



Hunterdon Historical Newsletter

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FALL 2004

Ladies Clothing and Activities of the Civil War Era **Topic of Fall Meeting, 14 November, 2 p.m.**

With the arrival of the Victorian age came unprecedented changes in everyday life. The emergence of a large middle class, great advances in education for all, and new social and economic opportunities for women were chief among these. The Age was characterized by outward prudishness in attitude but an almost paradoxical onset of massive and very ornate styling. Nowhere was this more evident than in clothing, especially that of the ladies.

At our Society meeting at the Flemington Womens Club on 14 November, Mrs. Robin Stokes will present a program dealing with both ladies; clothing of the Civil War period and women's activities during that turbulent time in our history. Photographs of local folks will be included in the slide portion of the lecture. Original clothing and women's magazines will be on display and, a detailed explanation of the intricate layers of clothing and underclothing will be given.

Currently the owner of "Robin Stokes, Dressmaker," Mrs. Stokes is a graduate of Muhlenberg College and the Moore College of Art in Philadelphia. She specializes in custom clothing for women and children, knitting kilts and fabrics for the Civil War period. She has taught Civil War clothing construction in Gettysburg and is a winner over the years of many first place awards in the North-South Skirmish competition in Virginia., including the prestigious top overall Delaney award. Her clothing has appeared in various museums including Acorn Hall in Morristown and the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg, PA, and on PBS films. She is a member and past president of the George W. Taylor Roundtable of Clinton and a member of the 15th NJ Volunteer Infantry of Hunterdon.

Robin and her husband, Wes, currently live in Harmony Township in Warren County but had formerly resided in both Flemington and Pittstown. They have, in addition, recently bought a home in Gettysburg that was there and close to the action during that battle. Researching and restoring that house is one of their ongoing projects.

Join with us for an unprecedented opportunity to hear from an expert on the subject at 2 p.m. on Sunday, 14 November at the Flemington Womens Club in the park behind the old Court House. All are welcome.

Above photograph — Reuben and Mary Kuhl Pierson of Cherryville from John W. Kuhl's Collections



2004-2005 Calendar

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 14 Nov. | FALL MEETING 2 p.m. Flemington Womens Club, Robin Stokes presents <i>Women's Civil War era clothing and activities</i> |
| 25 Nov. | HAPPY THANKSGIVING Society closed |
| 25 Dec. | MERRY CHRISTMAS |
| 1 Jan | HAPPY NEW YEAR |
| 3 April | Historical Society ANNUAL MEETING |

HUNTERDON HISTORICAL NEWSLETTER

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Form of Bequest

(This form is recommended for use in making a bequest of real property, in a Will or otherwise, naming your society as beneficiary)

ITEM: I bequeath the sum of \$_____ to the Hunterdon Historical Society, Flemington, NJ.

ITEM: I bequeath to the Hunterdon County Historical Society, Flemington, NJ, without restrictions title to and full possession of historical materials and objects, (real estate, account books, diaries, Family Bibles, documents, papers, photographs, programs, newspapers, clippings, books, records), etc.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Witness: _____

