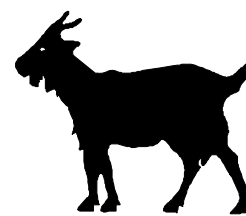


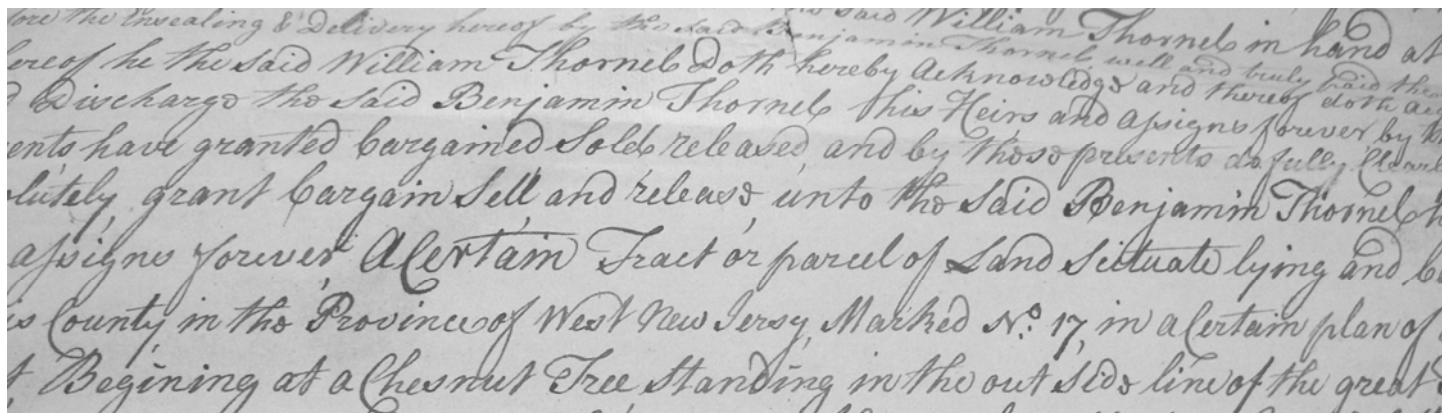
Nannygoats



Vol. 11, Issue 1

Newsletter of the Metuchen-Edison Historical Society

Winter 2013



Thornall Collection

This past summer, a very special visitor stopped by the Old Franklin Schoolhouse on Middlesex Avenue in Metuchen. It was a warm day, all the doors were open, and the building was full of people there for a cooking demonstration. I waited in great expectation; a celebrity was coming!

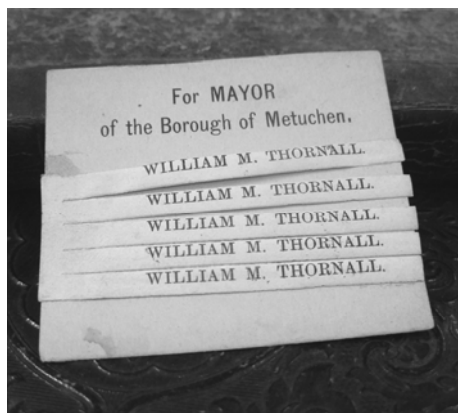
Connie Thornall Hope had planned a trip back to New Jersey from her home in Florida for a high school reunion, and arranged beforehand with

me to bring with her a collection of items from her family, documents and ephemera that she hoped the Metuchen-Edison Historical Society

would be interested in. Indeed we were. And as a member of the historical society since I moved to this area, the owner of an 18th century home, and president of the Borough Improvement League, the name "Thornall" means full on celebrity in my book. Her Thornall ancestors were the first settlers in the area we now call Edison and Metuchen. A later ancestor, Benjamin Thornall, helped build the Old Franklin Schoolhouse in 1807.

