



LEAGUE NEWS

The Newsletter of the
League of Historical Societies of New Jersey

Vol. 35 No. 3

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August 2010

**Fall Meeting
Grover Cleveland
Birthplace,
Caldwell,
Essex County
October 2, 2010**

Article and
registration form on
p. 19-20

STATE HISTORIC SITES FEEL THE BUDGET CRUNCH

Throughout the spring, the history community has been closely following the ups and downs of the current budget crisis. For quite a while, it appeared that four major sites would lose state funding. At the last minute, however, two of the four were relieved to have state monies restored. The lucky two were the Old Barracks in Trenton and the Battleship New Jersey in Camden.

Rich Patterson, executive director of the Old Barracks, said, "We are very happy to report that funding for the Old Barracks has been reinstated in this year's state budget. This funding will allow us to keep our doors open, and continue to provide the best educational and historical experience in New Jersey. We are very grateful to our many friends who rallied to our side, made donations, became members, signed petitions, and phoned and emailed legislators, in order to make this happen. We can't thank you enough!

"At the same time, we are mindful that these remain difficult times for everyone;

our funding comes as a result of the state transferring \$4 million from the New Jersey Cultural Trust, cutting the possibility of grants to other institutions in need. Moreover, our state funding remains flat, going back to 1994. So we still face critical budget issues, and will continue to depend upon the ongoing support of generous corporations, foundations, and folks like you."

Concerning the loss of \$4 million dollars from the Cultural Trust, Mark Packer, president of ArtPride/NJ, the statewide advocacy organization, said "That is not what the Cultural Trust was intended to do. We hope that there will be some strategy going forward to replenish it, to put the \$4 million back."

Like the Old Barracks, directors of the Battleship New Jersey are also very pleased that the \$1.7 million of allotted state aid was reinstated. A spokesman for the vessel notes that the ship's curators now plan to go ahead with a paint job and the installation an interactive loading and firing simulation in one of the turrets. Even with the needed funds, the battleship is still struggling, since its annual funding in previous years was \$3.4 million.

The legislature will provide \$2.7 million to the New Jersey Historical Commission to accommodate existing grantees. Unfortunately, two organizations, Save Ellis Island and Historic Morven will have to compete in that grant pool. Both groups once had separate line items in the state budget, like the Old Barracks and the Battleship New Jersey. As Michael Zukerman, president of the Advocates for New Jersey History, said in his post, "While not ideal, this result is far better than some of the worst case scenarios that we were facing over the past several months."

The state has announced that it will fund the Newark Museum to the tune of \$2.2 million. The city of Newark has, however, slashed its budget for the Newark Public Library, by about \$2.45 million, or nearly 18 percent of the library's budget. The city typically funds about 90 percent of the library, with the rest coming from grants, donations and state aid. In response to the cuts, the library put together a spending plan that calls for 31 layoffs, salary freezes, branch closures, and two furlough days a week until the end of 2010.

LATE-BREAKING NEWS: On July 26, the National Park Service awarded more than \$29 million in contracts for three projects to improve Ellis Island. The projects are stabilization of the sea wall and Baggage and Dormitory Building and installation of electrical and communication infrastructure.

The Slate of Officers and Directors of the League of Historical Societies of New Jersey

President (2010)

J.B. Vogt
Fellowship for Metlar House

First Vice President (2011)

Catherine Sullivan
Victorian Society

Vice-President, Northern (2010)

Jane McNeill
Victorian Society

Vice-President, Central (2011)

Mary Swarbrick
Fellowship for Metlar House

Vice-President, Southern (2010)

June Sheridan
Grete Egg Harbour Township
Historical Society

Secretary (2010)

Judy M. Aley
Chesterfield Historical Society

Treasurer (2010)

Dorothy M. Andrew

Trustee, Northern (2010)

Dorothy E. Johnson
Historical Society of Bloomfield

Trustee, Northern (2012)

Kate Malcolm
Madison Historical Society

Trustee, Central (2012)

Jeffrey McVey
Lambertville Historical Society

Trustee, Central (2010)

Donald Peck
Raritan-Millstone Heritage Alliance

Trustee, Southern (2010)

Sonia L. Forry
Historical Preservation Society of Upper
Township

Trustee, Southern (2012)

Jean C. Lacey
Ocean County Historical Society

Trustee-at-Large (2012)

Timothy Hart
Ocean County Cultural & Heritage
Commission

Trustee-at-Large (2010)

Robert R. Longcore
Andover Historical Society

Historian (2010)

Chad Leinawever
Newark Public Library

The following are valuable members of
our board, but are not elected positions:

Executive Director

Linda J. Barth, 214 North Bridge Street,
Somerville, NJ 08876;
908-722-7428; barths@att.net

Membership Chairman

Dorothy Pietrowski
Madison Historical Society

Trustees Emeriti

Bernard Bush, Ruth Kane Fern

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THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

As fall approaches, our nominating committee has been busy searching for candidates to fill openings on the League board. While some of our current members will serve another term, we will say fond goodbyes to our long-time treasurer, Dot Andrew, to southern region trustee Sonia Forry, and to southern region vice president June Sheridan. For many years, Dot, June, and Sonia have journeyed from south Jersey for meetings despite traffic, spring rains, and winter snow. We thank June and Sonia for the many fascinating membership meetings they helped produce and Dot for keeping our finances in order (even with a broken shoulder).

Locating and selecting candidates to fill these volunteer positions was challenging, and we are fortunate to have attracted the following nominees. I ask for your support for them and hope that you will attend the fall meeting to meet them in person.

The nominee for treasurer is Michael Kostelnik who served as the treasurer of the Bayonne Historical Society for seventeen years. He has attended many membership meetings and helped to host the fall 2007 meeting in Bayonne. We are confident there will be a smooth transition as Dot turns over our accounts to him.

Timothy Hart, who currently serves as at-large trustee, has been nominated to serve as southern region vice president, replacing June Sheridan. Tim is a member of the Ocean County Cultural and Heritage Commission.

Alice Gibson of the Victorian Society has graciously agreed to be the nominee to fill the at-large trustee spot vacated by Tim. While the at-large trusteeship is usually a good place to get one's feet wet, Alice has also agreed to be our new publicity committee chair. You will hear more about this in October.

(continued on page sixteen)

DEADLINE: Submissions for the January issue of *League News* must be on the editor's desk no later than December 15, 2010. Please send all items to: Linda Barth, 214 North Bridge Street, Somerville, New Jersey 08876; barths@att.net.

Material submitted electronically should be in WORD format. Photographs will be scanned and returned. Digital photographs should be submitted in .jpeg or .tiff.

**Somerset County's Weekend Journey through the Past....an annual heritage event
Saturday, October 9, from 10 a.m. to 5:00p.m., Sunday, October 10 from noon to 5:00p.m.**

Visit over twenty-five historic sites in scenic Somerset County. All are open FREE to the public for this annual autumn weekend of interpreted tours. Events include exhibitions of special collections, military drills and reenactments, traditional blacksmithing, 19th century firefighting wagons/apparatus, gravestone carver re-enactor will discuss the folk art of grave stone carving and significance/meaning of traditional motifs, golf history, live theatre, music, and period dance performances, demonstrations, participatory activities, antiques sales, assistance & guidance with your genealogical research, daily chores of 18th century life, colonial games for children and access to some sites not generally open to the public.



Do remember to enter our contest for prizes from the convenience of your home computer following your visits to a number of this year's featured historic house museums/sites....details on the event website. For comprehensive details of all sites and travel directions from site to site visit the event website: www.SCHistoryWeekend.com. Info: 908-231-7110.

An initiative of the Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission and Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders, in collaboration with representatives of local history organizations and artists/arts organizations.

