



# Circa 1794

*The Newsletter of Historic Rock Ford*

## Special Exhibit Opening in June:

### *Long Rifles of the American Revolution:*

### *How Lancaster County Craftsmen Helped Win the War*

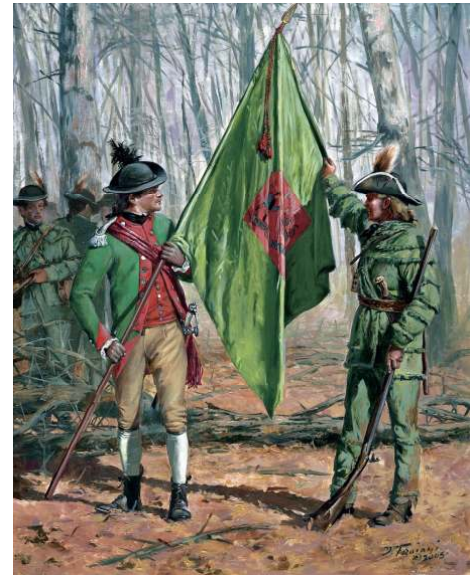
Historic Rock Ford will be hosting a new exhibit entitled *Long Rifles of the American Revolution: How Lancaster County Craftsmen Helped Win the War* from June 1 through October 30, 2022 in the Snyder Gallery. The exhibit, guest-curated by Pennsylvania long-rifle authority John Kolar, will include approximately 35 rifles and related accoutrements from museums and private collectors from across the nation. Lending institutions include the Mercer Museum and the State Museum of Pennsylvania as well as from the private collections of John Kolar, Paul Ware, David Hansen, and the late Joe Kindig, III, just to name a few. Of special consideration will be two loans from the National Museum of the United States Army: The Thomas Tileston 1773 rifle as well as the 1776 seal of the 1st Continental Regiment, of which Edward Hand was its first commander. Hand also designed the regiment's standard which shows the image engraved on the seal. Edward Hand's signature is on the only known surviving document bearing the original imprint from this seal.

This exhibit represents the first — and perhaps the only — occasion that these weapons have been brought together in a single exhibition. It will be accented by storyboards, maps, and illustrations from the work of renowned military-history artist Don Troiani all to place these artful weapons in their proper historic context.

The works of such prominent Lancaster artisans as J.P. Beck, Jacob Dickert, Joel Ferree, Heinnerich Fesler and the Bakers will be showcased. As has been articulated in the writings of both Joe Kindig, Jr. and Joe Kindig, III, despite their highly functional purpose, the unique personal styles and advanced artisanship of these rifles has earned them a prominent place in early American decorative arts as fine examples of what was perhaps the “first truly American art form.”

This exhibit will entail far more than a display of Revolutionary War weaponry. Rather, it will be presented in a narrative format to tell the story of how Lancaster County and its rifle makers played a pivotal role in supplying American rifle regiments with a weapon that provided the accuracy and flexibility to successfully overturn the tactics of musket and bayonet wielded by rigid columns of troops that had previously ruled the battlefields of 18th century Europe.

It is particularly appropriate that this exhibit will take place at the Rock Ford estate of Edward Hand, the commanding officer of the 1st Pennsylvania Rifle Regiment, which played a critical role at the Siege of Boston, the Battle of New York and the First and Second Battles of Trenton.



*1st Continental Rifle Regiment, Summer-Winter 1776, Painting by Don Troiani*



*Detail of rifle by John Phillip Beck, c. 1772, Historic Rock Ford Collection*

**2021-22 Membership Appeal**

Historic Rock Ford would like to thank the following individuals and organizations who became new members or who renewed their memberships **from November 1, 2021 to March 1, 2022**. This list will be updated in future newsletters.

**Katherine Hand Society (\$5000)**

Thomas Hills Cook  
Dorothy Mowery Smith  
Donald & Elizabeth Steckler

**Jasper Yeates Society (\$1000)**

Peter & Millicent Christie  
Dr. and Mrs. John W. Gareis  
Edith May  
Clark McSparren, Jr.  
Samuel & Laura Slaymaker

**Edward Shippen Society (\$500)**

Alan & Susan Andersen  
Donna Arment  
Jane Eastman  
Robert & Carol Falk  
Hilary Grant  
James & Lisa High  
S. Dale & Sadie High  
Robert & Deborah Smith  
Beverly R. Steinman  
Daniel Strickler, Jr. & Ellen Strickler  
Timothy & Cynthia Trussell

