

Kutztown Folk Festival

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tering, traditional designs of birds, tulips, and angels were painted on the documents for decoration.

The painting done by Griffiths is water-based, either being opaque water colors or tempera. Her printing is done with India ink and lettering pens. Each piece of work takes Griffiths between a half day to as long as three days to complete, depending upon the complexity.

As she acquires more experience, Griffiths noted that her works have become more complex and involved. Her most difficult problems were finding paper suitable for both ink and water based paint, but she now has a supply which will last, she related.

Griffiths works out of her home in Lancaster and attends between ten and 12 craft shows a year. "I try to find sayings with serious meanings or religious sayings," she continued, "especially since it was a very serious art for the Dutch."

This craftsman also noted that Fraktur was only practiced extensively in the southeastern

portion of Pennsylvania as a tradition dating back to the Amish ancestors of Germany. The name comes from a 16th century type face.

In doing her work, Griffiths does the lettering first because no mistake in that can be covered up. Then she proceeds to do the decorative painting. Also in tune with her original work, the finished products are set in handmade wooden frames crafted by her husband and another helper.

The Griffiths live on a twenty-one acre farm and have a few horses. They have raised five children and say they love the area they now call home.

Visitors to the folk festival have had the opportunity to meet Meryl Griffiths for the past five years that she has attended the affair.

The Festival also offered two hundred other craftsmen and their work for any visitor's attention or curiosity - all pertaining to the lore and folkways of the Pennsylvania Dutch.

Started in 1949, the Festival has become a tradition to Kutztown

Dutreys to attend session

YORK — Mr. and Mrs. George Dutrey, Dallastown, have been selected to attend a special Cooperative Couples Conference, July 28-29 in Chambersburg, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Association of Farmer Cooperatives and Penn State's College of Agriculture.

The two will join with 40 other young farm couples from throughout the Commonwealth to take part in the two-day event.

and is now affiliated with Ursinus College, Collegeville. Other crafts which could be witnessed included weathervane lore, basketweaving, wood sculpturing, rug weaving, silver and tin smithing, spinning and lace making and many, many more.

Sessions will be held at the Holiday Inn, Chambersburg.

The two are sponsored by Adams-Franklin-York Cooperative Council which serves farmer members and communities in this region.

At the conference, they will share facts, opinions, and insights about cooperatives and their role in the strength of the business enterprise system.

In addition, the two will have an opportunity to meet others to discuss ways in which they can

play a vital leadership role in cooperative and community affairs. They will take part in programs designed to pinpoint concerns of family farms and also major issues of cooperatives that serve the farms.

Conference participants will join with cooperative leaders of this area to relate current issues vital to farm leaders, cooperatives, and the community. They also will hear about the educational P.A.F.C. and Penn State programs that are benefiting rural leaders.

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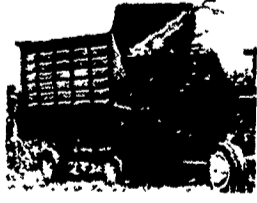
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