Later, it was a Thornall who served as the first Mayor of Metuchen, and his wife, Jennie Force Thornall, was the first president of the Borough Improvement League. Connie's father, Jay Worthington Thornall, prolifically wrote about local history and genealogy, and his book, "Isreal Thornell, Planter," is a goldmine of information.

Continued on Page 4



Also in this issue

- New in the Archives
- Class of 1931 History, continued
- 1928 Directory excerpt
- Edison Memorial Tower & Old Franklin Schoolhouse Repairs
- Grimstead Room Hours
- Member News, President's Letter
- Upcoming Events and Programs

The Metuchen-Edison Historical Society was founded in 1974 with the primary purpose of promoting an interest in and appreciation of the history of the Borough of Metuchen and of Edison Township.

NEWS FROM THE ARCHIVES...

by Marilyn Langholff, Curator

Much has been accomplished in our Archives this year:

One of our board members, Dom Walker has done extensive work indexing and reorganizing 15 of our photo albums. He is currently updating the Grimstead collection of photos into consistent photo albums with archival quality photo sheets and updated indexes.

Jennifer Warren and I have completed an extensive inventory and clean-up of all items in the Grimstead Room including their location, ownership (if known), and condition, with the goal of making our collection more accessible to the public. Organizations and groups with items in the room will be contacted to ascertain their plans for the items and will be given recommendations for their care and storage.

Jennifer Warren has also completed the following projects: index for our postcard album, inventory and index of the Glasofer, Bloomfield, Carmen, Charles End, and Thornall collections as well as various papers and photographs. Currently she is in the process of creating an index of our Nannygoats newsletters for a 10th year anniversary Nannygoats Collection book.

We have reprinted almost 200 badly deteriorating old photographs from our collection so we could save the images before they completely disappeared. We have also developed some additional Glasofer slides.

Some of the donations we received include: Minstrel Show booklets from Allen Hansen, 3 paintings from Dr. William Ainslie, family items from Constance Hope Thornall, local history items from David Sheehan, political items from R. H. Wilmont, Edison items from Helen Rak, articles on the Forum and Elder family from Tyreen Reuter, Memorial Parade photos from Walter Stochel, many photographs and articles from The News Tribune, a J.P. Stevens sports letter, a promotional card from the Oak Tree Car Wash, and a Metuchen High School postcard.

Byron Sondergard, the chairman of our Ebay committee, has acquired an original Harper's Weekly with an article on Mary Wilkens Freeman, a July 1948 Ford Factory newspaper on the dedication of the Edison plant, an Eagle Hook and Ladder fire company ribbon, and a postcard from the Roosevelt Top Hat Restaurant and continues to watch and bid on other local history items.

Jim Conlon

Long-time Society Member

We regret to share the news that James W. Conlon, 86, passed away on January 29, 2013. He was born in Wilkes Barre, PA, Mr. Conlon moved to Trenton at age three but resided in Metuchen for the past 56 years. According to his obituary, he was a veteran of World War II, a graduate of Lafayette College, and a communicant of St. Francis of Assisi Cathedral, and as a licensed professional engineer, supervised the construction portion of the New Jersey Turnpike, the Garden State Parkway and the New York Thruway. He served on the Metuchen Borough Council and the Metuchen Planning Board, and was a 30-year member of the Metuchen Rescue Squad. He was predeceased by his wife, but is survived by children, Maryanne, Jane, James Jr., Liza, Frank, and five grandchildren.

Many remember Jim's work with the Society's genealogy club, particularly his great knowledge of Civil War-era genealogy.

Pennsylvania Railroad Station at Metuchen, ca. 1888



Have you seen the new collectible figure from the Borough Improvement League? They are only \$16 each and support local history by funding the preservation of the Old Franklin Schoolhouse (see the story on the following page). You can pick up one at any BIL event, or stop in at Marafiki Fair Trade on New Street in Metuchen – they carry the full set. The figures make excellent gifts for local history fans, long-time residents, commuters, and even kids who want a Metuchen stop in their toy train set.



