

Lawrence Historical Society

P.O. Box 6025 - Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

Formed November 28, 1975
Incorporated June 15, 1976

GARDEN PARTY

Will be Sunday, June 9, 1996, from 1 - 4 PM at the Canal House at Port Mercer. This annual open house is also Canoe-the-Canal Day, a favorite of many people. This year there will be a hot air balloon at the site; and, weather permitting, perhaps we'll all get a turn to be in the gondola for an aerial view. Dixie Land music will start about 3 pm. Syd, the poster bird for Mercer County Library, will visit and "talk" to us about Birds as Pets in Victorian Times. Howell Living Farms will bring equipment for hands-on corn threshing, and there will be custom jewelry available for sale. We didn't forget that favorite: homemade ice cream where everyone can take a turn with cranking the handle.

Come and enjoy the gardens - they look lovely. And we can use the new road from Princeton Pike - and forget about using Route 1.

FURNITURE ON LOAN

A few pieces of furniture, all antique, are now on the first floor of the Canal House on loan. Be sure to take note when you come to the Garden Party.

BREARLEY HOUSE

Representatives from the Board of Trustees of the Society met before Town Council on April 17, 1996, to respond to a Resolution regarding the Brearley House. Town Council unanimously endorsed the Resolution which states that, if the Society's fund raising can reach an additional \$85,000 by the end of 1996, then Town Council will apply for a matching grant from the New Jersey Historic Trust funds. This is a timely effort and commitment as 1997 is Lawrence Township's Tercentenary.

The Society has accepted this challenge - and a large one it is - because now is the time to be committed to restoration of this 1761 brick farmhouse which will be the only pre-Revolutionary home in Lawrence Township to be open to the public.

Prior to accepting this challenge, the Fund-Raising Committee reported donations of almost \$30,000 had been given to the restoration.

YOU CAN HELP! By serving on the Fund-Raising Committee - By advice based on professional experience in this area - By applying to serve on an Ad Hoc Township Committee to recommend public and private uses of the restored house and adjacent tract for trails, passive recreation, farming, and gardens - By ideas for raising funds - By donations. Call Ruth Barringer 883-3462 or Betsey Harding 896-0421 or Martha Logan 683-1371.

T-SHIRTS

Are still available at Four Star Video on Main Street in Lawrenceville in children's and adult sizes. The sales are a fund raiser for the Brearley House. Call Colette Coolbaugh at 771-0711 to place an order.

ANNUAL MEETING

Was held on February 11, 1996. Jim Male, the new owner of the Hill House, showed slides of the dismantling and reconstruction of the Hill House, and, unless you saw the slides, you would find it hard to believe how systematic this post-and-beam construction is. It is at a lovely site in New York State and looks better than anyone can ever remember. Jim deserves a lot of credit for this undertaking.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Society is always appreciative of help. This includes ideas for projects, highlighting historical issues, serving on the Board, or just general interest. Call Ruth Barringer at 883-3462.

CANAL HOUSE

The Canal House, the headquarters of the Lawrence Historical Society, was built in the 1830's with a kitchen added in the latter part of the 19th Century. It is the first bridgetender's house completely restored along the Delaware & Raritan Canal, and the first restored by a non-profit organization.

The Canal House and the Port Mercer area are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Invites you to call with suggestions, ideas, questions - anything on your mind.

Ruth Barringer	883-3462
Colette Coolbaugh	771-0711
John Halvorsen	896-0910
Betsey Harding	896-0421
Lori Jakubek	895-0324
Martha Logan	683-1371
Lisa Rubin	895-6979
Jean Stephens	896-1738
Mary Tanner	921-8696

TELL A FRIEND ABOUT LAWRENCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*Lawrence
Historical
Society*

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ANNUAL GARDEN PARTY

DATE: SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 1996
TIME: 1 - 4 PM
WHERE: CANAL HOUSE, PORT MERCER

FREE ADMISSION

HOT AIR BALLOON

DIXIE LAND MUSIC STARTING AROUND 3 PM

SYD, POSTER BIRD FOR MERCER COUNTY LIBRARY

HOWELL LIVING FARMS - hands-on demonstrations

HOME MADE ICE CREAM - everyone can crank the handle

FEW PIECES ANTIQUE FURNITURE ON DISPLAY

BREARLEY HOUSE T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE

NOTE CARDS OF HISTORIC HOMES

FINALLY - THE ROAD FROM PRINCETON PIKE OVER THE CANAL IS COMPLETED