



# THE LAKEVIEW RECORD

Volume 2, Number 2 ☀ Summer, 2005



Presidents Washington and Lincoln and their military escorts awaiting visitors.

## MANY MET THE PRESIDENTS!

History came alive on Sunday, February 13, 2005, when the Historical Association hosted Presidents Washington and Lincoln during its *Meet The Presidents Celebration*. Eyes bulged, cries of "Look!" sounded, and giggles heard as children and adults alike entered *Lakeview's* front parlor and they saw the Presidents standing together in the back parlor, ready to greet them.

The day started with the Presidents and guests gathering in the dining room for the singing of *Happy Birthday Mr. Presidents* and the cutting of the presidential birthday cake, donated by Mendoker's. Every guest received a piece of the cake at the end of his or her visit.

After a brief welcome and history of *Lakeview* by Association President Ron Becker, the guests then had the opportunity to mingle with the Presidents, ask them questions, have their pictures taken with them, and listen as both described their times and commented on the common problems they shared during their administrations, some eighty years apart.

The personal military bodyguard who accompanied his president - the white buckskin-clad Revolutionary soldier for President Washington and the blue-clad Union soldier for President Lincoln, made the Presidents' visit even more authentic. Outside Revolutionary and Civil War soldiers stood guard in front of *Lakeview*, also adding to the authenticity of the occasion and acting as an attraction for visitors. The Lincoln Coach, of course, also got its share of attention, especially when President Lincoln posed for some pictures while sitting in it.

On hand too was Mr. Richard Patterson, Curator of the Old Barracks Museum in Trenton. Mr. Patterson, whose visit was sponsored by the Horizons Speakers Bureau of the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, talked to our visitors about the daily lives of the common Revolutionary War soldier and

Continued on page 8

## HELMETTA: FROM SNUFF TO SNUFFED OUT



Helmetta, New Jersey is facing a crossroads in its history. Once a town built around its industry, the Helme Snuff Mill may soon meet its demise as redevelopment plans call for demolishing all the structures. In an effort to preserve the memories of the Helme Snuff Mill, the Jamesburg Historical Association in conjunction with the Helmetta Historical Society will be unveiling a new temporary exhibit, "Helmetta: From Snuff to Snuffed Out". This exhibit will be open to the public in *Lakeview* Mansion beginning June 12, 2005 from 2:00 - 4:00 P.M. and run through September 10, 2005.

The exhibit will features items recovered from the Helme Snuff Mill during a recent tour, Helme tobacco products, historical photographs of the mill district, and memorabilia purchased from eBay. Various varieties and sizes of tin cans, bottles, and cartons (most still filled with snuff!), past and present photographs from the inside of the factory, and an original window and bench are included in the display.

## 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL PHOTO ARCHIVE DAY

On Sunday, June 26, 2005, the Jamesburg Historical Association will hold its first annual photo archive day. From 2:00 - 4:00 p.m., members of the Association will be set up in the meeting room with a laptop and scanner to digitally scan images while you wait. To date, over two hundred images of Jamesburg's history have already been digitally recorded from photographs and postcards dating from 1880 to the present. If you or someone you know has photographs or postcards related to Jamesburg streets, buildings, schools, events, people, Manalapan Lake, or other categories, please stop by. The images will be archived on cd-rom and may be included in the Association's Microsoft PowerPoint presentation entitled "*Jamesburg of Yesteryear*." With your help, we will fulfill our mission of preserving and displaying Jamesburg's rich history. Images may also be received at any time through e-mail. Please scan at 360 dots per square inch (dpi) and send to [webmaster@jamesburg.net](mailto:webmaster@jamesburg.net).



## WELCOME LAKEVIEW PLAYERS!



To make itself and the historic Buckelew mansion better know to area students, the Jamesburg Historical Association announces the formation of the *Lakeview Players*, composed of area high school and college-aged students. This group plans to present several performances during the school year that will be of interest to students in grades 1-12. The group takes its name from *Lakeview*, the Buckelew mansion's name. All performances will take place in or on the grounds of the historic mansion.

The group will be under the leadership of Don Benhardt, Jr., a recent college graduate and member of the Association.

