

Wenonah Historical Society Newsletter

Next Meeting at 6:00 P.M.

Friday, September 18, 2015
Volume 13, Issue 5, September 2015

Wenonah Happenings

Wenonah Post Office

On September 8, 1913, a lease for post office quarters in Wenonah was made between Robert H. Comey and Theresa P. Comey, his wife, of Wenonah and Albert S. Burlison, Postmaster General of the United States.

The room to be used as a post office was 12'8"x15'10" on the first floor of the three-story wooden building known as the Comey building at the northeast corner of Mantua and West Jersey Avenues. Mr. Comey agreed to supply the following: "complete equipment of boxes, fixtures, and furniture (including city and rural delivery furniture when necessary), together with satisfactory heat and light, heating and lighting fixtures, the requisite water closets, urinals, water, a fire-proof safe with burglar-proof chest, parcel post and postal savings bank equipment, etc." [The Postal Savings System was established in 1910 to encourage people to deposit their money safely and earn 2% interest. Accounts could be opened with as little as \$1 and the maximum balance allowed was \$500. The system was in place until 1967.] The owner also was responsible for taxes, assessments, utilities and providing building security in the form of iron bars and locks. The term of the lease was five years and would run from September 1, 1913 until September 1, 1918 at a cost of \$175 annually payable quarterly.

This document was recorded on December 30, 1913 in Volume 4 of the Book of Miscellaneous Records in the office of the Gloucester County Clerk and may be found today in the Gloucester County Historical Society Library.

Woodbury High School—September 1915

In the weekly edition of the *Gloucester County Democrat* newspaper, a column entitled "Woodbury H.S. Notes" was published with the latest news about the academic, sports and social life of the school. As Wenonah students (among others from different sending districts) arrived back at the high school after summer vacation, these were the changes they encountered:

The Peirce Bookkeeping Manual will be used in the Senior bookkeeping class this year. Students successfully completing this work will be given credit for the same at Peirce's.

Brazil, formerly of Wenonah Military Academy, will assist Head Coach Conklin with the football squad. If the fellows turn out, WHS should have one of the best teams in her history.

In a number of nearby high schools, the girls have formed hockey teams. How is it that WHS does not have a hockey team? The matter was presented to the Girls' A.A. last year and they decided to begin this fall but as yet we have heard nothing about the hockey squad.

George Eldridge Jr., '15, will enter the Towne Scientific School at the University of Penna.

The builders are rushing the work on the new chemical laboratory and hope to have it ready by the first of October. The room is to be fire proof and is in the basement.

Manager Page announced to the Varsity basketball players that he would not be able to rent the armory this season. This looks like no basketball at High but as yet the fellows have not given up all hope.

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

MUSEUM UPDATE

by Larry Smith

One mission of the Wenonah Historical Society is to make all information and acquisitions of the society available to the public. We are doing this through our website at www.wenonahhistoricalsociety.org and our Facebook group site at https://www.facebook.com/groups/708673412545429/758851540860949/?notif_t=like.

We've had more than 3,000 visits to the website and visits from every state except North Dakota! As one would expect, New Jersey leads the way, followed by New York, Pennsylvania, California and Texas. The most popular stops on the site have been the photo galleries, newsletters and Bob Thomas' interactive map of Wenonah's historic structures, which allows one to watch Wenonah grow from 1763 to 1921.

Recent additions to the website include Independence Day memorabilia and newsletters. The museum's collection of July 4 programs and related newspaper articles from 1872 to 1907 are posted. Much more will be added, as there are three large binders of programs and a file folder of articles that remain to be scanned. All of the archived Wenonah Historical Society's newsletters from November 2000 to May 2015 have now been posted. A compilation of the newsletters in a single pdf file allows easy searches of any topic of interest.

Our Facebook group site serves as a staging point for much of the material from the museum, before it is posted on the website. It also allows group members to share their photos and memories of Wenonah. The group now has 391 members! If you are not a member, I encourage you to join the group and to invite your friends, who have an interest in Wenonah history, to join as well.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Charles Horan

Wenonah Historical Society September 2015 Meet and Greet

Our Meet and Greet is scheduled for Friday September 18th starting at 6 PM. We will be gathering at the home of members Jenn and Tony Pizi located at 500 E Mantua Avenue.