**George Ross Society (\$250)**

Gary & Nancy Bennett  
Michael & Barbara Brown  
Jill Edwards  
Thomas G. Englert  
Dennis & Betty Jo Grimm  
Robert & Linda Groff  
Christina Hausner  
Gary & Debbi Langmuir  
Dana Lewis  
George Mann  
Joel Marc Mumma  
Scott Nestle & Margi Bowers  
Bonnie Nolt  
Jay & Linda Shannon  
Bonnie Sowers  
John & Pamela Stoner  
Stephen Trapnell  
Dave & Micke Trussell

**Patron (\$100)**

Marguerite S.V. Adams  
Kathleen Ashworth  
Cynthia Biechler  
John & A. Joanne Bowman  
Ellen Brinton  
Susan Broomell  
Ann Carter  
Forrest & Kay Collier  
Michael Cusack  
Ray & Carol Dennis

**Patron (continued)**

Wendy Dietrich  
Richard & Charlotte Drennen  
Richard & Sylvia Drennen  
Harold & Ellen Eager  
John Frymyer & Cara Boring  
Dr. Wendell Funk  
Lisa Garner  
Thomas Gehr  
Marjorie Gerhardt  
Douglas & Gail Gibson  
Joseph & Elizabeth Gibson  
Nick Gould Photography  
Lisa Haldy  
Harold & H. Christine Hand  
Robert Hershey  
Horst Insurance  
R. Bruce & Kristen Jenkins  
Tim and Brenda Kauffman  
Tom & Sharon Kennedy  
Nancy J. Koch  
James & Stephanie Landis  
John & Karen Lyter  
Kathi Markley  
Russell & Lisa Mullen  
David & Katharine Parse  
Sally Patterson  
Ron & Judy Peters  
Alice Peterson  
Mark & Michelle Pieters  
Herbert & Joanne Poole  
Eric & Frances Rebert  
Patti Rottmund  
Sandra Scheffey  
Charles Schroeder  
Jay N. Schroeder, III  
Lee Sheaf  
Leo & Ginger Shelley  
Patricia Spotts  
Arlene Golden Stewart  
Mark Walters  
Douglas & Linda Weidman  
James Wentz & Thomas Whalen  
Nikitas & Diana Zervanos

**Business/Photographer (\$85)**

Beth Cardwell Photography  
Lauren Fisher Photography  
Nicola Herring Photography  
Janae Rose Photography  
Leslie Ann Photography  
Jessica Lupold  
Kevin Lynn Video  
Erica McBride Photography  
Annie Sharp Photography  
Michael Sheely Photography  
Tanya Stewart Photography

**Family (\$75)**

Thomas D. Bowen, Jr.  
C. John Bryer  
Rosemary Coverly & Kent Strickler  
Corey Craver & Heather Tennes  
Johanna Dawson  
William & Judith Geil  
Edward J. Hand  
Robert & Louise Harman  
James & Alace Humphreville  
Penny Kulp  
Richard & Lynda Levengood  
Sheila Martin  
Helen Pinder  
Patti Rottmund  
Karl & Betty Salmon  
Wayne & Carol Strasbaugh  
Philip & Beth Wade  
Leonard & Mary Cae Williams  
David Zimmerman

**Individual (\$50)**

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Nancy Aronson  
Cynthia Charles-Eder  
S. Kendrick Eshleman, III, M.D.  
Kary Connolly  
Margaret Darby  
Cynthia Forry  
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Nancy Wiker  
Jeff Wolgemuth



## Historic Rock Ford Dancers Prepare for Post-Pandemic Performances

by Ron Black, member, Historic Rock Ford Dancers

When Edward Hand lived at Rock Ford, the style of dancing enjoyed by most Americans was English Country Dance. Our group recently catalogued the dances we have practiced over the last four years. Surprisingly, 68 dances were listed. Using a team survey, we selected a core group of dances that we will strive to perfect, as well as a list of favorites to rotate in to keep performances fresh.

This core repertoire will be used during our upcoming Summer Sundays series at Historic Rock Ford. We plan to demonstrate these dances and invite visitors to join us in other dances that have been specifically chosen for audience participation. We hope that experiencing history through dance can make a visit to Rock Ford more memorable and help us attract new members.

The Dancers plan to participate in a collaborative event at Dill's Tavern, Dillsburg, PA this August. We have been invited to teach English Country dancing to some of the Dill's volunteers. We hope to strengthen ties with other historic sites and increase Rock Ford's visibility so that we can portray our unique story of life during America's formation as a new nation to a wider audience.

