

The King of Prussia Gazette

Preserving Upper Merion's Past to Enliven its Future

Volume IX, Number Three

Fall 2020

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

by Dave Montalvo

The King of Prussia Historical Society presented its first virtual meeting this month. We partnered with our friends at the Tredyffrin-Easttown Historical Society to purchase a Zoom license in order to be able to continue our speaker series - part of our mission to preserve the past to enlighten the future. Although we look forward to the time when we can go back to our old meetings, we remain committed to our mission, even when circumstances prevent us from meeting face to face.



Thank you to the many members who have renewed their membership. We understand that COVID-19 has created a great burden of grief for many, as well as a financial burden in many cases. If you are able to and have not yet renewed, we encourage you to do so soon. Any donation you can make is greatly appreciated, but we understand completely if you cannot donate at the level you did previously due to financial concerns. Your support helps us to pay for the collection and preservation of historical items, the publication of this Gazette, as well as web-hosting for kophistory.org - the home for many publicly available historical exhibits and our growing digital archive.

I would like to take this opportunity to update you on the efforts to save the Moore-Irwin house. With its rich history in mind, we sent a letter of support for an application to the township's Board of Community Assistance (BCA) for a grant to do an engineering study to determine the feasibility of preserving the house. The grant application was co-sponsored by the township's Economic & Community Development Committee (ECDC) and Upper Merion Township's new Historical Commission (UMHC).

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The BCA graciously approved the grant. The grant money has since been turned over to the township's Public Works Department along with the name of the engineering firm that will do the study. We anxiously await the township's action on this matter before the onset of another winter, with the possible damage to the structure that the harshness of the season can bring.

Should it prove feasible for the house to be restored, we fully expect that the majority of the funds for renovating it would come from state and federal grants which have already been identified as applicable.