The Timeless Container

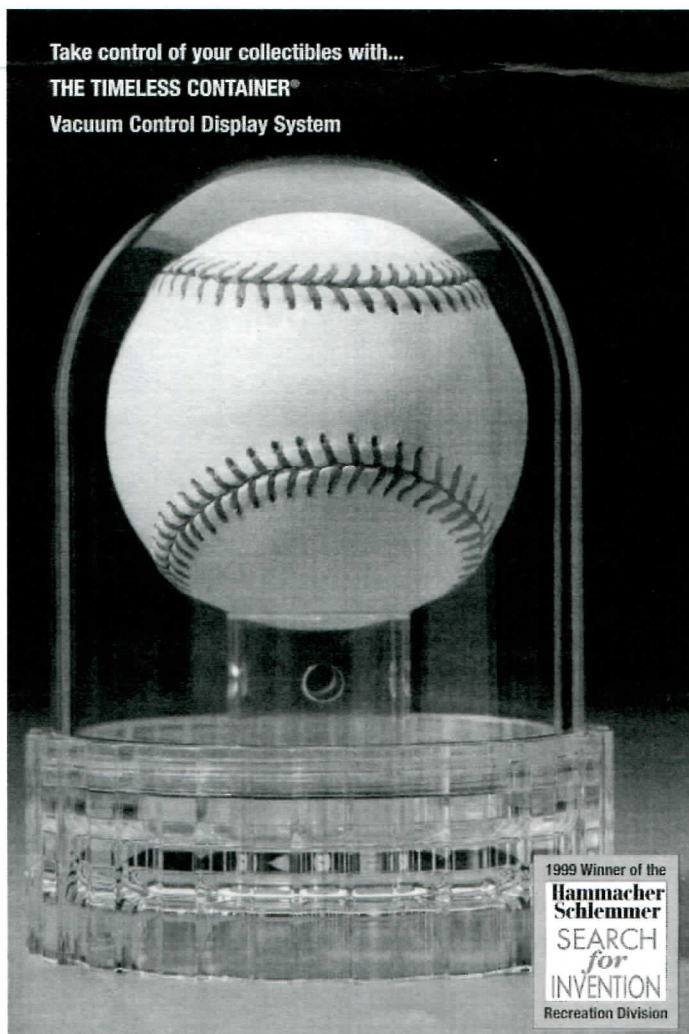
Take control of your collectibles with *The Timeless Container*, a vacuum control display system.

Collections are as individualized as their owners, but there is one thing they all have in common — exposure to the destructive effects of light and air. Whether you have just one signed baseball displayed on a shelf, or a vast collection of coins tucked into the back of a drawer, your collections are prey to oxidation, discoloration and aging. With *The Timeless Container* vacuum control display system, collectibles can be protected and displayed with proven preservation techniques.

Museums place their important artifacts in the same protective technology used on this individualized scale. The interlocking threaded dome and base creates a virtually airtight airless environment and the dome is made of clear UV protective acrylic to protect against sunlight's harmful rays.

The *Timeless Container* is user-friendly — it consists of a dome, a threaded base with six interchangeable display stands and a vacuum pump housing. A three-step system: Line it up, lock it up, and let out the air.

The dimensions of the *Timeless Container* are 7.875" long, 4.75" wide, and 4.75" deep. The containers, with and without vacuum pump housing may be ordered from the Society. The cost of a kit [dome and vacuum pump] is \$15 and each extra dome is \$10.



The County Fairgrounds

Flemington Fairgrounds, on Route 31, in Raritan Township, is a closed chapter in history! Last year, 2003, was the final year the County 4-H and Agricultural Fair was held there. The 42 acre farm that is the new site of the Fairgrounds, in East Amwell township, on present day Route 179, formerly the Old York Road, was originally in the Hagaman family for several generations. Abraham Hagaman purchased 214 acres in 1792, farmed the land and raised his family there. He, followed by his son, Peter, and grandson, James Monroe Hagaman occupied the farm for over one hundred years. It was subsequently sold out of the family and in recent years the buildings had fallen to disrepair. The circa 1800 second house on the property was demolished except for the oldest section around the time the County bought the property. The remaining section was dismantled, marked for re-erection, and placed temporarily in storage.

Flemington Fair Bandstand

The passing inquiry Joe Adda made just before the 2004 Agricultural Fair opened, "Do you have a photograph of the bandstand at the Fairgrounds?" set me on a search of the Society's photograph collection. Of course, he was one of the restoration crew working on the bandstand which had been moved from the old to the new Fairgrounds, the new South County Park. That is where the Hunterdon County 4-H and Agricultural Fair opened in August 2004 for the first time. Hunterdon County Historical Society put up an exhibit in the Community Services tent (as had been done in previous years at the old Fairgrounds).

We looked in the Society Collections and found a group of photos in the Jennie Haver Collection, the best of which was enlarged and reproduced as a guide to follow in the restoration. Today, minus the permanent finial, it graces the South

County Park/Fairgrounds and hopefully will be there for a long time to come greeting visitors to the Park/Fairgrounds.

