

Newsletter

Volume 7 Issue 8 November 2009

TRAIN STATION UPDATE

The train station/Community Center restoration project is finished at last and we have a green light from engineer Dave Kreck and architect Margaret Westfield to start using the building for meetings. We have received nothing yet from Borough Council. I have to say it looks great both inside and out (except for the kitchen) and should continue to benefit Wenonah far into the future. However there is a lot of work needing to be performed before that can happen. Most of the furniture that stayed in the building such as the meeting tables, solid leg chairs, the long fold-up tables, etc. are dusty and dirty requiring a wash and wipe before they can be used. All of the folding chairs used for meetings are in the storage pod in the parking lot. Unfortunately they are behind everything else. That is also where the clocks, the huge wall hanging with the eagle and the rest of the plaques and photographs are stored.

The only restoration performed in the kitchen is new linoleum floor covering. The kitchen is extremely dirty needing a scrubbing before it can be used. The counter-top is badly beat up and needs to be replaced. What we need quickly is a survey and list of tasks needing to be done. We will then seek volunteers for

WHS OFFICERS 2009

President	Barbara Capelli
Vice Pres.	Brenda Birkland
Secretary	Vicki McCall
Treasurer	Carol Wiltsee
Trustee	Betty MacLeod
Trustee	Louis McCall

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

a few hours of work. I will check with Borough officials to see if there is any possibility of assistance with moving heavy material and with kitchen improvement. Jack Sheppard Sr.

CHRISTMAS PARTY REGISTRATION DUE AT NOVEMBER MEETING

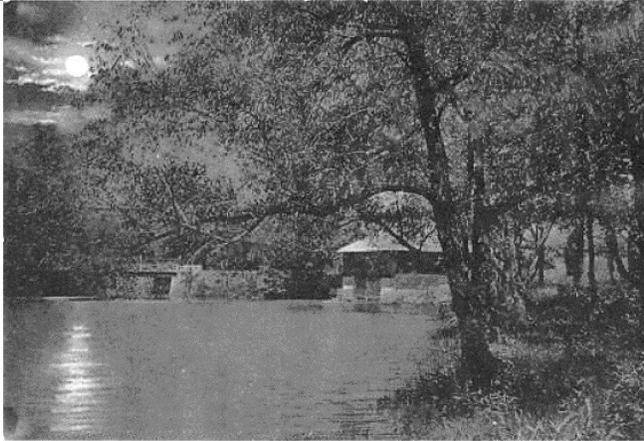
Our annual Christmas party is December 11 at the train

station. and will be catered by Telford Inn. The menu is turkey, dressing and all the accompaniments. The cost is \$20 a person and needs to be paid at the November meeting to reserve your spot. If you can't make it to the meeting, please give Pat Sole a call and drop your check off to her no later no Monday, November 16. We will also have our usual polly anna exchange. If you'd like to participate, please bring your unwrapped gift costing around \$10. The time for the party is 5:00 p.m. for greeting and 6:00 p.m. for dinner. Thank you to Pat Sole for arranging.

TRAIN PRESENTATION AT OUR NEXT MEETING

At our November meeting, Lou McCall will present information about the Wenonah Train Station and recap his presentation from this past Founders' Day. There may be a few other surprises related to the train station so we hope to see you at our newly restored train station. Brenda Birkland

**"THINGS THAT AREN'T HERE ANYMORE"
WHAT LAKE WAS IT? WHERE WAS IT?**



This photograph is a postcard entitled "Moonlight on Lake Cornelia, Wenonah, NJ." The lake was also known as Greene's Lake and it was located at the end of South Clinton Avenue. It was part of the Stephen Greene estate and included a carriage road over the dam with a Japanese designed bridge and a two story boat house, both visible in the postcard above. Why was it called "Lake Cornelia?" Stephen Greene's caretaker, John Truncer, had a wife named Cornelia and this is the origin of the name. Stephen Greene's estate included his residence and multiple dwellings for his caretakers, as well as a barn and stables occupying a block long complex on S. Clinton Avenue. He also built a gazebo for his Dutch garden and a peacock house with a brick wall mortared with flecks of oyster shells bordering his peacock run (portions of the brick wall still exist). A Japanese gardener cared for the gardens and his greenhouses. Arbored walks from his rose gardens led to a glen known as the Hermitage. Stephen Greene was a wealthy Philadelphian who made his fortune in the printing industry. He played a great part in the development of Wenonah. His involvement in the purchase of the Wenonah Hotel in 1892, which became the Wenonah Military Academy, probably assisted the town in surviving the great depression of the late 1920s and early 1930s.

**WENONAH 100 YEARS AGO
MAY 1909 (CONT.)**

At the rate our City Fathers are spending money, our tax rate will be \$2.50 next year. O, never mind it is not their money. (There was a feeling that a dozen axes and two hose carts afforded adequate fire protection for the community.)

While swimming yesterday in Synnot's Pond, Arthur HOLETON dove and struck his arm on the bottom and broke it. Dr. Stout was called and his arm was set. (He was killed in World War 1 and our local Legion Post 192 is named after him.)

