

Wenonah Historical Society

PO Box 32
Wenonah, New Jersey 08090-0032

Newsletter

Volume 1 Issue 6 September 2003

A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT ROCCO DOTO

Dear Members,

Hello everyone. It is hard to believe that summer is officially over. Our September "Porch" Party is always a treat to start the fall meetings after our summer break. It is very gracious of Lou & Vicki McCall to host the gathering at their home. I always look forward to this meeting and I think it has a lot to do with where it is held. I admit that I have solicited new members with the promise of the meeting at the "Tudor Mansion".

We did receive great news from Borough Council, that is the promise of the upper rooms in the Train Depot for us to establish our much overdue Wenonah Museum. We will need lots of volunteers to help with all aspects of this project.

Another exciting thing for us recently is that we supplied items for the Wenonah "Time Capsule". We included the current names and addresses of all members of the Wenonah Historical Society. I am sure that our grandchildren or great grandchildren will get a surprise when the Capsule is opened. We also included the "Wenonah" book by Marge Lentz, with her autograph. This book provides a wonderful account of Wenonah's history.

We also included a copy of the Wenonah Realty brochure, which is also an interesting piece of memorabilia. I also added a personal letter on Wenonah Historical Society letterhead giving a short depiction of life in Wenonah in 2003.

I hope to see all of you at the September 12th meeting. I will have a table offering our new Mugs, Buttons, Wenonah Realty brochures and our Princess Wenonah garden size flags for future fundraisers.

WHS OFFICERS 2003

President: *Rocco Doto*
Vice Pres. *Jack Sheppard Sr.*
Secretary *Eileen Caraker*
Treasurer *Carol Wiltsee*
Corr. Sec. *Betty MacLeod*
Trustee *Vicki McCall*
Trustee

**Meetings second Friday of the
month at the Wenonah
Community Center except
June, July and August**

FROM VICKI MCCALL

Eileen Caraker and I just installed the new display in the school display case. It is "A LOOK AT SCOUTING". This display will be at the school for the months of September and October and then we will need a new theme.

Members are encouraged to pass along any ideas you might have.

We have not yet received the new, smaller size garden flags. I called this morning and am waiting for a call back. For the sake of our President I hope they will be here in time for the September 12th meeting.

The meeting on September 12th will start earlier than usual, at 6:30 p.m. to take advantage of the natural light. There is not enough artificial light on the porch. As for the meeting itself, I will supply wine, iced tea, coffee, and paper products. Should any member wish to bring anything else such as cookies, snacks, etc. they will be welcome to do so.

Guest speakers for the October meeting will be the South Jersey Ghost Research organization. Following the meeting Ghost Research personnel need to get into the community center where they will stay doing research until; about midnight. We need someone to go with them to open up and stay with them and then lock up when they leave. Any volunteers???

Lou McCall did it last time but he will be at a fireman's convention and not available.

WHS MEMBERS INVITED
TO LEARN ABOUT THE
PROPOSED WENONAH
SCHOOL ADDITION

Woman's Club of Wenonah President Jennie McQuaide informs us that on Monday, September 8 the Woman's Club will host a program presented by Christine Smith, Chief School Administrator and school board member Cheryl Morris.

Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Morris will explain details of the proposed additions and renovations to the Wenonah Elementary School. A three dimensional model will be available for inspection. The impact on property taxes will be discussed. This program will provide an opportunity for borough residents to ask questions and to learn the rationale behind the proposed changes so that they can vote wisely on this issue on Tuesday, September 30.

The Woman's Club meets in the Fellowship Hall at the Wenonah United Methodist Church at Willow and Clinton Streets. The business meeting begins at 7:30 PM followed by the program at 8:30 PM. All members of the

community are welcome to attend both the business meeting and the special program that is being presented as a service to residents. Those who prefer to attend only the informational meeting should arrive at 8:30.

For further details, contact President, Jennie McQuaide, at 468 – 3001

COMMUNITY CENTER

Now that the new Borough Hall all but complete the time is rapidly approaching when the clerk's offices will be moved to the new building.

Our hope of course is that the vacated rooms on the second floor will be turned over to the Historical Society for artifact storage and use as a museum.

