



Hunterdon Historical Newsletter

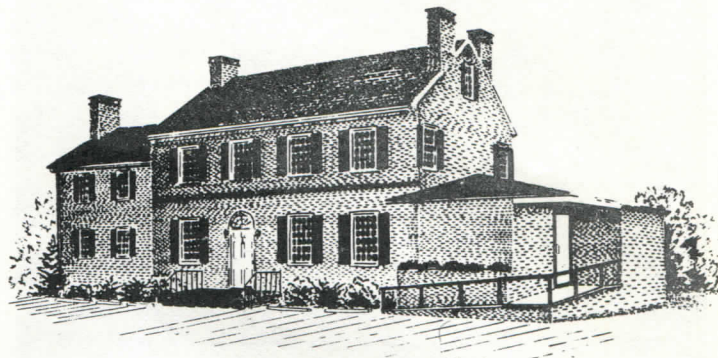
VOL. 26, NO. 2

Published by Hunterdon County Historical Society

SPRING 1990

Spring Gala June 24 Celebrating HCHS 105th Anniversary Perryville Inn

Let's celebrate! On June 24 we are having a *Spring Gala* at the historic Perryville Inn to commemorate the Historical Society's 105th anniversary. The festivities begin at 4 p.m. with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres.



Cocktails (cash bar) and complimentary hors d'oeuvres

Choice of hot and cold soup

Tossed salad

*Sole Veronique – a filet of sole
sauteed with grapes, white wine and almonds*

*Le Coq Au Vin Rouge – spring chicken
sauteed with shallots and burgundy wine sauce*

*Chateaubriand – roasted sliced filet
with Bearnaise sauce*

Viennese table and coffee

Enjoy the music of harpist Barbara Duhl-Emswiler

After dinner our guests will have the opportunity to bid on a copy of Snell's *History of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties*, a framed reproduction of the 1852 map of Hunterdon County and other items donated to raise funds for Society projects. Auctioneer Harrie B. Copeland is donating his services so if you have an item for the auction, we'll be pleased to receive it.

Let's all get together at the historic Perryville Inn just off Route 78 in Union Township on the 24th. Seating is limited to 100 so make your reservations early. Dinner is \$30.00 per person. with choice of one of the three entrees above.

COUNTY HISTORY UPDATED

An updated history, *The First 275 Years of Hunterdon County — 1714-1989* came off the presses in April 1990. The 125 page paperback book was published by the Hunterdon County Cultural and Heritage Commission and has maps and illustrations. The first printing came out when Hunterdon County celebrated its 250th anniversary and sections authored by local historians related the history of communications, education, government, transportation, etc. The new edition is a reprint of the former with additions for the past 25 years added. Society President Kenneth V. Myers wrote the original article on government and updated his section in the current edition.

The book is \$5 and may be bought from Hunterdon County Cultural and Heritage Commission office on Choirster Place or Hunterdon County Historical Society at 114 Main Street, both in Flemington. For mail orders from the Society please add \$2 for postage and packaging.



Clip and send to: HCHS, 114 Main Street, Flemington, NJ 08822

Enclosed please find _____ for _____ dinner reservations @\$30.00 each on June 24 at Historic Perryville Inn for:

Phone number _____

_____ Sole Veronique

_____ Le Coq Au Vin Rouge

_____ Chateaubriand

HUNTERDON HISTORICAL NEWSLETTER

Published Fall, Winter, Spring, by the Hunterdon County Historical Society, 114 Main St., Flemington, N.J. 08822

PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

Roxanne K. Carkhuff, Editor

Phyllis D'Autrechy

Kathleen J. Schreiner

Walter J. Young

- Library Hours -

Thursday, 1-3 p.m. and Saturday 1-3 p.m.

TELPEHONE: 201/782-1091

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OFFICERS & TRUSTEES

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Acquisitions

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

"Swesey Family Society," Volume 1, Number 1 published for the purpose of bringing together information about the descendants of John Swaesey who emigrated to America in 1639. Donated by editor, Clyde Downing, Kent, WA.

The Cornelius Coryell House of the Township of West Amwell County of Hunterdon State of New Jersey 1750, compiled by Marfy Goodspeed for Dr. David and Peggy Dondero, 1990. Donated by Ms. Goodspeed, Flemington, NJ.