Continued on page 8

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Contrary to popular belief, the Jamesburg Historical Association is alive and well and making its name and presence felt in the community! While its activities may have slowed down for a while, the Association has now caught its second breath and is as strong as it was at its founding twenty-six years ago. Just reading through this issue of the *Lakeview Record* is proof of that!

In order to continue doing all this, the Association needs your support, both financially and physically. We are facing tough financial times. The rising operating and maintenance costs have severely affected our annual budget. Although income has increased because of our increased activity, we're barely getting the bills paid. *Lakeview* needs extensive repairs, beginning with the foundation and continuing right up to the roof. Thanks to the support and cooperation of State and Jamesburg officials, we were able to obtain some grant monies to install a handicapped accessible bathroom and begin repairs on the foundation. The bathroom opens up the possibility for more grants, which we are actively seeking. Thanks to the backing of local businesses, we've been able to cover the cost several events and from which we received donations from participants. Here is where you come in.

The bulk of our income comes from membership dues. We need to increase drastically our membership base. If every member took just a few minutes to approach two or three friends or relatives and encourage them to join, we could triple our membership listing.

With the introduction of "The Century Club" membership level, we hope that many of our current individual members will consider increasing their membership level. Within the next few months, the Association will announce the "extras" of this new membership category.

In addition, we need members to approach their employers to see if they match contributions. If so, we ask these members to consider contributing to the Association as well as their membership dues so that we can receive a matching donation from their employer. If your employer does not match employee contributions, ask them to consider a yearly corporate membership in the JHA? Many businesses might consider membership a more acceptable option than a matching contribution. In addition, many unions will gather members together to perform community service projects. If any of you are carpenters, electricians or painters, we would especially appreciate your union's help in restoring *Lakeview*.

We also need your physical help. We can do most of the routine maintenance if we had a group of volunteers to take on the various jobs that we need to do. Whether you have some professional skills or are a "jack-all-trades," the Association can use your help. Give us a call at 732-521-2040 and leave a message. We'll get back to you. My thanks to those dedicated volunteers who continue to show up every day or week to "keep things going." Without their valuable and dedicated help our house would not be as beautiful and inviting as it always is.

With our increased schedule of events, we need more people to make them successful realities. Our twice-monthly open houses are attracting between 20-40 people each. We need docents (tour guides) to take them through *Lakeview*. If you like talking to people, this is the job for you. It's only a couple of hours each month and you get to meet some very interesting people. Don't know much about *Lakeview* or the Buckelews or Jamesburg? Don't worry, we'll fill you in on everything you need to know! Just give us a call (732-521-2040) and let us know!

Finally, help publicize the Association and *Lakeview*. Bring your family and friends to our open houses and events. Come yourself. We have a lot to be proud of; let's show it off!

*Ron Becker*

### WE NOW HAVE A FULL SLATE!



At the April 6, 2005, meeting First Vice President Ron Becker assumed the Office of President of the Jamesburg Historical Association. The Election Committee was unable to find a candidate for the Office, so Ron accepted the Presidency. At the same meeting, Steve Philpitt was unanimously elected to the Office of First Vice President. The Association now has a full slate of officers.

### GOING TO THE JULY 4<sup>th</sup> FIREWORKS?



Remember that we'll be parking cars at *Lakeview*. Five dollars will not only get you a parking space for the fireworks, but also a tour of our mansion and even a spot on the front porch or front lawn, if you bring your own chair! We start parking at 5:00 p.m. The fireworks usually begin between 8:30-9:00 p.m.



## THE LAKEVIEW RECORD

Newsletter of the  
Jamesburg Historical Association  
203 Buckelew Avenue  
Jamesburg, New Jersey 08831-1642  
732-521-2040

Published three times a year  
E-mail: [JamesburgHistory@aol.com](mailto:JamesburgHistory@aol.com)  
Website: [www.jamesburghistory.com](http://www.jamesburghistory.com)

**Marjorie Perrine**  
Editor

© 2005 by the Jamesburg Historical Association



## 2005 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



### June

- 1      7:30 p.m. Membership Meeting
- 7      2:00-4:00 p.m. Food Pantry Fund Raiser
- 12     2:00-4:00 p.m. Open House  
          Helmetta Exhibit Opens
- 13     10:30 a.m. Brandeis University  
          Alumni
- 26     2:00-4:00 p.m. Open House  
          Photo Archive Day

