



THE LAKEVIEW RECORD

Volume 5, Number 1  Summer, 2008

JOIN US AT THE MONROE AREA HERITAGE EVENT CELEBRATING THE SHARED HERITAGE OF JAMES BUCKELEW



Before there was a Monroe Township, before there was a Jamesburg, there was James Buckelew. Two towns, one man, a shared legacy!

The Monroe Township Historic Preservation Commission and the Jamesburg Historical Association invite the public to join in a co-sponsored heritage event on Sunday, October 5, 2008. This Monroe Area Heritage Event celebrates Monroe Township and Jamesburg's shared history and the life and legacy of the man who put both towns on the map, James Buckelew. The event will be held at the Dey Farm Historic Site, Federal Road, Monroe Township, NJ 08831, between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Admission is free. Note: Due to road work on Federal Road, the site is ONLY accessible from the Applegarth Road approach.

The Dey Farm grounds and farmhouse will be open with displays. Scheduled activities include a lecture on farming in Monroe Township, Revolutionary War and Civil War re-enactors, the firing of the 1844 Jamesburg Civil War cannon, a presentation and display of the former Helme Snuff factory in Helmetta, an appearance by President and Mrs. Abraham Lincoln, vendor and exhibit booths, food, nineteenth century children's activities and so much more. A blacksmith will be on hand demonstrating his craft throughout the day. The video program "Jamesburg of Yesteryear" will be showing every hour.

What's Happening With *Lakeview*



The Borough of Jamesburg is proceeding with restoration of *Lakeview* Mansion. The New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has approved the Master Plan for Preservation, as prepared by the architect. The architect is working on drawings associated with repairs and replacement of the historic fabric of the structure. The Borough applied to the New Jersey Historic Trust in June 2008 for funding in the amount of \$750,000 to ensure that all restoration work can be completed. The Borough is awaiting a response.

Lincoln Coach at the Ag Museum!

Until *Lakeview* reopens the Lincoln Coach is being housed at the New Jersey Museum of Agriculture located along Route 1, North Brunswick. The staff at the New Jersey Museum of Agriculture have been very accommodating and welcome the coach for its temporary stay. The coach sits alongside their collection of wagons and stagecoaches from New Jersey. Other displays in the museum include farming cranberries and blueberries, early farm implements, a replica tin shop, general store and blacksmith shop, a hall featuring different types of transportation and early electrification, and a gallery with changing exhibits. The New Jersey Museum of Agriculture is open 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and on select Sundays. General admission is \$4.00 for adults, \$3.00 for seniors and \$2.00 for children ages 4-12. For more information, please visit their web site, www.agriculturemuseum.org or call 732-249-2077.

Uncovering the Past at *Lakeview*



This summer Richard Grubb & Associates of Cranbury, performed Phase I archeological testing at *Lakeview* in preparation for the restoration. This archeological research was concentrated on areas of the property that would be affected by the construction, called

Area of Potential Effects (APE). The APE included the perimeter of the foundation of the mansion and areas where drainage pipes will be installed. Because this project is being undertaken by the Borough of Jamesburg, and there is the potential to "encroach upon, damage, or destroy" a resource listed on or eligible for listing on the New Jersey Register of Historic Places, an archeological survey was required under the New Jersey Register of Historic Places Act (N.J.A.C. 7:4).

Phase I archeological testing consisted of 19 shovel test pits and three 3'x3' excavation units. The testing around the perimeter of the house identified intact early to mid-nineteenth century stratigraphy and associated archeological deposits, as well as three notable cultural features. The features included: an in-filled, rectangular mold that once contained a footing for an earlier non-extant addition to the house, a pre-1830s wooden box

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

With *Lakeview* closed for repairs and renovations for at least the next eighteen months, the challenge placed before us is keeping our name before the community. Thanks to Tom Bodall this has been happening! Tom has made this a personal crusade. Since *Lakeview* closed last October, Tom has accepted several speaking engagements, placed historic displays around town, especially Borough Hall, and given of his time to staff the Association's table at the Jamesburg Farmers' Market (his idea). The table has been a great success! People are stopping by to not only ask Tom about Jamesburg area history but also to purchase the Jamesburg-related items that are on sale. The sales have become our major source of funds since our programs are very limited because of *Lakeview's* closure. On behalf of the Association, "Thank You, Tom."

