



The Jones Log Barn Living History Center Officially Opens to the Public

Pattye Benson
President, Tredyffrin Historic Preservation Trust

What is the saying, “It takes a village to raise a child”? In the case of the Jones Log Barn Living History Center rebuilding project, “It took a community to raise a barn.”

A journey to save and rebuild the historic Jones Log Barn started twenty years ago and on Sunday, April 3, 2022, the completed Living History Center officially opened to the public.

In her opening remarks, Tredyffrin Historic Preservation Trust president Pattye Benson, thanked all who helped make the Jones Log Barn Living History Center possible, in whatever way. Additionally, she offered a heartfelt thank you to the volunteer efforts of all the current and past Trust board members for sharing her vision for the Jones Log Barn, stating, “Thank you everyone who helped make my dream a reality.”

The historic preservation work of the Trust and the building of the Jones Log Barn Living Center was only accomplished with the unwavering support of generous donors and time and talents of passionate advocates and friends. The Trust is grateful for the encouragement and collaboration from its partners in history including Valley Forge National Historic Park, Miller Design Works, Frens & Frens Architects of West Chester, Scott Walker of Axe Handle Timber, Duportail House Board of Directors, Tredyffrin-Easttown Historical Society, Radnor Historical Society, Tredyffrin Easttown School District and Tredyffrin Township.

Speakers for the Living History Center grand opening included Stacey Ballard, President/CEO of Eadeh Enterprises of Berwyn, PA State Representative Melissa Shusterman of the 157th District, Chester County Commissioner Chair Marian Moskowitz, Chester County Planning Commission Chair Michael Heaberg and the Tredyffrin Township Board of Supervisors Chair Dr. Julie Gosse. It is important to have township and community leadership who supports historic preservation efforts.

Included in the Living History Center are exhibits detailing the history of the Jones Log Barn and its rebuilding process and features an inaugural display about the Fritz Lumber Yard, its history and the Eadeh family who donated historic materials from the red Fritz Barn for the Jones Log Barn project. In addition, a remarkable collection of antique farm tools and equipment generously donated by Fred and Lura Wampler of Wayne is included in the one-of-a-kind barn museum and gives visitors an insight into 18th century farm life in Tredyffrin.

Trust President Benson closed the grand opening remarks with, ... “We celebrate the Jones Log Barn’s new life as the Living History Center and hope that it will inspire others to value their histories as foundations for their futures. For historic preservation to matter, and for our local history to be meaningful, it needs to be supported. By making this investment in our community’s rich local history, the Living History Center enhances the work of Tredyffrin Historic Preservation Trust to preserve and present Tredyffrin Township history in a meaningful way.”

The Jones Log Barn Living History Center is open 1-3 PM every Sunday between April through October, free of charge. Other times throughout the year with prior arrangement. For details, visit website www.tredyffrinhistory.org or call 610-644-6759