### July

- 4      5:00 p.m. July 4<sup>th</sup> Parking
- 6      7:30 p.m. Membership Meeting
- 10     2:00-4:00 p.m. Open House
- 12     10:00 a.m. Rossmoor Group
- 24     2:00-4:00 p.m. Open House

### August

- 3      7:30 p.m. Membership Meeting
- 14     2:00-4:00 p.m. Open House
- 28     2:00-4:00 p.m. Open House

### September

- 7      7:30 p.m. Membership Meeting
- 10     12:00-5:00 p.m. Buckelew Day
- 11     2:00-4:00 p.m. Open House
- 25     2:00-4:00 p.m. Open House

### October

- 5      7:30 p.m. Membership Meeting
- 9      2:00-4:00 p.m. Open House
- 23     2:00-4:00 p.m. Open House  
          Special Event Planned
- 30     5:00-8:00 p.m. Halloween  
          Haunted House

### November

- 2      7:30 p.m. Membership Meeting
- 6      2:00-4:00 p.m. Open House
- 20     2:00-4:00 p.m. Open House

### December

- 4      1:00-5:00 p.m. Annual Christmas  
          at Lakeview Program
- 7      7:30 p.m. Membership Meeting



People board the Jamesburg History Trolley at last year's Buckelew Day.

### LOOKING AHEAD TO BUCKELEW DAY

Three hundred twenty years ago William Davison built a one-room house for his family. Little did he know that by 1870 that room would eventually become just one of twenty-three rooms in *Lakeview*. With this in mind, the theme for Buckelew Day 2005 is *The Year to Save History: 320 Years in the Making*. Buckelew Day will take place on Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 12:00 noon-5:00 p.m.

We plan to span those three hundred twenty years with exhibits, displays, activities, reenactments, and talks about events and activities which occurred over this span of years. To date we have commitments from Civil War Reenactors, Revolutionary War Reenactors, an herbalist, hearth-cooking specialist, and staff members from the Old Barracks, Trenton, who will conduct seventeenth and eighteenth centuries children's games. Several Civil War battle reenactments are scheduled to be performed over the course of the day and funding for the popular *Trolley Tours of Historic Jamesburg* has already been obtained.

The Association is still lining up individuals and groups to participate in the day, as well as seeking out grants and funding from State and County agencies and corporate sponsors.

Buckelew Day is the Association's biggest activity of the year. Many hours are spent in preparation, the day itself and cleanup. We need volunteers for the committee. If you would like to be a part of this year's Buckelew Day, please call the Association as soon as possible, 732-521-2040.

### HELP THE JAMESBURG ARCHIVE GROW!

Help our archive and displays grow! After finally organizing a majority of the paperwork and memorabilia into filing cabinets for preservation and future displays, the Jamesburg Historical Association is looking for any and all items related to Jamesburg and the surrounding area. We are specifically interested in the following items: Forsgate Farms and Country Club, Helmetta and the Helme Snuff Mill, Jamesburg businesses, political materials and memorabilia, the Jamesburg School District or PTA materials, flyers, newsletters, and any Jamesburg newspaper articles. If you have any of these items or possibly other Jamesburg materials, please consider donating them. If in doubt, let the Jamesburg Historical Association take a look. Remember, even things that happened last week

Continued on page 8



Author Russel Like autographs his books after his presentation

### ALIENS IN JAMESBURG



The Jamesburg Historical Association hosted science fiction author Russel Like at *Lakeview* March 13, 2005. Mr. Like spoke about his books *After the Blue* and *A Bowl of Fruit, A Whale in the Woods*. *After the Blue* is based in Jamesburg, the last remaining city on Earth, after visiting aliens accidentally obliterated most of mankind with a disease. The aliens return to Jamesburg to recreate life as it was prior to their arrival but have some misconceptions and meet opposition with the residents of Jamesburg.

A question and answer session followed the talk and afterwards Mr. Like signed copies of both his books.

To see pictures from the event, visit

<http://www.jamesburg.net/aftertheblue2005.html>

and visit <http://www.aftertheblue.com> to order copies of the books.

