

LIMERICK TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

545 West Ridge Pike
Limerick, PA. 19468
Phone: (610) 495-5229

Winter 2009

The *Limerick Township Historical Society* meets the second Monday of each month, 7:30 p.m.
In the Limerick Township Municipal Building, 646 West Ridge Pike, Limerick, PA.

OFFICERS

President.....Dorothy Jones (610) 495-6102
Vice President.....Pat Miller (610) 287-8189
Secretary.....Elaine Fillman (610) 287-9273
Treasurer.....Bill Walker (610) 287-2058

Historian.....Virginia Collins (610) 326-3467
Chairman of the Board...Bill Miller (610) 287-8189

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

We hope you had a good year. If not, there is always next year. Maybe it will be better than the last.

We have had lots of things going on at the historical house. We made some changes for the better we hope.

Community Day was a great day weather and otherwise. Thanks to Arlene Butts Umstead, Elaine Fillman and Denise Holliday for the plants they brought in. The sale went very well as did the small American flags we gave out. Looking forward to next years Community Day.

As we get ready for the holidays don't forget the toys for tot's box at the Township building. This year more than ever, with so many people out of work, the need is great.

The board and I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

*Dorothy Jones
President*

UPCOMING EVENTS

DECEMBER 14, 2009: PARADE OF NUTCRACKERS: On display will be a number of nutcrackers from the extensive collection of Cole Callow, Mont Clare. Cole became interested in nutcrackers at age 3 (he is now 13) and has a large collection of old, new, interesting and unusual types of this colorful folk art form. A portion of his collection was on display as part of the Christmas open house at the Spring-Ford Area Historical Society in 2007.

This will also be our Society Christmas party. Members will bring cookies, candy, and other goodies to share at our meeting. Extra cookies will be sent to the Food Pantry in Royersford.

JANUARY 11, 2010: SNOWMEN IN KEEPING WITH WINTER THEME. Donna Serpiello will display a number of snowmen from her extensive collection. You will probably remember Donna when she displayed tea pots from her collection. She is also the helpful, friendly person who you will meet in the main office of the Limerick Township Municipal Building.

FEBRUARY 8, 2010: LIMERICK COMMUNITY PARK – HEARTS WORKING TOGETHER. Karen Hegedus from Parks and Recreation will tell the Society about plans to improve and expand the Township Park. Many changes and updates will be made to the Manderach Playground portion of the park. Karen will discuss the history of the park and work being done this spring. She will also tell us about the trips and band concerts sponsored by Parks and Recreation and will have a schedule for 2010 to distribute to the members.

MARCH 8, 2010: LIMERICK'S LIMERICKS. Society members are encouraged to bring in their favorite Limerick (or more if they wish). You remember from English class: a Limerick is a five-line poem in which lines 1, 2 and 5 rhyme and lines 3 and 4 rhyme. Also, there are poets out there who may want to write a Limerick for us. Put on your thinking cap and let's have some fun.

Meetings are held the second Monday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Limerick Township Municipal Building. In case of bad weather, the meeting will be cancelled. Any questions or comments, contact Doris Callow 610-948-8306.

HERSTEIN CHAPEL CAROLING

The annual Christmas program of caroling and special music will be held on Saturday, December 12 at 7:00 p.m. This has been a very special part of Christmas events in the area. The program is held in candlelight, so bring a flashlight (unless you know all the words to old carols). Refreshments will be served. The chapel is located at the intersection of Neiffer and Bragg Roads. There is parking at the Chapel.

THANK YOU

Thanks to Christman jewelers for donating felt ring pads that hold rings that were found at Lakeview Park. As we have announced before there were a number of class rings found.

We have been in touch with Lansford High School above Allentown (1932 JHH). Northeast Catholic High School will be closing so they are delighted to receive the ring and do research on it (1937 WDN). We will be looking forward to finding out who they belong to. We also have a Royersford High School ring which they have not been able to find a name to match the initials (JRC - 1932). We are still looking.

There are also numerous men's wedding bands found. Have any of you ever heard of any relatives that may have lost their rings....let us know.

Our new display cases have arrived and we already have them full of interesting items such as dresses, women's collars, silk stockings, rings, religious medals from Lakeview Park.

Our front porch has been completed and some interesting items were found under the old one....stones, bricks, tomb stones, etc. Some of these stones were integrated into the wall (which is also finished.) Come visit us and tell us what you think.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Lorraine Dempsey - 2010 board
Joan Fidler -2014 board
Pat Miller – Vice President 2010
Elaine Fillman – Secretary 2010
William Walker – Treasurer 2010
Virginia Collins – Historian 2010

The Edgar Grubb dedication of our library and and the Chester Kanach dedication of the Cider Press (which was Chester's pride and joy that he and his family worked on) will be held in the spring of 2010.

