



Hunterdon Historical Newsletter

VOL. 17 NO. 2

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SPRING 1981

DISCOVERING YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY Subject of June 28 Meeting



1822-1902 Van Dolph School Reunion

The creation of a new course is an exciting, exploratory process. When such a venture includes community cooperation in the learning process, the potential rewards are even greater. Discovering Your Local Community, a semester-length, community-based social studies elective at Hunterdon Central High School, has begun to reap the benefits of such forays into the local environment.

Founded upon the philosophy that cooperative learning is a desired goal of education, this course has three major emphases.

a. To gather, analyze, and disseminate information about the past, present, and future state of the communities in the Hunterdon Central High School district.

b. To preserve desired documents, memoirs, artifacts, and other source materials related to research topics of the course, and

c. To actively involve students in the learning processes connected with community research in primary and secondary sources.

In pursuit of our goals, the students this year were welcomed by the community with open arms. Prior to their initial contacts with community residents, I had cemented cooperative agreements with over 80 groups in Hunterdon County and around the state to make them aware of our goals and procedures.

This planning phase paid rich dividends when students were in need of contacts for oral history tapings, or looking for photos related to their articles. Our resource network provided many personal informants and photo data for virtually every topic this year. As students prepared their research, they utilized tradition-



SPRING MEETING

Sunday, June 28, at 2 p.m.

Flemington Methodist Church
Meeting Room
2 Maple Avenue

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 —

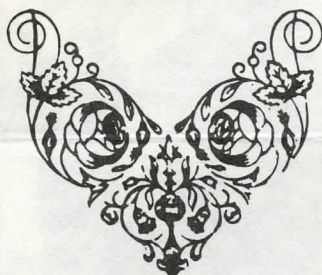
Thursday, 1-3 p.m. and Saturday 1-4 p.m.

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al secondary sources, but often found exciting primary data in local depositories such as the Historical Society library, and local government offices including the County Clerk and Surrogate's files.

