June 2018 Newsletter

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Middletown Township Historical Society's June Happenings

This newsletter is meant to keep you updated on the latest events and news of the Middletown Township Historical Society. Also, be sure to follow us on Facebook for even timelier news and for historical items of interest.



The Search for Molly Pitcher

Presented by John Fabiano
June 18, 2018 | 7:00 pm
Poricy Park Nature Center
Middletown Township Historical Society

Speaker Event: Monday, June 18, 2018

"The Search for Molly Pitcher" presented by John Fabiano

John Fabiano, Executive Director of the Monmouth County Historical Commission, will present his talk "The Search for Molly Pitcher" at

the Middletown Township Historical Society on Monday, June 18, 2018. In recent decades, historians have found multiple real-life women who may have been the legendary figure, and Mr. Fabiano's presentation will make the case for his personal selection. Mr. Fabiano is a tireless researcher of the Revolutionary period, and is also the president of the Allentown-Upper Freehold Historical Society.

We hope to see you Monday, June 18 at 7:00 pm at the Poricy Park Nature Center, 345 Oak Hill Road, Middletown, NJ. There is no fee for admittance!

Do you have suggestions for upcoming speakers? If so, please contact Randall Gabrielan, our Program Chair.

Special Meeting Follows

After our speaker presentation on June 18, a special meeting of members will be convened so that a vote can be held to ratify amendments to our New Jersey Certificate of Incorporation. If you are a member in good standing, keep your eye on your physical mailboxes for complete information for this special meeting. Participation in the operation of our organization is important, so we hope to see you there.

Celebrating 50 Years of MTHS

In the fall of 1967 a number of Middletown residents banded together to preserve the structure we now know as the Seabrook-Wilson House, which was slipping into a state of deterioration. On April 22, 1968 five of the original 17 trustees filed paperwork to incorporate the Middletown Township Historical Society as a New Jersey nonprofit corporation, but with a broader mission to preserve and disseminate all of Middletown's history. On May 27, 1968 the state made it official, and federal 501(c)(3) status followed.

As we head into our next 50 years, we look back to our past and honor those who helped establish our society half a century ago. The names of those original 17 trustees follow, as taken directly from our original Certificate of Incorporation.

MAMES

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- 1. EDWIN BANFIELD
- 2. MARGARET B. BARTLETT
- 3. JOSEPH McCARTHY
- 4. HENRY PULSCH
- 5. JOHN J. SMITH
- 6. PAUL W. REILLY
- 7. MATTHEW J. GILL
- 8. HENRY GEHLHAUS

- 9. HARRY DESAMERIN
- 10. GERTRUDE C. NEIDLINGER
- 11. CAROL HALL
- 12. C. MALCOLM GILMAN
- 13. DONALD C. MERKER
- 14. THELMA LUDLOW
- 15. CHARLES M. CUBBAGE
- 16. ALBERT GRIGGS
- 17. LOUIS TIMOLAT



Support the Society

If you value the aims of the Society, we ask that you please support us both when we put out a call for volunteers and also via membership dues. Volunteer opportunities will be coming soon, but for now if you are interested in continuing your membership or joining for the first time, please contact us. Also, if you have any items of historical value that you would like to donate, please get in touch. Thank you!

May Event Recap

Professor Emeritus from Seton Hall University, Richard J. Connors, recapped the story of World War I and illuminated us about the locations of arms manufacturers in New Jersey. A number of those in attendance purchased his book, New Jersey and the Great War. We thank him for his appearance!

Purchase his book here



NEW JERSEY AND THE GREAT WAR

1914-1919

nvites us to look back at the New Jersey story during the "Great War".

Richard J. Connors Ph.D



Other Upcoming Events of Interest

In addition to our own event, you may be interested in the following historicthemed events occurring in the Middletown area in the coming weeks:

- 1958 Nike Explosion, from a UFO Researcher A UFO researcher presents his views at the Middletown Township Public Library at 5:30 on Wednesday, June 13
- <u>Battery Lewis Dedication</u> View the restored area in Hartshorne Woods
 Park at 10:00 am on **Saturday**, **June 16**
- <u>Battle of Monmouth Reenactment</u> Watch the battle in Manalapan on **Saturday**, **June 16 and Sunday**, **June 17**
- Fossil Hunt What can you and your youngsters find in Poricy Park's Fossil Beds? 11:00 am on Saturday, June 24. Reservation and fee apply.
- <u>Hamilton and Burr at Battle of Monmouth</u> An examination of these eventual foes at the Middletown Township Public Library at 7:00 on <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>June 26</u>
- <u>Fort Hancock/Sandy Hook</u> This park offers a number of tours throughout the summer months

Do you know of other events our readers would benefit from? Let us know!





How did Kings Highway come to have the directional issue of both beginning and ending at Highway 35?

Answer will be supplied in next month's newsletter!

Answer to Last Month's Question:
The namesake of Hartshorne Woods' Battery
Lewis is Isaac Newton Lewis, 1858-1931. He
graduated from the United States Military
Academy and had a long, successful career in
gunnery and coastal defense. Learn more and
see his image on p.106 of Randall Gabrielan's
"Middletown in the Twentieth Century," Arcadia,
1999.

Thanks for reading! The Middletown Township Historical Society will be in touch again soon! If you know others who would be interested in receiving communications from us, please forward this email and ask them to join this list!



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