

## Lecture Accents Peace Witness



Dr. Jack (John) Lowe Jr.

Jack (John) Lowe Jr., pastor of Peters Creek Church of the Brethren in Roanoke, Virginia, noted during his lecture October 11 at Immanuel Mennonite Church in Harrisonburg that Brethren and Mennonites were opposed to slavery even before they arrived in the New World. Opposition in America, however, took official form in actions by Mennonite and Brethren leaders. To read Dr. Lowe's lecture in full, go to [www.vbmhc.org/Lectures](http://www.vbmhc.org/Lectures). ❖

## School Field Trips Increase

CrossRoads hosted eight local schools this fall and four in the spring, for a total of 12 this year, bringing about 600 students to campus on field trips. Board member Linda Bomberger took the lead in setting these up, and her volunteer expertise is gratefully appreciated because each one

requires about 25 volunteer presenters or guides. The schools this fall were: Pleasant Valley, Ottobine, Cub Run, Plains, Waterman, River Bend, John C. Myers and Stanley. The students appeared to have a memorable time with hands-on activities that portrayed early Valley life. ❖



Cliff Lind demonstrates wood working tools.



Students experience hand-washing.

## Upcoming Events

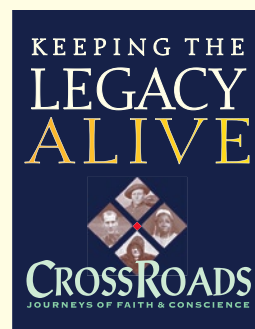
- ▶ **February 4.** Annual Dinner and Meeting at Mill Creek Church of the Brethren. 6:30 p.m.
- ▶ **March 26.** Antique/Collectibles Auction at the Social Hall, Garbers Church of the Brethren. 10 a.m.
- ▶ **April 10.** Spring Lecture. "Shenandoah Anabaptists and the Secession Crisis" by Steve Longenecker at Weavers Mennonite Church. 4 p.m.
- ▶ **April 24.** Easter sunrise service at CrossRoads. Ron Wyrick, speaker. 6 a.m.

See [www.vbmhc.org](http://www.vbmhc.org) for event details.

Valley Brethren-Mennonite Heritage Center  
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# Sunshine Warms Harvest Day



Carriage rides during Harvest Day September 25.

For the first time in three years the sun shone warmly on Harvest Day, making ice cream the dessert of choice. According to vendors Gerald & Bev Lehman, they sold 24 gallons of it. Attendance estimated at 800 pushed the number above the last two years when it was rainy and cool. Woodworking, offered for the first time by Cliff Lind and Ed Yoder, drew scores of children to imprint their name or initials on round cedar slices to hang as a souvenir around the neck. Free buckwheat pancakes made by Mary Reitz and assistants sparked interest in the preservation of the historic Breneman-Turner Mill. Music groups wafted familiar tunes across the hillside and storytellers spun Civil War yarns to eager listeners. It was a day to remember! ♦



Visitors enjoy the Harvest Day produce stand.

## FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

So what has the Heritage Center accomplished in 2010?

- Witnessed to our faith heritage with visitors from across America and around the world.
- Set a one-month visitors record in October (888 people) and passed the previous year's total that month.
- Attracted a record number of field trips from local public schools, with our volunteers providing hands-on activities.
- Began rebuilding a pioneer log house that was removed 10 years ago from the site of a new school.
- Installed a "Civil War Trails" sign at Breneman-Turner Mill, highlighting its attempted burning by Union troops.
- Built a shed for boiling molasses during the Harvest Day festival.

In 2011 we plan to finish the log house, open the Brunk Revivals truck exhibit, study the feasibility of acquiring a 19<sup>th</sup>-century barn and break ground for rebuilding an 18<sup>th</sup>-century cobbler shop. We are also planning creative ways to tie into the Civil War Sesquicentennial and to use our 10 new acres of land.

As we conclude 2010, we invite you to share financially in the witness of CrossRoads. Your gift will help strengthen the *CrossRoads Fund*, which underwrites our daily operations. Your gift this season will make a difference!



*Steve Shenk*

Steve Shenk  
Executive Director



# CHRONICLES

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Cliff Lind, Larry Martin and Ervie Glick construct the Sugar Shack on September 10. It houses the hearth to boil molasses, a cider press and an old apple grader, all used during Harvest Day.

## Do VS From Your Home

CrossRoads has opened a full-time volunteer position for persons locally to serve in Voluntary Service without leaving the area. For two years, we had the service of Janice Miller as a Brethren Volunteer Service worker from Delaware. She served for two seven-month periods. We are now looking for a full-time VSer for a similar period (half-time also possible). Time, work and minimal compensation would be similar to those in Mennonite or Brethren Volunteer Service. Contact Executive Director Steve Shenk at (540) 438-1275 or sshenk@vbmhc.org.

## CrossRoads Needs

Please call (540) 438-1275 if you can help with these needs:

- Volunteer guides, Wed. – Sat., a.m. or p.m.
- Red paint for the Burkholder-Myers House.
- Straw ticks for 19<sup>th</sup> century beds.

**Yes, I want to support the CrossRoads vision.**

Enclosed is my gift of  \$500  \$250  \$100  \$50  \$\_\_\_\_\_

I want to be a member and receive Legacy Alive (\$100 or more annual gift)

I plan to remember CrossRoads in my will.

I would like to volunteer at CrossRoads.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please clip this and send it along with your check to CrossRoads,  
P.O. Box 1563, Harrisonburg, VA 22803.

**Chronicles** is published quarterly by the Valley Brethren-Mennonite Heritage Center to nurture faith and life in Jesus Christ by sharing news and highlights of the CrossRoads mission and ministry.

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