Members of the Historic Rock Ford Dancers rehearse in the hallway of the Hand Mansion during a recent gathering (pictured from left to right: Cindy Trussell, Glenda Jardel, Barbara Brown and Nancy Bennett). *Photo by Pam Stoner.*

## Welcome and Thank You!

by Kathleen Ashworth, Board of Trustees

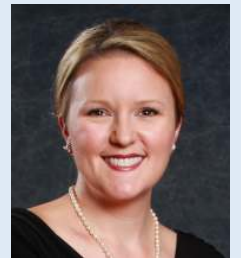
The Rock Ford Foundation Board of Trustees extends a warm welcome to our newest board member, Ann Carter. As a self-described "Army brat," Ann was born in Kansas and lived for many years in Virginia where she graduated from Sweet Briar College and subsequently worked in the College's Alumnae and Development Office. She has been in Lancaster for more than a decade. Ann is active with the Junior League of Lancaster, Children of the American Revolution, Daughters of the American Revolution and the National Society Colonial Dames of America, holding numerous leadership positions.

While the board happily welcomes Ann, we are also saying a goodbye, of sorts, to two of Rock Ford's long-term board members and greatest supporters, Lisa Haldy and Tom Englert.

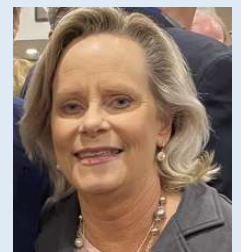
Lisa followed in her mother June's footsteps as a trustee at Rock Ford and has served several terms on the Board of Trustees. For many years Lisa volunteered countless hours and became the heart and soul of the Rock Ford gift shop. She has been a member of the Collections Committee and promises to continue to volunteer on that committee as she steps away from her role as a trustee. We are grateful that she will still be a part of the Rock Ford story.

Tom has also served on the Board of Trustees for several terms and was Board Secretary for many of those years. He volunteers more hours as a docent than any other volunteer! Tom served on the Capital Campaign Committee responsible for the John J. Snyder, Jr. Gallery of Early Lancaster County Decorative Arts. He is a generous benefactor of Historic Rock Ford and joined the cast of two plays performed at Historic Rock Ford, *Emma: The Matchmaker*, and *Sleepy Hollow: The Legend Comes to Rock Ford*. Tom has been a member of the Collections Committee, and he also will continue to volunteer in that role. We are equally grateful that Tom will be an ongoing part of the Rock Ford story.

Huzzah to Ann, Lisa and Tom!



Ann Carter



Lisa Haldy



Tom Englert



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The Rock Ford Foundation is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit tax-exempt corporation incorporated within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on May 22, 1958.

The Foundation is supported by admissions, gifts, grants, earned income from barn rentals, museum memberships, fundraising events, and bequests.

**Donate a Tree to Rock Ford**

In the Winter 2021 issue of the newsletter, an article was published describing how, at the recommendation of the Buildings and Grounds Committee, the Board of Trustees approved the removal of over a dozen dead or dying apple trees from the Rock Ford property. This work was successfully completed in January, including the grinding of all tree stumps. At the motion of committee chair Beth Cardwell and with input from Trustee and Collection's Committee Chair Cynthia Trussell and Rubio's Tree Service, the Board has now approved the planting of 10 new native species maple trees along either side of the drive to the Barn. Each tree is to be 2.5 to 3.5 inches in diameter and about 10 to 14 feet tall when planted and should provide the grounds with lovely autumn colors in the fall.



This tree is similar to what will be planted on the grounds at Historic Rock Ford.

To help defray the cost of this project, Historic Rock Ford is offering members the opportunity to donate a tree at the cost of \$500 each. Trees may be given in memory or in honor of a friend or loved one. A chart will be created showing each donor the location of his or her tree and a listing of all donors and honorees will be provided in a future issue of the newsletter. As some of the trees have already been spoken for, interested members are encouraged to contact Nancy Bradley in the museum office at 717-392-7223 ext. 103 or [office@HistoricRockFord.org](mailto:office@HistoricRockFord.org) without delay.

Historic Rock Ford acknowledges and thanks our 2021-22 Season Sponsors for their generous support:

**Lead Sponsors:** Thomas G. Englert and  
The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission  
**Supporting Sponsor:** Rhoads Energy

Historic Rock Ford, an Educational Improvement Organization, sincerely thanks Fulton Forward and UGI for their generous support of our school programming.