News from the Old Franklin Schoolhouse

As you may know, during the last couple of years the non-profit Borough Improvement League (BIL) has been evaluating the overall “health” of their ‘clubhouse,’ the Old Franklin Schoolhouse. Within the last ten years have installed a new sidewalk, a large diseased tree on the property that threatened the building was removed, a new roof was installed over the kitchen addition, new gutters and downspouts were installed, the electrical system was inspected and some upgrades were made, the integrity of the slate roof was inspected and found sound, a non-invasive air conditioning system was installed, a new steam heat boiler was installed, a new refrigerator purchased, and the interior repainted. They also installed a new water-powered sump pump in the basement, to help protect the utilities in the event of a power failure.

However, the schoolhouse’s exterior is in dire need of repainting, and on their list of priorities is also an additional structural element in the framing and a new cellar hatchway. In early 2012, the BIL applied to the NJ Historic Trust for a grant to do this work, as well as professionally scrape, repair, and repaint the exterior.

In mid-November, the BIL learned they will be awarded only about 20% (\$10,000) of the funds to cover the work needed, so will soon begin a specific fundraising campaign to cover the remaining costs of the work.

If you are interested in helping with the fundraising, would like to make a donation, or have a professional skill you would be willing to offer, please contact 732-261-4807 or email info@boroughimprovementleague.org.

Above: An image of the Old Franklin Schoolhouse prior to its “rescue” by the newly formed Borough Improvement League at the beginning of the 20th century, on file in the Borough Improvement League archives.

Restoration work on the Edison Memorial Tower is underway, and Society member Walter R. Stochel, Jr. recently captured this image of the scaffolding, just as the sun was shining through the lightbulb.



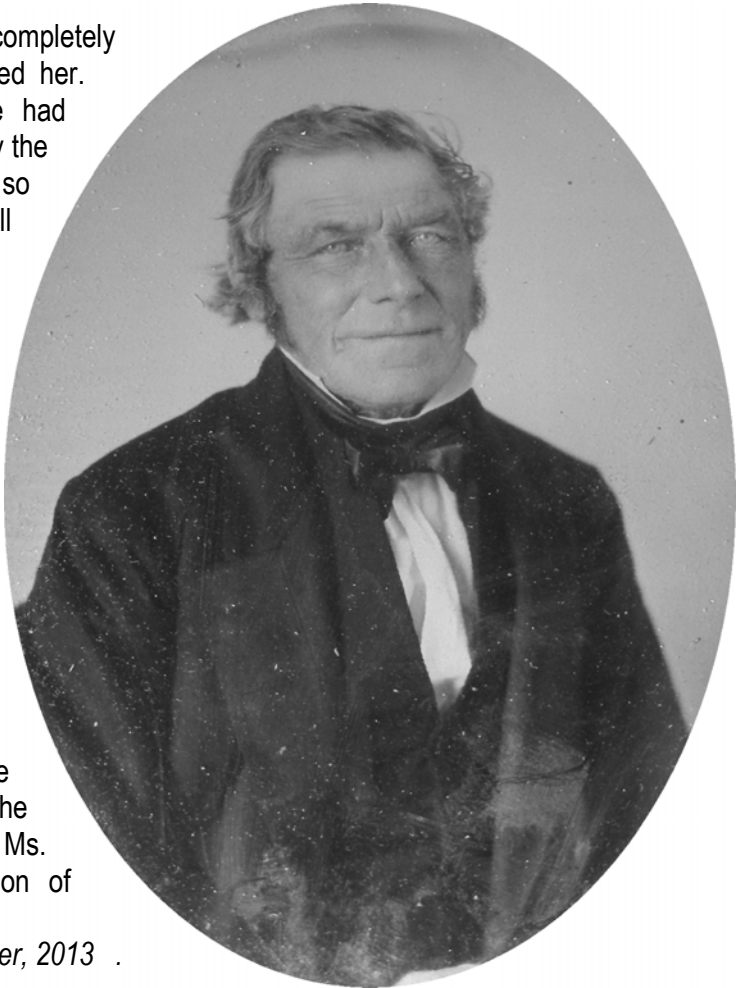
Smart History

The Society is working on some exciting projects that hopefully will be launched in early Spring... one of these involves a creating an “app” that provides the history, location, and a photo of local historic sites – all of which can be pulled up and viewed on a smart phone. Many thanks to Elliot Noma of Garrett Asset Management, LLC for his help in getting this project underway. And that’s not all – there are more projects like that on the horizon!

