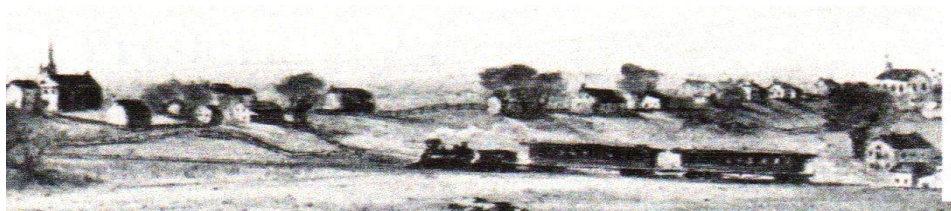


Madison Historical Society

Madison, N.J

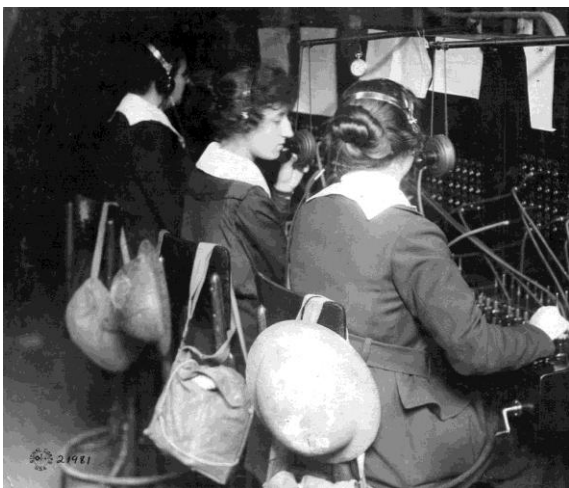


November 2018
Newsletter 2nd edition
2018-2019

New Databank Available on Madisonians in WW I

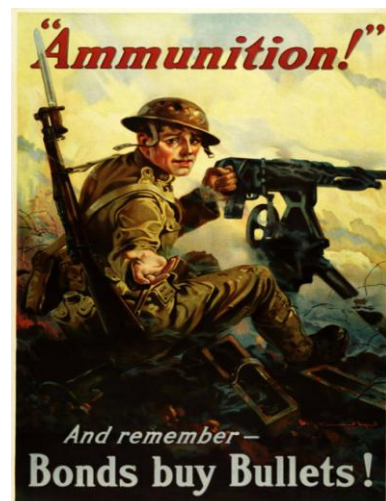
The history of World War I from a global and national perspective is well documented in newspapers of the time as well as hundreds of books. Finding resources at the local level is a bit more difficult. Put simply, records are scattered and huge gaps are common. Long time member of the Madison Historical Society and its current Treasurer, Jim Malcolm, has made an enormous contribution to filling those gaps with the completion of a databank listing the names of those residents of Madison who served in the “War to end all wars.”

The databank can be accessed at the Madison Historical Society’s web site www.madisonnjhistoricalsociety.org. In addition to names, information is provided on which branch of service individuals were part of, the unit or units they served in, location of service, and ranks achieved. Also, photographs of those who served are included where available as well as what they did after the war. Copies of news articles are part of the databank providing information on



Hello Girls

Individual Service Records, church records, letters from military installations in the United States or from personnel in Europe, and many editions of the *Madison Eagle* from 1917 to 1920.



members of Madison Churches who served, families with multiple members involved in the war, and those who served in non-military capacity such as the “Four-Minute Men,” a group of volunteers authorized by United States President Woodrow Wilson, to give **four-minute** speeches on topics given to them by The Committee on Public Information and the “Hello Girls,” bilingual (French and English) American switchboard operators, formally known as the Signal Corps Female Telephone Operators Unit. During World War I, these switchboard operators were sworn into the U.S. Army Signal Corps.

