

THISTLE



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Summer 1986

A LITTLE ABOUT OUR PAST YEAR

September started off with a well attended members' party, and in October an evening on antiques drew more than 140 enthusiastic people. The December First Holiday Party at the Durand-Hedden House in Maplewood had a waiting list. Those who saw the March slide show on the Morris Canal were captivated by the story and pictures of this one-time vital waterway. At the annual meeting on June 12th, the movie "Hard Winter", produced by the Morris County Historical Society on the winter of 1779-1780 in Morristown, evoked much interest.

The slide shows on Millburn were presented to a number of organizations and to several classes in the schools. They had an excellent reception. *** Distribution of the Society publications about our town has been expanded through increased sales to realtors. The previous year copies were placed in each school library to make our local history more accessible to the students. *** Additions of note were made to the Archives including several early 19th century copies of the Newark newspaper "Sentinel of Freedom", and the Society was chosen as the depository for the records and memorabilia of the Oak Ridge Sunday School Association. *** Item indexing is completed through 1938 and interesting anecdotes will continue to be printed in the Thistle. *** Hospitality made each members meeting a refreshing success. *** Regretfully, a planned carriage house tour had to be indefinitely postponed so as not to detract from the Cora Hartshorn Arboretum's 25th Anniversary Celebration which included a house and garden tour.

ON-GOING PROJECTS

Several exciting projects are currently in progress. A plaque is being designed for placing on buildings with historical or architectural significance. A pilot program will be in the Short Hills Historic Park District to determine the interest of property owners. If successful, the program will be extended to the Wyoming Historic District and then to the other significant buildings throughout the town including the White Oak Ridge, Millburn and Old Short Hills Road areas. *** A committee is mapping out walking and driving tours. During the coming year a format will be determined and hopefully publication commenced. *** The Oral History Committee has been strengthened and a special effort will be made to tape the recollections of many old-time residents. A special emphasis will be directed to those families with Italian heritage. *** In late June the fourth grade at Hartshorn School saw a Society Slide Show on Millburn and then took a bus tour to several historic sites. We intend to work with teachers and other educators to develop a program that will expose all local fourth graders to our heritage. *** The advisability of holding the carriage house tour will be pursued. *** Tours of the religious buildings in the community is also being investigated.

DID YOU KNOW -

- Prior to 1948 there were no street signs in Short Hills
- Residents collected their mail at the Post Office
- Mail delivery commenced in March 1948 after signs had been installed and houses displayed their street number
- The 37 phone designations came from the days when the Millburn exchange was known as Drexel
- Mail delivery to the Wyoming area was first made by the Millburn Post Office in June 1958
- Prior to 1958 Maplewood Post Office handled Wyoming's delivery
- Mail was readily delivered if addressed to Wyoming, Maplewood or Millburn
- Most Wyoming residents had the South Orange phone exchange, the predecessor of today's 76 designation

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

An envelope is enclosed inviting the renewal of your membership in the Millburn-Short Hills Historical Society for the year 1986-87. Our fiscal year begins July first, and we encourage your continued support. Please complete the information on the envelope in full for listing in the directory which will be printed in late fall.

Last year 685 individuals and 12 businesses supported the Society's programs and events as due paying members. It was this encouragement that made the successful year possible and engendered the enthusiasm that will bring our on-going projects to fruition.

May we suggest that you mention membership in the Society to those who are not in the last directory.

Your assistance in furthering the interest of our local history is greatly appreciated.

SPECIAL TREATS TO TRY IN AUGUST

During the week of August 17-23, Ocean Grove residents and merchants will celebrate a "Victorian Christmas in August." Included are a Community Carol Sing on August 19, a Victorian Christmas Party at the Centennial Cottage on August 21st and a presentation of "Ahmal and the Night Visitors" on August 23rd by the Newark Cathedral Symphony Orchestra.

Of short notice, buy why not watch the Hot Air Balloons at Bloomsbury off Interstate 78 August 1st through 3rd. Friday, August 1st at 6 p.m. is a mass ascension followed by fireworks at dark. Saturday, August 2nd, at 7 a.m. is a Hound and Hare Race, then at 6 p.m. a Balloon Bicycle Return Race. Fireworks follow at dark. Sunday, again, has ballooning at 7 a.m. and 6 p.m.

"HOW TIMES HAVE CHANGED"

From Back issues of the Millburn-Short Hills Item

June 28, 1935: PENNY CANDY SHOP CLOSSES: GENERATIONS SOUGHT ITS WARES

Children of Township will miss "Penny Candy Lady" who served their elders too.

"The door of Millburn's oldest candy and tobacco shop is closed. The tinkle of the bell no longer rouses the old 'penny candy lady' to wait on little eager-faced customers. Mrs. M. B. Schultz, who has been known as the 'penny candy lady' to generations of children, has left her little shop forever.

