

# Wenonah Historical Society Newsletter

Next Meeting at 6:00 P.M.

Friday, January 9, 2015  
Volume 13, Issue 1, January 2015

## Gloucester County Place Names

**G**loucester County is home to 24 municipalities. The place names within these boroughs and townships have changed over time. Some evolved from the names of early residents and businesses. Below is an abbreviated list of the former names of existing places in our county:

**Aura:** Unionville, Union Crossroads

**Almonesson:** Jenningsville, Lambtown

**Barnsboro:** Lousetown, Lodgetown, Mt. Zion

**Clayton:** Fislerville, Fislertown

**Deptford Township places:** Mann Town, Westcottville, Baskettown, Cattell Town, Lavender Hill, Salina, Bee's Corner, Beetown, Electric Heights, Bethlehem

**Bridgeport:** Raccoon Lower Bridge, New Stockholm, Brammell Point

**Elk Township places:** Fairview, Black Horse, Pickletown

**Franklin Township places:** Plainville, Trimmell Town, Hopeville, Lake

**Franklinville:** Little Ease

**Glassboro:** Hestonville, Glasstown, Temperanceville

**Greenwich Township places:** Clonmell

**Harrisonville:** Colestown

**Jefferson:** Allenboro, Cox's Hill, Lawrenceville, Richard's Hill

**Logan Township places:** Nortonville, Prospect

**Mantua:** Carpenter's Landing, Smith's Landing, Easley's Landing

**Mantua Township places:** Marlboro (railroad stop north of Pitman), West's Landing

**Mickleton:** Solomon's, Upper Greenwich, Wolfert (below Mickleton)

**Monroe Township places:** White Hall, New Brooklyn, Downer, Whitneyville, Robanna, Coles Mill, Berryland

**Mt. Royal:** Berkley, Sandtown

**Mullica Hill:** Spicerville, Blue Bell

**Paulsboro:** Crown Point

**Repaupo:** Asbury

**Richwood:** Helltown, Five Points, Mount Pleasant, Campbell's Corner, White Horse

**Sewell (in Mantua Township):** Chewville

**South Harrison Township places:** Cedar Grove, Clearview

**Swedesboro:** Laddstown, Raccoon Creek, Wrangletown

**Washington Township places:** Green Tree, Bethel, Creesville, Mt. Pleasant, Dilksboro, Bagtown (Turnersville), Kinzeytown, Fairview, Chestnut Ridge, Chapel Heights

**West Deptford places:** Wilkinsville, Jobsville, Jobstown, Thoroughfare, Mantua Grove, Paradise, Leonard's, Fancy Hill, Ogden Heights, Red Bank, Parkville, Teatown, Ogden's Station

**Williamstown:** Squankum, Free Will

**Woolwich Township places:** Madison, Cootown, Small Gloucester, Cloverdale, Battentown

From *Gloucester County Place Names* researched by William R. Farr and compiled by Milton H. Webb, 1995.



*Postcard of the Wenonah Presbyterian Church, circa 1910  
Courtesy of Gloucester County Historical Society*

## 2014 WHS OFFICERS

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

**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*

The Sheppard family, the Borough of Wenonah and the Wenonah Historical Society have suffered a tremendous loss with the passing of Jack C. Sheppard, Sr. He was, to say the least, an integral part of our organization. At times he seemed to be single-handedly carrying the torch of the WHS, especially in the care and management of our museum. In an email to me in early December, he wrote to inform me that he had turned the keys and the leadership of the museum over to Larry Smith. He also expressed great happiness as to the current status of the WHS. Jack felt that we were in a good place and heading in the right direction in the fulfillment of our Mission Statement. He shall be greatly missed.

To that end we move forward into 2015 with our January presentation which will **NOT** be held at the Train Station/Community Center. It will take place at the Memorial Presbyterian Church this Friday at 7:30. There will be no business meeting as we are not in our normal venue. Please enter through the Sanctuary entrance at the corner of E. Mantua and S. Princeton Avenues. Nora Taylor, Church Historian, will discuss the history and architecture of the building. Nora prepared the nomination for the Memorial Presbyterian Church to be placed on the National Register of Historic Places. She was successful in that effort.

Please try to attend this presentation as we share community and history during this difficult time.

Gloucester County Historical Society Presents

***Philadelphia Quakers***

***and***

***the Anti-Slavery Movement***

Thursday, February 12 @ 7:00pm

GCHS Library, 17 Hunter St., Woodbury

Free Admissions—Light Refreshments

Call (856) 845-4771 for reservations.

## WENONAH

January 1915

The stork recently left a baby girl at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Chalkley Lyons, former residents of our borough.

Mr. Stephen Warren, who has been suffering with the quinsy, has had a relapse and is now seriously ill with double quinsy.

George Rosser, the congenial driver for Strawbridge & Clothier, has been transferred to Glassboro since an automobile route has been established here. His customers surely miss his pleasant smile and courteous attention.

The bulletin board is laid up for repairs as the result of being run into by an automobile during our recent storm.

Miss Della McKeen has accepted a position as school teacher in the Jefferson school. She will take charge of her duties on Monday, February 1st.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Comey are spending some time in Chicago.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry C. Viereck took dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Ballinger, formerly of our borough at Overbrook, on Friday evening.

We hear that Mr. Alex Middleton of California, a former resident of our borough, has taken unto himself a wife.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Felsberg are now housekeeping in Mantua.

Mrs. Josephine Miller, with her daughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Springer expect to leave Africa about February 1st, where they have been doing missionary work, and hope to be in Wenonah about April 1st.

Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Ogden, nee Hattie Savage, have moved from here to Gloucester.

Rev. R.H. Gage is on the Grand Jury from our borough for this term and Messrs. William Dietz and George Baylies are the Petit Jurors.

The Misses Will and Mortie Stokes are entertaining Captain and Mrs. Ellsworth of Long Island.