The bandstand stood beside the track at the Flemington Fairgrounds for years, possibly having originally been at the Lambertville Fairgrounds at some earlier unrecorded date. The group of photographs was taken in 1936 to document Miss Haver's annual pageant at the Fairgrounds. Students from 72 rural schools came together to present scenes tracing the significant developments of Hunterdon County's history. Four divisions were presented — early historic happenings, Revolutionary decades, Civil War era, and modern Hunterdon. The drama opened with scenes of the Lenni-Ienape Indians, the "original people" of Hunterdon.

The May 21, 1936 issue of the *Hunterdon County Democrat* featured the annual event and related that it was the 19th annual festival, a tradition which apparently continued for several years after '36 but was discontinued during the World War II years.

The pageant and exhibits were open to the public. The subsequent Hunterdon County Democrat reported the annual festival was presented in front of the newly enlarged grandstand with 500 children joining to present the program. Helping teachers Jennie M. Haver of Clinton, Melda W. Chambre [later married Clifford Snyder, she gave the Snyder Experimental Farm near Quakertown to the State] of Flemington, and Sarah L. Strong of Ringoes [lived across from the site of the new South County Park/Fairgrounds in the older of the two Hagaman houses] organized the program under the sponsorship of B. F. Ramsburg, County 4-H Club agent and Harry W. Moore, County Superintendent of Schools.

These historical pageants are a fond memory, another closed chapter of County history! But the bandstand/gazebo remains as a reminder of things past.



The bandstand/gazebo in 1936
Jennie Haver Collection,
HCHS

NOTES AND QUERIES

Address correspondence to Genealogical Committee. One query listing of ten lines free to members, 25 cents per line over ten; non-member rate is 25 cents per line. Remember to enclose a SASE (self-addressed, stamped envelope) with genealogical correspondence if you expect a reply.

CRUM/KRUM: DNA project — males with Crum or Krum wanted to participate in a DNA project. If your DNA matches with another project participant, you may share a common ancestor. For more information go to www.familytreedna.com or contact Louise Rosett, 1005 Stagecoach Rd. SE, Albuquerque, NM 87123 [e-mail LRosett@mindspring.com].

NAYLOR, OSBORNE SMITH, WILLSON; Looking for info on: Robert H. Smith, farmer, and Mary Willson Smith, wife, parents of George Willson Smith, b. ca. 1859, who m. Mary Ella Naylor, b. ca. 1859, dau/o Daniel [1820-] and Elizabeth Osborne [b. 1834-] Naylor, of Woodsville, N.J. at First Presbyterian Church in Pennington, NJ on 24 December 1879. Are any family Smith or Naylor in the area now? Need medical history. ADD; Eleanor Dobbs, 1806 Pontiac Rd., Fairview Hts., IL 62208 [e-mail: edobbs@webtv.net]

LOTT, ROBBINS; Seek identity of Isaac Robbins (1830-1896) & Hannah Lott (1830-1901), m. 12 July 1851. Want any info on Isaac & Hannah and their place of burial. ADD; Charles Andrews, 906 Medora Dr., Greer, SC 29650 [e-mail: cbabooks@bellsouth.net].

ALEXANDRIA TOWNSHIP: With a rich aeronautical history Alexandria Township Historical Society is planning an exhibit, "Alexandria Takes to the Sky," in Spring 2005 at their Museum of Local History at the Prevost House, 1100 Milford-Frenchtown Road. They seek anything relating to Alexandria Township's experience with aircraft, balloons, barnstorming, airfields (both active and defunct), pilots and crews, both military and civilian. Anyone with knowledge in the form of stories, photographs, artifacts, etc. is urged to share or loan. Leave a message with the Alexandria Township Historical Society at (908) 996-4565.

