

# Places In Time

## LAWRENCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FALL 2006



Rear Admiral Paul Edward Tobin, Jr. (pictured above) will present the **Third Annual Mary Tanner Lecture**. It will be given on **Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm** in Behr Hall on the campus of The Lawrenceville School from which Rear Admiral Tobin graduated in 1958. The lecture is entitled "Victory from Defeat" and its subject is Captain James Lawrence, name sake of our township and the originator of the official U. S Navy slogan, "Don't Give up the Ship!" The lecture is free and a reception will follow.

Rear Admiral Tobin's personal Awards include two Distinguished Service Medal's, four Legions of Merit, the Bronze Star, the Meritorious Service Medal, and three Navy Commendation Medals.

The first two speakers from the series were James McPherson and Tom Kindre.

### Calendar of Events

Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>—Noon to 4 PM. **Community Day.** The LHS will participate in the celebration of the 225<sup>th</sup> birthday of James Lawrence.

Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup> **Hogmanay: New Year's Eve Bonfire** in "The Great Meadow" 6 PM  
Hogmanay is a Scottish tradition. Pieces of paper with "bad happenings" from the past year are thrown into the fire in hopes that they won't reoccur. Refreshments will be served

Saturday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2005 **The Annual Colonel Hand March to Trenton** will begin at the steps of the Lawrence Township Municipal Building led by LHS Board Member Bill Agress.

**Annual Membership Meeting to be Held Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup> 2007 at 2 PM in the Lawrence Municipal Building**

**Regularly 2006-07 Scheduled Tours** of the Brearley House 10 AM-12 Noon The first Saturday of each month:

October 7 <sup>th</sup>	November 4 <sup>th</sup>	December 2 <sup>nd</sup>
January 6 <sup>th</sup>	February 3 <sup>rd</sup>	March 3 <sup>rd</sup>

**Tours of the Port Mercer Canal House** can be scheduled by calling (732) 873-3050. On occasion, tours and hikes from Port Mercer coincide with tours of the Brearley House.



**Mary Tanner Lecturer Biography...**

Rear Admiral Paul Edward Tobin, Jr., graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1963. Among his variety of Naval assignments, Rear Admiral Tobin commanded the USS TATTNALL (DDG 19) and the USS FOX (CG 33). The Rear Admiral Paul Edward Tobin, Jr. held many positions throughout his distinguished thirty-five year career in the Navy. His final assignment was as Oceanographer of the Navy.

After retiring from active duty in 1998, Rear Admiral Tobin became the Executive Director of AFCEA in Fairfax, Virginia. In 2005, Rear Admiral Tobin assumed duties as the 11th Director of Naval History. He is married to Lynne Carter Tobin from Shaker Heights, Ohio, and they have two daughters, Mary Elizabeth and Patricia.

Special guests at the lecture will be members of the Burlington County Historical Society, which boasts the birthplace of Captain Lawrence. Society Executive Director Lisa Fox and Education Director Jeffrey Macechak will personally invite us to their all-day Lawrence celebration on October 29<sup>th</sup>.



Award winning *Places in Time* photographer and LHS Board Member, Jim Williams (left) accepts a certificate for Second Place in the category of “Newsletters” from Robert J. Hunter, President of the League of Historical Societies of New Jersey. *PIT* competed statewide for the award. First Place was awarded to the *New Town Crier* published by the Historical Society of Bloomfield. Third Place was awarded to the *Hopewell Valley Historical Society Newsletter*.

**Funds for LHS Administrator Sought...**

This past winter, The Society Board of Directors submitted a grant request of \$10,000 to the New Jersey Historical Commission to help offset the cost of retaining a part-time administrator. Earlier this summer, citing “yeoman and successful efforts to restore two sites...” (The Brearley House and the Port Mercer Canal House), the review panel identified several challenges which face the LHS before funding can be secured. The panel noted a reduction in membership and programs and the absence of an organized fund raiser or annual appeal. Although the LHS has excellent and long standing corporate sponsors—namely ETS and PNC Bank, the panel felt more corporate contributions could be secured. They also pointed out that the proposed responsibilities of the administrator far exceeded the 9 hours per week that were budgeted.

**LHS 30 Years Old**

The Lawrence Historical Society celebrated its Thirtieth anniversary with a dinner held earlier this spring at Lamberti’s Cucina Restaurant. Twenty current and former board members attended the celebration which included four past LHS Presidents. Pictured at left, from left to right are Paul Gatterdam, Ruth Barringer, Janet Bickal and Milton Levin.

*Places in Time* is published by the Lawrence Historical Society. Contributors to this edition: Laura Nawrocik, Paul Gatterdam and Janet Bickal. Jim Williams is the LHS photographer. Dan Oberst is the LHS Webmaster. Please visit us on the web at [www.TheLHS.org](http://www.TheLHS.org).

