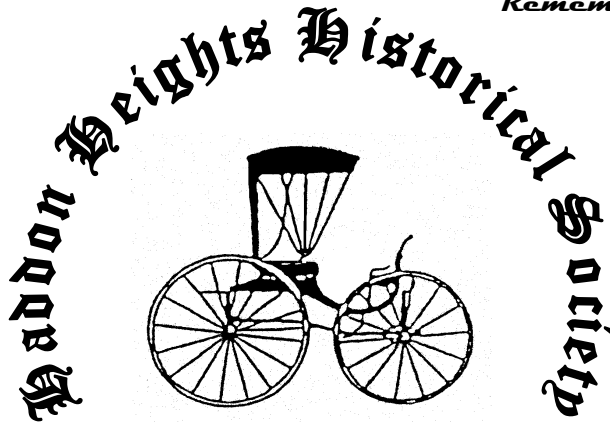


*" Remembering Yesterday For The People Of Tomorrow "*



# **Bulletin**

P.O. Box 118 • Haddon Heights, NJ 08035

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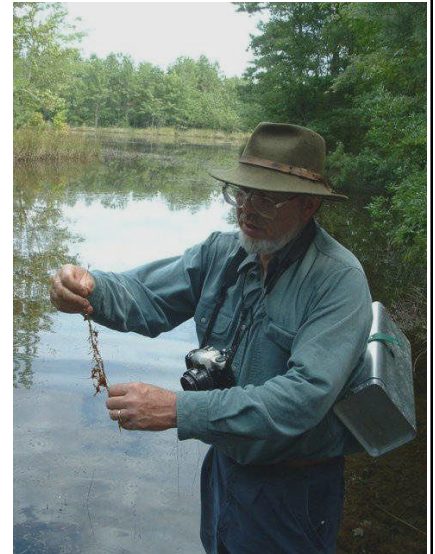
Volume 34 Number 2

April 2009

**We meet on the third MONDAY of January, April, July, and October - at 7:30pm**

**OUR NEXT MEETING:** Will be held on MONDAY April 20th at 7:30pm in the basement of the Haddon Heights Library. The presentation will be "Red Gold in the Bogs: A History of the Cranberry Industry in New Jersey". This slide-illustrated talk on the cranberry industry takes the viewer from the early days of bog development and harvesting to the present modern methods. Historic photos of hand picking, dry and wet harvesting, specially designed machinery, old sorting houses and pickers' quarters in abandoned cranberry company towns are included in this presentation.

Our speaker will be Ted Gordon. A long-time resident of the New Jersey Pine Barrens, Mr. Gordon is known statewide for his knowledge of the trails, historic sites, industries, people, folkways, and the rare and endangered plants and animals of the region. He served twelve years as a president of the Philadelphia Botanical Society and was a former member of the Pinelands Commission and chairman of their Forestry Advisory Committee. Currently he serves as chairman of the Governor's Natural Areas Council. A rare plants specialist and a Pinelands historian, Ted is the director of Pine Barrens Inventories, a prestigious environmental consulting and research firm based in Burlington County, New Jersey.



Ted has taught courses on the Pine Barrens at the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia, the Pinelands Commission, the New Jersey Audubon Society at the Rancocas Nature Center, the Atlantic Community College, the Woodford Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge, and the Pinelands Preservation Alliance. Many have enjoyed his canoe trips, bus and jeep tours, and botanical/historical field excursions in the Pines. Especially popular are his tours of "forgotten" towns.....Bring a friend!

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE** Big News...Elephant Discovered in Lawnside!!!\* You may recall from our last newsletter that Anne McAdams attended a recent seminar on cemetery restoration and documentation, hosted by the Lawnside Historical Society and the Mount Peace Cemetery Association. This hallowed ground listed on the N.J. Register of Historic Places, is the final resting place for nearly 8,000 African-Americans, many of them veterans of the Civil, Spanish-American, and World Wars I & II, who were denied burial elsewhere because of segregation. As a follow-up to that seminar, we believe that shortly there will be a request for assistance from Lawnside to neighboring historical and genealogical societies, area high school students, and citizens interested in research with a purpose. The Mount Peace Cemetery Association kicks off their Clean-Up Season on Saturday, April 25 and needs

2 willing workers to pitch in clearing leaves, weeds, branches, and debris. That's the sweat equity part of the project with neighbor helping neighbor. But that's only the beginning. The association plans to map the cemetery using digital photography, historic maps, with GPS and computer technology. I am excited to be part of the project steering committee, joining Linda Shockley, President of the Lawnside Historical Society; Yolanda Romero, President of the Mount Peace Cemetery Association; and Shamele Jordon, former President of the African American Genealogy Group in Philadelphia and Advisory Board member of the Family Reunion Institute of Temple University. Further assistance will be provided by Kathy Tassini, Author and Librarian for the Haddonfield Historical Society and the good folks at the Camden County Historical Society. Our goal is that this project stays on course and has the people resources to make it happen during 2009.