### MOUNTING STONE RECOVERY PROJECT

"Saving Jamesburg History, One Stone at a Time"

The Jamesburg Historical Association has recently acquired a nineteenth century mounting stone from 190 Buckelew Avenue, future home of Family Dentistry. In April 2005, the stone was discovered sticking out onto Buckelew Avenue by Borough Historian Thomas C. Bodall. Upon further inspection and uncovering in May 2005, it was determined that this large rock was indeed a granite mounting stone, which at one time every home in Jamesburg possessed. When horse and buggy were the main source of transportation, these mounting stones were essential in assisting carriage riders a step down before the ground. The owners of the property gave permission for the Jamesburg Historical Association to obtain the stone for *Lakeview* Mansion because sidewalks and curbing was being put in, meaning that the stone would have been lost forever if not removed. Thanks to John Czapiga, owner of Gray Rock Supply in Jamesburg, the stone was lifted May 11, 2005 and placed on the grounds of *Lakeview* Mansion, with the hope of placing the stone in front of the house at a future date.

The Jamesburg Historical Association is looking to acquire a hitching post to go along with the mounting stone, in an effort to recreate an authentic and very common streetscape

Continued, page 7

### RECENT DONATIONS AND ACQUISITIONS

The Jamesburg Historical Association would like to sincerely thank the following individuals for contributing toward the expansion of *Lakeview's* collections.

- Jim Quinn of Ocala, FL donated a Forsgate Country Club postcard.
- Linda and Larrie Collura of Jamesburg, NJ donated a Forsgate Farms milk crate.
- Jill Roddan of Gloucestershire, England, donated naturalization papers from a Jamesburg resident, dated 1942.
- Richard and Barbara Reinhardt of Helmetta, NJ donated a Raritan Beverage Company, Jamesburg seltzer bottle.
- Lisa Macyda of Helmetta, NJ donated a framed reproduction of Phyllis Perrine's painting of *Lakeview*.
- Two embossed bottles found in the walls of the Simon Van Wickle House (now CenterState Realty). The bottles have no direct Jamesburg connections other than being found in the house but date to the late 1800s.
- Ginny Folger of NJ donated a Forsgate Country Club Party Cocktail Lounge postcard.
- William Holzschuh of Harrison, NJ donated a booklet published in 1930 by the State Home called *The Advance*. It detailed the history of the institution from an 1886 reprinted article, included stories of boys there, and ended with a poem about the institution.
- Cora Janson of Hendersonville, TN donated a Forsgate Country Club postcard.
- Debby Groth of Battle Ground, WA donated a Forsgate Country Club postcard.
- Russell and Penny White of Jamesburg, NJ donated a Jamesburg Bottling Company bottle. The bottle was found at 14 West Railroad Avenue during renovations (formally Jenny Lynn's hair parlor, now Video & Disco).
- Anna Dabbs of Jennerstown, PA donated a Forsgate Farms milk bottle.
- An anonymous donor donated an antique lamp that once hung in Holly House, Helmetta.



### THE HOLLY HOUSE HANGING LAMP

We recently received this Holly House hanging lamp from an anonymous donor. It will eventually hang in an appropriate place in *Lakeview*.

**OUR WISH LIST**



There's so much we can do if only we had the money to purchase everything we need to properly maintain and display our treasures and present the programs we should be presenting. Here's our wish list of items that will help us continue to fulfill our mission. If you can help us obtain any of these items, it would be greatly appreciated. Remember, all donations are tax deductible.

**Technology Needs**

- LCD Projector
- Large projector screen
- 27+ inch color television
- DVD/VCR player
- Laptop or desktop PC
- Scanner

**Museum Needs**

- Display cases (large and small)
- Picture frames

**Historical Needs**

- Hitching post
- Forsgate Farms/Country Club items
- Helmetta/Helme Snuff items
- Jamesburg bottles
- Jamesburg postcards and photographs
- Any and all other Jamesburg memorabilia

**Archive Needs**

- Jamesburg PTA newsletters
- Programs from events
- GMB School yearbooks
- Jamesburg business cards (old and new)
- Agendas, minutes, and newsletters of any borough organizations

Your assistance is greatly appreciated for any assistance in fulfilling our wish list.



