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FROM THE FRONT PORCH

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF MOORESTOWN



View From the Porch

Even though we had a relatively mild winter, the coming spring beckons us back outdoors into the parks and ballfields all over our community. And chances are, if you are treading across Moorestown soil, you are walking across some piece of the town's history. For example, one of my favorite outdoor spots in town is Strawbridge Lake. A depression era project, the Strawbridge Lake was created from Hooton's Creek during the 1930s through the Works Progress Administration—a Roosevelt New Deal initiative designed to create jobs and jumpstart the flailing economy. Local residents worked on the park's creation which was carved from land that local property owners donated. A true community effort.

Perhaps for you, the warming weather means tennis matches at the Field Club. Dating back to 1892, the Moorestown Field Club was open for “ball playing, lawn tennis...cricket...and other healthful physical exercises.” The tennis courts were grass in those days, and clubs from neighboring Haddonfield, Riverton, and Woodbury came through for some “healthful” competition. Tennis legend and Hall of Famer Bill Tilden appeared there in the 1920s for exhibitions, and the American Davis Cup team practiced there in the 1930s. To the chagrin of knees everywhere, hard courts replaced the grass

courts in the 1940s, but the Field Club remains a hub for tennis enthusiasts today who are looking for a match or a training session.

Maybe springtime sports will land you on a baseball/softball diamond at Memorial Field. Parents and grandparents have been cheering for their children on Memorial Field for over 70 years. In 1949, Memorial Field first began hosting high school and youth sports. If sports build character, Memorial Field has been the stage for character building for three generations.

Of course, spring means rain, too. When the heavens need some time to work on the May flowers, be sure to stop by the Historical Society to tour the Smith-Cadbury Mansion or explore our library and archives. We are open every Tuesday from 1-4 and every second and fourth Sunday from 1-3.

When you visit, take a look in our bookstore for a copy of Moorestown's Third Century by William “Bill” Kingston. The places discussed above and others are discussed in length in his chapter devoted to recreation in 20th century Moorestown.

Mickey DiCamillo, President
mdicam@hotmail.com



House Tours and Gift Shop Hours:

2nd & 4th Sunday 1-3 PM
Tuesdays 1-3 PM

Research Library Hours:

Tuesday 1-4 PM
Second Sunday of
each Month 1-3 PM

Address

Historical Society of
Moorestown
Smith-Cadbury Mansion
12 High St.
Moorestown, NJ 08057

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Facebook

facebook.com/historical-societyofmoorestown

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of Moorestown*

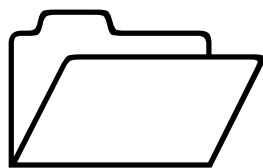
*For details see page 8 or visit
www.moorestownhistory.org or
www.moorestownlibrary.org/events/*

**New Jersey
History
Speaks**
**LECTURE
SERIES**



*Save these
2020 Dates:
April 8th
May 20th*

March 2020



ACCESSIONS

**We appreciate
all of our donors**
and all of the diverse

pieces of Moorestown history that they contribute to our collection. It is our pleasure to once again review, recognize and share these generous accessions. Just think of the stories that come with each object!

- Land documents and deeds, photographs, newspaper articles, original documents including MHS class lists dating to the Great Depression, and Civil War documents are just some of the Kimble and Sayres family history brought to us by the Mansdoerfer family.
- A wooden and metal ice pick chipped away many blocks of ice at a Mill Street residence; brought to us by the Weaver family.
- The Zwirner family donated Jonathan Roberts book entitled: *The Civil War's Quaker Scout and Sheriff*.
- Patricia O' Donnell sent two hardcover volumes of unabridged transcriptions dated 1740-1824 of John Hunt, Burlington County Quaker Minister which was funded by David and Joyce Hunt in cooperation with the Friends Historical Society of Swarthmore College.
- The De Cou family once again graced us with another treasure belonging to ancestors Samuel and Howard De Cou: a Kodak box camera dated c. 1903.
- The HSM has an extensive collection of MHS yearbooks. David Khanlian recently donated one from 1973. These yearbooks serve as a wonderful reference and are used quite often. We also received the yellow covered booklet of MHS's Class of 1937 Reunion in 1957 from David Farace. The Englehard family's donation of a MHS graduation gown and cap is a welcome addition to the MHS collection.
- Due to David Sullivan's donation, when we think of Miami Beach, Florida, we now make the direct Moorestown connection to a hardcover book entitled *Miami Beach: A Centennial Story* that tells the story of Moorestown Quaker and farmer John S. Collins (1837-1928) who formed the Miami Beach Improvement Company in 1911. *"Collins Avenue was named for John S. Collins, a developer who, in 1913, completed Miami's first bridge, Collins Bridge, connecting Miami Beach to the mainland across Biscayne Bay"*