Ms. Hope arrived with the treasure trove, completely unaware of the celebrity status with which I regarded her. She quickly showed me the numerous items she had brought, and we carefully laid them out on the piano by the inglenook. I was beside myself with excitement, so delighted to be in the presence of an actual Thornall with these wonderful historic items in a building her family was so responsible for. She was gracious, but efficient; after all, she had places to go, and people to visit (the Thornalls are a busy lot, after all). I stopped short of asking for her autograph or to have my picture taken with her before she went on her way.

I carefully packed up the items and brought them to the Grimstead Room for safekeeping. Since then, Jennifer Warren, who has been working in the archives, has catalogued the items, stabilized them for storage, and transcribed many of the previously unpublished documents. Included in this issue is a listing of the donated items, along with some images and select transcriptions. These are wonderful, invaluable things that so often get lost in the shuffle of time, but in sharing these with the Society, Ms. Hope has truly continued her family's long tradition of contributing to the richness of our local history.

-Tyreen A. Reuter, 2013 .



Images included in this article

Front page: Image of a May 24, 1769 deed between William and Benjamin Thornall, oval portrait of Mrs. Jacob Hadden, and ca. 1900 political stickers for William M. Thornall.

Page 4: Oval portrait of Jacob Hadden and image of the bottom of a retractable/adjustable tin cup featuring the Pennsylvania Railroad logo.

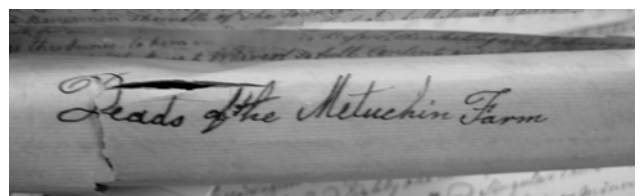
Page 5: notation on one of the deed scrolls.

Excerpt from the *Diary of Jacob Hadden*:

January 6th 1815 Commenced my journey from Woodbridge Neck to Sackets Harbour ----- at dayligh sot of for Perth Amboy in persuit of Stewart Brown arrived at said place 8 Oc. A.M Breackfast with William Crowell went to the long Ferry. (Ephraim Martains) gave H. Seamon \$2 to go to Mount Pleasant after said Brown at 5 Oc. P.M. Mr. Brown arrived at Perth Amboy at 7 Oc. P.M. I took Supper at William Crowells PeAmboy after supper took a walk returned again after midnight I arose at daylight went in persut of Mr. Miller soon found him returned to William Crowells took breakfast then went on board the Sloop James Cpt. Drake -- for New York at 7 Oc. A.M. sot sail with a light breeze from the south west at 8 Oc. no wind 9 Oc. Cpt. Drake taped a barrel of whiskey drew out a quantity all hands took a drink at 12 Oc. took dinner at 3 Oc. P.M. the wind sprang up fresh from the South east at half past 5 Oc. P.M. arrived at New York took my Chest to the Stage Office then went in pursuit of Mr. Losier Henry Echfords Clerk to get my Money to bare my expences to Sackets Harbour but could not find him at 9 Oc. P.M. took supper at Mr. Foulders neer new market lodged at William Harrison No. 5 West St.