Mystery Photo Identified

The annual "mystery" photograph the Society took to the 4-H and Agricultural Fair this year was correctly identified — a pre-1954 aerial view of the Flemington elementary and high schools which were located on Bonnell Street. The first correct entry drawn from the old ballot box the Society uses for its contest was Marcia Karrow who was presented with an *1973 Hunterdon County Atlas*. The other winner, Robert Benson, Park Avenue in Flemington and he will receive a 2005 membership in the Historical Society.

Of the 100+ Fair visitors who filled out a coupon giving the identification, about half were correct and of them the entries by Ms. Karrow and Mr. Benson were pulled from the ballot box first and second. The photograph appears in "Images from the Past" on page 950 in this Newsletter.

Acquisitions

Artifacts, manuscripts, family Bibles, and other material representative of the history of Hunterdon County and the families who resided here are welcome additions to the Historical Society's collections. To the donors of recent acquisitions the Society expresses its appreciation.

Walker-Gordon: One of a Kind, by Edward E. Tindall, MS, DVM and C. Stanton Clark, 1998, Donated by George E. Carkhuff, Ringoes, NJ.

Richard Bray and Some of his descendants in America, by Dee Thompson, 1999. Donated by the author, Crescent City, CA.

Volume Twenty-two, *Mayflower Families Through Five Generations: Family of William Bradford*, compiled by Ann Smith Lainhart and Robert S. Wakefield, FASG, published 2004 by General Society of Mayflower Descendants.

Philip Delano of the 'Fortune' 1621 and His Descendants in the Fifth and Sixth Generations, Part One (Family Numbers 198-367) compiled by Muriel Curtis Cushing, published 2004 by General Society of Mayflower Descendants. Both books donated by New Jersey Society of Mayflower Descendants, Harry P. Folder, 3rd, Secretary, Woodbine, NJ.

The Descendants of Hans Mitchael Froelich: The First Three Generations by Donald S. Fraley, Sr. and Donald S. Fraley, Jr., M.D., 2004. Donated by Douglas R. Fraley, Sr., Quakertown, PA.

The Johnson Farm of Clinton Township, Hunterdon County: A History of its Builder and First Owners, by Fred Sisser III, June 2004. Donated by Clinton Historic Preservation Commission member Frank White, Lebanon, NJ

Video, "Hunterdon County Library 1940," filmed by the WPA for the County Board of Agriculture. Donated by Hunterdon County Library Director, Janet S. Friend, Flemington, NJ

"Hopewell's "Crime of the Century:" 1932 *The Lindbergh Kidnapping "All True Facts,"* by William C. Brittingham, 2003. Donated by the author, Kendall Park, NJ.

Nicholas Dalley (ca. 1740-ca. 1820): One Line of His Descendants, by Leslie R. Bouvier, 2004. Donated by the author, Herndon, VA.

Collector's Encyclopedia of Stangl Artware, Lamps, and Birds, Identification & Value, by Robert C. Runge, Jr. Donated by the author, Somerset NJ.



Mt. Airy Church Celebrates 250 Years

"In 1754 . . . Presbytery was petitioned "by the people bordering on the Delaware" to give them the privilege of building a meeting house for their own convenience."

This was granted, and a separate congregation was formed and a church built at Mt. Airy, which was called the Second Amwell Church." Thus the church founded, was an offshoot of Amwell First Church, known also as the First English Presbyterian Church in Amwell (Reaville), under the aegis of their first minister, Reverend Elias Byram.

Continuing as a united charge, the two Amwell Churches were served by the same pastors until 1813. The last to serve both churches was the Reverend Jacob Kirkpatrick who preached three years in the three Amwell Churches (1810-1813) which were known locally as the Old House, the New House, and the Stone House. The Old House was Amwell First, the New House was Amwell Second, and the Stone House the original church at Larison's Corner.

The earliest official document of the Mount Airy church still extant is a declaration on March 16, 1786, signed by the trustees, renouncing allegiance to the King of England and pledging allegiance to the new government of the colonies. Also in the church's possession, on sheepskin, is a deed to the church property dated 1810. The land on which the church, schoolhouse and part of the cemetery are located had been given by Benjamin Skillman, who possessed 133 acres.

