

# The King of Prussia Gazette

*Preserving Upper Merion's Past to Enliven its Future*

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

*from Dave Montalvo*

With everything going on, it is easy for the leadership of a non-profit to become discouraged. We decided to continue our speakers series and were greatly heartened to see excellent attendance at our most recent talk about Upper Merion abolitionist Phineas Phillips. Many thanks to Marianne Hooper Furman for her patient research into that fascinating story; a story that could easily have vanished into the mists of time but for her efforts.

Another cause for celebration is Russell Rubert's extraordinary efforts to document the lives of prominent Upper Merionites including Jack Brennan, Jim Baxter, Tommy McDonald, Joseph F. Rush, and many more. Future Upper Merion historians will be grateful for Russell's careful collection of pictures, biographies, and anecdotes about the people who have quietly but steadily created the Upper Merion we have today.

And of course, there was the email from a young Canadian historian fascinated with the life of Frederick the Great of Prussia. He had run across our website and had written to tell us about his research and to ask questions about the community named after his hero. Look for the article in the spring issue for more details and some of his artwork.



*(Look for the full story of Daniel and the King of Prussia in our Spring 2021 edition.)*

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In short, there is plenty of reason for optimism. The work continues!

Let me close by thanking you for your support this year. The bulk of our budget comes from you, our loyal members. Without your support, we could not afford to collect and to preserve the local history of the Upper Merion area, nor could we tell the stories through our website or the Gazette you hold in your hands. We hope you will renew soon and, if you are able, to make an additional gift. Please continue to help us to preserve Upper Merion's past to enlighten its future!