

Bulletin

P.O. Box 118 • Haddon Heights, NJ 08035

WWW.HHHISTORICAL.ORG

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July 2015

We meet on the third **MONDAY** of January, April, July, and October - at **7:00pm**

HISTORIC LIES- No- We're not talking about the promises made by presidential candidates during an election campaign. Actually, this is the topic of our next meeting presentation ! A lot of what you were taught about history was partly or entirely *wrong!* That is correct. Just a few examples of lies about history and distortions of facts that will be discussed, are: Columbus "rediscovered" America; The Dutch paid \$24 for Manhattan island; The South lost the Gettysburg Battle- because...; The Spanish American War was started by...; The Hindenburg disaster in Lakehurst, NJ was caused by...; The Lusitania was torpedoed by...& much more! Would you like to find out more about how we have all been misled through the years?

TRUTH OR LIES

Come and join-in the discussion, questions & answers about how and why History is changed while you are living it! Our speaker, *Brian Fitzgerald* of Mt. Laurel (previous Speaker on the Cuban Missile Crisis) will present a *not-to-be missed* power-point program which should provoke you to attend, in the comfortable coolness of our fully air-conditioned hometown Library!!

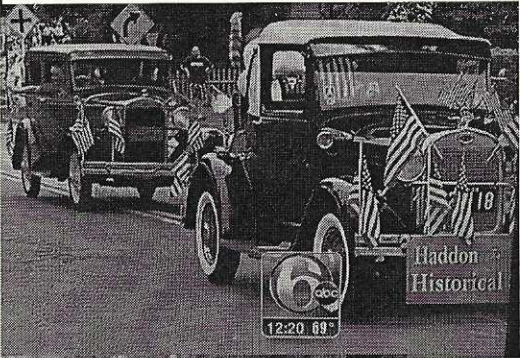
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE- Welcome to the lazy, hazy days of summer!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! The Haddon Heights Historical Society began summer with the Fourth of July Parade. Ken Funkhouser and his vintage car, "Florence", represented The Historical Society in the Parade. A special thank you to Ken and Florence. I am looking forward to seeing all of you at our July 20th meeting. Peter Hill has planned a very interesting program by our speaker Brian Fitzgerald who will present a thought provoking topic: "HISTORIC LIES!" I hope you come and join in what we hope will be a lively discussion.

Peter has also planned a Society Field Trip on Saturday, August 1, 2015 at 11 AM to the Historic Indian King Tavern. Peter Hill has been planning interesting programs and historical field trips going back to before his Presidency in our Centennial year 2004. Peter describes this volunteer commitment as "a Labor of love." The Board accepted Peter's resignation as Program/Publicity Chair at the June Board meeting. Peter said he will continue his valued Membership and support. He will remain on the Board as Nominating Committee co-chairperson. We thank Peter for all of his hard work and dedication. We welcome Douglas Michell as our new Program/Publicity Chairperson. Peter, thanks for the memories!!!!!!

Elena

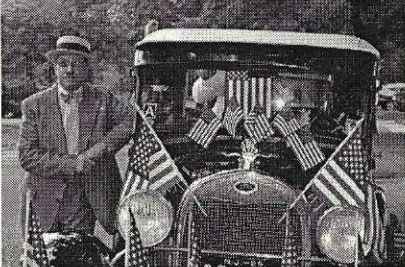
VOLUNTEERS FOR BOARD POSITIONS BEING SOUGHT- Please see page 4 for openings on the Board/Committees. We are also looking for someone with an I.T. or "Web" background to help with tech support to our Society Website! To volunteer/suggest someone, see us at the July meeting!

COPY OF SPEAKER'S BOOK TO BE DONATED TO LIBRARY- Recognizing the significance of John Delaney's book, *Nova Caesarea: A Cartographic Record of the Garden State*, The Historical Society Board approved the purchase of a copy which will be presented to the Haddon Heights Library Director Chris Walter, at our July meeting, for their collection of books about NJ.

