

# THISTLE



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Vol. VI, No. 1

October, 1981

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## AUTUMN MEETING

Wednesday, October 14 - 8:00 p.m.  
Wyoming Presbyterian Church

Fresh insights into "The History of Essex County: 1666 to the Present" will be provided by our fall speaker, Charles W. DeMarco, Jr. As Essex County's official Archivist, Mr. DeMarco has been instrumental in discovering and preserving valuable records which are part of our county and state heritage. He writes a weekly local history column for the West Essex Tribune and has been active in the Livingston Historical Society. Mr. DeMarco's talk will be illustrated with documents, maps and photos. Join us at 8:00, Oct. 14th in the Fellowship Hall on the lower level of the Wyoming Presbyterian Church.

THE WAY WE WERE - Be looking for a group of carefully restored photographs of old Township scenes which will be hung soon in Town Hall. The photographs, collected and enlarged by the Millburn Centennial Committee in 1957, had been in storage until a few years ago when they were given to the Society. Trustee Owen Lampe, who is in charge of the Society's photo collection, thought the scenes of our town in earlier days would enhance Town Hall.

Thanks are due to Owen for his organizational efforts, to Ira Schwartz of Millburn Camera for long hours spent restoring the

The Way We Were - continued

photographs and mounting them on 16 x 20 archival board, and to the following donors who contributed the money for frames:

Daughters of the American Revolution - The Short Hills Chapter

Al Davis, Dave's Market

Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Ehrlich, The Clothes Horse

William Fiori, Midlantic Bank

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Sudy

Paul Futter, Futter Bros.

Mr. & Mrs. Alexander B. Lyon, Jr.

Mayor Maureen & Mr. Robert Ogden

Mr. & Mrs. John Penney

Mr. & Mrs. Paul Christopherson

Mr. & Mrs. Earl Cryer

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Denise

The Society would welcome further donations enabling us to frame additional old photographs in our collection.

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BEWARE THE BLUE DOT! - Please look at your address label on the back page. If it bears an ominous blue dot, you are in DEADLY PERIL! The Thistle you are now reading will be your last issue unless you take immediate action. Our records show that you have not paid your annual dues to cover the period July 1, 1981 to June 30, 1982. A check made out to Millburn-Short Hills Historical Society and sent to us promptly at P.O.Box 243, Short Hills, N.J. 07078 will restore you to full membership before it is too late. Call Dianne Jozsa at 376-4046 if you question your blue dot status, but remember - you have been WARNED!

Membership Categories

	Individual	Family
Active . . . . .	\$ 5.00	\$ 8.00
Supporting . . . . .	10.00	15.00
Business . . . . .	25.00	
Life . . . . .	100.00	

NEW PROJECT: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - The Society will undertake a new project, that of indexing past issues of The Item, Millburn's weekly newspaper, which are now on microfilm in the Millburn Library. Such an index will make information from The Item readily available for the Society's oral history and archival activities and will also be a public service to Township residents.

This is an ideal volunteer activity for persons who wish to give an hour at any time that the Library is open. Call Mae Goffe at 467-9269 if you are interested, and she will set up a meeting to discuss details of the project.

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CONFERENCE - Society Secretary Fran Sculli and Ginny Borzner attended a conference entitled "Dimensions of the Local History Collection" in Jamesburg, N.J. on September 30. The conference was designed to help professional and volunteer librarians who handle New Jersey history collections. Fran, who has spent many hours working with Ginny and other Society members on our archives, hoped to bring back from the conference some professional tips on preserving and filing local history materials.

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SPEEDWELL VILLAGE - Local history buffs have surely been to Morristown to see the Ford Mansion and Jockey Hollow, but have you visited Speedwell Village? This National Historic Site preserves part of the homestead farm of Stephen Vail who built an iron works there in the early 1800's. Most of the machinery for the S.S.Savannah, first steamship to cross the Atlantic, was made at Speedwell Village in 1819. Twenty years later Stephen's son, Alfred, used a factory room on the property for the first public demonstration of the electromagnetic telegraph developed by his friend, Samuel F.B. Morse. Morse and Vail went on to improve and market this device which revolutionized communications. The Village thus has historical significance beyond being a demonstration of a vanished way of life. Take the kids to see it and, if you go on a weekend, stop at Fosterfields Farm, a 200 acre re-creation of a gentleman's farm circa 1885.

Speedwell Village - Speedwell Ave. (Rte 202) & Cory Rd., Morristown  
Open Thurs.-Sun., April 1 to Nov.1, Phone 540-0211 or 538-6704  
Fosterfields Farm - Route 24 & Kahtena Rd., Morris Township  
Open Sat. & Sun., Phone 285-6688

OPPORTUNITIES - Members of the Society will want to take advantage of one or more of these opportunities available in the area this fall:

At the Cooper-Hewitt Museum, 2 East 91st St., NYC, which is an affiliate of the Smithsonian, an exhibit featuring Victorian architecture in the suburbs may include photos of houses in Millburn - Short Hills.

