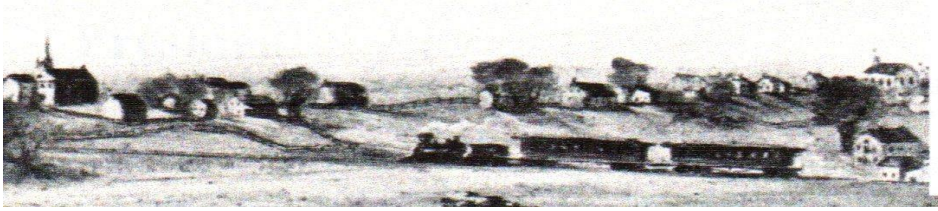


Madison Historical Society

Madison, N.J



April 2022
4th edition 2021-2022

100th Anniversary of the Madison Historical Society

MUSEUM FINDS A HOME !!!

For years the Madison Historical Society has sought to establish a museum to tell the story of Bottle Hill and the Borough of Madison. On February 28 that effort came to fruition when the Borough Council approved a lease agreement enabling the society to utilize the first floor of the east wing of the Hartley Dodge Memorial for the museum where the old court room was located.



Madison Mayor Bob Conley and Historical Society President Ginnie Laughlin sign the official lease enabling the Madison Historical Society to establish a museum in the east wing of the Hartley Dodge Memorial.

The lease is for twenty-five years subject to renewal. From a recent large bequeath the Society provides \$500,000 to help in the renovation of the east wing. The cost of the museum itself, e.g. display cases, artifacts, furniture, etc., will be responsibility of the historical society. The timeline for completion of the east wing renovation and the museum itself has not been firmly established.

Currently the society has two storage units holding a collection of larger artifacts such as furniture and large paintings. In addition, a significant number of unframed photographs,

historical documents and other smaller items are held in the climate-controlled facility at the Madison Public Library. These items will reflect some of the major historical trends, events and people including Madison's participation in the American Revolution, the waves of immigrant populations enriching the community, the coming of the railroad and, of course the enormous rose industry so critical to the economic growth of the borough. As of now, the plans are for the museum to be open to the public two day a week with the opportunity to also be open for special occasions like workshops and fundraising events.

Historical Society Officers

President

Virginia Laughlin

Vice President

Dave Luber

Corresponding Secretary

Herman Huber

Recording Secretary

Anne Meyer

Treasurer

Jim Malcolm

Custodian

Kate Malcolm

Historian

Nikolina Uzicanin

Membership Chair

Judy Seery

Museum Chair

Susan Simon

Newsletter Editor

Doug Simon

Trustees

Nancy Adamczyk

Linda Connors

Howard Craig

Robert Dunne

Rebecca Fields

Johanna Glazewski

Laurie Hagerich

Noreen McManus

Susan Simon

Dorothy Pietrowski

(Emeritus)



Message From President Virginia Laughlin

Please take note, there are some big doings taking place at the Historical Society! As you will read in this issue, the Society has secured a home for the Madison History Museum and work has begun to plan, renovate and build a museum that will make Madison proud. And as luck would have it, the agreement and announcement has come as we enter our 100th year. What better way to celebrate such an occasion?

But wait, there is more! Read ahead to learn of the many more activities planned to celebrate our 100th Anniversary. From banners to lectures to a new history book, we hope, by the end of the year, to make all of Madison familiar with who we are and what we do.

There will be a lot of work to do this year on these new projects and would like to encourage anyone who is interested in or has experience with any of our undertakings to come forward to help out.

Society Membership

Current memberships in the historical society stands at 96 consisting of 139 members. We welcome six new members thus far in 2022 -Peter Hiscano of Madison, Blair Conley of Madison, Patricia and Martha Wells of Chatham and Andrew and Shelly Lettington of Berkeley Heights. Members receive a 10% saving on all items for sale.

If you know someone who you think might like to be a member, reach out to them and let them know that they can contact us at historicalsociety@rosenet.org or by phone on Tuesdays at 973-377-0722 x8.

