

Wenonah Historical Society

PO Box 32
Wenonah, New Jersey 08090-0032

Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 1 January 2004

A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT ROCCO DOTO

Dear Members,

The Wenonah Historical Society has had a very active 2003. Our membership has reached an all time high of over 100 Families. We have been reaching out to the community and have been actively recruiting new members, particularly targeting new residents with welcoming packets.

We have advertised our monthly programs and meetings in both our local newsletter and the Gloucester County Times. Two of our programs were both sponsored and paid for by the New Jersey Council for the Humanities-Horizon Speakers Bureau. Margaret Westfield, a Historic Architect, Preservation Consultant and Coordinator of the Burlington County College Historic Preservation Certificate Program also provided two programs.

We have been very active in fundraisers and have added several new items for purchase including a Garden Flag of Princess Wenonah, and an updated mug with a color photo of the Historic Train station.

Lastly we have started to plan for the conversion of the upper

floor of the train station into a Wenonah Museum. The museum will showcase our collection of artifacts, maps, newspapers and pictures. This endeavor may be costly and time consuming and we will be reaching out to the community for financial contributions and Volunteers. We would like to have the Museum Officially open for our Fourth of July Celebration.

WHS OFFICERS 2004

President: *Rocco Doto*
Vice Pres. *Jack Sheppard Sr.*
Secretary *Eileen Caraker*
Treasurer *Carol Wiltsee*
Corr. Sec. *Betty MacLeod*
Trustee *Vicki McCall*
Trustee

Meetings second Friday of the month at the Wenonah Community Center except June, July and August

we will continue to work with the Mayor and Council with regard to the renovations planned for the Train Station as part of the T21 grant that Wenonah was awarded by the State.

We will also be responding and clarifying our Nomination of Historic Places (Train Depot) to the State Historic Preservation office which has tentatively approved our submission.

2004 will be an exciting year and I am so thankful to be your President and coordinate with the other Trustees our long dreamed about museum. I am sure that the whole town will be as surprised as I was in seeing all of the various artifacts in our possession and the many more that we continue to receive.

I wish all of you a Peaceful, Happy and Prosperous New Year.

COMMUNITY CENTER UPDATE

The railroad station Community Center finally has its new roof, matching that of the new Borough Hall building opposite the post office. To say that we are happy would be an understatement, as the building was fast becoming an eyesore.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE WENONAH INN HOTEL

"People desirous of witnessing the program for the celebration of the Fourth of July in Wenonah and remain throughout the day will be served with dinner and supper at reduced rates. Prices for dinner, 75 cents, supper 50 cents."

From the Constitution newspaper circa 1880

The following notice was retrieved from the files of Milton H. Webb

SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of a writ of fieri facias, to me directed. issued out of the Court of Chancery of the State -of New Jersey, will be exposed at Public Sale, on

Friday, the 18th day of October 1935

next, between the hours of 12 and 5 o'clock, to-wit, at 2 o'clock Standard Time in the afternoon of said-day, at the Sheriff's Office, County Building, In the City of Woodbury. County of Gloucester, and State of New Jersey, all the following described Real Estate, that is to say:

ALL the following tract or parcel of land and premises hereinafter particularly described, situate; lying and being In the Borough of Wenonah In the County of Gloucester and State, of New Jersey, bounded and described as follows;

BEGINNING at a point In the East line of Clinton Avenue 150 feet South of the. South-east corner of Clinton and Mantua Avenues and running thence (1) In an Easterly direction parallel with Mantua Avenue, 300 feet to the West line of Marion Avenue; thence (2) in a Southerly direction along the said line of Marion Avenue, 297 feet 6 inches to the North line of Cherry-Street; thence (3) in a Westerly direction along the said line of Cherry Street 150 feet to a point; thence (4) in a Northerly direction at right angles with said line of Cherry Street 100 feet to-a corner; thence (5) In a Westerly direction parallel with said North line of Cherry ,Street 150 feet to the said East line of Clinton Avenue; thence (6) in a Northerly direction along the said line of Clinton Avenue 197 feet 6 -inches to the place of beginning.

TOGETHER with all and singular the goods and chattels, furniture, household utensils, machinery, books, linen, rifles, equipment, and any and all other property of every kind and description contained in those certain building or buildings known as The Wenonah Military Academy and used in connection with that institution, including all, good and chattels which may hereafter replace the same and all goods for which the same may be exchanged.

It being the intent that the above description includes all of the property, real and personal, used in the. operation of the military academy formerly the Wenonah Military Academy and now known as Wenonah Military Academy, Inc.

The approximate amount of decree sought .to be satisfied by this sale is\$65,500.

Seized as the property of Anna J; .Lorence, widow, et als, Defendants, and taken in execution at the suit of. Walter Lee Sheppard, substituted trustee, et als, Complainants, and to be sold by

WILLIAM A. DOWNER, Jr., Sheriff

Dated September 24, 1935.

RIGGINS & DAVIS, Solicitors

Price of above advertisement is \$25.16.

Although the automobile forced the closing of the Wenonah Inn built in 1871, a new era opened in Wenonah. Major J.R. Jones, former head of the drill team sponsored by the John Wanamaker Store, Philadelphia, riding past the vacant Wenonah Inn, conceived an idea for the use of the facility. He immediately relayed his plan to Stephen Greene.

The Wenonah Military Academy opened September 20, 1904.

In rooms that formerly accommodated hotel guests interested in hops and cuisine, the rooms now accommodated cadets interested in horsemanship and, supposedly, Cicero. Hotel rooms were converted to classrooms, dormitories, a library, a chapel and an infirmary, although a communication to parents hinted the infirmary would rarely be used.

Although Wenonah was accustomed to the social activities of the Wenonah Inn during the summer, the Wenonah Military Academy kept the town hopping during the school term. The first month the Academy was opened, there were a reception and dance for two hundred people, a skating carnival on Warner's Lake with hundreds of lighted lanterns, a minstrel show, a house party and numerous football games. This was the beginning of a social whirl that kept Wenonah spinning for the next thirty years. Wenonah residents were invited to band concerts, glee club performances, drama productions, declamation contests and horsemanship exhibitions. Local girls vied for invitations to dances and on Sunday the whole town turned out for the dress parade and drill demonstrations.

During the presidency of Dr. Charles H. Lorence, the Wenonah Military Academy reached its peak with an enrollment of 200 cadets who arrived from as far away as California and Cuba. Upon the death of Dr. Lorence, Major Clayton A. Snyder assumed the presidency. For 23 years Major Lloyd L. Lammert was headmaster and athletic director. Other key members of the faculty included Captain Thomas A. Clingan, instructor in mathematics and Mary Bilderback, instructor in instrumental music. Dr. Thomas J. Mulvey was director of advertising. Cadets enrolled in the classical, Latin-scientific, or English-commercial courses. Military science included instruction in rifle practice, infantry drills, horsemanship and military discipline. Horsemanship instruction was \$100 extra, but it included the rental of the horse.

In 1913 the annual charges of \$600 included "tuition, board, heat light, twelve pieces of laundry and mending of underclothing." Tuition doubled during the years but included "table linen, pressing and use of firearms." However this charge did not include the \$250 cost for a uniform. The cadet wore a uniform of gray with a white belt and white crisscross straps both in front and back of the jacket and the hat was held by a chinstrap. The officers' full dress uniform included a sword, sash and shako. By 1916 the Academy announced that there is "now a waiting list; every available space is filled."

While military discipline soon earned the Academy the name of "The West Point of South Jersey," athletics brought fame to the school. On Stephen Greene's athletic field where the grandstand held 500 spectators, cadets ran a quarter-mile cinder track, played football with prep schools like Malvern, Seton Hall and Pennington, played baseball and practiced horsemanship and military tactics. A twelve-acre field along Glassboro Road was used for polo and lacrosse. Golf was played at the Oak Valley Country Club, sometimes referred to as the Wenonah Country Club or, originally Altwald Golf Links, which was situated in a wooded area off Ogden Road. The word "ogden" is derived from the Swedish word meaning "valley of oaks."

During the summer the polo ponies were taken to the Pocono area where Camp Wenonah was established for a number of years. On the Wenonah polo field one polo team defeated a West Point team. Many graduating cadets gained recognition on college teams and Herbert J. Pennock, who became a major league pitcher, is named in the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY

In addition to the former Wenonah Inn, the Wenonah Military Academy occupied the Charles H. Lorence Cottage that housed senior cadets and the Clayton A. Snyder Cottage that housed junior cadets. A drill hall was built behind the Academy and it was claimed to have the largest floor space of any gymnasium in South Jersey. It was large enough to drill an entire battalion, and of course, to accommodate the dances. At one mid-term reception and dance six hundred people attended.

After the games and dances the cadets escorted their guests to the Wenonah Drug Store and to Walter Wentzell's store for sandwiches and ice cream.

Wenonah Historical Society

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Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 2 February 2004

A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT ROCCO DOTO

Dear Members,

If you would like to learn more about the history of our great town, please consider joining the Wenonah Historical Society. We meet at 7:30 on the 2nd Friday of each month in the Historic Train Station. We offer informative newsletters and great monthly programs. For 2004, programs about the history of Gloucester County, a presentation on other Wenonah's around the country and a round table discussion by long term Wenonah Residents are being planned to name just a few.

Great news about our planned Wenonah Museum! The borough has already turned over two of the three rooms in the upper level of the Train Station to the Historical Society. This now provides a permanent safe storage area for our artifacts and documents as well as a work area to organize our possessions.

We have begun working with a local resident who has volunteered his time to help design the official Museum. This individual is a professional display expert and has worked on the museum at the Baseball hall of fame.

If you would like more information or want to make a tax-deductible contribution to the WHS to help with the museum, please contact Rocco F Doto at 415-1215

COMMUNITY CENTER UPDATE

The following is a communication from the Borough Engineer to Mayor Capaldi providing the latest information concerning the much needed repairs to the Community Center.

From: KLE Consultants
To: Mayor Tom Capaldi
Subject: TEA 21 Grant

Dear Mayor,

I just wanted to take this opportunity to update you as to the status of the TEA 21 Project so you can relay the information to the Historical Society.

Late last week, I rec'd comments from the NJDOT Bureau of Environmental Services regarding the information that was submitted by ARH. Basically, there were a number of issues that still need to be addressed in order to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

I will be reviewing and addressing these comments during the next few weeks and I may

need the assistance of the Historical Commission.

Therefore, should the Society ask you regarding the status, feel free to relay this message and I will most likely be asking for a contact person at the Historical Society that I can work with to coordinate a few of the remaining requirements.

Signed; David Kreck, P.E.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

The speaker at our February meeting will be William Kephart from Pitman, NJ. Bill is a local living in Pitman for 47 years. He has a keen interest in history and is a former Trustee of the County Historical Society.

Bill will present a slide program entitled "Historical Sites of Gloucester County" which he has previously presented to many organizations, schools and colleges in the region. He is a member of the American Museum of Glass in Millville, NJ. Should be an interesting session.

Mark your calendars for the next meeting March 12th as our speaker will be world-renowned glass artist Paul Stankard who lives in neighboring Mantua. Those who have seen his work will not want to miss this meeting.

1912 - 1913

Excerpts from the Catalogue of the
Wenonah Military Academy

The Wenonah Military Academy was instituted during the winter of 1904, and opened its doors to its first pupils September 19th of that year.

Major John R. Jones, of Camden, New Jersey, was the organizer and superintendent. The Academy has grown in size and in efficiency under practically the same academic staff, with Major Jones as superintendent and proprietor.

