

# Wenonah Historical Society

PO Box 32  
Wenonah, New Jersey 08090-0032

# Newsletter

Volume 1 Issue 5 May 2003

## A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT ROCCO DOTO

Dear Members,

It's hard to believe that the May meeting will be the last formal meeting before our June Picnic and our summer break. After this past winter, I am sure that you are all looking forward to summer. Please continue to talk to others in town not yet members of our great Historic organization. This is the one organization that everyone has a stake in. Talking about a stake in our town, I am sure that you have all been noticing the deplorable condition of our historic Train Depot. If you talk to a member of council, please express your concerns to them.

This month's program should be very interesting for everyone. The program is on Photo preservation and album making, stressing the importance of and the requirements for safe and proper storage of precious family photographs.

Marni Cunard will be the presenter and she is a teacher, preservation specialist, consultant for Creative Memories and the founder of the Family Photo Preservation Society of Southern NJ.

The new elementary school display for May and June will be related to past Wenonah

Fourth of July. If you have anything that you might want to add you can contact me or Eileen Caraker.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the May 9th, meeting.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Mayor Tom Capaldi who took office in January is the 18<sup>th</sup> mayor of Wenonah. He replaced Mayor Ed. Burger who filled the position for two terms.

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

The first person holding the position of "mayor" was C.M. Wilkins who took office in 1896.

Wenonah was originally incorporated in 1883 with a "Commission" government. The head of the Commission was titled "President" and the first of these was Dr. George W. Bailey, a wonderfully talented individual whose activities in connection with the early days of Wenonah will be detailed in a future newsletter.

The only mayor to die in office was William I. Conway who died December, 1959. Council's choice was to hold a special election to elect a mayor or wait until the next regular election to be held in November. They chose the latter. Thus Wenonah had no mayor the entire year 1960.

## ALERT!! ALERT!! ALERT!!

The photo below shows the base of one of the wrought iron pipe columns that hold up the trackside roof of the railroad station Community Center.



The deterioration is typical of many parts of the building. At the American Legion meeting in May pieces of ceiling materials fell to the floor.

WHS members are again encouraged to contact Borough Council members with a request to get started on repairs before the damage is terminal.



## Wenonah 90 Years Ago – April/May 1907

The star entertainment given by the Jericho Military Guards, here, last evening was a grand success; about one hundred enjoyed the fun. Ice cream and dancing helped make the occasion delightful.

It is reported that Mr. Loomis and Mr. Genter will put up an ice cream plant here.

Mr. Wright, our new operator (telegraph) and ticket agent, thinks Wenonah is just the right place for a slim man to spend the summer.

FOR SALE one rooster and three Bantam hens - Charles Youst

Andrew H. Savage will sell his six weeks old bull to the butcher this week.

Oscar Redrow, who was hit by an electric train in Woodbury Saturday evening, is still confined to his house.

Howard Vandergrift, who lights the gas lamps here was knocked down and rendered unconscious Friday night by a live wire. He was lighting the lamp at the main entrance to the park, when the accident occurred. His left hand was burned nearly to the bone. The current had been turned off and the company offers a reward of \$50 for the identification of the party who turned the switch on.

The Wenonah Military Academy baseball team won their fourth straight victory by defeating the strong Villanova Academy team. The game was close from beginning to end.

The roof is nearly completed on R. H. Comey's mansion.

The cadets of the Wenonah Military Academy. went on a practice march to Blackwood yesterday and to National Park today.

Letter to the Editor, *Woodbury Daily Times*:-

I am glad to see by Tuesday's paper that someone has interest enough in our park to bring its condition to the attention of the councilmen. It seems strange that they had not discovered it themselves. Isn't it a pity that one day in the year (4th of July) should be set aside to make the park so beautiful while the other three hundred and sixty-four days it looks like an abandoned beer garden. Why not take enough money from the 4th of July fund to keep the park in order, if the borough can't afford it. Citizen

Two rooms of the school were closed this morning on account of a case of scarlet fever.

Health Inspector Dawson, of Woodbury, was down this morning and fumigated the school rooms.