- Brad Horner's donation of Collins Family photographs contributes to our knowledge of the Collins Family.
- The Haddonfield Historical Society donated a handwritten hardcover book by Robert Saltonstall Kinsey pertaining to a barn that was located on N. Church Street and New Albany Road. The actual barn hinges are now part of our collection.
- Our very special friend Ann Condon gifted us with a World War II Silk Window Banner.
- The Moorestown Women's Club Scrapbook chronicles the organization's contributions and efforts in the 1960s. It was compiled by Dolores Plasket who was Club president in 1962 and donated by her son, Douglas Plasket.
- Laessle Family photographs depicting Moorestown scenes are wonderful to see and were donated by Dave Homer.
- Linda Kemple donated treasured Laessle family documents, photographs, a 1929 Journal Yearbook and a diary journal. We thank the Laessle Family for continuing to provide us with valued history of their life in Moorestown.
- Catherine Obbard donated a very extensive collection of historical clothing including infant wear, embroidered sachet, lace jabots, a Quaker bonnet, formal dresses belonging to the Evans, Rhoads and extended family members some dating to 1828. The donation also included an extensive collection of greeting card and detailed genealogical charts, some dated 1722.
- On behalf of donors Conchetta and Will Holweger, their grandniece Denise Rudman generously donated beautiful works of art painted by Moorestown artists. The HSM and Moorestown residents are very appreciative of the family's Moorestown history and their generosity.
- Thank you to our friend Dave Schill for placing the The National Bank of Moorestown Commemorative Plate painted by Betty Littlegies in our collection where it will be on display.
- Colonial Burlington Cookery: *A Book of Receipts* April, 1770 printed in 2017 created and donated by Sue Huesken and Mercy Ingraham that describe cookbooks of that era as much more than the cookbooks of today.

The Historical Society of Moorestown

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Mary Berardi

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Newsletter Editor

Lisa Knell

Library

Stephanie Herz



We recently unearthed a transcript in the library of an interesting talk given by Dorothy Middleton Nelson on the occasion of the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the Mt. Laurel Meeting House. Ms. Nelson was the founder, curator and proprietor of the Thunderbird Museum on Mt. Laurel Road during the 1930s through the 1960s. At one time it held one of the largest collections of Native American artifacts (nearly 50,000) in North America. According to the book *Dorothy's Dream: Dorothy Middleton and her Indian Artifact Museum* by O. Kirk Spurr, due to a series of misfortunes, blunders and incompetence, the collection was sold off piecemeal and the museum was demolished along with the historic 1700s farm house on the property.

Dorothy Nelson was the first speaker at the celebration on June 16, 1960. Here is what she had to say:

"It is a pleasure to be here this evening to celebrate the 200th Anniversary of this grand old building.

I have grown up around here for a good many years. More than I would like to say. I have become keenly interested in the Mt. Laurel area through my study of the early inhabitants, whom we call Indians. Now these people came around here long, long before the coming of any white man or any settlers from the European shores. They were here when our so-called descendants [*sic*] came across. They were a friendly nation. We called them Indians for want of a better word. But they were a people who lived here as many of our neighbors live today, cultivating the land to the best of their ability with implements made from materials that nature provided such as stone, water, sand, wood, bone, but no manufactured products such as metals of iron or steel. Now they did use copper and silver, a native ore which was easily malleable and easily handled with a stone tool.

The settlers coming from Europe, found these folks as I said a very friendly nation. They opened their arms and gave us their lands and they gave of their food. They were not out to hold back anything. Those coming over purchased through trade or barter areas that they could use themselves, and the Indians gladly gave it up. Pieces of land by way of thousands and thousands of acres, hundreds of acres maybe, some smaller.