The Centerville Methodist Church 1869-1969 compiled and edited by Marjorie Ladd Saxe, 1969. Donated by Mrs. Lorena C. Vincent, Neshanic Sta., N.J.



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Communicants of the Presbyterian Church of Pennington, N. J. 1700 - 1888, compiled by Samuel B. Ketcham, Clerk of the Sessions, January 1, 1889. Donated by Joseph R. Klett, Hopewell, NJ.

Somerset County Genealogical Quarterly, Volume 7, Number 1, March 1990, Fred Sisser III, Editor. Donated by Mr. Sisser, Bridgewater, NJ.

Microfilms of *Hunterdon County Democrat*, July 6, 1989-December 28, 1989, and *Delaware Valley News*, January 5, 1989-December 28, 1989. Donated by H. Seely Thomas, Publisher, Flemington, NJ.

The First 275 Years of Hunterdon County 1714-1989, updated [from 1964] and published by Hunterdon County Cultural and Heritage Commission, 1989. Donated by the Commission, Flemington, NJ.

Parke Society Newsletter Index Volumes 1-25, published by The Parke Society, Inc., David L. Parke, Editor. Donated by the Parke Society, Reading, PA.

1989 Directory of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church.. Donated by Misses Helen and Marion Waldron, Oldwick, NJ.

"The Prall Newsletter," Volume 5, #2, April 1990, Richard D. Prall and Robert C. Prall, co-editors. Donated by Prall Family Association, 14104 Piedras Rd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87123.

New Jersey History, Volume 107, Numbers 3-4 (Fall/Winter 1989) Mark E. Lender, Editor. Published and donated by New Jersey Historical Society, Newark, NJ.

The Hartpence Family In America, Descendants of Johannes Eberhart Pence and Hannah Kitchen of Hunterdon County, New Jersey, 1735-1985, by Esther Leonard Heer, 1989. Donated by Mrs. Heer, Columbus, OH.

Index to Union Township Rural Recollections, index compiled by Phyllis D'Autrechy, 1990. Donated by Hunterdon County Cultural and Heritage Commission, Flemington, NJ.

The Prall Family, a family history compiled and published by Richard Dwight Prall, 1990. Donated by the compiler, Albuquerque, MN.

Remember to make dinner reservations
by June 20.

NOTES AND QUERIES

Address correspondence to Genealogical Committee. Listings 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.

BOWMAN, EGBERT, RUTMAN: Could Thomas be father of Cornelius Bowman? Cornelius and Marytje Bowman's children bapt. Readington Reformed Church, Maria 1750, Cornelius 1753, Elizabeth 1755. Des info re Metje Rutman, wife of John Egbert, mentioned in Readington church records from 1771 and alive 1792, had chil baptized between 1752 and 1772. ADD: Shirley Weller, 914 Adams St., Pella, IA 50219.

LIKENS, RULE/RULLOFSEN: Des info re William Archibald Archer Likens who left Hunterdon, enlisted in Canadian militia unit and died of "camp fever" during War of 1812. He married Catharine Rule/Ruloffsen 30 December 1804. ADD: William H. Likins, 696 S. Mississippi River Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55116.

ATKINSON, BARBER, EMLEY, HOLCOMBE, WOOLRICH: John Holcombe (1682-1743) m Elizabeth Woolrich (1683-1761). Des info re father Thomas Woolrich, Abington, PA. In Hunterdon Co. Richard Holcombe (1716-1785) 2nd wf Ann Atkinson, wid/o Elisha Emley; info re father Thomas Atkinson. Samuel Holcombe (1711-1769) m Eleanor Barber, (d 1793), des info re father Samuel Barber. ADD: Eleanor B. Powell, 100 Wooten Pt. Rd., Goldsboro, NC 17534.

CUTTER, CARKUFF, HIXSON, HOFFMAN, ROCKEFELLOW, SCHAMP, SHARP: Seek info re Cornelius T. Sharp, Lucy A. Rockefeller and allied Schamp, Hixson, Hoffman and Cutter families. Also Asa Carkuff connections to Sharps. 1850 Hunterdon Co. NJ. ADD: Robert V. L. Sharp, 3699 Shady Lane, Glenwood, MD 21738.