Master Walter Poff, Jr. entertained the Sunday School class of which he is a member on Wednesday evening at his house on Willow Street.

Among those who graduated from Peirce Business College on Thursday evening at the Academy of Music was Miss Helen Leap of our borough.

The Board of Health met at the home of William C. Cattell on Friday evening and elected the following officers for the ensuing year: President, William C. Cattell; vice president, George L. Dilks; secretary, Rusling Bartlett; medical inspector, Dr. H.G. Stout; health inspector, L.J. Chew.

Mayor Cline recommended the following salaries: Borough Clerk, \$100 per year; Borough Solicitor, \$25 per year; Borough Marshall, \$50 per month; Superintendent of Water Works, \$200 per year; Engineer of Water Works, \$65 per month; Overseer of Poor, \$10 per year. Mr. Reyno moved that the Engineer's salary at the water works be fixed at \$65 per month and that an additional voucher for \$15 be drawn each month for extra help at the plant. On motion, the regular monthly meeting night of Council was fixed as the first Thursday evening of each month at eight o'clock in the office of the Wenonah Realty Company.

# Wenonah Historical Society Newsletter

Next Meeting at 7:30 P.M.

Friday, February 13, 2015

Volume 13, Issue 2, February 2015

## Recollections of

### Wenonah Real Estate Company

by Edward Grosscup as told to Milton Webb,  
1991

You have asked when did the Wenonah Real Estate Company first start and when did it cease to exist. Edward E. Grosscup, who was the president of the Wenonah Real Estate Company, was a salesman for a Philadelphia lace manufacturer, living in Camden and Philadelphia up until about 1891 when he moved to Wenonah. I believe this was the beginning of the Wenonah Real Estate Company. In 1893, his father, who was not well, asked him to come to Bridgeton and take over the operation of his men's furnishings store until his health improved. His father died in 1898 and his mother in 1900. After his mother's death, Edward E. closed the men's furnishings store and moved back to Wenonah. I believe during the time he was in Bridgeton that his younger brother, Allen H. Grosscup, who was a partner in the real estate business, conducted the business of the Wenonah Real Estate Company.

Starting in about 1906-07, Edward E. became more and more involved in New Jersey politics and the running of the Wenonah Real Estate Company was left up to his son, George, my father. The Wenonah Real Estate Company ceased to exist about 1918. The country was then involved in World War I. Edward E. had been appointed the New Jersey State Purchasing Agent and his son, George, finding little activity in the real estate business during wartime, had accepted a position in Trenton as sales manager of the New Jersey School, Church and Theatre Furniture Company.

It is my belief that Edward E. Grosscup became involved in the Wenonah real estate business through his father, Charles C. Grosscup. Charles was for many years in the 1870s and 1880s the treasurer of the Cumberland County National Bank in Bridgeton. The president of the bank at that time was Horatio Mulford. He was also president of the Mantua Land Company who along with the West Jersey Railroad were primarily responsible for the founding of Wenonah. Charles C. Grosscup's name appears in many of the minutes of the Mantua Land Company meetings. Much of this is supposition. My father died young at age 48 and I never had an opportunity to question him about the history of Wenonah and the Wenonah Real Estate Company's involvement in it.

## Altworld Golf Club

*Gloucester County Democrat, 25 February 1915*

The filing of articles of incorporation of the Altworld Golf Club has aroused the interest of golfers of this section of the world, and much interest is manifest in what is doing. We have ascertained that the officers are John Mayhew, president; Wm. M. Carter, secretary and treasurer; directors, Rob't. H. Comey, Wm. J. Cooper, Wm. M. Carter, John S.R. Cassaday and John Mayhew.

The Club has acquired 160 acres of land on the west side of the railroad between Woodbury Heights and Wenonah, and at this time, Mr. A.H. Finley, the greatest golf expert in America, as stated by Fred Pickering, constructor of the famous Seaview course at Absecon, and both courses at Marion, and Warren Webb, golf instructor at Wanamaker's, are superintending the work of laying out the course.

They assert that the natural advantages of the ground are superior, as the drainage is perfect, and all holes will be dry, no matter what the weather may be. Work has so far progressed that nine of the proposed eighteen holes are now completed.

Membership in the club is limited to 500. Life membership is \$1000; you can become a member for \$50 and yearly dues are \$50.

*Woodbury Daily Times, 13 June 1959*

Farmers and Mechanics National Bank announced the opening of the Wenonah branch on Northwest Avenue. Officers were John W. Plant, executive vice-president; Alfred E. Hill, vice-president; John J. Kitchen, chairman of the executive committee; and James C. Henry, president.

*Woodbury Daily Times, 9 July 1959*

Dedication for the new Wenonah Post Office was scheduled for Saturday, July 11. Congressman William T. Cahill would be among the prominent guests attending. The new facility has 2,800 square feet of interior space, in addition to 400 square feet of platform space and 1500 square feet of parking and maneuvering area. The building is leased to the federal government by Albert Hepner of Cedarville.

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### WENONAH

#### Red Cross

The mass meeting held last evening in the Academy Hall for the purpose of forming a Red Cross Branch of the Gloucester County Chapter, in Wenonah, proved to be very enthusiastic.

The Hon. David O. Watkins presided as temporary chairman and after a preliminary talk on the whys and wherefors, proceeded with the business details. Mr. H. A. Terrell acted as temporary secretary.

The following officers were unanimously elected:

Mr. E. L. Farr, chairman.

Mr. E. C. Geehr, vice chairman.

Mrs. Wm. Newcomb, secretary.

Mr. Chas. Hobson, treasurer.

Mrs. Edw. Sapp, chairman membership committee.

Mr. T. W. Synnott, chairman finance.

Dr. H. A. Stout, chairman instruction.

Mrs. H. A. Potter, chairman hospital supplies.

Membership is now in order. Anyone wishing to join the Wenonah Red Cross Branch will give their name and dues to any of the named officers.

