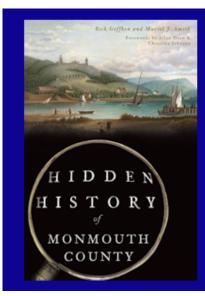
Middletown Township Historical Society: November Happenings

M 1 D D L E T O W N T O W N S H I P H I S T O R I C A L S O C I E T Y

This newsletter keeps you updated on the latest events and news of the Middletown Township Historical Society. Also, be sure to follow us on <u>Facebook</u> for even timelier news and for historical items of interest.



THE HIDDEN HISTORY OF MONMOUTH COUNTY

Monthly Messages

Presented by Muriel J. Smith PLUS Special Presentation by All Saints National Landmark Trust

Monday, November 18 at 7:00 pm Hosted by Middletown Township Historical Society at Middletown Township Public Library 55 New Monmouth Road, Middletown, NJ 07748

Monday, November 18, 2019, 7:00 pm:

"Hidden History of Monmouth County" presented by Muriel J. Smith PLUS Special Presentation by All Saints National Landmark Trust

Our final presentation for 2019!

The Middletown Township Historical Society hosts Muriel J. Smith, coauthor of the new book *Hidden History of Monmouth County*. The book highlights various people, places, and events of historical importance that have taken place in Monmouth County. Ms. Smith, in addition to being a member of the Middletown Township Historical Society, serves on the Monmouth County Historical Commission and writes for local publications. Books will be available for purchase and signing.

Prior to Ms. Smith's presentation, representatives from All Saints National Landmark Trust will speak about the history of the Stone Church and their campaign to raise funds for its upkeep.

The event will begin at **7:00 pm** at the **Middletown Township Public Library** at 55 New Monmouth Road on **Monday, November 18, 2019** in the Community Room. All are welcome free of charge.

Another Addition to Our Archive

Recently we were gifted a collection of interesting receipts mostly belonging to Middletown's William Conover, circa 1880s to 1890s. The donation comes to us from Bob Donner, who found the documents in an old desk that he purchased at a garage sale in Atlantic Highlands.

We are grateful for the donation! If you have any items of interest that you'd like to donate, <u>please let us know</u>.

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Congratulations to One of Our Own

Randall Gabrielan, our Programming Chair and President Emeritus, was recently presented with the Barbara Carver Smith award by the Monmouth County Genealogical Society. The recognition took place at Monmouth County Archives Day. Congratulations to Randy for the well-deserved honor.



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Last Month's Event Recap

Historian and author Joseph Bilby presented on the his book, *The Rise and Fall of the Ku Klux Klan in New Jersey*. Mr. Bilby showed photographs, editorial cartoons, and documents. Thank you to all who attended.



Have You Visited Our Website?

It's live at MiddletownNJHistory.org!

The site features our events, provides an easy way to become a member, and affords free access to our library of official newsletters dating back to 1985. Please <u>check it out</u> and spread the word!

Preserving & Promoting the History of Middletown, NJ Since 1968



A New Home for Our Archive?

Since we vacated the MacLeod-Rice House a few years ago, our archive of items has been held in storage by the township. While we were grateful that room was found to house it for us, we are only able to access it by making special arrangements, and only during regular business hours. We'd like to catalog the collection more completely, and take advantage of a free archival assessment that the State could provide.

Do you know of a local organization that might be willing to store our archive in a secure, temperature-controlled environment, and allow us regular access to it? Perhaps a church or a fraternal group that has extra room in their facility? If you have an idea or any contacts, <u>please let us know</u>.

Would You Like to Become a Trustee or Volunteer?

Your local historical society could use your ideas and talents! If you have an interest in fundraising, communications, or in growing our membership, <u>please</u> <u>let us know</u> your ideas or your willingness to become involved. Our volunteer trustees would like to work with you to strengthen and expand our organization!

Your Membership Matters

Support Us in 2019!



IT'S NOT TOO LATE: Please Renew or Begin your Membership Today!

In order to keep our Society going, we need your support. Our funds go towards securing speakers for our events and for administrative fees. We'd also like to undertake new initiatives that could expand our reach, but without proper funding, this will be difficult to achieve.

We now offer a couple of ways you can renew or start your membership:

- <u>Contribute online</u> and pay via credit or debit card. This is the quickest and easiest way!
- <u>Print out the membership form</u> and mail to us or bring it to an upcoming MTHS event

Thank you for your interest in Middletown's history, and for your ongoing support.

Upcoming MTHS Events

November 18: "Hidden History of Monmouth County" by Muriel Smith, plus All Saints National Landmark Trust **February 17:** Show & Tell

Unless otherwise noted, all events will begin at 7:00 pm at the Middletown Township Public Library.

Upcoming Area Events

Consider attending an event by one of our neighboring historical groups:

November 14: <u>"History On Tap"</u> at Seabrook-Wilson House courtesy of Monmouth County Parks. Join Dr. Richard Veit as he presents on "Famous and Forgotten Shipwrecks of New Jersey, an Archaeological Perspective."
November 21: Atlantic Highlands Historical Society hosts "<u>Music at the</u> <u>Mansion</u>" featuring Trio Joe. \$15 at the door., 6:45.



Trivia Time *This Month's Question:*

Why do the records held by the Middletown Township Clerk begin only in 1897?

Answer will be supplied in next month's newsletter!

Answer to Last Month's Question: The KKK's headquarters in Middletown was at the Harmony Country Club. The building, later the Miller Plating Company, was destroyed by fire. The Shiki restaurant later occupied the site, which is now home to the Evergreen Memorial Funeral Home.

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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