TEACHOUT/TIETSOORT/TITSORT/TITSWORTH: Require any data concerning any person bearing the above mentioned names from 1690 to 1900. Am compiling information on several branches of the family. ADD: Patricia L. Donlin, 25259 Skye Drive, Farmington Hills, MI 48018.

CAYWOOD, RYNEARSON, MONFORT: Who were par/o Albert Monfort Caywood m. Rhoda Rynearson 11 April (or Sept.) 1822 in OH? She was dau/o Nicholas Rynearson, member Hunt. Co. Militia 1792, Amwell Twp. Were the Monforts also in Hunterdon Co.? ADD: Evelyn Kaywood Wyant, 1660 W. Mardee, Jackson, MI 49201.

CHERRY, GODOWN, VAN SELUS: James Cherry Van Selus, b. 1821 in Kingwood Twp., m. 1847 Cornelia M. Godown, b. 1818 in Flemington. Des info re their parents names, birth dates and places. ADD: Judy Daniels, 250 Poplar St., Dickson City, PA 18519.

GOLDEN, HUNT, PHILLIPS, PIDCOCK, TITUS: Seek info re these Hopewell Twp. families. Who were par/o Eleanor Golden (1800-1855) who m. 1821 William Pidcock? Susannah Titus m. ca. 1735 Edward Hunt. Seek info re Bible she willed her son Timothy in 1799. Seek data re chil/o Richard Phillips who m. Mary Hunt, dau/o Samuel Hunt [-1783]. Who were par/o Abigail, wife of John Phillips? ADD: Donna B. Evans, 3 Papps Dr., Yardville, NJ 08620.

VOGT, WIMMER: Seek info re Johannes Vogt, b. 1718 Middlebush, and Abraham Vogt, b. 1720, sons of Simon Vogt and wife, Catharina Christina Wimmer. Did Simon and Christina have four other chil? ADD: Elaine Vaught Adams, T-Anchor Ranch, Route 16, Box 30, Medina, TX 78055.

HENDRICKSON, HULL, WILLIAMSON: Gideon Hendrickson who appears on 1807 Amwell Twp. tax list m. Elizabeth Williamson 1810. How was he related to Israel Hendrickson whose three daughters Phebe, Mercy, and Elizabeth m. between 1811-1815 in Hunt. Co. Also interested in Williamson and Hull families of Hunt. Co. ADD: George Wylder, 107 Cedar Drive. Clinton, IL 61727.



PERRYVILLE INN

Perryville Inn or Brick Tavern as it was earlier known, stood by the side of the Easton Turnpike in Bethlehem Township (in 1853 Union Township was set off from Bethlehem). It was a frequent stop for drovers.

The tavern building, Federal architectural style, was being completed in 1813 as news of Commodore Perry's Lake Erie victory reached Hunterdon County and the crossroads became Perryville in his honor. The first owner, tavernkeeper Cornelius Carhart, appreciated the business which came to his inn when Bethlehem Township committee meetings were held there.

The tavern sign which for many years swung from a pole on the north side of the 26' x 40' building long ago is preserved at the Hunterdon County Historical Society, having some years ago been donated by Dr. Isaac S. Cramer. On one side appears a portrait of Andrew Jackson and on the reverse side an American Flag. Both paintings were purportedly done by William Bonnell, well-known Clinton portrait artist of the 1820s and 1830s.

The Perryville Inn was identified as one of the buildings within the right-of-way of Interstate 78 so it was in danger of demolition. Fortunately, it was saved when Robert Trubeck purchased it from New Jersey Department of Transportation for \$250, with the stipulation that it be moved. The original brick building and a small two story brick wing were moved intact 1,000 feet south and across Jutland Road from the original site at a cost in excess of \$9,000. Perryville Inn's journey began in November 1959 and was completed in January 1960.



