



First Photo Walk Open House: Fun views seen by all



Donna Herrmann (front second from left) poses with group
Photo Credit: Donna Herrmann

The Bouman-Stickney Farmstead proved to be a picturesque backdrop for the many photo enthusiasts who participated in Readington Museums' first photo walk on Sunday, October 6. From the 18th century home's interior details such as door hinges and open wooden beams to reflections off the heart shaped pond, the photographers captured beautiful moments in history and nature. Beginning with a tour of the 1741 home, Program Director, Margaret Smith shared stories of the home's history. Then professional photographer, Donna Herrmann, led the group throughout the 68 acres of trails and open space while encouraging participants to exchange photo tips and

tricks throughout the afternoon.

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. Herrmann is a current member of *The Nature Photographer's Network*, *The Association for Gravestone Studies* and is an active contributor to *Find-A-Grave*. Donna Herrmann can be found at:

www.DAHerrmann.smugmug.com.

Readington Museums

P.O. Box 216

Stanton, NJ 08885

Phone 908-236-2327

Fax 908-236-2306

readingtonmuseums@gmail.com

www.readingtonmuseums.org



Donna Herrmann captures décor left from Kathy Brennan's Bouman-Stickney barn wedding.

We'll Miss You Kim!

After three years as Program Director, Kimberly Costa left the Readington Museums at the end of September to continue her passion for 18th Century living in the Historic Foodways Department at Colonial Williamsburg. Kim brought this passion to the Museums by expanding the Museums' collections, introducing the "Hands-On History" programs such as Open-Hearth Cooking classes, Monday Mornings at the Museum, and the Readington Assembly, as well as generally providing more historical correct-



ness to our existing programs. We wish Kim much success in her new position.

Museum Assistant Margaret Smith has been promoted to Acting Program Director while we search for candidates to fill the open position. Margaret started with the Museums as a volunteer and has been the Museum Assistant since 2010. Margaret has a Masters' Degree in Education from East Stroudsburg University.

A Taste of the Past: Open Hearth Cooking Class



Connie Unangst displays a traditional Dutch meal cooked in the Bouman - Stickney's open hearth.

We are pleased to offer a 'taste of the past' with an Open Hearth Cooking class to be held on Saturday, January 18, 2014 from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Donation is \$40.00 per person.

Open Hearth Cook, Connie Unangst, who has been involved in the Domestic Arts of the Colonial Era for over eighteen years, will be instructing the class. Ms. Unangst has provided educational, instructive and entertaining programs to the public throughout the East Coast.

Participants will be paired up and

given copies of receipts, called recipes today, and then will prepare a variety of 18th century Dutch foods using the Farmstead's original open hearth. The class will also cover basic fire and food safety, how to choose firewood, and how to interpret and read an 18th century recipe. Once the food is prepared, all participants will have the chance to sit down and taste the fruits of their labors. Class is limited to 8 participants. Advance registration and payment is required. Simply email or call the Museum to register.

Open Hearth Puddings with Tiffany Fisk-Watts

During the Museums' November 3rd, Sunday Open House, sweet and savory aromas filled the kitchen as visitors observed the variety of methods for cooking puddings. The pumpkin apple pudding was baked in a Dutch oven, and the al-

mond pudding was wrapped in cloth and boiled in a pot over the open flame. Historian Tiffany Fisk-Watts, an expert in 18th century cooking and Foodways, prepared the period correct puddings using recipes from receipt books.



School Groups visit 1828 Cold Brook School

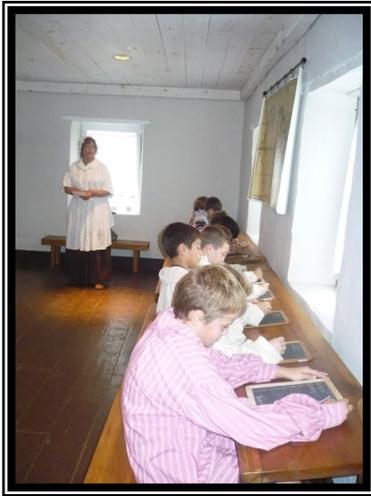
This Fall, the Readington fourth graders and the Skyland Homeschoolers traveled back to 1828 for a morning at Cold Brook School. Each group's visit began with "toeing the line" for a cleanliness check and reminding them to bring their \$1.50 tuitions and firewood for the semester.