Thornall Collection Inventory

- Cotton bushel grown in New Jersey; belonging to Leslie Thornall, stored in a white box
- 19th century ornamental black box frame containing an oval portrait of Jacob Hadden (father of Olivia Hadden, who was the mother of William Manning Thornall – first mayor of Metuchen, 1900)
- 19th century ornamental black box frame containing an oval portrait of Jacob Hadden's wife (grandmother of William Manning Thornall – first mayor of Metuchen, 1900)
- Circular Leather Case with retractable/adjustable tin cup with logo of the Pennsylvania Railroad on bottom
- Three wooden log pins that were salvaged from the Thornall barn when it was repaired in 1936; these logs were used to pin a tenon in a mortised joint
- Five political stickers, ca. 1900, for William M. Thornall, who ran for Mayor on the Democratic ticket; these stickers were for his Republican friends to use on the Republican tickets
- Small book: *The New Testament of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, translated out of the original Greek; and with the former translation diligently compared and revised* (published by Benjamin Olds, Newark, NJ, © 1845); owned by [unreadable], Woodbridge, June 3, 1846
- 19th century leather wallet belonging to Jacob Hadden of Perth Amboy (father of Olivia Hadden, who was married to William Thornall); bill book contains 4 notes [see items 09-12]
- Leather bill book with receipt of Jacob Hadden for subscription to the *New-York Express*, June 10, 1851
- Leather bill book with receipt of Jacob Hadden for subscription to the *Saturday Evening Post*, Jan. 23, 1850
- Leather bill book with notations regarding the sale of Jacob Hadden's skiff, Sept.-Dec. 1861
- Leather bill book with note of dimensions and description of Jacob Hadden's skiff, ca. 1861
- Ledger book of Jacob Hadden, Jan. 7, 1815 (book bought at Albany); contains Hadden's ledger and diary while at work for Henry Achford at Sackets Harbour
- May 24, 1769 Deed between William Thornall of Roxbury, Morris County, and Benjamin Thornall of Woodbridge, Middlesex County, regarding a tract of land in Morris County
- May 1, 1807 Bond agreement for \$973.31 between Israel Thornall & Lewis Thornall of Woodbridge Township, and Robert Ross of Woodbridge Township
- April 17, 1761 Deed between Benjamin Thornall of Woodbridge Township, and John Shippey of Woodbridge Township, regarding the sale of a tract of land
- Feb. 7, 1761 Deed between William Thornall of Woodbridge Township, and Israel Thornall of Woodbridge Township, regarding the sale of land
- Dec. 29, 1884 Certificate of Marriage between William Manning Thornall of Perth Amboy, and Jennie Force Williams of Metuchen
- July 26, 1900 Handwritten letter from William F. Thornall, Mayor of Metuchen, to the Common Council in regards to Borough business [*transcribed in "Israel Thornall, Planter" book, pgs. 157-160*]
- May 1, 1776 Deed between Peter Clark of Woodbridge Township, and Benjamin Thornall of Woodbridge Township, regarding the sale of Metuchen Farm
- May 7, 1750 Deed between Jeremiah Martin of Woodbridge Township, and Israel Thornall of Woodbridge Township, regarding the sale of land adjacent to a tract formerly owned by Joseph Ayers
- May 4, 1803 Record of bond agreement between Israel Thornall & Lewis Thornall of Woodbridge Township, and Robert Ross of Woodbridge Township, for the amounts of \$1600 and \$800
- March 9, 1775 Deed between Peter Clark of Middlesex County, and Robert Ross of Middlesex County, regarding a tract of land
- March 20, 1763 Deed between William Thornall and Samuel Jones regarding a tract of land
- Notes/letter regarding Metuchen Borough business including street & sidewalk repairs, taxes, and official surveys of the borough; possible written by Mayor William Thornall, ca. 1900.
- 2 small white table cloths; note states that cousin Sadie Craig cut this table cloth and sent squares to each member of the family; one cloth was given to Jay Worthington Thornall as a memento of her great, great grandmother Ann Martin Force
- 19th century map of Raritan Township, Middlesex County
- Rod wrapped in a diamond-patterned leather covering; purpose unknown
- Note identifying a snuff box that was owned by Jacob Hadden and possibly used by his father [*actual box does not appear to be part of this collection*]
- Curved shell piece
- Glass tube with metal lid and glass dropper; purpose unknown



Metuchen High School's Class of 1931 *History of Metuchen*

The following is continued from the Class of 1931's *History of Metuchen*, which is being reprinted in *Nannygoats* serially (beginning with Volume 5, Issue 2, Summer 2007). While the history contains some known factual & grammatical errors, the document is reproduced exactly as originally written.

