

Wenonah Historical Society Newsletter

Next Meeting at 7:30 P.M.

Friday, November 13, 2015
Volume 13, Issue 6, November 2015

Genealogy Holdings of the Gloucester County Historical Society



Have you ever wondered how to go about discovering your family history? Our area was home to many early and more recent immigrants who left records of their lives behind. Since the advent of the Internet, genealogy has been at our fingertips. However, there are many unique resources filed away in libraries and historical societies that are not available online. Area residents are fortunate that the Library of the Gloucester County Historical Society has these resources!

Visit our Library and check out these resources:

Vital Statistics: If your ancestor's marriage or death occurred in the Gloucester County area, there is a good chance it is included in our comprehensive index to deaths and marriages taken from local newspapers.

Census: The Federal Census was taken every ten years. New Jersey was also one of the states that compiled their own enumerations in between the federal census. Census records list the members of a household, ages, occupations and place of birth.

City Directories: Before there were telephone directories, there were city directories. Information you are likely to find are name, occupation, name of spouse, business and home address. In addition to Gloucester County, our directory collection includes Camden, Cape May and Cumberland Counties as well as Philadelphia.

Newspapers: Local newspapers often reported much more than the expected obituaries and marriages. Did your relative relocate? Buy or sell a home? Become involved in a scandal? Newspapers of years gone by often

“told it like it was,” making for very interesting reading. The Society's microfilm collection includes all local daily and weekly papers for the 19th and 20th centuries.

Church and Cemetery Records: Some of the major events in a person's life are recorded in church. Most religious denominations record membership, baptisms, marriages, funerals and disciplinary actions. Tombstone records can sometimes provide additional information such as birth-place, family relationships or military service. Most of the local churches and all of the local cemeteries are included in our collection.

Immigration and Naturalization Records: Everyone's family (with the exception of Native Americans) originated outside of the U.S.. Locating an immigration record will reveal when and where your ancestor arrived as well as their point of departure. Requests for citizenship specify the country of origin and may contain other information such as place of birth, names of spouse and children, a physical description of the applicant and sometimes even a photograph.

Property Records: Finding a deed for real estate owned by your ancestor can contain a gold mine of information. Besides the usual data you would expect to find in a deed, other useful facts such as the exact location of property, house and outbuildings, roads and names of neighbors may be included.

Maps and Surveys: Several 19th century maps in our Library show the exact location of properties with owners' names. Our collections may also house a survey of your home showing a footprint of the property.

Photograph Collection: Our library has thousands of photographs of people, houses and events.

Genealogies and Files: The Library is home to 10,000+ published and unpublished genealogies as well as files containing vital statistics, letters and other documents pertaining to area families..

Visitors are always welcome at GCHS. Our staff and volunteers will be glad to assist you. Library hours are Tuesday evening, 6-9:30pm; Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 10am-4pm; the last Sunday of each month, 2-5pm; and the first Saturday (Oct. thru May) of each month, 10am-4pm. For more information, please call (856) 845-4771. Daily research fee is \$5 per person with members free. There is no time like the present to learn about your past!

WHS OFFICERS

President	Charles Horan
Vice President	Paul Lader
Secretary	Vicki McCall
Treasurer	Carol Wiltsee
Trustee	Scott Barnes
Trustee	Louis McCall

Meetings are held on the 2nd Friday of each month
(except June, July and August)
at the Train Station Community Center

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Charles Horan

Greetings to all. This Friday November 13th at 7:30 the Wenonah Historical Society will meet at the train station which has been officially named the *Jack C. Shepard, Sr Community Center*. We will begin as usual with a brief business meeting as we have a few items to discuss.

Our presenter this month is Brian Temple. Brian is married to the late, great Frank Eggert's niece, Martha.

His topic and background are noted below. Brian will have books available for sale following his presentation.

Hope to see you there!

Philadelphia Quakers and the Antislavery Movement

The Quakers came to America in the 17th century to seek religious freedom. After years of struggle, they achieved success in various endeavors and like many wealthy colonists of the time, bought and sold slaves. But a movement to remove slavery from their midst, sparked by their religious beliefs, grew until they renounced the slave trade and freed their slaves. Once they rejected slavery, the Quakers then began to petition the state and federal governments to do the same. When those in power turned a blind eye to the suffering of those enslaved, the Quakers used both legal and, in the eyes of the government, illegal means to fight slavery. This determination to stand against slavery led some Quakers to join with others to be a part of the Underground Railroad. The transition from friend to foe of slavery was not a quick one but one that nevertheless was ahead of the rest of America.

