

1996

Lawrence Historical Society

Formed November 28, 1975
Incorporated June 15, 1976

P.O. Box 6025 - Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, from 1-4 PM at the Canal House. Traditional wassail and cookies will be served, and gift items will be available for sale. Gingerbread people will be sold, and can be decorated. The house will be decorated for the holidays and will look festive.

ANTIQUÉ FURNITURE on loan is displayed on the first floor. Be sure to take note when you come to the Holiday Open House.

BREARLEY HOUSE The Board of Trustees reported to you that Town Council on April 17, 1996, unanimously passed a Resolution stating that if the Lawrence Historical Society would raise a total of \$175,000 by the end of 1996, Town Council would apply for a matching grant from the New Jersey Historic Trust to secure the necessary funding to restore the 1761 Brearley House.

There has been much activity of the Fund Raising Committee to raise funds:

- * An appeal letter was sent widely throughout the Township and immediate surrounding areas, and the response has been encouraging.

- * A talk about the project to the Colonial Heights Civic Association.

- * Slide show regarding the Brearleys and the House were given by Mary Tanner to the Rotarians, 3 Senior Citizens Clubs, and the Sons of Colonial Wars.

- * Guided public tours of the Brearley House were given in July, August, September, October and November, and the last one this year will be Saturday, December 7, at 10 AM. Dress warmly. The number of people attending has increased each time, and some Brearleys have come.

- * GIFTS IN MEMORY OF GRETEL GATTERDAM, former Lawrence Mayor and Councilwoman have been received since her untimely death in July, and these have been dedicated to the front door and front hallway of the Brearley House where, we're sure, she would have been a gracious hostess. Gretel cared deeply about restoring the Brearley House and creating a trail on the property. She regularly came to Society functions, Open Houses and Annual Meetings, and her enthusiasm and support will be missed. Her family requested memorial donations in her name be given to the restoration fund.

- * A table at Terhune's Apple Day allowed displays, and brochures about the project were handed out. Copies of an original sketch of the Brearley House were given to children to color.

- * A table at Community Day provided the opportunity to distribute literature and talk about the project.

- * A member of the Fund Raising Committee, Candice Brearley, contacted Brearley listed in telephone books across the country asking for donations and/or furnishings. The response has been good, and two have sent family geneological charts showing their ancestors as descended from the Brearley who erected the 1761 Brearley House.

- * Candice was interviewed on cable in September, and this ran for several times.

