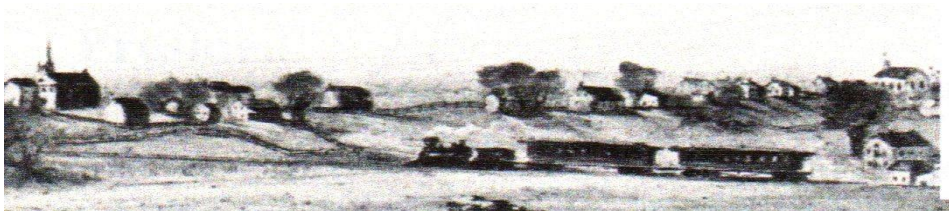


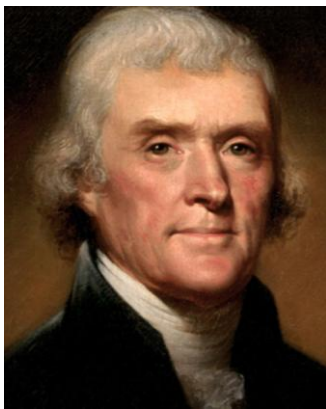
Madison Historical Society

Madison, N.J



*September 2018
Newsletter
1st edition 2018-2019*

The Madison Historical Society Presents



Dr. Barbara Oberg

*“Reading Thomas
Jefferson’s Mail”*

September 18, 2018

**7:00 pm Chase Room
Madison Public Library**



Then in October.....

Dr. Salvatore Prisco

*“Who Really Discovered America –
The True Significance of Columbus’s Voyages*



**October 16, 2018
7:00 pm Chase Room
Madison Public Library**



Historical Society Officers

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Newsletter

Doug Simon

Message from President Susan Simon

“Connecting past to present is an essential component of practicing history”, is a quote from Carol Kammen, a senior lecturer at Cornell University. She went on to say, “The convention of local history are to make people understand the past but feel good about place”. The Madison Historical Society has a new program to help advance the understanding of the unique history of Madison. During the bicentennial in 1976 the houses built during or before the Revolutionary War were recognized by rose medallions placed on the houses – the Luke Miller, Sayre, Corey, Burnet, Carter to name a few. The new program will recognize houses built by the end of the 19th century. In the not too distant future, letters will be sent to houses that are eligible for such an honor and if the owners are interested they may apply for a plaque to be placed on the house designating the year the house was built. A grant from the Madison Elks Lodge commemorating the 150th anniversary of the National organization has helped to start this new program.

Be sure to visit our new website – madisonnjhistoricalsociety.org. In the research section several of our data bases have been posted, indexes of books, maps, obituaries and data on Madisonians who served during World War I. Along with the WWI servicemen are their individual service records, some pictures, support service personal, letters written home, newspaper articles on the families, the war effort and Madison’s contribution.

Re-dedication of Emmell Heywood’s Grave



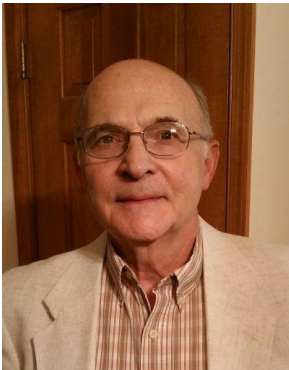
On May 20, 2018, Morristown Civil War soldier Private Heyward Glover Emmell was remembered at the rededication of his grave at the Presbyterian Church of Morristown hosted by the Madison Historical Society and the Second New Jersey Brigade, 7th Regiment Infantry. It was the 101st anniversary of Emmell’s death. Born in Morristown, Emmell joined the Union Army in October of 1861 and fought for the northern forces for three years including the Battle of Gettysburg. He kept a journal of his experiences in the war that Jim Malcolm, Treasurer and former Vice-President of the Madison Historical Society transcribed and published as a book titled *The Civil War Journal of Private Heyward Emmell* in 2011.

About Dr. Oberg

Barbara Oberg holds the rank of Senior Scholar Emerita in Princeton University's Department of History and general editor of the Papers of Thomas Jefferson. Earlier in her career she was the editor of the Papers of Benjamin Franklin at Yale. Barbara is widely published serving as coauthor of *Federalist Reconsidered* and *Benjamin Franklin, Jonathan Edwards, and the Representation of American Culture*. Among her honors was being named R. Stanton Avery Distinguished Fellow at the Henry E. Huntington Library in 2008-2009 and has also held fellowships from the American Philosophical Society, the Library Company of Philadelphia, and the National Endowment for the Humanities. She is past president of the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, the Association for Documentary Editing, and the Society for Textual Scholarship, and currently chairs the Board of the Omohundro Institute for Early American History and Culture. Barbara is also a former trustee of Colonial Williamsburg. She recently contributed the opening chapter in *Thomas Jefferson's Lives: Biographers and the Battle for History*, which is forthcoming from the University of Virginia Press in spring 2019. Barbara earned her undergraduate degree from Wellesley and her Masters and Ph.D. from University of California, Santa Barbara.



