and can be sent to the Society.

Boston (continued from page 8)

played in warning the colonists of the coming of the British, but who can boast that they climbed to the steeple where the bell ringers worked and then to the crypt with over 1,100 bodies!

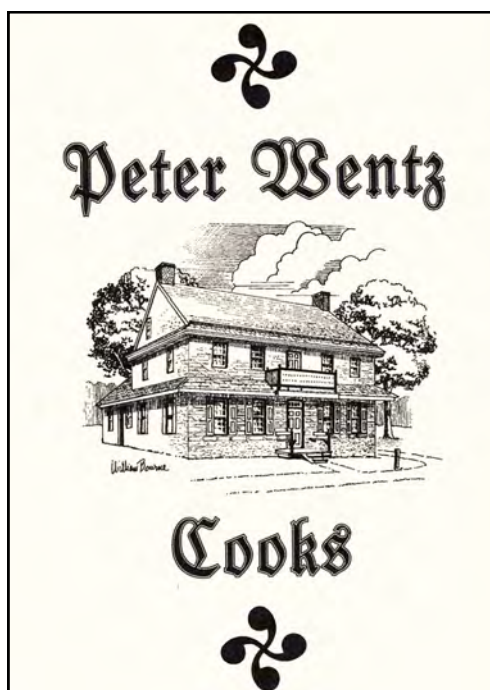
Dinner was at the Durgin-Park Restaurant, an experience in dining within the plain view of the food preparation, the tingling and clashing of glasses and dishes, and the merriment of the wait staff and dishwashers.

On Friday morning the nineteen travelers and their driver began the trip home but first with stops at Plimoth Plantation, the Mayflower II, and Plimoth Rock. At the Plantation there was the opportunity to visit Hobbamock's Homesite and speak to the indigenous Wampanoag People there. Then, another step back in time, with a visit to the Pilgrim village and an opportunity to ex-

perience the 17th century life style and to converse with the inhabitants in a time warp up to 1627.

If you missed the trip, you have a chance to take a virtual tour by visiting the website www.boston.eightwheels.com. Driver, Bob Bergey, prepared a slide presentation featuring many of the sites that were visited.

Many thanks to Elizabeth Gamon for the many hours and efforts she devoted to preparing such a magnificent experience for everyone.



PWFS COOK-BOOK

The Peter Wentz Farmstead Society cookbook, *Peter Wentz Cooks*, is now available in the Museum Shop. The price is \$14.00 plus 6 % sales tax and shipping is available for a slight additional charge.

Chronology of Peter Wentz Farmstead Society Presidents

By Elizabeth Gamon

| | |
|------------|----------------------|
| 1977-80 | Eleanor Bittle |
| 1980-83 | Gordon Biddle |
| 1983-86 | D. Alan Rothenberger |
| 1986-90 | Doris Weed |
| 1990-94 | George Gale |
| 1994-96 | Dr. Allen Weed |
| 1996-2000* | Adrienne Hiser |
| 2000-04 | Dick Anderl |
| 2004- | Sally Graybill |

*Adrienne Hiser finished Allen Weed's term in 1996 following his death.

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)

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- Individual \$20.00
- Senior Family (both over 65) . \$25.00
- Family Membership \$30.00
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- Special Projects
- Scholarship (for students and interns)
- Furnishings
- _____



Please make checks payable to:
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P.O. Box 240
Worcester, Pa. 19490-0240

Drawing by Rick Moraux

Please contact me concerning volunteer activities

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