



Joe Becton: Certified Master Guide
by the Association of Philadelphia Tour Guides!



Celebrating Black History Month with *Tory Jack Day*

2007 Award Winning Program for *Excellence in History & Education*
Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission

The Abraham Staats House Presents: Tory Jack Day 2017 ~

Saturday, February 11 - Somerset County

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The Friends of Abraham Staats House, Inc., in conjunction with the South Bound Brook Historic Preservation Advisory Commission, and in partnership with the Women's Guild of South Bound Brook, is proud to present its 15th edition of the award winning "Tory Jack Day" program.

The annual event in honor of Black History Month celebrates the contribution and sacrifices of Afro-Americans in the foundation of our nation. This year's feature presenter is Mr. Joseph Becton.

Mr. Becton, a retired National Park Service Interpretive Park Ranger, has been recognized with the Community Service award for setting a standard of excellence in interpretation and for his role in connecting Americans to our national parks through wonderful stories and varied media. Mr. Becton now directs *Joe Becton Tours and Historical Services* and most recently has been proclaimed a Certified Master Guide by the Association of Philadelphia Tour Guides.

Presenting the "Evolution of the Blues," Joe will walk us through 300 years in the development of this truly American art form. Joe is fluent in guitar, harmonica and singing on this journey. Joe will visit spirituals, minstrel, ragtime, blues, gospel and jazz. Audience participation is encouraged as musical styles, historic moments and social movements are brought together.

Mr. Becton will present **at 11:00 a.m.** on Saturday, Feb. 11, 2017 at the historic Abraham Staats House located at 17 Von Steuben Lane, South Bound Brook, NJ 08880. Seating begins at 10:30 a.m. Admission is free but donations are appreciated.

Following the presentation, the public is invited to tour the historic Abraham Staats House and view an exhibit entitled "The History of Jazz in Black and White" presented by local historian and Women's Guild member, Mrs. Joyce Smith with the building closing at 3:00 p.m.

For more information about the Abraham Staats House:

Tel: 732-469-3198 E-mail: info@staatshouse.org or visit our website: www.staatshouse.org

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