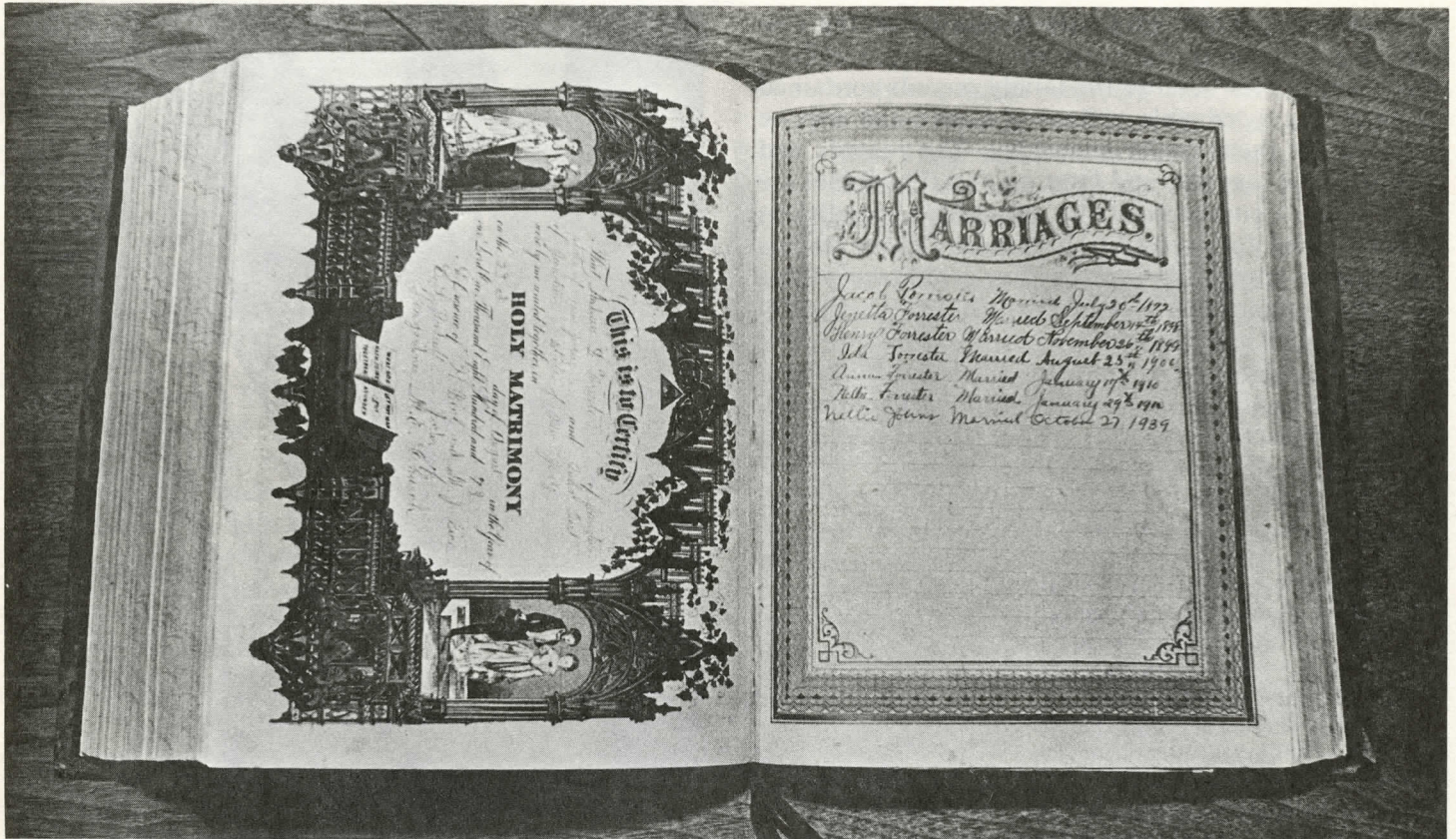
Once research was finalized, students produced their papers, writing for a general audience. After editing and final revisions were completed, all students were instructed in graphics procedures for layout and paste-up of article copy. Simultaneously, they worked on committees to select editorial, distribution, photo/art, and evaluation guidelines for the publication. Taking cues from selected student magazines gathered from schools as far away as Australia, and as close to home as West Long Branch, the students designed a publication to their own specifications. They truly created *their own publication*, and should be justifiably proud of it. Perhaps the most telling statements about the impact of *Exploring Hunterdon's Heritage* are contained in the laudatory comments from school and community, as well as the public and private sectors. Of the close to 500 printed, all were sold within three weeks of its premiere. 250 were distributed gratis to cooperating network groups, individuals and groups who aided in some way the completion of the publication, and to schools who exchanged their publications with ours.

In the manner of spring flowers, our efforts have blossomed into a series of outreach activities, befitting a community-based course. We believe we are providing a public service; our presentations to local elementary school classes, university seminars, social studies conferences, and to the larger community via local media are ample evidence of this commitment. We hope that all of you can find time to assist us in our inquiries at some time in the future. Our topics for the coming school year (1981-2) will be published in the Historical Society Newsletter sometime during the fall, and we welcome your cooperation. We hope you will join us at the Society's Spring Meeting as we discover the riches of our local communities. The time is Sunday, June 28, at 2 p.m. The place — the Flemington Methodist Church.

For further information, contact:

William R. Fernekes, Instructor
Discovering Your Local Community
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(201) 782-5727, ext. 170
(201) 788-5934 (home)





Courtesy of Hunterdon County Democrat

Society Receives 1873 Bible Rescued From Rubbish

Last June (1980) a student at Kalaheo High School, Kailua, Hawaii picked from a pile of old books on that Island a family Bible. He took it to his teacher, Sandy LeCalle. On the cover of the Bible, stamped in gold, she noted, "A. & J. Forrester." It was printed in Philadelphia in 1874 and contained the listing of births, deaths, marriages, tintype photographs, and a marriage certificate. The certificate confirmed the marriage of Andrew D. Forester and Julia Best, both of Junction, New Jersey, on August 23, 1873. Witnesses to the wedding were H. Bice and M.J. Bice and the ceremony was performed by Reverend C.J. Woodruff, pastor of the Glen Gardner Methodist Episcopal Church.