Perry
In
circa

Exterior before move

Photographs by M



Early inn sign



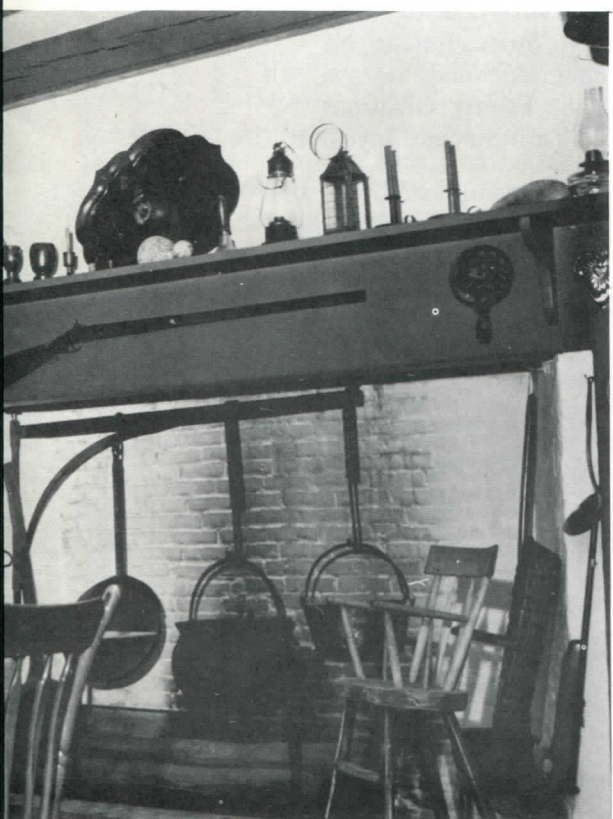
Former kitchen now 1813 Room

ville
n
1959



Sitting room

Michael Ciavolino



Entry interior

Gladys Tomson Moss Bequest

Former Clinton resident Gladys Tomson Moss who died 25 October 1987 in Montgomery County, PA, generously remembered her Hunterdon County roots, dividing her substantial estate equally among ten non-profit organizations. At final settlement recently each group received \$288,000:

Hunterdon County Historical Society
Clinton Presbyterian Church
Clinton Volunteer Fire Department
Clinton First Aid and Rescue Squad
Clinton Historical Museum
Bethlehem Presbyterian Church at Grandin
Abington Memorial Hospital
Abington Police Pension Fund
Jenkintown Day Nursery
Lankenau Hospital

Mrs. Moss's bequest to this Society has created the Gladys Tomson Moss Endowment Fund designated to support the operations of the Hunterdon County Historical Society using the annual income from the invested principal. A portion of the 1989 income from Mrs. Moss's bequest made it possible for the Society to obtain a computer system for the Deats Memorial Library and to install a security system at the Doric House, Society headquarters.

GLADYS TOMSON MOSS

Our benefactor Gladys Tomson was born 29 September 1895, the eldest of three daughters born to Chester Arthur Tomson and his wife Margaret Hinchman Bonnell.

She married Marshall V. Moss, and moved to the Philadelphia area. Mr. Moss was a successful textile manufacturer, accumulating the greater part of the estate being shared by the ten non-profit organizations. Mr. and Mrs. Moss's only children were two sons, Marshall V. Jr. and Chester T. Moss, both of whom were killed in action during World War II.

Mrs. Moss's parents were Hunterdon County natives who were born in the Clinton vicinity. Chester A. Tomson in his youth, was associated with his father, Emanuel, in the operation of the Clinton House, a well-known landmark in the town. Her father was a merchant and founded the Clinton Water Company of which he was Secretary-Treasurer when he died in 1931. He was active in politics and had served as mayor of Clinton. In partnership with his brother, Elmer E., who predeceased him, he operated graphite mills in Sunbury, Pa.

Mrs. Moss's mother, Margaret H. Bonnell, was a daughter of Clement Hinchman Bonnell and his wife Emily Adaline Bird. Mr. Bonnell's father, William Bonnell was the well-known portrait painter whose works are exhibited in museums throughout the United States. Portraits of Mrs. William [Margaret Hinchman] Bonnell and son Clement H. as a young boy, are in the Hunterdon Historical Society's collection (and were pictured in Hunterdon Historical Newslette Volume 6, #2-3, Fall-Winter 1970.)

