

# Freehold Township Heritage Society

Spring 2022

## President's Message

It's cold out there, but the board here at FTHS have been busily planning fun and educational events for 2022. It'll be warm out there before you know it!

Look in this newsletter for information about our April Yard Sale and Car Show. Watch for information coming soon about a Tea Party in May. We are planning monthly open houses and small events. Our Old Time Jams will return as soon as it is warm enough to play outside, we are hoping to begin again in March. Our community partners Center Players will be hosting a young person's Talent Show in June- you know you have talented kids and grandkids that should be on that stage!

The Community Garden plots are going fast, check out the article in this newsletter for information if you are interested and haven't already reserved your plot.

We really appreciate the folks who have already become members in the organization. Members help fund events and restoration projects, and our membership numbers help us qualify for grants. There's a membership form at the end of this newsletter, and we would truly appreciate your support.

As always, we are actively looking for people who want to be more involved with FTHS. Whatever your talent, we have a use for it. We are especially looking for outgoing people talented in digital media, marketing, and networking. Introverts- we want you too, there are small individual projects to be tackled, from paperwork to cleaning and many things in between. Just email us, we want to hear from you. [ftheritagesociety@gmail.com](mailto:ftheritagesociety@gmail.com)

Looking forward to seeing you this spring,

Denise Warren, FTHS President

## Lottery Tickets & Gift Baskets needed!

**Please donate a lottery ticket for our upcoming Garden Tea Party. Send tickets to the FTHS, 189B Wemrock Rd, Freehold, NJ. 07728.**

**Gift Cards and Baskets are also needed. Contact Cheryl Polverino at 732-577-9766 if you're able to donate.**

## Upcoming Events:

### March 2022

Tuesday March 8, 5:30pm - Oakley Farm Jam

### April 2022

Tuesday, April 5, 7:30 - Old Time Jam

Tuesday April 12, 5:30 - Oakley Farm Jam

Saturday April 30, 9am to 2pm -

Yard Sale & Car Show

Weekend at Old Monmouth with

house tours and Bake Sale

### May 2022

Sunday May 1 Noon to 4pm - Weekend at Old Monmouth and House tours

Tuesday May 3, 5:30pm - Old Time Jam

Tuesday May 10, 7:30pm - Oakley Farm Jam

Saturday May 14 Open House & Membership Meeting

Saturday May 15, Noon to 3pm - Garden Tea Party

# Historic Tour de Freehold

by Richard Smith - FTHS Secretary

I ride my bicycle all over Freehold Township. One of my favorite rides starts in historic, downtown Freehold Boro, at the monument and Monmouth County Historic Association. We ride by St Andrews, the beautiful Carnegie era library and the Samuel Craig Coward House. Taking the direct route, we ride out to Main street. The bridge over Rt 33 requires timing the traffic. There is no shoulder and even though legally a bicycle can take a lane, it is best to follow the flow of the ever-building traffic. Watching the traffic, the ride over the bridge over Rt 33 gets our hearts beating hard. The Cincinatti Hall site is on the left as we cross the bridge. If we stay to the right, we quickly ride onto what was formerly the Oakley farm. Staying to the right we pass the elementary school and soccer fields and approach the West Freehold Schoolhouse. When we get to Wemrock Rd. we arrive at the historic Soloman farm and the site of the Jewish Heritage museum. Turning right we see the Oakley farm through the mist.

One day, as we approached the Oakley farm, the gray of the barns emerged from the from the mist and the swift barn swallows didn't seem to mind the cool, damp air. The ride home was beautiful in the mist, through the Battlevew orchards. We passed the Molly Pitcher's well and proceeded across the fields to the Craig house, floating across the tilled soil like the mist of time. Past the places the British and Patriots fought on that hot July day. Taking the route past the Historic Craig house we cross Rt 9 on Schibanoff Lane, past the County Jail and back to the monument.

We arrived tired, back at the Samuel Craig Coward House for an old time jam on the porch.

## Bringing History to Life Through the Arts

The Heritage Arts Program was established to honor the three remarkable Elizabeth Oakleys who live on and managed this farm since 1911. The program was proposed at the beginning to the pandemic. It's been a slow start...

