

Friendship School - Circa 1830

S.H.O.U.T.

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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WEBSITE: www.uppertwphistory.org EMAIL: UpperTwpHistory@yahoo.com PHONE: (609)390-5656 ADDRESS: PO Box 658, Marmora, NJ, 08223

OFFICERS & TRUSTEES

PRESIDENT

Mike Houdart
628-2590

mhoudart@comcast.net

VICE PRESIDENT & PROGRAM CHAIR

Harriett Reardon Bailey
624-3311

RECORDING SEC'R

Barb Horan 628-3259
barbjmh@verizon.net

TREASURER

Carroll Bailey
628-2425

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Patricia Ogle
390-3205

SPECIAL TRUSTEE

Doug Longenecker
701-0034
dougmgt@yahoo.com

TRUSTEE AT LARGE

Michael Horan
628-3259
barbjmh@verizon.net

PUBLICITY CHAIR & SHOUT EDITOR

Marj Bixby - 628-3053
bixby1@comcast.net

HISTORIAN

Sonia Forry - 628-3041
salf45@comcast.net



PROGRAMS FOR THE SPRING



Arranged for us by Harriett Reardon Bailey

March 11th - Covered Dish Supper – Show and Tell – Welcome to new members!

April 8th - Joan Boden will present a program entitled: MY FATHER'S MEMORIES OF WORLD WAR I. She will be sharing excerpts from his letters plus her vast collection of memorabilia that she has found over the years. It is a very interesting presentation and I'm sure you will enjoy the program. Joan comes to us from Bridgeton and I hope you will encourage your friends and neighbors to join us.

May 13th – Alice McGuigan will tell us about the creation of Dennis Township from Upper Township and its early industries of ship building and cedar shingle mining. She will share slides of Dennisville's development and growth along with interesting facts about some of its first settlers and their homes. Alice has a vast amount of knowledge about Dennisville and has even written a book about her town. Come and learn!

June 10th – This will be another 'sharing program' by many of our longtime Upper Township residents. It will be entitled: UPPER TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS: FROM THE PAST TO THE PRESENT, or 'School Days'. If you attended any of the numerous schools in our township, this is your chance to share your memories and recollections. There will be a display of pictures and items from the first school in 1801 to the most recent ones. You have plenty of time to look through your closets and the attic to find report cards, class photos and certificates. We would like to scan them and return the originals so we can add to our society's collection. Our fall program on the railroads was very interesting and this one should prove to be just as fascinating. Let's hear from YOU!

President's Message

First of all I would like to thank Doug Longenecker for his two years of service as President of the Society. He did an outstanding job and we hope he will continue with his fine efforts.

GET READY, we have a big year planned with many new activities. This is the year of "Publications" where we hope to publish booklets on the "History of the Schools of Upper Township", "The History of the Railroads in Upper Township" and "The History of the Friend's Meeting in Upper Township". Anyone interested in these areas are welcome to join the group.

We will be publishing a story every month in the local paper under the heading of "FOCUS ON HISTORY". January's article was written by Memma Kilgannon on Joseph Corson (The Bridge Burner) and February features Harriett Reardon Bailey's article on John Townsend (The Father of Upper Township). Also, we have a wonderful and timely display in the local library on Abraham Lincoln (Lincoln's Birthday, February 12th) done by our friend and member Bob Holden. Please go to the library to see it. Should any other members have an interesting history display, just let us know and we will make arrangements.

Another major initiative is to solicit new members to our Society. We have so many good projects and ideas but are limited by the number of active members and volunteers. Please ask your friends, relatives and business associates to join us in the fun of history.

We have four projects for which we will be applying for grants from various sources. These will be announced as they are completed.

Our Education Committee will be working on a number of projects for our schools. We hope to develop a partnership with the School Board and introduce some of our ideas.

A new initiative this year is to reach out to the business community and partnership with them on various projects. We hope to establish a working relationship where we support each other's programs.

Our Vice President, Harriett Reardon Bailey, has a wonderful schedule of guest speakers for our general meetings. They will cover a variety of subjects as you will see in our listed calendar.

Finally, this year we want to develop a walking history of our Township. We want our members to go out in the villages and by-ways, to see for themselves all the history Upper Township has to offer. Have you ever seen and know about the history of the Great Cedar Swamp Dam? Do you know where it is? Have you ever walked to the river on the old Upper Bridge road? It makes a very nice walk. Have you walked the beautiful road in Marshallville to the old (used to be covered) bridge? Have you seen the old Steelmantown cemetery? These are just some of the many areas to explore in our wonderful Township.

Looking forward to a great year!

Mike

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Recent Events



- 10^h – **Our Holiday Dinner and Installation of New Officers** was held at the Tuckahoe Inn at 6:30pm. See the enclosed photo page. Photos were taken by Mike Horan.

March

- 4th – Board of Trustees will meet at the Tuckahoe Train Station at 4:00 pm.
- 8th – League of Historical Societies of New Jersey meeting at Haddon Heights Historical Society, Camden County. For details please contact Sonia Forry at 609-628-3041.



- 11th – The first general meeting of the year will be the annual Covered Dish Supper and Show and Tell and a welcome to new members. It will be held at the Tuckahoe Methodist Church at 6:00 pm. Guests are welcome at all our public meetings!



- 18th – 10:00 am clean up at the Friendship School in preparation for Kindergarten Day.
- 21st – Kindergarten Day, an annual fieldtrip for all Upper Township kindergarten classes which is held at the Friendship School, 859 Route 9, Palermo in Upper Township.