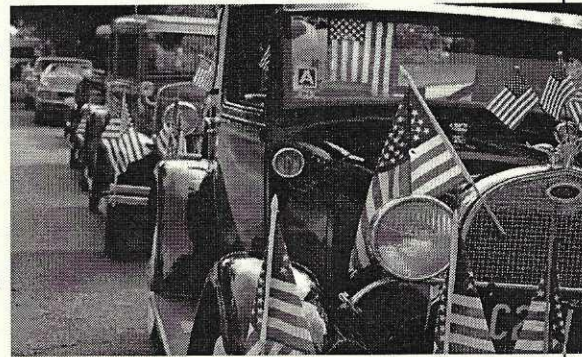


"THERE GOES THAT ACTION NEWS VAN AGAIN"

Well, not exactly..... As you know, every July Fourth, I represent the Haddon Heights Historical Society in as many parades as I can get to. This year, "Florence" and I made it to Barrington and Haddonfield, in addition to leading a string of antique and classic cars along the parade route in our own hometown. As you can see, Florence proudly bore the banner of the Historical Society, and we had a few moments of fame as our parade was covered on Channel 6 Action News broadcasts!



Thanks also, to my friends Mark Zimmerman, John Carter, and Dave Mellor, who brought out their Model A's to join me in Haddon Heights.



GLOVER MILL & RIDGWAY GLOVER- WILD WEST PHOTOGRAPHER- (Part 1) I recently received the following article from Gerald Hayes Drinkwater. Gerry is a local historiographer who is interested in Family History Research and Genealogy. He asked if we would like to share his research about the mill and this very unusual member of the local Glover family. I contacted Mr. Drinkwater, and told him I was excited to be able to bring light on this lesser known Haddon Heights figure.

The arrival of the 19th Century in the Southern New Jersey region brought with it a new wave of historical subjects, events, and achievers. People such as renowned poet, Walt Whitman and his poem "Leaves of Grass", Philadelphia Paleontologist Edgar Drinker Cope, "Haddy", and his 30-year Dinosaur Bone Wars, and wild-west photographer W. Ridgway Glover, with his escapades in the Dakota Territory, are among the host of luminaries.

Historiographers should not bypass investigating a fascinating and brave historical subject like the young South Jersey Quaker, named W. Ridgway Glover, who was born and raised in what was to become Haddon Heights. In the midst of the pioneer wild-west battles of the 1860's era American Indian Wars, he was assigned to complete Native American and Military peace treaty photo opportunities at Fort Laramie, Wyoming, along the perilous Bozeman Trail, for the Smithsonian Institution. This fearless young man's bravery, resulting in disregard for his own safety, even when compared to the valor of battle hardened enlisted men, cavalrymen, and officers, was, in fact, what has singled him out as one of those unshakable rare human beings, who, in life, makes reason stare.

Ridgway was a 6th generation member of the wealthy Quaker Glover family, to live and prosper in America. It was a family ancestor Richard Glover of England, who first emigrated to America's eastern shores as the 18th Century began. One can easily assume that Richard eyed the beautiful tree-lined landscape, rich soil and farming culture on the opposite South Jersey shore across from the bustling Philadelphia city life. Possibly while exploring or boating into the endless 25 mile Big Timber Creek waterway, snaking into Southern New Jersey from the Delaware River shoreline, Richard surveyed and located desirable open farmland there.

He decided on an extensive land purchase of most of the then Gloucester County farm parcels, now known as Haddon Heights and Mt. Ephraim.



In the early years of the 19th Century on that rural land settlement, is where Ridgway Glover entered the scene on May 29, 1831. He was one of seven children born to James Glover (1788-1855) and Elizabeth Lewis Glover (1790-1849) in a large house on the property. The little we know about Ridgway's early life is centered in the Glover family's running of the King's Run Fulling Mill. The mill and large land holdings were the source of the family's substantial power and wealth. When farmer John Siddon sold his home to Samuel Brown, John T. Glover (1729-1807), Ridgway Glover's great grandfather, hired Brown to operate the adjacent mill which John Glover built in 1773-1776. Brown eventually sold the house to Ridgway's grandfather John Thorn Glover (1753-1824). Later, his son James T. Glover (1788-1855) co-owned and operated the family's fulling mill. Outlying property remained in the Glover family until 1950.

The Glover family owned three houses on their extensive estate. John T's house, called the Glover-Hatcher house, was built on the upper triangle property on Park Ave. near the source of Bellmawr Ave.. This house was demolished in the 1960's after many years of neglect, but the original smooth round glacier stone walls still outline the property, and the front steps to the house are now used for short cuts up the hill. In Spring season, the property displays beautiful double cherry blossom trees which add beauty to the vacant landscape where once, an historic house quietly reposed in the center island. The handsome Isaac Glover house is located on New Jersey Ave. bordering Mt. Ephraim. Ridgway Glover's family home still stands on the wooded terrace along Sylvan Ave., and its beauty as an historic residence seems to yearn for the once happy family of nine or more who lived there in successive generations.



