



# Timepiece

Volume 47, Issue 4  
October—November—December 2013

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## President's Message—Alycia E. Rihacek

### Apple Pie

Crisp morning air...  
Ocher & crimson leaves a'dancing  
Cinnamon, sugar and all that spice  
From the orchard to the kitchen  
What a delight!

It's that time again, to count the blessings of all the wonderful members and supporters that have helped the Society through the years. Do see the list of this years Founders Day cohort. With our deepest respect, we honor and praise each and every one of you, for your outstanding service to our organization. Without you we would not be here, and we reflect upon this, and continue our mission to educate the children and public about the great history of our Town. Thank YOU!

Our outreach continues to bring wonderful folks for a visit and donations. See Kate's update for archive additions.

### "Fix the Roof Fund", Momentary Donations and Awesome People!

Our thankful appreciation goes out to Old Bridge ELK's Lodge 2229 for their generous donation of \$2000. Also to Painter's Express- Benjamin Moore retailer, Brown-town for selecting us for their campaign, "Main Street Matters".

The remaining Trustees of the M&M Hall in South Old Bridge have unfortunately dissolved their non-profit group... in the spirit of giving back to the community (for one last time) they have made a generous donation to the Society in the sum of \$5000.

### Annual Golf Outing

Rich Kujawinski, you deserve a great big hug for another successful outing, with over \$7000 raised.

### Old Bridge Day

What a beautiful day to celebrate our Hometown. Thanks to Ann Miller for her ever gracious volunteering at this event. And to Girl Scout Troop 81816, that we met at Old Bridge Day, Thank You for volunteering to decorate (with Hauser Hill Farms) the front of the Museum this year. You did a fantastic job!

### Monmouth Archives Day

Thanks to Pauline Drake & Jack Becker for manning the booth and recalling the "Bootlegger Days" of the Jersey Shore.

## MEETING CALENDAR

- *Regular Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm unless otherwise noted. Upcoming meetings: November 19, December 7 Luncheon*
- *Board of Directors Meetings: 2nd Monday of the month at 7:30pm unless otherwise noted. Upcoming meetings: November 11, December 9*

## MADISON TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

### OFFICERS

President, Alycia E. Rihacek  
1st Vice-President, Patricia A. Schuck  
2nd Vice-President, Jack Becker  
Recording Secretary, Carol Dennison  
Corresponding Secretary, David Johns  
Treasurer, Richard J. Kujawinski

### DIRECTORS

Director A, Pauline Drake  
Director B, Carmela Barthine  
Director C, Leona Murphy

### MUSEUM CURATOR

Kathleen M. Philbrick

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Deborah Stanley

Masthead image:  
Gingerbread Mantle Clock  
Connecticut origin, Steam-Pressed Oak  
Circa early 1900s  
Accession number 6  
Donated by: Mr. J. Maley

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## *In Memoriam:*

Herbert Cottrell, Jr.  
Richard W. Lumbreyer

### Speedway

Another great year of celebrating racing history on our doorstep! A great Big Shout Out to: Krause Family, Ray Shea (and the gang at GSVSCC with your \$200 donation), Malick Family, the Fillimon Family, Charlie Mangione, Pete Linszky, Ace Lane Jr., Jim Smith and countless others that brought their race cars and memorabilia and spent their time helping make this event a memorable one. Kate, Stu, Phil & Justin our trusty volunteers... You guys Rock, plus \$880 made in donations!

**Congratulations** to Casey Dennison for completing his requirements for B.S.A. Eagle Scout and your Court of Honor! Casey is an exceptional young man with a very bright future in college and possible film/video production career. He exemplifies the best of the Boy Scouts in service to the community and a prime example of our outreach for younger members. We are all very proud of you Casey!

### Speaking of future endeavors and staying young...

We are always working to keep the Thomas Warne Museum & the Society within the community consciousness. For every outreach program, (school tours, outside events, in house events & even monitoring social network sites)... we strive to keep our history alive and relevant for the community. We are THE repository of Township History. Your Stories, Family history ... from Colonial homesteaders, the incorporation of Madison Township in 1869, the Suburban Growth of the 1950s, the name change to Old Bridge in 1975 and now the Future... of an ever changing culturally diversified community. We need to continue to foster the next generation of our cultural caretakers.

