

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.

WHS OFFICERS

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

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

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, 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.

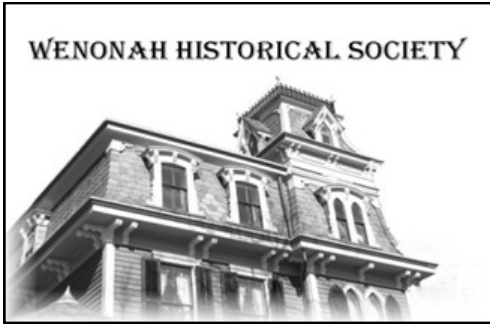
George McVaughn has returned home from Miami, Fla., where he has been working for the past two months.

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.



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PO Box 32
Wenonah, New Jersey 08090

WENONAH HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2014

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