Thanks to the efforts of Marge Perrine, the Association recently received a grant of \$10,000 from the James Ewing Mitchell Foundation. This grant is restricted to program, archival and display purposes. It cannot be used to pay ordinary Association expenses.

Using some of the grant funds, the Association recently purchased a much-needed digital projector. In the past we've had to borrow a projector from the Jamesburg Public Schools. Its availability depended on school use. With our own projector we are now able to make presentations at our own functions and accept outside engagements. The balance of the grant has been invested. The monies will be used to purchase those items necessary to preserve and display our artifacts when *Lakeview* reopens.

On behalf of the Association, "Thanks, Marge!"

November is membership renewal month. Renewal forms will be sent out early in the month. Membership renewal is crucial to the continuance of the Association! It is now our primary source of income. Please remember to renew. While you're at it, why not give a gift membership to someone. It's a gift that will keep on giving!

Ron Becker



HOLIDAY 50/50 RAFFLE WINNERS

The winners of our December 16th Holiday 50/50 Raffle were:

- First prize: Betty Zelasko, Jamesburg
- Second Prize: George Zelasko, Jr., Jamesburg
- Third Prize: John Katerba, Monroe

Thanks to all those who purchased the tickets and all our members who sold the tickets.

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. Donations are tax exempt to the extent allowed by law.

The Jamesburg Historical Association is proud to be affiliated with the following professional organizations: Advocates for New Jersey History, Historical Associations of Central New Jersey, The Jamesburg Area Chamber of Commerce, The League of Historical Societies of New Jersey, the New Jersey Association of Museums and the Raritan-Millstone Heritage Alliance.

2008 OFFICERS

- President: Ronald R. Becker
- First Vice President: Hal Soden, Sr.
- Second Vice President: Stephen R. Philpitt
- Acting Treasurer: Stephen R. Philpitt
- Recording Secretary: Linda Linke
- Corresponding Secretary: Marjorie Perrine

Thanks, Chad

Our Treasurer, Chad Hetzell, recently resigned his office due to family (most important), employment and educational commitments. Chad has served the Association well for many, many years, especially his years as our President. Chad has promised to become active again in the near future. Again, thanks Chad!

REMEMBER THE JHA IN YOUR WILL

Through your membership in the Jamesburg Historical Association you assist the Association in preserving and educating people about the proud history of the Jamesburg area and preserving the legacy of James Buckelew. You can continue helping the Association continue this task even after your passing by remembering the Jamesburg Historical Association in your will. We are registered with the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Your attorney or financial advisor can assist you in remembering us. Our legal title is "Jamesburg Historical Association — a New Jersey not-for-profit corporation."



Please Note Our New Mailing Address

Jamesburg Historical Association
PO Box 182
Jamesburg, NJ 08831-0182

The Post Office will forward letters addressed to 203 Buckelew Avenue through October, 2008. After this date, letters will be returned to sender.

THE LAKEVIEW RECORD

Newsletter of the

Jamesburg Historical Association
Post Office Box 182
Jamesburg, New Jersey 08831-1642
732-521-2040

E-mail: jamesburghistory@aol.com
Website: www.jamesburghistory.com

Marjorie Perrine
Editor

Photographs by Thomas C. Bodall
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2008 HISTORY ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS
How Knowing My Country's History Makes Me a Better Citizen

The two winners of our 2008 history essay contest are Robby Darrar and Christopher Tagliaferro, both Monroe Township residents and recent graduates of Immaculate Conception School, Spotswood. Both Robby and Chris will be attending Christian Brothers Academy, Lincroft this fall. Each received a \$100 United States Savings Bond.