That brings us up to about the late 1400s, early 1500s. [*editor's note: 1600s in the northeast; 1682 in our area*]. Still these people were using their stone implements. I have brought a very few pieces up here for exhibit on the end of the building. You will notice that there was even a stone spade. Of course, the handles are gone today as are the handles from the axes. They can be compared with the things we use in our everyday life. Now you all have your farming implements; they even went as far as having a plow. Unfortunately, due to the damp weather in New Jersey, I was unable to bring it tonight. The case would not open. It just refused to open its doors and it is a very insignificant looking thing. It looks almost like a horse's hoof upon a horse's hoof. It was pulled by the squaws or the women of the tribe, and these people would do no more than probably scratch a line a half inch to an inch deep with this so-called plow. It was pulled by the women and steered by the children. They used a pick which I have one on display. A double ended pick. Same as we use our picks today. They also used their hoes and they had spades as I started to say, shafted with the wooden handles.

Forgotten Treasures from the HSM Archives

The men did the hunting and the women kept house. I wonder how many of you ladies would like to keep house as they did in the early days. You might have noted one of the knives up there called a squaw's knife. That takes the place of our paring knives or our chopping knives that we use in our kitchens today. The deep bowl stone was for mixing, even for serving. The shallow grinding stone there happens to have two hollows or two pits. That was used to grind up a few acorns or a few roots to use in either a tasty dish of rabbit or deer meat. They might have ground a few wild herbs. Also the acorns were in very good favor to make acorn patties as we call them today. I don't know that we would want to venture into them too far to get a very good bitter taste. The Indians made it somehow so that the bitter taste was still there.

Now then we have the hunting tools that the men used. They would be axes, spears and arrowheads. We are all familiar with those. They also used a skinning tool called a celt. There is also one called an adze which has a flat side. All these, remember, were just pieces of stone native to the area in which they lived, but polished down and worked with sand and water friction. And when they wanted a ceremonial and wanted to polish it, again they went into the abrasive end of it and used more sand. Usually, a very sharp sand, very fine sharp polishing

(continued on page 5)



Dorothy Middleton and her Thunderbird Museum in 1933. Photo credit: *Dorothy's Dream: Dorothy Middleton and her Indian Artifact Museum*, by O. Kirk Spurr

INTERESTING HISTORY OF HOUSES IN MOORESTOWN: TRINITY CHURCH RECTORY

Have you ever driven down West Central Avenue towards Church Street and noticed a house on the right side after Dawson Street that seems different than the others in the neighborhood?

The house at 139 West Central is a relative newcomer in the vicinity, but it's much older than any of its neighbors.

The story begins in 1837-38 when the Trinity Episcopal Church at the corner of East Main and Church Streets was built on land donated by Edward Harris Jr., who was a member of the parish and lived in the Smith-Cadbury Mansion. During the tenure of the 4th Rector, Thomas L. Franklin, the

rectory was built in 1846, just west of the church building. The cost was \$2161 and the builder was Thomas Gill who built a good number of the houses in Central and West Moorestown.

Fast forward 81 years. Eldridge Johnson, the founder and president of the Victor Talking