LEAGUE ELECTION

During the October meeting at Caldwell, we will conduct the election for the 2010-2011 year. On the ballot are: JB Vogt, Fellowship for Metlar House, president; Jane McNeill, Victorian Society, northern vice-president; Tim Hart, Ocean County Cultural & Heritage Commission, southern vice-president; Judy M. Aley, Chesterfield Historical Society, secretary; Michael Kostelnik, treasurer; Dorothy Johnson, Historical Society of Bloomfield, northern trustee; Donald Peck, Raritan Millstone Heritage Alliance, central trustee; Pary L. Woehlcke, Cape May County Historical and Genealogical Society, southern trustee; Robert Longcore, Andover Historical Society, trustee-at-large; and Alice Gibson, the Victorian Society, trustee-at-large.

ANNUAL KEVIN M. HALE PUBLICATION AWARDS PROGRAM FOR 2010

The League of Historical Societies of New Jersey announces its **ANNUAL KEVIN M. HALE PUBLICATION AWARDS PROGRAM** and invites its member organizations to submit entries. Awards will be given for works published in the year 2010, in the following categories:

**BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, NEWSLETTERS, JOURNALS, CALENDARS,
POSTERS, and OTHER MEDIA (AUDIO CASSETTES/CDs,
VIDEO CASSETTES/DVDs)**

Please note that each member organization may submit an entry in only ONE category. and no works of fiction may be entered.

For works published in 2010, awards will be presented at the league meeting in **June 2011**. The deadline for submission of entries is **JANUARY 31, 2011**. Please send your entries to: **Publication Awards Committee, League of Historical Societies of NJ, c/o New Jersey Historical Society, 52 Park Place, Newark, NJ 07102**.

There is no entry form. Simply include a brief note describing the items you are submitting. For further information, contact Linda Barth, Executive Director, LHSNJ, at 908-722-7428, barths@att.net, 214 North Bridge Street, Somerville, New Jersey 08876. Please **DO NOT** send entries to this address.

VISIT CALDWELL, NEW JERSEY, SITE OF THE FALL MEETING

Sachems of the Munsees (the rocky lands people), Loantique, Taphow, Manshum and others sold the lands west of the first mountain (the Watchungs) to the Puritan settlers in 1702, shortly after the land was declared available for settlement for £130 Sterling, or 2½ cents an acre.

Development was very slow, however, for the Watchung Mountains were impassible in most places and the land being rocky was hard to plow, and horse hooves split. As late as the American Revolution, the Caldwell tract was not sustaining a settled population at much above the subsistence level.

The Rev. James Caldwell, the famous fighting parson, came to preach in Caldwell as a missionary and ultimately founded a congregation, one that named the region for him after his death, and one that eventually called Richard Cleveland to be its pastor.

With the opening of the great road in the early 1800s, Caldwell became a regional retail center, then a famous resort noted for the finest air in New Jersey, and finally, with the coming of a rail connection, a superb commuting suburb of Newark and New York. The Cedars in Caldwell and the borough of Essex Fells were models of ideal suburban life and retain today some of the best homes in the state. It is one of the region with the highest per capita wealth in the county and state.

President Stephen Grover Cleveland was born in the parsonage (right) in Caldwell on March 18, 1837. Woodrow Wilson launched his presidential campaign from the Monodmonoc Inn in Caldwell in 1912. Only one interstate highway, Route 280, pierces the region, and today it remains secluded from the urban life around it.



UNION COUNTY'S FOUR CENTURIES IN A WEEKEND
A Journey Through Union County's History

Saturday, October 16, 10 am to 5 pm and Sunday, October 17, noon to 5 pm

Travel back in time: Free weekend tours of 25 historic house museums and sites throughout Union County. Follow the footsteps of people who helped create a state and a nation: Early Aristocracy, Farm Life, Revolutionary Front Line, Commerce and Industry, and Victorian Resorts and Suburbs. Use your Passport to Discovery to receive a Time Traveler Certificate.

To request a Four Centuries brochure or to learn about other programs, services and volunteer opportunities, please contact the Union County Office of Cultural & Heritage Affairs, 633 Pearl Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07202; 908-558-2550 between 8:30 and 5:00; fax: 908-352-3513; culturalinfo@ucnj.org; www.ucnj.org/cultural.

FOUR CENTURIES IN A WEEKEND is made possible in part by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders and funded in part by the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State.



Boxwood Hall, Elizabeth



Woodruff House/Eaton Store, Hillside



Union County Arts Center, Rahway

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Ron can be reached at ronb124@yahoo.com or 866-444-1656.

You can visit his website, www.getmyyearbook.com, to learn more.



MEMBERS HELP FIND A LOVING HOME FOR A HISTORIC ORGAN

Spotting a recent announcement in the League's electronic newsletter of the availability of an 1895 Victorian Peerless parlor pump organ, members of the Shrewsbury Historical Society (SHS) acted quickly to determine if the society's museum might be a suitable home to showcase this period piece.

Mr. & Mrs. Fred Petersen of Manasquan invited SHS president Don Burden and treasurer Mary Lea Burden along with trustees Jay and Leslie Eaton to come to their home to examine the organ and to determine if SHS were to be entrusted with the parlor organ. Gifting arrangements were completed.

Parlor organs were symbols of rituals and ceremonies in the American home. The Victorian period was a very serious period when hymn singing and Bible reading were important. Made of oak, this piece has fine graining of quarter-sawn oak in the bottom with very elaborate decorations on the top.

Upon further research in *Gellerman's International Reed (Antique Pump) Organ Atlas*, 2nd Ed by Robert Gellerman, coupled with an email to the author, it was determined that the maker of the Peerless Organ was the Foley & Williams Organ Company, Cincinnati, Ohio. Their factory moved to Kankakee, IL, in 1902 and continued in business through 1919. It is speculated that the organ may have been originally purchased through Sears & Roebuck, Chicago, IL. This particular organ originally belonged to Mrs. Petersen's family and resided in a family farmhouse in eastern New Jersey.



SHS Trustee Mark Degenhart and his Eagle Scout son Karl, along with the Burdens, trucked the organ in two pieces to the Shrewsbury Historical Society museum. An early visitor to inspect the organ was antique tool and furniture collector Frank Scordo. He immediately gifted a mahogany swivel based piano chair to accompany the organ.

Thanks to the League, Fred and Margo Petersen, and members of SHS, this organ is now shared with the many visitors to the Shrewsbury Historical Society.

EPIDEMIC OF HISTORIC PLAQUE THEFTS

Somerset, Middlesex, and Union counties have experienced a rash of thefts of historic bronze and brass historic site markers. Two were taken in Middlesex Borough, one in Dunellen, and one from the Green Brook Park in Plainfield. The latter, commemorating a pivotal moment in the Revolutionary War, had been bolted to a large rock on which it was mounted when installed in 1924 by the Daughters of the American Revolution to remember soldiers who served at the Blue Hills Fort and Camp near where Green Brook Park is today. The square metallic plaque measures a little more than two feet wide and two feet long and weighs around 30 pounds. Two more plaques in neighboring North Plainfield in Somerset County were also taken.

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORICAL SITE EXCAVATED IN NEW JERSEY

By Stephan Salisbury, Philadelphia Inquirer Culture Writer

Near the terminus of a dead-end road, on a bulblike hill in the midst of a grassy meadow, a group of Temple University archaeology students and volunteers is excavating what may be one of the most important African American historical sites in New Jersey.

It's called Timbuctoo - a once-thriving enclave probably founded by free African Americans and escaped slaves in the 1820s, now abandoned, if not forgotten, for more than half a century.

An entire village lies beneath the grassy hill near Rancocas Creek in Westampton Township outside Mount Holly - at least 18 houses, remains of a church, two roadways, an alley, a number of privies and wells, possibly schools, and large parts of a cemetery, where 13 graves of African American troops from the Civil War are marked by headstones - but where six times as many may lie in unmarked graves. No African American site of this magnitude has been excavated in the region, and very few have been uncovered nationwide, according to archaeologists.

"This is the first time we're seeing such a site being excavated," said David Orr, the Temple professor and historical archaeologist overseeing the project. "The unique quality of this is that it's very large. It has no problems, perfect preservation of its core - that's also impressive. As an archaeological site, in my experience, I have never seen anything like this - only because nobody has excavated one."

