

Wenonah Historical Society Newsletter

Next Meeting at 6:00 P.M. on
Friday, September 13, 2013

Volume 11, Issue 6, September 2013

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Charles Horan

Dear Members,

Greetings fellow members of the Wenonah Historical Society. After a long hiatus, I am preparing and looking forward to a new and different 2013-14 season of interesting historical presentations and social affairs. I hope everyone survived and enjoyed the wet and wild summer and the firing of Phillies skipper Charlie Manuel!

Of course it would not be the second Friday of September if we were not attending our annual "Meet and Greet End of Summer Throwdown." This year's kickoff will be held at the Community Center / Train Station. Please make plans to attend and bring a friend on Friday, September 13th at 6:00 P.M. This is not a bad luck date but a Good Luck soiree where we see each other again after a long break and share stories of the summer.

I ask that attendees bring appetizers and desserts based on the first letter of your last name.

- A through M, please bring an appetizer.
- N through Z, please bring a dessert.

Beverages will be provided.

I look forward to a good turn out and a good time.

HELP WANTED

There is need for one or more persons to assume responsibility for the future of the Wenonah Museum (located on the second floor of the Community Center). Such person(s) need not be professionals of any sort, nor computer geeks, nor highly trained museum experts. All that is necessary is an interest in preserving the history of one of the best small towns in the County, bar none. One or more Wenonahians willing to take on the challenge can meet with Julie Ream and Jack Sheppard to discuss the current status of the museum and to consider

needs to finalize the facility and render its contents available to Wenonah residents. This is an opportunity to participate in a venture that will greatly benefit Wenonah residents, especially our children, for a lifetime and more. Let's get together and talk about it.

Jack Sheppard Sr.

ANOTHER POSSIBILITY

If someone would like to take over the newsletter, I would be able and willing to take over the museum venture.

Larry Smith

2011 WHS OFFICERS

President	Charles Horan
Vice President	Paul Lader
Secretary	Vicki McCall
Treasurer	Carol Wiltsee
Trustee	Betty MacLeod
Trustee	Louis McCall

Meetings are held on the second Friday of each month (except June, July and August) at the Train Station Community Center.

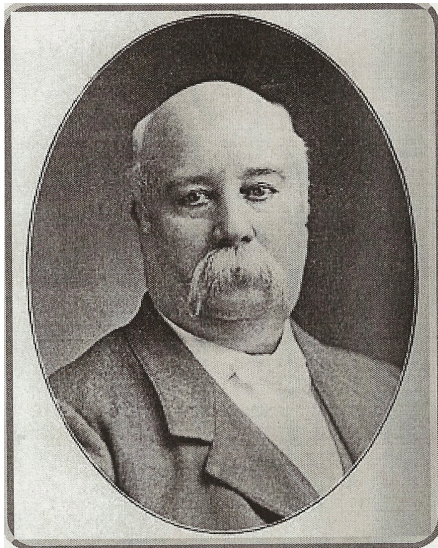
The following article was researched and written by Jack C. Sheppard, Sr. Information for the article was provided by Marjorie K. Lentz.

DR. HENRY LAKE GILMOUR, SR.
(1836-1920)
by Jack C. Sheppard, Sr.

Henry Lake Gilmour was born in Londerry, Ireland on January 19, 1836. His father was a tanner in Ireland and was a very strict disciplinarian.

At 16, Henry, according to the traditions of his community went to sea to learn the skills of navigation. He sailed on a vessel and found himself in port in Philadelphia and was very impressed, although he was offered a position as navigator by the captain of the ship, he decided to remain in America. He settled in Cape May, NJ and began a career as a house painter. It was in Cape May he met Miss Letitia Pauline Howard and they were married in 1858.

Very soon after the beginning of the Civil War, Henry left his wife and, then, two year old son to enlist in the First New Jersey Cavalry. He served a total of 4 four and a half years in the Union Army and held the rank of Major at the time of the Confederate surrender. His memories of his service were permanently etched in his mind. He had been captured by Confederate forces and held as a prisoner-of-war in the "Libbey Prison," a converted furniture factory, just outside of Richmond, VA. He was released in a prisoner exchange after being held for three months. During his imprisonment he developed an interest in dentistry and took care of his fellow prisoners teeth. Upon his release and discharge from the Army he enrolled in classes at the Philadelphia College of Dentistry. He opened an office in Cape May and later in Philadelphia. On the train commute between offices he began to notice and became impressed with the beautiful little community of Wenonah, NJ. Dr. Gilmour moved his family to Wenonah in 1869 into a house on Mantua Ave., the main street in Wenonah.