By Robby Darrar



I have studied history since third grade. U.S. History is my favorite study of history. I've always liked learning about how my country started and grew to where it is today. My country was started by a variety of different people from many other countries that came to the New World for a variety of reasons. They all had a common goal, which was to have a better lifestyle. These people took a tremendous risk and had a lot of courage to do so.

My country was finally established in 1776 after the settlers rebelled against the British. The main reason for the rebellion was that the settlers were sick of corruption and being told what to do by the King. They wanted to build a country that was for the people. The settlers were out-numbered but still stood up for their beliefs. They fought for their freedom and won. As my country began to expand, there were many struggles, sacrifices, and successes along the way. The people of my country made many mistakes and had great achievements. It was divided over slavery and this caused a Civil War. When the war eventually ended, the country needed to rebuild. Many new inventions led to our rise as an international power. There was a depression that brought great grief, two world wars, and racial discrimination. However, my country continued to move forward, improve, and help others. It was the first to put a man on the moon and also made many medical breakthroughs that have made the world a better place. My country was built on beliefs of hard work and faith.

I think the Pledge of Allegiance says it all: "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all." As citizens of The United States, we have our privileges because of all the Americans who sacrificed their lives for this pledge. We have freedom of speech, freedom of religion, and can vote for what we want. We can work hard to be whatever we want to be in the United States. I am a better citizen because of all the sacrifices and lessons I have learned from my country's history. It has taught me that you have to fight for what you believe in, that you need to treat people fairly, and work hard to make yourself a better person. I've also learned that when things look bad, there is always a way to overcome misfortunes.

I use my country's history on a daily basis to make me a better citizen. When I am in school, I work hard to respect my teachers and friends and enjoy my freedom of religion and the freedom to learn. When I play hockey, I

Continued on page 4

By Chris Tagliaferro



A citizen is a person who owes loyalty to a country and is titled to all his/ her rights and protections. That is what it says in the glossary in my text book, but I have a different definition for it other than a glossary word. A citizen is a person who devotes his or her life to its community by giving a helping hand around the town.

Having a democracy gives us many rights and freedoms. The most important one is freedom of speech and being a United States citizen it lets me express my feelings no matter what the circumstance. In the United States of America we have a good government. Who gives us these rights?

In my school education we learn a lot in our history class about our past, present and our geography. We have covered the areas from Christopher Columbus through World War II. I enjoy learning about the history of my country and how it became, all the different conflicts and all the wars and battles we overcame.

Being a citizen of the United States of America is a great honor because it gives us the chance to become equal with our peers. My ancestors had to be naturalized. They were naturalized so I didn't have to be. My great-grandmother came from Italy, a few months before she died she told me about how she came over the Atlantic to America. She said it was a great move for her and said I should be very grateful to live here. My grandmother came along with my great-grandmother when she was about my age, around fourteen.

In the Township of Monroe where I live the citizenship is great. Many people volunteer for various things and do great things for the town. For example on my street there is a brand new park being built, it looks great so far. Many people volunteered their time to plant trees and huge amounts of different kinds of flowers to make it look nice. My parents always tell me that when you volunteer it affects many people and the community around you. You may also meet new people and learn about their different backgrounds.

Anybody no matter black, white, Latino, or other race or nationality you are you still belong to the United States of America and are citizens with all the same rights. I think we should all have the same values and priorities in life.

I feel that if I didn't have a history class I would be lost as well as the future generations after me. Without history the past would basically be forgotten. If I didn't have it I would only know that George Washington was

Continued on page 4

ROBBY, continued

work hard to be a team player, just as our soldiers worked together to defeat the British, Germans, and Japanese. When I do community service at the soup kitchen, I think of all the poor people during the Great Depression and I feel good that I can help people in need. When I am afraid to try something new, I think of the original settlers who risked everything for a chance to have something better. If you don't try something new, you may never know if it is better than what you already have. My country's history has taught me that being fair, trustworthy, sincere, and hard working makes the world a better place.

God Bless America.

CHRIS, continued

just on the one dollar bill and not our first president or the person who helped us and guided us to our country's independence. So without history how would the children of America learn about their ancestors and their backgrounds, how our country came to be, why we wanted to become independent. This makes me believe that we are the future who needs to teach about our past and to show the future generations what it means to be a citizen.