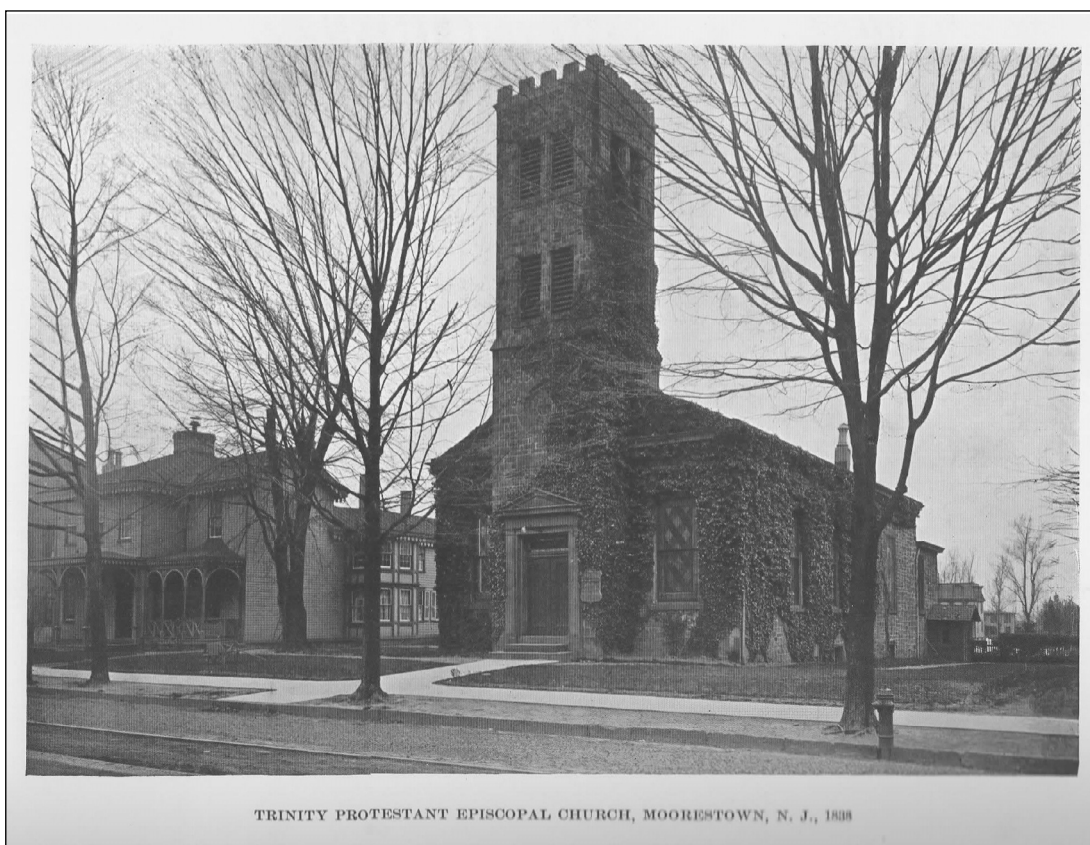
Machine Corporation made an offer to the congregation to replace the church complex (church, parish house and rectory) that existed there in 1927. The old church was demolished and new locations had to be found for the old parish house and rectory so that new ones could be built.

The parish house and the rectory were sold for \$750 and moved across the graveyard (the gravestones had to be lowered), down Church St., over the railroad tracks and onto West Central Ave. The parish house was moved to the south side of West Central at the corner of Church St. and is now known as the Tait Arms Apartments. The rectory was moved onto a lot then owned by Edmund May, III at 139 West Central Ave.

The first residents of the rectory house at the new location were attorney Joseph C. Haines and his wife M. Pauline Haines. Other residents included Earl and Emma Thompson from 1935 to 1945, Elevator Engineer George and wife Anna Weiford and their daughter Patricia and son-in-law Pellham Moorer who was a World War II Navy pilot, owner of the Penn City Elevator Company and former president of the Field Club.

We're so excited that the new owners are proud and interested in preserving the unique history of the house and have ordered an HSM plaque to designate it!

— Stephanie Herz



TRINITY PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH, MOORESTOWN, N. J., 1888

Old Trinity Church with Rectory Building on the left.

Photo credit: *Genealogy of the Descendants of Thomas French, Vol II, 1785-1913* by Howard B. French

BUSINESS CORNER

BUSINESS MEMBERSHIPS

Local businesses play an important role when they support the preservation of Moorestown's history. We welcome and thank our business members!

BENEFACTOR

Powers Kirn, LLC
Counselors at Law

PATRON

Whitesell Construction

FRIENDS

Passariello's Pizzeria
& Italian Kitchen

D P Lawn Care

Lewis Funeral Home

The Recycled Designer

Neil K. Johnson, Architect

GCF Organizing

Tait Roofing

Your generous support helps to sustain the Society's commitment to preserving Moorestown's heritage for generations to come.
Again, thank you!

New Business memberships are always welcome; for details, visit us at <http://moorestownhistory.org/membership/become-a-business-partner/>

sand that they would bring back from the shore in small leather pouches. We often find caches of the sand in the regular campsites. These campsites were all around here.