The Academy aims at giving the boy a physical, moral and intellectual training; accepting boys as young as ten years of age, it fits them for college or for business life.

While the college preparatory training is a feature of the school, it does not dominate it; consequently, in response to a widely felt need, it supplements the four years of high school work with courses in advanced English, and subjects of practical value in the scientific, business and political world.

The idea that the high school course should simply train for college entrance examinations is fast disappearing, and the integrity of the preparatory school as an independent unit in education and in culture is being sought and fostered by the leaders of secondary education.

The achievement of this modern product in its graduates is one of the aims and ideals of W. M. A.

Testimonial Letter from Pleased Father

May 20, 1912.

Major John R. Jones, Superintendent
Wenonah Military Academy
Wenonah, N. J.

My Dear Major Jones;

Permit me to thank you for the very satisfactory manner in which you have educated my son, Raymond.

The progress he has made in his studies is most pleasing. I do not doubt that any boy of average ability could make rapid advancement at W. M. A. for he tells me "If a fellow shows inclination for his work, the faculty are only too glad to give him personal attention."

From my recent visit to Wenonah I was deeply impressed by the beautiful town in which the Academy is located. It is so free from all temptations which seek young men that I believe it is not too much to say the moral surroundings are ideal.

Another great item of school life is athletics and I must congratulate you on the fine records your school has made in that branch. The reason no doubt is the encouragement which sports receive at W. M. A. My son has told me you request the boys to spend the most of their recreation time on the athletic field and the gymnasium. This I approve of very much and the boys will know how to thank you only when they begin to realize their physical development.

A military school in my estimation is the only kind of a school for boys of the habit-forming age. The sooner parents realize this the better for their boys, the benefit which my son received from the daily Setting Up exercise and military drill is evident in his carriage and general bearing. I must say the discipline of your school is firm without being severe and the habits which my son has formed under your influence will be of great value to him during his college career and later in life.

Again I want to thank you for the splendid results accomplished.

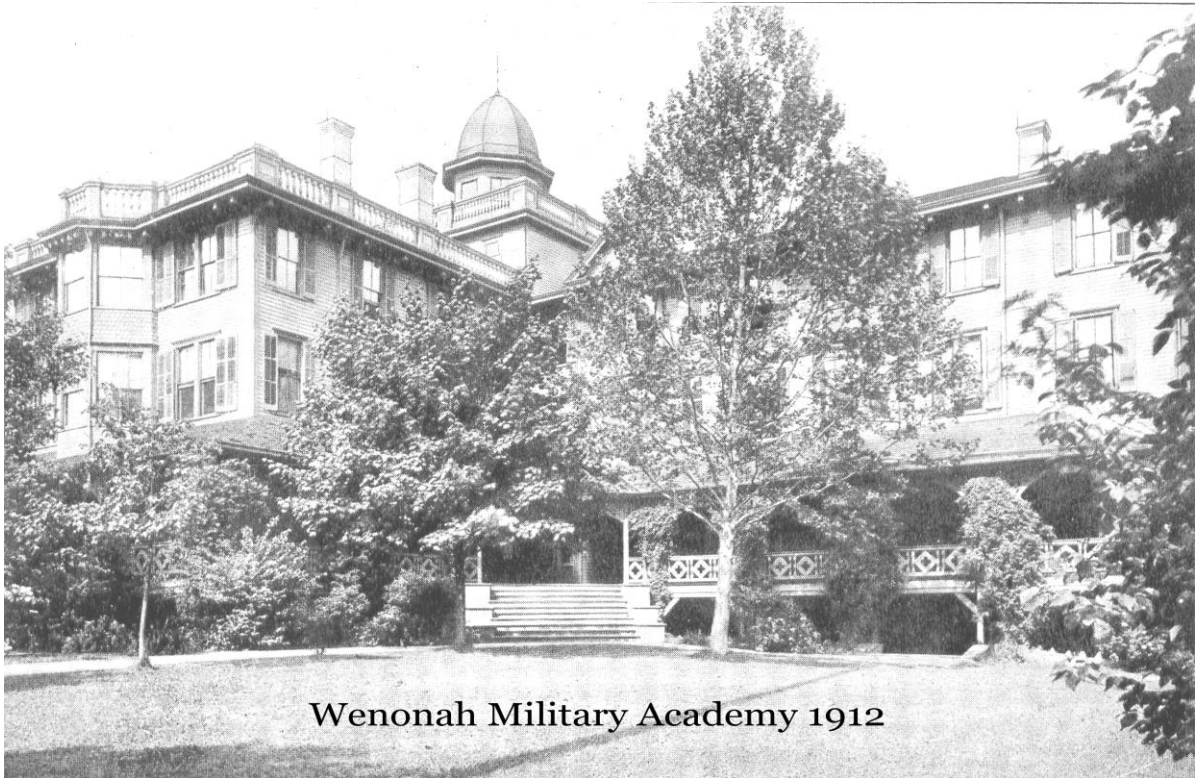
In closing will say I know of no other school in which I would rather have sent him to complete his preparatory work.

Wishing you and W. M. A. continued success, I remain;

Very Respectfully Yours,
J. V. OSMUN
31 Alton Street
Elizabeth, New Jersey



Wenonah Military Academy Football Team 1912 (L.L. Lammert top left)



Wenonah Military Academy 1912

Wenonah Historical Society

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Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 3 March 2004

A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT ROCCO DOTO

Dear Members,

We have started out 2004 with lots of activities and optimism. The Museum is certain to become a reality. We have already taken over two rooms on the second floor of the train Depot Community Center. We have File cabinets, desks and an antique map cabinet that was donated to the Society by Cynthia Baum. Cynthia's father was Bill Baum, long-time borough engineer as well as Gloucester County Engineer. The Wenonah Library has also given us two sets of Card Catalogue cabinets.

We now have a safe space to store our artifacts and more importantly to start organizing and cataloging our items. Lots of work is needed in this area and we need volunteers to help in many ways. Please contact me if you are interested in helping! There is a job for everyone.

Our Monthly programs have been outstanding and I believe that the February program about the history of Gloucester County was one of the best attended. This month's program by glass artist Paul Stankard should without doubt be very exciting.

This is a very exciting time to be a part of the Wenonah Historical Society. The WHS is certainly a group on the move.

Should you want to volunteer or make a tax-deductible contribution to the organization to help with the

museum, please contact me at 415-1215.

PS; we have received an exciting contribution to the Society and you must come to the March meeting to see it!

WHS OFFICERS 2004

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Secretary	Eileen Caraker
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Trustee	Vicki McCall
Trustee	Macy Pedersen
Trustee	Lucy Schulz

Meetings second Friday of the month at the Wenonah Community Center except June, July and August

COMMUNITY CENTER UPDATE

Report by Jack C. Sheppard, WHS designated member to the TEA 21 Community Center Grant Committee.

I was invited to a meeting held Tuesday, March 2nd at the Community Center attended by Mayor Tom Capaldi, Councilman Bill Schnarr, and Bill Schramm. The meeting was conducted by Borough Engineer David Kreck. The purpose of the meeting was to be brought up to date on the current status of the grant in relation to station building need, and to set a course of action for the immediate future.

Not meaning to downplay the grant effort but I have to point out the first meeting of the Committee I attended

was November, 2000 and thus far we have managed a roof.

It does appear that to continue our qualification for the grant funding it is up to the town to express support for the building repairs both in writing and at a public meeting that will be held for information and support purposes

MARCH PROGRAM

The speaker at the March 12th meeting will be world-renowned glass artist Paul Stankard who lives in neighboring Mantua.

On page 2 of this issue there is information about Paul describing his early life, how he got his start with the glass paperweights and listing some of the accolades and awards he has been given.

We can all look forward to this meeting, it should be great.

HISTORICAL TIDBIT

On May 28th, 1887, an agreement was made to build a Two Room School House on Marion Avenue. Daniel W. Brown, a local builder (who built many Houses in Town) was contracted by George W Baily, E.C. Stevenson and Andrew W. Carey. The cost was \$2,245.85. The contract provided Brown would be paid as follows:

\$100.00 when the foundation is finished; \$250.00 when the building is raised; \$250.00 when the building is enclosed; \$500.00 When the carpenter and mill work is finished; \$645.85 when completely finished.

Paul Stankard

As most of us know Paul Stankard lives in Mantua Township where he maintains a studio.

Paul was born in North Attleboro, Massachusetts on April 7, 1943. He struggled through high school and in 1961 decided to attend Salem County Vocational Technical Institute (now Salem Community College) where he studied scientific glassblowing for two years. Afterwards, he worked in the scientific industry for eight years for such companies as McAllister Scientific, Fisher Scientific, and Philco-Ford. During this time, he developed an interest in making small lamp-worked animals as a way of satisfying his creative urges, but what he really wanted to do was to make paperweights. In 1969 Paul stopped making the animals and devoted himself entirely to paperweights, working tirelessly to develop his skills.

For the past thirty years Paul Stankard has been practicing an art of gentle persuasion. Using glass as his medium he has quietly but persistently been spreading a message that the natural world, especially the realm of wild flowers, testifies to a higher, spiritual ideal.

Looking at a Stankard botanical sculpture or paperweight one is immediately struck by the dazzling technical achievement it represents. Years of dedication and experimentation have honed Paul's natural talent to an extraordinarily high level. But more than skill is evident in these intimate sculptures and Stankard's interest goes far beyond simply replicating the forms of nature. He is expressing a deeper idea as he creates what critic James Yood has called "...some of the most poetic and nuanced commentary on the wonders of nature as exists in any medium anywhere in contemporary art."

From 1971 to 1975, his reputation grew so that he became well known for his floral paperweights. By 1977, he was making a limited edition series of weights for the Smithsonian, and by 1982, another for the Art Institute of Chicago. His weights progressed from those that resembled the traditional round French floral weights to rectangular botanicals composed of two or more laminated pieces to create a complete scene. His celebrity grew and his pieces continued to be highly sought after.

These botanicals transformed the collective attitude of paperweight enthusiasts. Stankard's pieces were thought of as sculpture, challenging the traditional notion of what a paperweight was. As other artists took notice of his success and tried to emulate his work, Paul found himself an important influence on both paperweight making and glass art as a whole.

Stankard is the world's leading paperweight artist. His work embodies the spirit and soul of his subject matter, needing no explanation or justification. Each piece contains his personal poetic vision expressed with a technical mastery unmatched in contemporary paperweight making. The imagery goes far beyond what might be construed as simply realistic. Paul's botanicals imagine spirits inhabiting the roots of plants. They seem to dance in a frozen choreography with insects as their counterparts above the ground. These communities are suspended in crystal space like tiny galaxies, complete in their environment and perfect in their spirit.

Today, Stankard is without peer, precisely because of an unwavering commitment to integrity and a firm belief in his art. "My work is my prayer", he says, stating in words what his pieces express silently in color and form. His work is included in nearly every important museum and collection, private and public, in the world

His work is included in permanent museum collections in nine countries and has been featured in over 50 articles and videos. He has received several awards for his contributions to the field, including the Urban Glass Award for Innovations in Glassblowing Techniques. In 2000, Paul was awarded the prestigious honor of being named a Fellow of the American Craft Council and was elected to the ACC Board of Trustees. In 1999, Salem Community College named him a Distinguished Alumnus. The College has named the gallery in the Glass Center in his honor.

In recent years, he has lectured and taught workshops in the United States, Scotland and Japan, influencing new artists throughout the world. He continues to promote the formal education of flameworked glass at Salem Community College by providing artistic guidance and teaching classes.

The Wenonah Historical Society is privileged and honored to have Paul Stankard attend our meeting and speak to us.