No close relatives survived Mrs. Moss; her two sisters having previously died leaving no issue. Mrs. C. Edwin (Emily Leigh Tomson) Schanze died in April 14, 1934 at age 37. Miss Helen Leigh Tomson, a life-long resident of Clinton who was active in the family businesses until her death, passed away September 7, 1979

*A man or woman is never truly dead,
so long as a single person
has some knowledge of them.*



Membership Report

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

Alexandria Township Historical Society, Little York, NJ
Mr. and Mrs. Dane Belden, Bloomsbury, NJ
Wendie Ent Gout, New York, NY
Patricia J. Griffith, Doswell, VA
Franklin P. Kreager, Columbus, OH
Liza Miller, Stockton, NJ
Mrs. Agnes M. Nevin, Hackensack, NJ
Mrs. Eleanor B. Powell, Goldsboro, NC
Richard D. Prall, Albuquerque, NM
Somerset County Library, Bridgewater, NJ
Mrs. Mrs. John R. Stone, Edison, NJ
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Sauerland, Stanton, NJ
George J. Tiger, Sr. Family, Gladstone, NJ
Mrs. Lorretta D. Zurn-Sinclair, Inyokern, CA

Mrs. Frederick Stothoff
Membership Secretary

HOW TO JOIN

Hunterdon County Historical Society
114 Main Street
Flemington, New Jersey 08822

Please enroll me as a member of your Society

Annual	\$12.00 per year
Family	\$14.00 per year
Contributing	\$25.00 per year
Sustaining	\$50.00 per year
Institutional	\$50 and up per year
Life	\$200.00
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 _____

Housel Free School

"In the name of God Amen, I William Housel of Reading Township, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey being of sound mind and memory, do make and publish this my last will and testament..."¹ With this act, Mr. Housel set into motion a plan to establish a school endowment that was to last 95 years.

Mr. Housel was apparently a kindhearted man who loved children and recognized the value of a basic formal education especially for the children of the poor. Half the residue of his estate he bequeathed to his executors "to be applied by them to the use and benefit of the school which hereafter shall be kept in the school house near my dwelling house; and in the application thereof, it is my will that proper attention be had to paying the charges made for teaching poor children in said school, and particularly the poor children of religious parents and otherwise to be applied to the use of said school agreeable to the discretion of my executors."² Housel appointed Joseph Hankinson Sr. of Readington Township and John Daws, Sr. of Lebanon Township as his executors. Elizabeth Severs, John Haughawout and Henry Rounsavell witnessed his will which was made on the tenth day of May, 1808 and proved 17 June 1809. William Housel's personal estate, including many notes, totaled \$4,157.03.³

At that point one must realize that there was no public free education in the State. It was not until 1817, 8 years after Housel's death, that the first step was taken by the New Jersey Legislature to provide the means of education by creating a fund for the support of free schools.⁴ William's concern was echoed by the State in 1820 when the townships were first authorized to raise money for school purposes.⁵ "The cause of public education within the state was greatly furthered with the passage of a law that set up New Jersey's first 'formal' school system in 1829... it was the first piece of legislation to result in wide-spread public school development throughout the state."⁶ William Housel was a pioneer of his time.

According to Samuel Swearer, a life-time resident of Stanton and vicinity, the school house at Stanton, known as the Housel Free School in school District 69, was built in 1802 with Asher Stout as the first teacher.⁷ According to the clerk of Stanton in 1876, "the school was carried on by some employer of the district finding a teacher and then going 'round the district with him and getting the employers to sign the number of scholars they would agree to send at a given price per scholar per quarter."⁸

On 28 Nov. 1825, persons who were "associated for the formation of learning and for the support of the school which heretofore hath been and still is kept in the school house near the dwelling house of William Housel" for the purpose of electing members of the association not to exceed seven to serve as trustees, elected Josiah Cole, Wm. Wagoner, Jacob Wagoner, John Yawger and John Demott.⁹ Apparently the new trustees called for an audit of the account kept by Hankinson and Dawes, the trustees as named in the will.¹⁰ The audit showed that the half part

of the residue amounted to \$1023.76 and that was the sum, therefore, willed to the school. Unfortunately part of this sum had been loaned on bonds and mortgages to Herbert and Jacob Hummer who defaulted leaving only \$145 in the hands of the trustees after the teachers had been paid over the years. From 1812 to 1826, the account showed disbursements to the following for "teaching school": Dan'l Ammerman, Jacob Bast, Timothy Orononick/Oronick, Edward Wilmot, William B. Guire, Asher Stout, William Bogart, and David B. Hoffman.

In 1827, the Judges of the Orphans Court appointed Josiah Cole and Oliver H. Ewing as trustees "to execute the trust in as full and ample a manner" as they could. The accounts of Cole and Ewing show payments to teachers, J.J. Stryker and Wm. Bogard. After Cole and Ewing resigned in 1838, the funds were unused and the interest accumulated until 1 June 1836 when the total assets reached \$1,200.41 – more than the original deposit. After the teachers had received their salaries, the balance was \$721.28.