As we have discussed many times in the past we will then be able to solicit and accept items related to Wenonah history that are currently stored in members attics, basements, and the Wenonah Public Library.

Obviously we are looking forward to this benefit and will have more information for the members as the transition takes place.

OLD WENONAH 1896

Last Thursday morning the trolley poles from a short distance south of Stille Chew's residence (on route 45 where CVS is now) to the Mantua Creek, a distance of about 3,000 feet, were discovered to have been despoiled of feed wire sometime during the previous night. Investigation showed the wire was removed with considerable skill.

The season at the Inn is at its height and the enterprising management keep fully abreast of the social pleasures. Last Friday evening the guests gave a testimonial entertainment to the Inn's excellent orchestra, the audience filling the entertainment room of the Inn. The program was as follows: 1. Overture-Bonnie Scotland Orchestra; 2. Selection-Mrs. George Weale; 3. Cornet Solo-Mr. Edward Belding; 4. D-metrius- Mrs. Nellie Keenan; 5. Character Impersonations-Mrs. C.A. Wahlstrom; 6. The Forge in the Forest-Night-Storm-Thunder and Lightning-Dawn-Song of the Birds-Daybreak-Birds singing near the running brook-Sounds of Domestic Fowls-

The Clock Strikes Five- The Smith at Work.

The stables of John Verrick were destroyed by fire Monday afternoon entailing a heavy loss. The flames were not discovered until it was impossible to save the building and the contents were consumed with the exception of a few articles. One horse was taken from the burning structure after some difficulty. The origin of the fire is a mystery.

Job Scott is improving his meadow by the use of a mud digger and at the same time making the creek more navigable by deepening the channel.

On Thursday of last week more people traveled on the trolley than on any one day since it has been in operation. (Mantua)

The trolley ride participated in by a jolly party from our village to Willow Grove Park was one worth repeating. (with the exception of the ferry ride across the Delaware, the whole trip was by trolley-they could have gone as far as Easton, Pa.)

The closing event of the ballroom series at the Inn was held on Wednesday

evening last. Mr. and Mrs. Wahlstrom led the grand march. A number of Philadelphia guests participated and a most delightful evening was spent. Mr. and Mrs. W.J. McCahan, who spent the summer at the Inn will move today into their handsome residence in West Philadelphia. (He was married to Frank Shull's daughter-NW corner Clinton and Mantua Avenue-he was founder and CEO of Quaker City Sugar Company and later was one of the founders of what was to be the American Stores)

Rev. H.J. Zelle, president of the New Jersey Conference Epworth League and pastor of the ME Church of this place was joined in marriage at noon on Wednesday to Miss Claire Dobbins of Camden at the home of her father, W.H. Dobbins.

Miss Mary Linard recently fell from a chair on which she was standing and fractured her hip.

Tuesday evening this borough was greatly enlivened by its first musical of the season given at the home of Mrs. George B. Finch. The "talent" consisted of Miss Sharp and Miss Grist of Philadelphia, Mrs. Turner

and daughter Mrs. Mehorter, and Mrs. Finch of Wenonah. Mrs. Johnson, the "wit" of the occasion created much merriment by her dry but funny sayings. Mr. Finch and Mrs. Mehorter, the "thorns" among so many "roses" enjoyed the distinction immensely, as did the ladies.

At ten, the guests retired to the dining room where dainty refreshments were served, the table decorations being a profusion of choice asters.

Joseph Noblitt and family returned on Wednesday from Ocean City where they are spending the summer. (He was a Civil War veteran and a friend of the Lake brothers, founders of Ocean City) Several Heptasophs from here attended the picnic at Washington Park last Tuesday.

The Berkley (now called Mount Royal) Baptist Sunday School picnicked here last Wednesday.

Surely Wenonah is a fine resort for all kinds of outings.

Charles M. Wilkins and family are in the Catskill Mountains for a while.

August and September 1896
Gloucester County Democrat
Gloucester County Constitution



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Here

Wenonah Historical Society
PO Box 32
Wenonah, New Jersey 08090

WENONAH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2003

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