Anxious to unravel the history and ownership of the bible Mrs. LeCalle, and her husband Tony, contacted a local newspaper, the *Kaimuki-Kahala Sun Press*, which ran a story and photograph of the reclaimed Bible on June 25, 1980. Someone who knew of her interest in Glen Gardner because of her Gardner ancestry, sent the clipping of the story to Mrs. Edgar Vail, Stanton, a member of the *Hunterdon County Historical Society*. Mrs. Vail gave the clipping to Trustee Roxanne K. Carkhuff. The Forester family's roots in Hunterdon prompted Mrs. Carkhuff to write the LeCalles asking them if they would consider donating the Bible to the Society. In her letter she related what information she had been able to find on the family including the record of John Forester's will, admitted

for probate in June 1890. In this document, recorded in the Hunterdon County Surrogate's office, Andrew Forester is named as one of the heirs. He is the A. Forrester whose name is on the Bible's cover. Interestingly, the name is spelled several ways within the handwritten entries in the Bible.

The LeCalles replied in December they would be pleased to send the Bible to the Society and would do so after the holidays. Because of the size and weight — 4 inches thick, weighing approximately 10 lbs. — Mr. LeCalle suggested it be shipped United Parcel, and made arrangements for the package to be picked up. However, when a representative arrived to pick it up, he declined to accept it for shipment because it was "irreplaceable." The Bible was finally mailed and arrived at the Society headquarters on March 22, 1981, in a package marked "High Priority."

Eagerly awaiting its arrival was Mrs. Muriel Henckler. She had visited the Society in February researching her family tree and one of the families from whom she descended was Forester. Andrew D. and Julia (Best) Forester had several children, including Jacob B., Mrs. Henckler's grandfather. Nine of Jacob's children live in New Jersey today. One of them, Mrs. Hazel Gaynor, has visited the Society and looked through the Bible. It was hoped she would be able to identify some of the young men whose pictures had been placed inside the book, but she did not remember any of them.

The late Hiram E. Deats, Librarian of the Historical Society until his death in 1963, began collecting family Bibles because the family records contained in them are a valuable reference source for anyone working on their family genealogy. The records and title page are xeroxed and kept on file. The Bibles are kept under environmentally controlled conditions recommended for preservation of them. If our readers have Bibles containing records they would be willing to share, contact the Society about having the family records copied and filed.

The family records from the Forrester bible have been copied and are printed here. The family name appears spelled two ways within the records and yet a third way on the cover of the Bible.

BIRTHS

Andrew D. Forester born January 15, 1852
 Julia A. Forester born December 25, 1851
 Jenetta Forester born June 8, 1874
 Jacob B. Forester born March 2, 1871
 Ida Forester born January 2, 1876
 William R. Forester born May 8, 1877
 Henry Forester born September 22, 1879
 Anna Forester born April 2, 1881
 Grace Forester born April 7, 1884
 Nellie Forester born July 2, 1889
 Frederick Forrester born Jan'y, 17, 1891
 Benjamin F. Johns born March 16, 1887
 Ernest Martin Casselman born March 1, 1892

MARRIAGES

Jacob Forrester married July 20, 1892
 Jenetta Forrester married September 14, 1898
 Henry Forrester married November 26, 1899
 Ida Forrester married August 25, 1900
 Anna Forrester married January 17, 1910
 Nellie Forrester married January 29, 1913
 Nellie Johns married Oct. 27, 1939