The site of the Timbuctoo project covers four or five acres. Westampton Township has acquired much of it from private owners, allowing the dig to proceed unimpeded. Work started at the beginning of June and ended on July 3, but will resume next year.

Standing near the crest of the open field, next to the red brick foundation of the first house unearthed, Orr held up a corroded cast-iron buffalo that had been pulled from the ground. Christopher Barton, a doctoral student who serves as site manager, displayed a small, heavily corroded toy gun and a wheel - all early 20th-century relics. He held up a small brown Vicks VapoRub bottle, a blue Vaseline jar, a clear Listerine bottle - all dating from the first half of the last century.

Barton said that some visitors have questioned the relevance of 20th-century artifacts to an archaeological dig. "They say, 'Oh, that's not old enough,' " he said.

"That's not the point. What we're trying to do is recreate the life, recreate the stories of what these people had. This is true not only with the pre-Civil War context but also with the Jim Crow period. We're trying to discover what these people were doing and how they were living."

In fact, the presence of 20th-century life on the site increases its importance, said Orr. "We have the opportunity here to see a total African American community over time," he said. "How it was like here in the 1830s. How it was like here in the 1870s.

How it was like at the turn of the century and during Jim Crow. How it was like in the '20s and '30s, all the way to World War II. This is very exciting stuff."

Beyond that, he pointed out, descendants of Timbuctoo families are still in the area. Mary Weston, 74, lives down the road on a piece of land that has been in her family since 1829, when her great-great-grandfather purchased the lot for \$35.

Weston has volunteered to help at the site



Christopher Barton (second from right), site manager and Temple University archaeological doctoral student, working with staff and volunteers at the Timbuctoo historical excavation in Westampton on June 30.

throughout the dig, washing, cleaning, bagging the countless artifacts drawn from the ground - ceramic shards, leather shoes, buckles, metal wheels, bottles, glassware - all the detritus of everyday life.

She was born in the area, but her family moved to Philadelphia with everyone else, she said, when city industry revved up at the onset of World War II. She returned as an adult and is deeply moved by the excavation.

"It brings a sense of connection that nothing else could bring," Weston said this week. "These wonderful artifacts being unearthed prove we did exist here very, very early. We did live here. Just the connection with the ancestors from the early 1800s brings a rush of joy."

In addition to the extensive excavation yet to come, much traditional historical work is also necessary. The origins of Timbuctoo are somewhat obscure. There is an oral tradition, for instance, that suggests the town was buttressed by the area's thriving Quaker community at the turn of the 18th century. A Quaker brickworks once stood nearby, which could have been an important source of work and building materials, said Orr.

Burton said the town stood directly on an Underground Railroad route, and there is no question that escaped slaves lived in Timbuctoo. Slave catchers worked the area too, and in 1860, residents took up arms to defend Harry Simmons, a runaway sought by southern bounty hunters. In what was known locally as the Battle of Pine Swamp, residents protected Simmons and drove off the slave catchers.

The prospect of such an attack was no doubt a source of anxiety, said Burton, and may have been one reason the village was laid out in an almost circular fashion, with small houses surrounding a large open area. Such a layout would enable residents of each house to see what was happening around every other house.



Field assistant Patricia Markert talks with volunteer Mary Weston (left) about the day's finds at the Burlco dig. Photos from the Philadelphia Inquirer.

"The point is, we don't know what these houses looked like until we dig a hole and look at them," said Orr. "We don't know who built them and how. Was this [settlement] pre designed? Did it come from African Americans? Quakers? We don't know. There are no images. None. That's why archaeology is so important with African American communities."

Weston looked up from wiping dirt off a bone button. "It's awesome for me," she said. "I went to school in Philadelphia and the school did tell us something of ourselves as a people, but not very much. So for this to happen and for all these things to be unraveled and explored makes me have a greater sense of connection with who I am."

Culture writer Stephan Salisbury at 215-854-5594 or ssalisbury@phillynews.com. Reprinted with permission from the *Philadelphia Inquirer*.

LETTERS, WE GET LETTERS....



To the League,

Thank you for the listing of The Contemporary's Four Views of Trenton on your email notice. We gave out a survey asking where people learned of our tours and many listed the internet. I know for a fact that we got six people from the publicity you gave us because you included my phone number and the people called me. You are really helping service organizations. We appreciate having this great source for getting the word out. Best regards, Lucia

We thank you so very much for sending out our request for washed wool. We had so many replies to our request for wool, plus we learned about groups who meet regarding spinning wheels, etc. Our volunteer has been able to get our spinning wheel operating and demonstrated it at our American Doll Tea. We thank you so very much for sending out our request.

Ginny Richmond

UPCOMING LEAGUE MEETINGS

October 2, 2010	Grover Cleveland Birthplace, Caldwell, Essex County
March 26, 2011	Ocean City Historical Museum, Inc.
June 2011	Metlar-Bodine House, Piscataway, Middlesex County
October 2011	Chinkchewunska Chapter of the DAR, Sussex, Sussex County

We encourage your society to host a future League meeting. If you would like this opportunity to showcase your site, just contact Linda Barth, 908-722-7428, barths@att.net, and she will put you in touch with the regional vice-president for your area. **We look forward to visiting YOUR town some day soon.**

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To Apply for the Program, Contact the NJ Historical Commission at

www.state.nj.us/state/divisions/historical/grants

The service is provided by members of the New Jersey Caucus of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference and is funded by a grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission. CAPES is available to both public and private organizations and institutions, but the collections to be evaluated must be accessible to the public and tell the story of New Jersey's history.

HISTORY EVENTS AND EXHIBITS — 2010

Through November 7 – Cape May County—Glowing: Cape May's Stained Glass exhibit: Presented by stained glass expert and guest curator, Dottie Rogers, this Carriage House Gallery exhibit features color photographs of richly colored 19th-century windows in Cape May, tools of the stained-glass trade, samples of the intensely colored glass, and the uplifting story of the restoration of church windows in Cape May. The Emlen Physick Estate, 1048 Washington St., Cape May 08204. Open daily; hours vary. Admission is \$2 or free with any Physick Estate tour. Sponsored by the **Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts** (MAC). For more information or to make reservations, call 609-884-5404 or 800-275-4278 or visit www.capemaymac.org.

Through September 15 (plus October 8-14, Victorian Week) - The Greater Cape May Historical Society announces its new exhibit, *The Knight Connection, 1865 – 1931*, which shows several facets of the Knight family and its influence on Cape May and Congress Hall. Colonial House Museum, 653½ Washington Street, next to Cape May City Hall and just behind Alexander's Inn. Hours, Tuesday through Saturday, 1–4; closed Sunday and Monday. Admission free but donations are welcome. On the web at www.capemayhistory.org

Saturday and Sunday, August 14-15 – Cape May County—CLASSIC CAR SHOW AT HISTORIC COLD SPRING VILLAGE — Cars will be on display each day from 11 am-3 pm. See beautifully restored vehicles, from muscle cars to light trucks, from the 1910s to the 1970s. Saturday, a parade of cars out of the village. Sunday, other groups will join: Original Garden State Corvette Club and antique fire trucks. The buildings will be open during regular village hours, 10 am-4:30 pm, with interpreters in period clothing. 609-898-2300, ext. 18; sperkins@hcsv.org.

Sunday, August 15 – Sussex County—Flatbrookville and Millbrook. Walpack Church, 1:00 pm. The **Walpack Historical Society's** events and meetings are free and open to the public. All take place within the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area. For more information, please call 973-948-4903.

Sunday, August 15 – Ocean County—Waretown Historical Society presents “**Quilt Making and ‘Women’s Work’ of Bygone Days**” 2:00 pm. Ellie Greco's program will cover the intricate details of putting together a quilt and all the work and creativity that went in to creating these beautiful heirlooms. Free. Call 693-4177 to reserve your free tickets. Waretown's Little Red School House Museum, 182 Wells Mills Road, (at the Waretown Recreation Area), Waretown, New Jersey 08758.

