



Friendship School - Circa 1830

SHOUT

SAFEKEEPING THE HERITAGE OF UPPER TOWNSHIP

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY THE
HISTORICAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY
OF UPPER TOWNSHIP



Rooted in the Past - Enjoyed in the Present - Preserved for the Future

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Calendar of Events



December

- 8th – Our **Annual Holiday Dinner and Installation of Officers**. See details on the center color page of this issue. Cut out and mail in your reservation. Be there or be square!



January

- 5th – Board of Trustees at train station 4 pm. Any member who wishes to may attend meetings of the board.
- There is no regular meeting in January.



February

- 2nd – Board of Trustees at train station 4 pm.
- There is no regular meeting in February.



March

- 1st – Board of Trustees at train station 4 pm
- 8th – **Annual Covered Dish Supper and Show and Tell**. The Society resumes activities after our winter break. Come out to a delicious supper and interesting evening. More details will be in the February issue of the SHOUT.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



My term is ending and this is my last letter as President of the Society. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Board of Trustees and all our many faithful members for their hard work and dedication.

In the last two years we have completed a number of projects which have served our community. We started with the production of our award winning DVD of the "History of Upper Township". We published a monthly article in the local newspaper entitled "Focus on History" along with our short stories. We worked with other organizations in the township on various projects. We installed a new sign for the Seaville Holly Tree which is said to be the oldest in the state and maybe the nation.

We have added to our collections and have received significant donations such as: a stained glass window from the historic Beesley's Point Hotel, the bullet scared clock from the Tuckahoe National Bank, the antique drum from the famous Tuckahoe Band and the radiator from the get-away car used in the 1925 Tuckahoe Bank robbery. A grant from Cape Bank enabled the Society to produce ten paintings from local artists of the ten villages of Upper Township. In addition we have continued to stage our annual Strawberry Festival and AppleFest.

We have provided many interesting speakers at our monthly general membership meeting and we continue to work with the Township Committee in preserving our three historic buildings - Friendship School, Gandy Farmstead and the Tuckahoe Train Station. Also, we have established a Museum Committee who will explore the possibility of our own Upper Township Historical Museum.

Looking ahead we might concentrate for a while on our more recent history like the Fabulous Fifties and Soaring Sixties and how these times affected our township. We will look at the people and personalities, elections and politicians and the businesses that have grown our community. It should be fun to look back at these periods as many people in the area have lived them and remember them well. We ask to look through your belonging for relics of the past so we preserve them for the future generations.

It has been such an honor and I am so happy to have served the Society for the past two years and I look forward to our work together. Thank you!

Mike Houdart

COME GROW WITH US

"YOU HAVE TO KNOW THE PAST TO UNDERSTAND THE FUTURE"

Carl Sagan

THE SOCIETY ALWAYS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS!

Rooted in the Past

Enjoyed in the Present

Preserved for the Future



GASLIGHTS IN TUCKAHOE

As everyone will notice, the construction in Tuckahoe is progressing and before long we will see the benefits. We will see the new sidewalks and curbs and we will also see the old-time looking streetlights that will be installed. They will look like the gas lights that used to illuminate the streets of the town.

Below is an article written by Alwina Bailey some years ago about the gas lights in Tuckahoe.

“In the early days of the twentieth century there was a gas plant in Tuckahoe. Whether it was owned by the township or whether they contracted for service with the owner I do not know, but there were about twenty or more gas street lights in town. There was a regular lamplighter whose duty it was to light the lamps each day at dusk, no matter what the weather, and to turn them off each dawn. This went on until electricity came to Tuckahoe. Many people in town also used this gas for lighting their homes.

Those families who lived some distance from town might have their own system instead. Remember that in those days people who lived on both sides of the river were considered to be residents of Tuckahoe. The more affluent and adventuresome farmers were sure to have the latest invention for family comfort.

In their yard they had an open cylinder, about two feet in diameter, sunk into the ground. This contained water. There was a piston-like arrangement consisting of a hollow dome-shaped bell that floated. It had an eye so it could be lifted. Suspended from inside the top of the bell was a wire basket into which was put calcium carbide. When it hit the water it formed acetylene gas and filled the bell. A rubber hose ran from the top of the bell to a pipe in the house. When the gas was not being used it collected in the dome, increasing the pressure and thus lifting the basket of calcium carbide out of the water, automatically stopping the process until gas was needed again.”