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

A-M Appetizers

N-Z Desserts

Beverages will be provided.

This get-together is an excellent opportunity for our members to "kick-off" the 2015-2016 WHS season.

It was May 8th when we last were together for our picnic. I look forward to seeing everyone and a great new season.

Many thanks (again) to Larry Smith for his postings of historic July 4th programs as a prelude to the Wenonah 2015 July 4th celebration. His efforts were thwarted somewhat by the macro-burst storm of June 23rd that so drastically affected Wenonah Borough. It did not, however, stop this town from rallying and celebrating this time-honored tradition.

Gloucester County Historical Society

Upcoming Events

Museum Exhibit: Gloucester Abbey: Downton Style Fashions inspired by the popular PBS Series, *Downton Abbey*; free to members/\$5 for non-members; Monday, Wednesday, Friday—1-4pm, Last Sunday of Each Month—2-5pm; Call (856) 848-8531 to arrange for a group tour; runs through January 6, 2016.

New Jersey State Archives Bus Trip: Wednesday, October 14, 2015; bus leaves GCHS 7:15am, returns 4:00pm; \$32 members/\$37 non-members. Call 856-845-4771 for reservations.

WENONAH
A Century Ago

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Comey entertained the office force of Comey & Co. at their Ocean City cottage for the weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Farr and family have returned from their annual vacation at Cape May.

Mr. and Mrs. George Fredericks have returned from a delightful summer at Seaside Park.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Squires and children have returned home from a month's stay at Ocean City.

Miss Helen Mehorter, daughter of Mrs. Samuel Mehorter, became the bride of Mr. E. Stuart Warde of Philadelphia on Saturday afternoon at three o'clock by the Rev. John F. Allen of the Methodist Church. There were no attendants and only the immediate families of the young couple were present. After the ceremony the bride and groom left for a trip through the New England States.

Mr. James Baylies is erecting another house on South Monroe Avenue.

Miss Mortie Stokes has returned from a delightful month's cruise around Long Island.

The Chase family have returned home from Cape May where they have been spending the summer.

The stork left a baby boy at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Somers at Mullica Hill on Thursday. Mrs. Somers will be remembered as Miss Bertha Steward formerly of our borough.

A carnival for the benefit of the North American Polly Evans fund will be held on Mrs. Thomas Ritson's lawn Friday from 4 to 9pm.

The Gloucester County Firemen's Association held their annual meeting at the Wenonah fire house on Thursday evening. There was a splendid attendance and after the meeting a grand collation was served

which was greatly enjoyed by the visiting firemen.

The Wenonah Military Academy opened on Tuesday. The enrollment far exceeds that of any previous year.

Raymond Gage, son of Rev. R.H. Gage, left on Monday for New Haven, Conn. Where he goes to Yale University.

James Avis Jr. is now a student in the law office of his uncle, John Boyd Avis, at Woodbury.

Frank S. Peddle returned home Saturday after camping for the summer in Maine.

The report is that there are two cases of typhoid fever in our borough.

Miss Ethel Martin will assist George Grosscup in the Wenonah real estate office.

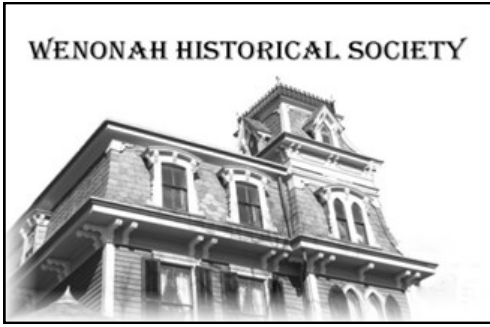
Miss Eve English is substituting in the library while Mrs. Mortie Stokes is away on a vacation.

Arthur Holeton's visit home was shortened by three weeks as he was recalled to fill an appointment in the hospital at San Bernardino, California. He has been a student in the medical school at Lama Linda for two years.

Mrs. John Holeton gave a dinner to some of her friends last week which was unique and greatly enjoyed by her guests in that it was strictly vegetable and was so satisfying and skillfully prepared.

Managers Roden and Mills of the Wenonah and Sewell teams have agreed on a series of games. The first game will be played this Saturday at the Academy field.

The crack Perkiomen team, which has appeared here twice this season, will be the attraction for Labor Day.



Stamp
Here

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