On July 20 1854, the old manse at the foot of the Mount Airy hill, with 4 acres of land was purchased from Ambrose Holcombe and his wife, Anna, for \$900. The old manse was sold on March 3, 1955 for \$8,150 and the money used for the new manse which was built in 1956. Most of the work was done by volunteers from the congregation.

A mutual agreement between the Church and Hunterdon County Historical Society places indefinitely the above two documents, as well as numerous others, in the Society's archival storage vault. The records, including the first Session Minute book, came to the Society in July 2004, and these earliest two documents were processed and encapsulated in preparation for exhibition, with the Sessions book, during the Church's anniversary events.

When the Works Progress Administration for an Historical Records Survey collected information for a "Guide to Vital Statistic Records In New Jersey, Volume II, Church Archives," published in 1941, it included the Mount Airy Church, founded 1754, as having three volumes containing baptism, marriages and members' deaths, at that time [1941] in the custody of Mr. Earl Holcombe. The present Clerk of the Session retains the records not being stored at the Society.



Mt. Airy Presbyterian Church from a postcard in the HCHS Collections

Phyllis Bowers D'Autrechy

Former Historical Society trustee, Phyllis B. D'Autrechy died 13 July 2004 in Venice, Florida, survived by husband Theophile, daughter Lynne Sutton of Columbia, MD, and son Douglas of Basalt, CO.

She was a Society trustee until moving to Florida after her retirement as Hunterdon County Archivist. Mrs. D'Autrechy left an extensive legacy to present and future Hunterdon County historians and genealogists in her published works, a list of which was published in the *Hunterdon Historical Newsletter*, Volume 32, No. 3, Fall, 1996. Her most recent work, Volume III of *More Records of Old Hunterdon County*, will be published sometime in 2005 by the Historical Society.

The Society extends deepest sympathy to her family.

Katherine Black Follow-up

by Roxanne Carkhuff



Katherine Black

Thanks to member Michael Kelly, Morton Grove, IL, we have further information on Katharine Black, pictured in our previous *Newsletter*. Mr. Kelly was intrigued by the Lambertville connection since his ancestors lived there and he conducted some research on his own. To recap from the previous *Newsletter*, I had found in Lambertville in the 1910 census Ruth Black, 46 as head of the house, with her children, Ivan, 19, Katherine, 16, and Avis, 12.

Using the online 1920 census index on Ancestry.com, he located a Ruth Black, age 56, at Hopewell in Mercer County. Living with her was son Ivan, 28. Also in the household, Mr. Kelly reported, was a daughter, Katherine Kirby, age 22, and Katherine's two infant children, Ruth and John.

Mr. Kelly wrote, "Fast forward to the 1930 census and we find, still in Hopewell, Ruth Black, age 67, living with daughter, Avis, and son-in-law, George Koeppl's family. Also in 1930 are 32 year old Catherine Kirby with her two children, Ruth and John, then both 11 years old, and living in Catherine's household that year was brother, Ivan Black, then 38 years old."

Not a quitter, our Mr. Kelly, he went on to examine the Social Security Death Index and found three Katherine Kirbys who died in 1975 {remember "our Katherine was buried at Holcombe's Riverview cemetery with that year on her tombstone}. Of the three women, he felt the one who died in August 1975 at Far Hills, Somerset County was likely "our" Katherine. The other two Katherine Kirbys died out of State.

I was excited to get his letter and got goosebumps reading it because I was born and raised in Hopewell and, as it turns out, Katherine's son, John Burke Kirby was a neighbor to my family as well as my husband's. Neither of us remembers Katherine but, inasmuch as she died in Somerset County, possibly daughter Ruth married and moved there. We do both remember

Burke though. Looking at Katherine's photograph I wonder if she had red hair like we remember Burke did? He died in July 1984, having served in the U.S. Coast Guard in World War II, and also is buried at Holcombe's Riverview. Avis and George Koeppl are also buried at Holcombe's Riverview and Mr. Koeppl was my family's Metropolitan insurance man.

Still to discover is daughter Ruth Kirby, John Burke Kirby's twin sister, born 18 March 1919.