To begin with, the turnpike took five of the nicest ones. Right down the middle as if it had been engineered purposely to hit the middle of every one of them. They couldn't have drawn a line better if they tried. All the way from Fellowship to Masonville. One right after the other, and I thought surely when they got over toward Hartford they were going to miss the last one. But no, the engineers changed their plans and they hit the middle of the last site. And that destroyed the sites around here of any major importance. There are still several fields where they are found, but I am speaking of the major sites where the larger groups lived.

The hill over across the road from here became a very good place for the Indians to look out. They were the first ones to send signals from the hill. Then in the middle 1800s came the mirrored signal device [*editor's note: not mirrors but a semaphore system with large wooden signal arms*] for signaling the stock market reports from New York over to Philadelphia and Washington [*editor's note: not Washington*]. Then along just a few years back came the present tower of the microwave for experimental purposes. So the hill has served its purpose from way back, not only for hundreds of years, but possibly for thousands of years. Many of the pieces found around here date not just from five hundred years ago, but go back to ten and even twenty thousand years ago [*the earliest artifacts in the Northeast go back to about 12000 BC*]. All have been proven through the carbon fourteen testing. When the first European settlers came over and met these Indians here, the Indian grew to like them very much. One early family (I believe it was William and Elizabeth Evans) they lived in a cave their first winter I believe, on the hill over here. The Indians took care of them. From all reports that I can find the Indian people helped the new settlers catch animals and helped provide the food, took care of the children and taught the children how to weather the storms and other things. After that, the hill remained as it had been before. The cave was closed by weather and eventually filled up, although as I remember as a little girl playing in a partial opening on the side of that hill.

The first Indian reservation in the United States wasn't too far from here. It was at Brotherton now known as Indian Mills. I think we are all familiar with the location. That was opened in 1756 and closed in 1802. One of the Indians going from there was Indian Ann. She was married twice... [*editor's note: first to a former enslaved man and second to John Roberts, who fought and died during the Civil War with the 22nd Regiment of African American troops*]. She received a pension from the Army and after his death settled in Dingtletown. There is a photograph of her home there. She was wont to come around this area and visit with the people around here. She never stayed in this area to live, but she would come up for several days and nights at a time, visiting here and there, and she had quite a love for railroad trains, and she used to get as far as Masonville or Hartford and then take the train into Moorestown and wander around the town, then go back by way of the train and then on home. But she never stayed, as far as I can find out, never lived permanently or even part of the time more than a night or two at a time in this area. I could go on and on about these Indians from around this area for several hours. She died in 1894 at age 90.

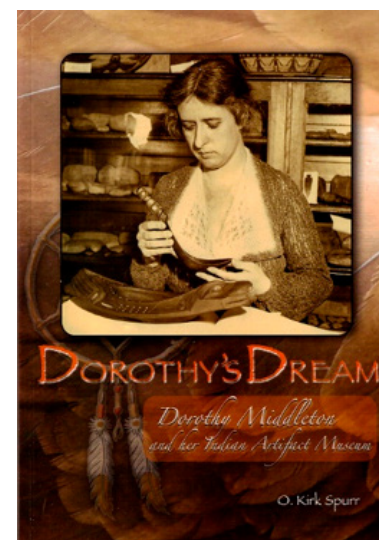
I do want to say this though, that these people by making their materials, you probably do not understand that the stone would be quarried not just around the very immediate area, but they might have to go four or five miles or ten miles to bring their materials back. So that we do get pieces found in our fields and in our gardens of materials that would be foreign to exactly Mt. Laurel although the pieces have been found in this area.

I have accumulated for the museum over a period of thirty-five years thousands and thousands of pieces just in this area. I concentrated on Burlington County, and I concentrated on Mt. Laurel township. Looking far enough ahead as I hoped at the time it would be a monument to those people of their works and their lives of so long ago. I felt a few years back that something had to be done in addition to just housing these pieces, and last year at last after a lifetime of hoping for it, a foundation was created, and it is guided now by a Board of Directors. It is a non-profit tax free organization known as the Thunderbird Foundation. The museum now belongs to the Thunderbird Foundation and I now am only its director. Although I will be a board member as long as I live. It has been given over to them to be kept in perpetuity, so all my work of thirty-five years of searching and researching and studying has not gone in vain, as I feel now.

