OUR NEXT MEETING: Monday evening April 16th at 7:00pm in the Haddon Heights Library. Mr. Walter Andariese will tell us about his book Hilltop to Hilltop in 1840—Signals across New Jersey. 1840-1845... It was a five-year era without electricity or electronics, when a message from New York to Philadelphia took only minutes! The author, Walter Andariese of Berlin, NJ is a retired high school teacher. He has been published in national magazines and newspapers with articles on various topics. He has also authored two books before this one: History of the Benjamin Franklin Bridge was written for the Delaware River Port Authority in 1981, and World War II Thru Korea, a collection of combat stories from 101 veterans of those wars.

As for his current book, Mr. Andariese is extremely proud to have revived some little known and fascinating New Jersey history from 170 years ago. The book and his presentation, describes a communications system between New York City and Philadelphia, which sent messages back and forth within minutes... without electricity! His talk will enlighten us as to why this system was a secretive operation and how research was successful in uncovering it. He says even the ancient Atlantic Ocean was involved! Please plan to join us for this informative session and learn more that you may not know about New Jersey.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE: On a sad note, we mourn the loss of our long time faithful friend and member Harry Vincent. It is April, the plants are blooming and we are all invigorated by the prospect of Spring. Let us take a moment as we enjoy these days, to remember Harry and those other friends who are no longer with us....

Peter and I attended the Spring Meeting of the League of Historical Societies hosted by the Hammonton Historical Society. At that meeting, Peter Hill discussed the program for our April meeting, “Hilltop to Hilltop in 1840- Signals Across New Jersey”. I shared with the group the popular series of interpretive signs our Society is placing around our Borough. After a delicious lunch we toured Batsto Village and Historic Hammonton.

Peter Hill is preparing a special questionnaire for our members. We hope to have copies available at this meeting, and by e-mail after the meeting. We genuinely care about your responses. Please take a few minutes to benefit your Historical Society by completing and returning the questionnaire. I also want to thank Peter for planning interesting speakers for our meetings and to Anne for the delicious treats she provides for our meetings. Margaret, Anne,
and Joan have been working hard to make our next five interpretive signs a reality. Thank you. We all appreciate Ken’s newsletter. Thank you. Jan, we appreciate your hard work and dedication as Membership Chairperson. You will be missed. Everyone joins me in saying, “Thank you.” We have many more people who deserve “Thanks.” I appreciate everyone’s efforts on behalf of our Historical Society...

Now that I have thanked those who have worked to make this a great organization for you, we NEED YOUR HELP. I know there are special people out there who would be an asset to our Board. PLEASE consider volunteering for the following openings: Vice President, Membership Chair, and Publicity. I know you can do it. If no one steps up to fill these roles, we may cease to exist. We may not have any Hilltops in Haddon Heights but we do have an interesting evening planned for on April 16, 2012. See you at the Library at 7 PM. Please consider bringing a friend. Elena

OUR NEXT INTERPRETIVE HISTORICAL MARKER-

As Elena referenced in her President’s message, we continue to produce and install interpretive historical markers at significant locations around town. The next marker will be placed at the “Log Cabin” in Hoff’s Park. We are hopeful that all approvals will be obtained to allow for installation in early—mid May, during National Preservation Month.

Placement will honor the 100th anniversary of the Girls Scouts in 2012, and the Boy Scouts in 2011. The cabin was known for years as the “Scout Cabin”. We hope to have more information for you at the general membership meeting on April 16th.

On a related note, plans are moving forward for our next group of markers commemorating the four pre-Revolutionary War homes in town.

GOT STUFF? - With the Town-Wide Yard Sale coming up on April 21st, I was thinking….. Do you have photos or significant historical artifacts you would like to donate to the Haddon Heights Historical Society? If so, please contact a member of the Board or bring the item(s) to a future meeting. We would be grateful!

JULY & OCTOBER MEETING PRESENTATION TOPICS- In July, local resident, educator and history buff Bill Lange will talk to us about the battle of Gettysburg, as we close in on the 150th anniversary of that bloody turning point in the Civil War. In October, at our Fall meeting, Lynn Dalton and Annmarie Cammarota will join the current President of the Haddon Glen Swim Club to share remembrances of the 50 year history of this local oasis. Originally conceived by several local employees of the RCA corporation, this swim club has served the people of Haddon Heights as a haven in the hot days of Summer...

BOARD POSITIONS OPEN– We have been pleading with our members for quite some time, to step forward and help keep your organization going... I know the Board is frustrated, because we are the ones who carry on and do our best to keep things in motion. That can’t go on much longer, as time is taking its toll on all of us. As a child (the oldest of eight kids in the family) I can’t even begin to count the number of times I heard this phrase....”DON’T MAKE ME PULL THIS CAR OVER !!!!!” Well, we are approaching that point as an organization. Just suppose the Historical Society went away, like those places and things I am highlighting on the following page. To borrow from Hillary Clinton, “It takes a village”...... Please
consider volunteering to fill one of the openings as a Board Member or Board Assistant. We are in need of: Vice-President, Membership Chair, Publicity, and a digital photographer. I know you are out there. When I last thought about how long I have been writing this newsletter, I came up with a number estimate between 15-20 years. Other than being married (maybe), have YOU done anything on a volunteer basis for that long?

THINGS THAT AREN’T THERE ANYMORE... In an effort to cajole, convince, encourage, or guilt members into becoming active in their organization, I am offering some photos of places and things that aren’t the same, or around anymore. Special Thanks to the Courier-Post Historic Photo Gallery as source for many of these pictures!
Just a reminder... The Historical Society is a 501(c)3 organization. Please keep us in mind as you plan your charitable donations.

THANKS for listening... Did you get the message? We really do need your help!!! I don’t want to think of a day in the future, when I have to refer to the Haddon Heights Historical Society in the past tense... as one of those “things that aren’t there anymore”.

Ken Funkhouser, Editor