The Heritage Arts Program is based on our Old-Time Music Program that features songs and traditions from earlier eras. We hold our jams on the second Tuesdays of the month. We focus on traditional music from the Revolutionary and Civil war periods. This is a teaching and learning process that keeps an aural tradition alive. In the jam circle we both teach and learn each other's songs. "Toe tappers" are always welcome. If all you want to do is listen to traditional music, you might be transported to an earlier, simpler time....

Mark your calendars for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays or get on our e-mail list and get our "song of the month" and a reminder every month.

In collaboration with Center Players we will present two programs. On June 14 we will have an intergenerational talent show. Music, juggling and poetry reading might appear at the Oakley farm that Saturday (rain date the following day). In the fall there will be a live presentation of the play "Meet the Oakelys."

We are excited to continue our relationship with Center Players and look forward fun-filled weekends in the Arts. We envision everything from painting classes to barn dances. If you have an interest or passion for the arts, lets make it happen.

-Richard Smith, Secretaty - FTHS

# Community Garden

Spring is almost upon us, I am getting planning and planting thoughts in my head.

This will be our 7th year with the Community Garden. I am receiving new applications for this year. The garden is open to any person living in Freehold Township.

We have been very successful with the garden in leasing all of the beds each season. It has been a real learning experience for everyone. Gardeners have introduced some very interesting vegetables as well as flowers. Every season is different and exciting. We are planning some new things for this year, so I hope that you will join us.

You can find out more information about the Community Garden and request an application by sending an email to [ftcommunitygardenatoakley@gmail.com](mailto:ftcommunitygardenatoakley@gmail.com)

There is also a backside to the application with the rules for the garden. Everone is welcome to participate in the special beds planted to grow vegetables exclusively for the Food Bank in Freehold.

If you are ever in the neighborhood and driving by Oakley Farm, take a look at the garden. It is on the far right side of the house set back a little bit in the lawn. We have lots of critters, big and small, so the garden is fenced to keep them out.

Sincerely,  
Ronnie Leibowitz, Chair Person of the Freehold Township Community Garden at Oakley  
Rich Jarocki, co-chair



Meet the Pollinators who help our gardens thrive and learn how to be a "Pollinator Protector" in our guest article starting on page 9

HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

## Spots available NOW for the 2nd annual Yard Sale and Car Show



Our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual community yard sale/car show is on SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 2022 from 9a-2p. Last year we had a great crew and lots of fun. This year we have contracted with an Ice Cream truck and are actively seeking another food vendor. We would also like to have a **bake sale** so any member who wants to bake cupcakes, cookies, loaf breads or cakes please let us know. The barns will be open and our Architectural Salvage will be for sale. House tours will also be available.

The fee for a 10'x10' spot is \$10.00. You will need to bring our own table and chairs. Pop up tents are allowed but will need to be secured properly. There are bathrooms in the house for public use. **APPLICATIONS CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE** [www.oakleyfarmmuseum.org](http://www.oakleyfarmmuseum.org) or email us at [ftheritagesociety@gmail.com](mailto:ftheritagesociety@gmail.com) **Applications must be received no later than April 25, 2022.** This is a rain or shine event-unless there is some kind of crazy weather and we will notify you if we cancel.

There is also a bee keeping program scheduled inside the house that day as well as entertainment in the pavilion.

The car show is becoming more popular. We usually get between 25 and 30 cars but can have as many as 50. **Fee for car show is \$5.** All enthusiasts are welcome—we will be giving out certificates and hopefully prizes this year.

This will be a day of fun so please mark your calendars and try to attend! These programs are fundraisers for our organization and they bring in much needed revenue for our ongoing restoration and preservation projects.

Reserve your space by completing the application on page 11 of this newsletter





Join us for a  
**GARDEN PARTY TEA**  
**AT OAKLEY FARM**

At the corner of Wemrock & Oakley Drive

**Sunday May 15, 2022**

**12noon to 3pm**

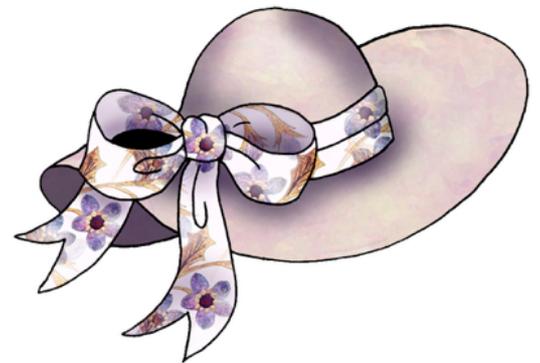
**\$30/person, \$25 for FTHS members**

Come enjoy tea, homemade sandwiches and desserts under tents on the beautiful grounds of the Oakley Farm.

