

GUARDIANS OF THE PAST NEWSLETTER

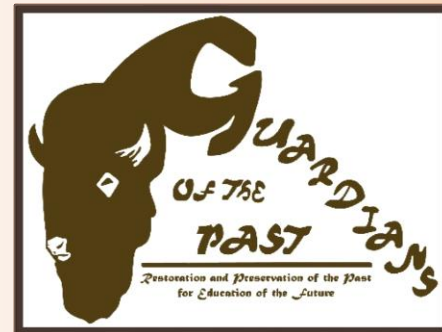
A message from the Founder:

Welcome to our Inaugural Newsletter and thank you for your interest in the Guardians of the Past! The members of the Guardians of the Past oversee the preservation, restoration and education of our local history for future generations. We are not funded in any way, except by our fundraisers. One hundred percent of your donations are given directly to current projects we are working on or banked for emergency usage for future projects. This newsletter is the first in our quarterly newsletter editions and will catch you from our inception until now. Thank you for your support and we hope to see you soon!

~ Nicholas Appice

OUR BEGINNING

Our founder began with an idea and a dream. After 10 years of volunteer work for his local Historic Preservation Commission, our Founder and Chairman decided to finally begin the process of creating his own Non-Profit 501c3 organization. Using the experience gained from the previous 10 years, Nicholas was able to successfully develop the plans and begin the process creating Guardians of the Past in 2018. Seeing a need for assistance among local historically based groups, Nicholas created a Board of Directors whom shared his passion for helping the community, preserving history, fundraising, networking, and sharing strong family values in the process. Our organization is a resource for anyone who has interest in history, needs assistance with funding for projects, needs volunteers or just wants to stay informed.



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Website:

<https://guardiansofthepast.wixsite.com/mysite>

Important Announcements

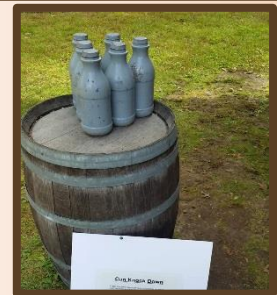
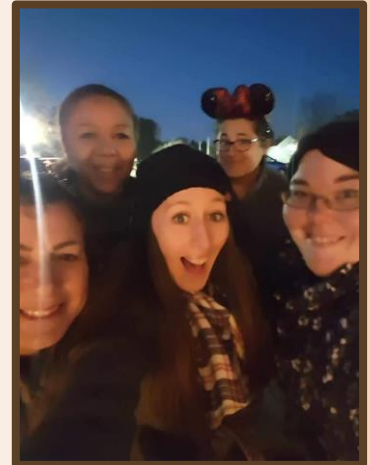
Volunteers Needed!

Do you have a few hours to spare? Would you like to be part of a fun group of people who have a love for history and host some fun events? We need your help! We need help in the following areas: Fundraising, gardening, event planning, building maintenance, tour guides, tabling at events and/or community outreach, clerical and records. Contact us today if you would like to learn more!

Our first year has been one of great accomplishments and success! With the creation of the organization complete in late March 2018, our official 501c3 acceptance was applied that June. We had already begun working with numerous local historically based groups ranging from Cape May to Ocean County creating a Historic Network. During 2018 we participated in several events throughout New Jersey including The Richland Festival in Buena Vista Twp, the Witches Ball in historic Mt Holly, The Olde Stone House Village 10th Annual Classic Car Show, Harvest Festival, Halloween Adventures, and The Magic of Christmas. For many of the events at the Olde Stone House Village, including The Magic of Christmas, we were able to supply volunteers, donations, supplies, and sponsor buildings for their events. At The Magic of Christmas event, we were able to Sponsor the Blackwood Train Station and (last minute due to another sponsor canceling) the Turnersville Post Office. We set up trains, a tree, live greenery décor, and gave out candy canes while the children had hot chocolate and listened to Volunteer Tony read the Polar Express in a very animated fashion! We even provided a beautiful old fashioned mailbox for the children to mail their letters to Santa.