Last Thursday morning the trolley poles from a short distance south of Stille Chew's (CVS is there now on route 45) residence to the Mantua Creek, a distance of about 3,000 feet, were discovered to have been despoiled of feed wire sometime during the previous night. Investigation showed the wire was removed with considerable skill.

The season at the Inn is at its height and the enterprising management keep fully abreast of the social pleasures. Last Friday evening the guests gave a testimonial entertainment to the Inn's excellent orchestra, the audience filling the entertainment room of the Inn. The program was as follows: 1. Overture-Bonnie Scotland Orchestra; 2. Selection-Mrs. George Weale; 3. Cornet Solo-Mr. Edward Belding; 4. D-metrius- Mrs. Nellie Keenan; 5. Character Impersonations-Mrs. C.A. Wahlstrom; 6. The Forge in the Forest-Night-Storm-Thunder and Lightning-Dawn-Song of the Birds-Daybreak-Birds singing near the running brook- Sounds of Domestic Fowls-The Clock Strikes Five- The Smith at Work.

The stables of John Verrick were destroyed by fire Monday afternoon entailing a heavy loss. The flames were not discovered until it was impossible to save the building and the contents were consumed with the exception of a few articles. One horse was taken from the burning structure after some difficulty. The origin of the fire is a mystery.

Job Scott is improving his meadow by the use of a mud digger and at the same time making the creek more navigable by deepening the channel.

On Thursday of last week more people traveled on the trolley than on any one day since it has been in operation. (Mantua)

The trolley ride participated in by a jolly party from our village to Willow Grove Park was one worth repeating. (with the exception of the ferry ride across the Delaware, the whole trip was by trolley-they could have gone as far as Easton, Pa.)

The closing event of the ballroom series at the Inn was held on Wednesday evening last. Mr. and Mrs. Wahlstrom led the grand march. A number of Philadelphia guests participated and a most delightful evening was spent.

Mr. and Mrs. W.J.McCahan, who spent the summer at the Inn will move today into their handsome residence in West Philadelphia. (He was married to Frank Shull's daughter-NW comer Clinton and Mantua Avenue-he was founder and CEO of Quaker City Sugar Company and later was one of the founders of what was to be the American Stores)

Rev. H.J. Zelle, president of the New Jersey Conference Epworth League and pastor of the ME Church of this place was joined in marriage at noon on Wednesday to Miss Claire Dobbins of Camden at the home of her father, W.H. Dobbins.

Miss Mary Linard recently fell from a chair on which she was standing and fractured her hip.

Tuesday evening this borough was greatly enlivened by its first musical of the season given at the home of Mrs. George B. Finch. The "talent" consisted of Miss Sharp and Miss Grist of Philadelphia, Mrs. Turner and daughter, Mrs. Mehorter, and Mrs. Finch of Wenonah. Mrs. Johnson, the 'wit" of the occasion created much merriment by her dry but funny sayings. Mr. Finch and Mrs. Mehorter, the "thorns" among so many "roses" enjoyed the distinction immensely, as did the ladies. At ten, the guests retired to the dining room where dainty refreshments were served, the table decorations being a profusion of choice asters.

Joseph Noblitt and family returned on Wednesday from Ocean City where they are spending the summer. (He was a Civil War veteran and a friend of the Lake brothers, founders of Ocean City) Several Heptasophs from here attended the picnic at Washington Park last Tuesday.

The Berkley (now called Mount Royal) Baptist Sunday School picnicked here last Wednesday.

Surely Wenonah is a fine resort for all kinds of outings.

Charles M. Wilkins and family are in the Catskill Mountains for a while.

Gloucester County Democrat

Gloucester County Constitution

Wenonah Historical Society

PO Box 32
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Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 4 April 2004

A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT ROCCO DOTO

Dear Members,

Spring is in the air and flowers and trees are blooming all around town. Ideas are also blooming about the creation of the Wenonah Museum. We are still waiting for the Court and Court Clerks office to move to the new building so that we can begin some of the physical changes. Hopefully the move, planned for April will be on schedule. We have been provided with some preliminary Museum designs but are still in the fact gathering stages. We will have to work hard in order to have the grand opening of the Museum for July 4th.

Many volunteers are needed and as I like to say we can find a job for anyone. Not all of it is physical and much cataloging and identification of artifacts and photographs are needed. I have had requests by at least five different people for either copies of photographs or News articles and House plaque information that I no longer can accommodate until the complete transition of The Wenonah Historical Societies collection is reorganized.

I am lucky to have a great group of Trustees that I can rely on but welcome any help that you offer. Please call me at 415-1215 if you are available or sign up at our next regular meeting.

Talking about our next meeting, it should be quite exciting. Frank

Eggert is bringing together a group of individuals for a "round table" program of live Historical accounts of early Wenonah experiences. I am sure that we will all share some laughs and tears and be reminded of the "simpler" days. It's a program not to be missed and please bring along one of your neighbors!

I look forward to seeing you all on April 9th.

WHS OFFICERS 2004

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APRIL PROGRAM

The format for the April 9th meeting will be unusual and hopefully very informative and entertaining.

Member Frank Eggert, a life-long resident of Wenonah has proposed a "round-table" format comprised of other residents of our region with memories of an earlier time in our town.

The idea will be for those who have volunteered to be part of the group arrangement to recall as many

memories as they can about growing up in or near Wenonah.

There will be a record kept of the proceedings using both visual and voice recording equipment so the recollections will become part of the Society's permanent record.

All members and attendees are invited, in fact encouraged to join in with any memorabilia they may recall or bring with them.

This kind of meeting, should it prove successful, could bear repeating. It is the kind of activity our Mission Statement envisioned.

HISTORICAL TIDBIT

It was a nice little village, bearing an Indian name "Wenonah"; a quiet safe country town, ideal for bringing up children.

I was born in Philadelphia in 1885, but my first recollection of being alive would be 1890 in Wenonah where both my sisters were born. There was a ravine called "The Glen" in that part of the town then known as Frogtown. The glen was a shady, cool place, containing a spring with good, pure clear water. The outflow from the spring had been dammed up to form a very small pond in which I remember seeing catfish, probably placed there by some neighborhood men for future use in a frying pan. Many a drink we boys enjoyed from that spring, returning home from swimming in the railroad culvert, the outlet from upper lakes....If you want to hear more of the story come to the meeting on April 9th.

Dr. George W. Bailey

1841 - 1916

George W. Bailey was born near Clarksboro, Gloucester County, New Jersey, December 5, 1840, and eventually lived in both Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Wenonah, New Jersey. He was born on his father's farm and for his early education was sent to the public schools of Gloucester County and to the State Normal School.

He served loyally and faithfully on the side of the North in the civil war as a sergeant in in the Twenty-fourth New Jersey Volunteers with distinguished service at Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville. He also served in the hospital service in the Spanish American War.

After the civil war he entered the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, from which he graduated with the degree of M. D. in 1868, and then engaged in the general practice of his profession in Philadelphia. In 1872 his health began to fail under the strenuous labor in which he was engaged, and he was compelled to abandon his practice.

It was about this time that he bought land in Wenonah and built his home on the southeast corner of Mantua Avenue and South Clinton.

Very much interested in religion he was elected Superintendent of Wenonah Presbyterian Sunday School in 1871, shortly after the church first located in Wenonah.

He then for a time engaged in the real estate business in Camden, New Jersey, and after this in the wholesale coal business in Philadelphia. Finally he entered into the business of mining and shipping coal, and was for many years an influential member of the boards of directors of a number of business corporations. He was one of the prominent organizers of the Camden National Bank;

He eventually withdrew from his connection with all financial organizations with the exception of the Bridgeton National Bank and the Glassboro National Bank. Among the other important organizations with which Dr. Bailey was prominently connected should be mentioned Whitney Glass Works Company.

In 1906 he finally withdrew from active business.

Since early manhood Dr. Bailey was greatly interested in the organization and advancement of Sunday school work and he was a prominent and active member of some of the most important associations and organizations with that object in the country.

He was for many years the president of the New Jersey State Sunday School Association, and chairman emeritus of the executive committee of that association.

For many years also he was the treasurer of the International Sunday School Association, and chairman of the executive committee of the World's Sunday School Association.

In religion he was a Presbyterian and he was for many years a member of the board of trustees of the general assembly of that denomination as well as the vice-president of the general assembly's board of education. He was also a member of several special committees of that body and a member of the board of trustees of the Presbyterian Hospital. He was vice-chairman of the West Jersey Orphanage for Destitute Colored Children. In politics Dr. Bailey was a Republican,

Dr. Bailey married Annie McGill on June 2, 1891 at Wenonah, New Jersey. Annie was the daughter of, George L. McGill, a Philadelphia molasses merchant. They had two children, both of whom were born in Wenonah.

While in Wenonah Dr. Bailey was a very important person with involvement in community affairs as well as the church.

He was instrumental in the acquisition of the Commission form of government convincing the state legislature to introduce and adopt that legislation.

Dr. Bailey was as President of the Wenonah Commission and served in that capacity through 1885 and as a member of the body until 1893.

He was one of the owners of the private water company that served Wenonah. Wenonah eventually bought the water system in 1912 after a 106 to 48 vote by Wenonah citizens. The election was held at Joseph Noblitt's Hall on N. Marion Ave.

In a eulogy following the death of Dr. Bailey it was said Dr. Bailey was a true soldier. "He distinguished himself in the Civil War and the Spanish-American War, but he will be best known as a "soldier of the Cross". He was a champion of evangelism, a promoter of world movements, a business man and a Christian gentleman."

Dr. George W. Bailey was one of the main forces in the creation of Wenonah and for its widespread reputation as a Christian community.

Wenonah Historical Society

PO Box 32
Wenonah, New Jersey 08090-0032

Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 5 May 2004

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MAY PROGRAM

Charles (Chuck) Forsman, Bob Bevilacqua and John Schad were the prime movers for the recreation of the "Tea House" in Wenonah Woods. They will be present to tell us about the idea, the research, the approval process and it's construction.

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200 East Mantua Avenue
Hannah B. Farr Residence
circa 1877

The following information was provided by Wally Farr, son of Edward and Bertha Farr, and grandson of Hannah Farr:

Hannah B. Farr was a daughter of a leading manufacturer and niece of C.M. Bailey, a financial magnate and oilcloth manufacturer of Winthrop, Maine.

Hannah Bailey Farr and her husband, Lincoln D. Farr, originally from Maine, was from a long line of Puritan and Quaker stock, including direct lineage tracing back to the early days of Plymouth Rock.

Hannah Bailey Farr together with her son Edward and his young family lived at 200 East Mantua Avenue on the S.E. Corner of

Marion and Mantua Avenues until Edward Farr deemed the house he was building at Princeton and Mantua Avenues, "Little Grange", complete enough during 1897 for his wife and children (a growing family needing more room) to leave the mother's home and move into his newly built stone residence just on the other side of the Presbyterian Church from Grandmother Hannah.

This move by Edward left the roomy residence to Hannah to enjoy and entertain her grandchildren as they came and went by train to their schools including MIT and Princeton University.

Hannah's son Edward eventually became a founding member of the Mantua Land and Improvement Co. that was instrumental in developing Wenonah. He was President of the family's business in Camden, the Farr and Bailey Manufacturing Co. that developed linoleum from its oilcloth business before merging with the Congoleum Company in the early 1920's, President of the Camden Safe Deposit and

Trust Company, served the Wenonah Board of Education for 25 years, President of the Wenonah Free Public Library and headed Cooper Hospital as its Manager (chairman) of the Board (Cooper was Edward's first

wife's family name. She died suddenly after they moved away from Hannah and into Little Grange).