Architect Charles Peddle of Woodbury awarded the contract for the stable and garage for Edward Grosscup to John L. Drummer. It will cost \$3,500. (This is the former Oscar Redrow-Harris Cotton property. Hopefully the new owner will restore this historically significant structure.)

Miss Henrietta Comey and Miss Fanonda Lorence entertained at cards yesterday followed by a luncheon at Comey's boat house.

The boat "Wenonah" was launched here yesterday morning by Porch Brothers, who built it. The craft was christened by Mrs. E. Porch of Mantua. (The "Wenonah" was a canoe.)

Housel and Bird, the Academy's star runners, covered themselves with glory, winning their races at Rutgers College meet at New Brunswick on Saturday and winning at the Boy's Club A.A.U. meet yesterday.

Woodbury Daily Times

**WENONAH 100 YEARS AGO
NOVEMBER 1909**

Fair in the lecture room of the Presbyterian Church, November 4th Fancywork, groceries, candy, homemade bread and cake. Supper 35 cents.

Wonder whom the two young ladies were who got bewildered on the road between Cooper's Hill and Wenonah.

The River and Harbor Committee met at Hohlweg's Hotel (now Telford Inn) yesterday to determine whether to have the Mantua Creek dug out. Several appeared before the committee urging the creek be opened up to the Wenonah Bridge.

A workman in the employ of the gas company was knocked unconscious here yesterday by the bursting of a gas pipe. He was taken home in serious condition. No one would have thought there was so much force in the pipes.

In order to make an equitable charge for water to all customers, the Wenonah Water Company will place water meters on the premises of all water takers. The installing of the meters will be done during the present month and the meter rates will commence January 1st, 1910.

The Women's Christian Temperance Union held their business meeting and finding out that they had money immediately proceeded to spend it. It was voted to offer a prize of \$5.00 to the Wenonah Military Academy and \$5.00 to our public school for the best scientific temperance essay.

Bryn Athyn and Wenonah Military Academy played a tie game on Bryn Athyn grounds Saturday, neither team being able to score. The game was fast and clean throughout.

Call at the public library and look over the latest books. (The library was in the former Presbyterian Church Chapel which was moved from North Clinton Avenue to West Mantua Avenue in the first block.)

The Wenonah Mutual Improvement Association will place three carloads of manure on the lawn of the park. (This is one way to get people's attention to the park.)

There was a fire last night at the M.E. parsonage on Willow Street, and but for its timely discovery the parsonage would have been burned down. Miss Cornelia Truncer saw a light in the third story of the building and concluded at once that there was something wrong. She went to the parsonage and asked if there was anyone in the third floor with a lamp. She was told there was not, and upon investigation it was found that a box of papers was on fire. A bucket brigade was formed and the blaze was soon subdued. The Fire Company did not go into service. Just how the fire started is a mystery, but it might be the old story of mice and matches. Pastor Senser worked like a beaver in carrying buckets of water up the stairs and he thinks that his heart is all right or he could never have stood it.

Mr. Thomas W. Synnott will lead the prayer meeting this evening at the Memorial Presbyterian Church. (Mr. Synnott was one of the founders of the town and at this period had land holdings of almost one fourth of the total area of the town.)

Lost, strayed or stolen - one black and white hound dog, black face. Answers to the name "Doc" John T. Moore

The question, which is puzzling our gunners, is where to gun on Monday, when the rabbit season opens. In almost every direction one looks in the country his eyes behold a notice, which forbids gunning on the premises.

An exciting runaway occurred here last evening. A farmer drove into town to meet the train, and his horse was frightened and ran up the street east of the depot and down the embankment north of the station where it meet an express train and turned off the track at the flag house completely circling the depot. No damage was done, but how the horse missed the third rail is a mystery. It also had a narrow escape from the express train.

The machine pipeline digger of the Pitman Gas Company is digging a trench from the Wenonah Bridge to Woodbury Heights. This will give gas to all the farmers along the line.

Quite a number of our young matrons have enrolled themselves as students in the "Domestic Science Class" recently organized.

Mrs. McGill's house looks well with its new coat of paint. (N.E. corner of Clinton and Cherry Streets -The Thompson's house, formerly the Magarelli's home.)

Our Improvement Association has two classes of members, those who contribute money and those who contribute advice as to how it should be spent. These latter are mostly knockers and are a hindrance to the growth of the town.

Woodbury Heights is improving rapidly notwithstanding its lack of electric lights, sewer, artesian water, library, fire company, and church and school facilities such as Wenonah has.

A little girl visiting barber Fisher's was badly cut about the head Saturday by a flowerpot. The flowerpot was in the second story window and fell on the little girls head.

We see the hurdles have disappeared in the park and hope they will not come back. (People had been making their own paths through the park.)

Woodbury Daily Times

WENONAH HISTORICAL SOCIETY



PO Box 32
Wenonah, New Jersey 08090

Stamp
Here

WENONAH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2009

Membership Benefits

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

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
