

# Places In Time

## LAWRENCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

### SPECIAL LONG RANGE PLANNING EDITION-2004

#### PACF Awards Planning Grant to Society

The Lawrence Historical Society (LHS) has been awarded a \$2500 grant from the Princeton Area Community Foundation (PACF). PACF is providing support to the Lawrence Historical Society for its long range planning activities to help the Society grow and meet the expanding needs of its diverse community.

"Our mission directs us to help the LHS board do its work well so the Historical Society can thrive in the future," said Nancy Kieling, PACF's Executive Director.



Ruth Barringer, LHS Treasurer (left) and Debby D'Arcangelo, PACF Trustee at PACF's Grants Reception honoring 2003 grantees on January 15, 2004.

"PACF moved to its new home at 15 Princess Road in October, and is finding Lawrence to be an excellent home for its work to promote philanthropy and strengthen nonprofits in the region. We are delighted to be a part of this vibrant and welcoming community."

After hearing that the Society had received the grant, LHS President Janet Bickal invited members of the community to join a long range planning committee. Members include: (see PACF Grant page 2)

**Annual LHS Membership Meeting, Sunday February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2 PM.** Princeton University Professor Emeritus, **T. James Luce of Pennington** will be the featured speaker. "*Two 19<sup>th</sup> Century Sourland Characters: Silvia Dubois and her Biographer, C. W. Larison.*" will be presented in the Lower Level Community Room at Lawrence Township Hall. Refreshments will be served.

#### 2004 Scheduled House Tours

**Port Mercer Canal House**—4378 Quakerbridge Rd. The next scheduled Open House will be:

**Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup>**

Saturday March 20<sup>th</sup>.

Both are from **1 to 3:30 PM**. Special Canal House Tours can be scheduled by calling (732) 873-3050.

**The Brearley House**—100 Meadow Road  
10 AM-12 noon. The first **Saturday** of each month:

<b>March 6<sup>th</sup></b>	April 3 <sup>rd</sup>	May 1 <sup>st</sup>
June 5 <sup>th</sup>	July 3 <sup>rd</sup>	August 7 <sup>th</sup>

The **Second Annual May Fair** Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup>  
10 AM until 4 PM The Great Meadow

**"Spirit of the Jerseys: A Centennial Fair"**  
**Saturday, May 8<sup>th</sup>** from 11 AM to 4 PM at Washington Crossing State Park, Titusville, NJ (more on p. 3)

**Lawrence Middle School Archeological Digs**—Early May. Check [www.LTPS.org](http://www.LTPS.org) for dates and findings.

**Dr. James M. McPherson Lecture** Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM in the Lawrenceville Presbyterian Church. (more on p. 2)

**Memorial Day Parade**—Saturday, May 29<sup>th</sup>

**Canoe the Canal Day**, Sunday, June 13<sup>th</sup>. Join LHS members at the Port Mercer Canal House from 2 to 4 PM for churned ice cream and live music.

#### On the Inside...

Slate of LHS Board Nominees

The LHS Survey

LHS Membership Form

"December 2003"

### Noted Historian to Lecture...

The Lawrence Historical Society is proud to announce that Dr. James M. McPherson will be the initial speaker in a planned series of lectures. Dr. McPherson will speak on "The Global Effect of the American Civil War" at 2 pm, Sunday May 16<sup>th</sup> in the meeting room of the Presbyterian Church of Lawrenceville. Admission is free and a reception will follow the lecture.

Dr. McPherson, the George Henry Davis Professor of History at Princeton University, won the Pulitzer Prize in 1989 for his book *Battle Cry of Freedom*. It has been called the best single-volume study of the American Civil War. Widely recognized as the preeminent living expert on that war, he has written extensively both for adults and children and served as consultant on the Ken Burns PBS documentary. Professor McPherson is noted for his treatment of the contributions of African-Americans and abolitionists in the struggle to free slaves. He is a leader in the effort to preserve important historical sites such as Civil War battlefields.

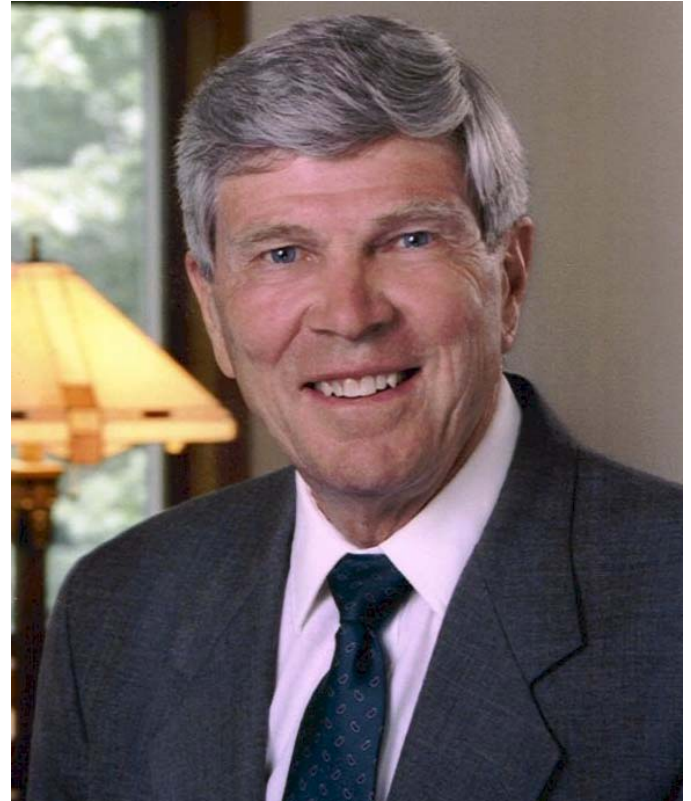
### LHS Receives PACF Grant (continued from p. 1)