The Farr's were a driving force in Wenonah very much involved in the social activities in the town and contributors of time, money and physical facilities, the most notable of which, our public library.

Today, the original Hannah B. Farr residence serves as the Wyckoff dental offices. It bears her name on a Historical Society plaque in front of the residence as testament and in memoriam to the grand matriarch of one of Wenonah's original and most volunteer oriented families.



Wenonah 97 Years Ago 1907

The star entertainment given by the Jericho Military Guards, here, last evening was a grand success; about one hundred enjoyed the fun. Ice cream and dancing helped make the occasion delightful.

It is reported that Mr. Loomis and Mr. Genter will put up an ice cream plant here.

Mr. Wright, our new operator (telegraph) and ticket agent, thinks Wenonah is just the right place for a slim man to spend the summer.

FOR SALE one rooster and three Bantam hens - Charles Youst

Andrew H. Savage will sell his six weeks old bull to the butcher this week.

Oscar Redrow, who was hit by an electric train in Woodbury Saturday evening is still confined to his house.

Howard Vandergrift, who lights the gas lamps here was knocked down and rendered unconscious Friday night by a live wire. He was lighting the lamp at the main entrance to the park when the accident occurred. His left hand was burned nearly to the bone. The current had been turned off and the company offers a reward of \$50 for the identification of the party who turned the switch on.

The Wenonah Military Academy baseball team won their fourth straight victory by defeating the strong Villanova Academy team. The game was close from beginning to end.

The roof is nearly completed on R. H. Comey's mansion.

The cadets of the W.M.A. went on a practice march to Blackwood yesterday and to National Park today.

I am glad to see by Tuesday's paper that someone has interest enough in our park to bring its condition to the attention of the councilmen. It seems strange that they had not discovered it themselves. Isn't it a pity that one day in the year (4th of July) should be set aside to make the park so beautiful while the other three hundred and sixty-four days it looks like an abandoned beer garden. Why not take enough money from the 4th of July fund to keep the park in order, if the borough can't afford it. Citizen

Two rooms of the school were closed this morning on account of a case of scarlet fever.

Health Inspector Dawson, of Woodbury, was down this morning and fumigated the schoolrooms.

Theo. Geisel, of Woodbury, came near being run over at Middleton's crossing (there was a crossing at Cherry Street during this period) by an electric express Monday afternoon. He had just drove his laundry wagon on the track when he noticed the north bound coming a few feet away. With rare presence of mind he backed his horse off just as the train passed by. It was a narrow escape and Mr. Geisel has been quite nervous and unable to sleep since. This is the place that butcher Robinson's team had such a narrow escape.

A young man by the name of Slavin, who said he represented a cigar firm, called at Holeton's livery here and said he would be around several days. He had his team put up and fed and he got his supper and breakfast but nothing has been heard of his since. Mr. Holeton would like him to call and settle the bill.

George L. Dilks got lost last night while going through the park. The grass was so high he lost his way

Stephen Greene received 1,000 small perch yesterday which he will stock his beautiful lake here.

Come to the Spinsters Convention and see the old maids transformed into beautiful young maidens before your own eyes at Noblitt's Hall May 7. Benefit of the Bethel A.M.E. Church, Woodbury. Admission 25 cents

FOR SALE - Model F Ford Touring Car, with top, in first class condition. Address Box 67, Wenonah, NJ

The fountain has not started yet, and some people are anxious to have it in operation. (There was a public water fountain in town for horses and people donated by the Women's Christian Temperance Union. The big mystery is where it was located.)

The Academy relay team covered themselves with glory Saturday by winning their race against Blight School, Philip Brooks School, Franklin and Marshall Academy, Hamilton Institute, Glen Mill School, Maplewood Academy, Perkiomen Academy and Wilmington Friends School. Winning in the fast time of 3:57. The school received a banner.

The man who was arrested here for threatening Adam Knight was caught while sitting at Mrs. Lashly's table (She ran the drug store at 1 East Mantua Avenue.) The fellow walked in and said he wanted his dinner.

The people of this village in general are glad that Edward Gibson who attacked Miss Dorothy Paris, here last week, landed in State Prison, but some seem to think they could get better satisfaction and feel more satisfied if they could get their hands on him.

Mr. Harry Genter is running a huckster wagon in Wenonah.

The entertainment given for the benefit of the M.E. Sunday School by the Vespers Sketch Club was not very well attended.

Notice- On account of death in my family I will not be able to run my huckster wagon here before next Wednesday. E. Sharp

Those interested in Fourth of July celebration met last evening in Noblitt's Hall, and good hustling committees were appointed to look after matters.

Wenonah Historical Society

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Newsletter

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The Wenonah Military Academy, a Brief History

By Linda Haegele

During the 1920's, military academies were held in high esteem as an institution of learning. Even though World War I ended during 1918, patriotism still ran high in the country, and as a result, military academies flourished (Jay Scott, personal communication, March 7, 1989). One academy in particular was a roaring success, as demonstrated by the loyalty and love its alumni hold for it; namely the Wenonah Military Academy (WMA).

Fortunately, some of the former cadets of the WMA were willing to share some memories they have of life at the Academy. Edward Bayuk, Richard S. Beebe, Edgar W. Holton, and Robert Q. Hinckle attended the Academy during the early 1920's, and Percy Wise, Jay Scott and Joseph A. DiLemmo were students during the later 1920's. Even the wife of one of the teachers, Kathryn Knight, supplied invaluable information on life at the Academy. They each provided a deep insight into the loyalty and affection that developed there, as a result of the rural surroundings, the military training, the faculty and schooling, sports events and the various social activities in which the cadets vigorously participated.

The WMA opened its doors in 1904, and grew in popularity until, due to the Depression, it was forced, to close in 1935. It was founded by Stephen Greene, a wealthy printer from Philadelphia who, while driving through Wenonah, saw the potential in the old Wenonah Inn for a military academy (Richard S. Beebe, personal communication, March 31, 1989). In the early 1900's, Wenonah was a small town with only one thousand people, according to Jay Scott (1989). He says that the town was surrounded on all sides by woods. Warner's Lake, used for swimming and skating, added to the peaceful, secluded setting (1989). To Stephen t Greene, it was the perfect place for a military academy (Beebe, 1989).

The Academy was situated on the block opposite Wenonah Park. It consisted of a main building, gymnasium, two cottages, two athletic fields, and stables for their horses. The main building, three stories high, contained the lobby, a large dining hall, a kitchen and bakery, a library and reading room, the Science Hall, an infirmary

with six beds, and sixty rooms which made up the dormitory section and classrooms (Joseph A. DiLemmo, personal communication, February 22, 1989). Next to the main building was the gymnasium, which was considered to be the largest gymnasium of a New Jersey school at that time (Quigley, 1986). This building was used as a drill hall, shooting range, during Commencement exercises at year end, and for the Mid-Year Drill and Spring Dance (DiLemmo, 1989). The two cottages, Charles H. Lorence cottage and the Clayton A. Snyder cottage were used by the junior and senior class, and officers of the class (O'Neill, 1963). Situated nearby was a five acre athletic field, which was used for football, baseball and track, and a twelve acre field used for lacross and polo (Pituk, 1976).

The cadets who attended the WMA were, for the most part, from wealthy families (Kathryn Knight, personal communication, February 13, 1989). They came from Delaware, Pennsylvania, NY, Ohio, NJ, and from as far away as South America, Mexico, and Puerto Rico (Scott, 1989). They comprised grades five through twelve, with the junior grades (five through eight) kept separate from the older boys (Hansen, 1954). The student body enrollment averaged about 125 students during the peak years of the Academy (Scott, 1989).

Sources for this article;

Linda Haegele, a Gloucester County College student wrote this piece in 1989 as a research paper with help from members of the Academy Alumni Association.

According to Mr. Joe DiLemmo, then President of the Association, "Everyone was most cooperative and as a result she received an A+ for a grade."

The "Junior House" (S.W Cor. Marion and Mantua Aves.) photo on the next page was contributed by relatives of former Wenonah resident Clifford S. Greenig who was a cadet at the Wenonah Military Academy during the final class in 1934.

A military atmosphere pervaded every aspect of life at the Academy. Military training was under ROTC (Reserve Officers Training Corps) regulations, and under the supervision of a U.S. Army Officer (Edgar W. Hoiton, personal communication, March 2, 1989). It was taught in accordance with the U.S. Army Infantry Drill Regulations (Beebe, 1989). According to Edward Bayuk (Personal communication, 1989), "all formations were in a military manner," and cadets were expected to stand erect at all times, and salute their officers. "Proper arrangement of all articles" were also required, says Mr. Bayuk. Rooms were inspected every day for dust and dirt, and properly made beds (1989). The U.S. Army assigned guns, ammunition, and equipment to the cadets, which had to be returned at the end of the school year (Beebe 1989).

Each cadet was therefore responsible for the maintenance of his equipment (1989). To ensure that the cadets were on their toes, an inspection of rifles, bayonets, uniforms and shoes was performed every week, and dirty equipment earned extra duty for the offending cadet (Bayuk, 1989).

Extra duty consisted of walking guard duty at 128 steps per minute in the cadet's spare time (Scott, 1989), polishing the Civil War cannons at the campus entrance (Bayuk, 1989), or walking around the track in the athletic field with rifle in hand (1989). Several violations earned extra duty in addition to dirty equipment; insubordination, visiting friend's rooms without permission, fighting, and smoking in your room (1989). Smoking was considered the worst offense; it earned fifty hours of extra duty, and a two week suspension (1989).

Clothing was also regulated by military rules. The cadets wore uniforms that alternated between the khaki of the U.S. Army, and the grey of West Point Academy, until the late 1920's (DiLemmo, 1989, Bayuk, 1989). After that, the uniforms stayed the same as the ones that the U.S. Army wore in WWI; khaki puttees, high laced shoes, jackets that buttoned at the neck, and overseas caps (a tall, neat cap worn by French soldiers)" (Scott, 1989).

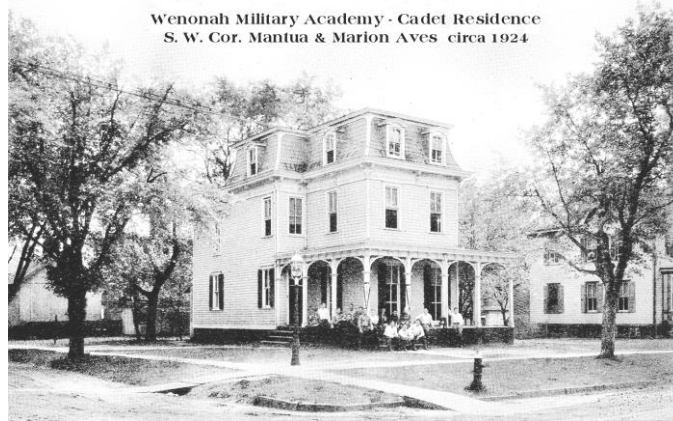
A typical day for the cadets was militarily structured from morning to night. At 6:00 am, reveille was called, signaling raising of the flag and setting up exercises (Beebe, 1989). Exercises consisted of calisthenics, which developed muscles and lungs, and the Butt's Manual, which developed shoulders and back muscles (Ihe Sabre, 1922). After exercises, cadets dressed for breakfast and ate in the dining hall (Percy Wise, personal communication, April 3, 1989).

