



Turkey Tracks

Newsletter of the New Providence Historical Society

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March 2022

Remember the Ladies *Women During the American Revolution*



In a letter to her husband John, dated March 1776, Abigail Adams wrote, “Remember the ladies.”

While the history books record many founding fathers, women also played important, sometimes pivotal roles during the American Revolution.

On April 21, 2022, historian Joel Farkas will share many of those contributions at the Historical Society’s Annual Dinner.



The **Salt Box Craft Fair** returns to its usual time of year on **May 7, 2022**, 9am to 3pm. Please join us for this exhibition and sale of high quality arts and crafts on the grounds of the Salt Box Museum at 1350 Springfield Avenue in New Providence. In addition to crafts, the society will have a bake sale and free tours of the Salt Box Museum.

On **June 11, 2022**, the Society will host the **New Providence Flea Market**, with a wide array of venerable treasures.



**New Providence
Flea Market**

Board of Trustees Letter

Like many others in these difficult times, the Society has persevered. We have reopened the Salt Box Museum again for visitors on the first Sunday of the every month, this winter; for the first time in years. In addition, the Society has expanded Mason Room Archive hours to include the second Saturday of the month, 11AM-1PM. We have also erected two historical markers and are working on a third.

While we began to return to normality in 2021, we are finally returning to our normal schedule in 2022. This begins with our Annual Dinner on April 21st at Chimney Rock Inn in Gillette. Our speaker will be Joel Farkas. His topic will be *Remember the Ladies: Women During the American Revolution*. We encourage you to join us. Please see details on page 5.

Before the pandemic, the Board of Trustees decided to split the old Lawn Sale into two separate events: the Salt Box Craft Sale and the New Providence Flea Market. Now the pandemic is ending, the Salt Box Craft Fair will be on May 7th and the Flea Market will be on June 11th. We ask for volunteers for both events. Our fundraising efforts took a hit during the pandemic. Hopefully a strong showing will get us back on track. Proceeds from these events support the maintenance of the Salt Box Museum and fund our New Providence High School school scholarship program.

Volunteers are always needed and encouraged, especially DOCENTS. As the restrictions open up, there will be lots more to do. If you'd like to volunteer, or just have questions, please give us a call at 908-665-1034.