Orthography, ciphering, and recitation then became routine tasks for the day. The students used their slates to

and skilled spellers. They also calculated problems dictated by the school Mistress showing their mastery in ciphering.

The students also enjoyed learning the skill of the quill pen. They practiced dipping the pen into the inkwells and forming loops and lines in their copy books.

The students were particularly excited about having recess and snack. After playing with hoops and tag, the students enjoyed delicious home baked bread with apple butter and juice.



Boys listen as Mistress DeGrau dictates spelling words during the orthography lesson.

demonstrate skills in orthography, proving they were expert ABC Darians



Girls practicing with quill pens.

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 believed 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.



Joseph and Hannah Yang, both age 7, pump water for hand washing while Mistress DeGrau holds pitcher.

WANTED: GARDEN VOLUNTEERS

Readington Museums is looking for volunteers to help maintain the

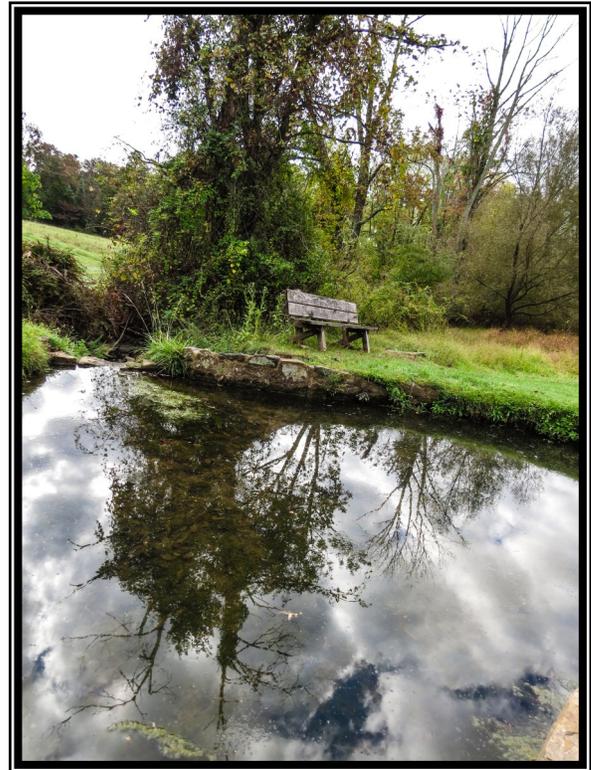


gardens at the Bouman-Stickney Farmstead and/or the Eversole-Hall House. Volunteers can set up a schedule that fits their needs – from basic weeding to adopting the entire garden. It is a great way for scouts to finish badge requirements or for anyone

to work on service hours. Please call the Program Director for more information at 908-236-2327.



More from Photo Walk



Donna Herrmann finds this spectacular view of Dorothy Stickney's heart shaped pond



Donna Herrmann captures a participant photographing the 1741 engraved cornerstone of the Bouman-Stickney House.

Calendar 2013 to 2014

Staff is currently working on developing new programs for 2014. The schedule of events should be finalized and published in the Winter 2014 newsletter. Programs for this year will include butter making, open hearth cooking, a spring photography walk, barn dances, and more.

Sunday, December 1

1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Dutch Saint Nikolas Day

Open Hearth Cooking, traditional crafts and games.

Sunday, March 2

1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Butter Making

~with Mercy Ingraham

Saturday, May 10

Barn Dance 7:00-9:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 18

Barn Dance 7:00 - 9:30 p.m.

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