DEATHS

Andrew D. Forrester died Aug. 5, 1892
 Frederick Forrester died Sept. 6, 1892
 William R. Forrester died Oct. 3, 1897
 Henry Forrester died March 6, 1910
 Julia A. Forrester died December 31, 1927
 Benjamin F. Johns died July 8, 1937
 Anna F. Letts died May 5, 1946
 Jacob B. Forrester died December 5, 1931
 Annie Letts died May 6, 1946
 Grace Forrester died February 7, 1953
 Harry Letts died April 8, 1953
 Jenett Trowbridge died January 13, 1956
 Ernie Casselman died August 18, 1958
 Ida Garland died November 19, 1961



Courtesy of Hunterdon County Democrat
 Trustee Roxanne K. Carkhuff removing the Forister Bible from the packing box.



For the history minded on your gift list, remember the Society's reprints.

History of Hunterdon & Somerset Counties, New Jersey, James P. Snell, \$47.50 (Postage \$2.).

Atlas of Hunterdon Co. New Jersey, F.W. Beers, 1873, \$25.00 (Postage \$1.).

History of East Amwell, 1700-1800, East Amwell Bicentennial Committee, \$18.50 (Postage \$1.).

These books may be ordered by mail or picked up at the Society headquarters. On mail orders, please add postage as above.



THE FLEMINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH: A HISTORY

When I initially explored Flemington, the first historical building I noticed was the Flemington Baptist Church. I felt there should be many historical events that must have happened at this church in the past.

It was in the year 1765, ten years before the first gun of the Revolution was fired, when Thomas Lowrey and James Eddy gave half an acre of land for a Baptist meeting-house. The land was then situated on the northeast corner of Flemington's main street and the New Brunswick and Somerville roads.¹

Under the direction of Thomas Lowrey, James Eddy, Gershom Lee, Jonathan Higgins, John Hewell and others, the first Baptist meeting-house was erected in 1766 in Amwell Township. Since 1838, when Amwell was divided, the church has defined its location as Raritan Township. At that time, it was not yet a regularly-constituted church. It was originally called "Baptist Meeting of Amwell", and this title was later changed to "Baptist Church of Flemington" in 1853. At this time there were probably not even ten houses in the community. Members came to Sunday worship in farm wagons, on horseback and on foot from a radius of about ten miles.² Circuit-riding pastors were supplied from the Hopewell and Kingwood churches.

"In the beginning, our history tells us that the very first people who preached in the church were circuit-riders," stated Mrs. Katherine Bamber, a long-time member of the church. "That is, to go on horseback and be at one church on a Sunday and I guess ride in another community and have service somewhere else."³

Reverend David Sutton, who was a Kingwood resident, led the congregation during the Revolutionary War. However, he was finally shut out of the meeting-house because he was thought to be too favorable to the British. About that time, colonial soldiers were using the church as a barrack and hospital.⁴ It was believed that the marks of their firearms were visible on the church floor as late as 1825. Following Sutton came Reverend Nicholas Cox, who was said to be a minister of considerable talents, also from Kingwood Township. But in 1790-91, he declared himself a Universalist. This was a great shock and prostrated the church membership for some time.

For the next four years, there was but little preaching, until the arrival of Reverend J. Ewing of Hopewell, who was followed in 1795 by the Reverend G.A. Hunt of Kingwood, who engaged with the church for one-third of his time. During this period, with the meeting-house almost in ruins, the house was repaired, but on June 19,

1798, fifteen persons officially constituted themselves a regular Baptist Church. Among the names of these original members were Nathaniel Higgins, William Merrell, Jane Merrell, Elizabeth Manners, Anna Higgins, Sarah Sutphin, Hannah Wolverton, Rachel Manners, Elizabeth Yard, Anna Craven and Margaret Wilson.