Program for April

April 19, 7:00 pm On Zoom

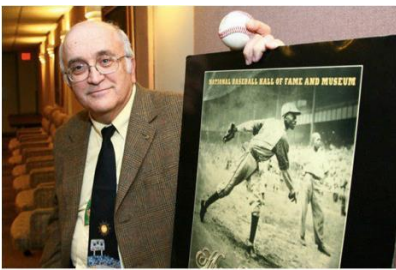
“Before You Can Say Jackie Robinson: Black Baseball in America in the Era of the Color Line”

Presented by

Dr. Lawrence Hogan and Kevin Kane



Dr. Lawrence Hogan



Dr. Lawrence Hogan is Professor Emeritus of History from Union County College in New Jersey, author of *The Forgotten History of African American Baseball*, and principal author and editor of *Shades of Glory* published by National Geographic, as well as several other books on the history of Blacks in America. He is Executive Director of the documentary *Before You Can Say Jackie Robinson: Black Baseball in America in the Era of the Color Line*. His exhibit on the history of Black baseball has been shown at sites throughout the country. His manuscript *Harlem's First Citizen: John Howard Johnson, A Priest, and his People, in the Harlem that was their*

Home has been accepted for publication by Syracuse University Press.

Kevin Kane

Kevin Kane has made the better part of his living as a writer, musician and playwright. His Negro League version of “Casey at the Bat”, called “Breaking the Line with the Mudville Nine” was written for and first performed at the Cooperstown Baseball Hall of Fame, where he presented a program of readings with NPR essayist/sports writer Frank DeFord, who read the original Casey, and then introduced Kevin. Since then, Kevin has done readings of his poem at New York City’s 92nd Street Y, at the Society for American Baseball Research’s national conference and at many libraries, historical societies and



colleges in New Jersey and New York. This poem has received close to 4,000 listens on Youtube. His historical/narrative song, Frederick Douglass - A Slave Man and Free, sung by gospel singer Joyce Dee has had thousands of listens on YouTube. His play, *A Love of the Game*, developed from this short story of his of the same title, was first developed at the O'Neill National Playwrights Conference where he had worked previously as an actor. He has had many plays produced in New York City and in regional theaters, performs often as a singer/songwriter, was a performance representative for August Wilson, taught theater for ten years at Wagner College on Staten Island, and has received several significant grants for his writing, for both play writing and nonfiction, including one from the New York Foundation for the Arts. He is now teaching music and performance arts at the Paul Lawrence Dunbar public school in the Bronx.

If you are interested in joining this presentation, please contact the Madison Historical Society at historicalsociety@rosenet.org or www.madisonnjhistoricalsociety.org. We will need your email address to send you an appropriate link to join the Zoom presentation

Remembering Madison Firefighters of the Past



Using the Find-A-Grave website, Robert Dunne, Historical Society Trustee and Madison fireman, has created a “virtual cemetery” called Madison Fire Department. By clicking on this “Virtual Cemetery” you can view deceased members of the Madison Fire Department since its founding in 1881. The database contains basic details of the deceased including birth and death dates, photos of the headstone, location of the grave including GPS coordinates and possible details of the deceased. It also shows parents, siblings and children who are also links to their prospective entries. Dunne was also able to add headshots of the deceased, which can also help others in research. He has added over 300 entries and over 800 photos to the Find-A-Grave community so far. The link to Robert Dunne’s “Virtual Cemetery” can be found on the

Madison Historical Website www.madisonnjhistoricalsociety.org

New Slate of Officers for 2022-2023 Need to be Voted On

Normally a new slate of officers and trustees for the Historical Society is voted on at the Annual Dinner Meeting. Since the event is not being held this May, we have decided to call upon members to cast their votes on the slate via the newsletter in either of two methods. All votes should be received by April 30th.

Method 1: If you receive the newsletter via email, please email your vote for or against the slate at the following email address: historicalsociety@rosenet.org

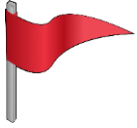
Method 2: If you receive a hard copy of the newsletter by U.S. Mail, please fill out the ballot at the bottom of page 7 of this newsletter and send it to the following address: Madison Historical Society, P.O. Box 148, Madison 07940. Be sure and put your name on the ballot. If you would rather just email us, you certainly may do so at: historicalsociety@rosenet.org

Vice President	Herm Huber
Corresponding Secretary	Johanna Glazewski
New Trustee	Blair Conley
New Trustee	Dave Luber
Return Trustee	Nancy Adamczyk
Return Trustee	Noreen McManus

Celebration of Our 100th Anniversary

The year 2022 is the 100th anniversary of the Madison Historical Society. In order to celebrate this momentous event, the society is and will continue to undertake a number of activities this year.