Classes started at 8:00 am, with a twenty-five word spelling test (Bayuk, 1989), and finished at around 2:00. From 2:00 until 4:00, drills took place out in the park or in the field, practicing field maneuvers (Wise, 1989). At 4:00, some of the cadets had sports practice (1989), while the other cadets were allowed to socialize

around the local drug store, or on the Academy steps (Beebe, 1989).

Formal assemblies were held every evening before dinner (Scott, 1989). According to Bayuk, "the cadets assembled in front of the Academy, and with the band playing, marched in parade formation for Retreat- the lowering of the flag" (1989).

Dinner, at 6:00, was held in the Mess Hall (Beebe, 1989). After dinner, until 9:00 pm, cadets studied in their quarters (1989). From 9-9:30, cadets who had permission from their parents were allowed to go to the smoking room (1989). At 9:30, there was a call to quarters, when the cadets prepared for bed (1989). Final room check was called at 10:00, and taps was sounded to signal the end of the day (1989).



This strict military regimentation at the academy extended into the scholastic atmosphere. The curriculum was also strictly regimented, as the "Secretary of War directed that the WMA" was permitted "to devote 1 ½ hours daily in instruction in branches not devoted to the military department of the Academy"

(War Department, Adjutant General's Office, KMA Washington, D.C., Letter to WMA, February 24, 1913).

Classes were small, with only eight to twelve students in each class (Wise, 1989). The former cadets considered the faculty excellent. Teachers were expected to stay close to the cadets; for example, "each faculty member had his own group of boys. Officers lived with his group, and ate in the Mess Hall with his group" (Pituk, 1976). During study hours, the faculty members were close at hand for any help that the students might need (Beebe, 1989).

The cadets did not receive letter grades (Pituk, 1976). Instead they were divided into four classifications (1976). These classifications, Distinguished, Honor, Proficient, and Unclassified, were based on the cadets averages in conduct and scholastics, with added emphasis on Military Science and Tactics (The Sabre, 1922). Grades were posted quarterly and decorations awarded, to be worn only while the class standing was maintained (1922).

In addition to decorations, cadets maintaining a B average with no infractions were placed on the Honor Roll, which allowed them certain privileges, including the privilege of reporting in late on Saturday night (Bayuk, 1989).

In addition to maintaining the full, rigidly structured day of military drills and classes, the cadets of the WMA found time for extracurricular activities, such as sports, social events, and clubs. For instance, sporting events were essential to the boys, and they excelled in more than their share. WMA was referred to as the West Point of New Jersey, because of their consistently superior polo team (Robert Q. Hinckle, personal communication, 1989). In fact, in 1927 the WMA polo team traveled to West Point to play their freshman team, and won (Wise, 1989)! The WMA played other preparatory schools and some college freshman teams in baseball, basketball, and football, as well (Hinckle, 1989). For instance, in 1923, they won the University of Pennsylvania Scholastic Basketball Tournament (Bayuk, 1989). Also, "one year, the football team was undefeated and untied. It was not scored upon until the final season game against National State Farm School, who blocked a kick behind a goal" (Scott, 1989). And, on November 22, 1930, President Herbert Hoover met the cadets at a White House Reception for the Football team in Washington, D.C. Naturally, there were many first place banners hanging on the assembly room walls at the WMA (Beebe, 1989).

Social events were also greeted with enthusiasm by the cadets. There was an informal dance in the gym every Friday night, with music provided by an orchestra made up of cadets (Beebe, 1989). These dances were attended by girls from Wenonah and surrounding towns (1989). But the big events were the two gala dances - the Mid-Year Drill and Dance, and the Senior Prom at the end of the year. Cadets spent a week cleaning, dusting, shining, and decorating the gym with real trees and plants (Hoiton, 1989), and draping the room with flags. They wore white cotton gloves with their uniforms (Bayuk, 1989), and the girls wore floor length formal gowns (Knight, 1989). Propriety ensured that partners danced with at least six inches between them (Bayuk, 1989). There was no charge for these galas, but the guests had to be invited by a cadet to attend (1989).

To start the affair, the gymnasium doors, which took up an entire wall, were fully opened (Knight, 1989). It was an impressive sight, as the Cadet Drill Team then came out onto the floor and went through their drill, with the sounds of gun butts resounding as

they hit the floor when the cadets came to attention (Scott, 1989). For the Senior Prom, the final event was "always a military parade or exhibition, or sometimes a sham battle on the athletic field" (Hinckle, 1989).

Cadets also actively participated in several clubs at the Academy, such as the Dramatic Society, the Adelpic Literary Society, and the Radio Club which worked on the theory and building of radio receiving sets (The Sabre, June, 1923). Another club, the Sabre Club, put on plays, such as "Nothing But the Truth" (Scott, 1989), "That's That", a musical comedy, and even staged a scene with cadets performing a Tango (1989). The cadets also published their own yearbook, The Sabre, complete with a Class Poem, Class Prophecy, Last Will and Testament, Y's Cracks (humor), and highlights of the year's sporting events.

In addition to the sports, clubs, and dances, the cadets organized their own bands. According to a letter by Win Shewell, two cadets, Minor McGeorge and Henry LeCour, organized a jazz band in 1932 called the "Wenonians" (May 13, 1974, private letter to anonymous person). This band was made up of eight talented boys who, amazingly, played eighteen instruments; two trombones, a baritone horn, piano, two trumpets, slide cornet, two clarinets, three alto saxophones, tenor sax, C-melody sax, musette, piccolo, drums, and bass horn (1974).

Some of the stories related to me by former cadets help to illustrate the camaraderie of the boys at the WMA. For example, Edward Bayuk said that the "cadets living on the second floor would climb out through their window, and walk along the roof to visit other cadets" thereby risking disciplinary action. Mr. Bayuk explained that it wasn't really dangerous but that it was considered adventurous by the boys (1989). Also, Richard S. Beebe said that some of the cadets who wanted to sneak a cigarette in their rooms would pry up the wood planks in the floor, to provide a draft that would dissipate the smoke (1989). According to Beebe, cadets managed to keep this secret from their superiors, and so didn't get caught very often (1989).

The cadets also liked to band together to pull pranks on their teachers and each other. For example, Robert Q. Hinckle told of the time that Captain Gulden, the English teacher, found his false teeth posted on the bulletin board (1989). Another time, at night after the lights were out, one of the boys closed the two gates of the driveway after one of the teachers drove into town (1989).

When the unsuspecting teacher "returned, he made a wide sweep to come through the stone pillars" on either side of the driveway, and was surprised "when the head lights picked up the black iron gates. It left quite an impression on his front bumper" (1989).

Even the rigidity of the Military Drills wasn't immune to the imagination of the cadets. The Military Drills were a formal display, held at graduation, and judged by a Marine Officer from Philadelphia (Scott, 1989). One year, Captain Swartz of South America was in charge of the drill (1989). That year, one of Capt. Swartz's cadets always went right when he was supposed to go left, and went left when the order was to go right. For the drill, the captain locked this cadet in his room, and told the rest of his group, "We're now going to win!", and they did (1989)!

The cadets of the WMA were close knit, motivated, highly competitive, active, and imaginative. How did the Academy achieve these goals in its student body? The emblem associated with the Academy, "Vincit Qui Se Vincit," which means "He conquers, who conquers self" (Beebe, 1989) gives an idea of the type of school this was. The school gave its cadets not only an excellent education in scholastics, but also an education in themselves. The school motto "Send us the boy and we will return to you the man" (Beebe, 1989) illustrates that one of the primary motives of the school encompassed the education of the whole boy. It pushed them to their limits, both physically and mentally. In 1921, when Dr. Charles H. Lorence became president of the Academy, he expressed that "the purpose of education was to teach the pupil how to live" (O'Neill, 1963). The "Academy placed great emphasis on training for high intellectual achievement, but with equal consideration to the development of a sound body and superior ideals" (1963).

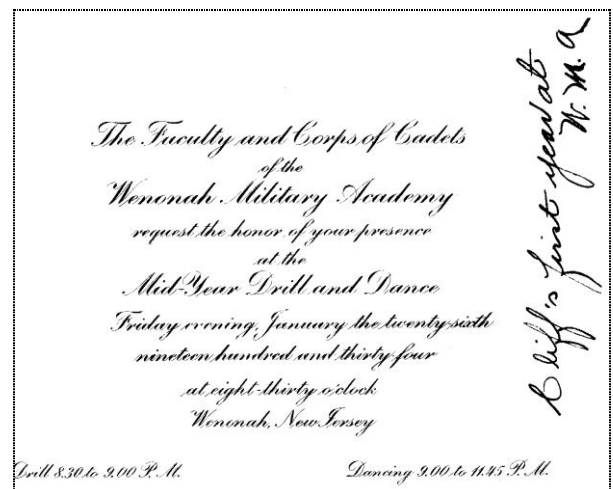
The WMA was successful in achieving these ideals, in that all aspects of life at the Academy seemed to encourage development of high physical and mental standards. For example, the Academy being in a secluded community, and the typically busy day, left no room for socializing outside of the Academy. As a result, the cadets turned to each other for friendship, and healthy competition. Further, the military training, and the military form of self-government also helped the cadets develop a respect for each other, along with authority figures. In addition to learning Math, Science and English, the boys learned the value of discipline, obedience, leadership, and judgment (Beebe, 1989). Also, the

highly respected faculty and grading system made the cadets competitive, yet respectful of each other. Last, the high activity level in sports, clubs, and social activities, which indicates the strong bonds felt by the cadets for each other, was effective in developing high standards.

After graduating, many cadets went on to various universities (Bayuk, 1989, Scott, 1989). Some cadets were inducted into the U.S. Army, where they excelled as Commissioned Officers (DiLemmo, 1989). Other cadets went on to become influential, successful businessmen (Bayuk, 1989).

Life at the Academy clearly made a profound impact on the cadets' lives, and successfully prepared them for their place in society.

All that is left of this fine institution is a part of the stone wall that once surrounded the campus, and the vivid memories that the former cadets cherish of their days at the Academy. Since 1954, when the Wenonah Military Academy Alumni Association first met to honor Captain Lammert on his 70th birthday, some of the former cadets have met to reminisce about those days, and to catch up on the events going on in their lives now. They have never missed a year, and "although the troops are thinning, there is always an enthusiastic turn-out" (DiLemmo, 1989). These men are proud to have attended the Wenonah Military Academy and although the buildings are long gone, the institution continues to live on in their hearts and minds.



Apparently Cliff Greenig's first year at WMA was his last as the institution closed at the end of the year, never to reopen.

Wenonah Historical Society

PO Box 32
Wenonah, New Jersey 08090-0032

Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 6 October 2004

RESIGNATION OF FORMER PRESIDENT ROCCO DOTO

Dear Members,

As most of you know I have enjoyed being the President of this organization for the last 18 months. I enjoyed every minute of it and I am confident that we accomplished many things together. One of the most important accomplishments was achieving a sense of status with the Mayor and Town Council, as an important and vital organization in our Town. Nothing pleases me more than the recognition of the Wenonah Historical Society as the authority on historical events, documentation and artifacts of Wenonah's past.

Most importantly the sense of being the "unofficial curator" of the Town Treasure, the Train Depot.

I no longer feel that I can achieve my ambition of creating the Museum in our Historical Train Station and lead our Organization. In no way is my decision based on any negative WHS event. It is based on personal issues that include a new business, my well-being, and my family. I will continue to be a cheerleader and supporter for the WHS but cannot serve as President or in any other officer or trustee position.

According to our Bylaws the Vice President shall in the absence of the President have all the Powers and prerogatives of the President.

New elections are to be held in January with a nominating committee chosen in November.