Basket Raffles, Door Prizes and House tours will be available

Wear your best hat! Prizes awarded for

‘MOST APPROPRIATE TO THEME’ and ‘MOST FANTASTICAL’



**Reservations must be received by May 8th!**

**PLEASE FILL OUT AND RETURN**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to F.T. Heritage Society and send to  
Freehold Township Heritage Society

c/o Cheryl Polverino

124 Cannon Rd.

Freehold, N.J. 07728

check our website for more information. [www.oakleyfarmmuseum.org](http://www.oakleyfarmmuseum.org)



## PUZZLE CORNER

Jigsaw puzzles were invented in 1767 as an enjoyable pastime. Playing these puzzles has a variety of benefits.

In child development, jigsaw puzzles help develop fine motor ability, eye-hand coordination, problem-solving skills, spatial awareness. and concentration.

In adults, benefits include improved memory, improved visual-spatial reasoning, increased attention to detail, lower stress levels, and improved mood.

In addition to the benefits mentioned above, in this time of Covid cautiousness, virtual jigsaw puzzles can help to pass the time.

Below are some puzzles for you to solve. The links for them are found below. If clicking on the link doesn't work for you, type it or copy and paste the address in your browser.

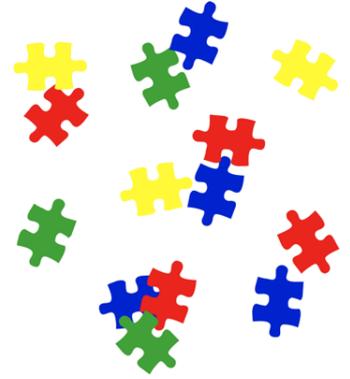
A window will open with puzzle pieces. Pieces are moved with your mouse. You can change some things if you want as listed below:

- **Play As** drop down menu at the top right. Each picture included here is set for pieces. Here you can change the number of pieces if you want to make it easier or more difficult. You can also change the shape of the pieces here.
- **Share** drop down menu next to Play As. You can send the puzzle in an email or other ways.
- **Maximize** button in the bottom right corner will make the puzzle fill your screen.
- **Several Buttons** in the bottom left corner give you choices including Restart. You can also choose to put up a Ghost Image, which shows a faded copy of the picture you are working to solve.
- **Timer** is in the bottom center.
- **Home, My Puzzles, Saved Games, Explore, and Create** at the top left allow you options.
- **Create** is where you can create a jigsaw puzzle from your own photos.
- Once you solve a puzzle, a Restart circle appears in the bottom left corner if you want to do it again.

Give it a try! Enjoy!

Pat Eisemann

FTHS Vice President



### Photos from the 4th NJ Civil War Reenactors Christmas at Camp 2021

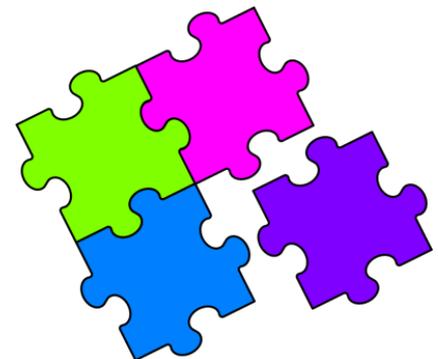
§ Open Fire Pit for Cooking Food Demonstration <https://tinyurl.com/y49b2rhy>

§ Tents Decorated for Christmas <https://tinyurl.com/4j3twvu3>

§ Susan, the Open Fire Pit Cook <https://tinyurl.com/299uycfr>

§ Santa and Friends <https://tinyurl.com/ycx7w4dk>

§ Soldier Line <https://tinyurl.com/4jyrf7wj>



## GUEST ARTICLE

### Welcome Spring, Welcome Pollinators!

According to entomologists, the biomass of insects is 400 lbs./acre. The biomass of humans is only 14 lbs./acre. There are 1.4 billion insects for every human on earth. Clearly, the insects are the landowners and **WE** are the tenants.

