

# 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.