As John Chapman, "Johnny Appleseed", entrusted his apple saplings to a wise caretakers, so the next generation of pioneers may reap the benefits of a vital, independent vigor & sustenance. We too must plant the seeds of respect for history and education in the next generation. We must maintain our orchard. At every turn our beloved Schoolhouse, Museum and Archive needs upkeep and repair to keep it young and healthy for the future. It is the orchard of Our Family, Our Town. And although we have had extraordinary contributions this quarter... we need to continue to raise our membership, economic resources, and fundraising to stave off the fallow times or imperious misfortune. We kindly carry respect for our past, toil happily in the present, to assure the bounty of the future. Thank you.

Now did someone mention Apple Pie? We hope to see you at our 48th Apple Festival on Nov. 3rd... if you can not make it, we will be thinking of you, and we wish you & yours a happy holiday season.

## Annual Holiday Gathering

Last year's luncheon was "stormed out" of the Ye Cottage Inn. The last minute substitution proved to be a fine alternative. This year, we will again meet for Holiday cheer at Deb Stanley's House on the first Saturday of December (December 7th). Call the museum for details.



## **New At The Museum—Kate Philbrick**

We have recently received several new additions to our museum collection:

From Beringer Family:

Large engraved silver presentation tray, given to Rev. Beringer from a former congregation in Bound Brook, in appreciation for his work. He and his wife felt it could be useful during teas or other special occasions, as it has no direct local historical connection. With felt bag cover.

Several large sheets for Jingle Bells, used for ‘non-musical instrument’ orchestration.

From member Sylvia Marcin and husband Ted:

Several vintage copies of farming and household management pamphlets, over 50 in all. A terrific addition to our collection of items regarding local agricultural heritage.

WWII era vintage Navy ‘whites’ uniform.

White cotton dress with ribbon trim, believed to be ethnic Polish dance costume.

From Carole Olafson:

Vintage 1960s hand operated egg beater, used by family 2 generations.

As curator, I wish to thank all the Historical Society members and friends who have helped the collection grow. Don't forget, when you're moving, cleaning the attic or setting up for a yard sale, think of the museum!

### **HOLIDAY SPIRIT AT THE MUSEUM**

No, we aren't having a ghost hunt, but we are inviting everyone-- including ghosts-- to visit our Holiday Display, coming up for December and January. The exhibits will include nostalgic Christmas decorations from years gone by and a display of postcards from 1910 to 1920, when the mailing holiday greetings gained popularity. The showcases will be set up to represent shop windows decked out for seasonal sales, giving us a chance to show off items from our collection that are not otherwise seen. The museum will be decorated with traditional garlands and trees, and new this year will be our Christmas Village--- a whole town of dollhouses trimmed up, warm and inviting to celebrate the holiday in miniature. There will be free refreshments, and at least one special event planned by Pat Schuck, which I hear is going to be something not to miss! So come on out and visit us for a break from the bustle of shopping and enjoy!

The installation of our new Indow Window “thermal window inserts” in the schoolhouse is quite a success. We have already noticed a reduction of noise from the roadway traffic and unpleasant drafts. Will keep you informed as to our energy savings, but we expect at least a 10 to 18 percent savings, and every penny counts. If you live in an older home and may be considering replacing your single pane, yet historically correct windows... STOP. Ciel Power & Indow Windows inserts can help you correct the problem of drafty windows, save money on your energy bills and still keep the visual integrity of your historic windows. Ciel Power is the official NJ installer for the Portland, OR based Indow Windows... we are proud to have done business with this fine “Made in America” company.

## DUHERNAL MEMORIES — Kate Philbrick

With autumn here and winter still several frosty weeks away, why not pause for some warm summer memories? Not what you might have done last summer, but something from many summer's past.

Many folks can remember the beaches and shore attractions in our township so popular 'back in the day', but Cliffwood Beach, Laurence Harbor and the resorts, parks and clubs were not the only act in town. Summer vacationers and out-of-town visitors made plans for the above destinations, while kids growing up on the other side of Madison Township looked forward to a cool dip in Duhernal Lake. What did it matter that it was the product of 3 large industrial companies (Dupont, Hercules and National Lead)? To a kid out of school for the summer, it was paradise.