LIBRARY

The first library was founded in 1870 by the Order of the Sons of Temperance "to promote mental culture and good moral." The limited number of books reposed in a small room in the school, which served as a reading room.

Fourteen years later the Library Association was organized. This group has had a great deal to do with the growth and development of the library.

After it had outgrown the little room in the school the library was forced to move and a smaller building was erected on Hillside Avenue. Again it outgrew its quarters and the books were placed above the Metuchen National Bank only two be shifted a few years later across the street to the second floor of the Commonwealth Bank Building. There it remained until 1924 when the Borough Hall was built, and the library again changed quarters. At the present time it is still located there. *[Note that this history was written before the construction of the current library at 480 Middlesex Avenue]*

SCHOOLS

The building of the new wing on the Franklin school and its being dedicated on October 10, 1930 has brought to our attention the rapid development of our school system. Perhaps it also makes us wonder when and where based educational system started.

The first school is believed to have been built in 1807. Five farmers were responsible for hiring a carpenter for 75¢ a day for three days with one helper at 35¢ a day. Mr. Samuel Compton took a boat load

of hay to New York, where he sold it and with the profits of this bought shingles and sideboards for the school. The school is the present BIL house on Middlesex Avenue and had but nine grades. To attend high school, one had to go to New Brunswick.



Top to Bottom: The first dedicated library building in its original location on Hillside Avenue, the building as a private residence after being moved to Washington Place, and as it appears today in the same location.

The next school was built in 1870 and was located where the present high school now stands *[this is where the Franklin Square Condos are now]*. A number of years later it was bought by Mr. Daniel Whalen and when the new school was built it was moved to New Street where it still remains.

Many years ago, Metuchen was noted for its numerous private schools. The Hopkins Academy held a building which is now part of the Presbyterian Church, took students who were taught by Professor Hopkins. The Manning Boarding School for girls was held in a private house in Bonhamtown but in later years moved to Perth Amboy. A boarding school for boys was located on the corners of Amboy Avenue and Main Street. There also was The Towers a seminary for young girls which is still standing on Lake Avenue. In addition to all of their schools many people engaged private tutors.

The Franklin school was built in 1908-1909 and in 1922-1923 a wing had to be added. Still more room was needed in 1929 and another wing was added which was completed for use in September 1930. The Edgar School was built in 1916 on land given by Mr. Edgar and has six grades. The Washington School *[now the Moss School]* was built in 1927 on Simpson Street and also has six

grades. The latest school to be built in Metuchen is the Catholic Par. School on Main Street, which was constructed in 1928.

Next Issue: "Fire Department"

A Letter from the New President of the Society...



Dear Society Members,

Hello, and welcome to another great issue of Nannygoats. I'm honored to have been elected President of the Historical Society for 2013. I want to first of all thank Fred Wolke for the great job he has done for the last three years. Our membership has increased greatly under his watch, the Grimstead Room and our collection more organized, and our financial situation better than ever.

I'm proud to announce that all of our board members have decided to stay on for the coming year. In addition, I'd like to welcome our two new board members, Lauren Kane and Kathy Glaser.

As President of the Society, I would like for us to concentrate on two main goals for the upcoming year. To improve our already fine news letter by getting more members and others to contribute and to get the back issues indexed and more user friendly. In fact, the second part of that goal has already been underway since late last year. The other goal is to have local history be more prevalent in our school systems. I think there is so much to offer in the way of history in our two fine towns.

