

Wenonah Historical Society Newsletter

Next Meeting at 7:30 P.M. on
Friday, April 8, 2011

Volume 9, Issue 4, April 2011

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Charles Horan

Dear Members,

I hope those members attending our March meeting enjoyed the excellent presentation by Robert Emmons of Rutgers University. He highlighted two of his documentaries about the Blue Comet and Emilio Carranza. I have both DVDs if anyone is interested. In thanks, I sent Robert a copy of Marjorie Lentz's book on the history of Wenonah and hinted that it could possibly be the subject of a future documentary. Time will tell.

This month our program features Karl Anderson, a local botanist, who will speak about the natural places of Gloucester County. He is well known in New Jersey as a field naturalist, writer and speaker with special expertise in

and Pennsylvania.

Remember to keep the morning of Saturday, May 7, 2011 clear. It is Wenonah's Clean Communities Day and the Wenonah Historical Society will receive a grant in the neighborhood of \$300 if we can field a team of 10 volunteers. Last year we mulched and planted flowers in the beds around the Train Station Community Center and our Borough Hall. Registration for all groups takes place at 8:30 AM at the Train Station.

Also, I became aware of an organization that may be of interest to the Wenonah Historical Society. It is the League of Historical Societies of New Jersey. Their web site is: www.lhsnj.org. I will be asking if we might benefit by membership in this organization at this month's meeting.

See everyone Friday, April 8th at 7:30 PM!

2011 WHS OFFICERS

President	Charles Horan
Vice President	Paul Lader
Secretary	Vicki McCall
Treasurer	Carol Wiltsee
Trustee	Betty MacLeod
Trustee	Louis McCall

Meetings are held on the second Friday of each month (except June, July and August) at the Train Station Community Center.

botany. In the past 30 years, Karl has addressed hundreds of audiences, taught field botany on a college level, worked as a wetland delineator, and has led hundreds of field trips for general nature and botanical study in New Jersey

KATHRYN RALSTON

A WENONAH LEGEND

by Vicki McCall

Our condolences go out to the Ralston Family. Kathryn was called home to the Lord on March 14, 2011.

We are deeply saddened by the loss of such a wonderful woman. She has been an inspiration to so many of us. She was active in the Historical Society and the American Legion.



Mrs. Ralston taught 4th grade at Wenonah Elementary School for 25 years and was recognized as Outstanding Elementary Teacher of America in 1975—the first ever from Wenonah School. She was instrumental in turning many children into upstanding citizens. She led not only by word, but by example. In 2009, she and her husband Don were recognized as “Wenonah Legends.”

Kathryn Ralston will be missed...

SUNSHINE NEWS
by Vicki McCall

Please forward any news of a member’s illness or surgery to me at vmccallpc@comcast.net so we can send cards and well wishes. I will forward the information to the newsletter editor.

2011 WHS DUES ARE DUE

Just a reminder that the 2011 WHS dues are due and are still a bargain at \$15 per family. The dues can be given to any of the WHS officers.

**DO YOU WANT TO RECEIVE
YOUR NEWSLETTER
ELECTRONICALLY?**

If you would like to receive an electronic version of the newsletter instead of a copy delivered by the U.S. Postal Service, let me know at smithlr@att.net. The newsletter will arrive sooner, reduce our printing and postage costs, and if there is something in color, you will be able to see the colors.

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The following house photos and information have been provided by Frank Eggert.

FEATURE HOUSE

7 West Mantua Avenue—Howard-Wentzell Building

The construction of “Howard’s Hall” started in December of 1872 and was completed in 1873. The third floor was laid out for a public hall. This was the site of the first public school in Wenonah. In 1877, the YMCA organized and met there. On several occasions, the Deptford Township Republican party had meetings in the public hall. One of the most significant uses of the building was the general store of Walter and Elizabeth Wentzell. The merchandise of the store included feed for horses, ice and newspapers. Abutting the building to the east, the Wentzell’s had an ice cream pavilion.



FEATURE HOUSE

406 West Mantua Avenue—Tenant House on Stone House Farm

Oral history indicates and suggests that this house was a tenant building on the Stone House Farm, before it was moved from the north side of Mantua Avenue and the creek to its present location. If this is the case, the house predates 1800. It was recorded that the house was used by Daniel Brown as a carpenter and sash shop, and as an office building for the Duell and Perry Canning Factory.



FEATURE HOUSE

111 North Lincoln Avenue—Stone House Tenant Farm



Colonel Stephen Greene of Philadelphia purchased this “Old Farmhouse” from the Mantua Land and Improvement Company in 1891. Although its actual age is unknown, the house is known to be one of the oldest farm houses here before the formation of Wenonah and a tenant farm house on the Stone House Farm “Plantation.” The house was moved to its present location when the West Jersey and Seashore Railroad was built in 1871. The deed from the Mantua Land and Improvement Company states “No malt

vinous, spiritous or intoxicating liquors shall be manufactured or sold on said premises; that no soap bone boiling, lamp black, varnish, slaughter house, piggery or other offensive trade or business be carried out on said premises.”

WENONAH HISTORICAL SOCIETY



PO Box 32
Wenonah, New Jersey 08090

Stamp
Here

WENONAH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2011

Membership Benefits

- MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
- MONTHLY MEETINGS WITH INTERESTING PROGRAMS
- ACCESS TO HISTORICAL ARCHIVES AND MEMORABILIA
- INFORMATION BY KNOWLEDGEABLE WENONAHIANS

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

RECEIVE NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL: YES OR NO

AMOUNT PAID \$ _____ CHECK _____ CASH _____

BRING FORM AND PAYMENT TO MEETING, OR MAIL. THANK YOU

WHS PO Box 32, WENONAH, NJ 08090

DUES: \$15.00 PER FAMILY HOUSEHOLD PER YEAR