Soon thereafter, they elected their deacons, their clerk and a board of trustees. Reverend G.A. Hunt baptized fifty during his pastorage which he resigned in the fall of 1803. They then called on Reverend James McLaughlin as their minister. He officiated until 1809 when he was succeeded by Reverend D. Sweeney.

On February 1, 1812, they called on Reverend Bartollette who at that time also helped free negroes by giving public lectures. He was a long-time proponent of colonization of free negroes, since he believed they would never have equal privileges.⁵

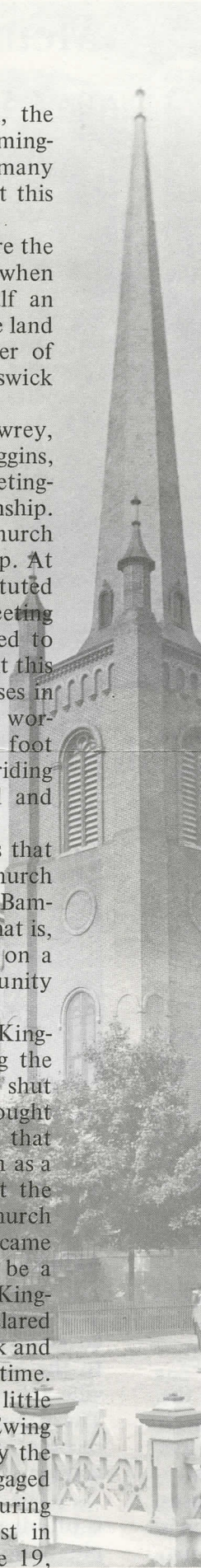
In 1836 prosperous times blessed the country and the second church was built. But times which had been good turned suddenly sour. In 1837 depression gripped the countryside.⁶ Around this time instrumental music was introduced into the church; not without opposition, however. Instrumental church music was [temporarily] halted when some unknown persons stole the bass viol!

The church was growing steadily. In 1868 a new church, the third structure in point of time, was erected. This was by far the largest structure for divine worship in the county. It had a seating capacity of one thousand. By the early 1920's, churches also served as cultural centers. For instance, when nationally known soprano Anna Case came to Flemington, she gave a recital in the Flemington Baptist Church because no other church in town was equipped to seat at least a thousand people. She sang to standing-room only crowds; and over one thousand people attended.⁷

Tragedy struck on New Year's day in 1926, when this beautiful church with the area's highest steeple was gutted by fire. It was allegedly due to faulty wiring. The conflagration totally destroyed the roof, steeple, furniture and the organs. Good neighbors and townspeople pitched in with help and support. For awhile Baptist Church services were held in the local high school auditorium.⁸

In two years, the new Baptist Church was erected in a colonial brick design which was smaller than the previous church. The church also included Sunday-formed school among its activities; not only for candidates for the ministry, but also for children who wanted to learn about prayer, worship and bible reading.

Since 1928, not only has the church physically changed, but it has done so in other areas as well. Members were said to be more tolerant;



for example, the drinking of alcoholic beverages currently is just a matter of conscience. Also, hymns sung today are more in tune with the likes and dislikes of young people.⁹

CONCLUSION

The church members can look back with some humility and pride to the leadership which the church has supplied to its members on the community, state and national levels. Presently, a major focus of the church is to help the needy, providing things which they can not get otherwise. This form of Christian appreciation has been a continuing story for more than two hundred years, following the way of Jesus Christ, Our Lord.

FOOTNOTES

1. James Snell, *History of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties*, [Philadelphia, 1881], p. 318.
2. Pamphlet, [Flemington, NJ: Flemington Baptist Church], p. 2.
3. Interview with Mrs. Katherine Bamber, Dec. 8, 1980.
4. James Snell, *History of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties*, [Philadelphia, 1881], pp. 318-319.
5. Hubert Schmidt, *Rural Hunterdon*, [New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1945], p. 255.
6. Pamphlet, [Flemington, NJ: Flemington Baptist Church], p. 5.
7. Interview with Mrs. Katherine Bamber, Dec. 8, 1980.
8. Pamphlet, [Flemington, NJ: Flemington Baptist Church], p. 13.
9. Interview with Mrs. Katherine Bamber, Dec. 8, 1980.

