

# Places In Time

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## LAWRENCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FALL 2007



Agress Installed as LHS President...

A man of many personalities, including Col. Edward Hand, James Brearley, David Brearley and most recently the Mayor of River City, Bill Agress (above) was elected President of the Lawrence Historical Society at the February 2007 meeting. Bill has served as a LHS Board Member for many years and has regularly been seen at Society functions in various capacities. Carolyn Kozlowski was elected vice president, Ruth Barringer, Treasurer and immediate past president Janet Bickal will serve Secretary.



The 4<sup>th</sup> Mary Tanner History Lecture will be given by **Gordon Wood** (pictured above), Pulitzer-Prize winning author of *The Radicalism of the American Revolution* on **Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at 2** in the afternoon. The *New York Times* called his prize-winning book “the most important study of the American Revolution to appear in over 20 years...a landmark book.” The lecture will be held **on the campus of Princeton University** in Robertson Hall (Dodds Auditorium). Robertson Hall is located on the intersection of Washington Road (Rt. 571) and Prospect Street and is home of the Woodrow Wilson School. The architect for the iconic structure was Minoru Yamasaki. This free lecture is being sponsored by the James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions and the Lawrence Historical Society. Free parking will be available in PU lots.



Past President Janet Bickal receives a silver bowl from board member Ruth Barringer acknowledging 4 years of service as LHS President.

The topic of Dr. Wood's lecture is “Revolutionary Characters: What Made the Founding Fathers Different.”

**2007 Fall Calendar of Events**

Saturday, October 6<sup>th</sup>  
 Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>  
 Robertson Hall—Campus  
 of Princeton University  
 Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>  
 Saturday, December 1<sup>st</sup>  
 Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup>

Brearley House Tours\*  
**4<sup>th</sup> Annual Mary Tanner  
 History Lecture—2 PM**

Brearley House Tours\*  
 Hogmanay Bonfire

New Year's Eve 6 PM in the Great Meadow

\* All 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Tours: 10 AM to noon

**The LHS Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday,  
 February 24<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM in Lawrence Township Hall.**



2007 LHS Board members sworn in by Lawrence Township Mayor Greg Puliti.



Thomas Huynh (left) a Lawrence High School student, won the 2007 Winnie Nash award for excellence in historical studies. LHS Board Member John Halvorsen (right) is the presenter.



LHS's Janet Bickal with Mayfair celebrants.



Guests enjoy a brilliant spring day on the front lawn of the Brearley house.

The Lawrence Historical Society on the web...  
[www.TheLHS.org](http://www.TheLHS.org)

If you looking for back issues of the award winning *Places in Time* (*with color pictures*), want to brush up on history in Lawrence Township or need links to other websites of interest, please visit the LHS website. Since January of this year, over 1,500 visitors from 24 countries and 38 states have visited the site. The most popular key words are the Brearley House and the D&R Canal. Our webmaster and board member, Laura Nawrocik, can be contacted at the following address: [webmaster@thelhs.org](mailto:webmaster@thelhs.org). You can also pay your 2008 LHS dues from the website using PayPal.

## Office Hours at the Brearley House...

The Lawrence Historical Society now has an office for the business manager, Ellie Calcagno. In the northwest parlor of the Brearley House our nearly new computer is housed in a newly assembled armoire. Ellie will be in the office every Tuesday, ready to show the house to potential renters or other visitors while she maintains the membership and financial records. The computer was rebuilt and installed by Philip Atheron, son of our Vice President, Carolyn Kozlowski. The PC is discreetly camouflaged in its Shaker style armoire so that, when the doors are closed, no jarring 21<sup>st</sup> century anachronism mars the Georgian parlor.



The armoire provided a story in itself. It came from Staples in a box full of thousands of pieces. Board members Bruce Bitcover and Rob Smit (pictured above) carefully spread the vast array of pieces all over the floor of the parlor, but could not figure out how to proceed past step one of the 32 page book of assembly instructions. They need not have felt embarrassed. It took a professional building contractor, Gil Kunz, five hours to put the armoire together. Society members are invited to visit our new office during Tuesday office hours or on regular first Saturday tours. Ellie's email address is: [brearleyhouse@att.net](mailto:brearleyhouse@att.net).

## Ice Cream and Old Time Music Rule...

On June 10<sup>th</sup>, the Port Mercer Canal House was once again the scene of a typical 19<sup>th</sup> century summer afternoon gathering. At the 175 year old home of the canal's bridge tender, the Society welcomed visitors, some of them literally flagged on Quaker Bridge Road by Paul Gatterdam. Others may have been lured by the lively tunes of the Rhythmairs, a quartet of musicians who have played for us for several years. Ruth Barringer was kept busy all afternoon giving tours

## Board Member Williams Honored by DMV...

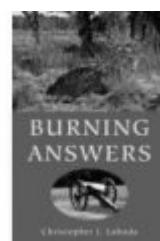
Jim Williams, a long time LHS Board member and award winning photographer received a Community Service Award from his employer the New Jersey Department of Motor Vehicles this spring. Jim attended the Public Service Recognition Awards Ceremony on May 7<sup>th</sup> which was held at the Patriots Theatre in Trenton. He was nominated by his fellow employees at DMV and was cited for his volunteer work with the Society.



Prince Charles of Wales is believed to be traveling inside this train on a recent trip to Philadelphia. Jim Williams, an English history buff, captured the event. The Welsh flag is on the right.

## Burning Answers On Sale...

Chris Lahoda wrote an absorbing civil war period novel, *Burning Answers*, prior to his passing. The novel is vivid reader on a in the battle at story is filled manipulation. member of the Trustees of the years. The book



sale in the Brearley House Gift Shop.

inside the house. Outside, on the patio next to the Victorian garden, Laura Nawrocik and John Halvorsen were in charge of dishing up the Cold Stone Creamery ice cream. President Bill Aggress and Vice President Carolyn Kozlowski greeted the guests who included some very young citizens of Lawrence: Councilman Mike Powers' three year old twin sons Hunter and Christopher, and Councilman Rick Miller's two-week old daughter Charlotte.

## *Join the Lawrence Historical Society!*

Join the society today or renew your membership! Members receive the society newsletter, and notice and discounts of society events. The society is a non-profit, charitable organization.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Tel (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Is this a renewal?  e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Student .....	\$5	Mail to:
Family .....	\$35	Lawrence Historical Society
Lifetime .....	\$250	PO Box 6025
Senior .....	\$5	Lawrenceville, NJ 08648
Patron .....	\$50	
Business .....	\$50	
Individual .....	\$15	
Benefactor .....	\$500	

I am enclosing a special contribution  
to commemorate \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday and anniversary cards can be sent if you supply us with an address.

The Lawrence Historical Society  
P. O. Box 6025  
Lawrenceville, New Jersey 08648

## Brearley House Guest Book

From time to time, the PIT staff inventory signatures from the Guest Book from the hall in the Brearley House. Visitors from New Jersey...

Columbus	Cream Ridge
Dayton	Denville
Edison	Freehold
Kendall Park	Manville
North Caldwell	Old Bridge
Piscataway	South Orange
Watchung	

Out of State Visitors from...

Bakersfield, CA
District of Columbia
Doylestown, PA
Fairfield, CT
Ghent, NY
Langhorne, PA
New York City, NY
Oakland, CA
Terry, MS

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**Return Service Requested**

Renew on-line at [www.TheLHS.org](http://www.TheLHS.org)