Lastly, I would like to thank those of you who have come to our meetings, volunteered and continue share your knowledge of local history.

Sincerely, Steve Reuter

Local History Mystery? Visit the Archives!

The Society's Grimstead Room archives, containing thousands of local history images and documents, are located in the basement of the Metuchen Public Library. For more information, contact us at 732-906-0529 or wstochel@earthlink.net. We may just have the key to your local history mystery! Or, just stop by and visit during our open archives hours the first Saturday of most months from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Upcoming dates are March 2, April 6, May 4, and June 1, 2013.

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The name of the newsletter, "Nannygoats," is taken from the title of a collection of anecdotes, articles, reminiscences, and letters compiled by photographer J. Lloyd Grimstead. He took more than 2,800 photographs of the Metuchen-Edison area, mostly during the 1930s, which make up 80 percent of the Historical Society's photographic collection. The Metuchen-Edison Historical Society dedicates this publication to Lloyd Grimstead, as a way of honoring him for collecting and recording so much of our local history.

The Metuchen-Edison Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

1928 Directory of Metuchen, Column 10

Below is the tenth column of entries from a 1928 Directory of Metuchen that includes both addresses and telephone numbers of local residents. The small "r" after the name indicates the entry is for a "residence." The Society began reprinting the entirety of this directory in the Winter/Spring 2010 issue of *Nannygoats*. **Please note that our last issue incorrectly labeled the excerpt included in that edition as the eighth; it was in fact the ninth.**

Metuchen Pharmacy 396 Main.....Metuchen-50
Metuchen Printing Co.....
115 Highland av...Metuchen-604
Metuchen Recorder 76 Clive.....Metuchen-501
Metuchen Roofing Co 272 Lake.....Metuchen-479
Metuchen Service Sta. Main.....Metuchen-747
Metuchen Service & Supply Co auto supplies
507 Middlesex av...Metuchen-468

METUCHEN WHITE MARKET

ROY KOHN, PROPRIETOR

Sea Food - - - Poultry

PHONE: 164

415 Main Street

Metuchen, N. J.

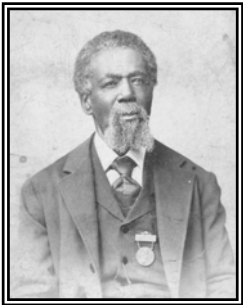
Metuchen Tile Wks 769 Mddlsx av. Metuchen-628
Meyer F G r 25 Clarendon ct....Metuchen-544
Meyers H L r Christol.....Metuchen-467
Meyers Mayo Hardware Co 401 Main. Metuchen-49
Middlesex Cleaners & Dyers
438 Main..Metuchen-709
Middlesex Housing Co 352 Main...Metuchen-613
Miller J r 56 Oak av.....Metuchen-508
Miller P r 95 Centre.....Metuchen-132-M
Miller R C r Woodbridge av...Metuchen-348-R
Milligan P r 27 Blair av.....Metuchen-513
Mills C D r 182 Amboy av...Metuchen-527-M
Minton R H r 187 Amboy av...Metuchen-185
Mlodecki R r 90 Durham av...Metuchen-291-W
Molineux L E r 31 Carlton rd. Metuchen-121-M
Montagna T gcrcy 138 Durham av. Metuchen-694
Mook C C r 231 Chestnut.....Metuchen-660
Mook H G r 84 Oak av.....Metuchen-124-W
Mook M C r 48 Rector.....Metuchen-43-R
Mook Robt K r 47 Thomas....Metuchen-202-M
Mook W R r 36 Highland av...Metuchen-16-J
Mook W T r 117 Hillside av...Metuchen-8-M
Moore Geo W r Woodbridge rd. Metuchen-322-R
Moore Mary E Mrs r
24 Clarendon ct. Metuchen-48-M
Moran J H r 9 Walnut.....Metuchen-695-J
Morgenstern R V r 47 Eggert av