Brian Temple has had book reviews and articles published in *America's Civil War*, *Command* and *Fencers Quarterly Magazine*. He is also the author of *The Union Prison at Fort Delaware*, a non-fiction account of one of the largest prisoner of war camps in the Civil War. He lives in New Jersey.



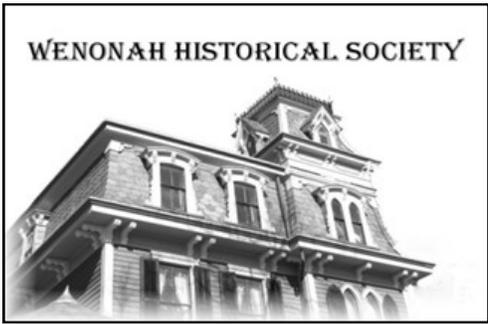
Due to popular demand, the Gloucester County Historical Society has extended the exhibit, *Gloucester Abbey: Downton Style Fashions*, based on the popular PBS television series, *Downton Abbey*, thru June 2016.

Visit the Museum at 58 N. Broad St., Woodbury, NJ. Hours are Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 1-4pm and the last Sunday of each month, 2-5pm. Please call (856)848-8531 for holidays closings or in case of inclement weather. Admission is \$5 and members are free. Group tours are welcome by appointment.

WENONAH

A Century Ago

- ◇ Mr. and Mrs. Richard Evans have returned from a ten days' sightseeing trip to Baltimore and Washington. The trip was taken to celebrate the 20th anniversary of their marriage.
- ◇ A party from Philadelphia will soon build a fourteen room bungalow on S. Lincoln Avenue.
- ◇ At the closing session of the State Sunday School Association at Millville on Thursday, Thomas W. Synnott of our borough was elected vice president for the district comprising Gloucester, Camden and Burlington Counties.
- ◇ Mrs. John Holeton started for Southern California to visit her son, Dr. Arthur Holeton.
- ◇ Mrs. William Leeham, formerly of our borough, and mother of Mrs. Charles Laney and Mrs. J. Hatch, died in New York of pneumonia on Sunday evening. The funeral service will be held from her son's home in Philadelphia today.
- ◇ Mr. John F. Ward of S. Jefferson Ave. died on Thursday after a lingering illness. Deceased leaves a wife and one son. The funeral was held in Gloucester on Monday.
- ◇ Mr. Paul Comey entertained a number of friends on Saturday evening at a ghost party which was held in the boat house on the lake.
- ◇ Mr. and Mrs. James Davis entertained Capt. and Mrs. Percy Jones for the weekend.
- ◇ Mr. Edward Pyle is entertaining a stag party for the week at the bungalow on the lake.
- ◇ Mr. U.S. Toms and family left on Tuesday for Korea, going by way of the Pacific Ocean. He is a foreign missionary of the Presbyterian Church.
- ◇ Forty-eight members and families of the Wenonah Masonic Club attended the picnic at the Elks Home at Bridgeton on Saturday, leaving Wenonah via automobiles at 9 o'clock. Upon their arrival there, baseball was indulged in. After the game, a bountiful dinner was enjoyed, then canoeing was the order of the day. The happy crowd arrived home about 6 o'clock after a most successful day.
- ◇ The suffragettes paid us a visit on Wednesday. They came in automobiles and established headquarters in the open at the park entrance. Mrs. Avery made an address.
- ◇ The Board of Education of our public schools has consented to close our public schools at 3:15 o'clock during the Lyceum Festival days of Thursday and Friday so that the children may have the advantage of the afternoon program.
- ◇ The Academy enrollment at the present is eighty-seven. The first dancing class of the year was held on Friday evening with a good attendance.
- ◇ The Ladies Aid of the Methodist Church have set the date of December 2nd for their annual bazaar and New England supper.
- ◇ Mrs. Robert H. Comey conveyed the ladies of the Monday Club in her auto on Monday to the home of Mrs. Edward Sapp of Sewell where they were delightfully entertained.
- ◇ Mr. and Mrs. William Martin announce the marriage of their daughter, Edna Ward, to Benjamin Harris Leap on Saturday, Oct. 2nd at 3:30 o'clock at the Presbyterian Manse by the Rev. H.H. Gage. After the ceremony, the bride and groom left for an extended trip to Roanoke, VA. On their return, they will reside in their already furnished home on Cherry Street.



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PO Box 32
Wenonah, New Jersey 08090

WENONAH HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2015

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 _____

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