



**Friends Meeting House and Cemetery
Association of Randolph Township, NJ
Established 1898**

May, 2003

Dear Association Members and Friends,

This year the annual spring meeting of the Friends Meeting House and Cemetery Association will be held on **May 17, 2003**, Founders' Day in Randolph Township. The township was named for Hartshorne FitzRandolph who was the leader of the first generation of Quakers who settled in the area.

After the Revolutionary War several of the original councilmen were Quakers, including Isaac Hance, who was elected the first mayor in 1806. Richard Dell, one of these councilmen, is buried in the Friends cemetery in the plot pictured.



As part of the Founders' Day celebration, the Meeting House will be opened for the "Annual Historic Sites Tour", sponsored by the Historical Society of Old Randolph and the Randolph Landmarks Committee. There will be both morning and afternoon tours.

Although the early onset of an unusually cold and snowy winter caused many delays, Paul Basile expects to have most of the exterior work completed by May 17th. Paul is pictured below, explaining his work to those who attended the Open House in July of 2002.



Please plan to be present at the Meeting House sometime during this celebration. You will have the opportunity to ask questions about the history of the building and to observe the restoration process.

The Friends Meeting House & Cemetery Today



The cemetery has been well-maintained. The giant Norway Spruce trees were planted over a century ago and the original wall, behind my niece in period costume, is in good condition.



With this current appeal for funds, we hope to complete the restoration and to install a new heating system. Randolph Township will celebrate its bicentennial in 2004, and the Meeting House and Cemetery will celebrate their 250th Anniversary in 2008.

Please help us to reach our goal for 2003. Thank you for enclosing your contribution in the envelope provided.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jim".