L. A. NEWCOMB, Secretary.

Woodbury Daily Times, 30 June 1917

### *Introduction to the Philadelphia City Archives*

Presented by Jill Rawnsley

Archives & Preservation Consultant

Thursday, April 16, 2015, 7:00 pm

Gloucester County Historical Society Library

Free Admission/Light Refreshments

Please call (856) 845-4771 for reservations.

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Charles Horan

Our meeting agenda this Friday (the 13th !!) will primarily be to address some belated house-keeping business. The terms of our executive officers expired at the end of 2014. The nominating committee will present a slate of officers for the 2015 - 16 term. This slate will be voted upon at our March meeting (also Friday the 13th !!??.) As per normal parliamentary procedure, nominations can be made from the floor in March.

We also need to discuss the revitalization of the "Plaque Committee" as, in addition to Jack Shepard Sr. and Betty Rose, we have lost yet another beloved and active member Frank Eggert. These are devastating losses on many levels. The WHS will require others to step up and fill the void left by these significant losses as we move forward in accomplishing our Mission Statement.

In continuing with our "home grown" programs during the winter months the topic of our presentation will be the map entitled Wenonah 1770 - 1870. You may have seen this map over the past ten years. Bob Thomas recently posted it on our Facebook page. This map depicts the old roads that existed prior to the modern day N-S-E-W grid that we see today.

Also on our website, [wenonahhistoricalsociety.org](http://wenonahhistoricalsociety.org), Bob posted an interactive map of Wenonah homes from the years 1763 - 1899. This technology (facebook & WHS website) is amazing and an integral part of the vitality of our organization going forward.

We will be displaying and discussing the 1770 - 1880 map at our meeting. I invite any and all to share interesting input on these maps as they provide an excellent peek into the history and metamorphosis of our fine borough. I don't think many towns have such a resource available. Also, Larry Smith will update us on the current status of our website which is still a work in progress.

See you this Friday at 7:30.

WENONAH  
A Century Ago

Miss Dorothy Holt and Mr. William Leeds, of Leeds Point, NJ, were quietly married on Tuesday evening at the Methodist parsonage in Atlantic City. The young couple will reside at the home of Mr. Leeds' parents at Leeds Point.

William Thatcher has purchased a new Buick touring car.

Contractor and builder, William Borg and gang, are working at Ocean City, coming home at the weekend.

Edward Brownholts has purchased a Ford roadster.

William C. Cattell attended the meeting of the State Association of County Engineers at Trenton on Tuesday.

A ladies auxiliary of the Wenonah Fire Company was organized at the fire house on Monday afternoon.

Little Meredith Lewis is doing nicely in Dr. Price's Hospital, Philadelphia, after his very serious operation.

Richard Ballinger and brother left for Florida on Tuesday where Mr. Ballinger hopes to regain his health. Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Ballinger of Overbrook are occupying the house while Mr. Ballinger is away.

It has been rumored for some time that Wenonah is to have a national bank. On Tuesday, Edward Grosscup went to Washington to get things settled up.

The stork left a twelve pound boy at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Voght on Friday morning.

The public school has received its Victrola which was secured through the efforts of the school children by giving an entertainment.

Thirty of our Boy Scouts will attend the moving picture show given by the Woodbury Scout Band on Thursday evening of this week.

George Parks has purchased the Harry Tuft bungalow on South Monroe Avenue, now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Phelps. William Parks and family will occupy it.

Our streets are in very bad condition on account of the stormy weather.

The mid-year reception and dance given by the Wenonah Military Academy on Friday evening was a decided success.

The Ladies Aid of the Methodist Church will hold a cake, pie and candy sale on Friday afternoon in the Grosscup building.

Mrs. George McCormick is confined to the house with tonsillitis and her son Laurence with the measles.

George McVaughn has returned home from Miami, Fla., where he has been working for the past two months.

The infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Warren is suffering with the mumps.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Brownholts entertained the Tennis Club of Woodbury at their home on Thursday evening.

On Easter Monday, the Ladies Aid of the Methodist Church will give an Easter supper. Please remember the date.

Mrs. Charles Vickery, a missionary to India, addressed the ladies of the Missionary Society in the Methodist Church on Thursday evening.



# Wenonah Historical Society Newsletter

Next Meeting at 7:30 P.M.

Friday, March 13, 2015  
Volume 13, Issue 3, March 2015

**One** of the early newspapers in Woodbury was the weekly *Gloucester County Democrat*. The paper, initially known as the *Mantua News*, was started in Mantua in August 1878 by William T. Gibbs. In October of that year, the Democratic County Committee prevailed on Mr. Gibbs to move the paper to the county seat in Woodbury and change its name to the *Gloucester County Democrat*. The original equipment consisted of a small job press, two stands, four cases of body type (two each of brevier and burgeois) and about six small fonts of display or job type.

By the following February, Mr. Gibbs, deeply in debt, left Woodbury. His largest creditor, Belmont Perry, Gloucester County Prosecutor, took possession of the paper. By the third issue in March, James Carpenter was proprietor, editor and publisher, a position which he held for the next 36 years..

The original annual subscription price of the paper, a had been fifty cents for a six column folio. The subscription price was raised by the new publisher to \$1.50 for a seven column folio.

The publication office was located in the small hostler's room at the east end of the Newton Hotel stables at the southwest corner of Broad and Delaware Streets. At that time, Mahlon W. Newton, the hotel proprietor, was in the process of building an addition to the hotel on Delaware Street. When the addition was finished in May 1879, the newspaper office was moved to the second floor.

The first newspaper press, known as a Washington hand press, was purchased. Previously the inside pages of the paper had been printed by a short-lived rival newspaper, the *Liberal Press*. Within two years, circulation had increased to 1,000 and a faster press was needed. A used Taylor drum cylinder press was purchased from a consolidating North Jersey newspaper.

After purchasing the new press, the newspaper moved to new quarters in the northeast room of the new Green's Block (the recently renovated building which later housed the old Charming Shoppe), at Broad and Centre Streets. An upright Baxter steam

engine was installed and the paper was enlarged to an eight column folio printed by steam power.

