

HIGHTSTOWN

NEW



JERSEY

EAST WINDSOR

HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2005

Who Was the Real Molly Pitcher?

Un Sunday, January 16th, at 1:30PM, the Hightstown-East Windsor Historical Society will hold its Annual Dinner Meeting. Once again, we will be returning to the Peddie Campus, at the Longstreet Library Building, which is located next to Kalamanthia House. This year's meal will be a catered special buffet dinner.

The speaker this year will be Dr. David Martin, a long-time member of our Society. At various times in the 1980s, he has held the positions of President, Treasurer, and Librarian. He has been teaching Latin at Peddie since 1975, and has been their Archivist since 1984. His research passion though is

history! He has written over twenty (20) books on the Civil War and the American Revolution, along with numerous articles and reviews for a number of historical magazines. He is also the editor of Longstreet Publishers, an officer in the Sons of the American Revolution, the Union Veterans of the Civil War, the Friends of the Monmouth Battlefield, and the Swan Foundation Museum at Washington Crossing.

Dr. Martin will be speaking to us on the topic of his most recent book, "A Molly Pitcher Sourcebook," which is a collection of primary source material on the popular heroine of the battle of Monmouth in June of 1778. In his book, he critically evaluates each source

and tries to interpret all of the conflicting evidence surrounding this heroine. Believe it or not, this is the only full book ever written on the subject. Hear the evidence and you decide for yourself. Who was the real Molly Pitcher?

The Society invites everyone to join us for a great meal and an interesting program on the heroine of one of the major battles and turning points in the American Revolution. The cost of the program and meal is \$25 per person and all reservation checks are to be made payable to "H.E.W. Historical Society" and sent in c/o Shirley Olsen, 6 Farr Avenue, Hightstown, NJ, 08520 (609-448-8388).



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY

- 3 Business Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Sara Hutchinson West Educational Center
- 16 Annual Banquet, Longstreet House, Peddie Campus

FEBRUARY

- 7 Business Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Sara Hutchinson West Educational Center

Errata

It has been brought to my attention by Virginia Embly, of Bradenton, FL, that in the last issue of the newsletter (Nov-Dec 2004) there is an error in the second paragraph of the article relating to the parents of Lue Reed Middlebrook.

Upon further research, I have found the following:

1. Olmstead Reed was married twice. His first marriage was reported on 22 March 1860: **Married** - By Rev. L. Smith, on the 8th inst., Mr. Olmstead H. Reed of Hightstown to Miss Mary V., daughter of John V. Anderson, Esq.

2. 20 April, 1899 - Mrs. Mary V. Reed, widow of Olmstead H. Reed, died on Saturday at her home on North Main Street, from apoplexy. She leaves two daughters, Mrs. Luella Middlebrook of National City, California and Mrs. Julia Thomas of Hightstown, and three sons- Dr. Benjamin H. Reed, Alberto Reed and Olmstead H. Reed, all of Hightstown. She was a member of the Hightstown Baptist Church. Interment at Cedar Hill Cemetery.

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'Tis The Season...To Eat More Than You Should

by Richard S. Hutchinson

As we all know, Christmas is a wonderful time to be with family, entertain, go to parties, see old friends, etc. However, each one of these functions usually entails eating breakfasts, snacks, lunches, snacks, dinners, snacks and more snacks. And, if your mother happens to be with you, you are likely to hear - 'have some more,' 'you haven't had anything,' 'it's good for you,' 'eat your vegetables.' Sound familiar?

Well, whatever you do, make sure you do join in, eat, and have fun. However, you better be careful or you may wind up with a problem like this.

28 May 1891 - "Mrs. Margaret Mulhane, whose remains were interred in New York Sunday, weighed 610 pounds. The corpse was carried from the house by 12 brawny men and an undertaker's wagon bore it to the cemetery, no hearse being large or strong enough. A double grave was needed, and it required the strength of 16 men to lower the body safely."

20 March 1913 - "Maliesa Cooper, colored, died recently at Grayson, Gwinnett County, Georgia. She was probably the heaviest woman in the world. She weighed 613 pounds when she died. She was so heavy that it took 14 stout men to handle her coffin. Her neck just before death measured exactly one yard around and her waist was 111 inches in circumference."

Enjoy your Christmas dinner.

Museum Acquisitions 2003-2004

M2003.01 - Decker's Creamer Bottle, Donated by Skip Cox

M2003.02 - Old Rights Serving Plate, Donated by Gladys Winklehoffer

M2003.03 - Silver Fox Furs, Donated by Gladys Winklehoffer

M2003.04 - Wedding Gown, lace created by Hightstown Lace Works. Donated by Gladys Winklehoffer

M2003.05 - Lady's Black Umbrella/ Parasol (circa 1895) Donated by Janet & Warren Field, Monroe Twp

M2003.06 - Cunningham Pharmacy Bag

M2003.07 - 1st Presbyterian Church Plate donated by Marcia Kisela

M2003.08 - Antique Steamer Trunk donated by Bill Gumersell

M2003.09 - Portrait of Benjamin Reed 25 1/2" W X 31" T (Framed); Black/White illustration. Donated by Susan