The Banner Project



During the months of September and October, thirteen banners with twenty-six historical images of people, places and events in the Borough's history will fly along the streets of downtown Madison celebrating the society's 100th anniversary.

Madison Living Magazine

In their September edition, the monthly magazine *Madison Living* is planning a cover story on the history and activities of the Madison Historical society.

Lecture on the History of the Society

On September 27th at 7 p.m., Doug Simon will give a lecture on the history of the Madison Historical Society. As of now it will be on Zoom but that could change. The lecture is sponsored by the Madison Public Library.



"Mostly Madison; Mostly Memories"

The re-release of Peter Hiscanos's wonderful video, "Mostly Madison; Mostly Memories". The videos can be found on the society's web site. www.madisonnjhistoricalsociety.org

The Madison Historical Museum



As already noted in this newsletter, the society has signed a lease with the Borough of Madison for the use of the east wing of the Hartley Dodge Memorial to house the Madison Historical Museum. The heart of the museum will be the old court room. Surrounding rooms will be for work space, storage and a small museum store. There will be an elevator located at the back of the building to make the museum accessible. The elevator will be accessed through the basement of the east wing through the back of the building.

A Portrait of the Rose City, A History of Madison, N.J.

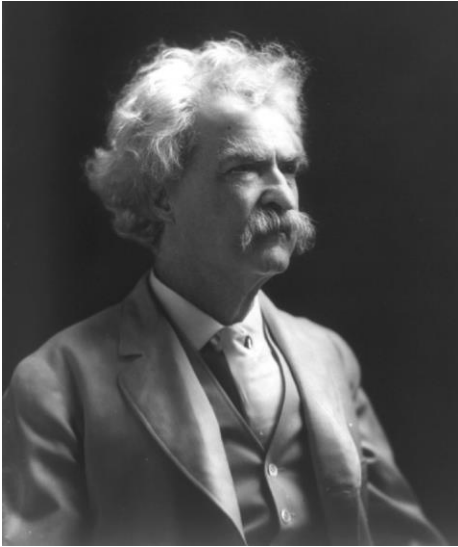
Work continues on the updating and rewriting of a new edition of the book *The Madison Heritage Trail*, under its new title, *The Portrait of the Rose City, the History of Madison, New Jersey*. Dr. Frank Esposito returns as the principal author with the guidance from an advisory committee of historical society members and Madison Public Library Trustees. The committee has been actively researching and helping to write on various topics. The first thirteen chapters will come from the first thirteen chapters of the *Madison Heritage Trail* with additional material being added. The remaining chapters will consist of new material from the 1980s to the present, including how the coronavirus affected Mandisonians and their reaction.



Spotlight on History

Mark Twain in Madison

(The following article is drawn directly from Frank J. Esposito's, *The Madison Heritage Trail*, Madison Bicentennial Heritage Committee, Madison, N.J. 1985, pp. 127-129)



In the early 1880s, Dr. Frank Fuller purchased a beautiful estate called "Chemmiwink" located on a hill on present Noe Avenue near the intersection of Sinclair Terrace.

Fuller was born in Boston in 1827. He later practiced dentistry in New Hampshire where he numbered Robert Lincoln, son of the president, among his patients. Through his subsequent friendship with Abraham Lincoln, he was appointed Governor of Utah. He moved to New York in 1874 and founded a company known as the Health Food Company, which was to grow into the major American corporation now called the Wheatena Company.

About six years later, Fuller bought "Chemmiwink" for use as a summer estate.

Best known among the many guests he entertained at "Chemmiwink" was the writer Mark Twain. Fuller entertained his visitors with horse racing, theatrical performances, boating, bowling and other activities. The theater was housed in a large wooden building called "Holiday Hall." Originally a storage barn, the building was renovated by Fuller and a stage was built for its interior. In 1896, 400 seats were installed and the theater's ceiling painted



Interior of the Holiday Hall theater.

blue with silver stars. The theater had box seats and dressing rooms, as well as an orchestra pit.