I know that there are lots of people here tonight that have seen some of my things.

Lots of you think that it is just a small collection gathered just as a hobby. There are some that probably never heard of it. Some visitors perhaps, maybe you have, I don't know. I would like to take this time to extend an invitation to you to visit the Thunderbird Foundation Museum and just see how these things are going to be preserved for the future. It is a study in itself. I know of no other museum, and I say this not because I have brought it up, but I know of no other one that houses the enormous amount of work, nor does the research that we do down there. Our research goes not only in New Jersey but we are going far afield. We're sending one of the board members to Egypt this summer, and we are going to do a lot of Egypt research of which I am very proud to say that this will be our first major party going out.

So I am going to bring to a close my little talk, because I am watching my time and I know there are lots of people coming after me. It is brief, it's cut short because of my time allowance. There are a lot of things that I could do. There is just one more thing. You may hear of Indians known as the Delawares. In Oklahoma and New Brunswick, Canada, there are the descendants of the Lenni Lenape who lived in this area. In New Brunswick, Canada there are four to eight hundred living today, and down near Tulsa, Oklahoma there to fifteen hundred to two thousand living there today. All descendants of these people known as the Lenni Lenape who roamed Mt. Laurel hill in this area many hundreds of years and thousands of years before this building was even thought of, and even when it was, they were still around, probably giving help, quarrying the stones or bringing them round.



(continued on page 7)

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Hello Members!

Arriving with the daffodils this Spring will be your membership renewal form for 2020-2021. We depend on your membership dues and donations to operate Smith-Cadbury Mansion, Moorestown's historic house museum, library and archive. All of us here at the Historical Society truly appreciate you—our dedicated membership—for supporting our efforts. A shoutout to our 51 members who said "Happy 50th!" with a \$50 membership donation during last year's campaign!

Thank you to Whitesell Construction and Tait Roofing for their recent donations!

A warm welcome to our newest member: • **Sue Adams** •

If you have a friend or neighbor who might be interested in supporting the Historical Society by joining us, they can become a member through our website, or email us the details and we'll make sure they get a membership invitation.

A beautiful color version of this newsletter is available on our website at moorestownhistory.org/newsletter.

Looking forward to sharing history with you soon,

Jill Weiss, Membership Chair moorestownhistory@comcast.net

(Accessions; continued from page 2)

- The HSM owes a special and great debt of gratitude to all of the Coles family for their very extensive donations throughout many years that continue to inform us about Moorestown's history.
- Moorestown's early Real Estate documents and pamphlets depict an historical view of the town's commerce; donated by Ross Sweeney.

As we review and recognize the vast array of donations, we are honored by each and every piece and the opportunity to study them. These objects reflect life in Moorestown from an earlier era and take us on a journey back in time. Due to the generosity of our donors, our Collection is a composite of *life in Moorestown* – each a treasure and a story of its time.

— Mary Berardi

Are you good at fundraising? If so, we need your help!

We are seeking individuals with energy and ideas to help us in our fundraising efforts.



Jobs — big and small — that we need help with:

Activities/Events: Helps plan, organize and hold Society events.

Docents: Museum and special exhibit guides.

Exhibits: Helps create interesting displays.

Fund Raising: Helps plan and hold income-generating events.

Museum: Helps with maintaining collection.

Oral History: Collects oral histories and oversees written work.

Photography: Attends events and take digital photos for our archives and publicity.

Programs: Helps select programs and speakers, coordinates meetings.

Publicity/News/Web: Helps get Society information to the members and public.

If you can help out, call the Society at 856-235-0353



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

RENEWAL
NEW

BASIC MEMBERSHIP:

- Student (\$10) Individual/Family (\$35)

DONOR LEVELS:

- Say Happy 50th! (\$50)
 History Partner (\$100)
 Library Sponsor (\$250)
 Patron (\$500) Benefactor (\$1000)

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Visit our website,
moorestownhistory.org
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for member benefits!
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Make check payable to: Historical Society of Moorestown