Membership Report

A warm welcome is extended to those members who have recently joined the Hunterdon County Historical Society.

Susan Assmus, Pierre, SD

Keith Beers, Dallas, TX

Robert Benson, Flemington, NJ

Paul I. Creager, Gahanna, OH

Laurence Curtis, Mission Viejo, CA

Jamie and Michael Favreau,

Whitehouse Sta., NJ

Gerald M. Haslam, Pleasant Grove, UT

Myrtle I. Jones, Amarillo, TX

Bonnie Tidd Miller, Austin, TX

Robert W. Pegg, Bethlehem, PA

Jan Rogers, Milford, NJ

Sharon Wagoner, Lynn Center, IL

Family

Contributing

Mrs. Shirley V. Favier
Membership Chair

HOW TO JOIN

Hunterdon County Historical Society
114 Main Street
Flemington, NJ 08822

Please enroll me as a member of your Society

Annual	\$15.00 per year
Family	\$18.00 per year
Contributing	\$25.00 per year
Sustaining	\$50.00 per year
Institutional	\$50 and up per year
Life	\$250.00
Patron	\$1,000.00 or more
Student	\$3.00 per year (18 years of age or less)
Century Club	\$100.00

for which I enclose my remittance in the amount of \$

Name _____

Address _____



Give History for Christmas



Give the gift that continues to give! For the historian/genealogist on your Christmas gift list the Historical Society offers some gift suggestions.

For mail requests, order by number and add \$4 for the first book and \$1 for each additional book to cover postage packing. For #14, postage is \$10. For out-of-country checks please add \$5.

1. Beers, Comstock and Cline, 1973 *Atlas of Hunterdon County, New Jersey*. The *Atlas* is 13½" x 16", 77 pages with a hard cover and contains maps of fourteen townships and thirty-two towns existing in Hunterdon County in 1873, printed on acid-free paper. Reprinted 1987 by Hunterdon County Historical Society. \$40.00.

2. D'Autrechy, Phyllis B., *Hunterdon County New Jersey Fisheries 1819-1820*, 44 page soft cover booklet with maps, illustrations, and a full-name subject index, 1993. Gives the historical background on shad fishing and the names and locations of fisheries along the Delaware River within Hunterdon County. \$7.50

3a. *More Records of Old Hunterdon County, Volume I*, compiled by Phyllis B. D'Autrechy, published by Hunterdon County Historical Society, 1998, 276 pages, full-name index, maps, illustrations, hard cover, \$25.00.

3b. *More Records of Old Hunterdon County, Volume II*, compiled by Phyllis B. D'Autrechy. This hardcover volume has 258 pages plus a full-name index and has maps and illustrations. \$25.00

4. Deats, Hiram Edmund, *Hunterdon County New Jersey Militia, 1792*, an alphabetical listing of "free and able-bodied white male citizens between . . . eighteen and forty-five" listed alphabetically by townships, 37 pages, published 1936, reprinted 1994, soft cover. \$12.00

5. Deats, Hiram Edmund, *The Jerseyman: A Quarterly Magazine of Local History*; Volume II, No. 4, 1905, 376+ pages, unbound, with added Table of Contents compiled 1985 by Roxanne K. Carkhuff. \$100.

6. Deats, Hiram Edmund, *Marriage Records of Hunterdon County, New Jersey 1795-1875*, 348 pages, hard cover. Reprint, with additions and corrections, of 1918 edition. \$25.00.

7. "Flemington, New Jersey 1883," a bird's eye view of Flemington showing exterior details of buildings in 1883, black and white lithograph, 20" x 24" suitable for framing. \$10.00.

8. *Hunterdon's Role In The Revolution*, published by Hunterdon County Democrat 22 July 1976 in honor of our nation's Bicentennial Year and the 150th Anniversary of the Hunterdon County Democrat, 88 pages, photographs, illustrations, maps, soft cover, \$3.00

9. Myers, Kenneth V., *The Flemington Fair Story*, 1978, 95 pages, photographs, soft cover. \$5.00.

10. Myers, Kenneth V., *Old Stones At Oak Summit*, Kingwood Presbyterian churchyard at Oak Summit, 1985, 20 pages, added index, soft cover, \$3.00.