Theo. Geisel, of Woodbury, came near being run over at Middleton's crossing (there was a crossing at Cherry Street during this period) by an electric express Monday afternoon. He had just drove his laundry wagon on the track when he noticed the north bound coming a few feet away. With rare presence of mind he backed his horse off just as the train passed by. It was a narrow escape and Mr. Geisel has been quite nervous and unable to sleep since. This is the place that butcher Robinson's team had such a narrow escape.

A young man by the name of Slavin, who said he represented a cigar firm, called at Holeyton's livery here and said he would be around several days. He had his team put up and fed and he got his supper and breakfast but nothing has been heard of his since. Mr. Holeyton would like him to call and settle the bill.

George L. Dilks got lost last night while going through the park. The grass was so high he lost his way

Can anyone tell where Dikerson bought the fish he brought down to the baseball grounds on the end of the pole ? Ben Cloud would like to get one of the same kind.



## Automobile Club News

R.C. Ballinger went to Salem Saturday in his Cadillac.

Mr. Ogden had his car thoroughly cleaned and put in good condition last week

Mr. H. Leap has not received his new four cylinder buckboard as yet.

Mr. E.L. Farr has received his long overdue 1907 model Pierce car. It is a "Red Devil."

Mr. Benson is looking around to see which car he likes the best.

Stephen Greene received 1,000 small perch yesterday which he will stock his beautiful lake here.

Come to the Spinsters Convention and see the old maids transformed into beautiful young maidens before your own eyes at Noblit's Hall May 7. Benefit of the Bethel A.M.E. Church, Woodbury. Admission 25 cents

FOR SALE - Model F Ford Touring Car, with top, in first class condition. Address Box 67, Wenonah, NJ

The fountain has not started yet, and some people are anxious to have it in operation. (There was a public water fountain in town for horses and people donated by the Women's Christian Temperance Union. The big mystery is where it was located.)

The Academy relay team covered themselves with glory Saturday by winning their race against Blight School, Philip Brooks School, Franklin and Marshall Academy, Hamilton Institute, Glen Mill School, Maplewood Academy, Perkiomen Academy and Wilmington Friends School. Winning in the fast time of 3:57. The school received a banner.

The man who was arrested here for threatening Adam Knight was caught while sitting at Mrs. Lashly's table (She ran the drug store at 1 East Mantua Avenue.) The fellow walked in and said he wanted his dinner.

The people of this village in general are glad that Edward Gibson who attacked Miss Dorothy Paris, here last week, landed in State Prison, but some seem to think they could get better satisfaction and feel more satisfied if they could get their hands on him.

Mr. Harry Genter is running a huckster wagon in Wenonah.

May Day. Did you gather flowers?

Rain stopped a ten-inning game between the military academy and Cheltenham H.S. here. The score was 6 to 6.

E.P. Klinger expects to bring his horse home from his father's place in Clayton tonight.

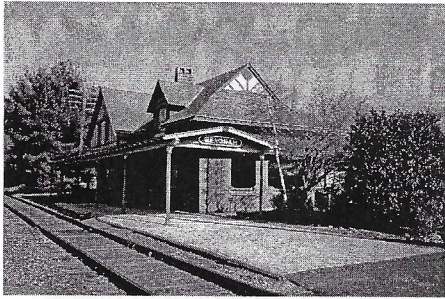
The entertainment given for the benefit of the M.E. Sunday School by the Vespers Sketch Club was not very well attended.

Notice- On account of death in my family I will not be able to run my huckster wagon here before next Wednesday. E. Sharp

Those interested in Fourth of July celebration met last evening in Noblit's Hall, and good hustling committees were appointed to look after matters.

Automobiles were in full force Saturday.

*Woodbury Daily Times* April and May 1907



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# 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 \_\_\_\_\_

BRING FORM AND PAYMENT TO MEETING, OR MAIL. THANK YOU

WHS PO BOX 32, WENONAH, NJ 08090

DUES: \$15.00 PER FAMILY HOUSEHOLD PER YEAR