Our Intern Program

The Jamesburg Historical Association has recently been blessed with two interns from Rutgers University, New Brunswick. During the summer of 2007, Lorin Mordecai of Monroe Township, a senior history and sociology major, went through a number of newspapers, cutting out the Jamesburg articles, placing them in folders, and creating an index/finding aid so that researchers may find articles more easily. Ms. Mordecai transcribed the 1876 Historical Address given by Wilton T. Hill and five Jamesburg diaries. The 1876 address and three of the diaries have been placed on our web site, www.jamesburghistory.com. The other diaries will be added as time permits.

During the spring 2008 semester, Lindsay Kelly of Hamilton Township, NJ, a graduate level education major with a history concentration, worked with the Historical Association and the Jamesburg Public Schools to develop a week-long curriculum devoted to Jamesburg history that can be presented in third grade classes. This curriculum focuses on Jamesburg history from its earliest times through present and uses a variety of primary sources, photographs, and activities to enrich the children's knowledge of the area's history. This curriculum will be used during the 2008-2009 academic year. Ms. Kelly also transcribed the minutes of the Jamesburg Literary Society, which are now available on the Association's web site.

The Jamesburg Historical Association thanks Ms. Mordecai and Ms. Kelly for their hard work and dedication to preserving local history.

UNCOVERING, continued



drain, and a builder's trench associated with the construction of the main block of the mansion. An abundance of glass, stoneware, brick, redware, pearlware, ironstone, porcelain, nails, a shot gun shell, oyster shells, and animal

bones were found.

A dense clutter of artifacts was identified under the floorboards in the rear section of the house, which have the potential to provide new information about the construction of the mansion and its residents. Richard Grubb & Associates noted that no artifacts indicative of the eighteenth century, such as white salt-glazed stoneware, buff-bodied slipware, and tin glazed earthenware were recovered during the excavations.

Buckelew Park is now registered with the New Jersey State Museum and has received the Smithsonian designation 28-Mi-242. It was the opinion of Richard Grubb & Associates that the site represents a potentially significant archeological resource that may contribute to the State and National Register listing.

A Preservation Primer



Historic homes require much attention and care. In order to preserve a historic home, meticulous thought and planning must go into the process. Ever wonder why and how we preserve structures and cultural resources? What methodologies are

used in the preservation field? The Jamesburg Historical Association and Borough Historian Thomas C. Bodall are proud to announce their newest display at the Jamesburg Borough Hall, 131 Perrineville Road, entitled "A Preservation Primer: Restoring Lakeview Mansion and other historic homes." This exhibit explores the topic of historic preservation, the planning stages for preservation and restoration projects on historic homes, a brief look at historic structure reports, and the methodologies set forth by the Secretary of the Interior. The objects in this display include wallpaper samples, a door knob, hand-made hinges, a beautiful glass lampshade and other artifacts from *Lakeview Mansion*. This exhibit will run through November 26, 2008.

A Victorian Christmas



An exhibit featuring Victorian Christmas cards and ornaments will open December 1, 2008 at the Jamesburg Borough Hall, 131 Perrineville Road. This exhibit will explore early Christmas celebrations and greeting cards of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. A small sampling of ornaments dating to the early twentieth century will accompany the display. This exhibit will close on January 2, 2009.

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. If you have any items to loan or donate to the association for what you believe could be a future exhibit, please contact *Lakeview* Mansion's Curator, by e-mail, webmaster@jamesburg.net, or phone, 732-521-2040 and leave a message. If you have any items or ideas for future exhibits, please contact the association.

