



FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP HERITAGE SOCIETY

189B Wemrock Road, Freehold, New Jersey 07728

“PRESERVING THE PAST TO ENSURE THE FUTURE”

January 2021

The Freehold Township Heritage Society is a local organization serving the community by restoring and maintaining the historic properties in town. These sites have played an important role not only in our community's past, but a part of American history as well.

As an independent organization, the majority of our funding is based on memberships, public donations and fundraisers. Each year we host events that provide revenue. This revenue helps pay for the repairs and restoration projects. The Oakley Farmhouse recently had repairs done to the porch pillars, exterior window sills, roof line, shutters and the entire exterior was freshly painted. These repairs were needed so we could present the home in its best condition possible to our guests

The Heritage Arts Pavilion was not used in 2020 except for the 4th NJ Christmas at Camp event in December. Covid 19 eliminated all of our planned events last year. Since we were not open for tours and events, our donations were severely reduced. One event that was cancelled in 2020 due to the pandemic was Birds, Bees and Butterflies. We plan to hold this when public events are allowed again. Educators and Master Gardeners will inform visitors of the different types of bees, the importance of bees to our environment, how beekeepers collect honey and the benefits of honey. They will also explain the migratory habits of birds, the importance of birds to our eco system and what birds can be found in our area. This will be the first time we will hold this event and are quite excited about it.

The **'Buy a Brick'** program is ongoing and we have had many additions since the original installation. A new vendor was found and the cost for a personalized brick was reduced to \$100.00. We will continue to sell bricks as long as there is interest. If you wish to purchase one, a form has been enclosed.

We are always looking for people to help us during the year on a regular basis, perhaps once a month to open the house to visitors or for office work such as filing that is always ongoing or other things we need help with. Please contact us if you are available. In addition, if you know of anyone needing community service hours we are always in need of them. Volunteers can be age 12+ and we will find an appropriate task around the farm or our schoolhouse. Contact us for more information on this.

We would deeply appreciate your donation or membership again this year.

We will have our planned events when the pandemic is over. In the meantime, keep in touch by reading our newsletters and visit our new website, OakleyFarmMuseum.org

With friendly thanks and best wishes,

Freehold Township Heritage Society Executive Board