Prior to residential development of the Noe Avenue area, the Fuller estate had a lake which was used for boating and swimming. With Fuller's death in 1915, however, the grand days of entertainment at "Chemmiwink" became only a memory.



Dr. Frank Fuller with his wife, Annie, and son Louis.

MADISON HISTORICAL SOCIETY – ITEMS FOR SALE

Books:

BOTTLE HILL AND MADISON by William Parkhurst Tuttle	\$30.00
CARING FOR YOUR HISTORIC HOUSE by Heritage Preservation & NPS	\$15.00
CIVIL WAR JOURNAL OF PRIVATE HEYWARD EMMELL by Jim Malcolm	\$20.00
COLLEGE OF SAINT ELIZABETH by Sister Mary Ellen Gleason, et al.	\$20.00
CROSSROADS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION: A Guide to New Jersey's American Revolutionary War Sites	\$ 5.00
DREW UNIVERSITY by John T Cunningham & Regina Deverio	\$20.00
GOLDEN AGE OF DOG SHOWS, Morris & Essex Kennel Club	\$40.00
HIDDEN NEW JERSEY by Linda Barth -	Soft= \$ 8.95 / Hard = \$17.95
HISTORY OF INVENTING IN NEW JERSEY by Linda Barth	\$20.00
IMAGES OF AMERICA –	\$20.00
CHATHAM & CHATHAM TOWNSHIP by John T. Cunningham	
RAFTSMAN FARM by Heather V. Stivison	
FLORHAM PARK by John T. Cunningham	
MADISON by John T. Cunningham	
MANSIONS OF MORRIS COUNTY by John Rae	
MORRISTOWN by Joan M. Williams	
SUMMIT by Patricia E. Meola	
LINCOLN'S WHITE HOUSE SECRETARY edited by Harold Holzer	\$39.95
MADISON, THE ROSE CITY: A NEW SPRINGTIME ed. Woody Kerkeslager	\$20.00
MEMORIES ENTWINED WITH ROSES by Ruth Churchill	\$15.00
POSTCARD HISTORY SERIES: Morristown by Bonnie Lynn-Nadzeika	\$20.00
NEW JERSEY GOES TO WAR: Biographies of 150 New Jerseyans	
Caught Up in the Civil War edited by Joseph G. Bilby	\$20.00
ST. VINCENT MARTYR PARISH, 200 YEARS OF HISTORY by Michael P. Riccards	\$25.00
THE UNCERTAIN REVOLUTION by John T. Cunningham	\$27.00

Maps:

1910 ATLAS OF MORRIS COUNTY by A.H. Mueller	Members \$115 each
MADISON PLATES 3, 4, 5: Approximate size 22" x 31"	Non Members \$125 each

Miscellaneous:

Christmas Ornament: Historic Sayre House or Luke Miller House	2 for \$15.00	\$10.00
Note Cards: Hartley Dodge Memorial (Pack of 4)		\$ 3.00
Photo Prints: Historic Madison, 7 different views		\$30.00@
Postcards: Historic Madison		\$1.00 each or Set of 4 for \$ 3.75
Tote Bag: Rose City		\$10.00

Madison Historical Society DVD's

\$10.00 each

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| * Black Church History | * Transportation |
| * Italian History in Madison | * Vietnam Oral History Project (with booklet) |
| * History of Roses | * The War Years, On the Home Front 1940-1955 |

USED BOOKS: VARIOUS TITLES, ALSO FOR SALE AT DISCOUNTED PRICES.

-----Cut Here-----

Madison Historical Society Election Ballot 2022-2023

Vice President	Herm Huber	Vote on Slate
Corresponding Secretary	Johanna Glazewski	___ Approve
New Trustee	Blair Conley	
New Trustee	Dave Luber	___ Disapprove
Return Trustee	Nancy Adamczyk	
Return Trustee	Noreen McManus	NAME _____

If you receive a hard copy of the newsletter by U.S. Mail, please fill out this ballot and send it to the following address. Madison Historical Society, P.O. Box 148, Madison 07940. Be sure and put your name on the ballot. If you would rather just email us, you certainly may do so at: historicalsociety@rosenet.org. Ballots need to be received by April 30th.