Duhernal was an easy walk, or quick bike ride from the relatively new development homes, in a time when Englishtown Road (route 527) had no traffic lights, sidewalks or curbs. Today the area has changed markedly, and the lake is no longer a childhood retreat with beach, raft, snack bar and playground equipment. It is now home to waterfowl-- including swans-- snapping turtles, heron and a wide variety of fish.



Most long time area resident have a few Duhernal memories, myself included though my older sister likely has more. I remember some awful outhouse toilets, and having to wear sneakers in the water because of possible broken glass-- both not enough of a deterrent to keep a nine year old away. My most recent recollection of the lake is only a few years old, when our President Alycia and I took a fact-finding hike for historical research. At that time I missed being hit in the head with a catfish, by about 10 feet when a large big bird of prey lost its grip.

While the beach has long been closed for bathers and the lake is choked with weeds, there is still enough of the entrance pavement to be barely visible through the sand and rubble. Fishermen and birdwatchers still enjoy some of the lake's originally intended recreation.

Standing on the sand, one can imagine sunlight on the water, see kids on swings, hear laughter and transistor radios, all while you wait on line at the snack bar for a cool drink or ice cream sandwich.

Some of the people who still fish the lake, or below the dam, have been doing so since they were kids, and have recollections of their own, floating around now on the internet.

## Duernal Memories (continued)

“I been fishing that place for years, and remember when the seals used to come up below the dam.”

“The pickerel fishing - very good at the peninsula, especially the cove side that ran back toward the road and the little string of ponds. One day my buddies and I caught over 20, using "killifish" on bobbers - used to buy the killifish at a "bait shop" on Englishtown Rd, almost to the Gardens (I lived in the Estates) - an old bearded guy had a "tub" where you could dip out a dozen for \$1.00. Fishing below the dam I would catch an occasional eel, sometimes a perch - not as good of fishing as above the dam (bullheads) - or along the shore for pickerel.... I moved away in 1967, but went back in 1989 or thereabouts - went down to the beach area and dam - no problem - saw an osprey over the lake... that was something I never saw there when I was a kid.”

We have in the museum a small collection of postcards of the beach with a few bathing beauties, and some old press photos of children's swimming competitions held along it's shores, though we are always looking for copies of any family photos our members and guests may have to share. These are valuable items to us, recapturing a time past, that can be shared with generations to come.

The area is not without its charm, history and mystery, including the rumored remains of the Bloomfield Mills Licorice company (in operation until 1920) on an island on the lake. There is a certain dark side, as well, often found in old town sites, of young swimmers who lost their lives diving from the dam.

We would love to hear about your own personal accounts, if you remember the Duernal Lake of old. Drop us a line at the museum, or stop by and visit, to share your memories and add to the history of our township for others to enjoy.

### **Apple Festival—A 48 year tradition**

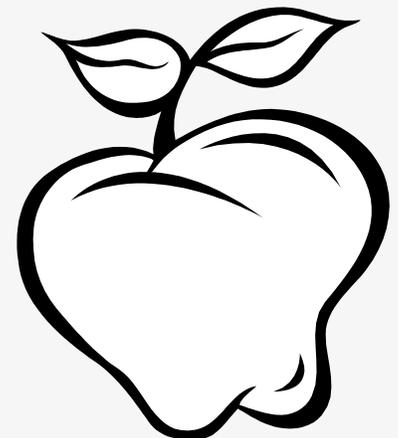
**NOVEMBER 3, 2013 from 12:00 to 4:00PM, Old Bridge Civic Center**

**Would you like to be a part of it?**

There are many ways to participate. Whether it be 3 months, 3 days or 3 hours, your help will make another success story.

- The artist in you may want to be involved in judging the children's poster contest.
- Maybe you're a P.R. person. Good publicity is so important.
- The apple peelers and bakers are the "CORE" of the Festival.
- Volunteers are needed on the day of the Festival (from 10AM to 4PM) for transport of artifacts, setup of displays, and sales of food, crafts, gift items and Attic Treasures.
- Have something to donate (food, crafts, attic treasures)?
- Have an idea on how we can improve the Apple Festival?