The Montclair Historical Society has extended an invitation to a special display and demonstration of primitive rug hooking and to participate in a "hook-in". Both events will take place at the Crane House, 110 Orange Road, Montclair from 2-5 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 11. Please call Diane Simon at 239-7886 if you plan to join the "hook-in", and don't forget your rug, frame, hook and wool.

"Country and Sporting Life by Currier & Ives" and "New Jersey Under Sail" are two exhibits to be seen now through November at the New Jersey Historical Society, 230 Broadway, Newark. Hours: Noon to 4:15 p.m., Monday - Saturday.

An exhibition of American glass featuring pieces by Louis C. Tiffany, Victor Durand, Steuben, Quezal and other turn-of-the-century American designers is currently on view in the Music Room of the Ballantine House at the Newark Museum, 49 Washington St., Newark. The large selection of works by Tiffany demonstrates the range of his technique from characteristic iridescent to paperweight glass.

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ROOTS RESEARCH - Interested in genealogical research? Consider this. A featured fall program of the Genealogy Club of the N.J. Historical Society will be a two-part workshop on October 24 from 10:00 - 3:00 at Society headquarters, 230 Broadway, Newark. At the morning session a panel, moderated by Harriet Stryker-Rodda, will investigate little used genealogical sources. Following a catered box lunch, the afternoon session will be devoted to the effect of geography on genealogy with Kenn Stryker-Rodda as moderator.

The Genealogy Club meets the third Saturday of the month, September through May, and is open to all members of the N.J. Historical Society. The Club is also sponsoring a fall quilting course and will have a lecture on Palatine migration for its November program. For information on these events and a complete Genealogy Club calendar, contact Kathleen Stavec, Reference Librarian, at 483-3939.

WELCOME TO NEW SOCIETY MEMBERS

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|---|----------|
| Mr. & Mrs. George Ball (Molly)<br>15 Brooklawn Dr., S.H.        | 376-3102 |
| Mr. & Mrs. John Brown, Jr. (Betty)<br>18 Western Dr., S.H.      | 379-2470 |
| Mr. & Mrs. Richard Bunch (Suzanne)<br>108 Forest Dr., S.H.      | 379-7816 |
| Mr. & Mrs. Edward T. DiCorcia (Madelyn)<br>55 Stewart Rd., S.H. | 467-0227 |
| Mr. & Mrs. David B. Earnest (Sally)<br>49 West Rd., S.H.        | 379-5304 |
| Mr. & Mrs. John W. Eschenlohr (Virginia)<br>18 Inwood Rd., S.H. | 379-1382 |
| Mr. & Mrs. Jesse Greenwald (Jane)<br>28 Marion Ave., S.H.       | 376-8521 |
| Mr. & Mrs. James Heggie III (Helen)<br>22 Burnside Dr., S.H.    | 376-5529 |
| Mrs. Regina Hill<br>17 Church St., Millburn                     | 376-3043 |
| Mr. & Mrs. Edwin A. Kirch (Patricia)<br>263 Hobart Ave., S.H.   | 379-2651 |
| Dr. Vivian Nossiter<br>53 Linden St., Millburn                  | 379-4715 |
| Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Riley (Judith)<br>270 Dale Dr., S.H.          | 467-0677 |
| Mr. & Mrs. Norman Shaffer (Arline)<br>110 Highland Ave., S.H.   | 376-5239 |
| Life Members  |          |
| Mr. & Mrs. David Blair (Mary)<br>79 Great Hills Rd., S.H.       | 467-9586 |

(Trim round the black lines and you will have the correct size insert so that you can include these new members' names in your Society Handbook.)

SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS - "Little History", "Beginnings", and "Sticks" are still available and may be purchased from Kate Stryker, our Marketing Chairman. Her number is 379-1109.

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CALENDAR

- Oct. 11 - Demonstration and rug "hook-in" at Montclair Historical Society, 2-5 p.m.
- Oct. 12-13 - "French Army" passes through N.J. enroute to Yorktown, Virginia. Encampments at Whippany, Liberty Corner, Pompton Plains, Millstone, Princeton and Trenton.
- Oct. 14 - MSSHS Fall meeting. Speaker: Charles W. DeMarco, Jr. on "The History of Essex County: 1666 to the Present" Wyoming Presbyterian Church, 8:00 p.m.
- Oct. 24 - Genealogy Club workshop with Stryker-Roddas at N.J. Historical Society, Newark. 10-3 p.m.

Editor: Roldah Cameron 376-6518



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