Insects represent the **GOOD**, the **BAD**, and the **UGLY**.

**Good:** Insects pollinate 75-80% of our fruits, vegetables and flowers, make honey, and provide food for wildlife.

**Bad:** Approximately 1% of insects destroy crops, can be pests for humans and wildlife, and may make holes in our clothes.

**Ugly:** Some insects can cause diseases such as malaria, yellow fever, Lyme and encephalitis.

Just by our existence alone, by building houses, roads, buildings, and clearing fields, we have eliminated much of the natural habitats and food sources for our pollinators and so, we have earned the reputation of **POLLINATOR DESTROYER**.

It is vital that we become aware of the many pollinators we have here on earth and understand the qualities and traits that make them unique and vital to our survival. Within this article you will meet our pollinators and find suggestions on how we can protect these priceless organisms.

Simply put, a pollinator is an organism that moves pollen from the male anther of a flower to the female stigma of a flower. This helps to bring about fertilization of the ovules (eggs) in the flower, by the male gametes (sperm) from the pollen grains, resulting in the production of seeds.

Let's meet our pollinators!

**Honey Bees** (*Apis mellifera*), are social insects that rely on communication. They accompanied the colonists from Europe, in the 1600's and therefore are not native to North America. Honey bees live in hives of 60,000 with one queen. Forager honey bees have structures called pollen sacs on their hind legs, which allows them to carry pollen from flower to flower. When they return to the hive, the pollen is used as food for the larvae. Honey bees are the only insect that make food for humans which has medicinal, nutritional, cosmetic and therapeutic value. Although there are 20,000 species of bees, only 4 species produce honey. Without our honey bees, honey, an ancient natural sweetener with so many health benefits could be lost forever. One hive can pollinate 300 million flowers per day!

Our native **Bumble Bees** are also hard workers. They pollinate flowers through a method called "buzz pollination", a rapid vibrating motion which releases large amounts of pollen onto the bee. In most situations, "buzz pollination" will allow a bumblebee to pollinate a flower in a single visit. Some flowers are difficult to pollinate because their pollen is tightly stuck to their anthers. So, bumble bees grab onto the flower with their mouths and beat their wings very rapidly (over 130 beats per second) to release the pollen.

Another hardworking pollinator is the **Mason Bee**. They are solitary, gentle bees also known as the "Orchard" Bee. Mason bees live for 6 weeks and pollinate by "bellyflopping" on a flower



which makes them 30-60 times more efficient than honey bees. The female mason bee lays an egg in a hollow tunnel (such as a bamboo shoot) and surrounds the egg with pollen and nectar. She uses mud (like a mason uses concrete) to create a barrier and repeats the egg laying process. These eggs overwinter in their mud cocoons and will emerge as adults the following spring. Mason bees are easy to raise using cut lengths of bamboo shoots or wooden blocks with holes drilled into them.

You may be familiar with the **Carpenter bee** who has a reputation of being a nuisance. The males are protective and territorial but have no stinger. Carpenter bees are important pollinators for large open-faced flowers such as rhododendrons, azaleas and wild plants. They are also a contributing food source for birds and other wildlife. Carpenter bees prefer bare, unpainted or weathered softwoods and are especially fond of redwood, cedar, cypress and pine. The female bores tunnels into the wood to lay her eggs. She leaves wood shavings behind after boring a perfectly round hole!

**Wasps** are less efficient pollinators than their bee cousins. Most are carnivorous and feed protein to their young. Wasps are characterized by their dark wings, sleek bodies and aggressive attitudes. The yellow jacket is probably our most familiar wasp as it makes itself comfortable at our summer barbecues, searching for a protein meal (hamburger) to feed its young. Many plants release a chemical cocktail that smells like a caterpillar infestation to lure the predatory wasps to their flowers for pollination.

A favorite pollinator is the **butterfly**. Butterflies use their long proboscis to reach deep into the bloom to sip nectar. The proboscis works like a long straw that butterflies curl into a spiral when not using. Like bees and other pollinators, butterflies pick up pollen while visiting flowers.