Other teachers were Austin Brush, George W. Cook, A.W. Johnson, Miss Day and Miss Florence Lavellee. It is not clear if the following were teachers although disbursement were paid to them "for tuition": A. Rittenhouse, D.T. Talmadge, O. Bearse, H. Sweet, J.F. Reed, D. Biggs, and John B. Huffman.

Successive trustees administered the estate, namely, John W. Wert (appointed 1847), Joseph Potts (appointed 1856), David Van Fleet (appointed 1883) and finally, Joseph B. Anderson, appointed in 1890. His final account in 1905 shows an equal sum of \$45 as the amount in the account and the total of the disbursements. The funds were finally exhausted.

Phyllis D'Autrechy

NOTES

1. Will Book 1, page 381 etc., Surrogate's Office, Administration Building, Flemington, NJ.
2. Ibid., p. 382.
3. Inventory Book 2, p. 35-36. Surrogate's Office, Administration Building, Flemington, NJ
4. James Snell, *History of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties*, p. 154
Note: In *The History of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties*, page 500, Snell says that this school was named for Jacob Housel who bequeathed \$200 to the trustees by will. A search of other estates definitely indicates the correct name of the benefactor, William Housel.
5. Ibid., 154.
6. Hopewell Township Historic Sites Survey Manuscript. Chapter on Education Institutions. No pages given.
7. Conkling, Cornelius S., County Superintendent of Schools. "History of Schools in Hunterdon County, N Jersey", manuscript, pp. 103-104.
8. Ibid., p. 104.
9. Volume I of Special Deeds, p. 428. County Clerk's Office, Hall of Records, Flemington, NJ
10. Docket #429. Surrogate's Office, Administration Building, Flemington, NJ. All remaining quotes are taken from documents in the file.

FINANCIAL REPORT 1989

Income

Contributions from individuals and George K. Large Foundation	\$ 12,517.00	
Interest on investments and bequests	22,791.16	
Membership dues	6,429.00	
Receipts from sale of maps, books, copier fees collected	1,850.10	
Royalties <i>Hunterdon County Marriage Records...</i>	15.00	
Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage Commission grant	2,550.00	
TOTAL INCOME		\$ 46,052.26

Expenses

Wages	\$ 15,777.36	
Payroll taxes	1,328.87	
Insurance	3,026.17	
Postage and printing	3,567.39	
Utilities	4,013.29	
Services and supplies	1,905.63	
Books, maps, microfilm	996.32	
Dues and meeting expenses	290.00	
Doric House maintenance	6,302.67	
Office supplies and purchase of Equipment*	6,188.40	
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$43,395.50

Excess of income over expenses \$ 2,656.76

There was receipt of a portion of bequest from Gladys Tomson Moss estate in the amount of \$46,058.33 not included in this report.

*Equipment included above was computer system [hardware, software and printer].



NEWSLETTER INDEX FOR SALE

The new index to the *Hunterdon Historical Newsletter* covering Volumes 1 through 25, may be ordered by mail from the Society or picked up at the Headquarters during Library hours, Thursdays and Saturdays 1-3 p.m. Member Marion O. Harris prepares annual revisions of the index to include the previous volume entries. the Society offers the Index for sale for \$5 plus \$1 postage for mail orders.

1990 Calendar

June 2

GENEALOGY AND LOCAL HISTORY BOOK FAIR

Saturday June 2, 9:30 - 4:30,
Monmouth County Library
125 Symmes Drive, Manalapan, NJ
sponsored by Genealogical Society
of New Jersey.
For information call 609-466-9493.
For directions call 201-431-7220.

June 24

SPRING MEETING Hunterdon
County Historical Society Dinner at
historic Perryville Inn 4-7 p.m. For
information call 201-782-1091

September 29

TOUR FLEMINGTON, Third
Annual Museum Association of
Hunterdon County tour, Saturday, 10
a.m. - 4 p.m. For details call 201-
788-1256

November 25

FALL MEETING Hunterdon
County Historical Society
Flemington Womens Club 2 p.m.
"Preserving Family Memorabilia" -
Janet T. Riemer, speaker
For information call 201-782-1091