Lawrence Township Deputy Mayor Pam Mount, School Superintendent Dr. Max R. Riley, Lawrence Historian Richard Graja, Delaware & Raritan Canal Parks Superintendent Susan Herron, Rider University professor Brooke Hunter, Hunter Research archeologist Dr. Ian Burrow and seven Society trustees. The committee is charged with drafting a long range plan for consideration by the board. The plan will be presented to the full membership at the annual meeting in February 2005.

The restoration of the 1761 Brearley House in May of 2000 was the culmination of years of work and dedication. Currently, the Society focuses on topics related to the era between 1760 and the date of the construction of the 1830 Port Mercer Canal House.

Irwin Stoolmacher of the Stoolmacher Consulting Group will serve as the project facilitator. His firm specializes in long-range planning, fundraising and community relations for non profit organization. A questionnaire has been developed by the steering committee and has been mailed to over 1300 members and friends of the Society. It will also be distributed through the local school system and to targeted groups including Lawrence's senior citizens and Spanish speaking populations.

Alison Roth



Dr. James M. McPherson will speak on Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at the Lawrenceville Presbyterian Church

### LHS Board of Trustees Nominations

The following individuals have been nominated to serve as Officers and Trustees for 2004. A formal vote will be taken at the February 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting:

#### Society Officers

President - Janet Bickal  
Vice-President - Bruce Bitcover  
Secretary - Paul Gatterdam  
Treasurer - Ruth Barringer

#### Trustees

Bill Agress	Caryn Goldenberg
Richard Graja	John Halvorsen
Eleanor Horne	Chris Lahoda
Don Meisel	Dan Oberst
Karen Perkins	Frank Spiegle
Jim Washburn	Jim Williams

*Places in Time* is published by the Lawrence Historical Society. Jim Williams is the *PIT* photographer. Dan Oberst is the [www.TheLHS.org](http://www.TheLHS.org) webmaster. Donald Meisel is the *PIT* editor.

For more information, call 895-1728.



The Great Meadow's official firestarter Joe Logan prepares to light the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Hogmanay Bonfire.

**“Spirit of the Jerseys: A Centennial Fair”** is an event being sponsored by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Parks and Forestry, State Park Service. It “will be a historical festival showcasing our State Historic Sites with historical presentations, demonstrations, crafts, food, music and games”. The celebration is free to the public.

February is when **“Dues are Due”**. Please take the time to fill out your membership form (page 4) make out your check and return it to the Society.

### **Want to be environmentally correct?**

Visit [www.TheLHS.org](http://www.TheLHS.org) and sign up to receive your *Places in Time* newsletter before everyone else ...and in color! If you are an LHS member, provide us with your e-mail address and the Society will e-mail you announcements, press releases and reminders throughout the year. Your participation will reduce costs and keep you more informed.

### **A December to Remember...**

In 2003, December came in like a lion and left in a blaze of glory in the Great Meadow. On Sunday, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>, nearly a foot of snow kept all but 30 or so hardy celebrants from our annual Wassail Party. However, the Garden Gate Garden Club, Adorn European Florist, and Village Traditions managed to get through to decorate the rooms, the Girl Scouts decorated 30 gingerbread men, Caryn Goldenberg, in period dress, and Dan Oberst, on skis, made *The Trentonian*, John Halverson made the wassail, and Don Meisel, Paul Gatterdam, and Jim Williams made it possible for drivers to navigate the narrow plowed lane of Meadow Road.

The weather man was far kinder to us on New Year's Eve, when about 200 celebrants arrived to watch Joe Logan's great Hogmanay bonfire and sing along to Graham Kronk's bagpipes. The fire was fueled from the branches of a great 100+ year old oak tree that snapped on the northern edge of the meadow during the fall tornadoes. The somewhat “green” wood made it a bit more challenging and time consuming to start the blaze!

Later, inside the house, several very young dancers stepped lively to Graham's fiddle playing. This year, the usual hot cocoa was supplemented by three fine carrot cakes, a gift of John Marshall of Main Street Catering. Several of the children couldn't resist dipping a finger into the frosting on a purely decorative fourth cake that featured our 1761 “We Dig History” logo. It still tasted good!

January arrived in time for Colonel Edward Hand to delay and preoccupy British and Hessian troops, thus, ensure victory at the Battle of Princeton. It was the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Reenactment which originally included a conflict at the Shabakunk Creek.

### **Quiet...Healing at Work**

The Lawrence Center for Mind-Body-Spirit (a non-profit organization) will be holding weekend sessions throughout the spring of 2004 at the Brearley House. Visitors to the grounds are asked to be respectful of participants. The Center is “dedicated to providing ongoing programs for personal growth, physical health and spiritual well-being and support for people in transition”. For information, please call Faye Moore at 882-3222.

## 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
- Family ..... \$35
- Lifetime ..... \$250
- Senior ..... \$5
- Patron ..... \$50
- Business ..... \$50
- Individual ..... \$15
- Benefactor ..... \$500

Mail to:  
Lawrence Historical Society  
PO Box 6025  
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648



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