We were able to secure 2 wooden pews from an old Haddon Heights church which was being decommissioned and turned into a private residence. They were almost perfect in height and size to the benches that would have been in the Olde Stone House Village's Blackwood Train Station. We sent 3 volunteers up to remove the pews and install them for the WTHPC. We also began our Historic Games Interactive Display. We created informational boards with the games names, history, photos, instructions on how to play and information on how to play while volunteers were there to assist with the fun! These are only a few of the highlights!

2018 proved to be only the beginning of great things to come!



IMPORTANT NEWS

Railroad Display Now Open!

The railroad exhibit at the Olde Stone House Village is now open! We recently offered our assistance with the Washington Township Historic Preservation Commission's exhibit in their train station. Featured in the exhibit are model train cabooses, showing in scales from Z to G, as well as a display including a rail, plates, tie, ballast and spike.

A special thank you to everyone who helped make this exhibit complete: Rich Drobil for donating the G Scale caboose, Mr. Mihalic for his donation of the rail, plates and spikes, Walgreens of Glassboro who donated 6 beautiful canvas prints of historic photos displayed throughout the exhibit and Lionel and Bachmann who were kind enough to donate magazines and catalogs for guests. Stop out and see the entire exhibit, which is open during events held by the WTHPC.

Our Website is Operation

Our website is now operational! Check out the Calendar of Events, Historic Network, photo galleries, volunteer opportunities and much more!

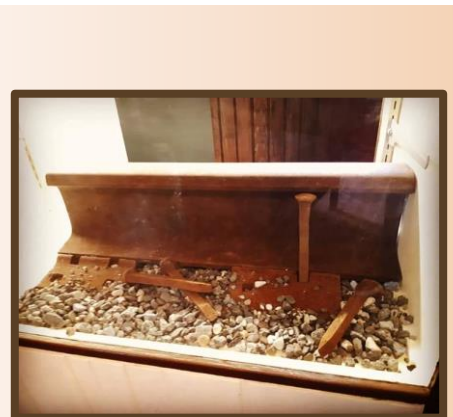
<https://guardiansofthepast.wixsite.com/mysite>

Upcoming Candle Fundraiser Set for Fall/Winter

Back by popular demand, we will be hosting a candle fundraiser with "Our Own Candle Company" which will feature Fall and Winter scents, such as Baked Apple Pie, Snickerdoodle, Banana Nut Bread and so many more. These candles are affordable, make great gifts and smell great! Candles will be available in three different sizes and you may place your order at one of the events at the Olde Stone House Village. Follow us on our social media pages or check our website to find out when the fundraiser has started!

Welcome to Cumberland County Historical Society!

Let's offer a warm welcome to the Cumberland County Historical Society who recently joined our Historic Network! Check out their events on our Calendar of Events on the website!



OUR LOCAL PRESENCE

Donation from the Rotary Club of Washington Township

On April 11, 2019, Guardians of the Past Founder, Nicholas Appice, spoke with the Rotary Club of Washington Township. He discussed future events, fundraising ideas, and ways for local businesses to get involved. At the conclusion of the presentation, the Rotary presented Nicholas with a check for \$100 to assist in our efforts. Thank you to the Rotary Club of Washington Township for supporting Guardians of the Past!



11th Annual Classic Car Show a Big Success!

On April 27, 2019, we assisted the Washington Township Historic Preservation Commission with their 11th Annual Classic Car Show. The weather worked in our favor and a total of over 130 cars entered the show this year, a record attendance! There was something for everyone to do: classic cars, music by Absolute DJ's, a basket auction and even an open hearth cooking demonstration. A group of 16 volunteers offered our assistance throughout the event, including donating baskets for the basket auction and supplies for the event. Guardians of the Past teamed up with Kohl's 314 of Turnersville in partnership with Benevity for a volunteer grant. We were able to provide 16 volunteers from Kohl's Turnersville to assist us throughout the day. With the help of our sponsors, we were able to donate the first ever commemorative event T-shirt to the first 100 show car participants! The shirts came out great and they were a welcomed addition to the show. Thank you again to the following sponsors: Bradford White, Rotary Club of Washington Township, and Judy's Pink Slippers. We would like to congratulate all of the winners and thank everyone who came out to support our first event of the year. We look forward to seeing you next year!



