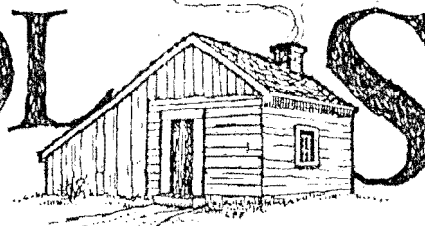


The TOOL SHED

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NEW JERSEY TOOL COLLECTORS ORGANIZE

On December 4, 1977, tool collectors from all over northern New Jersey met at the Jeremiah Field Homestead, the administrative headquarters of East Jersey Olde Towne, in Piscataway, to organize a state-wide tool collectors association.

The group was brought together through the initiative and hard work of Ed Bragg, of Martinsville, who had earlier sent out a questionnaire to some collectors to see how they felt about forming an organization. The response to Ed's questionnaire encouraged him to go ahead, and he called a meeting for December 4th.

More than 30 enthusiasts attended. The group discussed organization plans and committee formation, and it authorized an ad hoc committee to develop bylaws and to plan future meetings. An excellent "whatsit" session was held in which nearly every item was identified. Two members actually brought the same "unknown" tool.

East Jersey Olde Towne, in the person of its founder, Dr. Joseph Kler, has given the tool collectors the use of the colonial Field Homestead for their future meetings.

NEXT MEETING ON FEBRUARY 19th AT FIELD HOMESTEAD

The second meeting of the as yet unnamed tool collectors organization will be held on Sunday, February 19, at 2:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Jeremiah Field Homestead, 260 River Road, Piscataway, N.J.

The schedule for the afternoon is as follows:

At 2:00 p.m. Ed Bragg will open the business meeting. From 2:30 to 3:30, Fred Shippey will preside over the program, featuring talks by W.A. Gustafson on "Methods of Cleaning and Restoring Old Wooden Tools" and by Steve Zlucky on "Buying Tools at Auction." There will be a discussion period after each speaker.

From 3:30 to 4:00, Harry O'Neill will take over for the "Whatsit" session, so if you want to know what that odd or

unidentifiable tool is, bring it along. But only bring one. Let's save some of them for future sessions.

Finally, from 4:00 to 5:00, we'll have our first Swap & Sell--every man (and woman!) for himself, and we'll see how it works out.

A third meeting has already been planned and scheduled for April 16, so be sure to mark your calendar.

And please remember! These are open meetings, and anyone interested in old tools is invited. So pass the word!



EAST JERSEY OLDE TOWNE SEEKS BLACKSMITH

Miss Marjorie Kler of East Jersey Olde Towne, Piscataway, is looking for a volunteer blacksmith to staff the village's colonial blacksmith shop. The loan or donation of blacksmith tools for the shop would also be appreciated.

A special note of thanks is due East Jersey Olde Towne for generously opening the Jeremiah Field Homestead for the tool collectors meetings.

East Jersey Olde Towne, Inc., is a non-profit, educational institution. Its official opening will be on July 4, 1978.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

One of the first items of business at the February 19 meeting will be to select a name for the organization. Steve Zlucky has been given the heavy responsibility of compiling a list of possible choices. But perhaps some other member can come up with the one that is just right.

How about a good acronym? After all, Connecticut has "Attic" (Antique Tools and Trades in Connecticut) and Long Island has "&c" (Early Trades and Crafts Society). New Jersey should do as well, even if "N" and "J" are a little difficult to work in.

So start thinking! We'll see the results on the 19th.

OUR FIRST EDITION!

Frankly, the original plans for this newsletter called for something a little more ambitious. Everything seemed to conspire against that, however, including the weather. Nevertheless, we promised a newsletter before the February meeting--and here it is.

Remember that this is your "Tool Shed." It can be successful only if we all contribute ideas and articles. So write up that article you've been waiting to publish, and share it with us.

If you have something to contribute, get in touch with Larry Fuhro, 417 Bartlett Street, Roselle, N.J. 07203. Tel. 241-7829.

If your address on this issue of the Tool Shed is incorrect, write or call Bob Fridlington, 8 Keith Jeffries Ave., Cranford, N.J. 07016. Tel. 276-0489.