In 1887, the newspaper was again looking to expand. The property of Judge Benjamin F. Carter at present-day 22 South Broad Street was purchased. The house was occupied by a tenant while a two-story frame building was built on the side for the newspaper. With the additional space, another enlargement of the paper to a nine column folio, known as a blanket sheet, was accomplished.

In 1903, the blanket sheet was replaced by a much larger sheet and another new press was necessary. A front delivery, two-revolution Campbell press supplanted the old Taylor drum cylinder and a five horse power Otto gas engine took the place of a much smaller gas engine. A folding machine, the first in use in the county, completed the new equipment. In January 1908, the first type setting machine, a Mergenthaler Linotype No. 5, was installed.

In 1915, a new owner took possession of the *Gloucester County Democrat*. At that time, the paper had few rivals in mechanical equipment among weekly newspapers in the state of New Jersey. Circulation had increased to 2,500.

Within the next decade, there would be many other weekly newspapers being published in Gloucester County including the *Woodbury Constitution*, *Pitman Grove Review*, *Paulsboro Record*, *Swedesboro News* and *Glassboro Enterprise*. While the *Woodbury Daily Times* (later the *Daily Times*, *Gloucester County Times* and today the *South Jersey Times*) began in 1897, it was a different news format from the local weekly papers. The *Times* prioritized national news on the front page with local news on subsequent pages. The weeklies reported mostly local news with "gossip" columns for each community written.

In 1938, the *Gloucester County Democrat* published its last issue. The building still stands today, currently the home of King of Steaks. The newspaper banner can be seen inscribed above the second floor. This newspaper, along with the other papers mentioned above and many more, are available to researchers in the collections of the Gloucester County Historical Society.

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### Gloucester County Historical Society

Annual Meeting

**April 8: Gloucester Militia, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion**

**at the Battles of Trenton & Princeton**

**Presented by Rev. Norman Goos**

**GCHS Library @7pm**

**17 Hunter St., Woodbury**

**Free Admission; light refreshments**

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**April 16: Introduction to  
the Philadelphia City Archives**

**GCHS Library, @7pm**

**17 Hunter St., Woodbury**

**Free admission; light refreshments**

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**April 21: NJ State Archives Research Trip**  
**\$32 members/\$37 non-members**

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**Limited Seating**

**Call (856) 845-4771 for reservations.**

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*by Charles Horan*

We have turned the clocks ahead and today Barbara and I took a walk around town with temperatures in the balmy 50 degree range. All signs are pointing to an end to this weather madness. I think I speak for many when I exclaim "I'VE HAD IT !!!." Last week I submitted a WHS article in the Borough Spring Newsletter. Please take a moment to read it. There are submissions by several other volunteer groups in town. Many are planning warm weather events. During this month's meeting (Friday 7:30) we will hold elections. A slate of candidates was presented at the February meeting.

Our program this month will feature a **Downton Abbey** theme since the season finale aired last Sunday evening. The period drama depicts the lives of the aristocratic Crawley family and their servants in the post-Edwardian era in England. Great events in history have an impact on their lives and the British social hierarchy in general.

The presenters will dress in period attire and talk about life during that era. There will be a Downton Abbey Trivia game as well as related items on display. Hope to see you Friday evening.

### Harrison Township Historical Society

Taking a cue from the old saying, "if these walls could talk," the artifacts included in our new Spring exhibit will get a chance to do just that. Through an on-line audio soundtrack, sixteen objects from the museum's collection will lead visitors through an entertaining exploration of the past.

Saturdays & Sundays, March 14 – May 17, 1-4 pm

Free admission

Old Town Hall Museum.

South Main St. & Woodstown Rd., Mullica Hill, NJ



**"Like" Us on Facebook!**



WENONAH  
A Century Ago

Musician Howard Adams of the Academy takes great pleasure in helping our YMCA boys at all times and his services are much appreciated by the boys.

Miss Ruth Avis, nurse at Dr. Price's Hospital, was home for the weekend.

The stork visited the home of Prof. and Mrs. Charles Harrington last week and left a little son.

Mr. and Mrs. William Thatcher gave a party on Friday evening in honor of their daughter, Mary Elizabeth's sixth birthday. The children were entertained with a magic lantern exhibition and games after which they were invited to the dining room. Mary Elizabeth received many pretty and useful gifts.

A double birthday surprise party was given by their children and grandchildren to Mrs. Susannah Voght, who was 84 years old on Monday and to her sister, Mrs. Mary Hope, who was 85 years old on Tuesday, on Tuesday evening at their home on Mantua Avenue.

Alonzo Beckett has purchased a Ford touring car and Joseph Schernick is building the foundation for the garage.

Mr. and Mrs. Porter are receiving congratulations on the birth of a son.

Mr. Ferrell and family of Camden have moved into the Green property formerly occupied by the Westwoods.

A large number were present at the prayer meeting last Wednesday evening at the Methodist Church as it was a farewell meeting before Rev. H.A. Relyea's departure for Cape May City.

Rev. John Allen, the new pastor of the ME Church,

preached two good sermons on Sunday in large congregations. Opera music was rendered and the Brotherhood attended in a body in the evening.

Little Meredith Lewis has returned from Dr. Price's Hospital entirely recovered from the operation performed after the coasting accident 6 weeks ago.

About fifteen boys and girls attended the Loyal Temperance Legion on Monday afternoon which has been reorganized under the direction of Mrs. Samuel Mehorter.

Jack Roden has been elected by the YMCA baseball team as their manager for the coming season.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Burdsall, nee Rena Ogden, are receiving congratulations on the birth of a son.

The Waldebeum Gun Club has just completed their new club house and will hold their first shoot Saturday, March 13th.

Miss Cecilia Sargent was home from Bryn Mawr College for the weekend.

At the Presbyterian Church next Sunday morning there will be an ordination and installation of elders.