Hope to hear from you soon, Patricia Schuck and Deb Stanley



## FOUNDERS DAY

OCTOBER 15, 2013

### Founders Day October 2013

To continue our tradition of honoring those before us ... we now recall the names of our members' outstanding dedication to our Society. If it were not for the following group of men and women; our stories and our history may very well have been lost to time. It was through their generous donation of energy and time; for the promotion of our cultural history for future generations that we are indebted to them. It is from their foresight and dedication to our Society, that we honor them with the respect & gratitude that each one deserves.

**The Exceptional & Outstanding Founding Members  
of the Madison Township Historical Society 1977-1981**  
(Third Cohort)

1977

Mrs. Wm Kerr ()  
Mrs. Elmer Martin (Alvia Martin)  
Anne Kaminski  
Mrs. John Low (Millie Low)  
Lenora Pinoos  
Shirley Glickman  
Mrs. Paul Blohota (Mary)  
Mrs. Nelson Smith (Marion)  
Mrs. Amy Von der Porten  
Cecil Letts  
Mrs. Vincent Tracey ()  
Mrs. John Chamberlain  
Miss Rose Wenzel

1978

Vincent Tracey  
Kathy Philbrick  
Chester Philbrick  
Mrs. Robert Summers  
Mr. Kenneth Smida  
Mrs. Kenneth Smida

1979

Sandra Curcy  
Joan Beamish  
Lenora Kerr

1980

~

1981

Mr. Martin Welstein

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This program is made possible by

**Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders**  
**Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission**

with funding in part from

**New Jersey Historical Commission**  
a Division in the Dept of State



**The Exceptional & Outstanding Founding Members  
of the Madison Township Historical Society 1971-1976**  
(Second Cohort)

Chester Philbrick  
Kathleen Philbrick  
Marge Weaver  
Mrs. Robert Koenig  
Jean Roberts  
Tracy Hamilton  
Irene Bedle  
Mary Neilson  
Kathleen Buckley  
Ellie McDermott  
Lenore Pinoos  
Edna Green  
William Adams  
Cecil Letts  
Mary Lou Koegler  
Olga Hutchinson  
Herbert Kuehne  
Michael Connally  
Molly & Jack Honig  
Joanne & Michael Connolly  
James Geddis  
Arlene Belaskiewicz  
Shirley Glickman

Robert Sommers- Boy Scouts, History projects relating to Indian Trail.  
Clarence & Hazel Hauser (and family)- Prior to our incorporation.  
Herbert Cottrell, Jr. – Apple Fest start & family/local history.  
Henrietta Chittick- Early Member. Extensive collection of her family papers/ books/ items in our archive.

**The Exceptional & Outstanding Founding Members  
of the Madison Township Historical Society 1965-1970**  
(Founding Cohort)

Mary Blohota \*  
Mary Brown \*  
Ann Kaminski \*  
Mildred Low \*  
Isabella Maccia \*  
Alvia Martin \*  
Marie Romano \*  
Marion Smith \*  
Celeste & Rose Wenzel \*  
Arnold & Amy Von der Porten \*  
Olga Blanker  
H. Chamberlain  
David Egebretson  
Charles Ellison  
Janet & Robert Forrer  
Anna & Madeline Gaub  
May & William Holton  
James Kennedy  
Alice & Lorna Kerr  
Helen & John Partridge  
Jessica Schaeffler  
Stella Tracey

Let their dedication be the light that will guide us to for generations to come.

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# Thomas Warne Museum & Library



“The Little Red School House”  
across from the Old Bridge  
Township High School Complex.

We welcome all questions and  
information pertaining to local  
family genealogy, township  
history, historic buildings and  
archeological findings.

Community groups and school  
tours available by appointment.

Home of the  
Madison Township Historical Society,  
serving Old Bridge Township.

**Open to the Public**  
**Fridays—Noon-4PM**  
**Saturday & Sunday Noon-6PM**

PHONE: 732-566-2108

FAX: 732-566-6943

Visit Our Web Site

[www.thomas-warne-museum.com](http://www.thomas-warne-museum.com)

and Join Us on Facebook

**Madison Township Historical Society**

**4216 Route 516**

**Matawan, NJ 07747**