About Dr. Prisco



Dr. Salvatore Prisco received his doctorate in history from Rutgers University, has been a tenured faculty member at the University of Alabama and taught for 36 years at Stevens Institute of Technology where he also served as chair of the Humanities Department and Director of the Division of Humanities and Social Science. He is the author of *John Barrett, Progressive Era Diplomat: A Study of a Commercial Expansionist, 1887-1920*, *An Introduction to Psychohistory: Theories and Case Studies*, and *The Essentials of United States History 1877-1912*. Referencing his presentation, Dr. Prisco notes that there were at least seven documented visitations to the Western Hemisphere before Columbus. In fact, he was the last to, “discover America, but the most significant for modern history.

The Society's Annual Dinner Meeting



Historical Society President Susan Simon, essay winner Jessie Kessler, and Mark DeBiasse, Humanities Supervisor for Madison Public Schools

On May 17 the Madison Historical Society held its annual dinner meeting at the Madison Hotel. Over sixty members of the society and invited guests enjoyed an historical reenactment of Janette Rankin, the first woman elected to Congress performed by Carol Simon Levin. In addition, the Society's History Essay Award was presented to Madison High School junior Jessie Kessler who wrote a powerful essay on the history and devastating impact of post traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) concentrating on those suffering the condition as a result of their service in the Vietnam War. A Slate of officers for the society were elected . Dave Luber was selected as Vice President. Jim Malcolm will become the Society's new Treasurer, and Doug Simon, Johanna Glazewski and Lauri Hagerich were elected to the Board of Trustees.

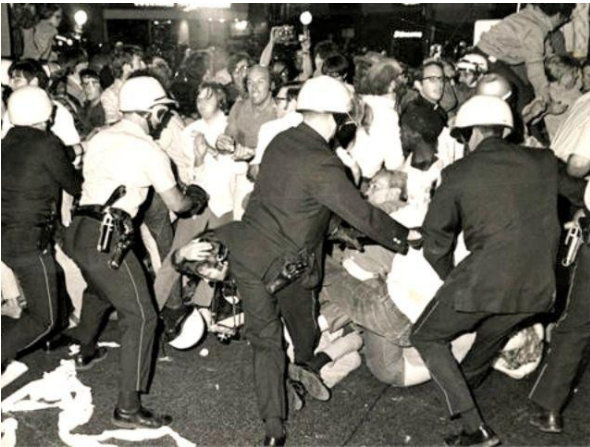


Spotlight on History **1968 - One Incredible Year for the Nation and For Madison**

Historians are pretty much in agreement that 1968, a half a century ago, was a remarkable year in the history of the United States. The year kicked off in January with North Korean patrol boats capturing the USS Pueblo, a U.S. Navy intelligence gathering vessel and the crew was held for eleven months. On the last day of the month, North Vietnamese forces launched the Tet offensive which resulted in a devastating psychological blow to the American war effort and is considered by many to be the turning point in the war. In February, CBS news anchor Walter Cronkite, the most “trusted man in America,” publically turned on the war. March brought the New Hampshire presidential primary and a stunning victory by Democrat Eugene McCarthy over incumbent President Lyndon Johnson. That same month, even though it would only become public a year later, the My Lai massacre occurs in Vietnam when U.S. ground troops kill more



American soldiers at the walled city of Hue during the Tet offensive of 1968.



Violent clashes between demonstrators and Chicago police at the Democratic Party convention.

than 500 civilians from infants to the elderly. With mounting anti-war pressure, on March 31st, President Johnson announced his decision to not seek reelection. On April 4th, Martin Luther King Jr. is assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee. On May 3rd, U.S. and North Vietnamese delegations agree to begin peace talks in Paris and on May 11th, Ralph Abernathy, Martin Luther King Jr.’s successor is granted a permit for the construction of Resurrection City, an encampment on the Mall in Washington, D.C. On June 4th, Robert Kennedy, running for president, is assassinated by Sirhan Sirhan, a 24 year old Jordanian living in Los Angeles. August brought the Democratic National Convention to Chicago and along with it, widespread protest demonstrations and a violent response by the Chicago police sending over 100 to emergency rooms. On November 5th, Richard Nixon was elected President in what can only be characterized as a remarkable political comeback and the year ended with the launch of Apollo 8, the first U.S. mission to orbit the Moon. At the national level, the cumulative impact of these events is stunning on the American conscious.¹ But what was happening locally during that eventful year? What kind of impact did these events have on the Borough of Madison?