Conrad Tan

EDITORS NOTE: Reprinted from "Exploring Hunterdon's Heritage" Vol. I, No. 1, by permission of author and Wm. R. Fernekes, Instructor. Conrad Tan is an exchange student from the Phillipine Islands.



RECENT ACQUISITIONS FOR MICROFILM LIBRARY

Numerous rolls of U.S. Federal census for Hunterdon, Somerset and Mercer Counties have recently been donated to the Society.

1900 Hunterdon County	Mrs. G.E. Carkhuff
Mercer County	Mrs. T.M. D'Autrechy
Monmouth County	Mrs. Harry J. Errickson
Somerset County	Miss Virginia Everitt
1870 Somerset County	Mr. & Mrs. Charles Dilley
1860 Mercer County	Mrs. T.M. D'Autrechy
Somerset County	Mr. & Mrs. Charles Dilley
1850 Mercer County	Mrs. T.M. D'Autrechy
Somerset County	Mr. & Mrs. Charles Dilley

These census records are available for use at the Society's library, staffed by volunteer library research aides. It is open to the public Thursdays and Saturdays from 1 to 3 p.m. and at other times by appointment.

It is hoped we can eventually acquire the census records to complete Somerset County and Morris County, New Jersey and Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

Membership Report

The Society welcomes the following new members:

Rodney Bates, Lambertville, NJ
 Mrs. Dorothy Barney, Milford, NJ
 Ewart D. Bowlby, Ottawa, Canada
 Ms. Margaret Buchanan, Flemington, NJ
 Suzanne A. Bush, Casper, WY
 Mr. & Mrs. Hans Peter Buttner, Laurence Harbor, NJ
 David B. Hipschman, Stockton, NJ
 Mrs. W.E. Knouse, Lambertville, NJ
 Mrs. Gail K. Miller, Springfield, VA
 Mr. & Mrs. Foster L. Potter, Galien, MI
 James J. Ringo, Somerville, NJ
 Mr. & Mrs. Donald W. Rose, Roseau, MN

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 \$9.00
 Family \$10.00
 Contributing \$25.00
 Sustaining \$50.00
 Institutional \$100.00 and up per year
 Life \$150.00
 Student \$1.00 (18 years of age or less)

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

Name

Address

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AMWELL MINUTE BOOK MICROFILMED

Volume A of the Records of Amwell Township, covering the years 1747 through 1798 was presented to the Society last year by James Siuta of Lambertville. (*Hunterdon Historical Newsletter* Vol. 16, No. 2). The volume contains records of town meetings, road records, earmarks, and Overseer of the Poor transactions.

The book has been microfilmed and the Society is offering copies of the film for sale. The price is \$20 plus \$1 postage on orders to be mailed.

NOTES and QUERIES

Address correspondence to Genalogical Committee. Listing of ten lines free to members, non-member rate is 25¢ per line.

ROBBINS, STOUT, THATCHER: John Taylor d. 1779 Kingwood Twp., w Sarah ____ d. ? Children: Edward m. Rebecca Stout; Anna m. Jeremiah Thatcher; Margaret m. Wm. Thatcher; Elizabeth m. ____ Robbins; Thomas m. Hannah ____, d. 1760 Amwell; John m. Elizabeth Thatcher. Would like missing info & chil. for Edward, Elizabeth and Thomas. ADD: Alana Bauman, P.O. Box 35, DeMotte, IN 46310.

FELVER, SUTTON: George, Samuel, Frederick, John, Moses, George Felver, Jr., and Mary, Nathen, and Joshua Sutton. Have info on Felters and Suttons after they left NJ for OH. Will be happy to share. ADD: Robert Farmer, 1740 W. 275 S, Lafayette, IN 47905.

