

Wenonah Historical Society Newsletter

Next Meeting at 7:30 P.M.

Friday, January 8, 2016
Volume 14, Issue 1, January 2016

Protective Associations in Gloucester County

Prior to the age of the automobile, horses were a valuable commodity. They were not only used for transportation but for farming as well. Many local communities formed Protective Associations as residents banded together to protect themselves against horse thieves. Mullica Hill, Mantua, Swedesboro, Woolwich Township, Deptford Township and Woodbury were among those communities.

In August 1896, the Mullica Hill Grange appointed a committee to organize an Association. In September, the Mullica Hill Protective Association was formed and ready for business. Besides officers and directors, there were 33 charter members.

In June 1867, the Mantua Protective Association was formed at a meeting held in the Barnsboro Hotel. Its purpose was to protect its members from the prevalent stealing of horses, carriages and harnesses, recovery of stolen property and apprehension of the thieves. There were 58 charter members (all men). One advantage of membership was that thieves, realizing they would be pursued by a posse, would usually bypass the property of known Association members. Over the years, cash dividends were sometimes paid to members or used toward the annual banquet.

During the summer of 1922, shortly before disbanding, the Association participated in one final act of apprehending a horse thief. After the horse of Jacob Tomlin of Jefferson was stolen, the horse was quickly recovered and the thief committed to jail thanks to the quick action of the Association officers and Deputy Sheriff W.D. Bundens. This completed a clean record for the Association. On February 12, 1923, the final meeting was held at Smith's Hall in Mantua. A liberal reward was given to Deputy Sheriff Bundens and the officers and members received \$20 each as his share.

Mickleton formed "The Mickleton Pursuing and Detective Association" to aid in the capture of those stealing horses, poultry and farm produce. In 1915, the Association boasted 198 members and claimed that thievery had decreased since its organization.

Once use of the automobile became commonplace, there was no longer a need for the Protective Associations and they were eventually all disbanded.

How Times Have Changed!

The news items below were taken from the pages of the *Woodbury Daily Times* of January 1916.

Letters being held at the post office were advertised in the newspaper.

A poultry show at the Woodbury Armory was held annually.

A corner property in Mantua with gas range, garden and stable rented for \$7 per month.

Jeddo brand coal was advertised as the "very acme of heat production."

The Waldheim Gun Club of Wenonah held their annual turkey shoot.

Fredrick of Wenonah and Chew of Mantua were agents selling the fully equipped Allen Motorcar for \$795.

Hotel Paul in Woodbury rented rooms for \$2 per day while the Newton Hotel was \$2.50.

Urban's Candy Store in Woodbury made and sold their own menthol cough drops.

Local grocers sold pork and scrapple from the Haines Pork Shop of Mickleton.

The weekly subscription rate for the *Woodbury Daily Times* was five cents.

Hickory garters were sold for children as an undergarment worn to support stockings.

A seven-room house on one acre with outbuildings and poultry house adjacent to the Woodbury Country Club rented for \$15 per month.

Twenty-five Cozens Cold Pills could be purchased at Cozens Drug Store in Wenonah for 25 cents.

A visit to Howard H. Thoman could result in a new wristwatch and a pair of eyeglasses. He advertised as both jeweler and optician.

WHS OFFICERS

President	Charles Horan
Vice President	Paul Lader
Secretary	Vicki McCall
Treasurer	Carol Wiltsee
Trustee	Scott Barnes
Trustee	Louis McCall

Meetings are held on the 2nd Friday of each month
(except June, July and August)
at the Train Station Community Center

You're Invited...



To an Encore Presentation of

If These Walls Could Talk

(a brief history of the GCHS Museum and its prominent residents)

Sunday, January 31, 2016 @ 1:00pm
Snow/Sleet Date February 28, 2016

Gloucester County Historical Society Library
17 Hunter Street
Woodbury, NJ 08096
Free Admission to the Museum and Library!



THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Charles Horan

I hope that everyone had an enjoyable holiday season. We last met at the Telford Inn on Friday, December 11th for our annual Holiday Dinner. It seems to have been a successful event at a new venue. Our January meeting comes early this month (this coming Friday, January 8th at 7:30) due to New Years Day falling on the first Friday of the month. Below is a summary of our program. In keeping with the past few years, we are using local members as presenters in case inclement weather affects us.