Monday, August 16 – Monmouth County—Workshop on beginning quilting. 10:30 am-1:00 pm- Centennial Cottage. Pre-registration & fee. Historical Society of Ocean Grove, P.O. Box 446, Ocean Grove, NJ 07756; info@oceangrovehistory.org. 732-774-1869.

Wednesday, August 18—Monmouth County—Porch supper on the Strauss Mansion Museum veranda—**Atlantic Highlands Historical Society**. For further information, phone 732-291-1861 or email AHHSinfo@yahoo.com. The Strauss Mansion Museum, the society's headquarters, has Queen Anne-style architecture and hilltop views to Sandy Hook Bay and Manhattan. See its 1890s period rooms and exhibits on local history and old homes. Admission is free but donations are welcome.

Thursday, August 19 – Essex County—The Victorian Society of Northern New Jersey will host an **Ice Cream Social** at a private residence in Montclair. Free with renewed or new membership. Annual membership is \$25.00/year and includes ten informative and entertaining meetings each year; outstanding speakers; delicious refreshments; festive parties; interesting bus trips, and a monthly newsletter. The cost for the social is \$10.00 for non-members. For further information and RESERVATIONS, please contact Christina at 973.744.5916 or Christina.mayer@fmglobal.com.

Saturday, August 21—Monmouth County—Atlantic Highlands Historical Society. Arts and Crafts Festival. (Rain date: Sunday, August 22). For further information on all events and programs: 732-291-1861; AHHSinfo@yahoo.com.

Saturday, August 21 — Monmouth County—60s Family Day. Come to the Vietnam Era Educational Center to celebrate the 1960s. 11:00 AM. Family activities related to the time period will take place throughout the day. **New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Foundation and Vietnam Era Educational Center**, 1 Memorial Lane, P.O. Box 648, Holmdel, NJ 07733, located off the Garden State Parkway at exit 116 in Holmdel, NJ.

Sunday, August 22—Burlington County—Celebration of Women's Equality Day—A Women's Equality Day Arts Festival celebrating the 25th anniversary of the **Alice Paul Institute**, the 90th anniversary of the victory for women's suffrage, the 2010 induction of Alice Paul into the New Jersey Hall of Fame and the release of the first Alice Paul biography takes place at Paulsdale, 128 Hooton Rd., Mt. Laurel, 1-5 p.m. Festivities include: Remarks by Congressman John Adler, book discussion with Mary Walton, author of *A Woman's Crusade: Alice Paul and the Battle for the Ballot*; exhibit of women's suffrage sketches, “A Woman Speaking to Women: the Political Art of Nina Allender”; live performance by the Anna Crusis Choir; sale of artwork of all genres by local artists; games and activities for children in the Cooper Beech Corner. Registration

deadline for the event is Tuesday, Aug. 17. A fee of \$20 for children and \$5 for children under 12 includes food and refreshments. For registration information, visit the Alice Paul Institute website, www.alicepaul.org or call 856-231-1885.

Thursday, August 26 – Mercer County—The Historical Society of Princeton, Bainbridge House, 158 Nassau Street, Princeton, NJ 08542: 10 AM - 11 AM . **Picturing Princeton**--It's hard for kids to believe, but once upon a time horses whinnied in Palmer Square and a four-story hotel towered over the western end of Nassau Street. HSP invites **children** to take a **walking tour** and learn how these and other historic Princeton sites have changed over the years. Ages 6 and up; parents must accompany children. \$5 per child, \$4 for members; adult chaperones free. Call 609.921.6748 x 100 or email Jeanette@princetonhistory.org to register as space is limited to 15 children. www.princetonhistory.org.

Saturday, August 28—Monmouth County—Postcard & Antique Show-10 am-4 pm-Auditorium Pavilion Grounds. **Historical Society of Ocean Grove**, P.O. Box 446, Ocean Grove, NJ 07756; info@oceangrove.org. 732-774-1869.

Friday, September 3—Monmouth County—Ocean Grove Antiques Auction-5pm (preview 3-5pm), Youth Temple. **Historical Society of Ocean Grove**, P.O. Box 446, Ocean Grove, NJ 07756; info@oceangrovehistory.org. 732-774-1869.

Ongoing Exhibit through October 30: Vietnam War Paintings: Stories Through the Eyes of an Artist—Monmouth County—Series of paintings of Vietnam War battle scenes, by Francis McGinley, who explains his paintings: "It's not a war painting. It's a story of someone's life. Someone lived this." Paintings include a battle scene with Jack Jacobshrough. **Saturday, September 4**—Francis McGinley will discuss his series of paintings on display at the **Vietnam Era Educational Center**. McGinley is also co writing a book of his historical paintings from World War II to present. He will speak of his paintings on display in relation to their historical content and subjects. **1:00 pm**. New Jersey **Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Foundation and Vietnam Era Educational Center**, 1 Memorial Lane, P.O. Box 648, Holmdel, NJ 07733, located off the Garden State Parkway at exit 116 in Holmdel, NJ.

Saturday, September 4 – Ocean County—Antiques & Collectibles Faire on Labor Day Weekend. Ocean County Historical Society. Toms River Parking Garage and surrounding grounds across from the OCHS Museum at 26 Hadley Avenue. Bring your family for breakfast and lunch, shop for additions to your antique collections, and sample delicious baked goods. Enjoy the offerings of talented musicians from the Music Academy of Toms River, early craft demonstrators, the works of seven local artists in the Artists' Garden, and the Pineland Engine Club and antique cars. Free tours of the OCHS Museum and its current exhibition, "World War II: A Look Back from Ocean County." 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Sunday, September 5 – Morris County —DANE, **Danish Archive North East**, will exhibit at the 26th Annual Scan-Fest, a Scandinavian Festival to be held at VASA Park, Budd Lake, NJ, 10 - 6 PM. Questions? Call 732-287-6445; danenj@aol.com.

Saturday, September 11—Monmouth County—Atlantic Highlands Historical Society. Flea Market. (Rain date: 9/18). For further information on programs, 732-291-1861 or AHHSinfo@yahoo.com.

Saturday & Sunday, September 11 & 12—Ocean County—11th Annual Antique & Classic Boat Show, 11 am-4 pm. Philadelphia Chapter of the Antique and Classic Boat Society—two days of classic wood and glass boat exhibitors, demonstrations, workshops, vendors, food, refreshments, entertainment. Sign up for our boat building class or take a cruise up the Tuckerton "Crik." Fun for the whole family. Adults: \$8; Seniors: \$6; Children 6 to 12: \$3; Children 5 and under, free; Members, free. Tuckerton Seaport, 120 West Main St., Tuckerton 08087; 609-296-8868; www.TuckertonSeaport.org.

Saturday, September 18 – Middlesex County—2:00 pm at the new YMCA theater, 375 New Brunswick Avenue (by Amboy Avenue), Perth Amboy NJ. Premier of a one-hour film, "**Dr. Solomon Andrews 1806-1872**," which recalls the achievements of the inventor. Andrews patented revolutionary innovations, from padlocks to velocipedes to air-ships! During the summer of 1863, he conducted the world's first successful fully-steerable flight over his Inventors' Institute in Perth Amboy. You'll just have to attend the premier to find out more! This event is free.

Saturday and Sunday, September 18-19—Historical societies in Boonton, Boonton Township, Kinnelon, Butler, and Montville Township will open their museums and historic homes to the public. 10 am–4 pm on Saturday; 12-4 on Sunday. For more information contact us at 973-334-9563. (See story of page 14.)

Sunday, September 19 – Sussex County—Memories of Crater Lake. At Walpack Church. 1:00 pm. The **Walpack Historical Society's** events and meetings are free and open to the public. All take place within the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area. For more information, please call 973-948-4903.

Sunday, September 19 – Middlesex County—DANE Genealogy Group Program: "Who Do You Think You Are?" Wendy Hansen Hudson will review current methods and resources for researching your family roots. All are encouraged

to bring their genealogy projects and questions. 2-5 pm at the Danish Home, 855 New Durham Rd. Edison, NJ; 732-287-6445; danenj@aol.com.