Dr. Henry Lake Gilmour, Sr.

While living in Cape May, Dr. and Mrs. Gilmour were very active members of the Cape May Methodist Church, but when they arrived in Wenonah there was no Methodist church so they began attending Memorial Presbyterian Church where he took an active leadership role. Dr. Gilmour became chorus director for the Pitman Camp Meeting Association, a position he held for more than 40 years, and worked at camp meetings and revivals in Mountain Lake Park, Maryland and Ridgeview Park, Pennsylvania.

In 1885, Dr. Gilmour headed-up, along with an ardent group of Methodists, the formation of the Wenonah Methodist Episcopal Church. Not only did they organize the society, but they built the Church building, which is still in use today as the Wenonah United Methodist Church. Dr. Gilmour served as a trustee, steward, Sunday School superintendent, class leader and chorister at his little Wenonah church and in spite of very attractive offers from several large city churches in Philadelphia, Dr. Gilmour remained faithful to his beloved Wenonah Church.

Dr. Gilmour was a man of rugged frame and a strikingly strong bearing. On Monday, May 17, 1920, he was taken ill with uremic poisoning and did not realize or admit that it was any more than a minor ailment. He went home to be with the Lord on Thursday, May 20, 1920. His funeral service was held at the home of his son, Dr. H. Lake Gilmour on May 24, 1920. Brief addresses were made by Rev. R. H. Gage of the Memorial Presbyterian Church and Rev. F. B. Morley, pastor of the Wenonah Methodist Church. Dr. Gilmour was interred in the Wenonah Cemetery. At the time of his death Dr. Gilmour was survived by his wife, two sons; L. D. H. Gilmour, of Newark, NJ, and Dr. H. Lake Gilmour Jr. of Wenonah, and a daughter, Mrs. Mary P. Hatch, of Delair, NJ.



A memorial service was held at the Wenonah Methodist Episcopal Church on Sunday, June 6, 1920 at 4:00 P.M. Dr. Gilmour's hymns were sung and there remarks by Prof. William J. Kirkpatrick and Rev. DeWitt C. Cobb. An appreciation of Dr. Gilmour was read by Dr. H. J. Zelly and resolutions adopted by the Official Board of the local church were read by Dr. David Schoch. C. Austin Miles of

Pitman was also in attendance and spoke about his long time friendship with Dr. Gilmour.

Throughout his life, Dr. Gilmour never lost his love of the sea and many of his hymns echoed that love. His constant memory of his time spent as a prisoner-of-war is also seen in his writings.

Some of his hymns are:

- He Brought Me Out
- Jesus, I Go Through With Thee
- Like A Mighty Sea
- Saved From The Wreck
- Watchman, Blow the Gospel Trumpet When Israel Out Of Bondage Came

Note: Son Dr. H. Lake Gilmour Jr. served as mayor of Wenonah for 14 years from 1931 through 1944. He was succeeded as mayor by William I. Conway, grandfather of WHS member Barbara Conway Horan, who served from 1945 through 1959.

WENONAH HISTORICAL SOCIETY



PO Box 32
Wenonah, New Jersey 08090

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Here

Wenonah Historical Society

Membership APPLICATION 2013

Membership Benefits

- MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
- MONTHLY MEETINGS WITH INTERESTING PROGRAMS
- ACCESS TO HISTORICAL ARCHIVES AND MEMORABILIA
- INFORMATION BY KNOWLEDGEABLE WENONAHIANS

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

RECEIVE NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL: YES OR NO _____

AMOUNT PAID \$ _____ CHECK _____ CASH _____

DUES: \$15.00 PER FAMILY HOUSEHOLD PER

BRING FORM AND PAYMENT TO MEETING, OR MAIL. THANK YOU
WHS PO Box 32, WENONAH, NJ 08090