Mail to: P.O. Box 477 Moorestown, NJ 08057

Or renew online at: moorestownhistory.org/membership

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 2020

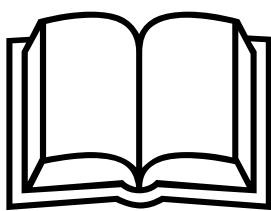
- 3 *Smith-Cadbury* library, gift shop & tours, 1-4
- 8 *Smith-Cadbury* tours, gift shop, research library, 1-3
- 10 *Smith-Cadbury* library, gift shop & tours, 1-4
- 17 *Smith-Cadbury* library, gift shop & tours, 1-4
- 8 *Smith-Cadbury* tours, and gift shop, 1-3
- 24 *Smith-Cadbury* library, gift shop & tours, 1-4
- 31 *Smith-Cadbury* library, gift shop & tours, 1-4

APRIL 2020

- 7 *Smith-Cadbury* library, gift shop & tours, 1-4
- 8 Annual Meeting & NJ History Speaks presentation 7:00 at Moorestown Library
- 12 *Smith-Cadbury* tours, gift shop, research library, 1-3
- 14 *Smith-Cadbury* library, gift shop & tours, 1-4
- 21 *Smith-Cadbury* library, gift shop & tours, 1-4
- 26 *Smith-Cadbury* tours & gift shop, 1-3
- 28 *Smith-Cadbury* library, gift shop & tours, 1-4

MAY 2020

- 5 *Smith-Cadbury* library, gift shop & tours, 1-4
- 10 *Smith-Cadbury* tours, gift shop, research library, 1-3
- 12 *Smith-Cadbury* library, gift shop & tours, 1-4
- 19 *Smith-Cadbury* library, gift shop & tours, 1-4
- 20 NJ History Speaks presentation 7:00 at Moorestown Library
- 26 *Smith-Cadbury* library, gift shop & tours, 1-4



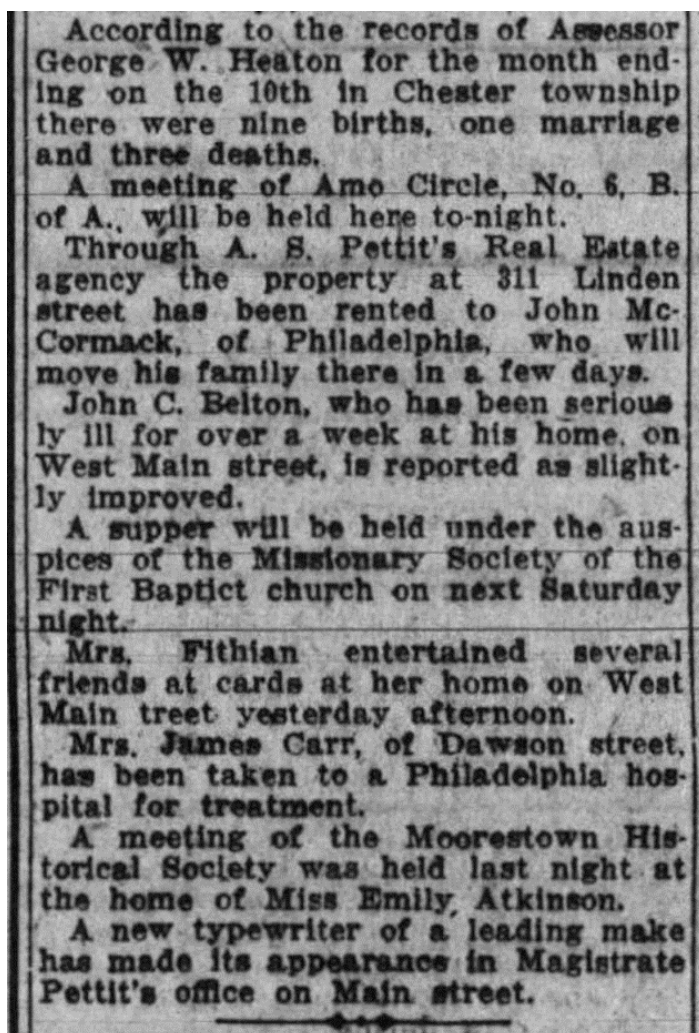
LIBRARY NEWS

Tuesday afternoons are always busy in the Historical Society library. There is no end of data entry, filing and processing new acquisitions, assisting with online and in-person research requests, and giving tours of our wonderful Smith-Cadbury Mansion house museum. That's why we're more than thrilled when new volunteers step

up to give us a hand. Many thanks to Steve Gross and Drew Campbell, our two newest volunteers who are helping to lighten the load! Keep an eye out for the Historical Society's new Instagram account, helmed by Mr. Campbell, and the introductory theme of Transformation Tuesdays, that will offer "then and now" photos of historic Moorestown sites.