**MEMBERSHIP NEWS**

At the April 6, 2005 meeting, members of the Jamesburg Historical Association voted to change the dates for the membership year from the fiscal year to the calendar year, and to add a new individual membership category beginning with the 2006 membership year.

Effective immediately, the membership year runs from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>. Previously the Association's membership year followed the Association's fiscal year, October 1<sup>st</sup> to September 31<sup>st</sup>. All 2005 annual memberships will now expire on December 31, 2005. Individuals and businesses joining the Association July 1<sup>st</sup> or later will see their memberships expire on December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year following their joining.

The new membership category, "The Century Club," requires a membership contribution of \$100.00 or more. The Association will sponsor two special events exclusively for Century Club and Life Members beginning in 2006. More details about "The Century Club" will be included in the 2006 membership brochures.

**YARD SALE**



We joined the Borough Yard Sale on May 7, 2005, and successfully cleared out our attic and closets. The funds we raised will give us a start to fund new displays of historical items in the new and improved Louise Kerwin Room. We hope to do it again this fall. If you have any items to good to dispose of, but not quite what you want to keep, tucked in the back of your closet, we'd be happy to take them off your hands and find them a nice new home.



The ghost hunters get their instructions for the "hunt!"

**SOUTH JERSEY GHOST RESEARCHERS VISIT LAKEVIEW**

Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> could not be a more perfect night for ghost hunting! Thanks to the work of Don Benhardt, Jr., the South Jersey Ghost Researchers (SJGR) conducted an investigation at *Lakeview* to either debunk or confirm the many stories of haunting in the mansion. Conducting an investigation similar to Ghost Hunters on the Sci-Fi Channel, a team of eleven investigators split up into two teams to make sure that every room of the house, including the basement, were covered. Using infrared thermal scanners, EMF detectors, TriField detectors, motion sensors, tape recorders for electronic voice phenomena (EVP) readings, and both digital and 35mm cameras, the team had a full arsenal for detecting spirits. After a quick run through of the house at 9:00 p.m., the group split up, darkened the entire house, and began investigating for the next three hours.

The events that unfolded were amazing – the house is alive and well with spirits! Throughout the course of the night, the third floor of the house was one of the most active hotspots. Many of the researchers were able to connect with the spirits residing in the house and relayed stories that match the "lore" of the house. One spirit was sensed in the basement and the spirits of dogs and children were present throughout the house. Even Mr. Ralph Marryott was even reported being felt on the second floor near his family photographs.

This was a very special experience for the Historical Association to partake in. A full report of the night's activities is expected to be announced and available in June or July during a Sunday open house. Watch our web site and the newspapers for a date. We thank the SJGR for their time and dedication. You can find the SJGR online at <http://www.sjgr.org>.

### JAMESBURG STREETS #1 WORD SEARCH

X	C	H	U	R	C	H	I	L	L	S	I	D	E	M
J	M	A	D	S	K	Y	L	R	E	M	Z	T	A	G
T	N	O	R	F	T	G	K	X	S	J	A	W	G	R
C	A	L	O	G	R	E	P	W	O	G	G	M	F	P
K	M	K	Q	A	B	A	E	H	S	I	O	L	U	K
A	R	Y	N	U	J	D	N	R	W	T	W	H	N	N
L	E	D	T	G	A	S	O	K	T	E	L	O	L	M
L	H	D	J	U	M	F	H	O	L	S	S	O	C	A
B	S	A	F	S	E	D	G	E	W	I	C	K	A	O
N	N	B	E	T	S	K	K	E	R	N	N	E	P	P
T	E	F	W	A	B	C	A	R	I	I	R	R	B	T
Y	V	R	L	L	U	W	A	L	G	J	D	E	T	N
M	E	X	R	B	R	H	W	H	X	R	D	A	F	R
M	T	X	U	A	G	S	T	O	C	K	T	O	N	X
Y	S	Y	I	L	W	C	S	R	L	M	W	K	R	U

