

# Wenonah Historical Society

PO Box 32  
Wenonah, New Jersey 08090-0032

# Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 2 February 2004

## A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT ROCCO DOTO

Dear Members,

If you would like to learn more about the history of our great town, please consider joining the Wenonah Historical Society. We meet at 7:30 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month in the Historic Train Station. We offer informative newsletters and great monthly programs. For 2004, programs about the history of Gloucester County, a presentation on other Wenonah's around the country and a round table discussion by long term Wenonah Residents are being planned to name just a few.

Great news about our planned Wenonah Museum! The borough has already turned over two of the three rooms in the upper level of the Train Station to the Historical Society. This now provides a permanent safe storage area for our artifacts and documents as well as a work area to organize our possessions.

We have begun working with a local resident who has volunteered his time to help design the official Museum. This individual is a professional display expert and has worked on the museum at the Baseball hall of fame.

If you would like more information or want to make a tax-deductible contribution to the WHS to help with the museum, please contact Rocco F Doto at 415-1215

## COMMUNITY CENTER UPDATE

The following is a communication from the Borough Engineer to Mayor Capaldi providing the latest information concerning the much needed repairs to the Community Center.

From: KLE Consultants  
To: Mayor Tom Capaldi  
Subject: TEA 21 Grant

Dear Mayor,

I just wanted to take this opportunity to update you as to the status of the TEA 21 Project so you can relay the information to the Historical Society.

Late last week, I rec'd comments from the NJDOT Bureau of Environmental Services regarding the information that was submitted by ARH. Basically, there were a number of issues that still need to be addressed in order to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

I will be reviewing and addressing these comments during the next few weeks and I may

need the assistance of the Historical Commission.

Therefore, should the Society ask you regarding the status, feel free to relay this message and I will most likely be asking for a contact person at the Historical Society that I can work with to coordinate a few of the remaining requirements.

Signed; David Kreck, P.E.

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

The speaker at our February meeting will be William Kephart from Pitman, NJ. Bill is a local living in Pitman for 47 years. He has a keen interest in history and is a former Trustee of the County Historical Society.

Bill will present a slide program entitled "Historical Sites of Gloucester County" which he has previously presented to many organizations, schools and colleges in the region. He is a member of the American Museum of Glass in Millville, NJ. Should be an interesting session.

Mark your calendars for the next meeting March 12<sup>th</sup> as our speaker will be world-renowned glass artist Paul Stankard who lives in neighboring Mantua. Those who have seen his work will not want to miss this meeting.

1912 - 1913

Excerpts from the Catalogue of the  
*Wenonah Military Academy*

The Wenonah Military Academy was instituted during the winter of 1904, and opened its doors to its first pupils September 19th of that year.

Major John R. Jones, of Camden, New Jersey, was the organizer and superintendent. The Academy has grown in size and in efficiency under practically the same academic staff, with Major Jones as superintendent and proprietor.

The Academy aims at giving the boy a physical, moral and intellectual training; accepting boys as young as ten years of age, it fits them for college or for business life.

While the college preparatory training is a feature of the school, it does not dominate it; consequently, in response to a widely felt need, it supplements the four years of high school work with courses in advanced English, and subjects of practical value in the scientific, business and political world.

The idea that the high school course should simply train for college entrance examinations is fast disappearing, and the integrity of the preparatory school as an independent unit in education and in culture is being sought and fostered by the leaders of secondary education.

The achievement of this modern product in its graduates is one of the aims and ideals of W. M. A.

Testimonial Letter from Pleased Father

May 20, 1912.

Major John R. Jones, Superintendent  
Wenonah Military Academy  
Wenonah, N. J.

My Dear Major Jones;

Permit me to thank you for the very satisfactory manner in which you have educated my son, Raymond.

The progress he has made in his studies is most pleasing. I do not doubt that any boy of average ability could make rapid advancement at W. M. A. for he tells me "If a fellow shows inclination for his work, the faculty are only too glad to give him personal attention."

From my recent visit to Wenonah I was deeply impressed by the beautiful town in which the Academy is located. It is so free from all temptations which seek young men that I believe it is not too much to say the moral surroundings are ideal.

Another great item of school life is athletics and I must congratulate you on the fine records your school has made in that branch. The reason no doubt is the encouragement which sports receive at W. M. A. My son has told me you request the boys to spend the most of their recreation time on the athletic field and the gymnasium. This I approve of very much and the boys will know how to thank you only when they begin to realize their physical development.

