

NEWSLETTER & ANNUAL APPEAL

2011

FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE AND CEMETERY
ASSOCIATION OF RANDOLPH TOWNSHIP, NJ
ESTABLISHED 1898

Visit our Website @ www.randolphmeetinghouse.org

May 5, 2011

Dear Association Members and Friends,

WELCOME once again to the Randolph Friends Meeting House and Cemetery Association Newsletter. Although it has been a difficult winter for those of us in New Jersey, spring has finally arrived in all of its glory with no damage to the Meeting House.

Work on the grounds of the Meeting House came to a standstill during the winter months; nevertheless, the stone walkway to the Meeting House was roughed out and has been completed as of April, 2011. Regrading of the property is progressing as weather permits.

We are indebted to Tom and Carol Graham, members of the Association, for providing information concerning James Gill in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Mr. Gill grew up in Flemington, NJ and became friendly with the family of Willis Vail, a Quaker railroad surveyor and photographer who lived between 1870 and 1950. Mr. Vail took pictures of several Quaker meeting houses throughout New Jersey, including the one in Randolph, dated July 15, 1899. We were able to purchase the glass negative from Mr. Gill to be part of this Newsletter.



Meeting House—1898



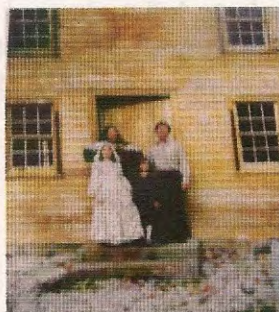
Meeting House—1899
Photo by Willis Vail



Meeting House—1901
Photo by Clara Brotherton Cook



Meeting House—1996
Photo by J.T. Brotherton, Sr..



M.H. 240 Anniv -1998
Photo by J.Brotherton,Sr.



M.H. 250 Anniv- 2008
Photo by Steneck

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Since 1939 the FMCHA has reached out to the community by providing tours of the facility to the local school children. In recent years Lee Whildin and Hal Haydock, both trustees of the association, have provided this service. During October of 2010, third grade students from the Fernbrook School, their teachers, aides, and nurse enjoyed the tour. There were approximately 100 persons in attendance. On another day, 100 third graders from the Ironia School participated in the same tour.

The Shongum School had their visit in November. This was the first time that Hal and Lee attempted to do all the classes in one day. There were 130 students in attendance. All went well and the feedback from the group was positive.

Hal and Lee have been monitoring the construction site across from the Friends Meeting House. Thus far, the builder has complied with the site plan restrictions. As you can see from the photos below, the large trees are still there. The other grading and plantings have been delayed because of the weather but should be completed soon.



The pictures in this newsletter help to tell a story of our American History that we want to preserve for generations to come. We are thankful for your support in the past and continue to ask for your support again in the ongoing preservation of the Meeting House and grounds.

(continued from Page 2)

The association needs active members with ideas as well as financial contributions. Join us on **SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 2011 AT 11:00 AM** to take your place in the preservation picture. At this meeting we will continue to explore additional ways to raise funds and will review our progress to date. Invite your grandchildren as well as other relatives and friends to visit this historic landmark. It is a memorial to America's past as well as a challenge for the future. The **agenda** for the meeting appears below.

An envelope is enclosed for your financial contribution. Thank you for your continued support of the Friends Meeting House and Cemetery Association.

Sincerely,



James T. Brotherton
President

AGENDA

June 11, 2011 - 11:00 AM

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of minutes - October 16, 2010
3. Approval of Treasurer's Report
4. Update on Paul Basile's project
5. Discussion on exterior window and hitching post restoration as well as the washing of the buildings
6. Report on Meeting House Tours
7. Discussion of memorabilia storage
8. Fund Raising for 2011-12
9. Establishment of meeting date between representatives of FMHCA and Dover-Randolph Meeting
10. Other - Date of Next Meeting
11. Adjournment