Kollmar 4310 Wesley Lane North Port Florida 34287 Good condition, two damage holes; one is about 1/2 " in diameter in upper right quad, the other is 1/4" in diameter in lower left quad. Neither detract from the portrait. The frame is old wood and painted gold. The portrait came from a home on Franklin street, an estate auction. It is suspected that it was one of Mr. Reed's

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Errata, continued from page 1

3. 19 March 1908 - At the home of Mr. & Mrs. Bert D. Thomas, on Morrison Avenue, Miss Eva M. Shotwell, daughter of Thomas Shotwell, was married to Olmstead A. [H?] Reed, by Rev. O.P. Eaches, on Thursday last.

HIGHTSTOWN EAST WINDSOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Hightstown, New Jersey
founded 1971

609-371-9580

To educate, while preserving for future generations, our people and our community's history.

Editor, Richard S. Hutchinson

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Genealogical queries pertaining to the Hightstown-East Windsor Township area are accepted, but will be printed as space allows.

Typeset by Cori Hutchinson Quinlan
Quinlan Processing 609-888-4028

President's Message

I don't mean to brag, but I just have to tell you all that this year's Christmas tea was quite a treat.

The ly House never looked better, thanks to Dale Grubb, Shirley Olsen, Nicole L'vov, Cathy Simmons, Robin Smith, Lynne Wallace, Nancy Laudenberger, Sue Howard and Carolyn Thompson. They spent hours decking the halls, parlors, and the dining room. Dilys and Mel Henninger provided the Christmas tree, and Karin Mitchell lent us a beautiful Christmas village, which sat on the piano across from the train set, operated by Ron Niebo. Eileen Couturier's collection of Santa's looked out from the nearby display cabinet (one of two) that Skip Cox "wheedled" away from a generous antique's dealer in Hopewell. Nancy Laudenberger's Christmas figurines clustered gracefully on mantle-tops and tabletops while Nicole L'vov's collection of Russian dolls and her many, many decorations filled the house with interest and color. Pam WillEtt provided the greens and a swag, and Mary Mastoris made a lovely wreath for the front door.

The cookies were provided by Jane Cox, Cathy & Dick Simmons, Marion Rock, Nichole L'vov, Suzanne Speer, Fran Cook, and Elaine Vallaster. As usual, Eileen Couturier made her delicious mulled cider.

Guests heard Christmas music played by the Brass Choir of the First Presbyterian Church of Cranbury and a group of young people from the First Presbyterian Church of Hightstown.

Thanks to all of you who helped with the event and to all of you who came for a visit to our special house. I hope to see you all again at the Longstreet Library at Peddie for the Annual Dinner Meeting on January 16th at 1:30PM.

Join today, become a member!

Individual Membership
\$20.00

Family Membership
\$25.00

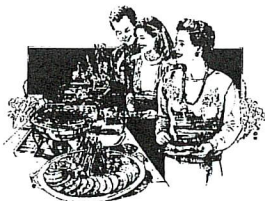
Booster/Patron
Membership
\$40.00

Sustaining Membership
\$50.00

Life (individual) Membership
\$200.00

Life (married) Membership
\$275.00

ANNUAL BANQUET



Longstreet Library

Peddie Campus (next to Kalamathia House)

Hightstown, NJ

Sunday, January 16, 2004 ♦ 1:30 p.m.

\$25.00 per person

Catered Special Buffet Menu

*Send reservations with check payable to: "H.E.W. Historical Society" to:
Shirley Olsen, 6 Farr Avenue, Hightstown, NJ 08520 (609-448-8388)*

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: (____) _____

Acquisitions, continued from page 3

homes. Also, Ms. Kollmar said she was approached at the time by a historical society member who told her whom the portrait was of and if she would donate it at a later time. She is fulfilling her promise. Mrs. Kollmar originally lived in Perrineville. She is now in Florida.

M2003.10 - Silver Tray Donated by Janet & Warren Field, Monroe Twp. NJ 08831

M2004.01 - "Conquerors of Yellow Fever" a print donated by Skip Cox, was in his father's office. Dr. Cox

M2004.02 - Quilt: 61" X 43" Donated by Fran Cook

M2004.03 - Quilt: 63" X 19 1/2 " Donated by Fran Cook

M2004.04 - Quilt: 39" X 120" Donated by Fran Cook

M2004.05 - Conover Guernsey Dairy uniform, donated in memory of Tim Conover by Mr. & Mrs. Cliff Conover

M2004.06 - Conover Dairy Truck Bank, plastic bank. In memory of Tim Conover by Mr. & Mrs. Cliff Conover



08522044505 26

15 months to tonight
in my life I remember
it needed
12/30 call to Margaret
Vinton & Marielle Taylor
108 Harron Ave
Hightstown NJ 08520

12/30

426

Hightstown-East Windsor
Historical Society
164 North Main Street
Hightstown, New Jersey 08520

6-17-74
1302
497
X

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