



Bulletin

WWW.HHHISTORICAL.ORG

P.O. Box 118 • Haddon Heights • New Jersey 08035

We meet on the third Tuesday of January, April, July, and October at 7:30pm in the Library

“REMEMBERING YESTERDAY FOR THE PEOPLE OF TOMORROW”

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Haddon Heights' 101st Year

April 2005

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE HADDON HEIGHTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY will take place on Tuesday April 19, 2005 at 7:30pm, in the Library Meeting Room on the lower level. Elevator service is available.

MEMORIES OF THE TRAINS AND TROLLEYS OF SOUTH JERSEY- We proudly continue our practice of showcasing the talents and interests of our members, with our April meeting presentation. Rich Magee is a resident of our neighboring centennial (2005) town of Audubon, and a member of the Haddon Heights Historical Society. Rich will be representing the West Jersey chapter of the National Railway Historical Society when he gives a slide and photo talk about the trains and trolleys of South Jersey. Maybe our speaker will tell us what connection the railroads had to the establishment of time zones across our country... Please join us as we recall the by-gone era of locomotives, soot, Train whistles and trolleys.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT- “*Can you hear that whistle blowing?!...*” The answer to this old song’s refrain is: “sure, I hear the fire whistle.” The firehouse siren really is more of a horn, such as Conrail trains sound pulling freight as they roll slowly through town these days. The point here is: the steam train’s whistle, the firehouse bell, the buggy whip used by the HH Inn guest pick-up ‘station wagon’ and that man named slim who would put down the safety gate by hand at Station Avenue to guard the tracks in order to prevent children being hit by a train, are all historic relics from our town’s past. Come join us at our Spring meeting as we are continuing the theme of LOST HADDON HEIGHTS. Your Society has built up a full head of steam for the year ahead (the light @the end of the tunnel!). Keep us on the right track by supporting our speaker, sharing a few awards, preservation projects, outline of future outings & meetings, chance to purchase the Haddon Heights Train Station “Cats Meow” (newly re-issued), fellowship & conviviality with fellow members, refreshments and some “fun” education. Bring a neighbor or two!

Here is a ‘pop quiz’ for those who enjoy some challenging research prior to our meeting on the 19th – (1) During what decade were there approximately 76 trains a day passing through town? (2) Trolley service at its peak was ‘standing room only’ on weekends headed for this amusement park (3) B. A. Lippincott built the HH Rail Road Station & Depot in what year and for what purpose? (4) The train also delivered _____ and _____ besides passengers (5) On July 4 of what year did the Reading RR open its tracks for passenger service between Philadelphia & Atlantic City? (hint: same milestone for USA that our town celebrated last year) (6) The cost of a ticket to AC from Philly cost \$ _____ and the trip took _____ hours? (7) Final tiebreaker: the trolleys were abandoned and tracks were removed in 19____ A special prize to the winner! (NO – not a trip to Atlantic City!!). Remember to practice that kazoo for our town’s July 2nd Parade and look for our Society ad in the 4th of July Program Book and Directory. Make sure our April 19th meeting is a “trolley stop” on your timetable. ...History anyone? Pete Hill

ATTENTION “CARD CARRYING” MEMBERS- Look for your new membership cards at the April meeting !!

HADDON HEIGHTS DIRECTORIES- UPDATE- We still need help with the consolidation and input of these historically significant town directories. We are hoping to make the information available on our website and on CD-ROM. If you can help with this project, call Marshall Hatfield at (856) 546-0391.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY SHIRTS- See the new shirts on our website and place your order at the meeting.

HADDON HEIGHTS REMEMBERED- THE SEQUEL- We would like to put together an updated revision of the book Haddon Heights Remembered (1990). We are looking for anyone interested in helping update this valuable reference. The new book will include the original material in easy to read print, with appendices covering the Centennial. If you know Adobe Page Maker software or just want to get in on this fun project, we really could use your help! See Jodi Clark at the April meeting.