- |                 |                  |                 |
|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Augusta</b>  | <b>Hillside</b>  | <b>Sheridan</b> |
| <b>Buckelew</b> | <b>Hooker</b>    | <b>Sherman</b>  |
| <b>Church</b>   | <b>Jamesburg</b> | <b>Stevens</b>  |
| <b>Fernwood</b> | <b>John</b>      | <b>Stockton</b> |
| <b>Forsgate</b> | <b>Lake</b>      | <b>Streets</b>  |
| <b>Franklin</b> | <b>Lincoln</b>   | <b>Warren</b>   |
| <b>Front</b>    | <b>McKnight</b>  | <b>Wigwam</b>   |
| <b>Gatzmer</b>  | <b>Mott</b>      |                 |
| <b>Grand</b>    | <b>Pergola</b>   |                 |
| <b>Harrison</b> | <b>Sedgewick</b> |                 |



The Jamesburg Hotel was located on Gatzmer Avenue in Upper Jamesburg on the site of the present day Busco Brothers

### 100 YEARS AGO



Jamesburg and Monroe were preparing to celebrate Decoration Day, a day set aside to decorate the graves and remember Civil War veterans of both sides (it wasn't until later in the 20<sup>th</sup> century it became Memorial Day, a day to honor all veterans of all wars.) Forty years after the end of hostilities some of Col. Issac Buckelew's N.J. Volunteers still marched in the parade.

The Cranbury Press led off their Memorial Day Edition with a Patriotic Illustration and a poem entitled "Muffle the Drums" by W.H.A. Bromstead:

Muffle the Drums.  
 Let the bugles blow softly on this hallowed day  
 March with reverent step and slow  
 Homage to wars martyred heroes play  
 Over the graves of our hallowed heros  
 Low droops the flag where a nations is weeping  
 Blow bugles blow,  
 Softly and low  
 Over the fields where our blest dead are sleeping.

### ASSOCIATION HOSTS MEETING

On Sunday, April 17, 2005, the Jamesburg Historical Association hosted the Spring meeting of the Historical Associations of Central Jersey Meeting. The HACNJ is a loose confederation of twenty-three historical preservation associations in Burlington, Mercer, Monmouth and Middlesex Counties whose representatives gather together twice each year to share ideas and discuss common problems and needs. Nine of the member organizations and sixteen representatives were present. The Helmetta Historical Society participated for the first time. After the meeting representatives toured *Lakeview* and its grounds; for most it was their first visit.



Pennsylvania Railroad #612, K-4 type engine, leaving Jamesburg on October 19, 1957

### RAILROAD SOCIETY SEEKS MEMBERS

As the Jamesburg Historical Railroad Society celebrates its tenth anniversary at *Lakeview*, they seek new members to carry on its proud heritage. The club grew from an exhibit that Randy Lubrecki and Malcolm Kirkpatrick put together as part of the 1994 Christmas at Lakeview celebration. It has since grown and now presents a diorama of the railroad from Jamesburg to South Amboy spanning the years from 1900 to 1940. If you are interested in the history and development of railroading in Central Jersey and like working with model trains, give us a call, 732-521-2040 and leave a message.

## Membership Application

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS	CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP
<p>I would like to become an <u>annual</u> member:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Student \$3.00/year (to age 16)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$20.00/year</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Family \$30.00/year</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$50.00/year</p> <p>Please list names of family members for "Family Memberships."</p>	<p>I would like my corporation to become an annual member:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Platinum \$1,000/year</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Gold \$500/year</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Silver \$250/year</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Bronze \$100/year</p> <p>In-kind donations also appreciated</p>

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Names (For Family Membership): \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to: JAMESBURG HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION  
 Mail to: Jamesburg Historical Association, 203 Buckelew Avenue, Jamesburg, NJ 08831-1642



Our "new" mounting stone.

Mounting Stone, continued  
 for Buckelew Avenue in the late 1800s. If you know of an old hitching post, either concrete or iron, and are willing to donate it to the Jamesburg Historical Association, please contact Borough Historian Thomas C. Bodall at [webmaster@jamesburg.net](mailto:webmaster@jamesburg.net) or by phone, 732-521-2040, and leave a message.



### NEW JAMESBURG HIGH SCHOOL ROOM BECOMES A REALITY

As this issue of the *Lakeview Record* goes to press, plans are underway to begin the restoration and renovation of the former *Louis Kerwin Room* into the new *Jamesburg High School Room*. The Jamesburg High School Alumni Association plans to spend \$10,000.00 to repair the ceiling, restore the hearth, install shelving in the closet, improve the lighting and paint the room before moving the cabinets and artifacts from the current JHS Room into the new room.