- 23rd – Open house at the Friendship School for the parents and guardians of the Kindergarten students from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

April

- 1st - Board of Trustees will meet at the Tuckahoe Train Station at 4:00 pm.



- 4th, 5th, & 6th – Bus Trip to Yorktown, Williamsburg, and Jamestown sponsored by HPSUT. See the historian's report.



- 8th – The general meeting will be held at the Upper Township Branch of the Cape May County Library. Refreshments at 7:00 pm and the meeting at 7:30 pm. The speaker, Joan Boden, will present a program entitled: ‘MY FATHER’S MEMORIES OF WORLD WAR I’. She will be sharing excerpts from his letters plus her vast collection of memorabilia that she has found over the years. The public is invited to this most interesting insight into one of our least known wars.

May

- 6th - Board of Trustees will meet at the Tuckahoe Train Station at 4:00 pm.
- 10th – **Spirit of the Jerseys State History Fair** at Washington Crossing State Park, Titusville, observing both the Fair’s 10th Anniversary and New Jersey’s 350th.



- 13th - The general meeting will be held at the Upper Township Branch of the Cape May County Library. Refreshments at 7:00 pm and the meeting at 7:30 pm. Alice McGuigan will tell us about the creation of Dennis Township from Upper Township and its early industries of ship building and cedar shingle mining. The public is invited to come and learn.



- 31st – Our annual Strawberry Festival will be held at the Gandy Farmstead, 26 Tyler Road (Route 616), Greenfield, in Upper Township from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. This celebration of spring time is one of our two main fundraising events featuring fresh strawberries, strawberry shortcake, vendors, music and more at our historic site.

June

- 1st - The rain date for the Strawberry Festival.
- 3rd - The Board of Trustees will meet at the Tuckahoe Train Station at 4:00 pm.



- 10th - The general meeting will be held at the Upper Township Branch of the Cape May County Library. Refreshments at 7:00 pm and the meeting at 7:30 pm. The speaker will be announced in the SHOUT which is available on our website. This is another meeting at which we will be sharing our memories; this time of our ‘SCHOOL DAYS’. We invite the public to come and share their memories and recollections. We will also have pictures and items from the first school in 1801 to the present. You have plenty of time to look through your closets and the attic to find report cards, class photos and certificates. Bring them and share them with us.



HISTORIAN'S REPORT

Submitted by Sonia Forry 609-628-3041

HPSUT has submitted entries to the Kevin M. Hale Publications Awards sponsored by the League of Historical Societies of NJ. Items presented for judging consideration were our DVD on Upper Township History and the winter issue of S.H.O.U.T. Also included was a copy of our recently revised brochure, for good measure. Only two publications per member organization are allowed. Winning entries submitted by societies from across the State will be announced at a future League meeting.

Please take note of our Society's sponsored bus trip (see Calendar of Events) to three historical sites in Virginia. Seating is available but a limited number remain. If you are interested, please contact me at your earliest convenience for additional information.

A few volunteers are needed to organize our display at the NJ State History Fair. New Jersey celebrates its 350th anniversary so this year's event should be better than ever, and that is saying something. If you have never attended this outstanding fair you are in for a real treat. Visitation has grown from an initial 1,500 to over 6,000, so that gives you some idea of the event's popularity. We can host an information table or display, or partner with another organization if we are short-staffed. Please contact me if you would like to assist with this project. Enjoyment of the day's activities is guaranteed!



Lincoln Display in Library



The Historical Preservation Society of Upper Township is proud to announce an Abraham Lincoln display in the Upper Township Branch of the Cape May County Library by member Robert Holden of Steelmantown. Bob is a Sr. Adjunct Professor/History at the Atlantic Cape Community/Cape May County Campus and a former teacher in the Ocean City School District for over 30 years.

Bob Holden has a vast collection of Abraham Lincoln memorabilia and has spoken on the subject many times in the area. His collection of Lincoln books represents the largest private collection in South Jersey.

The display includes a copy of *The Lincoln Collector*; a numbered edition signed by the writer, Carl Sandburg. Another book included is Vol. 2 of the Four Volume biography of Abraham Lincoln, written by "muckraker" writer, Ida Tarbell, who once wrote for McClure's Magazine at the turn of the century. (This story was profiled in the recent best seller, *The Bully Pulpit*, by Doris Kearns Goodwin).

This interesting display will be in the library through February 28, 2014. Come out and enjoy your history.

The Historical Preservation Society of Upper Township welcomes new members.



**2013 HOLIDAY DINNER
&
INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS**







Mike's First Press Release!



The Historical Preservation Society of Upper Township is conducting a major research project on the history of Upper Township schools, from the first school in 1801 to the most recent Primary school in 1993.

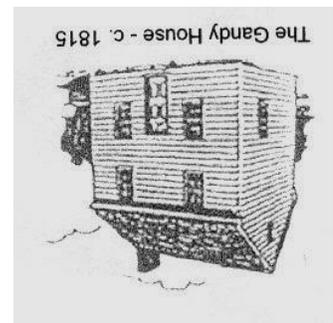
We are asking the community for any articles, documents, post cards, photos, stories, etc. that might be of value to this project. Maybe personal stories of attendance at any of the local schools, report cards, certificates, dunce hats, etc.

We are accepting donations or we will gladly scan items and return the originals.

Please help us with this important **and interesting project that will promote and preserve the unique history of our Township.**

We are looking forward to your response.

Thank you.



Historical Preservation Society
of Upper Township, NJ, Inc.
P.O. Box 658
Marmora, NJ, 08223