I wish everyone a healthy and happy 2016. **The WHS Plaque Program has been revived and is moving forward.** I will have some comments on this topic this coming Friday.

Charlie Horan, Pres. WHS

I exist because my Granddad liked to play piano and my Grandma had a sensitive tooshie:

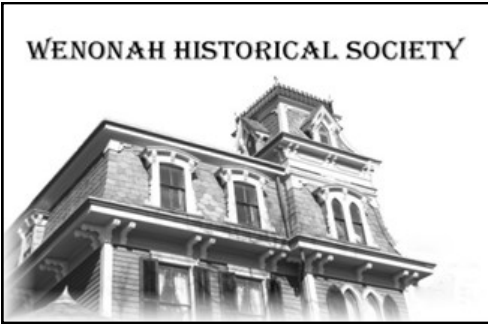
The Second World War affected people on every continent. The history of what happened on the battlefield is well documented as is the direct attack on Great Britain known as the Battle of Britain and the 'Blitz'. What is less well known is how everyday life carried on in the shadow of the war and the legacy it has left today. This will be a short presentation about the life of my family in North London during the war, the highs, the lows and the quirks of fate without which I would not be here to give this month's presentation.

Dan Cooper, Member WHS

WENONAH

A Century Ago

- * The Intermediate Group of the YMCA had an unusual meeting on Thursday night when the members had a workman's social at which time they repaired everything which was broken in their room, built new shelves after which they sat down to a lunch each boy brought with him topped off by ice cream provided by the group leader, Charles Hobson.
- * The midwinter drill and dance of the WAY will be held at the Academy Gym on Friday evening
- * Master Edward Grosscup entertained a few of his kindergarten friends at a magic lantern show recently at his home.
- * The Camp Fire Girls are planning for a play called "The Belles of Blackville."
- * A regular meeting of the fire company was held on Friday evening. The ladies' auxiliary presented the company with two rims for alarms to be placed in different parts of the town. They were received by the president, Mr. George Greenig, Sr., with thanks.
- * J. Edward Charles has been appointed Postmaster here and will take charge on February 1st. Mr. Jesse English, the present postmaster, has held that office for the past ten years.
- * Miss Helen Neely, principal of our school, is quite ill with the grip at her home in Gettysburg. Miss Edna English is substituting in her place.
- * This Sunday, January 23rd, is to be observed as go-to-church Sunday in our borough. Everybody is urged to attend the church they are accustomed to attend.
- * In a very close and exciting game, our Boy Scouts basketball team defeated the strong Junior team of the Academy by the score of 19 to 16.
- * Skating is once more becoming popular and although the ice is rather rough, a number of young people are enjoying it very much.
- * The stork left a girl at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Willard Thatcher.
- * Mr. Rambo of Pitman has purchased the milk route of Mr. Lafferty and has moved into Harris' home at the corner of Willow Street and Monroe Avenue and will open a milk depot there.
- * The new pumping station was opened for inspection on January 1st from 2 to 4 pm.
- * The Misses Mary Ogden, Eleanor Stout and Elizabeth Mehorter attended the Twelfth Night Party given by the class of '14 of the WHS in Woodbury on Thursday night. Miss Mehorter was queen of the party.
- * Mrs. Josephine Miller and daughter, Mrs. Springer, have been visiting friends in Washington, DC. Mrs. Springer recently returned from missionary work in Africa and addressed the prayer meeting in the ME Church on Wednesday evening.
- * The stork visited the home of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Felsburg at Sewell on Friday and left a son. Mrs. Felsburg will be remembered as Miss Rose Holt of our borough.
- * Miss Helen Neely, principal of our school, has returned to her duties of teacher. Miss Neely has just recovered from a severe attack of the grip.
- * The Intermediate Group of our YMCA took their regular yearly educational trip on Friday. In the morning, they visited Independence Hall, Scout Headquarters, Curtis Publishing Co. and other points of interest nearby. Then they went to the Central Branch of Philadelphia YMCA for a swim in the pool and a good lunch at the Cafeteria YMCA building. After a little recreation in the gym, they went to the Academy of Natural Sciences for the afternoon. Every boy voted the day a great success.



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PO Box 32
Wenonah, New Jersey 08090

WENONAH HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2015

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 YEAR

BRING FORM AND PAYMENT TO MEETING, OR MAIL. THANK YOU

WHS PO Box 32, WENONAH, NJ 08090