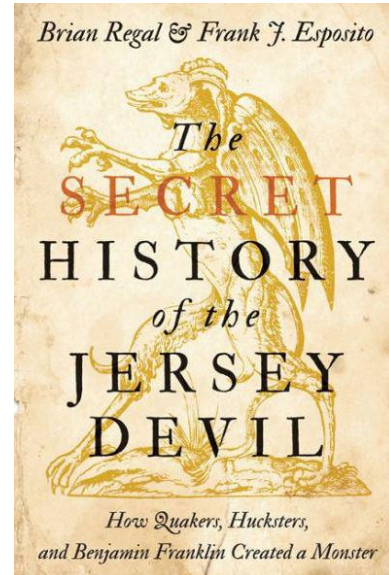


**DISCUSS THE SECRET HISTORY OF THE JERSEY
DEVIL: HOW QUAKERS, HUCKSTERS, AND BENJAMIN
FRANKLIN CREATED A MONSTER
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2018 FROM 7-8:30 PM**

Legend has it that in 1735, a witch named Mother Leeds gave birth to a horrifying monster—a deformed flying horse with glowing red eyes—that flew up the chimney of her New Jersey home and disappeared into the Pine Barrens. Ever since, this nightmarish beast has haunted those woods, presaging catastrophe and frightening innocent passersby—or so the story goes. In *The Secret History of the Jersey Devil*, Brian Regal and Frank J. Esposito examine the genesis of this popular myth, which is also one of the oldest monster legends in the United States.

According to Regal and Esposito, everything you think you know about the Jersey Devil is wrong. The real story of the Jersey Devil's birth is far more interesting, complex, and important than most people—believers and skeptics alike—realize. Leaving the Pine Barrens, Regal and Esposito turn instead to the varied political and cultural roots behind the Devil's creation. Fascinating and lively, this book finds the origins of New Jersey's favorite monster not in witchcraft or an unnatural liaison between woman and devil but in the bare-knuckled political fights and religious upheavals of colonial America. A product of innuendo and rumor, as well as scandal and media hype, the Jersey Devil enjoys a rich history involving land grabs, astrological predictions, mermaids and dinosaur bones, sideshows, Napoleon Bonaparte's brother, a cross-dressing royal governor, and Founding Father Benjamin Franklin.

Brian Regal is an assistant professor of the history of science, technology, and medicine at Kean University. He is the author of *Searching for Sasquatch: Crackpots, Eggheads, and Cryptozoology*. Frank J. Esposito is a distinguished professor of history and education at Kean University. He is the coauthor of *Victorian New Jersey: Photographs* by Guillermo Thorn from the Kean University Collection.



Come to Burlington

Bring snacks to share.
BYO Beverage

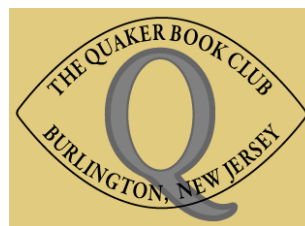
Parking for 230 across the street.
See website for parking info.

Center entrance is half-way down the driveway

-or-

Participate Online

Join the Facebook Group.
Comment during the meeting.
Comment anytime!



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