As we're doing research we often come across unrelated but fascinating information that pertains to Moorestown's history. While recently researching a house, we discovered that Miss Emily Atkinson, who lived at 305 West Main Street, may have started the earliest version of the Historical Society, **56 years before our recognized date of 1969.** See the article (at right) from the March 12, 1913 *Camden Morning Post*.

— Stephanie Herz



"A meeting of the Moorestown Historical Society was held last night at the home of Miss Emily Atkinson." (*Camden Morning Post*, March 12, 1913)



(*Forgotten Treasures*; continued from page 5)

And at this time I have something here in commemoration of the 200th anniversary. I would like to present this photograph, and I am going to ask Mrs. Edith Coles to accept it on behalf of the committee, taken of the Meeting House just this week, on its 200th birthday. Will Edith Coles please accept it or, will you accept it for her? All right, if Ned will accept it please, and I hope it will serve to remind those of what she looked like two hundred years old. It was taken either Monday or Tuesday of this week. I am not sure just which. Thank you. I would like to add, anyone tonight if they so desire after I leave here if the opportunity presents itself, I will have the museum open if you will just tell me before you leave. I am going right down there after the program is over. It is just a mile and a half down Mt. Laurel Road toward

Moorestown, half way between Mt. Laurel and Moorestown. It is on the right hand side. You can't miss it, and we are there every Sunday afternoon regularly and other times I am usually around. If you are taking a ride stop. If you want to make sure give us a call and make sure that we are there. And thank you again, and many happy returns to the old Meeting House."

The book, *Dorothy's Dream: Dorothy Middleton and her Indian Artifact Museum*, by O. Kirk Spurr is available in our gift shop and on the web at: moorestownhistory.org/shop/.

— Stephanie Herz

Historical Society of Moorestown

Smith-Cadbury Mansion
12 High Street, Box 477
Moorestown, NJ 08057

Non-Profit
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Permit NO. 183



• Historical Society of Moorestown Membership Year
April 30, 2019—May 1, 2020 / Time Travelers Member •

MARCH 2020



**All lectures are free and
open to the public**

To register, go to the
HSM web site [https://
moorestownhistory.
org/events/calendar/](https://moorestownhistory.org/events/calendar/) or
the Moorestown Library
web site [http://www.
moorestownlibrary.
org/events/](http://www.moorestownlibrary.org/events/)

**All Events are sponsored
by the Elizabeth
Tuttle Foundation**

NEW JERSEY HISTORY SPEAKS SERIES

Wednesday, April 8th @ 7:00 PM | Moorestown Public Library

Jersey Tales: Quirky Stories About New Jersey's History

Speaker: Mickey DiCamillo, Historical Society of Moorestown President

Have you heard the one about the submarine buried in the Rancocas Creek? Or, the one about Jewish mobsters brawling with Nazis in Newark? Did someone ever tell you that a Frank Lloyd Wright designed home stands in Cherry Hill, or a railroad for bicycles once enabled South Jersey commuters to peddle their way to work? Historical Society president Mickey DiCamillo cobbles together a few short stories about New Jersey's past and highlights the people and institutions keeping these memories alive.

Wednesday, May 20th @ 7:00 PM | Moorestown Public Library

The Convention: Birthing the United States Constitution in 1787

Speaker: Stuart Leibiger, Professor of History at LaSalle University

The United States Constitution is the world's oldest written national constitution still in use. Rather than a triumph of one faction's ideas and beliefs, the Constitution developed in a messy, contentious convention where a multitude of fears and staunchly held beliefs collided. Stuart Leibiger, author of the recent book *The Constitutional Convention of 1787: A Reference Guide*, has combed through the primary sources documenting the lead-up to the convention, the day-to-day happenings at the convention, and the final ratification of the document. His narrative tells how this convention gave birth to such an enduring document as well as New Jersey's role in this historic achievement.