

BROADSIDE

Spring 2003

The HS of WW 20th Anniversary

On June 16, 1983, a group of interested people gathered to form The Historical Society of West Windsor. One hundred Charter Members were enrolled. We accomplished quite a bit during our first ten years and celebrated with a barbecue at the just donated Schenck House in June of 1993. (See our Broadside of that date.)

Since 1993 most of our effort has gone into completing the Schenck House as described in detail in our Broadside of Spring 2002. We opened the house to the public in May 2002, and have begun to have an Open Day the second Sunday of each month.

The tour is self-guided, but there are Docents in the rooms to answer questions. This works best with between five and six guides. If you are interested in becoming a Docent, please phone Mary Schenck at 799-1278.

The response from WW residents, both long time and new, has been very gratifying. If you have not yet visited, please come see what has been accomplished. Our 1790s kitchen and Victorian parlor have been favorites, but the exhibit room of photographs of old West Windsor has attracted the most attention.



Founder Mary Schenck in the 1790 kitchen of the Schenck House

For the past couple of years, Kay Reed and Mary Schenck have taken school groups through the house as part of their study of local community history. They will be doing more tours this spring.

Also at the Schenck House, a research library of WW history, its buildings and families will provide a great source for students of all ages. Organizing and filing all the photographs and information is on-going. If you have any photos or information about old West Windsor that you might be willing to lend us, please let us know.

Holiday House Tours

Aside from restoring the Schenck House, the past ten years have seen ten more Holiday House Tours at Tamarack Hall (the "Castle"). Special exhibits have included several decades of the 20th century: the 20s, 30s, 40s, and 50s. We plan a 1960s theme in 2003.

Because of the especially generous publicity in the *Trenton Times*, the *Princeton Packet*, *U.S. 1* and the *West Windsor-Plainsboro News*, our 2002 Holiday House Tour brought us over 500 visitors!



Luci DiPolvere and visitors at the 1997 Holiday House Tour at the Castle

Exhibits-Each year we mount an exhibit for Senior Citizen's Day in May. We have featured hats, toys, school photos, etc. In 2003 the West Windsor Library will feature an exhibit of our photos in honor of our anniversary

Special programs in connection with our bi-monthly meetings have included:

Edith Sprague's slide show about her days touring with Elsie the Borden cow, as well as her life on a West Windsor farm

We hosted Richard Sheaf and Tom Petrino, who did an Antiques Roadshow clone, using items brought in by members of the historical society.

Oral Histories Our Oral History project is moving along with taped interviews of several long-time WW resident's memories. This project needs both people willing to talk about their memories of old WW and people to do the interviews. Contact Kathy Kapp (890-2068) if interested.



Founders Mary Schenck, Kay Reed and Joan Parry at Retirees Club slide show. Photo courtesy of Joe & Donna Wasilewski.

West Windsor Slide Show - Joan Parry and Mary Schenck gave talks and a slide show using photographs of old WW to the Retirees Club and at the annual meeting of the Friends of the Library. We will continue to improve this WW history talk and perhaps offer it as a program at one of our meetings.

Come visit the
1790-1830 Schenck House
50 Southfield Rd.

Headquarters of The Historical Society of West Windsor



Open the second Sunday of the month from 1 to 4 p.m.:

May 11th

Mother's Day Tea & Tour

June 8

More information: Mary Schenck-799-1278 or Joan Parry-452-8598

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE HSofWW - SPRING 2003

Schenck House

We have had several Open Days at the house in October and November 2002 and January, February, March and April of 2003. All the events were very successful with both long-time and new residents touring the house and enjoying the exhibits. Thanks to the Docents who made the visitors so welcome.

Be sure to consider attending our special Mother's Day Tea and Tour on Sunday, May 11th from 1 to 4 p.m., something a little different for Mother.

Donations & Acquisitions

- Antique rocking chair from Elise and Spencer Bruno
- Copper bed warmer - Kay and Clifford Reed
- Household items, mahogany wash stand, as well as tablecloth, napkins and pillows with the signatures of West Windsor residents embroidered on them from the Estate of Adele Applegate via Carl Applegate
- Lap desk, glass compote on pedestal, lithograph by Fred Robbins and decorative serving plate - Joan Eddinger
- Woman's winter coat with Persian lamb collar c1930s - Margaret Hagerty
- Bottle opener/ice hammer from Princeton Jct. Package Store and Stirring spoon/ bottle-can opener marked Conover & Emmons - Anonymous donation
- Crib quilt in four block pattern made and donated by Jeanne Gustafson.
- Mah jong set, hassock and miscellaneous knitting and crochet supplies, books and projects from Phoebe and Max Herman.
- Butter churn from Edith Sprague
- Acquisition - Baker's rack to hold Gift Shop items
- Acquisition from Memorial Fund -Marble-topped small table, Eastlake style, for hall.
- Acquisition - Marble-topped oval table for double parlor.

Memberships

We welcome new members: Barbara Tindall Weber (Elmer Tindall's daughter); Sherry and Joel Marmorstein; Muriel Perrine; Ted Gum; Katrin-Kaja Roomann; Eloise Ross Rubincam.

Thank you to all those who have renewed your membership for 2003. Remember to look at your mailing label to see when you paid dues last. If it doesn't say 2003, please send in your dues as soon as possible.

We are especially grateful for those members who renewed as Sponsors or Patrons. Your generosity is deeply appreciated.

Milestones

Our condolences go to the families of Elmer Tindall and Patricia (Paddie) Golding, members who have passed on since our last newsletter.

Scrapbook-1994-2003

BICENTENNIAL PARTY FEBRUARY 1997



Left to Right: Shirlee Bleacher, Kay Reed, Maureen Lucido, Sarah Heyman

OPENING CELEBRATION AT THE SCHENCK HOUSE MAY 2002



8th Grade chamber orchestra of Thomas Grover Middle School, Robert Peterson director, entertains in the double parlor.



Lois Stuller and Mary Alice Britton offer refreshments. Bert LaSelle, in background, demonstrates chair caning. Photo courtesy of Jody Kendall.



Left to Right: Alice Martch demonstrates quilting; Roberta Smith, rug hooking. Kay Reed in foreground. Photo by Kiki Parry.



HSIWW member Donald Schenck and Mayor Shing-Fu Hsueh



Schenck House Docents-Feb. 2003: Back row-Lois Gerstein, Roberta Smith, Alice Martch; Front Row-Mildred Moomau, Phyllis Stoolmacher



The 1790-1830 Schenck House, headquarters of The Historical Society of West Windsor

The Historical Society
of West Windsor

P.O. Box 38, Princeton Jet., N.J. 08550

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