We also have had a lot more people contacting the Society about family histories....most likely due to web site <http://www.limerickpahistory.org> and e-mail of LTHS@netzero.com.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

A Happy Birthday correction.....Society member, Alice Dempsey, celebrated her 95th birthday in August (not 90th as reported in our fall newsletter). Alice continues to keep active and interested in activities at Park House Center. She acts like a 90 year old – GO ALICE!

MUSEUM DONATIONS

A large picture of George Washington and horse by Trumball engraved by T. Cheesman in a beautiful frame donated by Barbara & Roland Gottshall.

Spring-Ford Historical Society donated a print of a watercolor by Dorothy E.S. Weikel from Spring City. The scene is the toll house at the bridge in Linfield. The setting is when there was a wooden covered bridge over the Schuylkill River.

William Brunner, President of the Spring-Ford Historical Society donated to our library a copy of his book THEN AND NOW – SPRING CITY AND ROYERSFORD. This is an interesting collection of pictures of scenes from the two towns showing old buildings and places of interest.

William Walker, Society Treasurer, donated a very unusual tin dispenser for moth balls from around the 1930's. This is a unique household item.

David Ziegler, Society member, continues to bring to the Hunsberger Museum, a variety of interesting pictures and items from the Kinsey Distillery in Linfield. These items include a 200 watt Edison style light bulb and the base. This was used on the second floor of Jacob Kinsey bottling house which was used until 1979. He also brought a new cardboard display stand for Inver House Scotch Whiskey. The display holds 12 bottles and was used in liquor stores.

David also brought us a folder of photos of the bottling house, a computer disc of Kinsey material. Also an explosion proof light fixture and pilot light cover. All electrical equipment had to have an explosion-proof cover because the fumes from the whiskey were very explosive.

Theda Schurr's family donated a large number of photographs pertaining to the Garrett Brownback family and Carrie McDowell, granddaughter of Peter Rothermel, artist from Linfield. There were also a number of vintage school pictures and scenes from the Linfield area.

Clyde Scheib responded to our call for an old pump to be installed on the back porch at the Hunsberger House. Clyde brought an old pump to our November meeting at the Township Building. It is rusty, but otherwise looks great. Clyde says he is donating this as a thank-you to Society members who donated old license plates to him for his collection.

Arlene Borneman Umstead brought us a wooden high chair (probably her chair from when she was a child). She also brought a very unusual wooden item which has a patent date of 1893. It is probably a type of butter press. Arlene's dad and grandfather sold dairy, poultry and produce in the area and also took their products to market. We assume this item was used by them.

Carl Model donated a group picture of students from Steinmetz school from 1904. At our school reunion this year, we displayed pictures from Medinger, Fairview and Steinmetz schools. It is interesting to see the students in their high top shoes, long dark stockings and other types of vintage clothing.

Bonnie Groff brought us a school picture of students of Fairview School in 1902. Some of the students are identified. Two of them were Olive Beryl Stirling and David Stirling. Bonnie's maiden name was Sterling (Stirling), so these students were her great aunt and great-grandfather.

Joseph Forrest, Jr. from the Spring-Ford Area Historical Society installed cemetery information on our computer at the Hunsberger House. The data was installed in "My Document" and covered Perkiomen Valley Brethren in Christ cemetery headstones, Dismant Cemetery in Royersford and Mingo Cemetery headstone. This information will be valuable to families doing research and will save having to make trips to the local cemeteries to see the headstones of family members.

WANTED

We are still hunting for a picture of the "Fork" mentioned in our fall newsletter, a local eating place at the corner of Swamp Pike and Ridge Pike. Several residents told us they remember this place and one of our members, June Hankins, said she was a waitress there. We have received no pictures to date but we will keep trying!

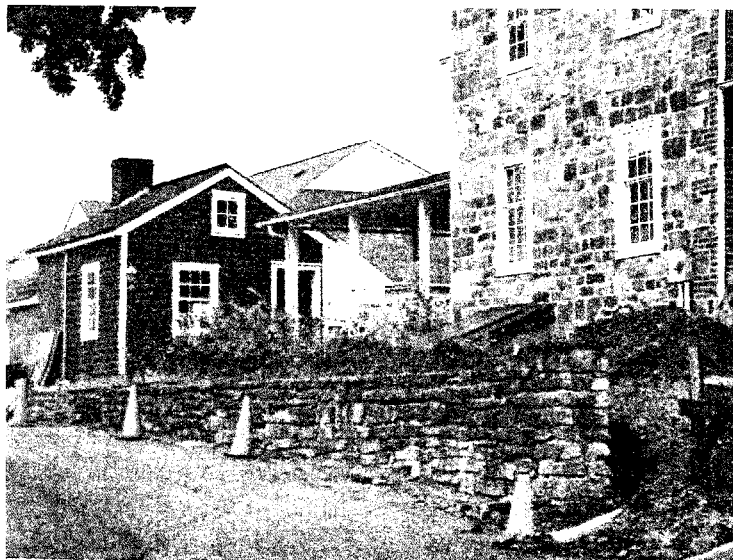
GIFTS

- Wooden flag poles \$5.00
- Metal flag holders.....\$2.00
- Flags can also be ordered to whatever size you need.
- Stick flags (grave size).....\$1.50
- Christmas ornaments of Limerick Township Historical Sites\$9.00.
- Indexes to the history book.....\$3.00