OCTOBER 8TH PROGRAM

The October meeting of the Society will be held starting at 7:30 p.m. in the train station community center at Mantua Avenue at the railroad tracks.

WHS OFFICERS 2004

Vice Pres.	Jack Sheppard Sr.
Secretary	Eileen Caraker
Treasurer	Carol Wiltsee
Corr. Sec.	Betty MacLeod
Trustee	Vicki McCall
Trustee	Macy Pedersen
Trustee	Lucy Schuiz

Meetings second Friday of the month at the Wenonah Community Center except June, July and August

Following a brief business meeting we will be entertained by Wenonah resident Arnold Karp. Arnold is a Master Sergeant in the NJ National Guard serving in the 177th fighter wing.

He will present a slide program relating to the Civil War entitled "Three Days that Changed a Nation". Light refreshments will be provided.

Please bring or send your dues, which are \$15.00 per year. For information call (856) 468-6981.

HISTORICAL AFGHANS

The Wenonah Fire Company Auxiliary has asked us to mention that Wenonah Coverlets are available again this year. These 50 X 70 inch Afghans of red, white & blue Jacquard depict historical Wenonah buildings and scenes.

The price for them is \$50.00 and they make lovely Christmas gifts. Order forms will be available at this meeting. For more information call (856) 468-5345.

HISTORICAL TIDBIT

The Myers, Don and Cecelia and their daughters have left Wenonah for a new home out West. Those of you who knew them were aware they lived, as we say in Wenonah, in the historic "Peddle House" at the corner of Mantua and N. Clinton Aves.

The handsome dwelling was actually built by Mr. J. Frank Shull, one of the original members of the first formal Wenonah government established April 10, 1883. He served for two years. Apparently bad feelings occurred between the Commission members and Mr. Shull when Shull constructed a "small, cheap and undesirable building" east of the railroad tracks. This resulted in a Commission Resolution restricting the construction of buildings under \$2,000 east of the railroad and \$1,000 west of the railroad. The Shull residence was eventually occupied by Harry G. Peddle, a relative, who served on Borough Council from 1899 through 1910.

The Wenonah Military Academy, a Brief History

By Linda Haegele

During the 1920's, military academies were held in high esteem as an institution of learning. Even though World War I ended during 1918, patriotism still ran high in the country, and as a result, military academies flourished (Jay Scott, personal communication, March 7, 1989). One academy in particular was a roaring success, as demonstrated by the loyalty and love its alumni hold for it; namely the Wenonah Military Academy (WMA).

Fortunately, some of the former cadets of the WMA were willing to share some memories they have of life at the Academy. Edward Bayuk, Richard S. Beebe, Edgar W. Holton, and Robert Q. Hinckle attended the Academy during the early 1920's, and Percy Wise, Jay Scott and Joseph A. DiLemmo were students during the later 1920's. Even the wife of one of the teachers, Kathryn Knight, supplied invaluable information on life at the Academy. They each provided a deep insight into the loyalty and affection that developed there, as a result of the rural surroundings, the military training, the faculty and schooling, sports events and the various social activities in which the cadets vigorously participated.

The WMA opened its doors in 1904, and grew in popularity until, due to the Depression, it was forced to close in 1935. It was founded by Stephen Greene, a wealthy printer from Philadelphia who, while driving through Wenonah, saw the potential in the old Wenonah Inn for a military academy (Richard S. Beebe, personal communication, March 31, 1989). In the early 1900's, Wenonah was a small town with only one thousand people, according to Jay Scott (1989). He says that the town was surrounded on all sides by woods. Warner's Lake, used for swimming and skating, added to the peaceful, secluded setting (1989). To Stephen t Greene, it was the perfect place for a military academy (Beebe, 1989).

The Academy was situated on the block opposite Wenonah Park. It consisted of a main building, gymnasium, two cottages, two athletic fields, and stables for their horses. The main building, three stories high, contained the lobby, a large dining hall, a kitchen and bakery, a library and reading room, the Science Hall, an infirmary

with six beds, and sixty rooms which made up the dormitory section and classrooms (Joseph A. DiLemmo, personal communication, February 22, 1989). Next to the main building was the gymnasium, which was considered to be the largest gymnasium of a New Jersey school at that time (Quigley, 1986). This building was used as a drill hall, shooting range, during Commencement exercises at year end, and for the Mid-Year Drill and Spring Dance (DiLemmo, 1989). The two cottages, Charles H. Lorence cottage and the Clayton A. Snyder cottage were used by the junior and senior class, and officers of the class (O'Neill, 1963). Situated nearby was a five acre athletic field, which was used for football, baseball and track, and a twelve acre field used for lacross and polo (Pituk, 1976).

The cadets who attended the WMA were, for the most part, from wealthy families (Kathryn Knight, personal communication, February 13, 1989). They came from Delaware, Pennsylvania, NY, Ohio, NJ, and from as far away as South America, Mexico, and Puerto Rico (Scott, 1989). They comprised grades five through twelve, with the junior grades (five through eight) kept separate from the older boys (Hansen, 1954). The student body enrollment averaged about 125 students during the peak years of the Academy (Scott, 1989).

Sources for this article;

Linda Haegele, a Gloucester County College student wrote this piece in 1989 as a research paper with help from members of the Academy Alumni Association.

According to Mr. Joe DiLemmo, then President of the Association, "Everyone was most cooperative and as a result she received an A+ for a grade."

The "Junior House" (S.W Cor. Marion and Mantua Aves.) photo on the next page was contributed by relatives of former Wenonah resident Clifford S. Greenig who was a cadet at the Wenonah Military Academy during the final class in 1934.

A military atmosphere pervaded every aspect of life at the Academy. Military training was under ROTC (Reserve Officers Training Corps) regulations, and under the supervision of a U.S. Army Officer (Edgar W. Hoiton, personal communication, March 2, 1989). It was taught in accordance with the U.S. Army Infantry Drill Regulations (Beebe, 1989). According to Edward Bayuk (Personal communication, 1989), "all formations were in a military manner," and cadets were expected to stand erect at all times, and salute their officers. "Proper arrangement of all articles" were also required, says Mr. Bayuk. Rooms were inspected every day for dust and dirt, and properly made beds (1989). The U.S. Army assigned guns, ammunition, and equipment to the cadets, which had to be returned at the end of the school year (Beebe 1989).

Each cadet was therefore responsible for the maintenance of his equipment (1989). To ensure that the cadets were on their toes, an inspection of rifles, bayonets, uniforms and shoes was performed every week, and dirty equipment earned extra duty for the offending cadet (Bayuk, 1989).

Extra duty consisted of walking guard duty at 128 steps per minute in the cadet's spare time (Scott, 1989), polishing the Civil War cannons at the campus entrance (Bayuk, 1989), or walking around the track in the athletic field with rifle in hand (1989). Several violations earned extra duty in addition to dirty equipment; insubordination, visiting friend's rooms without permission, fighting, and smoking in your room (1989). Smoking was considered the worst offense; it earned fifty hours of extra duty, and a two week suspension (1989).

Clothing was also regulated by military rules. The cadets wore uniforms that alternated between the khaki of the U.S. Army, and the grey of West Point Academy, until the late 1920's (DiLemmo, 1989, Bayuk, 1989). After that, the uniforms stayed the same as the ones that the U.S. Army wore in WWI; khaki puttees, high laced shoes, jackets that buttoned at the neck, and overseas caps (a tall, neat cap worn by French soldiers)" (Scott, 1989).

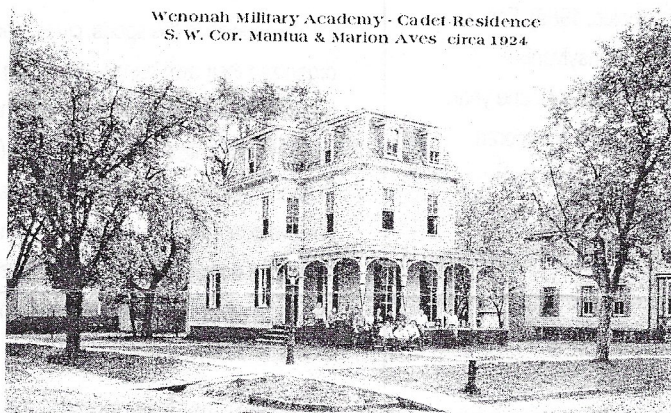
A typical day for the cadets was militarily structured from morning to night. At 6:00 am, reveille was called, signaling raising of the flag and setting up exercises (Beebe, 1989). Exercises consisted of calisthenics, which developed muscles and lungs, and the Butt's Manual, which developed shoulders and back muscles (The Sabre, 1922). After exercises, cadets dressed for breakfast and ate in the dining hall (Percy Wise, personal communication, April 3, 1989).

Classes started at 8:00 am, with a twenty-five word spelling test (Bayuk, 1989), and finished at around 2:00. From 2:00 until 4:00, drills took place out in the park or in the field, practicing field maneuvers (Wise, 1989). At 4:00, some of the cadets had sports practice (1989), while the other cadets were allowed to socialize

around the local drug store, or on the Academy steps (Beebe, 1989).

Formal assemblies were held every evening before dinner (Scott, 1989). According to Bayuk, "the cadets assembled in front of the Academy, and with the band playing, marched in parade formation for Retreat- the lowering of the flag" (1989).

Dinner, at 6:00, was held in the Mess Hall (Beebe, 1989). After dinner, until 9:00 pm, cadets studied in their quarters (1989). From 9-9:30, cadets who had permission from their parents were allowed to go to the smoking room (1989). At 9:30, there was a call to quarters, when the cadets prepared for bed (1989). Final room check was called at 10:00, and taps was sounded to signal the end of the day (1989).



This strict military regimentation at the academy extended into the scholastic atmosphere. The curriculum was also strictly regimented, as the "Secretary of War directed that the WMA" was permitted "to devote 1 ½ hours daily in instruction in branches not devoted to the military department of the Academy"

(War Department, Adjutant General's Office, KMA Washington, D.C., Letter to WMA, February 24, 1913).

Classes were small, with only eight to twelve students in each class (Wise, 1989). The former cadets considered the faculty excellent. Teachers were expected to stay close to the cadets; for example, "each faculty member had his own group of boys. Officers lived with his group, and ate in the Mess Hall with his group" (Pituk, 1976). During study hours, the faculty members were close at hand for any help that the students might need (Beebe, 1989).

The cadets did not receive letter grades (Pituk, 1976). Instead they were divided into four classifications (1976). These classifications, Distinguished, Honor, Proficient, and Unclassified, were based on the cadets averages in conduct and scholastics, with added emphasis on Military Science and Tactics (The Sabre, 1922). Grades were posted quarterly and decorations awarded, to be worn only while the class standing was maintained (1922).

In addition to decorations, cadets maintaining a B average with no infractions were placed on the Honor Roll, which allowed them certain privileges, including the privilege of reporting in late on Saturday night (Bayuk, 1989).

In addition to maintaining the full, rigidly structured day of military drills and classes, the cadets of the WMA found time for extracurricular activities, such as sports, social events, and clubs. For instance, sporting events were essential to the boys, and they excelled in more than their share. WMA was referred to as the West Point of New Jersey, because of their consistently superior polo team (Robert Q. Hinckle, personal communication, 1989). In fact, in 1927 the WMA polo team traveled to West Point to play their freshman team, and won (Wise, 1989)! The WMA played other preparatory schools and some college freshman teams in baseball, basketball, and football, as well (Hinckle, 1989). For instance, in 1923, they won the University of Pennsylvania Scholastic Basketball Tournament (Bayuk, 1989). Also, "one year, the football team was undefeated and untied. It was not scored upon until the final season game against National State Farm School, who blocked a kick behind a goal" (Scott, 1989). And, on November 22, 1930, President Herbert Hoover met the cadets at a White House Reception for the Football team in Washington, D.C. Naturally, there were many first place banners hanging on the assembly room walls at the WMA (Beebe, 1989).