11. Vail, Mary C., *History of Land Titles In The Vicinity of Quakertown, New Jersey*, 1915, 15 pages plus added index 1983 by Marfy Goodspeed. Soft cover, \$5.00.

12. Voorhees, Rev. Oscar M., *East and West Jersey Boundary Line Controversy*, 1906, 21 pages, soft cover. \$6.00.

13. Wittwer, Norman C., *The Faithful and The Bold*, the story of the Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in Oldwick, New Jersey, 14 August 1714, 1984, 49 pages, photographs, maps, index, hard cover. \$10.00.

14. Snell, James P., compiler, *History of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties, New Jersey*. 1881, October 1995 facsimile reprint dedicated to Kenneth V. Myers, late president of the Hunterdon County Historical Society, 800+ pages, maps, illustrations, no index. \$80.00 plus \$10.00 postage.

15. Stout, J. Edward, *Facts and Fantasies of Franklin Township*, 448 pages, maps, photographs, illustrations, October 1995. \$20.00.

16. The weekly newspaper *Hunterdon Gazette* 1825-1834, Volume I, and 1835-1844, Volume II, and **about to be released**, Volume III, 1845-1854 on CD, including digital photographic images of the *Gazette* newspaper pages, and typed and formatted text of the newspaper items containing people's names and events of Hunterdon County, with an overall name and key word index. Price per volume includes shipping and handling — \$20 for nonmembers, \$15 for members.

Other Publications

Vanishing Landscapes of Hunterdon, published in a hardcover book, is ready for your enjoyment. Copies may be ordered from the publisher: Hunterdon County Cultural and Heritage Commission, P.O. Box 2900, Flemington, NJ 08822 for \$23, postpaid. Inquiries may be made to (908) 788-1256.

Movies Under the Stars: The Ringoes Drive-In by Lora Olsen, in limited edition, with 39 pages, text and photographs, is available in soft cover from Lora Olsen, for \$15, picked up or \$17 mailed. A limited edition, this is a brief history of the property which has become the South County Park, and is the new site, beginning this past August, of the Hunterdon County 4-H and Agricultural Fair. Contact the author at 1123 Old York Road, Ringoes, NJ 08551 telephone (908) 788-7769.

Collector's Encyclopedia of Stangl Artware, Lamps, and Birds, Identification & Values. by Robert C. Runge, Jr., published 2002, hard bound, 432 pages, extensively illustrated predominately with color photographs, bibliography, with personal inscriptions and/or Mr. Runge's autograph. Available for \$29.95 from Rob Runge, P.O. Box 5427, Somerset, NJ 08875, e-mail: robrunge@stanglpottery.org or website: www.stanglpottery.org.



Images from the Past

Flemington Elementary and High Schools, *circa 1953*



Taken before March 1954, the scene changed dramatically when the elementary school on Court Street burned down on the evening of 23 March. The front page of the *Hunterdon County Democrat* on March 25 read "Grade School Destroyed by \$166,750 Boro Fire." Flames of an undetermined origin broke out in an attic storage space at the northwest corner of the building at around 9 p.m. when a neighbor saw flames and called in an alarm, which brought numerous fire companies to the scene. Low water pressure and a head start made a difficult job impossible. The flames gutted the entire building. Destruction included the belfry that blazed so dramatically before the big brass bell, which had summoned generations of children to school for nearly 54 years, plummeted into the flaming debris.

The scene is on Bonnell Street in Flemington and both the High School and the elementary school are pictured here on a plot which ran from Court Street through to Bonnell Street. The elementary level school was hailed as one of the finest when constructed as a four-room unit in May 1900. The original section of the "new grade school" opened the following year.

An emergency meeting of the Flemington-Raritan Board of Education quickly made arrangements for the 375 pupils to attend the Route 69 school in afternoon sessions of a split school day.