Numerous sources were consulted for this effort including



Jim Malcolm

Historical Society Officers

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Anne Meyer

Judy Seery

Doug Simon

Scott Spelker

Dorothy Pietrowski

(Emeritus)

Newsletter

Doug Simon

Message from President Susan Simon

Facts matter and that is particularly true when you are charged with the responsibility of preserving history as in the work of the Madison Historical Society. One of our responsibilities is to make sure that commonly accepted historical facts are correct. For instance, there has been a common myth repeated over and over again about the funding of the Madison train station, that it was funded by Geraldine Dodge. While Mrs. Dodge made enormous contributions to the borough, most notably the Hartley Dodge Memorial, she did not fund the railroad station. For safety reasons, the Borough Council authorized the elevation of the train tracks on September 21, 1914 and Mrs. Ellen Stebbins James continued the family contributions to Madison after the death of her husband, D. Willis James, by financing the realignment of the roads and of James Park after the tracks were raised. She also was one of the citizens of Madison that urged the D.L. & W. Railroad to build a new station to “reflect the elegant status of the area’s fashionable millionaires.” (*The Madison Heritage Trail*, pg. 156). With an authorized bond of \$159,000 by the Madison government and the generous support of the railroad, the result was the train station we all enjoy today. *A side note:* It was Mrs. Dodge who bought the James estate, known as *Onunda*, in 1916.

Historical Society at Bottle Hill Day



Doug Simon, Anne Meyer, and Kathie Rogers staffing the Society's Bottle Hill Day booth.

On October 6th the historical society once again participated in Madison’s annual Bottle Hill Day celebration. Over a dozen society members staffed the double wide booth with an array of books on Madison history, historical maps of the borough, photographs and other items for sale. In addition, free coloring books and crayons were distributed to children who visited the booth.



Spotlight on History

In addition to helping to found the Madison Golf Club.....

His name was George Helm Yeaman. In his later years he lived in the Borough of Madison and helped to found the Madison Golf Club in 1896. But 31 years earlier on January 31, 1865, George Yeaman did something that dramatically changed the course of history of the United States. Yeaman was a Kentuckian. Born in Hardin, Kentucky in 1820, he completed his preparatory studies and went on to study law being admitted to the bar in 1852. He was a judge in Daviess County, Kentucky in 1854 and served as a member of the Kentucky House of Representatives in 1861. In 1862, as a Unionist, he became a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from Kentucky's 2nd District and held that office until March 4, 1865. In Kentucky most Unionist were both pro-Union and pro-slavery. They intensely disliked abolitionists and Rebel secessionist about equally.¹



George Helm Yeaman

In 1862 Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation but wanted to expand the proclamation with the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, the amendment that would end slavery. The U.S. Senate passed the amendment. The real difficulty came when it went before a terribly divided House of Representatives. Yeaman held a somewhat contradictory position. There is no question that he disliked slavery, but he also feared that abolition would destroy



Madison Golf Club 19

Kentucky's economic and social structure. Lincoln personally lobbied Yeaman at the White House and seemed to have gotten through. When the vote came, Yeaman cast an "aye" vote along with three other Kentucky Unionists – Lucian Anderson of Mayfield, William H. Randall and Green Clay Smith. As a result of his vote, Yeaman's political career was doomed. He became a Republican, stood for reelection in 1865 and lost to a white supremacist Democrat.²

George Yeaman served as the United States Minister to Denmark from 1865 to 1870 and then settled in New York City serving as a Constitutional Law Lecturer at Columbia College. He eventually moved to Madison and

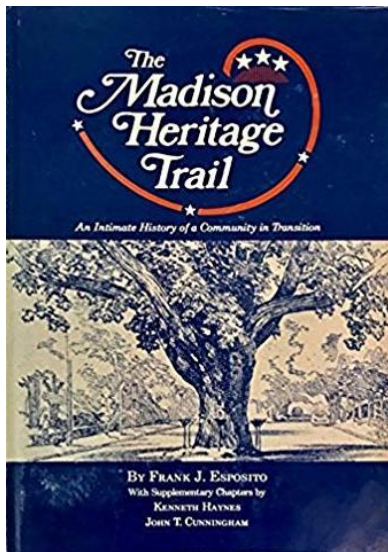
along with other city leaders founded the Madison Golf Club on March 27, 1896, the founding meeting being held at Yeaman's house on Green Avenue.³ George Helm Yeaman died in Jersey City on February 23, 1908 and was interred in Hillside Cemetery, Madison, New Jersey.