\* Oh...you wanted to know about the **elephant???** The project has been likened to "How do you eat an Elephant?" .....One Bite at a Time. Which bite would you like to take? Talk to me. Make a difference !!

Additionally, I encourage each of you to attend the "Down By the Station" Day celebration on Saturday, May 9th. It all begins at 10:00am. It will be a day full of activities, with a Station Avenue Walking Tour hosted by Rose Fitzgerald, Open House at the Train Station, and a display of old cars. There will be three separate unveilings of the new historic interpretive signs placed at the White Horse Pike, the Railroad Crossing, and the Library. The signs are in production now and are expected to be installed by May 7, weather permitting. The Haddon Heights Historical Society Board is proud to have played a part in planning this day!!

In other news, our website is in transition from one host to another, and with luck, the transition and updates should be completed by the end of April. I hope to see all of you at our upcoming events. Check out the calendar on the back page. Remember, without YOU, we're history! Thanks - *Marshall*.

**A LOOK BACK- SLAVERY IN HADDON HEIGHTS-** Rose Fitzgerald recently wrote an article as part of the commemoration of Black History month, which was posted on the H. H. Town website. A condensed version of that article is reprinted below with the author's permission. Thanks for this interesting information Rose !!

Most townspeople know about our Quaker settlement and Revolutionary War houses but a lesser known part of our past is that black men and women were enslaved within the confines of present day Haddon Heights for 100 years. The names of some Newton Township slaveholders are familiar to most of us and enslaved men, women and children walked this same land and roads for a century.

In the 1877 *Sketches of the First Emigrant Settlers of Newton Township*, John Clements reprints the deed for one of the early slaves in Haddon Heights, a ten year old child. "*Know of men by these presents, that I, John Hugg of Gloucester County, New Jersey for and in consideration of the sum of 35 pounds to me paid by John Hinchman . . . do bargain and sell unto said John Hinchman a certain negro boy named Sambo, aged 10 years next March or May, as is said. . . . In witness whereof I have hereunto set my seal this the third day of July in the year of Our Lord, 1709.* Ten years earlier, Hinchman purchased 1,000 acres north of King's Run, stretching to present day Haddonfield, bringing along from Long Island a slave named Hector. Clements states that Hinchman possessed an "extensive tract of land and a large number of slaves and lived in somewhat more style than most of those around him."

Clements said though, "The unnatural separation of husband and wife, and of parents and children, soon attracted the attention of the more considerate in the Quakers Society; and steps were taken to guard against this cruelty. Slavery was discussed at the nearby Burlington Yearly Meeting and judged not to be so proper for this Meeting to give a Positive Judgment in the Case." However, the seeds had been planted and agitation started; but slaves were publicly sold in Camden as late as 1762.

Charles Boyer noted that up to the time of the passage of the Thirteenth Amendment New Jersey was, in a legal sense, a slave-holding State, no laws having been executed to abolish this servitude.

"In 1713, the General Assembly passed a law providing that any master or executor under the will of a slave owner manumitting a slave must post a surety bond in the sum of £200 to pay to the negro an annuity of £20, otherwise the manumission was to be invalid. In 1769, an act imposed a duty on purchases of slaves imported into the colony, restated the law relating to the freeing of slaves, and required owners to give a bond to the county or town when the manumission took place, to cover any charges which the freed slave might place on the county or town."

The antislavery feeling among Quakers gradually spread to other groups. "New Jersey's first abolition society was organized at Trenton in 1786 and another was formed in Burlington in 1793. The Abolition Society of Salem was active in the defense of kidnapped Negroes, purchasing their freedom if necessary. N.J. had five representatives at the first convention of abolition societies in 1796; one of them was Joseph Bloomfield, who became president of the convention. As Governor in 1804, Bloomfield signed the hard-fought act which provided that every child thereafter born of a slave was free, but must remain as a servant of the mother's master until 25 if a boy, 21 if a girl." Bloomfield owned the Col. Joseph Ellis house on Sycamore Street in the early 1800's, having purchased it from Ellis's widow. Mrs. Ellis, a Quaker and strong abolitionist, freed her husband's slave, Sam, upon his death in 1799. In 1998, Mr. & Mrs. Gregory McAdams, then the owners of the Colonel Ellis House, hosted a benefit for Lawnside Historical Society's restoration of Peter Mott House in honor of the slaves who had resided in their house.

Slavery in New Jersey persisted up until the Civil War as state records show: 1790—11,428 slaves in New Jersey; 1800—12,422 slaves; 1830— 2,254 slaves; 1840— 674 slaves; 1850— 236 slaves in New Jersey.