New Providence Historical Society Board of Trustees

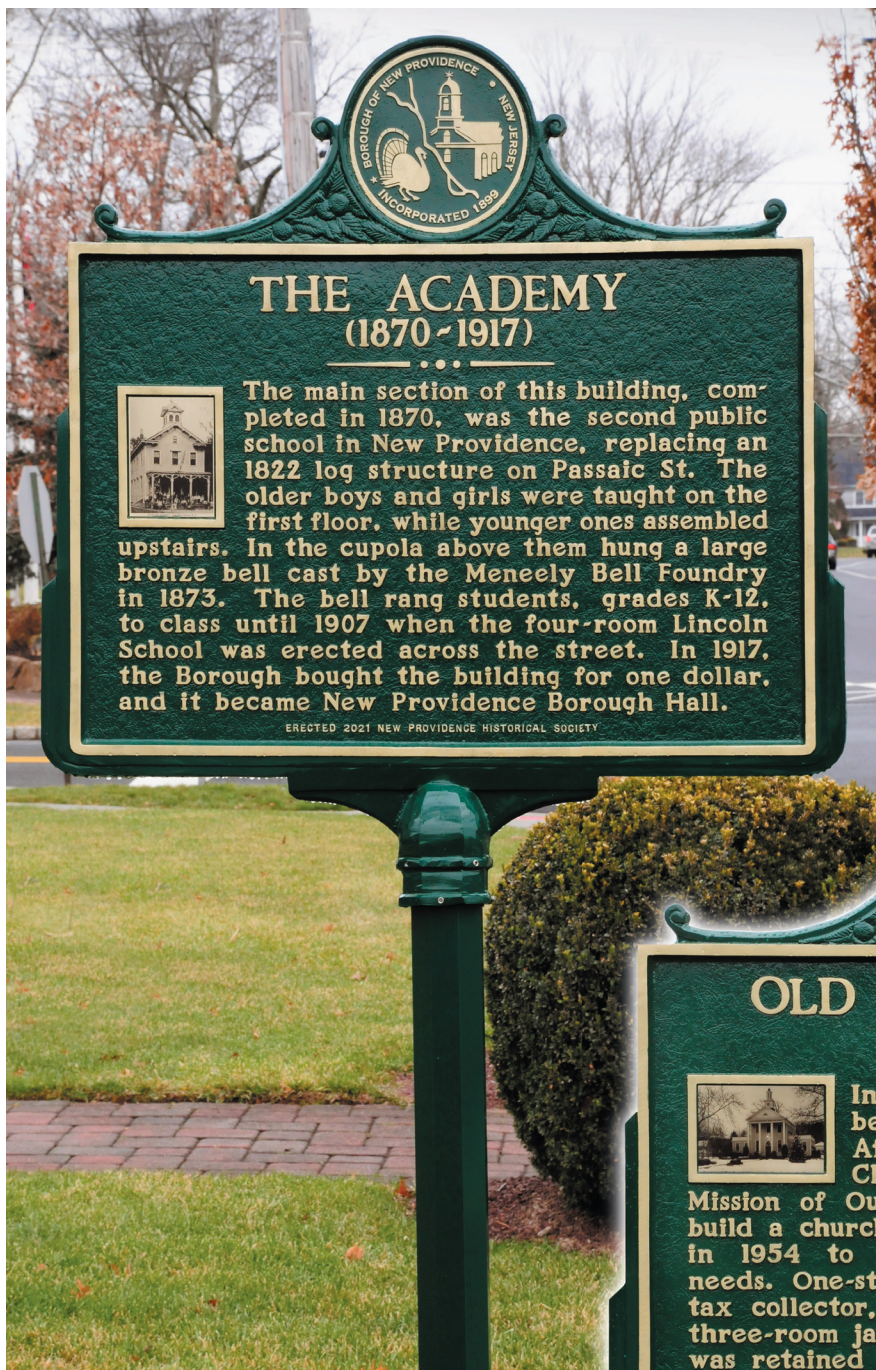


2022 Calendar for Upcoming Society Events

April 21, 2022	Thursday	Chimney Rock Inn, 6PM
May 7, 2022	Saturday	Salt Box Craft Fair, 9AM - 3PM
June 11, 2022	Saturday	New Providence Flea Market, 9AM - 3PM
September 17, 2022	Saturday	New Providence Book Festival, 9AM - 3PM
October 15-16, 2022	Saturday & Sunday	Union County <i>Four Centuries in Weekend</i>

Other events may be added, so check our calendar at www.newprovidencehistorical.com.

Newest Historical Marker



The second historical marker was installed in town for a building which has served a range of uses for the town. The building on the corner of Academy Street and Springfield Avenue served as an academy from 1870 to 1917, and later as our Borough Hall until 1980. Since then the building has been leased out. Today, the building is currently leased by Peapack Private Wealth Management.

This history of the structure is so rich, it required a two-sided marker just to briefly summarize the services it has provided for the community.



Kerry Lee, Robert Keller, Rick Anderson and other members of the historical society have been championing the historical marker program. The first marker was placed in front of the New Providence Presbyterian Church in December of 2020. The third marker is being developed for the Salt Box Museum, expected to be erected this summer.

A second project related to this historic building is the restoration of the original 1873 Academy Bell which hangs in its cupola.

The Changing Face of New Providence



Over the years, the *Turkey Tracks* has reported the comings and goings of various businesses and buildings in town. However, few of these changes have had the reaction that the demolition of 44 South Street has had. Once the home to several old New Providence families, and later a series of local businesses, the 1870 structure was torn down on February 14th and 15th. The Parcels farmland once attached to the house covered what is now the Village Shopping Center.

A new commercial structure will be built on the property. There was a last-minute attempt to save the oldest structure in the center of New Providence, but officials were not receptive.

In response to the loss of this historic house, the town has agreed to restore the dormant Historic Preservation Commission.