Sunday, September 19 – Hunterdon County—The Lambertville Historical Society celebrates the 200th anniversary of the birth of James Wilson Marshall, discoverer of gold at Sutter's Mill, initiator of the Great California Gold Rush, and former resident of Lambertville. Jeff McVey will discuss Marshall's early years in New Jersey, his move westward, his discovery and the epic consequences for him and for the young nation. 3 pm at the Lambertville Justice Center/former Acme, at 25 South Union St. Free, accessible. Info at 609-397-0770 or lambertvillehistoricalsociety.org.

Friday through Sunday, September 24-26 – Mercer County—2010 **Princeton Fall Antiques and Fine Arts Show**. Gala preview Friday night. Open to the public Saturday morning through Sunday evening. Sunday afternoon Appraisal Clinic hosted by Rago Arts and Auction Center of Lambertville. 55 antiques and fine art dealers feature 18th-20th century American and European furniture, paintings, textiles, jewelry, vintage couture clothing and accessories, silver, ceramics, vintage posters, prints, vintage automobiles and much more. Daily admission, \$12. Gala tickets sold separately. Princeton Airport, Route 206. Contact: Barbara Webb, 609-921-6748 ext. 105; barbara.webb@princetonhistory.org.

Saturday, Sept. 25—Somerset County—"John Honeyman," 2-4 p.m. -- The **Meadows Foundation** fall season gets into full swing when NJ historian George Dawson joins us to talk about John Honeyman, the most famous NJ spy of the American Revolution. Wyckoff-Garretson House, 215 S. Middlebush Rd., Somerset. \$10/person. Reservations to 732-560-1977. Directions: www.themeadowsfoundation.org.

Saturday & Sunday, September 25 & 26—Ocean County—28th **Annual Ocean County Decoy & Gunning Show** 7am to 5 pm. Two-day event celebrating the culture of the area! Demonstrations, contests, seminars, decoy auction, crafters, carvers, vendors, food, refreshments, music, entertainment, sneakbox races, rubber duck races and lots of fun. Two great locations: Tip Seaman County Park and Tuckerton Seaport Museum. Free. **Tuckerton Seaport**, 120 West Main St., Tuckerton 08087; 609-296-8868; www.TuckertonSeaport.org.

Sunday, September 26th Morris County—**Poets in the Garden** – Poets Gail Holst-Warhaft and John McDermott will present their work. Ms. Holst-Warhaft has published translations of a number of well-known modern Greek poets and prose writers. Her first collection of poems, *Penelope's Confession*, was published by Cosmos Books (New Jersey and Athens) in 2007. Mr. McDermott has been a featured local poet at the Dodge Poetry Festival and has served as a Dodge Poet. His poems have appeared in magazines including *Paterson Literary Review*, *Lips*, and *Frogpond*, as well as *Mainichi Daily*. General admission applies. 3 pm. www.maccullochhall.org. **Macculloch Hall Historical Museum**, 45 Macculloch Ave., Morristown 07960.

October 2 – Monmouth County—**Old Wall Historical Society** presents **Fall Antique Fest 2010**: Antique, vintage, and retro show and sale, 8 am-3 pm; antique appraisals available, 11 am-2 pm. Entry fee: \$3.00. Allgor-Barkalow Homestead and Blansingburg Schoolhouse Museums, 1701 New Bedford Road, Wall (between Route 138 and Belmar Boulevard). 732-449-7888; 732-682-1675.

Saturday, October 2 – Morris County—**Bottle Hill Day**, 11 am-4 pm. Visit the **Museum of Early Trades and Crafts** and the **Madison Historical Society** during this annual town festival. Many booths along Waverly Place and Central Avenue, off Route 124. For more information visit www.metc.org or call 973-377-2982. Free!

Saturday, October 2 – Middlesex County—DANE - **Danish Archive North East** will exhibit at the 47th Annual Metuchen NJ Country Fair. Theme: "Countries of the World." Hours 10 am- 6 pm. Rain date, Saturday, Oct 9th. For additional information, call DANE at 732-287-6445. 855 New Durham Rd., Edison, NJ 08817; danenj@aol.com.

Wednesday, October 6 – Mercer County—The **Historical Society of Princeton**, Bainbridge House, 158 Nassau Street, Princeton, NJ 08542: 10 AM - 11 AM **Stroller Strides**: Join our popular stroller tour of Princeton as we visit local landmarks, architectural gems, and hidden historical sites. The tour lasts approximately 60 minutes. Meet at HSP; we'll end at Starbucks. \$7 per adult, \$5 for members. Children are free. Please call 609.921.6748 x 100 or Jeanette@princetonhistory.org; www.princetonhistory.org.

Saturday, October 9 – Monmouth County—**Ocean Grove Antique & Collectible Show**--10 am-4 pm- Youth Temple. Historical Society of Ocean Grove, P.O. Box 446, Ocean Grove, NJ 07756; info@oceangrovehistory.org; 732-774-1869

Saturday and Sunday, October 9 and 10 – Somerset County—10-4 -- The **Meadows Foundation** proudly participates in **Somerset County's Weekend Journey Through the Past** tours of the Wyckoff-Garretson House, 215 S. Middlebush

Rd. \$5 parking donation suggested. 10 am-4 pm. Directions at www.themeadowsfoundation.org.

Friday, October 15 – Monmouth County—Annual Forum: Now and Then: Comparisons Between the Vietnam War and the U.S. Involvement in Iraq and Afghanistan. Three sessions with expert panelists and a keynote speaker. Pre-registration and a fee which includes a luncheon with the keynote address. To register or for more information please call 732-335-0033. **New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Foundation and Vietnam Era Educational Center**, 1 Memorial Lane, P.O. Box 648, Holmdel, NJ 07733, Garden State Parkway at exit 116 in Holmdel, NJ. 8:00-2:30.

Saturday, October 16—Somerset County—"The Delaware and Raritan Canal," 2-4 p.m. -- NJ canal historian Linda Barth joins us to talk about the history of the Delaware & Raritan Canal, with a reference to the cholera epidemic that spread among the workers. Van Wickle House, 1289 Easton Ave. Somerset. Reservations, 732-560-1977. Directions: www.themeadowsfoundation.org.

Sunday, October 17 – Sussex County—Van Campen Day: tours of the inn. Cider, refreshments, music, colonial crafts. At Van Campen Inn, Old Mine Road, Walpack Township. The **Walpack Historical Society's** events and meetings are free and open to the public. All take place within the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area. For more information, please call 973-948-4903.

Sunday, October 17 – Middlesex County—DANE Genealogy Group Program: "The Danish Monarchy-Part 2" -- A continuing look at Denmark's royal family members who married into many of Europe's monarchies. 2-5 pm at the Danish Home, 855 New Durham Rd., Edison NJ; 732-287-6445. danenj@aol.com.

Sunday, October 17 – Hunterdon County—Lambertville Historical Society's 28th Annual House Tour. 11 am to 5 pm. Visit the interiors of classic 19th century homes and historic buildings in Lambertville. Tickets: \$15 in advance, starting September 6th at local stores, website and by mail; \$20 on the day of the event at the Marshall House Museum, 60 Bridge Street. Remote parking and transfer bus are available. For more information visit our website at www.lambertvillehistoricalsociety.org or call 609-397-0770.

Friday & Saturday, October 22 & 23—Ocean County—Haunted Seaport. 6 pm to 9 pm. Pirates and sea captains long lost at sea, stroll the boardwalk for a night of screams. Hayrides, phragmites maze, food, refreshments and a non-scary pumpkin patch for the little ones. \$8, Members \$5; Hayrides \$2 with paid admission, free for Seaport members. Tuckerton Seaport, 120 West Main St., Tuckerton 08087; www.TuckertonSeaport.org; 609-296-8868.

Friday, October 29—Ocean County—Halloween Costume Ball. 6 pm to 9 pm. An evening of ghoulish dancing and fun. Food, refreshments, contests, door prizes and Jersey Devil cocktails. Admission: \$30 per person, \$50 per couple. Tuckerton Seaport, 120 West Main St., Tuckerton 08087; 609-296-8868; www.TuckertonSeaport.org.