Richland Festival in Buena Vista Township

Our Chairman and volunteers attended the Richland Festival in Buena Vista on May 11th 2019 at Sawmill Park. The event was well attended with great foot traffic, beautiful weather and many fun activities. We set up a table which displayed antique railroad tools, photographs, literature about Guardians of the Past and a few giveaways. We met some amazing people again this year and we look forward to next year!



OUR LOCAL PRESENCE

SJ History Fair in Gloucester Township

Guardians of the Past was invited to set up a table at the Gloucester Township SJ History fair on June 8, 2019 at the Gabreil Daveis Tavern House. We had a great time networking with other historical groups at the event. This was a great opportunity for us and provided great exposure for our organization.

GC Round Table

Our Chairman was invited to attend the Gloucester County Round Table meeting which was held at the Franklinville Library. Nicholas invited volunteer Ed Kessler to also attend the meeting. Prior to the meeting the attendees were allowed access to tour the Franklinville Train Station which housed many artifacts and a beautiful working model railroad layout. The groups who attended exchanged ideas and information about their organizations.



VOLUNTEER SHOUT OUTS!

Fast Thinking and Quick Actions at the OSHV Car Show!

Our volunteers proved to be fast thinkers and true leaders! When the scheduled food vendor did not show up to the event, our volunteers put their heads together to come up with a solution. They pooled their money together to purchase coffee and donuts for the show participants. While one team worked on breakfast, the other immediately began making phone calls to find a new food vendor and secured Chic-Fil-A of Mantua, who provided sandwiches and drinks for the remainder for the day. Did we mention they accomplished all of this while selling the basket auction tickets, 50/50 tickets, tallying votes, and working our booth? Great Job!



Pictured on the right are some of our Volunteers:
Michelle, Liz, Vee, Amy, Mary, Liz, Nick, Noah, Michael,
Debbie, Melissa, Lois, Bonnie and Vince

STORIES FROM THE LOCALS.....THEN AND NOW

This photo was submitted by Bruce Atkinson of Washington Twp in Gloucester County NJ. The Atkinson family owned a farm at the intersections of Egg Harbor Rd and County House Rd from 1912 until the late 1970s. In its hayday the farm produced many types of crops, dairy, and eggs. A 1700s stone farm house still stands on the now Olde Stone House Historic Village site, which was just reconized as a NJ Historic Register Site in February and also named to the National Register of Historic Places in April. Originally a 300 acre farm, the site is now 6.5 acres and houses the orginal farm house, smoke house and 4 other historic buildings.



1961 The Barn in the background was the Atkinson Dairy Barn where it sat behind the Stone House on Egg Harbor Rd. I was standing in Dads back yard at age 3 along County House Rd.

The property is now owned by Washington Twp but maintained and run by volunteers of the towns Historic Preservation Commission and funded by donations. This photo was taken behind one of the other homes on the property which also served as the towns first tax office in a small room of the house. The Atkinson family found the original tax books in the attic and donated them to the Historic Commission.



Pictured Top: Bruce Atkinson

Pictured Left: View of today from the same location. As you can see trees in the designated Open Space have grown and blocked the view of where the stone house stands the barn was.

Thanks to Jill Atkinson-Yarnell for allowing us to photograph the location.

Upcoming Local Events

*please note we are not responsible for changes or cancelations to other groups events.

Our calendar of events is located on our webpage as well as clicking here:

Calendar of Events

July 20

Clayton Historic Preservation Museum is open 1-3

August 17

Movie Night: CCHS _Night of the Living Dead

September 21

Olde Stone House Village's Harvest Festival

Social Media is Key!

Our Facebook and Instagram is slowly growing after every event we participate in. Social media is the key to our success because it helps us reach a broad range of people, keeps us connected and is free! As a Non-Profit, we must keep all costs at a minimum to ensure we can better assist the groups who need help. Please help us by liking and sharing our pages which are found at the top of the newsletter.