**Moths** outnumber butterflies by a 9 to 1 ratio and are also valuable pollinators. Most moths are nocturnal and visit white, fragrant flowers such as jasmine. However, many are active during daylight hours and are mistaken for butterflies, bees or hummingbirds. The moth has a wide body with feathery antennae while the butterfly has a slender body with threadlike antennae. Moths come in all sizes ranging from wingspans of 1-2 cm to wingspans of up to 28 cm. Male moths have a remarkable sense of smell and trap pheromones with their feathery antennae. In fact, the male Promethea Moth has been tracked 25 miles in search of a female that he sensed with his antennae only to find out that the scent he was following was a scientist with a pheromone trap! Moths are attracted to light bulbs and fermenting sweets.

**Flies** are important pollinators where bees are less active. Hoverflies or flower flies pollinate a variety of fruit crops such as apples, pears, cherries, plums, apricots, peaches, strawberries, raspberries and blackberries. Over 40% of hover flies bear larvae that prey on other insects and also provide pest control services to the plant being pollinated. They are the workhorses of the orchard. Other pollen-toting flies include Carrion and Dung flies, Tachinid flies, Bee flies, Small-headed flies, March flies and Blow flies.

Although it is regarded as a pest, the **mosquito** is also a pollinator. Only the female mosquitoes feed on blood when they are ready to lay eggs. Males drink sugary flower nectar to energize themselves for their mating swarming flights thus pollinating the flower. Mosquitoes are known to pollinate certain orchids.

Among the earliest prehistoric pollinators is the **Beetle** which pollinated the cycads. They are excellent pollinators of magnolias, water lilies and flowers that give off spicy, fermented scents or decaying scents. Most beetles do not sip nectar. They often chew and consume parts of the plant they pollinate and leave droppings behind. Thus they have earned the title as “Mess and Soil Pollinators”. Species of beetles differ in body structure and include Soldier Beetles, Jewel Beetles, Blister Beetles, Long-Horned beetles, Checkered Beetles, Scarab Beetles and Rove Beetles.

No bigger than a pinhead, **Midges** are responsible for pollinating tiny intricate flowers. Most are active at dusk and dawn and are the only known pollinators of the tiny white flowers of the cacao tree. We can thank them for chocolate!

Who can resist the charm of another favorite pollinator – the **Hummingbird**! Long, tubular blooms with funnel-like shapes are ideal for hummingbird bills. Bloom funnels hold a greater reservoir of nectar to accommodate the hummingbird’s appetite and keep them interacting with pollen for longer periods. Color, rather than scent attracts hummingbirds. They can see in near UV light which is why colors like bright red, pink or orange stand out more easily to them. In addition, they have a third eyelid called a nictitating membrane, which functions like a pair of goggles, allowing them to dart in and out among their favorite flowers without damaging their eyes.

Nocturnal activity in trees by **Bats** also results in pollination. Bats feed on insects at night and are responsible for pollinating many fruit trees. They prefer nectar rich flowers that don’t give off strong scents or have bright colors. Pollination actually occurs 24 hours each day! In addition, other factors that contribute to pollination include the wind and the movement of animals.

Here are a few suggestions to help you convert your yard, large or small, to a pollinator paradise!



1. Plan food sources in succession from January to October. Pollinators emerge in early Spring and are actively seeking food sources.
2. Provide a variety of flower shapes and colors. Our pollinators have differentiated mouth parts specifically adapted to certain flowers. Some pollinators, like the Hummingbird are attracted to tubular flowers while Butterflies prefer platform flowers.
3. Plant **NATIVE** plants. Native plants are attractive for many reasons: They are better adapted to regional climate cycles, do not need fertilizers, are less likely to become weedy and provide a wildflower rich habitat to support pollinators.
4. Plant perennial flowers in clusters so pollinators have a shorter distance to travel from flower to flower.
5. Provide a source of water such as a bird bath to attract pollinators.
6. Include plants for caterpillars. They are fussy eaters and require particular “host” plants. For example, the Monarch butterfly will only lay eggs on the milkweed plants which is the only source of food for the Monarch caterpillars. Likewise, the Swallowtail Butterfly will only lay eggs on the Parsley plant. Caterpillars eat the foliage of their host plants as they grow, but the average gardener won’t notice the damage until at least 10% of the leaves are affected.