"Mrs. Schultz came to Millburn 40 years ago from New York with her husband, opened the little shop which even then sold candy, but which sold, in addition, cigars which her husband manufactured on the premises. After his death, Mrs. Schultz carried the business on alone until a few months ago when she suffered a stroke and then another which confined her permanently to bed. She is now with a daughter in Metuchen and the shop from which she watched the children of Millburn grow and their children and their children's children will soon be pulled down.

"The property on which Mrs. Schultz's store stands belonged to Mrs. Denman and Mr. Edward Pettigrew. They presented it to Washington School for a playground, but with the restriction that Mrs. Schultz should be allowed to live there during her life. And until a few months ago, the little lady of 72 carried on her now almost historic shop selling licorice sticks, lollipops and gum drops, balls, tops and tiny rings with bright red, blue or green stones, delighting the hearts of the neighborhood youngsters.

"Perhaps it should not be told, but sometimes she had occasion to wait on young people from the High School around the corner. Even they, grown-up as they were, could not always resist the allure of the penny candy shop."

July 19, 1935: PENNY CANDY SHOP GOES TOO
Old Structure on Millburn Avenue Being Razed

"The 'Penny Candy Lady' is gone and now her shop goes too. When Mrs. M. B. Schultz suffered her last stroke, it was clear she would never again dispense soda pop to thirsty youngsters or tobacco to parents whom she remembered as sticky-faced children.

"The Board of Education prepared to have the corner of the Washington School playground cleared and called for bids to raze the building. The New Jersey Construction Company bid was the lowest, and now the tearing down of the historic shop is in progress.

"The playground was given to the Washington School by Mr. E. S. Pettigrew and his sister, Mrs. Denman. While the demolition of the little wooden building will extend the playground, it is difficult to believe the children would not be willing to sacrifice the extra space for a 'penny candy shop'."



The Pettigrew home which stood on the site of the Washington School playground.

SOCIETY ELECTIONS

At the annual meeting of members on June 12th, held at the Library, the following officers were elected for a one-year term:

President	W. Owen Lampe
Vice President	Robert M. Pyle, Jr.
Recording Secretary	Joan Holmes
Corresponding Secretary	Edel Livermore
Treasurer	Bernadette Wagner

Elected as Trustees for a three-year term until 1989:

Peggy Denise	Evelyn Hurlbut
Virginia Borzner	Jenks Schachter

Other Members of the Board continuing as Trustees:

Class of 1987	Class of 1988
Aline Coles	John Arsi
George Goffe	Roldah Cameron
Shirley Sarpi	Ellen Goldstein
Carol Webster	Barbara Horan

Plaudits and thanks for jobs well done go to the following:
 Colleen McCulloch who retired as a trustee but remains active on the Slide Show Committee
 Ginny Borzner served three years as Treasurer and now as a Trustee joins Colleen and Charlane Lamberto on the Slide Show Committee
 Evelyn Hurlbut who was Recording Secretary last year and now is a Trustee editing the Thistle
 Peggy Denise who was Hospitality Chairman and now is a Trustee
 and to all Board Members, Committee Chairpersons and Committee members who put so much into making this year a success, most of whom will continue in their positions for the coming year.

CAN YOU HELP ... The Millburn-Short Hills Historical Society? The Society wants to serve the interests of its members and to involve them in its activities. Please complete and return the following Questionnaire.

My particular historical interests are:

<u> </u> Antiques	<u> </u> Local History
<u> </u> Architecture	<u> </u> Restoration/Preservation
<u> </u> Genealogy	<u> </u> Other

I have a collection of _____.

I would _____/would not _____ be willing to speak about my collection at a Society meeting.

I would _____/would not _____ be willing to have my collection displayed at the Library.

I would be willing to write an article for the Thistle _____.

I would be interested in giving an oral history _____.

I have old photographs _____ or post cards _____ of Millburn which I would be willing to donate or allow to be copied.

I particularly enjoyed the following programs:

I would like a program on: _____

I would be interested in serving on a committee:

<u> </u> Archives	<u> </u> Publicity
<u> </u> Hospitality	<u> </u> Oral History
<u> </u> Item Indexing	<u> </u> Slide Show
<u> </u> Other	

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Please return to Millburn-Short Hills Historical Society, P. O. Box 243, Short Hills, New Jersey 07078

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

September 7 or 14 - Millburn-Short Hills Historical Society Annual Members Wine and Cheese Party.

September 11 - "Impressionist to Early Modern Paintings from the USSR". 7:45 p.m. at Library. Sponsor: Friends of the Library.

Editing: Virginia Borzner
Hope H. Lampe



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