Saturday, November 6 – Mercer County—2010 Historic House Tour--Rain or shine. 10 am-4 pm. Princeton's most beautiful homes are open for the public to enjoy. Ticket prices are \$40 for HSP members and \$45 for non-members. For more information call Jeanette Cafaro at 609.921.6748, x100 or email Jeanette@princetonhistory.org; www.princetonhistory.org.

Sunday, November 21 – Middlesex County—DANE Genealogy Group program: "History of the Danish Virgin Islands" with Norris Hoist, who has researched his family back to the early 18th century when Denmark owned the Virgin Islands. 2-5 pm at the Danish Home, 855 New Durham Rd. Edison NJ; 732-287-6445; danenj@aol.com.

Saturday, December 4 – Middlesex County—DANE, Danish Archive North East, will hold its annual Jule Marked/Holiday Market. The market will offer sales of traditional Danish items and holiday gifts. 10 am-3 pm at the Danish Home, 855 New Durham Rd. Edison, NJ; 732-287-6445 for information. danenj@aol.com.

Sunday, December 5 – Middlesex County—The 21st Annual Festival of Trees at the American Hungarian Foundation, New Brunswick NJ. DANE will decorate a Jul tree with traditional ornaments and garlands. It will be one of over 16 trees from countries around the world. 2 pm. Trees will be on display for the month of December. Call DANE 732-287-6445 for information. 855 New Durham Rd. Edison, NJ 08817; danenj@aol.com.

Friday, December 10—Ocean County—Holiday House Tour. 11 am to 4 pm. Visit charming and festively decorated Tuckerton and Little Egg Harbor homes. Enjoy a wonderful holiday display, "Holiday Treats & Traditions – Family, Friends and Food" at the Seaport. Self-guided map and light refreshments provided. Admission: \$15. Tuckerton Seaport, 120 West Main St., Tuckerton 08087; 609-296-8868; www.TuckertonSeaport.org.

Saturday & Sunday, December 11 & 12—Ocean County—Christkindlmarkt. 10 am to 4 pm. *Two Spectacular Days!* An old-fashioned Christmas featuring holiday crafts and gifts under huge heated tents. Sip hot mulled cider, enjoy chestnuts roasting on an open fire, sing-a-long with strolling carolers, children's rides, horse drawn cart, entertainment, decoy carvers, quilt making, crafters, vendors, food, refreshments plus wine tasting by Valenzano Winery. Gingerbread Contest!" -- Admission: \$3. Tuckerton Seaport, 120 West Main St., Tuckerton, NJ, 609-296-8868; www.TuckertonSeaport.org.

Saturday and Sunday, December 11 and 12—Monmouth County—Dollhouses of the Past exhibit. 11-5 and 12-4 at the museum. **Historical Society of Ocean Grove**, P.O. Box 446, Ocean Grove, NJ 07756; 732-774-1869 info@oceangrovehistory.org.

Sunday, December 19 – Middlesex County—DANE, Danish Archive North East, will hold its **Annual JulFest**. A holiday celebration featuring samplings of traditional Danish food and pastry, Danish music and dancing, children's crafts, and a very special visit from Santa. 2-5 pm at the Danish Home, 855 New Durham Rd., Edison NJ. All are welcome to join in our holiday celebration. 732-287-6445 for information. danenj@aol.com.

FOLLOWING THE PATHWAYS OF HISTORY

Small museums continually search for innovative ideas to promote history in their communities and ways to encourage visitors to their museums and historic places. One such idea was proposed by Gretchen Longo of the Boonton Township Historical Society, and several local societies, whose locations actually form a drivable circle through northeastern Morris County, were eager to join in.

On the weekend of September 18, from 10:00 am–4:00 pm, and September 19, from 12:00–4:00 pm, the historical societies of Boonton, Boonton Township, Kinnelon, Butler, and Montville Township will open their museum doors and those of historic homes in their towns to the public.

Titled, **“Following the Pathways of History—Links to Each Other and to the Past,”** this two-day program presents history in multiple forms. A glimpse of life in Montville Township at the Henry Doremus House will recall when George Washington actually did sleep there; a walking tour of Boonton’s historic residential area will discuss the early residents of the town who came from England to work in the Boonton Iron Works.

At the Miller-Kingsland House in Boonton, visitors can see a home, built in 1740, which has been in the keeping of only three families up until the present time. Other highlights include the Oscar A. Kincaid Home of History, a farmer’s market, costumed hosts, musical performances, and a demonstration of wool weaving.

Donations of canned items or cash contributions for local food pantries will be accepted at all locations as admission to the tour. Visitors may start the tour at any location. Detailed maps and information will guide you to the next stop. Refreshments will be served at the Oscar A. Kincaid Home of History from 10:00–3:00 each day. For more information contact us at 973-334-9563.

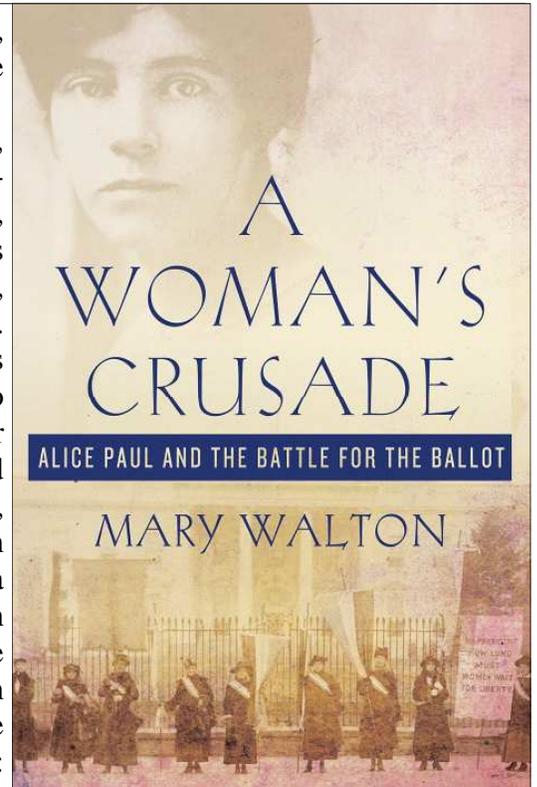


The 1740 Miller-Kingsland House in Boonton

NEW JERSEY BOOKSHELF

“A visionary and a pioneer” in the words of admirer Hillary Clinton, Alice Paul took on the president, the Congress and a stalled suffrage movement to win the vote for all American women.

Before Nelson Mandela, Martin Luther King and Mohandas Gandhi, there was the militant young Quaker, Alice Paul. A pioneer in nonviolent civil disobedience who had trained under the British suffragettes, Alice Paul revolutionized and reinvigorated the stagnant women’s suffrage movement and, with her daring and unconventional tactics, succeeded in forcing President Woodrow Wilson and a reluctant U.S. Congress to pass the Nineteenth Amendment. Calling themselves “Silent Sentinels,” she and her followers were the first protestors to picket the White House. Through winter snow, spring rain, and summer heat, they stood with defiant banners at its twin gates. After the United States entered the Great War, the pickets were assaulted by mobs, arrested on trumped-up charges, and jailed. Behind bars, they went on hunger strikes and were force-fed and brutalized. They invented a lobbying technique that was considered improper at the time, but soon became standard practice. After a fourteen-month ratification struggle when the amendment hung in the balance, these fearless women prevailed. When in 1920 women’s right to vote became the law of the land, a newspaper described Paul and her followers in these words: “They understood the dislike, almost fear, that men have of being ridiculed...They played on that fear. They caused senators and representatives to be laughed at and ridiculed whenever they could, and they did not draw the line at the President.”



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OUR MEMBERS' WONDERFUL MUSEUMS

by Linda Barth

Wow! So many of our members have outstanding museums, and I am determined to visit them. If you would like to see these unique sites, too, let me help you. I am creating a list of members’ museums. I would be happy to send it to the membership.

