

Bergen County Historical Society *at* Historic New Bridge Landing

Community Boat Building Project at HNBL

Saturday & Sunday, May 2 & 3, 2009

In conjunction with Pinkster Fest (see next listing) at Historic New Bridge Landing, the Bergen County Historical Society, Hackensack Riverkeeper, Meadowlands Environmental Commission and the River Edge Public Schools are sponsoring the first of its kind, Community Boat Building Project. The event will be held Saturday and Sunday, May 2 and 3 at Historic New Bridge Landing, in River Edge. The aforementioned groups will each be building a canoe, which will be launched on Sunday. Palmer Brothers Ace Hardware Store in River Edge has generously donated tools and materials. The public is invited to watch the building process. In addition, the Hackensack Riverkeeper will make available their fleet of canoes for use by the general public. The Meadowlands Environmental Commission will conduct water-sampling tests and provide other information on the River's ecology.

Pinkster Fest

A Colonial Celebration of Spring

Sunday, May 3, 2009 – 1:00 to 4:00 pm

Summer is a-coming in! Join us around the Maypole on Sunday, May 3rd. Imagine you are back in a time when the spring planting was done and nature allowed a moment of relaxation and community celebration. The Jersey Dutch joyously observed Pentecost as Pinkster, a holiday marking the budding of trees, the flowering of shrubs and feasting upon the first harvest of spring grains. In farming communities, a May-tree or pole was set in the ground and decorated with nosegays woven from wildflowers. A sporting contest, usually involving foot or horse races, determined who would be crowned as a figurative bride and groom, the May Queen and King. This flower-crowned couple led merry-makers in a procession, going door-to-door and gathering dyed eggs, butter, bread, cream, coffee, sugar, and tallow candles in their baskets. Food collected in these spring baskets furnished the table of the communal Pinkster supper, actually a mock wedding feast, complete with ring dances. Toasts with buttermilk, known as "white wine", singing, and recital of the Pinkster Ode complete the celebration. Visit the historic Campbell-Christie, Demarest and Steuben Houses at the *Bridge That Saved A Nation*. There will be games and activities for children. Refreshments will be served. The public is most welcome.



Suggested donation for events unless otherwise noted: \$7 adult, \$5 children, BCHS members free. Takes place at Steuben House and the Campbell-Christie House, 1201 Main St, River Edge, NJ.

- 3 Jersey Dutch sandstone houses in historic park
- special events
- tavern nights
- informative lectures
- museum collection, 4,000+ objects
- library & manuscript collection
- blue historic marker program
- rev war roundtable
- website & message board
- publications



Bergen County Historical Society
at **Historic New Bridge Landing**

www.bergencountyhistory.org

Location: 1201-1209 Main Street, River Edge, NJ

Mail: PO Box 55, River Edge, NJ, 07661

contactBCHS@bergencountyhistory.org