WATCH AND LISTEN FOR H.H. HISTORICAL ANNOUNCEMENTS- We have expanded our media outreach through cable television. You can now see and hear our announcements on Comcast channel 19 !

2005 MEMBERSHIP DUES STILL "DUE"- Many members still have not updated their membership. Although we did not include the membership form in this edition of the newsletter, you can still pay your 2005 dues. Please bring them to the meeting, or mail a check for **\$8.00** along with a note giving your name, address, phone and e-mail address, to our Historical Society P.O.Box,- Attn: Membership.

History Channel "Save our History" Project- The Board would like to express special thanks to Rose Fitzgerald for her efforts in coordinating a grant submission on behalf of the Historical Society in partnership with the Heights Heritage League. The proposal was for funding to frame the outline of the Glover Fulling mill in the style of the Benjamin Franklin site in Philadelphia. 699 applications were received by the History Channel, and only 23 grants were awarded. Unfortunately our proposal was not one of the few to receive funding. Rose and her committee will continue to seek opportunities to fund this and other history related projects. If you are interested in working on future grant applications, please send a note to Rose c/o our P.O. Box address.

WHERE'S THE FIRE (BELL)?- The Historical Society has made a donation to the H.H. Fire Department in the name of Tom Conway. As you may know, Tom was a long time Society member and volunteer fireman. Our contribution will be put toward the refurbishing of the town fire bell in his honor.

PUBLICATIONS SUBMITTED TO N.J. LEAGUE- Our President Peter Hill submitted several publications, including this newsletter, the website, "Year in advance", items related to the Sousa Concert, etc. to the League of Historical Societies of N.J. for award consideration. Although the news on this front is the same as that of our recent grant submission described above, I am excited to see so much activity and effort going into getting recognition and funding for our relatively small organization. Just think what we could accomplish with a few more volunteers!!! Become an **ACTIVE MEMBER**. As you might imagine, simply paying your dues will not grow our Society or bring in the resources to fund projects we would like to undertake. Please consider helping in whatever small way you can.

OH WHAT A WONDERFUL "WEB" WE WEAVE- Thanks to the tremendous work of Jack Witzig with input and suggestions from several sources, the Historical Society Web Page (WWW.HHHISTORICAL.ORG) is undergoing an exciting transformation! The format will be more user-friendly, with more accessible features and photos, and a wealth of information about our Society and the history of our town. It is amazing that we have come so far in such a short time with our website. It will be a true showcase! Please join Jack at our meeting on April 19th, to see a preview demonstration of our "new look" .

SPEAK UP... I CAN'T HEAR YOU- Each year we give back a little to our Public Library, in appreciation for all of the support we receive throughout the year. This year, our usual donation has been augmented by the Board with an additional gift. These funds will cover a majority of the cost of a new portable public address system for the library. Now everyone will be able to hear our speakers.

MICHAEL BURNS, ARE YOU OUT THERE?- Bob Hunter received an e-mail from a man who has been doing research to write a book about Charles Albert "Chief" Bender, a Native American and Hall of Fame pitcher with the old Philadelphia Athletics. The author knows of Mike Burns who currently lives on Second Avenue, but he is NOT the same person who is being sought.

The Michael Burns in question, knew "Chief" Bender, who died over 50 years ago, and wrote a personal note about how Mr. Bender was like a "substitute grandfather" to him while he was growing up. This note appeared in a Native American publication about 1 ½ years ago. If alive, this Michael Burns would probably be in his 50' or 60's since he was about six years old when Mr. Bender died in 1954. If you know this Michael Burns or someone in his family, the author would like to hear from you. Please call Bob Hunter at the H.H. Public Library (856)547-7132 for additional information.

NJ LEAGUE SPRING MEETING- The Spring meeting of the League of New Jersey Historical Societies will take place on June 4th in Springfield, NJ. It will be hosted by the Union County Cultural and Heritage Commission. Cost will be about \$20. Interested parties should call Bob Hunter at (856)547-7132.

I am always interested in hearing from you! I'll see you at the meeting! - Ken Funkhouser, Editor