Madison 1968

From one perspective, Madison seemed preoccupied by local issues and in 1968 several of those issues would bring some remarkable changes to the borough. There was intense planning for the construction of the

municipal pool. A new library was being erected on Keep Steet and there was much discussion on what to do with the old library. Eventually, of course, it became the Museum of Early Trades. There was planning for a new public school on Glenwild that would be named for Torey J. Sabatini. Although the project would not become reality for several years, plans were first made public for the development of low and moderate income housing. The borough was faced with a whopping 14.2% increase in the school budget. Sex education was to be introduced into the schools and there was considerable controversy over a Charter Study of Madison's form of governance. That was a pretty full plate of issues for any community.

But it would be incorrect to believe that with all these local issues, the borough was untouched by some of the broader national and international issues. Like many communities across America, the borough was increasingly frustrated and divided by the war in Vietnam. On one hand, there was considerable support for Madisonians serving in the conflict, earning promotions, and being awarded medals for valor, and service. And on Memorial Day, particular honor was paid to those young servicemen who lost their lives in Southeast Asia. Many citizens sent Christmas cards and gift packages to the soldiers. In March of 1968 the Madison Chapter of the Red Cross adopted the 26th Regiment of the Third Marine Division engaged in fierce fighting at Khe Sanh.² In May, a local song and dance group called the Madisonettes, traveled to Valley Forge General Hospital in Phoenixville, PA to entertain Vietnam Veterans.³



Anti-Vietnam war sentiment was particularly strong at Drew University

But as in other communities across the country, there were signs of discontent over the war. Acts of protest and concern occurred in various parts of town and seminars and teach-ins were held in several churches and at Drew University, where feelings against the war were particularly strong.⁴ In February of 1968, a group of citizens stood in front of St. Vincent's Catholic Church offering handbills protesting the war to parishioners as they left the church. Roughly half the people accepted them and half refused.⁵ The same month, the Committee to End the War in Vietnam, conducted a week-long program of lectures and discussion and David McReynolds of the "War Resisters" League was one of the speakers.⁶ An active committee was formed in the borough to support Democratic Senator Eugene McCarthy who was seeking the nomination for president and pro-McCarthy rallies were held at Drew and Fairleigh Dickinson University in March.⁷ The cornerstone of McCarthy's campaign was his challenge to incumbent Democratic President Lyndon Johnson and his Vietnam policy. In March, the first ad for Eugene McCarthy appeared in the *Madison Eagle*⁸ and during the same month, the Rev. William L. Nieman, Archdeacon of the Episcopal Churches of Morris County and rector of Madison's Grace Church, directed a plea to President Lyndon Johnson to respond to the appeal of U.N. Secretary General U Thant to take steps necessary for a peace conference on Vietnam.⁹ Again, reflecting national sentiments, local political leaders, both Democratic and Republican, were stunned at President Johnson's announcement in mid-April, not to seek the presidency for a second term.¹⁰

The year brought to the borough another manifestation of cultural change gripping the nation – Madison's own "Hippie House" at 47 Madison Avenue. In the late sixties the rental house became a hangout for a number of young people from Madison and the surrounding area. Many of the borough's citizens did not look favorably on the house or its occupants who were accused of a communal lifestyle in conflict with local norms. In September there were a series of police crackdowns based on health code violations and the ACLU got involved. Commenting on the hippie house phenomenon, Frank Esposito notes in his history of Madison, *The Madison Heritage Trail*, "The problems associated with rebelling youth were being experienced in varying degrees all over America. Madison's confrontation was the reflection of a national phenomenon in an age of public unrest."¹¹

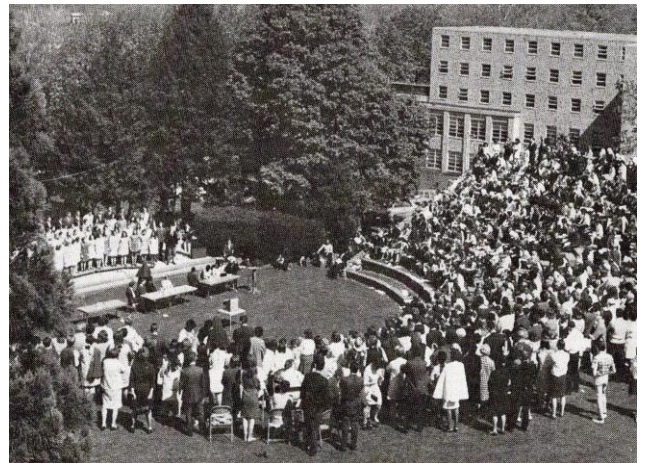


Protestors at the 1964 "barbershop incident" in 1964.