During the Weekend in Old Monmouth, May 1 and 2, I visited three great museums. I began my day at the Allgor-Barkalow Homestead Museum and Blansingburg Schoolhouse, operated by the **Old Wall Historical Society**. Irene and Dennis told me about the homestead, whose front room was a general store and post office in the 1830s. The other rooms, decorated in the Federal style, were fascinating. I especially enjoyed seeing the kitchen, with its original Bissell cleaner, an O-K Sanitary Vacuum Cleaner, a stove that ran on coal and wood, and the pivoting waffle iron! Amazingly, some of the wood now used in the restoration was found in the nearby woods, and was still in good enough shape to reuse. At the schoolhouse, Fran explained that the building had been restored to its 1910 appearance after being moved here from Sea Girt Avenue. Students attended the school from 1856-1935.

I then journeyed north to the Eden Woolley House, the **Township of Ocean Historical Museum**. When I had last visited the society, its exhibits were in the Old Oakhurst School. The new museum was moved several hundred feet from the corner of Route 35 and Deal Road when a supermarket was planned for the site. Ginny and Howard (“Doc”) Richmond gave me a personalized tour of this beautifully restored home. The society’s many volunteers have done wood-working and craft projects; one such effort involves creating a quilt for the annual raffle. The current exhibit showcases Deal, one of the many boroughs that left Ocean Township around the turn of the last century. I hope to go back for the ice cream social on September 12.

(continued on the next page)

For my last stop of this beautiful day, I made the short trip to **Shrewsbury Historical Museum**. Hermann Allen graciously answered all of my questions and showed me around. Most impressive are the four models of town buildings: the Christ Church, the Presbyterian Church of Shrewsbury, the Allen House, and the post office; the latter two were built by Jack Wilson. Each model has “windows” in the roof that allow one to see the great detail of the interior. The newest item in the collection is the 1895 Victorian Peerless parlor pump organ (see story on p. 6). Upstairs I was amazed by the hammer collection loaned by Frank Scordo of Tinton Falls. There must be 800 hammers of all shapes, sizes, and uses! I also learned that Hazard’s Shrewsbury Manufacturing Company made Monarch ketchup, onion sauce, Worcestershire sauce, and many other food products.

While house-sitting in Montage in July, I visited the two museums of the **Montague Association for the Restoration of Community History (MARCH)**. Since I like to visit schoolhouses, my first stop was the Nelden-Roberts Stonehouse (501 Route 206 North). Curator Donna Gibson showed me the classroom, which served children of the area in the 1820s. It is representative of the four one-room schools known to have been in Montague. We climbed the winder staircase to the room where the teacher once slept. Like the rest of the house, this room still has its original wide wood plank flooring. Over the years, the stonehouse has been the home of the Nelden and Roberts families, among many others. The residents were mainly tenants who worked on the farm across the way. The stonehouse was acquired by the federal government when the property was bought for the Tocks Island Dam project.

Next stop was the Foster-Armstrong House (320 River Road) where Donna joined me to point out the exhibits in this eight-room home, quite large for 1790. Listed on the National Register, the house displays items of historical interest from the 1700s to the early 1900s. I checked out the beehive oven and noticed a fireplace in every room. The Victorian room with its small tables looked so authentic that I was ready to sit down and have a scone and a cup of tea. Exhibits in the military room include uniforms and newspaper and hand-written accounts from those who fought in the Civil War, WWI, and WWII. The house was part of the former Brick House Village, whose centerpiece was the Brick House Hotel, a tavern/hostelry/stage stop on the Old Mine Road. The village was initially impacted with the removal of the hotel for the realignment of Route 206 to the new bridge across the Delaware River to Milford, Pennsylvania and the rest of the village fell to Tocks Island. Each location has exhibits and a small shop, where books and local crafts are sold. Both structures are now part of the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area.

THE PRESIDENT’S CORNER (continued from page two)

Pary Woehlcke, executive director of the Cape May County Historical and Genealogical Society, is our nominee for southern region trustee. She has also served on the board of the museum for four years and was the President of the Avalon Historical Society for six years.

Earlier this year long-time northern region trustee, Betty Hardy, resigned. Kate Malcolm, collections custodian of the Madison Historical Society, was appointed to fill out Betty’s remaining term. We thank Betty for the time she graciously gave to the League and welcome Kate to the board.

Up for re-election to their current board positions are: Bob Longcore as at-large trustee, Chad Leinaweaver as historian, Donald Peck as central region trustee, Dorothy Johnson as northern region trustee, Judy Aley as secretary, Jane McNeill as northern region vice-president, and myself as president.

Last of all, I am delighted to announce that Patrick Johnson, our new website chair, was officially given the passwords to our website at our board meeting on July 17. Patrick will be the webmaster, assuming responsibility for all postings and updates to the site. With his help, our site will be even better than ever!

I hope to see many of you on October 2nd, when you can meet the nominees.

SPOTLIGHT ON OUR MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS



With our members spread across the state, many of us are not familiar with the organizations in regions far from our own. This column will spotlight our members, so that others may learn of their mission and accomplishments.

The league has many member organizations that were formed to honor or celebrate the American Revolution. This is Part I of a series highlighting those societies.

Built for British and Irish troops during the French and Indian War, the **Old Barracks** in Trenton was used by American troops at the start of the Revolution. British prisoners of war from Canada were imprisoned in the Officers House while four companies of the Second New Jersey Regiment of the Continental Line were raised here. In December, 1776, British and Hessian troops occupied Trenton, with some staying in the Barracks. During the First Battle of Trenton on Dec. 26, in a miraculously successful morning raid, General Washington captured many of the Hessians. The Americans returned to Trenton and used the Barracks. In 1777, the building became an army hospital. The last soldiers in the Barracks may have been sick and wounded soldiers from the siege of Yorktown in 1781.

The building later fell into disrepair until in 1902 it was purchased by a small group of patriotic women who founded the Old Barracks Association and re-opened the building as the Old Barracks Museum in October of 1903. In 1914, the building was given to the State of New Jersey to maintain its upkeep, supported by the Old Barracks Association and a unique combination of public, private and personal funding. On the website, you can read the Deed of 1914 and the Law of 1917, substantiating the State's historical obligation to fund the Old Barracks. The building was fully restored in 1915-1916 and again in 1995-1998.

Today, the Old Barracks serves as an educational center for Colonial and American history and stands as the last remaining structure of its kind. The Old Barracks staff provides daily tours and interpretations of American colonial life. The building offers a museum of artifacts and weapons, as well as a gift shop. Nearly 20,000 school children and thousands more people from all over the world visit the Old Barracks every year, making it one of the most visited sites in New Jersey and one of the most important historic sites in the United States.

The Barracks welcomes group tours as well as walk-in visitors. For more information, contact the Old Barracks Museum, Barrack Street, Trenton, NJ 08608; 609-396-1776; www.barracks.org; Barracks@voicenet.com; 609-777-3599, weekends.

The **Dey Mansion**, a superb example of Georgian architecture, achieved national recognition as General George Washington's Revolutionary War headquarters in the Preakness Valley and is considered to be the "Jewel of the Passaic County Parks Department." Constructed between 1740-1750 by Dirck Dey, a Dutch-born planter, the mansion is an amalgam of Dutch and English influences, a rich and dramatic composition of country and urban elements that had few mid-18th century counterparts west of the Hudson River. Dey, in all probability, left the completion of the mansion to his son, Theunis. During the Revolution, Theunis commanded the Bergen County Militia. Colonel Dey offered the easterly side of the house to General Washington when the commander-in-chief used it for his headquarters in July, October, and November of 1780.

Succeeding generations of the Dey family resided in the house until 1801, when it was sold to a private owner. In 1930, the now-defunct Passaic County Park Commission purchased the Dey Mansion, together with several barns and fifty-five acres of land. A plan of restoration was developed. The building was opened to the public on October 8, 1934. It is now managed by the Passaic County Parks Department. Located on a two-acre site, the grounds feature a formal garden and picnic area. Ample parking is available. Dependencies include a blacksmith shop and plantation house. In 1969, the National Trust for Historic Preservation considered the restoration of Dey Mansion an "outstanding one." For more information, please contact the Dey Mansion Museum, 199 Totowa Road, Wayne, NJ 07470; 973-696-1776.

