



# Who We Are and What We're About



The idea for the Center was created after a crafts and cultural arts center called Albion Hills Farm School, owned and operated by Edna and Wes Blackburn in Caledon East, Ontario, Canada. The dream of Bonnie & Gene Wood has been in the gathering stages for 29 years. When they reached retirement, the game plan was to create a center where historic crafts could be preserved and



taught to area youth and interested adults. Many of the area's historic structures have been demolished over the past 40 years and the Wood's were able to rescue and save parts and pieces of them, which were then used in the building of the Center. The original barn (seen above, second picture down on the right) was built in 1916 by Victor Beebee and was documented in his autobiography. The current contractor is



Mark Goodreau from Port Allegany. Mark, along with his and three other crews, were able to complete the structure in three years (above, first photo). Thirty-two men and six women worked on the building. Lumber for remodeling the original structure came from three area saw mills.



Future plans are to use the Center for classes in historic crafts, rentals to groups and organizations, garden weddings, outdoor classes, and other activities. The Center is centrally located to McKean, Potter and Cameron Counties and will feature classes in historic crafts and cultural arts native to our northern Appalachian region.



Other photos depict one of the Hemlock Springs classrooms (top left), one of the classes that was held in 2006, Campfire Cooking (left, second from top), Fairy Tea Parties, a special celebration for any important event in a young lady's life (third and fourth photos on left) and Open Studio Days (last photo on left). Hemlock Springs Center boasts interesting & unique gardens (right, third photo) and the beautiful spring house on the Center grounds (right, fourth photo). Bonnie & Gene Wood (pictured to the right) invite you to the Center for a Fairy Tea Party, a class in native Appalachian historic crafts and cultural arts or for Open Studio Days, where artists can use the Center for relaxation and inspiration.

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