Hinchman's grandson, John III, sold some of the family's property including the "manor house" now standing on North Park Drive to David Hurley in 1763. During the Great Depression of the 1930's, WPA workers uncovered the Hinchman family's cemetery "on the south side of the watercourse" on the grounds of the present Camden County Park. According to John Clement, it was known in the 1870's as "Hurley's graveyard" but was established by the first owner (Hinchman) as a place to inter his slaves." It is here that a black oak tree will be planted to commemorate the historic events of the past month and as a memorial to those people who lived and died enslaved within the borders of our town.

According to Boyer, "Under the early New Jersey statutes a slave could not hold title to real estate and even the titles of free negroes were often questioned. Many of the Quakers on freeing a slave would deed a small tract of land to a trustee in order that he might maintain himself and his family." The settlements of Guineatown in Bellmawr, Sadlertown in Haddon Township and Free Haven, later Lawnside, are the results of this Quaker effort. This is also evidenced by a copy of a rare and unrecorded deed, which was owned by Mr. Boyer, concerning the Hurleys and Coopers. "On Dec. 1, 1787, James Hurley and Rachel, his wife, and John Hurley and Jemima, his wife, who had inherited David Hurley's land, sold for £ 26, 2 shillings and 2 pence lawful New Jersey money to James Cooper six acres two quarters and twenty five square perch of some of their land adjoining Newton Creek for the use, services and benefit of Black William who was formerly the property of David Cooper and near Black Ismael's land."

Many members of the Quaker Meetings did not cease their efforts when their own Society was able to report that no slaves were held amongst them, but continued an active campaign against slavery until the Emancipation Proclamation signed by Abraham Lincoln went into effect the first day of January, 1863.

**ADVERTISING IS THE KEY...** Do you know someone who might be interested in having an ad in the four quarterly issues of the Newsletter? The Board is considering allowing local businesses limited space to advertise in the newsletter. Please have them contact Marshall Hatfield. It would only take one sponsor to underwrite an entire year of history for around \$500. Such a sponsor would have their business information prominently displayed in our publication. Please let us know.

**ELECTRONIC FILING-** We receive mailings all the time letting us know of local and regional history events. Often, by the time we would be able to include items in our next Newsletter issue, the event has passed. We want to be able to send along notices to you more frequently than each quarter. Please send your e-mail address to:

[janice.ewing.wh85@wharton.upenn.edu](mailto:janice.ewing.wh85@wharton.upenn.edu)

## Coming Events Calendar

**04/20- MONDAY** – Quarterly H.H. Historical Society Meeting – 7:30 pm – Library

**04/25- SATURDAY** – Genealogy Seminar – Cary Zahn. Gloucester County Hist. Society, Woodbury. \$40 non-members. Call 845.4771 for reservations.

**05/09- SATURDAY** – Down By The Station Fair – 10:00 am – 2:00 pm – Station Avenue.

**05/09- SATURDAY** – Station Avenue Walking Tour – 2:00 pm – RR Station.

**05/27-31- WEDNESDAY** thru **SUNDAY** – Lincoln Great Fair – Philadelphia.

**6/29- MONDAY-** 7:00 pm- Board Mtg – Library

**7/4- SATURDAY-** 9:00 am- Independence Day Parade– 3rd & Station Ave-

**7/20- MONDAY-** 7:30 pm- Quarterly H.H. Historical Society Meeting – Library

**9/28- MONDAY-** 7:00 pm- Board Mtg – Library

**10/3- SATURDAY** 9:30 am- Fall Festival

**10/19- MONDAY** 7:30 pm- Quarterly H.H. Historical Society Meeting – Library

**12/14- MONDAY** 7:00 pm- Board Mtg – Library

## 2009 - Historical Society Board

President: Marshall Hatfield

Vice-President: Fred Missimer

Past President: Peter Hill

Treasurer: Art Ritter

Secretary: Judy Buecker

Trustees: Virginia Appleby

Ken Funkhouser

(New Trustee) Elena Hill

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Membership Chair: Jan Ewing

Web Master: Vacant

Nominating Comm.: Bob Hunter/  
Peter Hill

Affairs: Joan Rossler/  
Ginny Appleby

Grants: Rose Fitzgerald/  
Anne McAdams

Merch/Fund Raising: Elena Hill/  
Ginny Appleby

Programs/Publicity: Peter Hill/  
Fred Missimer

Legislative Chair: Anne McAdams

Contact the Board: [web@heightshistory.org](mailto:web@heightshistory.org)

Mail correspondence: P.O. Box 118

Haddon Heights, NJ 08035

### Here are a few Oxymorons to consider...

- Act naturally.....
- Genuine imitation
- Good grief
- Clearly misunderstood
- Legally drunk
- Semi-boneless ham

And the question of the Quarter... Why do we drive on a Parkway, and park on a Driveway??

Ken Funkhouser, Editor

THANKS for listening ... Drop me a line. Share some history !

## **Haddon Heights Historical Society**

**P.O. Box 118**

**Haddon Heights, NJ**

**08035**

