



1758

NEWSLETTER AND ANNUAL APPEAL 2008

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

Visit our Website @ www.randolphmeetinghouse.org

Dear Association Members and Friends,

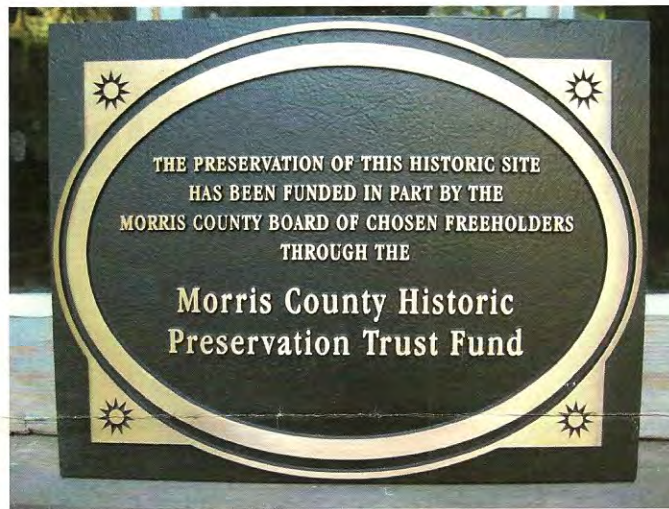
Come help us celebrate the **250th Anniversary** of the Friends Meeting House and Cemetery Association on **Saturday, October 11, 2008 from 2:00 - 5:00 pm**. The exterior restoration of the 1758 Meeting House, funded by a grant from the Morris County Historic Preservation Trust and the generous supporters of the Friends Meeting House & Cemetery Association, has been completed. The Meeting House has returned to its original, unpainted 18th century exterior and the 20th century Annex has been stained to blend with the Meeting House.



The program for the 250th Anniversary promises to be an exciting one. A short commemorative silent meeting will be followed by Congressman Rodney Frelinghuysen and Margaret Nordstrom, Chair of the Morris County Board of Freeholders, who will say a few words about preservation and our site. A highlight will be a re-enactment of the signing of the deed by which the land was conveyed to the original Friends Meeting in 1758. The script, written by Peter Lubrecht, will feature Hartshorn FitzRandolph and the great-great-great grandson of the original signatory for the Meeting. A new book written for the occasion will be available for purchase. There will be a few special presentations, displays, memorabilia, tours and a genealogy table with expert genealogist, Allene Rental who will help with your genealogy questions. Paul Basile will be present to talk about the work he has done on the buildings. Of course, there will be refreshments.

Join us as we celebrate this joyful occasion. This very special building is one of the few buildings in existence today which was constructed before our country became an independent nation.

On October 13, 2007, an Open House was held to mark the completion of the exterior restoration of the Meeting House. Many interested people from the community attended. Among them were Ray Chang, the Historic Preservation Program Coordinator for the Morris County Preservation Trust, which awarded the grant, and Margaret Nordstrom, Chair of the Morris County Board of Freeholders. She presented the plaque, pictured below, to the Friends Meeting House and Cemetery Association.



Ray Chang, Program Coordinator of the MCHPT with Richard Lenat, Association Trustee



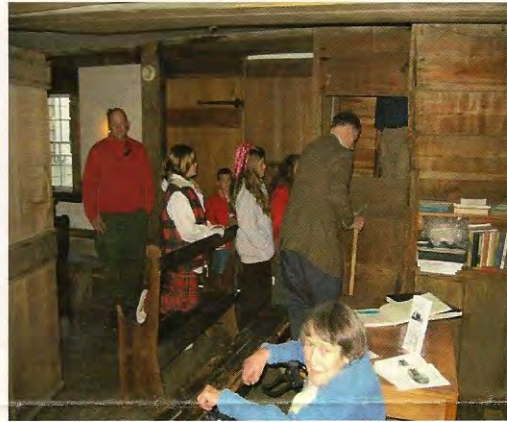
An interested visitor talking with Margaret Nordstrom, Chair of the Morris County Board of Freeholders, and Marion Irving, Association Trustee

The photos below feature Association members and visitors to the Open House. There were visitors all afternoon admiring the accomplishments of the last few years and especially the completed exterior restoration.

Modern preservation activities have been going on for thirty years (1977-2007). Your generous contributions and grant funds, secured by the diligence and expertise of our President, Margaret L. Steneck, PhD, for the last twenty three years, have made this preservation possible. This work has been expensive, and there is still work to be done. Our treasury is in desperate need of replenishment. Please consider an especially generous donation as we celebrate our accomplishments at this 250th celebration.



Susan Jackson, member of the Historical Society of Old Randolph; Ray Chang, Program Coordinator, MCHPT; Peg Steneck, Assn. President; Lenore Whildin, Assn. Trustee



Hal Haydock, Vice President, giving visitors a tour at the Open House



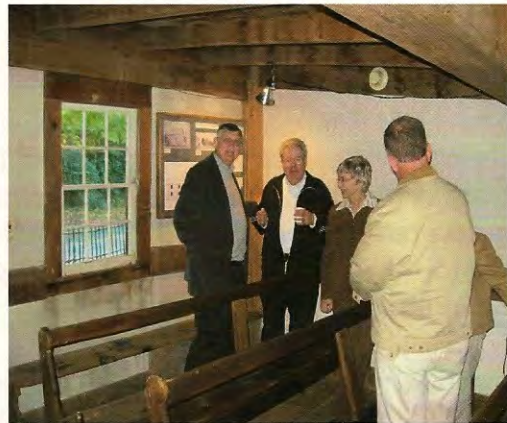
James T. Brotherton

Change in Leadership

After 23 years as President of the Assn., Peg Steneck is retiring. Jim Brotherton, the great grandson of the founder of the Association, was elected to assume the position on October 11, 2008.

As Jim has been serving as

Treasurer, he must be replaced in that position. If you would be willing to serve as treasurer, please call Jim at 609-298-8871 or Peg at 734-995-1815 or via email: james.brotherton@pnc.com or msten@umich.edu



Richard Irwin, Assn. Historiographer, and Peg Steneck talk with interested visitors

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



240th Anniversary - 1998

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 this 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 match required by the last grant. Please give generously again this year as we celebrate the 250th Anniversary and prepare for the future.

The enclosed envelope is for your contribution. Thank you.

Newsletter Editor: Mary F. Brotherton, Trustee