Member & Citizen News

Please welcome a plathora of new members: **Elizabeth Ryan, Diane Bilicska & Tony Pereira, Patricia & Dave Malicher, Jan & Greg Martin, Kathy Rodgers, Patricia & Martha Wells, and Madison Wu.**

Harry Fujimoto (94) passed away on January 30, 2022. During World War II, Harry and his family were sent to the Rohwer Internment Camp in Arkansas. He later fought in the Korean War, earning numerous decorations. Harry and his brother began Carl's Greenhouses in New Providence. He was a proud member of the New Jersey Farm Bureau, Summit Old Guard, Berkeley Heights VFW, New Providence Historical Society and St. Andrew's Episcopal Church.

Armand Gallucio (70) passed away on February 15, 2022. He served as a New Providence Councilman from 2009-2018. During his tenure, he served on the Zoning Board of Adjustment and Library Board. He was involved with the New Providence HS Marching Band, New Providence Municipal Alliance, Downtown Alliance, and the Lions Club. He was a Grand Knight with the Knights of Columbus, and the president of the Paca Club.

Membership Renewal Application

Our annual dues run from April 1st to March 31st, our fiscal year. Please fill in the requested information and mail your check to Margaret Maurer's attention at the Memorial Library address, New Providence Historical Society, 377 Elkwood Avenue, New Providence, NJ 07974. This will enable us to keep our membership and mailing lists current. Lifetime Members, please submit any change in address, phone, email, etc., using this form. Be sure to include your preference for Mr., Mrs., Ms., or Mr. or Mrs. Membership dues provide the main income to support the Society's mission and activities, we rely on your renewal.

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Date _____

Annual Memberships (Many corporations will match contributions.)

Individual \$15.00 _____ Family \$25.00 _____ Business Sponsorship \$25.00 _____

I will volunteer to help:

Computer _____ Research _____ Museum _____ Craft Fair _____ Writing _____

Clerical _____ Grounds _____ Restoration _____ House Tours _____

Reservations for 2022 Annual Dinner

April 21, 2022, Hors d'oeuvre at 6 PM, Dinner at 7 PM, Cash Bar.
Chimney Rock, 342 Valley Road, Gillette, NJ 07933

Number of reservations: _____ @ \$40.00 for NP Historical Society Annual Dinner

Donation to cover speaker fee _____ (Optional)

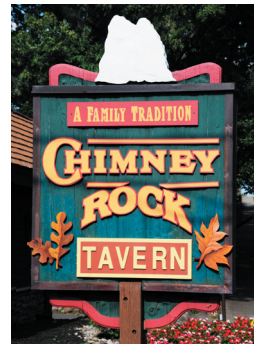
Amount of Check \$ _____.

Please make check payable to NP Historical Society.

Reservations must be received by **April 10, 2022.**

Send checks to:

New Providence Historical Society
c/o New Providence Memorial Library
377 Elkwood Avenue
New Providence, NJ 07974



Proposed Trustees - Class of 2022: J.R. Bale, Robert Keller and Carol Smith



New Providence Historical Society Officers & Committees

Vice President	Rick Anderson
Corresponding Secretary	Carol Smith
Treasurer	Kerry Lee
Grounds & Property	Rick Anderson
Membership	Margaret Maurer
Website & <i>Turkey Tracks</i> editor	J.R. Bale
Social Media	Maria DeLuca
Recording Secretary	Audrey Keebler

Trustees

Rick Anderson, J.R. Bale, Maria DeLuca,
Kerry Lee, Margaret Maurer, Carol Smith,
Sara Jane Vignali



Salt Box Museum Hours

1350 Springfield Avenue
First Sundays, 1-3 PM
Or by appointment
Telephone: 908-665-1034

Mason Room Hours

at the New Providence Library
Tuesday Mornings,
10 AM to Noon
Second Saturdays, 11AM - 1 PM
Telephone: 908-665-1034
Appointments available

Website:

newprovidencehistorical.com

Turkey Tracks is also
available in color on our
website in PDF form.

Facebook Page: facebook.com/NewProvidenceHistoricalSociety



New Providence Historical Society
Memorial Library
377 Elkwood Avenue
New Providence, New Jersey 07974