¹ George Helm Yeaman, *Wikipedia*, July 27, 2018. http://ea.wikipedia.org/George_Helm_Yeaman

² Tom Eblen, "In 'Lincoln', forgotten Kentucky congressman plays a pivotal role." *Herald-Leader*, Nov. 25, 2012. <http://www.kentucky.com/entertainment/movies-news-reviews/article44390847.htm/>

³ Madison Golf Club, History of Madison Golf Club. <http://www.madisongolfclub.org/Club-history>

Progress on the New Edition of *The Heritage Trail*



Progress continues on a new edition of the history of Madison, *The Madison Heritage Trail*. The original book was published by the Madison Bicentennial Heritage Committee as part of the borough's celebration of the nation's 200th anniversary. Over thirty years have passed since its release and with the encouragement of people like current society president Susan Simon and former head of the Madison Public Library, Nancy Adamczyk, efforts were begun to produce a new updated edition in a joint effort by the Madison Public Library and the Madison Historical Society. Lead author on the first edition was Dr. Frank J. Esposito, Distinguished Professor of History and Education at Kean University and he returns to co-author the new edition along with Dr. Brian Regal, Associate Professor of the History of Science, Technology and Medicine at Kean.

The new edition involves a thorough review and revision of the 1985 edition incorporating new information that was not available at the time. For example, we now can say with much more certainty that there was an encampment of Revolutionary War soldiers in the Loantaka area. Additionally, three new chapters will be added covering the period 1985 to the present.



Dr. Frank Esposito



Dr. Brian Regal

Overseeing the project is an official Book Committee consisting of Dave Luber, Louise Easton, Gary Ruckelshaus, Nancy Adamczyk, Lynn Favreau, Linda Connors, Susan Simon (President of the Historical Society), Tom Bintinger (President of the Library Trustees) and both authors.

No official publication date has been established. Suffice to say that significant progress is being made and once the manuscript is ready, the publication process will take 6 to 8 months. Photographs would be appreciated especially those since 1985 but not limited to that cut-off date. Some of the photos in the 1985 book could be replaced by better ones if we had them.

A Reminder About Our New Web Site

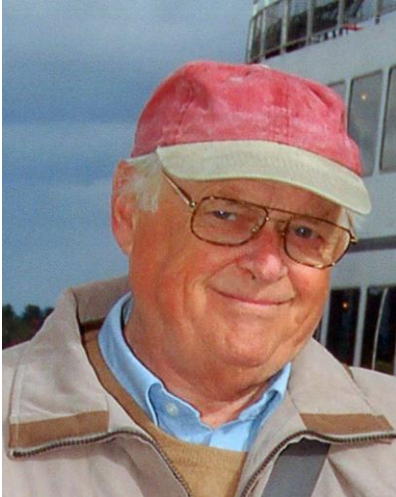


For those of you who have not had a chance to visit the society's new website, take a look. Information on the history of Madison, upcoming events, digital copies of the quarterly newsletter, current research projects such as the WW I project, obituary indexes, the history of the society, the gift shop and a listing of current officers and trustees are all available on the site. The link is:

<http://www.madisonjhsociety.org>

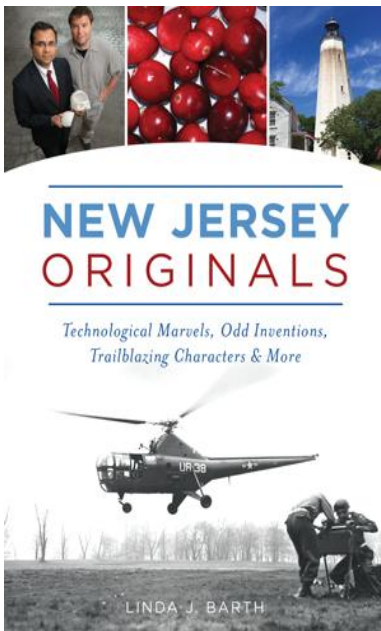
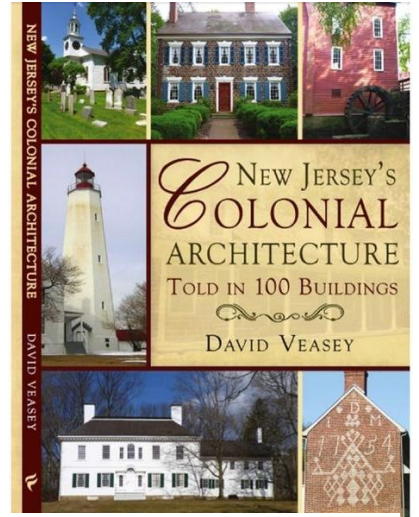
Historical Society Programs Set For Spring

Two programs have been finalized for Spring 2019.



