

Farm Museum

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Susan Hanna, director of the Museum says, "We offer these courses because we feel it's important for young people to learn these crafts before they disappear completely. Also because it's an important part of our heritage, the way farmers and other people worked and created their own goods."

"These courses are taught twice a year; November and March. They are taught by craftsmen

who work at the Museum one day every week during the summer. People really seem to enjoy watching them."

The public enjoys watching so much that the Museum can boast 65,000 visitors a year.

And because crafts are so much a part of the Museum, crafts days are offered every June also. Last year over 65 types of crafts were offered. Included among these were such oddities as lacemaking,

egg scratching, weathervanes, bargello embroidery and corn pone baking.

This year on June 23-26, the 25th annual Institute of Pennsylvania Rural Life and Culture will be held. A group of faculty will be presenting seminars on formal and painted furniture, musical instruments, history of photography, agricultural technology and archeology. Also featured will be a special exhibition of period musical instruments.

Craft workshops will be presented in introductory and advanced tinsmithing;



Charles Rettew tries a little hand-building with clay. After the pot is created, it will be baked in a kiln.



Phil Richards shows Kathy Landis how to create a pot on the pottery wheel. A steady hand and a tolerance for mud seem to be the chief assets when working with clay.

woodgraining; tating, tinsel painting; cooking on the hearth and ten plate stove, introductory and advanced bandboxes; and the making of three-dimensional figures in pottery.

"Though we are funded by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, the people around the area really like to help us out. Farm Women Society 1 makes apple butter every year and donates the proceeds to us during Harvest Days at the Museum," Hanna said

The Museum was opened to the public in 1925 by the Landis brothers. The state purchased it in 1953 and re-opened the 20-building, 104-acre museum to the public.

But the farm museum truly is a "farm museum". Besides the print shop and tavern, there is a farm in operation year-round complete with chickens and pigs

The museum is open to the public all year and encourages large groups to visit. The are closed on Mondays.

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