7. Avoid using pesticides.
8. Build a bee condo for the Mason Bees by grouping 6-8 inch hollow Bamboo stems together or drilling ¼ to ½ inch diameter holes in a block of wood.
9. Leave some dead leaves or limbs to create nesting habitats for bees.
10. Avoid modern hybrids especially those with “doubled” flowers, since pollen, nectar and scent can be lost in the cultivation process.
11. Include a hummingbird feeder. Mix 1 cup (part) of sugar to 4 cups (parts) of water (boiling). The sugar solution should be replaced every 3 days to prevent the growth of bacteria. Do not use store bought nectar.
12. Planting bulbs in the fall welcomes pollinators after a long, cold winter.
13. Annuals will add extra color and nectar to your pollinator garden.
14. Flowering herbs add fragrance and color and are edible!
15. Consider planting flowering trees and shrubs. They represent a relatively small footprint among existing plants on a flat surface. Be mindful of choosing trees that bloom during early and late flowering periods or during the mid-season slowdown. Trees add extra navigational assistance as well as a concentrated source of food as compared to a flat garden. They serve as beacons of advertisement for returning pollinators.

By following a few of the suggestions above, we can make plans to accommodate our valuable pollinators and maybe one backyard at a time, we will be able to change our reputation from **POLLINATOR DESTROYER** to **POLLINATOR PROTECTOR!**

Angela Juffey

Rutgers Monmouth County Master Gardener

Central Jersey Beekeepers Association, Secretary

For a listing and description of perennials, annuals, trees, shrubs and herbs (Bloom Period, Scientific Name, Common Name, Color, Maximum Height, Water/Light Requirements), that attract pollinators in our area, send an email request to me at: [angelajuffey@gmail.com](mailto:angelajuffey@gmail.com).





COMMUNITY YARD SALE  
&  
CAR SHOW  
SAT.-APRIL 30, 2022-9A-2P  
HOUSE TOURS TIL 4PM  
CORNER OF WEMROCK RD.& OAKLEY  
DR.  
FREEHOLD, NJ 07728  
[ftheritagesociety@gmail.com](mailto:ftheritagesociety@gmail.com)  
[www.oakleyfarmmuseum.org](http://www.oakleyfarmmuseum.org)

COME JOIN US AT OUR 300 YR. OLD FARM  
LISTED ON NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES as WALKER, COMBS,  
HARTSHORNE  
EXPLORE THE BARNs, HOUSE AND OUR COMMUNITY GARDEN AND GROUNDS-  
HOUSE TOURS AVAILABLE

10'X10' SPACE \$10 checkout our website for more info  
CAR SHOW ENTHUSIASTS--\$5.00/SPACE  
LOCAL HONEY FOR SALE-BAKE SALE-ENTERTAINMENT  
ARCHITECTURAL SALVAGE FOR SALE

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

HOW MANY SPACES \_\_\_\_\_

HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT-PLEASE SIGN & RETURN W/CHECK

1. I agree to remain at my spot at all times and hereby agree to indemnify, defend and save harmless the Freehold Twp. Heritage Society, Inc. from any injury to applicant and any loss or damage to applicant's property arising out of applicant's activity hereunder.
2. I agree I will not hold Society responsible for any theft of applicant's property

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant will not be allowed to sell items on site if this agreement is not received by April 30, 2022. Thank You.

ALL FEES TO BENEFIT THE FREEHOLD TWP. HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC. a tax deductible 509 (a) (2) non profit organization.

Make check payable to FT HERITAGE SOCIETY-no later than 4/25/22

Mail to Cheryl Polverino-124 Cannon Rd., Freehold, NJ 07728

**Freehold Township Heritage Society**

**189B Wemrock Road, Freehold NJ 07728**

732.577.9766

email: [ftheritagesociety@gmail.com](mailto:ftheritagesociety@gmail.com)

**2022 Membership form**

Name

Address

Phone

Email

\_\_\_\_\_This donation is made in the name or memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill out the top portion of this form and return it along with your check to the address above. Make all checks payable to: Freehold Township Heritage Society

**Cut here** - - - - -  
- - - - -

**Keep this bottom section as a Tax receipt - 2022**

2022 membership made to Freehold Township Heritage Society in the amount of \$  
on

(date)

**Suggested donation:**

\$20 per year per person or \$25 per year per family  
\$50 per year Business/Organization

**Supporter Levels:**

\$100 Patron  
\$250 Gold Member  
\$500 Platinum Member