Social events were also greeted with enthusiasm by the cadets. There was an informal dance in the gym every Friday night, with music provided by an orchestra made up of cadets (Beebe, 1989). These dances were attended by girls from Wenonah and surrounding towns (1989). But the big events were the two gala dances - the Mid-Year Drill and Dance, and the Senior Prom at the end of the year. Cadets spent a week cleaning, dusting, shining, and decorating the gym with real trees and plants (Hoiton, 1989), and draping the room with flags. They wore white cotton gloves with their uniforms (Bayuk, 1989), and the girls wore floor length formal gowns (Knight, 1989). Propriety ensured that partners danced with at least six inches between them (Bayuk, 1989). There was no charge for these galas, but the guests had to be invited by a cadet to attend (1989).

To start the affair, the gymnasium doors, which took up an entire wall, were fully opened (Knight, 1989). It was an impressive sight, as the Cadet Drill Team then came out onto the floor and went through their drill, with the sounds of gun butts resounding as

they hit the floor when the cadets came to attention (Scott, 1989). For the Senior Prom, the final event was "always a military parade or exhibition, or sometimes a sham battle on the athletic field" (Hinckle, 1989).

Cadets also actively participated in several clubs at the Academy, such as the Dramatic Society, the Adelpic Literary Society, and the Radio Club which worked on the theory and building of radio receiving sets (The Sabre, June, 1923). Another club, the Sabre Club, put on plays, such as "Nothing But the Truth" (Scott, 1989), "That's That", a musical comedy, and even staged a scene with cadets performing a Tango (1989). The cadets also published their own yearbook, The Sabre, complete with a Class Poem, Class Prophecy, Last Will and Testament, Y's Cracks (humor), and highlights of the year's sporting events.

In addition to the sports, clubs, and dances, the cadets organized their own bands. According to a letter by Win Shewell, two cadets, Minor McGeorge and Henry LeCour, organized a jazz band in 1932 called the "Wenonians" (May 13, 1974, private letter to anonymous person). This band was made up of eight talented boys who, amazingly, played eighteen instruments; two trombones, a baritone horn, piano, two trumpets, slide cornet, two clarinets, three alto saxophones, tenor sax, C-melody sax, musette, piccolo, drums, and bass horn (1974).

Some of the stories related to me by former cadets help to illustrate the camaraderie of the boys at the WMA. For example, Edward Bayuk said that the "cadets living on the second floor would climb out through their window, and walk along the roof to visit other cadets" thereby risking disciplinary action. Mr. Bayuk explained that it wasn't really dangerous but that it was considered adventurous by the boys (1989). Also, Richard S. Beebe said that some of the cadets who wanted to sneak a cigarette in their rooms would pry up the wood planks in the floor, to provide a draft that would dissipate the smoke (1989). According to Beebe, cadets managed to keep this secret from their superiors, and so didn't get caught very often (1989).

The cadets also liked to band together to pull pranks on their teachers and each other. For example, Robert Q. Hinckle told of the time that Captain Gulden, the English teacher, found his false teeth posted on the bulletin board (1989). Another time, at night after the lights were out, one of the boys closed the two gates of the driveway after one of the teachers drove into town (1989).

When the unsuspecting teacher "returned, he made a wide sweep to come through the stone pillars" on either side of the driveway, and was surprised "when the head lights picked up the black iron gates. It left quite an impression on his front bumper" (1989).

Even the rigidity of the Military Drills wasn't immune to the imagination of the cadets. The Military Drills were a formal display, held at graduation, and judged by a Marine Officer from Philadelphia (Scott, 1989). One year, Captain Swartz of South America was in charge of the drill (1989). That year, one of Capt. Swartz's cadets always went right when he was supposed to go left, and went left when the order was to go right. For the drill, the captain locked this cadet in his room, and told the rest of his group, "We're now going to win!", and they did (1989)!

The cadets of the WMA were close knit, motivated, highly competitive, active, and imaginative. How did the Academy achieve these goals in its student body? The emblem associated with the Academy, "Vincit Qui Se Vincit," which means "He conquers, who conquers self" (Beebe, 1989) gives an idea of the type of school this was. The school gave its cadets not only an excellent education in scholastics, but also an education in themselves. The school motto "Send us the boy and we will return to you the man" (Beebe, 1989) illustrates that one of the primary motives of the school encompassed the education of the whole boy. It pushed them to their limits, both physically and mentally. In 1921, when Dr. Charles H. Lorence became president of the Academy, he expressed that "the purpose of education was to teach the pupil how to live" (O'Neill, 1963). The "Academy placed great emphasis on training for high intellectual achievement, but with equal consideration to the development of a sound body and superior ideals" (1963).

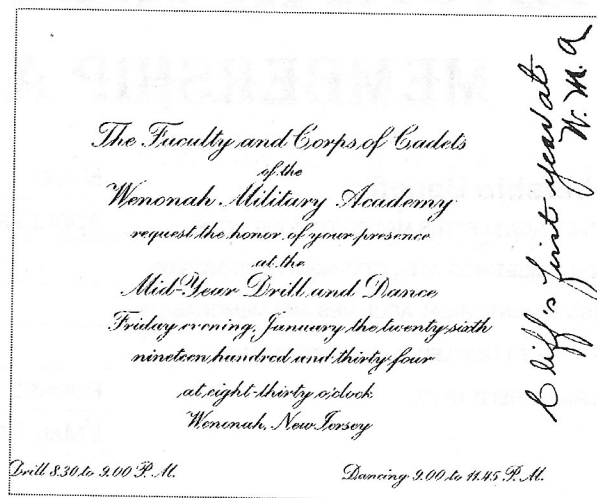
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Wenonah Historical Society

PO Box 32
Wenonah, New Jersey 08090-0032

Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 7 November 2004

A MESSAGE FROM VICE PRESIDENT JACK SHEPPARD

Dear Members,

The Constitution and Bylaws of the Wenonah Historical Society require us to have a President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer and two Trustees for terms of two years. This group constitutes the Board of Trustees of the organization.

We are also required to appoint a Nominating Committee at the November meeting for the purpose of presenting a slate of names for those positions at the January Meeting. The Nominating Committee is to be made up of two members of the Trustee Board and two regular members.

The terms of office on the Board are two years and all terms are due to expire at the end of 2004.

At a recent meeting of the officers and Trustees the current situation, that of the President stepping down and the entire Board needing to be replaced was duly noted. There was then a general discussion of names in the entire membership in an attempt to determine members who might want to become more involved in Society activities, either as candidates for the Board or as volunteers for museum creation activities.

There was also considerable discussion of the great need to get moving on the objectives of the

Society, especially those related to the preservation of historic documents, records, artifacts and memorabilia of our community.

The future of the Community Center as a repository and museum for these purposes is in our hands but if we don't get moving on the project soon we may lose our claim to the building.

Accordingly we are looking toward establishing volunteer "work parties" very soon to

WHS OFFICERS 2004

Vice Pres.	Jack Sheppard Sr.
Secretary	Eileen Caraker
Treasurer	Carol Wiltsee
Corr. Sec.	Betty MacLeod
Trustee	Vicki McCall
Trustee	Macy Pedersen
Trustee	Lucy Schulz

Meetings second Friday of the month at the Wenonah Community Center except June, July and August

commence work on the following tasks;

- Second floor clean up, fix up.
- Move Military Academy artifacts from the Library.
- Sort, identify, classify and store those materials.

We do have a list of volunteers from a previous solicitation but all members are encouraged to get in touch if in fact you haven't been contacted before now.

The first of these "work party" activities will occur Friday the 19th of November when we will move the Military Academy material from our Public Library into the Community Center first floor, and then up to the second floor storage area. Anyone wishing to help with this please make yourself known at the November 12th meeting.

NOVEMBER 12TH PROGRAM

The November meeting of the Society will be held starting at 7:30 p.m. in the train station Community Center at Mantua Avenue at the railroad tracks. Member Rocco Doto will present a history of the Wenonah Military Academy.

It is also nearly time for dues payments for the coming year 2005. Please bring or send your dues by the end of December. They are still \$15.00 per year. For Information call (856) 468-6981.

HISTORICAL TIDBIT

Wenonah was created from a group of five adjacent farms that mostly grew sweet potatoes. Animal manure was used to fertilize the crops and the manure cars were delivered to a siding in the center of town. Apparently the smell was horrible and by 1892 the Borough Commission and citizens appealed to the West Jersey RR Company for relief. A new siding was then built at the current location of the Borough garage, Maple Street at the railroad.

Mr. Oscar Ogden, Thomas Ritson and Clement Mattson have purchased handsome Waltham-Orient touring cars from H.D. Leap who represents the Waltham Manufacturing Company in this area.

The best supper ever had for 25 cents will be served at Noblitt's Hall in connection with the fair next week.

All Saints Episcopal Mission. Service in Noblitts Hall tomorrow at 10:45 a.m. All welcome.

The town was very lively yesterday. Every train bringing a load of visitors and the beautiful weather kept them on the streets enjoying the air.

The woods were full of gunners here yesterday, but the bags were rather small. Whether due to unskillful marksmanship or lack of rabbits is hard to tell. It is certain that enough shots were fired in the neighborhood.

Captain Persey is no longer a member of the Campers Union at the Wenonah Military Academy. The union was organized for the special benefit of the bachelors of the academy and lost a very active member when he quietly married Miss Racliffe of Camden.

A family passing through the town on the way to their Thanksgiving dinner meet with an accident on Marion Avenue. The horse they were driving fell and broke a leg and had to be shot.

The epidemic of colds, which almost put a number of cadets in bed, has almost subsided and all were able to eat turkey today.

The Ladies Aid of the M.E. Church particularly requests that you defer buying your Christmas gifts till you come to their supper and bazaar next Tuesday. Beautiful articles, useful and ornamental will be on sale. A table of dressed dolls, at very reasonable prices, presided over by Miss Jessie Baylies' class of little girls will be one of the features. Mrs. Cline's class of young ladies will have a Christmas tree covered with gifts. Ice cream will be on sale, also cakes, bread and pie.

A large shipment of live pigeons was made from this station this morning-about 100.

Mrs. James Carey gave a "500" last evening.

A traveling Uncle Tom's Cabin Company will entertain our people tonight at Noblitt's Hall.

The public school building has been connected to the sewerage system and sanitary conditions will be much improved.

John L. Drummer was elected constable over Thomas J. Savage, who was on both tickets by 61 majority.

There is considerable discussion as to what use the room over the new fire house should be put other than regular meetings of the Fire Company. There seems to be a desire on the part of some to use it as a smoking room and a place to play cards. Of course there will be no gambling under the new administration.

A ballot was taken this morning at the Academy on the Presidential candidates and the results are as follows. Taft 38, Chafin 3, Bryan 6.

Politics, politics, there is more politics in this town today than any other town of its size in the state.

Fine Black Sateen Petticoats \$1.00 Outing Flannel 25 and 50 cents Gingham 25, 50 and 75 cents try a pair of our ladies 25 cent stockings. H.E. Wood 185 So. Broad Street, Woodbury

Try Pan Dandy Bread

The painting of the Methodist Church is about to be done and it will be a decided improvement.