The Conference House, the League's only New York State member, is the location of the September 11, 1776, peace conference at which delegates from both sides tried to end the Revolutionary War. John Adams, Ben Franklin, and Edward Rutledge met with Lord Richard Howe, but no agreement was reached.

Captain Christopher Billopp built this grand stone manor overlooking the Arthur Kill and Perth Amboy around 1680, and his grandson, Colonel Christopher Billopp, owned the house when it was taken over by Admiral Lord Richard Howe, head of the British Forces in the Americas.

In 1846, a local Staten Island historian, Gabriel P. Disosway, published an article about the house and its place in the history of the American Revolution. He expressed hope that the house would be saved. Although the owners did not share Disosway's concern, public interest in preservation was growing steadily nationwide. In 1886, a bill was introduced in the New York State legislature to acquire the Conference House for museum purposes. The bill did not pass, but enough interest had been generated that it was reintroduced in 1896, 1901, and again in 1909. Finally, in April 1926, Harmon National Real Estate, which had acquired the property the year before, gave the Billopp House and one acre of land to the City of New York for use as a park, recreational area, or museum. It became the first house museum on Staten Island. But by then, the house was in a deteriorated state and about to be razed. A group of local preservationists realized that its destruction would mean the loss of an important piece of American history. This group, the **Conference House Association**, was formed on September 21, 1925, and would oversee the reconstruction of the house, furnish the newly restored rooms, and open the house as a museum. The first officers and trustees included members of the Daughters of the American Revolution, business and civic leaders, historians, and local preservationists.

The Conference House is owned by the City of New York, is operated by the Conference House Association, and is a member of the Historic House Trust. It is open for guided tours from April to mid-December, on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m. For more information, contact the Conference House Association, 298 Satterlee Street, Staten Island, NY 10307; 718-984-6046; www.conferencehouse.org; info@conferencehouse.org.

The Wallace House and Old Dutch Parsonage Association supports both of these state historic sites. A Philadelphia fabric importer, John Wallace bought 95 acres and a farmhouse from the Reverend Jacob Hardenbergh, who lived at the Old Dutch Parsonage. Wallace then built an eight-room Georgian-style mansion adjoining the farmhouse. Completed in 1776 as Hope Farm, the home is one of the best and most original examples of Georgian architecture in New Jersey.

During the Middlebrook Encampment of 1778-1779, the Wallace House was leased to General Washington for \$1000 and became his headquarters for that winter. After spending eleven days at his new headquarters, Washington left for Philadelphia to attend Congress for six weeks. When he returned to the Wallace House in February 1779, his wife, Martha, aides and servants accompanied him. The General and his staff hosted foreign dignitaries and planned strategies for the upcoming spring military campaign, including the successful 1779 campaign against the Iroquois League, fierce allies of the British.

In 1896, after several families had occupied the house, the Revolutionary Memorial Society purchased the home, and in 1947, gave the house to the State of New Jersey.

The two and one-half story, brick Georgian parsonage was built in 1751 and first occupied by the Reverend John Frelinghuysen, who served three congregations of the Dutch Reformed Church in the upper Raritan Valley. The second occupant, the Reverend Jacob Hardenbergh, was interested in education. In 1766, he drafted and submitted a petition to the Royal Government to establish a new "classical and divinity" school in the Colony of New Jersey. As a result of his efforts, Queen's College was chartered in the same year. In 1785, Jacob Hardenbergh became the first president of Queen's College, known today as Rutgers, The State University. Jacob Hardenbergh also played an important role during the American Revolution. A supporter of the American cause, he served in the Provincial Congress of New Jersey. While the Continental Army was encamped in the Watchung Mountains during the winter of 1778-79, Hardenbergh helped ease tensions between the army and local residents who, although supportive of independence, were greatly inconvenienced by the troops' presence.

The Dutch Parsonage remained a pastor's residence until 1810, when the church sold the building to Dr. Peter Stryker. In 1836, Stryker sold the house to the Doughty family. The Doughtys owned the house until 1907, when they sold it to the Central Railroad of New Jersey. The railroad purchased the property to make improvements to the railroad right-of-way and slated the house for demolition. Fortunately, the parsonage was saved by interested persons who moved it to its present location in 1913. The State of New Jersey acquired the property in 1947.

You may contact the Wallace House and Old Dutch Parsonage Association at P.O. Box 225, Somerville, NJ 08876; 908-725-1015; www.wallacehousefriends.blogspot.com; hjmcs@optonline.net.

**THE LEAGUE OF HISTORICAL SOCIETIES FALL MEETING HOSTED BY GROVER
CLEVELAND BIRTHPLACE MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION AT THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH, 326 BLOOMFIELD AVENUE, CALDWELL, ESSEX COUNTY
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2010**

- 9:00 am Registration & coffee, including Mrs. Cleveland's famous coffee cake.
- 9:30 am League business meeting and election
- 10:00 am Richard Baumol, "The Meteoric Rise of Grover Cleveland from Mayor to Governor to President in Three Years: What Was Going On In America?"
- 11:00 am Break
- 11:15 am David A. Cowell, "The Great Road: Early Capitalism and New Jersey Development"
- 12:00 Cate Litvack, Chairman, Governor's Task Force on Heritage Tourism
- 12:15 pm Luncheon
- 1:00 pm Guided tours of the Grover Cleveland Birthplace, the Presbyterian Church and Old Burying Ground, Caldwell; the Zenas Crane Homestead, West Caldwell; the Force House, Livingston; the Harrison House, Roseland; and the Morgan Farm and Fall Fair, Cedar Grove. All self guided tours within 15 minutes by car from the Birthplace. Maps and descriptions provided.

There are numerous hotels/motels on Route 46, both East and West, the Marriott, Hampton Inn, Red Roof, Howard Johnson, and the like nearby in Fairfield; the Candlewood Suites in Morris Plains has good rates, and the Residence Inn by Marriott at the Manor offers luxury and fine dining.

Stay over to enjoy the best restaurants in the Caldwells, see the Old Dutch Reformed Church in Fairfield, the rustic chapel at Saint Peter's Church in Essex Fells, the Methodist Church in Roseland, the collegiate Gothic Saint Aloysius in Caldwell, the Montclair Museum, the Israel Crane House in Montclair, the Morris County sites at Macculloch Hall, Fosterfields Fair, Speedwell Village, Acorn Hall and the Ford Mansion, Washington Headquarters, and Jockey Hollow in Morristown. In addition, you may visit the famous Caldwell Street Fair on Sunday, October 3, 2010.

Questions before October 2nd, call 973-226-1733
Questions on October 2nd, call 973-226-0001

REGISTRATION FORM – PLEASE RETURN BY September 25, 2010

Please include a check for \$25.00 payable to GCBMA and mail it to Dr. David A. Cowell,
29 Brookside Avenue, Caldwell, New Jersey, 07006.

Name(s) _____ Email _____

Address _____

City _____ State, Zip _____ Phone _____

Affiliation: _____

**DIRECTIONS TO THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 326 BLOOMFIELD AVENUE,
AT ROSELAND AVENUE, CALDWELL, ESSEX COUNTY**

From NJ Turnpike North, take **exit 11** to get on the **Garden State Parkway North**. Then follow the directions below.

From the Garden State Parkway North or South, take **Exit 145** to **Route 280 West**. **Route 280 West to exit 5B** (Rt. 527 North/the Caldwelles). Take **527 North** (also called Livingston Ave.) approximately 1 mile through the blinking light to end of the street.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

March 26, 2011—Ocean City, Cape May County
June 2011—Metlar-Bodine House, Piscataway, Middlesex County
October 2011—Chinkchewunnska Chapter of the DAR, Sussex, Sussex County