Metuchen-128-W
Morris Carlyle MD 462 Main.....Metuchen-78
Morris Edw r 339 Amboy av...Metuchen-429
Morris Eliz J Mrs r 8 Clinton pl. Metuchen-210-J
Morris J W r 55 Oak.....Metuchen-14-M
Morris L H r 44 William.....Metuchen-15-J
Morris Meat Market Iselin...Metuchen-556-R-1
Morrison A Mrs r Oak Tree. Metuchen-264-W-1
Morse Thos C r 243 Main.....Metuchen-547-M
Moss J L Jr r 83 Spring.....Metuchen-34-R
Moss Walter R r 8 Homer pl...Metuchen-79-R
Mott E Victor r 50 Carson av...Metuchen-690
Mueck E E r l est & ins Iselin. Metuchen-556-J-1
Mueck E E r Iselin.....Metuchen-258-J
Mundy C E r 73 Hillside av...Metuchen-459-J
Mundy C H r 190 High.....Metuchen-301
Mundy Ezra H r 227 Main.....Metuchen-375-R
Mundy Ezra H r 36 William.....Metuchen-15-R
Mundy F r 20 Williams.....Metuchen-487-W
Mundy G L r 96 Highland av...Metuchen-529-M
Murphy F H r 48 William.....Metuchen-155-R
Murray G H r 30 Grove av...Metuchen-514
Myhok J r 15 William.....Metuchen-359
Myhok J M garage Amboy av...Metuchen-517
Nagy J confcr Bonhamtown...Metuchen-683
Nahass K Mrs r Iselin.....Metuchen-194-W-1
National Professional Polo Assoc
203 Essex av...Metuchen-497
Neilson Niels H r 2d.....Metuchen-527-R
Neilson Ban r 40 Plainfield av...Metuchen-260
Neilson M r Lafayette rd.....Metuchen-511-R
Neilson N A r 243 Amboy av...Metuchen-482
Neilson L r Millville rd.....Metuchen-241-M-1
Neilson L r 7 Walnut.....Metuchen-502
Nemeth A groery & Meat Mkt
Fords..Metuchen-279-W
N J Bell Tel Co—
Business Office 18 Paterson. New Brns-Official 50
For calls out of business hour and
for emergency matters
see listing under New Brunswick

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

To Cast a Freedman's Vote **Sunday, March 24, 2013** **Rescheduled from November**

Join us at 2pm on Sunday, March 24, 2013 at the Old Franklin Schoolhouse (B.I.L.) for a special presentation by New Jersey author and historian Gordon Bond, who will present "To Cast a Freedman's Vote" about Metuchen-born Thomas Peterson, who made Civil Rights History as the first African-American to vote in an election under the 15th Amendment. Bond's article about Mr. Peterson was featured in the Winter 2012 issue of



Nannygoats, and we are thrilled to be able to bring him here in person.

For more information, contact Steve at 732-713-9080. *Note: this program was originally scheduled for November, 2012 but had to be postponed due to Hurricane Sandy.*

Scavenger Hunt in May

The Borough of Metuchen's Historic Preservation Committee (HPC) will once again host an Architectural Scavenger Hunt this coming May, 2013 in honor of National Preservation Month. Make sure to look for entry forms!



Centennial Tour - June 22, 2013

To celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Lincoln Highway in 2013, the Lincoln Highway Association is planning tours from both coasts along the early alignments of the Lincoln Highway. The itinerary of the tour schedules the caravan of vehicles to pass through Edison and Metuchen the morning of Saturday, June 22. Look for more information to be released about how the Society plans to participate.



Metuchen-Edison Historical Society
P.O. Box 61
Metuchen, NJ 08840

NEED TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

Download the form from our website at
www.metuchen-edisonhistsoc.org.



On Facebook? Join the
Metuchen-Edison Historical
Society's Facebook Group!