

## *The Historical Society of West Windsor*

*c/o Reed, 534 Village Rd. West,*

*West Windsor, N.J. 08550*

### *"What's Happening"*

#### *Autumn-Winter-Spring 2011-2012*

**Events of Jan.-Sept. 2011** Our schedule of meetings and programs proceeded as described in our Calendar of Events for 2010-2011.

Our Open House days at the Schenck House brought a good number of visitors, especially to our weekend of Christmas Open House although the Sunday was more popular. We will try the two-day Christmas Open House again this year to see if we can get a bigger turnout.



Our special exhibit, "Dressing Up to Visit Grandma," helped add to our visitors. Our June 12<sup>th</sup> Open House brought the most visitors for the year (27).

Instead of another special exhibit this year, we are adding more photos and more comprehensive captions to the West Windsor History exhibit.

#### *Schenck Farmstead:*

**The Farmhouse** - As stated above, we are improving our exhibition of West Windsor History. We have

also added several new items to our museum rooms. See list of Donations and Acquisitions.

**The Barn** - Clifford Reed and his Barn Committee (Jim Souders, Victor Mount, Jim Britton, Trevor LePrevost) have now restored order to the exhibits after everything had to be removed to install additional electricity.

Clifford made an inventory of all the barn's contents so far. Each item will be tagged with full information about the item. A list of donors will be available for viewing.

The Schenck barn Artifacts Room now contains the contents of the N.J. Museum of Agriculture's General Store. This is an agreement with Sam Surtees, Planning and Zoning Officer, West Windsor Township.

**The Schoolhouse** - Work is almost complete on the reconstruction and painting of the one-room schoolhouse, once located next to the Maurice Hawk School on Clarksville Rd. and known as the Parsonage School. It was closed in 1917.

Clifford Reed and his Committee moved all the school desks and other furnishings for the schoolhouse into the barn for cleaning before placing them in the schoolhouse once official permission is given.

All the photos of local school classes on file in the HSofWW library will be available for viewing. If you have any class photos of West Windsor schools that you would be willing to lend us for copying, please let Mary Schenck know at 799-1278.

We are also in need of an old narrow table to be used to display photos at the Parsonage School House. Please contact Kay or Clifford Reed at 799-0331.

To furnish the schoolhouse we have the actual wood-burning stove from the Parsonage School, donated by the Stives Family, framed portraits of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, maps, books and globes to bring the school back to life.

*Donations and Acquisitions* - Our farmhouse, barn and schoolhouse would be very bare without the wonderful donations from our members and friends. Thank you all!

Scythe, stone fork labelled "Penn. Railroad," foot-shaped cigar ashtray, shoulder drill press – Olav Redi

Grinding wheel to sharpen lawn mower blades – Anonymous

Wolinsky Dairy, Allentown – quart milk bottle- Donald Schenck

Two 3x5 ft. blackboards from the Plainsboro schools – David Wright (Wood for frames- Hamilton Supply)

Framed photo of Steamboat/Railroad Hotel at Princeton Basin – William and Linda Feldstein

Photos of 1976 Bicentennial Parade – Howard and Braith Eldridge

On loan from the N.J. Museum of Agriculture: Spinning wheel; Butter churn

Child's John Deere Tractor, hay fork, one-horse plow "Oliver", wheelbarrow-grass seeder, bug sprayer – Earl Tindall

Barn lantern, metal with glass chimney – David and Sandy Brooke

Potty chair and mirror – Virginia Phillips

Two framed family photos in gold frames – Charles and Brenda Stives

### *Acquisitions & Purchases*

Book shelf for History Room

Occasional table for dining room

Engraved signs to identify farm machinery.



"Dressing Up to Visit Grandma" Exhibit of children's clothing – Polly Flinders dresses in pink bedroom.

We would be remiss if we did not thank the many members and friends who gave or lent us the treasured clothing once worn by their children, as well as photos showing them wearing the items: Adele Applegate (via Carl Applegate), Pauline Conover, Luci DiPolvere, Peggy Ellery, Arlene Jones, Alice Martch, Joan Parry, Kay Reed, Doris Schenck, Bev and Jim Souders.

*Membership* –We are pleased to welcome the following: Arthur Harvey, Curtis Hoberman, Trevor LeProvost, Dean and Terri Cardulla.

*Milestones* –Since our last newsletter, we are saddened to report the passing of Jeanette Boyer, Elizabeth Frazee and Paul Moran. Our condolences go to their families.