APGAR: Seventh annual Apgar reunion Saturday, September 19, 1981, Cokesbury United Methodist Church, Cokesbury, NJ. For more information on the reunion and the proposed book to be printed on the Apgar family write George Apgar, Jr., 416 Runyon Ave., Middlesex, NJ 08846.

AYERS, HUMMER, MARTIN, SWAYZE: Margaret Martin m. Jacob Hummer 22 May 1786, d. 7 April 1830, prob. Warren Co., NJ. Who were her parents? Was she widow when she m. Jacob? Where is she buried? Joseph Swayze, s/o Barnabas (1715-1779) & Phebe Ayers Swayze, and f/o Christopher (1763-1827), what date was he born? died? and who were his wives? Who were his other children? Who were Phebe Ayers' parents? ADD: Mrs. Dorothy Shamblin, 662 Oxford Oaks Lane, Oxford, MI 48051.

DAYRYMPLE, DILTS, LATOURETTE, MOORE, ROWLAND, THATCHER: Desire info re. Martha Rowland b. 1846, lived with Sarah Thatcher, m. George Dalrymple 1850. Her sisters Eliz. m. Latourette, Caroline m. Reading Dilts, cousin Lizzie Aller lived Flemington 1861-63. Need location variety store owned by John Reading Moore, Main St., Flemington. ADD: Roberta Thatcher Watts, 643 Terhune Drive, Wayne, NJ 07470.

CHOYCE: Would like to buy an 1800's edition of *The Log Of A Jack Tar* by James Choyce. Publisher was T. Fisher Unwin, London. Not interested in facsimile copy. ADD: Mrs. Betty Choyce Sheehan, P.O. Box 183, Easthampton, MA 01027.

BELLIS/BELESVELT: Need info re Johannes Bellis (Belesvelt), b. ca. 1702 Germany. Need wife's name, date of death, burial site. Also Barnet Bellis, son of above, b. ca. 1730 Germany. d. 1810. Wife's first name Mary. Children Philip, Peter, Mary and John. Need wife's last name and Barnet's burial site. ADD: V.J. Bellis, 123 Early St., Fayetteville, NC 28301.

GOSS, SNOOK: Looking for any info re Peter Snook (1758-1837), b., d. Hunterdon Co., m. Maria Goss. Need all info on Goss. ADD: Mrs. Jane Walker, 4531 Ashton Dr., Sacramento, CA 95825.

AUMACK, HOFFMAN, VAN ATTA, WOOLEVER: Exch. info on Andrew Aumack and dau. Tetha, who m. Aaron Van Atta 16 May 1791; all Van Attas, esp. prior to mid-1800's, in Hunterdon-Warren-Sussex area; seek par., other fam/o John Woolever, b. ca. 1794, m. Catherine Hoffman 7 April 1815

Sussex Co. ADD: Robert B. VAn Atta, 619 Longview St., Greensburg, PA 15601.

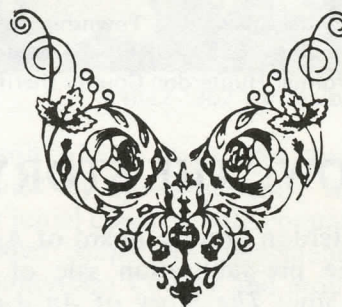
MOORE/MOOR: Need info re. p/o James Gordon Moore b. 29 May 1873, d. 9 Jan. 1905; p., w/o John Rodenbar Moor b. 2 Spet 1823; p., w/o Edmund J. Moor b. 13 July 1850; p., w/o John F.M. Moor b. 8 May 1858; p., w/o George C. Moor b. 5 Feb. 1795 St. Louis, MO to NJ. Am trying to establish their relationships. ADD: Mrs. Gail Miller, 9103 Fisteris Ct., Springfield, VA 22152.