However, in the second half of the 19th Century, the industrial revolution and steam powered textile mills replaced the outmoded water wheel operations, in the processing of fabric. By the end of the Civil War, the fulling mill was closed and Ridgway was most likely not anxious or inclined to farm for a living. At a young age, he found more exciting and interesting technologies available, like photography, which had gained tremendous strides in utilization and popularity before and during the Civil War years.

What is more, the original operation and process of fabric fulling as a business, was tedious and required that a head race be constructed behind the mill. To accomplish that, King's Run had to be dammed to facilitate construction of the head race. Water running above from the head race flowed onto a huge waterwheel and the weight of the water generated energy and turned the axle and wheel. The flow of water also activated wooden hammers, which pounded the cotton fabric placed in a water trough until the fabric was thickened, colored, and stretch dried outdoors in large squares. As the initial process cycled out, a tail race dumped the water back into the King's Run, ending the cycle operation. The Borough of Haddon Heights bought the mill property in 1911, and the building was razed shortly thereafter to clear land for more pertinent activities.

Additionally, a most interesting history has come out of the Glover Fulling Mill business, as Betsy Ross and other Revolutionary Period seamstresses who are said to have frequented Grovers Mill to purchase their fabrics. It is also a traditional belief that Betsy Ross may have purchased her fabric from Glover's Mill to stitch together the first American flag as recorded in history books.

As the scion or descendant of the prominent Glover family, young Ridgway was well educated, financially established and comfortable, as described in family records. His financial independence and social status at a young age, allowed Ridgway the opportunity to pursue a profession in photography. Glover was enamored with the new and exciting technology invented in 1840, and having financial resources, purchased his own equipment; most likely in nearby Philadelphia. The technology of photography in that time would be similar to the introduction of the PC in American homes in the 1980's.

Well Boys and girls, stay tuned for the next installment of this article featuring the unusual life of Ridgway Glover...

COMING EVENTS

7/20/15- 7:00pm- General Membership Meeting
 8/1/15- 11:00am- Indian King Guided Tour
 10/19/15- 7:00pm- General Membership Meeting
 11/7/15- LHSNJ Mtg- Mount Tabor, Morris Co.

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER- Your Dues "Paid Through" YEAR date is printed on your newsletter label. If your date is not 2015, your Dues are "Due". You can complete a membership application with your current information and mail it to our post office box, or bring it to the next meeting!

HAPPY 350th...NEW JERSEY... Just a reminder that 2015 is the 350th birthday of the founding of New Jersey. Help celebrate this significant anniversary by discovering some NJ History !!

REMEMBER THE GOOD OLD DAYS-
 We have copies of the Historical Society's book "Haddon Heights-The Ideal Suburb" available for sale at the Library. This book is a collection of reminiscences from our past and holds much in-

Just a reminder...The Historical Society is a 501(c)3 organization. Please keep us in mind as you plan your charitable donations. Make us part of Your Legacy...

Please make every effort to share history. Our membership has dropped significantly over the last few years, please tell your friends about our programs and this entertaining and informative newsletter (I apologize for the self-serving advertisement). We need your help and active membership! Let's continue to "Remember Yesterday for the people of tomorrow"...

Ken Funkhouser, Editor

2015 Historical Society Board

<u>President-(2014-2016)</u>	Elena Hill
<u>Vice-President-(2014-2016)</u>	Bob Hunter
<u>Past President-</u>	Margaret Westfield
<u>Treasurer-(Ends 2016)</u>	Art Ritter
<u>Secretary- (Ends 2016)</u>	Judy Buecker
<u>Trustees-(2013-2016)</u>	Virginia Appleby
	Ken Funkhouser
	Anne McAdams

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<u>Newsletter Ed.-</u>	Ken Funkhouser
<u>Membership Chair-</u>	Joan Rossler
<u>Web Master-</u>	Dan Alexander
<u>Nominating Comm.-</u>	Bob Hunter/ Peter Hill
<u>Borough Council Liaison</u>	Rose Fitzgerald
<u>Affairs-</u>	Ginny Appleby
<u>Merch/Fund Raising-</u>	Joan Rossler/ Ginny Appleby
<u>Programs/Publicity-</u>	Doug Michell/ Dan Alexander
<u>Programs/Publicity- Asst.</u>	Vacant
<u>Digital Photographer</u>	Vacant
<u>Contact the Board : WWW.HHHISTORICAL.ORG</u>	
<u>Mail correspondence- P.O. Box 118 Haddon Heights, NJ 08035</u>	

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