The Academy basketball team won from the "Biddles" of Philadelphia by the score of 56 to 17 on Saturday evening.

Arthur Benson has been home sick from Lehigh University.

Miss Eleanor Stout is home from Bucknell College for the Easter holidays.

Miss Ethel Grosscup is home from the college in Baltimore where she is an instructor for the Easter holidays.

# Wenonah Historical Society Newsletter

Next Meeting at 7:30 P.M.

Friday, April 10, 2015  
Volume 13, Issue 3, April 2015



*Woodbury High School, circa 1916-17 after the second fire  
Courtesy of Gloucester County Historical Society*

As the school year was winding down on Sunday evening, April 25, 1915, boys standing on the corner of Newton Ave. and Broad Street saw flames coming from the southern corner of the five-year old Woodbury High School building. One ran to the firehouse on Delaware Street to sound the alarm. Meanwhile two passers-by began fighting the flames with a stream of water using a line of hose in the school building.

Firemen responded promptly but it was several minutes before steam could be gotten from the steamer. Streams of water were directed to the third story corner of the school. Not much progress was being made due to a sudden change in the wind and it was feared that the entire building would soon be engulfed. Flames were being fed by an easterly wind blowing through the loft under the building's roof. A decision was made to cut through the Assembly Room wall and into the west end of the loft to fight the advancing flames. The fire was contained after assistance was given by Gloucester City firefighters who climbed up a ladder to the front dormer windows and pushed a powerful stream of water from their auto engine into the very heart of the fire.

Meanwhile, school officials, high school students and others went through the building removing school records and furniture. Two fireproof doors on either side of the burning rooms prevented flames from spreading into hallways and stairwells.

The fire damage was confined to the chemistry room and freshman rooms on the third floor. One classroom on the second floor was damaged when the ceiling collapsed allowing wreckage from the floor above to enter the classroom below. The front part of the school sustained heavy water damage.

Early on Monday morning, the Board of Education held a meeting. They appointed a force of men to clean out the water and debris and selected the school principal and secretary to appraise the lost furniture. Insurance on the building was \$75,000 which was sufficient so that the city would not sustain a monetary loss. Boilers were started to blow warm air through the building to aid in drying. A temporary roof was installed over the slate shingles. The expensive electric clock system which ran to all parts of the building was no longer functioning. The ventilation system would need to be renewed and the

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electrical wiring had short circuited. The maple flooring throughout the damaged section would have to be replaced.

There were several theories about the cause of the fire which was believed to have originated in the chemistry room. The warm temperature of the day combined with chemicals in the room exposed to direct sunlight from a skylight could have started the blaze. Other theories included faulty electrical wiring and spontaneous combustion. Arson was mentioned but there was no evidence to support it.

After inspection by the Board of Education, it was decided that school would resume on Wednesday in the undamaged section of the building. Those students who had occupied the damaged freshman classrooms were sent to the existing Centre Street school on the northeast corner of E. Centre and S. Broad Streets. Students were assigned to "split sessions" with the first session meeting 8:30am to 12:30pm and the second session from 1:00pm to 5:00pm.

This fire was the second one that had occurred at the high school. The William Milligan High School, the first high school on the site, was built in 1909 and totally destroyed by fire on December 19, 1910. Previous to 1909, high school students attended classes at the Centre Street school and graduating classes were very small.

Over the next fifty years, high school graduation became more commonplace. The well-regarded Woodbury High School consisted of a large student body from the communities of Woodbury, Woodbury Heights, Wenonah, National Park, Westville West Deptford and Deptford. In the mid-1960s, Gateway Regional, Deptford and West Deptford High Schools were built and Woodbury High became a hometown school.

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*by Charles Horan*

Although Spring has sprung the nice weather is reluctant and behaving in a pessimistic fashion. I, on the other hand, am being optimistic. So much so that I've dragged the patio furniture from the basement to our soon to be temperate back yard.

Our new slate of WHS officers is listed in this newsletter. Many thanks to Scott Barnes for coming on board as a WHS Trustee. Thanks also to Betty MacLeod for her many years serving in the Trustee position. Recognition is also in order for all executive officers who take time from their busy schedules to serve our fine organization. I would be remiss if I didn't also give kudos to Larry Smith who heads up the WHS Museum as well as (along with Bob Thomas) our Facebook and website. Thanks to all.

Vice President (and Wenonah Councilman) Paul Lader will not only conduct the business meeting this Friday, April 10th, but give the presentation as well!! Most of us know he is a dedicated Civil War historian and re-enactor. The title of his program is:

***The Civil War: Oddities, the Strange,  
the Unusual and the Useless.***

NOTE: The April meeting will be the last business meeting and presentation of the 2014-15 season. In May we will have our annual WHS Picnic.



**"Like" Us  
on Facebook!**



## WENONAH

### A Century Ago

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Schoch of Wilmington, Delaware, formerly of our Borough, are receiving congratulations on the birth of a daughter.

Miss Elinor Stout has left the Bucknell College and will enter Swarthmore.

The Pitman Glee Club delighted the audience at the YMCA Hall on Saturday evening with their singing, which was interspersed with moving pictures.

Harry B. Darlington and family have moved from Mantua to the house on So. Lincoln Ave. formerly occupied by Mr. Albert Porter.

The Boy Scouts will give their annual entertainment. Don't forget the date and help the boys out.

The community chorus will render Dudley Buck's "Story of the Cross" in the Presbyterian Church this evening.

The Camp Fire Girls are preparing for "the Old Maids Convention" which they will give soon.

Mr. and Mrs. William Leeds of Leeds Point spent the week end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Holt.

Don't forget the Easter supper to be given by the Ladies Aid of the ME Church on Monday, April 5th from 5 to 8 in the recreation room of the church. Tickets 25 cents.

Earl E. Edliher, a sophomore in the Wharton School, and George N. Miller, Class of 1917 Medical, both students of the U of P, spoke in the YMCA Hall on Sunday afternoon and at the community service in the ME Church in the evening.