Another issue that gripped the community in 1968 was that of race relations. The mid to late 1960s was a time of considerable racial tension in America. Led by people like Martin Luther King Jr., Ralph Abernathy, Andrew Young, James Farmer, Bayard Rustin and John Lewis, enormous efforts were made to advance the cause of racial equality throughout the country. Two Civil Rights Acts were passed by Congress, one in 1964 dealing with voter registration requirements, racial segregation in schools, employment and public accommodations and the other in 1968 that dealt primarily with fair housing. In February of 1964 Martin Luther King Jr. spoke at Drew University to several thousand people and two months later, Madison

experienced what came to be known as "the barbershop incident," which drew not only local attention, but national as well. The incident involved a black man, Tom Sellers, who was refused service in one of Madison's barbershops. Protests erupted over the incident and the news reports and commentary appeared not only in the local press but national as well including the *New York Times*.¹² In 1967 the city of Newark was the site of large scale riots that resulted in widespread property destruction and the death of 26 people and hundreds injured. These events and other development in the civil rights movement help to explain why race continued to be a critical issue in the borough in 1968. To say the borough had been deeply divided over the issue of race in the years leading up to 1968 would be an understatement and significant efforts were made during the year to ameliorate the situation.

In early March, the *Madison Eagle* printed an editorial expressing concern over seeming suburban disinterest in urban problems. The piece was in response to the *President's National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders* that had been ordered after the urban riots of 1967. Of course, the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. on April 4th was an incredible shock to the borough's citizens. A memorial service was held at Grace Episcopal Church and Madison Public schools opened on Tuesday with special memorial services and closed at noon. The Madison Chamber of Commerce along with 56 local merchants took out a full page in the *Madison Eagle* expressing their sadness at the loss.¹⁴ In early May, a Peoples' Rally for Civil Rights was held at the College of St. Elizabeth's and significant efforts within the borough were made to bring relief supplies for the victims of an horrendous ghetto fire in Newark that took place just two weeks before.¹³



Peoples' Rally for Civil Rights at the College of St. Elizabeth's

In their recent special issue, the *Smithsonian Magazine* characterized 1968 a "Seismic Year" and indeed, it was. Some of the high impact events were no doubt transitory in nature. But most have had significant impact on our country to this day. For the Borough of Madison, the year brought significant change on the local level. But the national events of that year also had a powerful impact on the community.

¹ For an excellent review of the events of 1968 and their impact, see: *Smithsonian Magazine*, The Year That Shattered America, January-February, 2018.

² *Madison Eagle*, March 21, 1968, p. 11

³ *Madison Eagle*, May 2, 1968, p. 9

⁴ John T. Cunningham, *University in the Forest, The Story of Drew University*, Hagerstown, MD: Phoenix Color Corporation, 2002, pp. 269-281.

⁵ *Madison Eagle*, February 15, 1969, p. 1

⁶ *Madison Eagle*, February 29, 1968, p. 7

⁷ *Madison Eagle*, March 21, 1968, p. 1

⁸ *Madison Eagle*, March 28, 1968, p. 6

⁹ *Madison Eagle*, March 7, 1968, p. 9

¹⁰ *Madison Eagle*, April 4, 1968, p. 1

¹¹ Frank Esposito, *The Madison Heritage Trail*, Madison, N.J.: The Madison Bicentennial Heritage Committee, 1985, p. 261.

¹² For an excellent summary of this incident see: Esposito, pp. 250-258.

¹³ *Madison Eagle*, April 11, 1968, p. 4

¹⁴ *Madison Eagle*, May 3, 1968, p. 14

MADISON HISTORICAL SOCIETY – ITEMS FOR SALE

Books:

ALWAYS WITH US	\$15.00
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
GROWING UP IN THE ROSE CITY by William F. Redmond, II	\$10.00
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
MEMORIES ENTWINED WITH ROSES by Ruth Churchill	\$15.00
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:

Calendars, Madison: 2008, 2009, 2012 by Joseph Mezzacca, Jr.	\$ 1.00
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

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|------------------------------|---|
| * Black Church History | * Luke Miller, Forging History |
| * History of Roses | * Transportation |
| * Italian History in Madison | * Vietnam Oral History Project (with booklet) |

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