



## FRIENDS OF THE THOMAS LEIPER HOUSE, INC.

521 Avondale Road • Wallingford, PA 19086 • 610-566-6365

### 2022 Spring Newsletter

After having a surprising steady flow of visitors last year, when we opened in August, we are looking forward to seeing even more of you this year. We are opening to the public Mother's Day weekend, May 7 and 8. We plan to have the doors and windows open for fresh air. Except for an occasional rental, we will be open each weekend until mid-December.

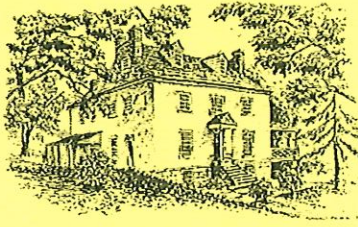
2021 turned out to be a busy year for us. Our former caretakers bought their first house in the fall and welcomed their first child in January. Our new caretakers moved in slowly, but were all settled in by Thanksgiving.

We had two Boy Scout Eagle projects, focusing on either side of the driveway under the big porch. One Scout led his troop installing a safety rail on the path around the back of the Smoke House where visitors can walk, and painting the wood doors there. Another Scout led his troop preparing and painting the three original basement doors (1785).

Inside the house we replastered two side walls on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor that had deteriorated badly. And we totally replaced one window there.

A Wallingford resident gave us a large blanket chest, dated 1822, which now holds the doll house in the child's room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

We were given a 1932 oil painting of Edwards (yes, with an "s") Leiper. He was born and raised in a house on Chester Pike (rte. 13) and graduated from the Naval Academy. He later was Superintendent of Episcopal Hospital in Philadelphia. He was a great-grandson of Thomas. The painting was given to us by Edwards' great-granddaughter. It is hanging above the fireplace in the "green bedroom".



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We continue to have loyal backing from dues-paying members, and an annual contribution from Nether Providence Township. The Township owns the house and grounds, but the Friends organization owns all the furnishings inside and pays for the upkeep of the house. The Providence Garden Club makes the areas right around the house look lovely.

We look forward to having you join the Friends of the Thomas Leiper House, and visiting this beautiful historic house for a tour on weekends.