Mr. Ellison Coles quietly celebrated his 82nd birthday Friday at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Harris Coles, who together with his other children and grandchildren, gave a dinner in honor of the event.

The Communion service in the Presbyterian Church on Sunday morning was largely attended. Fourteen new members were received, which is the largest number that has ever been received at any one service.

The stork left a daughter at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Ogden (nee Stella Prickett) at Pitman last week. Mr. and Mrs. Ogden are both former residents of our borough.

Mrs. Josephene Miller has returned from her year's delightful and wonderful trip to the Congo States, Africa, where she had been visiting her daughter and husband, Rev. and Mrs. Springer, who are missionaries there.

Mr. Abram McVaugh and family have moved from Willow Street to Mantua Ave. with Mr. Wm. Fleming.

Mr. Ogden has moved into his newly furnished home on N. Jefferson Avenue.

Mrs. George O. Swartz is entertaining Miss Florence Leech of Montana who is working as Field Organizer for the New Jersey Woman Suffrage Association. Miss Leech is a voter in the Equal Suffrage state of Montana and is spending this week in Gloucester County where she will speak in various towns.

The Wenonah Military Academy nine lost the first game of the season on Wednesday when the Penn Freshmen won out in a close game by the score of 3 to 2.

It is rumored that a Dr. Shaffer has moved into Mr. Howard Urian's new house on the Glassboro Road and will open an office.

Mr. Oliver T. Justice and family of Woodbury have moved into Mr. Harry Paris' house.

# Wenonah Historical Society Newsletter

Next Meeting at 6:00 P.M.

Friday, May 8, 2015  
Volume 13, Issue 4, May 2015

## Notes on Admiral Mark Lambert Bristol

Reprinted with permission from the *Bulletin of the Gloucester County Historical Society*



Admiral Mark Lambert Bristol

*Mark* Lambert Bristol, son of Mark L. and Rachel Elizabeth Bristol, was born on April 17, 1868 in Glassboro, NJ. He was one of four children: brothers Charles and John (John died at age three) and a sister, Julia Ann. The family was buried in the Glassboro Methodist Episcopal Cemetery. Bristol was educated in both private and public schools. On May 19, 1883, at age 15, he received an appointment to the US Naval Academy at Annapolis, MD from Hon. T.M. Ferrell. He graduated from the Academy in the class of 1887 and began a long and distinguished naval career.

He served on the battleship Texas where he saw action during the Spanish American War at Guantanamo Bay and Santiago, Cuba. Following the war, he served as aide to the Commander-in-Chief of the North Atlantic Fleet from 1901 to 1903. He commanded the Naval Torpedo Station in Newport, RI, from 1908 until 1911, where he was considered a top ordnance specialist. He later commanded vessels in the Navy's Asiatic fleet. After his promotion to the rank of Captain, Bristol, as Director of Naval Aeronautics, established the Aviation Station in Pensacola, FL, where he attempted to integrate the field of aviation into the battleship. He was also responsible for the installation of a catapult to launch airplanes from the deck of the USS North Carolina.

In 1917, Bristol attended the Naval War College. He was credited for developing most of the modern gunnery used during World War I. At the beginning of World War I, he again was in charge of the USS North Carolina followed by command of the battleship Oklahoma, based in Ireland. At that time, he was promoted to Rear Admiral. Shortly before the Armistice in November 1918, he began his command of the US Naval base at Plymouth, England. Following the war, he took charge of a small naval detachment in the eastern Mediterranean area, particularly Turkey. The purpose of the detachment was to protect American interests in the area. He was a trusted ally of the Turks and eventually was appointed US High Commissioner to Turkey, a post in which he served for eight years. He helped to found the American Hospital in Istanbul and a nursing school, "Admiral Bristol Nursing School."

In 1927, Bristol received his final promotion to the rank of Admiral. He was placed in charge of the Asiatic Fleet. His final assignment was as Chairman of the Executive Committee of the General Board in Washington, DC from 1930 until 1932. At the time of his retirement, he had served 49 years in the US Navy. His decorations included the Spanish campaign medal, distinguished service metal and the Order of St. Stanislaus, a decoration bestowed by the former Russian government.

He married Helen Beverly Moore, an Alabama debutante, later in life at about age 40. In 1930, their residence was 1631 Massachusetts Avenue in Washington, DC.

Mark Lambert Bristol died May 13, 1939. He was buried in Arlington National Cemetery. He was survived by his wife, who died and was laid to rest with him, on December 15, 1945. His namesake ship, the USS Bristol, was commissioned on March 17, 1945, saw duty during World War II and was decommissioned August 23, 1969.

## WHS OFFICERS

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

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

### Holdings of the Gloucester County Historical Society Library

Interested in genealogy or history for the South Jersey and Philadelphia areas? The GCHS library is the official repository of the original Gloucester County Document Collection which includes the early court records, property records and many other documents. In addition, the following collections are available to researchers:

*US and New Jersey State Census*

*Cemetery and Undertaker Records*

*Maps and Surveys*

*Photographs of People, Places and Events*

*Family Files and Genealogies*

*Vital Statistics*

*Wills*

*Colonial and Gloucester County Deeds*

*Local Daily & Weekly Newspapers*

*Town and County Histories*

The Library is open Tuesday evenings, 6-9:30pm; Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 10am-4pm; last Sunday of each month, 2-5pm; and the first Saturday of each month (Oct. thru May only), 10am-4pm. The Library staff will be glad to orient new patrons and recommend library resources. Annual memberships are available. The daily fee for non-members is \$5.00. For additional information, please call (856) 845-4771.



## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*by Charles Horan*

As our 2014 - 2015 season draws to a close, I want to thank Barbara Price for single-handedly producing this insightful newsletter each month. Her generosity allowed past editor Larry Smith to take on, along with Bob Thomas, the task of creating and maintaining the WHS Facebook page and web site. These, along with our monthly presentations, are both big factors in the great success the WHS has enjoyed this past year.