**Join the Lawrence Historical Society!**

Join the society today or renew your membership! Members receive the society newsletter, and notice and discounts of society events. The society is a non-profit, charitable organization.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Tel (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street \_\_\_\_\_  
 Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Is this a renewal? \_\_\_\_\_

- |                  |       |   |
|------------------|-------|---|
| Student .....    | \$5   | Mail to:<br>Lawrence Historical Society<br>PO Box 6025<br>Lawrenceville, NJ 08648 |
| Family .....     | \$35  |   |
| Lifetime .....   | \$250 |   |
| Senior .....     | \$5   |   |
| Patron .....     | \$50  |   |
| Business .....   | \$50  |   |
| Individual ..... | \$15  |   |
| Benefactor ..... | \$500 |   |

I am enclosing a special contribution to commemorate \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday and anniversary cards can be sent if you supply us with an address.



### Society Fundraising

LHS Board member Laura Nawrocik came up with two great fund raising ideas. June 12<sup>th</sup> was LHS night at the Cold Stone Creamery in the Mercer Mall. The Creamery contributed 25% of their profits for the evening to the Society.

Laura also signed the LHS up to sell tickets to the Boston Pops holiday concert at Sovereign Bank Arena on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> beginning at 1 PM in the afternoon. For each regular \$40 ticket sold, the Society keeps \$20. For those who haven't bought tickets, it's not too late. Use the order form on p. 4 or call 895-1728 for more information.



LHS Board Member Laura Nawrocik with James Brearley at the LHS Cold Stone Creamery fundraiser.

### Bargaining at Brearley

On Saturday, August 5, the regular monthly tour of the Brearley House was augmented by several features. Our master gardener, Ron LeMahieu, was in the herb garden to show off its summer splendor. Vicki Chirko led a group of hikers from the Port Mercer Canal House via the canal tow path and the Brearley Trail.

Several hundred shoppers bore down on the Great Meadow to browse the wares offered by several vendors and the LHS boutique. Many asked when our next sale would be and toured the Brearley House for the first time. The event was a great success for the Society, both financially and educationally. Thanks to all our volunteer tour guides, traffic controllers and sales-persons.



### May Fair Celebrates Spring



On Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, Mayor Michael Powers presented bouquets of daisies to Brownie Girl Scouts (pictured above) who performed the traditional dance around the May Pole. The Somerset Puppeteers delighted children with Punch and Judy, the River Morris from Princeton did their lusty dances, and the live pony carousel thrilled the little ones. Although the attendance was disappointing, all those who came had a wonderful time. Next year the Society plans a less ambitious, and less costly, celebration of the beginning of spring. It will enable the LHS to participate in the New Jersey State May event on the same day in Washington Crossing State Park.

### Society Presents Winona D. Nash LHS History Award to Lawrence High School Senior...



Board Member John Halvorsen presents a check to Alexander Ramey in May. The award is given annually by the LHS to a graduating senior.

### Memorial Day Parade

Alice and Helen Lahoda (pictured left) wave to the crowds along the Lawrence Township Memorial Day Parade route from the LHS "Float".

The Lawrence Historical Society Board of Trustees meet on the fourth Monday of each month at 7:30 PM in The Brearley House. If you would like to become more involved in Society activities and events, please call 895-1728 and express your interest. Volunteers are crucial to the continued success, function and growth of the Society.

**The Boston Pops to perform on Sunday Afternoon  
December 17<sup>th</sup> Sovereign Bank Arena—LHS to benefit**

For over a century, the Boston Pops have combined light classical music, tunes from the current hits of the musical theater and an occasional novelty number into their unique performances. The world renowned Boston Pops are coming to Trenton in December. They are conducted by Keith Lockhart and continue to entertain fans in symphony halls, concert halls, arenas and theaters through the world.

Help support the LHS with the purchase of every concert ticket! Make check payable to the Lawrence Historical Society and mail payment and order form below to:

Linda Nawrocik  
c/o The Lawrence Historical Society  
P.O. Box 6025  
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

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(clip-and-mail)

# Tickets	Ticket Price	Total
	\$40	

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

I need handicap seating--# of tickets: \_\_\_\_\_

**Garden Party draws Crowd off the Canal...**



The Lawrence Historical Society hosted a free garden party at the Port Mercer Canal House in the afternoon on June 11<sup>th</sup>. Canoeists on the D&R Canal and walkers on the towpath were invited to the festivities. Approximately 100 visitors were served ice cream from the Cold Stone Creamery by server Laura Nawrocik. Ruth Barringer and Carolyn Kozlowski gave tours of the house to about 50 people. The Rhythmairs (above) delighted the guests with "oldies" and rousing patriotic musical entertainment. Others providing assistance at the annual event included Joann and Dick Graja, Paul Gatterdam, Jim Williams, and John Halvorsen.

The Rythmairs have performed at the LHS garden party for the past five years. The band (above, left to right) includes John Bonfanti, Frank Carr and John Brown. The event is part of Lawrence Township's Canoe the Canal Day.



**LAWRENCE  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

The Lawrence Historical Society  
Box 6025, Lawrenceville, New Jersey 08648

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