In addition to restoring the room, the Association will also refurbish the trophy cases to better display the school's many athletic trophies and will be purchasing other items necessary for the display of other school memorabilia.

The Alumni Association began this project in October, 2003, and has already raised more that 75% of the projected cost. Once finished, the High School Alumni Association will merge their collection of JHS-related artifacts and memorabilia with that of the Historical Association. All work in the room is being done without cost to the JHA. We sincerely thank the JHSAA for their generous support of the Historical Association in funding this important project.

Once all the Jamesburg High School items have been moved into the new room, the Historical Association plans to make some repairs in the vacated room before transforming it into the *Louise Kerwin Room of Jamesburg History*. As funds permit, this room will display artifacts and memorabilia commemorating Jamesburg's great history.



## Jamesburg Historical Association

203 Buckelew Avenue  
Jamesburg, NJ 08831-1642

### *Presidents, continued*

brought along authentic items that these soldiers would have carried with them. Much to their excitement, guests not only viewed these items, but also were also able to handle many of them.

The Jamesburg Train Room also received its share of the excitement of the day. Although a bit over-whelmed by the number of visitors, Chuck Bindig did his usual wonderful job of showing off the Jamesburg Train Society's splendid re-creation of early twentieth century Jamesburg and keeping the trains running on time!

The docents had their jobs cut out for them while guiding all our visitors through the mansion. As usual, our guests left us more knowledgeable about Jamesburg, the Buckelews, and today, Presidents Washington and Lincoln. At the end of the day, we had hosted over 350 guests!

All this would not have been possible were it not for the generous support of local businesses. The Association extends its grateful thanks to our Gold Sponsors: Barbara's Unique Antique Boutique, Century 21 — Gandy & Brown Realty, General Waste Removal, Inc., Lester Memorial Home, Marlow Agency, Inc., and Mendoker's Quality Bakery; our Silver Sponsor, Busco Brothers, Inc.; and our Bronze Sponsors: Better Living, Dunkin' Donuts, Family Dentistry, Jamesburg Wine and Liquor and Stephen Philpitt, Esq.



### FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Meetings are held on the First Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at *Lakeview*. Any one interested in the history of the Jamesburg area is welcome to attend.

*Lakeview* is open to visitors on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Group (10+) tours are available. Please call to schedule an appointment — 732-521-2040 (leave message).

### *Lakeview Players, continued*

Mr. Benhardt has been involved in theatrical productions for many years and will be sharing his experiences with the young people who compose the *Players*.

The decision to form the *Players* came about because of the success of *Haunted Lakeview*. A Halloween gathering sponsored by the Association for elementary school students and their families this past October. Students from Monroe Township and Spotswood High Schools provided the ghouls, ghosts and other visitors who "haunted" the house. Many of the students expressed an interest in performing other works at the mansion over the course of the school year.

The Historical Association is seeking interested high school-aged students to join the *Lakeview Players*. Interested students may call the Association at 732-521-2040 (leave message) or contact Don at [LakeviewPlayers@yahoo.com](mailto:LakeviewPlayers@yahoo.com). Parental permission for all students under 18 years of age is required for participation in the *Lakeview Players*.

### *Archives, continued*

or last year are history! While trying to build our historical collection, we must also collect items from now for the future. For more information or to donate items, contact Borough Historian Tom Bodall by e-mail, [webmaster@jamesburg.net](mailto:webmaster@jamesburg.net), or send items to the mansion at the following address: Thomas C. Bodall, The Jamesburg Historical Association, 203 Buckelew Avenue, Jamesburg, NJ 08831.

### The Jamesburg Historical Association Incorporated 1979

The Jamesburg Historical Association is a New Jersey non-profit educational organization dedicated to education, preservation and restoration in the historical context of Jamesburg, New Jersey. It is registered with the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

#### 2005 OFFICERS

President: Ronald R. Becker  
First Vice President: Stephen R. Philpitt  
Second Vice President: Thomas C. Bodall  
Treasurer: Chad Hetzell  
Recording Secretary: Linda Linke  
Corresponding Secretary: Marjorie Perrine