- Aoife & Steven Lenox of Jamesburg, NJ – plans for their home on Front Street dating to 1949 and a 1939 WPA tax assessor's map
- Anonymous – Jamesburg centennial articles from the *The Daily Home News*, 1947.
- Linke Family of Jamesburg, NJ – three photos of Jamesburg circa 1940
- Susan Schneider-Baker of Monroe Township, NJ - a feather mattress and pillows, dating well over 100 years.
- Joy McDonald of Piscataway, NJ – photos and papers from Harvey Deveney who taught at Jamesburg in 1901. Related to Curtis Deveney, first JHS principal.
- Anonymous - two bed sheets, a doily, a pillow sham, and a pair of women's gloves dating to the early twentieth century.
- Frank Simacek of Millstone Township, NJ - 1898 photograph of the GAR Reunion in Jamesburg.
- Barbara Lemonakis of Canonsburg, PA – a ten cent ice cream ticket from the Methodist Church of Jamesburg.
- Sally Canuso of Monroe Township, NJ – horse's head for hitching post

Help the Jamesburg Archive Grow!

Help our archive and displays grow! 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, The State Home for Boys, The First National Bank of Jamesburg, Jamesburg businesses, political materials and memorabilia, the Jamesburg School District or PTA materials, yearbooks, 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 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 *Lakeview* Mansion's Curator by e-mail, webmaster@jamesburg.net.

OUR WISH LIST

Here's our wish list of items that will help us continue to fulfill our mission to preserve Jamesburg-area history. It would be greatly appreciated if you can help us obtain any of these items. Remember, all donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Historical Needs

- Jamesburg postcards and photographs
- Any Jamesburg memorabilia
- Foot warmer and Bed warmer
- Farming implements

Archive Needs

- Programs from Jamesburg area events
- Jamesburg area business cards (old and new)
- Agendas/minutes/newsletters of borough organizations
- Archival folders, envelopes and boxes

If you can help us, please contact us at 732-521-2040 (please leave a message).

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

JHA meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Jamesburg Borough Hall, 131 Perrineville Road. Any one interested in the history of the Jamesburg area is welcome to attend.

Jamesburg Historical Association Membership Form

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Renewal New
- Student \$5.00/year (to age 16)
- Individual \$20.00/year
- Family \$30.00/year
- Patron \$50.00/year
- Century \$100.00 or more/year

Please list names of family members for "Family Memberships."

CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP

- Renewal New
- Platinum \$1,000/year
- Gold \$500/year
- Silver \$250/year
- Bronze \$100/year
- In-kind donations also appreciated

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

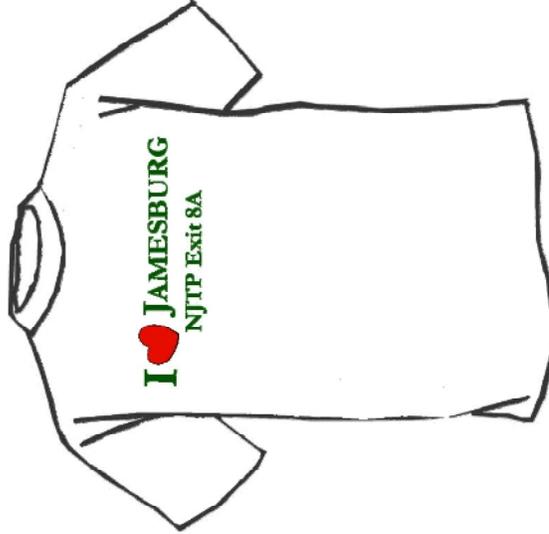
City/State/ZIP: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Family Names (For Family Membership): _____

Jamesburg Historical Association

SHOW YOUR TOWN PRIDE!



\$10 each — Sizes Available : Medium, Large, Extra Large

On Sale At

Jamesburg Historical Association Tent
Jamesburg Farmers' Market, West Railroad Avenue
Saturdays though October — 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Order by Mail:

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Add postage: (1-3) \$5.00 (4-6) \$6.00

Make check payable to "JHA"

Mail to: Jamesburg Historical Association
PO Box 182, Jamesburg, NJ 08831-0182

Jamesburg Historical Association
PO Box 182
Jamesburg, NJ 08831-0182

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

JOIN US AT THE
MONROE AREA HERITAGE EVENT
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2008
1:00-4:00 p.m.
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