David Veasey

On March 19th, David Veasey will speak on “New Jersey’s Colonial Architecture.” On that subject, he is the author of the book *New Jersey’s Colonial Architecture Told In 100 Buildings*. Mr. Veasey was raised in Chatham and has spent most of his life in the Garden State and now lives in Morris Plains. He has a long-time interest in the state’s architecture, including its lighthouses and life-saving stations which he wrote a book about, *Guarding New Jersey’s Shore: Lighthouses and Life-Saving Stations*. He also wrote *New Jersey Then and Now*. Mr. Veasey holds a BA from Drew University and a Master’s Degree from New York University.



On April 16, Linda Barth will speak on “New Jersey Originals: Technology Marvels, Odd Inventions, Trailblazing Characters & More” which is also the title of her new book. Always a popular speaker, this will be a return visit to the Madison Historical Society for Linda. She has long been active in the D&R Canal Watch, a group that helps to protect the historic Delaware & Raritan Canal and has been active for years in the New Jersey Historical Society. Linda is the author of several books including *A History of Inventing in New Jersey, Delaware and Raritan Canal at Work, Somerville Through Time, The Millstone Valley Through Time*, and *Hidden New Jersey*.



Linda Barth

Regional Historical Events of Interest



Newark Historical Society, “Sarah ‘Sassy’ Vaughan: the Life and Legacy of Newark's Own”, Tuesday, November 13, 2018 at 7:00 pm Presenter: Elaine Hayes, author of *Queen of Bebop: The Musical Lives of Sarah Vaughan*. Panelists: Walter Chambers, Barbara Kukla, John Schreiber, The Chase Room, New Jersey Performing Arts Center, 1 Center Street, Newark, NJ. Please RSVP by November 8 to NewarkHistorySoc@gmail.com

Montclair Historical Society, “Hometown History Bus Tour”, Saturday, November 17, 2018, 10:00 AM 12:00 PM, Crane House & Historic YWCA, 110 Orange Road Montclair, NJ, 07042. This two-hour bus ride gives you a fast-paced ride through Montclair’s history looking at its architecture, businesses, and people. Led by Trustee member Helen Fallon and Executive Director Jane Eliasof. Member \$25/person; nonmembers \$30/person. Registration is required no later than November 10, space is limited due to bus shuttle size. Bus leaves at 10:00 am from 110 Orange Road, Montclair, NJ. Street parking available. 973-744-1796.



Canal Society of New Jersey, Our Forgotten Mines, A Photographic Journey of Our Historic Mining History” with Mike Hetman. Friday, November 16th, 2018, 7:30 pm, Morris County Cultural Center, 300 Mendham Road, Morris Township. (Refreshments at 7:10) All Canal Society Program Meetings are open to the public and free of charge. Go underground virtually with Mike Hetman, as he guides you through some of the regions darkest secrets, our rich mining history. Anthracite coal from



Pennsylvania and iron ore from New Jersey was shipped regularly along the route of the Morris Canal. This slideshow presentation will take you deep into the heart of this industry, witnessing the very places where miners toiled underground to help gain an understanding of this part of the canal’s “forgotten” history.

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	
CRAFTSMAN 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.

The Madison Historical Society

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 148, Madison, 07940. Office located in the
Local History Center of the Madison Library

Office Hours: Tuesday, 10:30 am to 3:30 pm and by appointment.

Office Phone: 973-377-0722 x8

Contact: President Susan Simon, 973-822-2377

Web: www.madisonjhistoricalsociety.org

Email: historicalsociety@rosenet.org