BLOOM, CASE, DALRYMPLE: Seeking info on Jacob Bloom (1774-1841) and his desc. including Mary B. Case (1810-1898), Isaac Bloom (1796-1879), Elizabeth B. Dalrymple (1820-1904). Postage guaranteed. ADD: Clyde Dalrymple Bloom, 3711 Timberlane Drive, Easton, PA 18042.

COMFORT, FURMAN, HUNT, LEWIS, NORTH, TITUS: Seeking North, Comfort & Lewis families of Hunterdon Co. Esp. interested in Amwell, Hopewell, Bethlehem areas. Related to Titus, Hunt, Furman fam. of Long Island. Relatives of these fam. lived Orange & Ulster Cos., NY Thomas & Zerobabel North liv. Scotch Plains 1749, Shrewsbury 1778. Then where? Hunterdon Co.? ADD: Mrs. Helen Lewis, 2151 Livernois, Howell, MI 48843.

BUNN, MININGER, WALKER: Desire info re. Philip Warren Bunn b. ca. 1826; dates & places of births, marriages, and/or deaths and burial locations; m. 1 ____ Walker, m. 2 Berthania Mininger. P. Lawrence Bunn, II b. ca. 1780, Lydia ____ b. ca. 1788 (1850 in Hunterdon Co., Tewksbury Twp.), P. Lawrence Bunn, I, ____ (1778-80 in Hunterdon Co., Tewksbury Twp.), P. Garret Bunn d. ca. 1750, Mary ____ (Somerset Co.) ADD: Pamela J. Bunn, 12628 Sonora Rd., San Diego, CA 92128.

Anyone with information on a book, *A Forest of Family Trees* by John F. Lokerson please contact Duane Oakerson, R.R. 1, Winchester, IN 47394.



CALENDAR



June 28, 1981: SPRING MEETING
"Discovering Your Local Community"
Hunterdon Central High School students

November 22, 1981: FALL MEETING
Empire Cut Glass Co. in Flemington
Speaker — William Iorio



SUMMER 1908

Four members of the Alexandria Township road crew show off their handsome team of six horses in this 1908 photograph at the Mt. Pleasant general store. Seated on the grader in the rear are John Severs and John Pickel. The other men are Newton Rea and William Wean, a former Hunterdon County sheriff. The photo is the gift to the Society of Mrs. George Allen of Mt. Pleasant.

AS YE SOW: THE STORY OF AN AMERICAN RURAL COMMUNITY

The Hunterdon County Board of Agriculture has announced the pre-publication sale of its historical book, *As Ye Sow: The Story of An American Rural Community*, which is scheduled for publication this summer. The result of more than two years of research and writing, the book features the wide-ranging activities of the Board from its reorganization in 1915 to the present. Half of the 11 chapters are devoted to the history of Hunterdon farming in general.

Mrs. Melda Snyder, chairman of the book sales committee, said that the pre-publication price is \$12. The price at publication will be \$15. Copies may be reserved by sending a check to: The Hunterdon County Board of Agriculture, R.D. 6, Box 48, Flemington, N.J. 08822. Purchasers who want their copies mailed must add \$2.00 for postage and handling (\$14.00 total).

As Ye Sow, bound with hard cover and illustrated with more than 180 photographs, charts, graphs and

other artwork, will contain 240 pages, complete with bibliography and a detailed index. The book was researched and written by Louis Kovi, a Ringoes resident who is a journalist and author and whose family has been in farming for half a century. Kovi's work was made possible through a public service employment project granted to the Board of Agriculture by the federal Comprehensive Employment and Training Act.

The writer interviewed dozens of key farm officials in Hunterdon and the state, combed the files of the County Board of Agriculture, and talked to farm families that have lived in the county for generations.

"The book is an exciting, humorous, entertaining and nostalgic narrative which we believe anyone interested in Hunterdon County, its past and its future, will want to have in their home," Mrs. Snyder continued.

— By Richard F. Hixson