A REPUBLICAN LANDSLIDE TAFT SWEEPS THE COUNTRY IN THE GREAT CONTEST FOR THE NATION'S NEXT EXECUTIVE. Gloucester County gives Taft 1610 plurality and elects entire county ticket. (Wenonah's vote Taft 138 Bryan 18)

The young ladies of the Embroidery Club which meet at the home of Miss Clara Turner Saturday afternoon proposes to fill a bride's chest for the first member married.

With the streets well scattered with masqueraders and the Academy dance in full swing Saturday evening, Wenonah was quite lively for once.

Woodbury Constitution Milton H. Webb

There is to be a Fair in the lecture room of the Presbyterian Church, November 4th Fancywork, groceries, candy, home made bread and cake. Supper 35 cents.

Wonder whom the two young ladies were who got bewildered on the road between Cooper's Hill and Wenonah.

The River and Harbor Committee meet at Hohlweg's Hotel (now Telford Inn) yesterday to determine whether to have the Mantua Creek dug out. Several appeared before the committee urging the creek be opened up to the Wenonah Bridge.

A workman in the employ of the gas company was knocked unconscious here yesterday by the bursting of a gas pipe. He was taken home in serious condition. No one would have thought there was so much force in the pipes.

In order to make an equitable charge for water to all customers, the Wenonah Water Company will place water meters on the premises of all water takers. The installing of the meters will be done during the present month and the meter rates will commence January 1st, 1910.

The Women's Christian Temperance Union held their business meeting and finding out that they had money immediately proceeded to spend it. It was voted to offer a prize of \$5.00 to the Wenonah Military Academy and \$5.00 to our public school for the best scientific temperance essay.

Bryn Athyn and Wenonah Military Academy played a tie game on Bryn Athyn grounds Saturday, neither team being able to score. The game was fast and clean throughout.

Call at the public library and look over the latest books. (The library was in the former Presbyterian Church Chapel which was moved from North Clinton Avenue to West Mantua Avenue in the first block.)

The Wenonah Mutual Improvement Association will place three carloads of manure on the lawn of the park. (This is one way to get peoples attention to the park.)

There was a fire last night at the M.E. parsonage on Willow Street, and but for its timely discovery the parsonage would have been burned down. Miss Cornelia Truncer saw a light in the third story of the building and concluded at once that there was something wrong. She went to the parsonage and asked if there was anyone in the third floor with a lamp. She was told there was not, and upon investigation it was found that a box of papers was on fire. A bucket brigade was formed and the blaze was soon subdued. The Fire Company did not go into service. Just how the fire started is a mystery, but it might be the old story of mice and matches.

Pastor Senser worked like a beaver in carrying buckets of water up the stairs and he thinks that his heart is all right or he could never have stood it.

Mr. Thomas W.Synnott will lead the prayer meeting this evening at the Memorial Presbyterian Church. (Mr.Synnott was one of the founders of the town and at this period had land holdings of almost one fourth of the total area of the town.)

Lost, strayed or stolen-One black and white hound dog, black face. Answers to the name "Doc" John T. Moore

The question, which is puzzling our gunners, is where to gun on Monday, when the rabbit season opens. In almost every direction one looks in the country his eyes beholds a notice, which forbids gunning on the premises.

An exciting runaway occurred here last evening. A farmer drove into town to meet the train, and his horse was frightened and ran up the street east of the depot and down the embankment north of the station where it meet an express train and turned off the track at the flag house completely circling the depot. No damage was done, but how the horse missed the third rail is a mystery. It also had a narrow escape from the express train.

The machine pipeline digger of the Pitman Gas Company is digging a trench from the Wenonah Bridge to Woodbury Heights,. This will give gas to all the farmers along the line.

Quite a number of our young matrons have enrolled themselves as students in the "Domestic Science Class" recently organized.

Mrs. McGill's house looks well with its new coat of paint. (N.E. corner of Clinton and Cherry Streets –Now the home of the Thompsons.)

Our Improvement Association has two classes of members, those who contribute money and those who contribute advise as to how it should be spent. These later are mostly knockers and are a hindrance to the growth of the town.

Woodbury Heights is improving rapidly notwithstanding its lack of electric lights, sewer, artesian water, library, fire company, and church and school facilities such as Wenonah has.

A little girl visiting barber Fisher's was badly cut about the head Saturday by a flowerpot. The flowerpot was in the second story window and fell on the little girls head.

We see the hurdles have disappeared in the park and hope they will not come back. (People had been making their own paths through the park.)

Source *Woodbury Daily Times* by Milton H. Webb

Wenonah Historical Society

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Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 8 December 2004

A MESSAGE FROM VICE
PRESIDENT JACK SHEPPARD

Dear Members;

Wherever did the time go? Seems like yesterday was the start of 2004, our June picnic was last week and now we are almost into 2005.

Well the year isn't officially over for the Wenonah Historical Society until after we have our annual Christmas Party at the Community Center.

This year's event will take place on Friday December 10th and we are hoping for a good turnout to be with each other and to enjoy the cheerfulness of the holiday season.

Getting back to the swift passage of time I remind everyone that in January at our annual Reorganization Meeting we must choose a president to lead us along with a team of officers to assist in the endeavor. By the time you receive this newsletter the nominating committee will have met and selected a slate of individuals to recommend to you at that meeting. Hopefully it will have chosen members who are totally interested and capable of moving us forward in our role as historians for Wenonah. There is much to be done if we are to create a repository for historic memorabilia before it is lost forever and provide for its classification and proper storage.

We know there is much material held by members and others and realize everyone wants to be assured the materials will have a proper and secure home.

What is also very important the continuation of a relationship with Mayor Capaldi and the Borough administration that will provide for the proper care and maintenance of the railroad station Community

WHS OFFICERS 2004

Vice Pres.	Jack Sheppard Sr.
Secretary	Eileen Caraker
Treasurer	Carol Wiltsee
Corr. Sec.	Betty MacLeod
Trustee	Vicki McCall
Trustee	Macy Pedersen
Trustee	Lucy Schulz

Meetings second Friday of the month at the Wenonah Community Center except June, July and August

Center. The objective will be to create a system of care for the structure itself and suitable procedures for the use of the building.

It must be kept in mind at all times that the building is held in trust by the Borough for the use of all of Wenonah's citizens. However the historical society must be assured of primary responsibility inasmuch as the building will ultimately contain all of the records and artifacts of Wenonah's history and these items must be maintained securely at all

times, yet be available for viewing and study.

Quite a challenge but I am sure that with proper leadership we are up to the task.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our Christmas get together.

DECEMBER 10TH CHRISTMAS MEETING

Our annual Christmas Party will be Friday December 10th at the Community Center. Wine and Cheese at 6:00 p.m. followed by dinner at 6:30. "Chef Bud" will cater it. The cost is \$15.00 per person. Please bring a door prize (unwrapped). It will be helpful if you will RSVP to Betty MacLeod at 468-6981 or Lucy Schulz at 468-5392 before Friday Dec. 3rd.

HISTORICAL TIDBIT

Saturday November 27th 2004 about 100 Wenonah residents gathered in Wenonah Park for the 2nd annual Christmas tree lighting and Cookie fest in the railroad station Community Center.

If only we had access to a time machine and were able to go back in time 100 years to the same two locations we might have seen a lot of similar activity in both the park and the station.

100 years ago in 1904 the Wenonah Military Academy opened its doors for the first time. Wouldn't it have been great to see?

Reagan Surgeon Raised In Wenonah

Gloucester County Times September 24, 1989_ByFrank Kummer, Staff Writer

What has been the highlight of Thoralf M. Sundt's career so far, asked an increasingly nervous reporter from a phone several thousand miles away.

Being named head of the Mayo Clinic's neurology department? Working as editor of a leading neurology journal? Being a veteran of the infamous "Pork Chop Hill" battle in Korea? Graduating from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point? Or being named the country's top neurologist by a national magazine?

Was it as a paperboy for the Woodbury Daily Times, now the Gloucester County Times? Doubtful,

The highlight probably came two weeks ago when former President Ronald Reagan, suffering from complications after falling off a wildly bucking horse in July, underwent brain surgery and Sundt was called in to perform the operation.

Sundt, chairman of the Mayo Clinic's Department of Neurology, thought the term "highlight" was a poor choice of words and the now-sweating reporter had to admit he was right.

Despite the admittedly ill-chosen phrasing, Sundt, former Wenonah resident and Woodbury High School student, was pushed into the world of the mainstream media.

For one hour Sundt, on Sept. 9, was assisted in his operation on Reagan by two neurological surgeons, three nurses and an

anesthesiologist at the clinic, located about 70 miles southeast of Minneapolis.

Sundt drilled a hole in Reagan's skull to remove a buildup of blood detected during a routine physical examination. The operation went smoothly and the "evacuation" of the puddle of blood *was* successful.

The next day a CAT scan viewed the upper right portion of Reagan's head where the hole was drilled. A drain was placed on the skull and Reagan went on to recuperate rapidly.

"He's a very, very nice person. That's all I'll say about it," Sundt said about the surgery to an increasingly relaxed reporter.

Sundt is down-to-earth and affable. Or, as one medical journal put it, "unpretentious."

"I used to deliver the Woodbury Times. I was a delivery boy when they changed

the price from 2 to 3 cents and I lost eighty-some customers,"

Sundt said with a laugh from his

Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn., office.

Sundt lived in Wenonah until he was 16. The year was 1945 and his family moved to Tucson, Ariz. where young Thor, or "Brud" as he was nicknamed here, entered the construction business.

After two years of working as a contractor with the family firm of M.M. Sundt, the Gloucester County native decided to apply to West Point and eventually make the military his career.



Dr. Thoralf Sundt
former Times Newsboy

"It was the hardest examination I ever had to pass," Sundt said in a recent interview with a neurological journal.

After graduation he was assigned to the Engineers in Korea in 1952. A platoon leader and later company commander in the 32nd Regimental Combat Team, Sundt was the last to leave the battleground at Pork Chop Hill. He left unscathed and was later awarded the Bronze Star with Oak Cluster.

Peacetime proved boring, so Sundt enrolled in medical school at the University of Tennessee. He took his residency in neurosurgery at the Mayo Clinic and pursued pioneering work in the field.

In fact, while still a student, Sundt developed a technique in repairing aneurysms ripped from the parent vessel during surgery. He devised other new surgical techniques that improved patient recovery and performed a large number of aneurysm procedures and endarterectomies.

Setting big Latin words and titles aside Sundt is indeed unpretentious. Shunning the posture taken by the public relations department at the Mayo Clinic Sundt talked freely about himself.

"I came back last year and Woodbury High hasn't changed much," Sundt said. "Around

the outside areas though, the anatomy is all torn up with off-ramps. That's really changed.

"By the way, how's the Woodbury High football team doing this year?"

Sundt's family has a strong lineage in Gloucester County. His maternal grandfather Harry Stoudt, was the first physician in Gloucester County and was known as "the old family doctor," according to one local resident of Wenonah. An uncle was also a local physician.



The original Sundt residence located at Jackson and Mantua Avenues.
Now the home of Mr. & Mrs D. Shaver

Old friends say they are proud of Sundt.

"He was a real nice guy," said Milton Webb, an old high school friend from Wenonah. "Very typical We're sort of proud of him. I mean all my friends are truck drivers."

Still, what was Sundt's proudest moment? '

Could it have been in 1945 when he was elevated to Eagle Scout? The Times carried a picture Mar. 28, 1945 of two merit badges earned by Sundt with another boy who also received scouting's highest honor. '

One of the merit badges is for first aid.

Editor's Note:

Dr. Thoralf Sundt died from cancer of the bone marrow, an affliction he fought for 8 years before succumbing in 1992