



The Tewksbury Historical Society

Post Office Box 457
Oldwick, NJ 08858

October 30, 2016

NOVEMBER MEETING

DATE: Sunday, November 13, 2016

TIME: 5:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Fairmount Presbyterian Community House
247 Old Turnpike Road, Fairmount

MEETING TOPIC: *Owning New Jersey: Historic Tales of War, Property Disputes and the Pursuit of Happiness* by Joe Grabas

Join us on Sunday, November 13th from 5 to 8 pm for our annual covered dish supper at the Fairmount Presbyterian Community House 247 Old Turnpike Road, Fairmount. We ask that you bring a salad, casserole or dessert to share. The Society will provide the main course of ham and all the refreshments. Call our Hospitality Chair, Martha Wrede, at 439-3557 to indicate the number attending and what you are bringing.

New Jersey's land records and deeds are unlikely sources for a thrilling tale but reveal little-known, fascinating history. A detailed story of the founding of the Garden State 350 years ago is preserved in these papers. The state's boundaries were drawn in such documents centuries ago, even if the authors never stepped foot in North America. The archives hide heroes, like the freed African Americans who fought for their right to own their piece of the state. And of course, there are the bizarre and mysterious tales, like the silk baron's castle and the assault against a sixteen-year-old maiden during the throes of the American Revolution. Join land title expert Joseph Grabas as he combs through these all-but-forgotten stories of the pursuit of happiness and property in early New Jersey.

Mr. Grabas is an expert in Land Title Research, having examined over 100,000 land titles in 5 States and all 21 Counties in New Jersey since 1978. He has been recognized by the NJLTA as a *Certified Title Professional* and by the ALTA as a *National Title Professional*. Joe is a professional educator and lecturer. He has pioneered the field in interpretive land records research and has been qualified as an Expert in land title and real estate matters by the Superior Court of NJ, providing testimony in various title litigation. Mr. Grabas has been certified by the NJDOBI as a Title Instructor and has been authorized by the NJDOBI, NJ RE Commission and the NJ Supreme Court to teach continuing education to insurance producers, realtors and lawyers. Joe is a Commissioner on the Monmouth County Historical Commission and a member of the NJ Tidelands Resource Council. His historical research focuses on Historic Land Titles, the history of the NJ Land Recording System, Free African American communities, Colonial & State Boundary development and the Colonial and Antebellum history of New Jersey. He is the author of *Owning New Jersey: Historic Tales of War, Property Disputes and the Pursuit of Happiness* (History Press - 2014).

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

We'll choose 5 Society members to serve on the Nominating Committee at the November meeting. The person with the highest number of votes will serve as Chair. The Nominating Committee will select candidates for Vice-President and Treasurer for 2017-18.

OLDWICK CARRIAGE HOUSE WORK DAY

Saturday, November 5 9 am to 12 Noon

HEADQUARTERS WORK DAY

Saturday, November 26 9 am to 12 Noon

If you can lend a couple of hours we need you so stop by.

13th ANNUAL CHRISTMAS ANTIQUE SHOW

Our 13th annual Christmas Antique Show will be held at the Old Turnpike School, Route 517, Fairmount, on Saturday, December 3rd from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, December 4th from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The management of this show consists of Ellen Katona and Bob Lutz. We are now enjoying our 13th year of successful shows with them for the Tewksbury Historical Society. This year's show, co-chaired by Shaun Van Doren and Elsie Ehmann, will have 55 quality dealers. The admission is \$8.00 per person or \$7.00 with card available from the Society or ad from the local paper.

We need volunteers to be porters to help our antique dealers move their wares into the school. Moderate lifting is required. You will be paid for your service. If you can lend a couple of hours on Friday, Dec. 2nd between 3 and 8 pm or Sunday, December 4 between 3 and 7 pm please call Elsie at 908-876-4502.

The Society will again be having its own booth to sell antiques that have been donated to us. If you have any antiques you would like to donate to us to sell please call Headquarters at 908-832-6734 and leave a message. We'll reply and we'll also provide a letter acknowledging receipt.

HEADQUARTERS OPEN – HOLIDAY HOURS

Headquarters will be open to visit our displays and purchase that special item for gift giving:

Saturday December 17 9 am to 12 pm

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to the Society:

Deborah Hoskins
Joseph & Denise Smith
Sonja & Tom Fesenmaier
Patti Farley
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Henry

Ringoes
Califon
Lebanon
Riverside, NJ
Pottersville

2016/17 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATE	TIME	LOC.	EVENT
Sun. Nov. 13	5 pm	F	Covered Dish Supper & Program by Joe Grabas on his latest book <i>Owning New Jersey: Historic Tales of War, Property Disputes and the Pursuit of Happiness</i>
Sat. Nov. 26	9 am to 12 pm	M	Work Day
Sat. Dec. 3 & Sun. Dec. 4	10 am to 4 pm 11 am to 3 pm	O	Antique Show
Sat. Dec. 17	9 am to 12 pm	M	Headquarters Open
Sun. Jan. 15	1 pm	M	Annual Meeting of the Tewksbury Historical Society
Sun. Mar. 19	1 pm	M	Meeting & Program
Sat. Apr. 29	8 am to 4 pm	C	3 rd annual Oldwick Tag Sale
Sat. May 6	8 am to 4 pm	C	Tag Sale Rain Date
Sun. May 7	1 pm	M	Meeting & Program
Sat. June 10	10 am to 4 pm		House & Garden Tour with Hunterdon Hills Garden Club

Location Codes:

- M Society Headquarters, 60 Water Street, Mountainville
- C Oldwick Carriage House, 5 James Street, Oldwick
- F Fairmount Presbyterian Church Community House 247 Old Turnpike Road
- O Old Turnpike School 173 Old Turnpike Road