NOTE: The gas plant is still standing and it is the block building located just one house from the Tuckahoe Bridge.

ACCESSIONS

South Jersey a History – Volume V1872, Beers Map – Reproduction, BY: M. Houdart

15th Annual AppleFest, Gandy Farmstead, Historical Preservation Society of Upper Township, Cape May Co.





We're Celebrating Christmas!

Come Join Us!

on

Tuesday, December 8th

at

The Tuckahoe Inn

Cocktails 6:00, Dinner will be served at 6:30.

YOU HAVE YOUR CHOICE OF:

CHICKEN MARSALA,

CHEF TYSON'S CRAB CAKE

OR

PRIME RIB

ALL DINNERS COMPLETE WITH MIXED GREEN SALAD, SIDE DISHES,

DESSERT AND COFFEE/TEA

\$30.00 PER PERSON

WE WILL BE DONATING TO A LOCAL FOOD BANK THIS YEAR SO PLEASE BRING SOME NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS FOR OUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING BAGS...THANK YOU



NAME/S: _____

CHOICE: PRIME RIB # _____

CRAB CAKES # _____

CHICKEN MARSALA # _____

TOTAL: \$ _____ ENCLOSED

TEAR OFF AND RETURN WITH CHECK MADE OUT TO HPSUT BY DEC. 1ST. TO:

CARROLL BAILEY

P.O. Box 507

TUCKAHOE, NJ, 08250

MUSEUM SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Historical Preservation Society of Upper Township is investigating the possibility of having a museum. Over the years many donations of historical objects have been made to the society and although they are catalogued, we have no way to display them or to give the community access to them.

The Museum Search Committee of the Historic Preservation Society of Upper Township met on Monday October 26th at 9 AM to discuss the future direction of the committee. Mike Houdart, president of the society was present along with Committee Chairperson, Bob Holden and members, Sonia Forry and Doug Longenecker.

The committee discussed a variety of possibilities for a proposed museum for the township. The main discussion was about the Old Township Hall in Tuckahoe. It is on the top of the list of proposed sites that the committee will be looking into. Other locations and possibilities were discussed, but at this time, there seems to be no other apparent possibilities for a location. If anyone in the township has an available piece of property or has a building available which he or she would like to donate to the society for use as a township museum, please contact Bob Holden at 856-506-2153.



THE HISTORICAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY OF UPPER TOWNSHIP NJ INC. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO *HPSUT* AND REMIT WITH THIS FORM TO:

**CARROLL BAILEY
P.O. Box 507
TUCKAHOE, NJ, 08250**



Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-Mail: _____

MEMBERSHIP POLICY:

____ Student @ \$5.00/ea.

____ Individual @ \$15.00/ea.

____ Couple (Both under 65) \$25.00

____ Sr. Couple (Both 65 or older) \$20.00

____ Business or organization \$75.00



Dr. Allan Stretch of Seaville, volunteered to build a cradle for the old 1889 Beesley's Point school bell that was donated to the Society by Mr. Delcorio. The bell is now housed on its new cradle at the Friendship School in Palermo and kindergarten classes that visit the school yearly will now be able to ring and hear the sound of an old school bell.



THANK YOU!

THANKYOU!

THANKYOU!

**For making the AppleFest
such a success!**

**For a while the committee
thought we would be doing
it all alone, but at the last
minute many members and
nonmembers showed up to
help, making the day happy,
fun and profitable. We
couldn't have done it
without you.**

**The food was great. It
was a beautiful day, we sold
out of everything.**

**Everyone enjoyed
themselves and learned
something too. What more
could we ask for?**

PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR LOCAL SPONSORS.

This newsletter is sponsored by the law firm of:

Loveland Garrett & Batastini P.A.

Ocean City, NJ, 08226



Historical Preservation Society
of Upper Township, NJ, Inc.
P.O. Box 658
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