We will celebrate this success at our annual WHS Picnic to be held this coming Friday at **6:00 PM** (note time) at our beautiful Train Station / Community Center. Many thanks to those members who will be bringing appetizers, side dishes and desserts. Also, kudos to those who provided light refreshments at our monthly meetings throughout the season. We will have hoagie trays and salads from our recently expanded neighbors, Hawk's Corner Deli.

Finally, I thank the WHS executive officers for their service and dedication. Vice President: Paul Lader, Secretary: Vicki McCall, Treasurer: Carol Witsee, Trustees: Lou McCall and Scott Barnes

Looking forward to seeing everyone this Friday evening at 6.

*Charlie Horan, President WHS*



Visit our website to view a portion of our photograph and document collection!

<http://www.wenonahhistoricalsociety.org/>



**"Like" Us  
on Facebook!**



WENONAH  
A Century Ago

Mr. William Cattell has purchased a 1915 Ford touring car.

State Treasurer Edward Grosscup and wife are sight seeing in California.

Saturday, May 8th, has been proclaimed by the Mayor, C. Fowler Cline, as "Wenonah's Annual Clean-Up Day."

Charles Keebler has opened a drug store at Atlantic City.

Rev. William Fisher and wife of Ocean City spent the weekend at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Walter Wright. He occupied the Methodist pulpit on Sunday evening when he delivered a stirring temperance sermon.

The Wenonah YMCA team accompanied by a big delegation of local rooters, paid a visit to Sewell on Saturday afternoon to participate in the formal opening of the series of games for the championship of the Gloucester YMCA. Score 6 to 1 in favor of Wenonah.

The Bordentown Military Institute baseball team was defeated by Wenonah Military Academy by the score of 9 to 1 Saturday.

Mr. Louis Van Meter, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Van Meter, graduated recently from the Episcopal Academy in Philadelphia with the highest honors that can be conferred on one of its students. At the commencement he delivered a beautiful oration worthy of the highest commendation.

Mrs. William Spurger, a returned missionary from Africa, who has been staying at the home of Mrs. Anna Schock, has gone to Dakota where she will spend the summer.

New residents of the borough this week are Mr. and

Mrs. A.H. Doak and Mr. and Mrs. H. Weiserth formerly of West Philadelphia. Each week brings new residents from the city who are anxious to locate in our beautiful borough.

Mrs. Bernice Bernard was one of the youngest participants in the Women's Rights parade in Philadelphia Saturday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Austin Little have returned from their honeymoon through the New England states and are residing with Mrs. Little's mother, Mrs. Kipper.

Mr. and Mrs. George Frederick and children have taken a bungalow at Seaside Park for the summer.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Hatch (nee Bertha Leddam) are receiving congratulations on the birth of a daughter on Friday.

Alarm bells have been installed by the railroad at Willow St. grade crossing.

Prof. Peter Bender and mother moved from here to Germantown on Wednesday.

Mr. Herman Batty recently purchased a farm near Sewell Station and moved there on Monday.

Mr. Dallas Cann and family have moved from Philadelphia to their summer home on S. Jefferson Ave.

Quite a little excitement was caused by the ringing of the fire bell on Friday evening. The apparatus was soon gotten out only to find that some person rang the bell for a prank. The only persons seen around the bell were three women whose identity is not known. The fine for sending in a false alarm is \$50.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Farr entertained the Wenonah Community Chorus at their home on Thursday evening. A very pleasant evening was spent in musical selections.

# Wenonah Historical Society Newsletter

Next Meeting at 6:00 P.M.

Friday, September 18, 2015  
Volume 13, Issue 5, September 2015

## Wenonah Happenings

### Wenonah Post Office

On September 8, 1913, a lease for post office quarters in Wenonah was made between Robert H. Comey and Theresa P. Comey, his wife, of Wenonah and Albert S. Burlison, Postmaster General of the United States.

The room to be used as a post office was 12'8"x15'10" on the first floor of the three-story wooden building known as the Comey building at the northeast corner of Mantua and West Jersey Avenues. Mr. Comey agreed to supply the following: "complete equipment of boxes, fixtures, and furniture (including city and rural delivery furniture when necessary), together with satisfactory heat and light, heating and lighting fixtures, the requisite water closets, urinals, water, a fire-proof safe with burglar-proof chest, parcel post and postal savings bank equipment, etc." [The Postal Savings System was established in 1910 to encourage people to deposit their money safely and earn 2% interest. Accounts could be opened with as little as \$1 and the maximum balance allowed was \$500. The system was in place until 1967.] The owner also was responsible for taxes, assessments, utilities and providing building security in the form of iron bars and locks. The term of the lease was five years and would run from September 1, 1913 until September 1, 1918 at a cost of \$175 annually payable quarterly.

This document was recorded on December 30, 1913 in Volume 4 of the Book of Miscellaneous Records in the office of the Gloucester County Clerk and may be found today in the Gloucester County Historical Society Library.

### Woodbury High School—September 1915

In the weekly edition of the *Gloucester County Democrat* newspaper, a column entitled "Woodbury H.S. Notes" was published with the latest news about the academic, sports and social life of the school. As Wenonah students (among others from different sending districts) arrived back at the high school after summer vacation, these were the changes they encountered:

The Peirce Bookkeeping Manual will be used in the Senior bookkeeping class this year. Students successfully completing this work will be given credit for the same at Peirce's.

Brazil, formerly of Wenonah Military Academy, will assist Head Coach Conklin with the football squad. If the fellows turn out, WHS should have one of the best teams in her history.

In a number of nearby high schools, the girls have formed hockey teams. How is it that WHS does not have a hockey team? The matter was presented to the Girls' A.A. last year and they decided to begin this fall but as yet we have heard nothing about the hockey squad.

George Eldridge Jr., '15, will enter the Towne Scientific School at the University of Penna.

