



1758

## NEWSLETTER AND ANNUAL APPEAL 2007

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

Visit our Website @ [www.randolphmeetinghouse.org](http://www.randolphmeetinghouse.org)

Dear Association Members and Friends,

We are pleased to report that the stripping and treating of the Meeting House have been completed. The stripping and staining of the Annex are in process. The Meeting House has also been treated with several applications of mildewcide and insecticides for protection.

This work was made possible by the grant of \$13,500 for exterior restoration awarded by the Morris County Historic Preservation Trust Fund. The total cost of the project was \$16,875. The required match of \$3,375 came from the contributions of Association members and friends for which the Association is most grateful.

The building is gradually returning to its original 18th century state in keeping with the restoration and preservation plan drawn up in the 1980's. Since then our President, Margaret L. Steneck, PhD, has used her expertise to obtain necessary grants and to insure that the plans have been carried out as specified. We have been most fortunate in having Paul Basile as our contractor throughout the process. His painstaking attention to detail has resulted in a restoration project that is beyond reproach. Many thanks to both Peg and Paul for their perseverance in bringing this project to completion.

### OPEN HOUSE

Association members at their last regular meeting on June 16, 2007 voted to hold an open house on **Saturday, October 13, 2007, FitzRandolph Day, beginning at 2:00 p.m.** All interested persons are encouraged to view the new/old look of the Meetinghouse and to celebrate another milestone in the restoration effort. The regular meeting of the Association will begin at 9:30 a.m. Members, please come. Visitors are welcome.



Front



West Wall



Annex, waiting to be stained



## REPLACING FLOOR PEGS

In the picture at the right, Paul Basile is describing the replacement of the floor, using the available old pegs and new ones which he constructed. The pegs can be taken out and the floor removed to give access to heating ducts and electrical lines. Paul also treated the joists with insecticide and applied Boracore solution beneath the floor in order to eliminate carpenter ants.



Paul Basile, describing use of floor pegs

**This work was made possible by a donation from a member of the Randolph Friends Meeting.**



Old and newly made pegs

## SECURITY SYSTEM

After three years of investigation into security systems by Hal Haydock, Vice President for Buildings and Grounds, the Association accepted the proposal of Essex Security Alarms of Orange, NJ to install an upgraded security system in the Meetinghouse and Annex. The cost of this system is \$3,011 with a monitoring fee of \$39 per month. Monitoring includes a daily check of the premises.

Hal reports: "The company is well known to local fire officials, has a good recommendation, and has done a major security installation in the Randolph Town Hall."

Many thanks to Hal for a job well done.



## MEETING HOUSE TOURS INITIATED



This spring, Richard Lenat and Lee Whildin have opened the Meeting House to visitors the first Sunday afternoon of each month. Tours will continue at this time through November of 2007. If you live in the vicinity or have not visited this historic landmark for several years, here is your opportunity for a private tour. Experience what it was like to attend a Quaker meeting in 1758.

### Additional Tree Removal

With great reluctance the Association has voted to remove the Alward maple tree which is dying as well as a hickory tree. Two replacement trees from seeds from the Alward tree are growing. It is hoped that one of them will survive.



Peg Steneck & Hal Haydock look at seedling from Alward tree.



**Randolph Friends Meeting House  
& Cemetery Association  
James T. Brotherton  
13 Colonial Drive N.  
Bordentown, NJ 08505**

## **CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

**FIRST CLASS**



John Ruch, examining finished shutter

The 1758 Friends Meeting House is owned by the Friends Meeting House and Cemetery Association of Randolph Township, the second oldest preservation society in Morris County and among the oldest in New Jersey. It is an independent organization, dedicated exclusively to the preservation of the historic site. Since the founding of the Association in the late nineteenth century, the property has been maintained by private funds.

Your generous contributions in the past have helped us meet the matches required by the last two grants that have been awarded by the Morris County Historic Preservation Trust Fund. If you share our concern with preservation of the Meeting House as an important reminder of our heritage as a people, **the Association would welcome and greatly appreciate your contribution in the enclosed envelope.**

### **TAKE PART IN OUR 250TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION 1758 - 2008**

**Plans are being made to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Meeting-House and Cemetery in October of 2008. If you would like to help with this celebration, please contact Margaret Steneck, President, by emailing [msten@Umich.edu](mailto:msten@Umich.edu).**