A military school in my estimation is the only kind of a school for boys of the habit-forming age. The sooner parents realize this the better for their boys, the benefit which my son received from the daily Setting Up exercise and military drill is evident in his carriage and general bearing. I must say the discipline of your school is firm without being severe and the habits which my son has formed under your influence will be of great value to him during his college career and later in life.

Again I want to thank you for the splendid results accomplished.

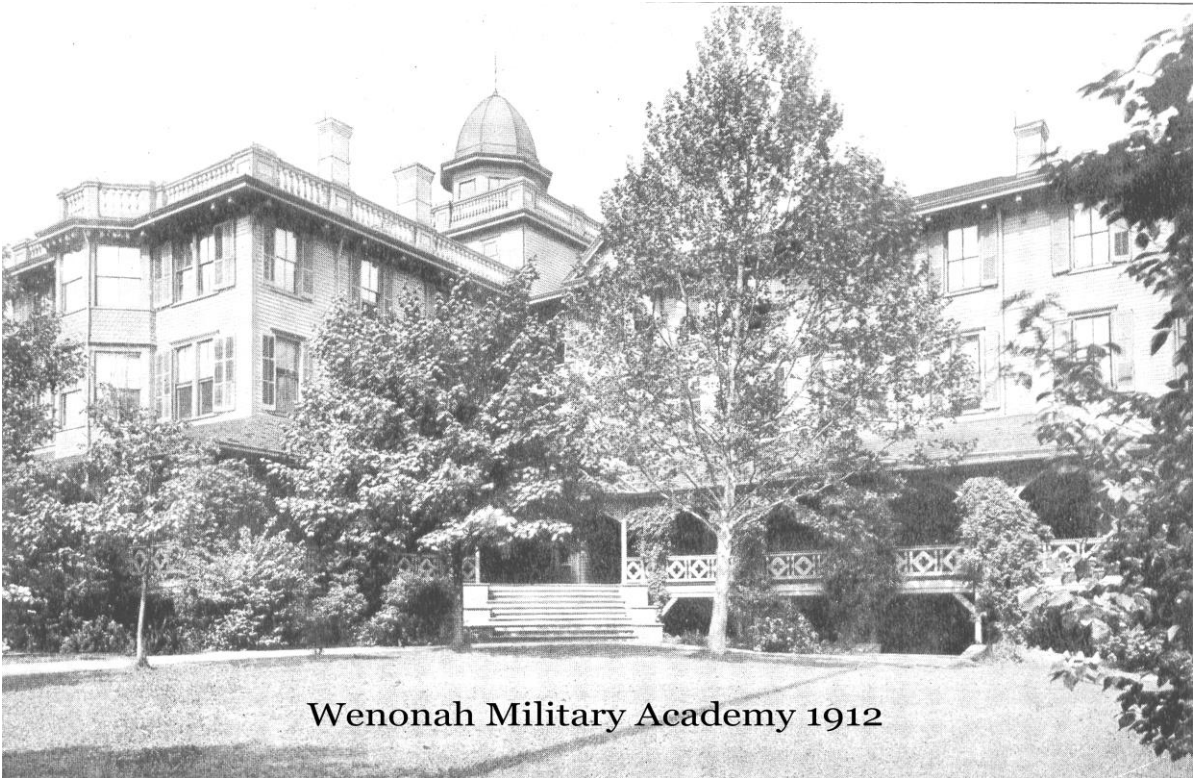
In closing will say I know of no other school in which I would rather have sent him to complete his preparatory work.

Wishing you and W. M. A. continued success, I remain;

Very Respectfully Yours,  
J. V. OSMUN  
31 Alton Street  
Elizabeth, New Jersey



Wenonah Military Academy Football Team 1912 (L.L. Lammert top left)



Wenonah Military Academy 1912



Stamp  
Here

Wenonah Historical Society  
PO Box 32  
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# Wenonah Historical Society

## Membership APPLICATION 2004

### Membership Benefits

- MONTHLY NEWSLETTER MAILED TO YOUR HOME
- MONTHLY MEETINGS WITH INFORMATIVE PROGRAMS
- ACCESS TO HISTORICAL ARCHIVES AND MEMORABILIA
- NETWORK OF KNOWLEDGEABLE HISTORIANS
- HISTORICAL FIELD TRIPS

NAME:

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

AMOUNT PAID \$

CHECK \_\_\_\_\_ CASH \_\_\_\_\_

DUES: \$15.00 PER FAMILY HOUSEHOLD PER YEAR

BRING FORM AND PAYMENT TO MEETING, OR MAIL. THANK YOU  
WHS PO Box 32, WENONAH, NJ 08090

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