



Cold Brook School Open House



The Readington Museums' Cold Brook School, originally built in 1828, will be open on **Sunday, October 8, 2017**, from **1:00 – 4:00 p.m.** and will offer visitors the chance to see what it was like to attend school in the early 19th century.

The one room school house was purchased by Readington Township in 1993, and was restored in three years by community volunteers.



A completion of the burned out roof and flooring was added to the original walls and foundations.

The schoolhouse is only opened once a year when the Museums provide a hands-on school day for all 4th graders attending Readington Township schools. Now, everyone will have the same chance to spend a fun

(Continued on pg. 4)

Barn Dance October 21



Put on your dancing shoes for a night of family fun as the Readington Museums hosts its bi-annual Barn Dance on **Saturday, October 21, 2017** from **7:00-9:30 p.m.** The dance will be held inside the eighteenth century Wade-Wyckoff Barn at the Bouman-Stickney Farmstead located at 114 Dreahook Road in the Stanton section of Readington Township. This family friendly 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.



Readington Museums

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Smokehouse Demonstration

On **November 5, 2017** from **1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**, **Susan McLellan Plaisted MS RD CSP LDN**, will demonstrate and discuss methods and traditions for smoking pork during the 18th century. At that time, most homes had a smokehouse in their backyard, and the Bouman-Stickney Farmstead has become no exception. Thanks to Eagle Scout, Derek Scott, the farmstead is proud to showcase his recent Eagle Scout project, the smokehouse, as Plaisted demonstrates the art of smoking meat.

Plaisted is the Proprietress of Heart to Hearth Cookery, a food history business based in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. She offers demonstrations of 17th century through 19th century Colonial American and European cooking methods, practices, and receipts (recipes), as well as pre-European-contact and post-European-contact Native American foodways.



Dutch Sint Nikolaas Day



As a way to honor the Dutch heritage of the 1741 Bouman-Stickney Farmstead, the Readington Museums will be hosting Dutch Sint Nikolaas Day on **Sunday, December 3, 2017**. The program runs continuously between 1:00 and 4:00 p.m. Dutch Sinterklass will be available for pictures, Colonial musicians will perform historic holiday pieces that showcase an historic violin and hammered dulcimer. In addition, historic cooks, Bev Altrath and Arlene Soong will demonstrate authentic 18th century Dutch cooking using the Farmstead's original open hearth. They plan to make waffles over the open flame and press gingerbread cookies in traditional molds. Visitors may



also make a pomander ornament to take home, as well as enjoy cider and homemade Dutch cookies.



Garden Volunteers Needed



The Readington Museums is looking for volunteers to help maintain the colonial herb garden at the Bouman-Stickney Farmstead. 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 for more information at 908-236-2327.

Open Hearth Cooking Classes

The Readington Museums hosted a great open hearth cooking class early this September, and due to popular demand, will host another class for March 2018.

In September, instructors Bev Altrath and Arlene Faulkner Soong, showed many tips to maneuver multiple pots at a time, as well as techniques to string a chicken for hanging. The menu included: roasted chicken, squash pudding, stewed Turkish beans, corn bread, apple-taert, and mulled cider. See photos.



September open hearth cooking class

The next open hearth class at the Bouman-Stickney Farmstead will be held on **March 3, 2018** and instructed by **Susan McLellan Plaisted**.

Participants in this class will prepare Dutch receipts (recipes) of the 17th and 18th centuries, and enjoy a Dutch meal. Cost is \$70.00 per person, and class size is limited.



Instructor, Arlene Soong, prepares to carve.

To register, send checks - made to **Heart to Hearth Cookery** - to Susan McLellan Plaisted, PO Box 1162, Morrisville, PA 19067. If you have any questions, please Call Susan at 215-219-9542, or contact her by email at foodhxsm@aol.com. Also, please visit the web site at: <http://www.hearttohearthcookery.com/Classes.htm>.

Spinning Class



The Bouman-Stickney Farmstead is proud to announce that we will be offering beginning spinning classes after the first of the year. Shari Gifford will be conducting the classes which will begin spinning with a drop spindle to help build up drafting skills (the process of pulling on the fibers). Students will also learn how to hand card fleece and ply their yarn. Thanks to Shari's experience with restoring spinning wheels, the museum now has a variety of working wheels to practice with. Of course, students are welcome to bring their own wheels if they prefer. Watch for details in the next letter.

Shari is a retired college professor, and has used her gift of free time to discover the joys of knitting and spinning, as well as rehabilitating antique spinning wheels. She is also an avid history buff who loves to dress up in 18th and 19th century garb, which she has sewn herself. Since wool has become a valuable commodity for Shari, she has recently started her own herd of wool producers by acquiring two adorable Shetland sheep, Elizabeth Bennet and Ann Elliot.



filled afternoon at the school house. Visitors will have a chance to see if they are Abecedarians, try their hand at orthography using a quill pen and ink, solve mathematical problems, and learn a sample of New Jersey history. During recess, visitors can try their hand at playing a variety of 19th century games, including rolling hoops, in the meadow. Apple cider and bread with apple butter will be served.

Calendar 2017 –18

<p>Sunday, October 8 <i>19th c. Schoolhouse Visit</i> Cold Brook School* 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Saturday, October 21 <i>Barn Dance</i> Betsy Gotta 7:00 - 9:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Sunday, November 5 <i>Smokehouse Demonstration</i> Susan McLellan Plaisted 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.</p>
<p>Sunday, December 3 <i>Dutch Christmas</i> Cooking, Musicians, Sinterklaas 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Sunday, February 4 <i>18 c. clothing</i> Bev Altroth and Arlene Soong 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Sunday, March 4 <i>Chocolate making</i> Susan McLellan Plaisted 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.</p>
<p>Sunday, April 8 <i>Open House</i> TBD 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Sunday, May 6 <i>18th c. Ice cream making</i> Susan McLellan Plaisted 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Saturday, May 19 <i>Barn Dance</i> Betsy Gotta 7:00 - 9:30</p>
<p>Friday, June 3 <i>Lecture: 18th c. tea</i> Susan McLellan Plaisted 7:00 - 8:30</p>	<p>Friday, July <i>Lecture</i> TBD 7:00 - 8:30</p>	<p>Friday, August <i>Lecture:</i> TBD 7:00 - 8:30</p>

Unless otherwise noted, programs will be held at the **Bouman-Stickney Farmstead**.

GPS address: 114 Dreahook Road, Lebanon NJ 08833.

Donations for all programs are gladly accepted.

Groups of six or more please call for a reservation.

*Cold Brook School, GPS address: 190 Potterstown Road, Lebanon, NJ 08833