The builders are rushing the work on the new chemical laboratory and hope to have it ready by the first of October. The room is to be fire proof and is in the basement.

Manager Page announced to the Varsity basketball players that he would not be able to rent the armory this season. This looks like no basketball at High but as yet the fellows have not given up all hope.

## WHS OFFICERS

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(except June, July and August)  
at the Train Station Community Center

## MUSEUM UPDATE

by Larry Smith

One mission of the Wenonah Historical Society is to make all information and acquisitions of the society available to the public. We are doing this through our website at [www.wenonahhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.wenonahhistoricalsociety.org) and our Facebook group site at [https://www.facebook.com/groups/708673412545429/758851540860949/?notif\\_t=like](https://www.facebook.com/groups/708673412545429/758851540860949/?notif_t=like).

We've had more than 3,000 visits to the website and visits from every state except North Dakota! As one would expect, New Jersey leads the way, followed by New York, Pennsylvania, California and Texas. The most popular stops on the site have been the photo galleries, newsletters and Bob Thomas' interactive map of Wenonah's historic structures, which allows one to watch Wenonah grow from 1763 to 1921.

Recent additions to the website include Independence Day memorabilia and newsletters. The museum's collection of July 4 programs and related newspaper articles from 1872 to 1907 are posted. Much more will be added, as there are three large binders of programs and a file folder of articles that remain to be scanned. All of the archived Wenonah Historical Society's newsletters from November 2000 to May 2015 have now been posted. A compilation of the newsletters in a single pdf file allows easy searches of any topic of interest.

Our Facebook group site serves as a staging point for much of the material from the museum, before it is posted on the website. It also allows group members to share their photos and memories of Wenonah. The group now has 391 members! If you are not a member, I encourage you to join the group and to invite your friends, who have an interest in Wenonah history, to join as well.

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Charles Horan

### *Wenonah Historical Society* *September 2015 Meet and Greet*

Our Meet and Greet is scheduled for Friday September 18th starting at 6 PM. We will be gathering at the home of members Jenn and Tony Pizi located at 500 E Mantua Avenue.

I ask that attendees bring appetizers and desserts based on the first letter of your last name.

*A-M Appetizers*

*N-Z Desserts*

*Beverages will be provided.*

This get-together is an excellent opportunity for our members to "kick-off" the 2015-2016 WHS season.

It was May 8th when we last were together for our picnic. I look forward to seeing everyone and a great new season.

Many thanks (again) to Larry Smith for his postings of historic July 4th programs as a prelude to the Wenonah 2015 July 4th celebration. His efforts were thwarted somewhat by the macro-burst storm of June 23rd that so drastically affected Wenonah Borough. It did not, however, stop this town from rallying and celebrating this time-honored tradition.

## *Gloucester County Historical Society*

### Upcoming Events

**Museum Exhibit:** Gloucester Abbey: Downton Style Fashions inspired by the popular PBS Series, *Downton Abbey*; free to members/\$5 for non-members; Monday, Wednesday, Friday—1-4pm, Last Sunday of Each Month—2-5pm; Call (856) 848-8531 to arrange for a group tour; runs through January 6, 2016.

**New Jersey State Archives Bus Trip:** Wednesday, October 14, 2015; bus leaves GCHS 7:15am, returns 4:00pm; \$32 members/\$37 non-members. Call 856-845-4771 for reservations.

WENONAH  
A Century Ago

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Comey entertained the office force of Comey & Co. at their Ocean City cottage for the weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Farr and family have returned from their annual vacation at Cape May.

Mr. and Mrs. George Fredericks have returned from a delightful summer at Seaside Park.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Squires and children have returned home from a month's stay at Ocean City.

Miss Helen Mehorter, daughter of Mrs. Samuel Mehorter, became the bride of Mr. E. Stuart Warde of Philadelphia on Saturday afternoon at three o'clock by the Rev. John F. Allen of the Methodist Church. There were no attendants and only the immediate families of the young couple were present. After the ceremony the bride and groom left for a trip through the New England States.

Mr. James Baylies is erecting another house on South Monroe Avenue.

Miss Mortie Stokes has returned from a delightful month's cruise around Long Island.

The Chase family have returned home from Cape May where they have been spending the summer.

The stork left a baby boy at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Somers at Mullica Hill on Thursday. Mrs. Somers will be remembered as Miss Bertha Steward formerly of our borough.

A carnival for the benefit of the North American Polly Evans fund will be held on Mrs. Thomas Ritson's lawn Friday from 4 to 9pm.

The Gloucester County Firemen's Association held their annual meeting at the Wenonah fire house on Thursday evening. There was a splendid attendance and after the meeting a grand collation was served

which was greatly enjoyed by the visiting firemen.

The Wenonah Military Academy opened on Tuesday. The enrollment far exceeds that of any previous year.

Raymond Gage, son of Rev. R.H. Gage, left on Monday for New Haven, Conn. Where he goes to Yale University.

James Avis Jr. is now a student in the law office of his uncle, John Boyd Avis, at Woodbury.

Frank S. Peddle returned home Saturday after camping for the summer in Maine.

The report is that there are two cases of typhoid fever in our borough.

Miss Ethel Martin will assist George Grosscup in the Wenonah real estate office.

Miss Eve English is substituting in the library while Mrs. Mortie Stokes is away on a vacation.

Arthur Holeton's visit home was shortened by three weeks as he was recalled to fill an appointment in the hospital at San Bernardino, California. He has been a student in the medical school at Lama Linda for two years.

Mrs. John Holeton gave a dinner to some of her friends last week which was unique and greatly enjoyed by her guests in that it was strictly vegetable and was so satisfying and skillfully prepared.

Managers Roden and Mills of the Wenonah and Sewell teams have agreed on a series of games. The first game will be played this Saturday at the Academy field.

The crack Perkiomen team, which has appeared here twice this season, will be the attraction for Labor Day.



# 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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!

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(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 17<sup>th</sup> 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.