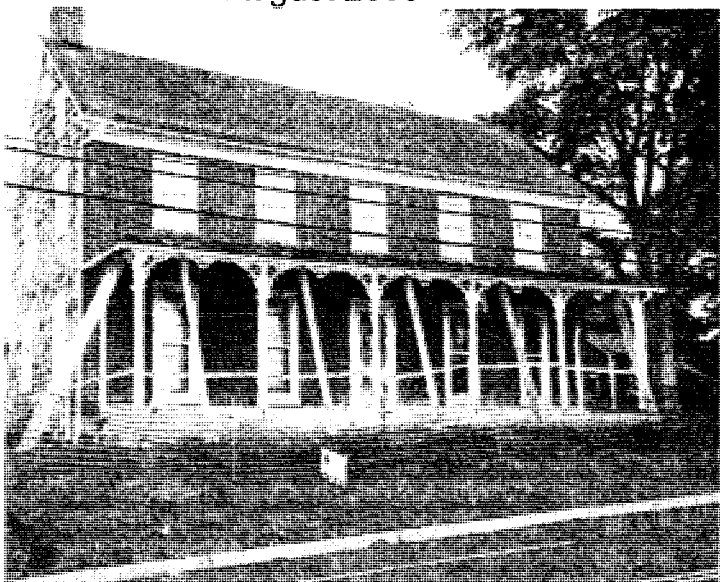
Membership dues are now payable.

FRONT PORCH RESTORATION AND NEW WALL

Local brown farm stone available That was leftover from the wall construction. Anyone interested call Wednesday or Sunday at the Historical Society.



August 2009



August 2009



November 2009



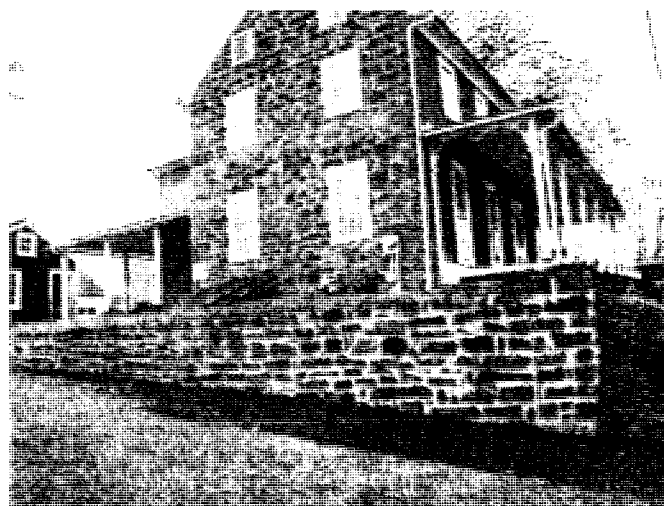
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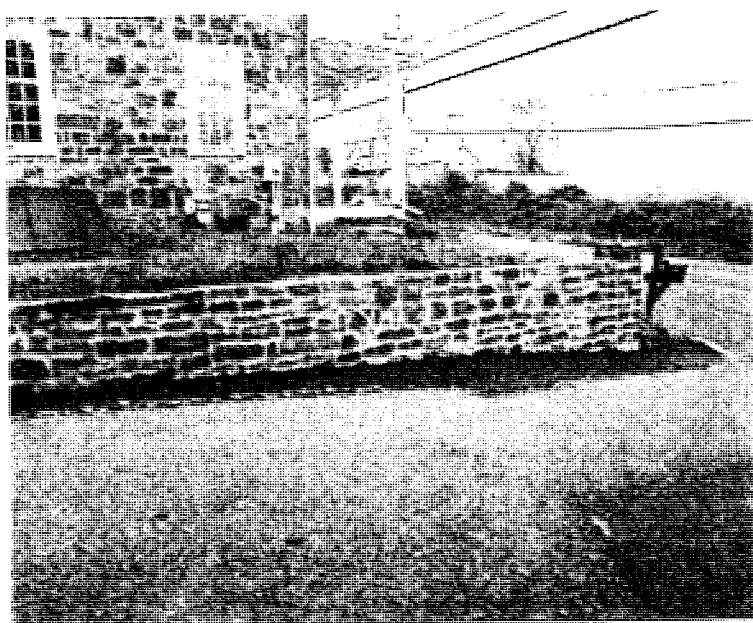
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