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## Upcoming HSH Events

**General Membership Meeting and Revolutionary War Lecture**  
Wednesday, May 17  
6:30 pm  
Lutheran Church

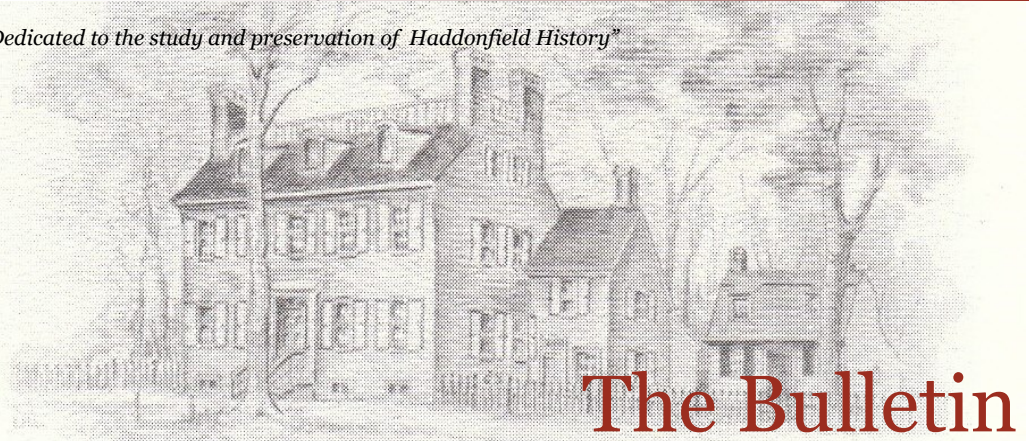
**Summer Story Time**  
Fridays in July  
at 10 am  
Gardens of Greenfield Hall

**Open House and Onsite Activities for The Skirmish:**  
Saturday, June 3  
Greenfield Hall

343 KINGS HIGHWAY EAST  
HADDONFIELD, NJ 08033  
856-429-7375

# Historical Society of Haddonfield

*"Dedicated to the study and preservation of Haddonfield History"*



## HADDONFIELD SKIRMISH - JUNE 3, 2023 SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF THE SKIRMISH RETURN TO THE STREETS OF HADDONFIELD

By Dave Stewart

The British are coming! And the British are going! And the Rebels are making sure they have a hard time of it in every direction!

In 1778, as the British army evacuated Philadelphia and moved through Haddonfield on its way to points north, the Rebels were under orders to harass, attack and slow their progress by any means necessary. They seized the task with relish as only passionate South Jersey folk can do. The Haddonfield Skirmish again commemorates this event on Saturday, June 3 and in the weeks leading up to it.



In the years since the Friends of the Indian King first staged the Skirmish, the event has grown in both size and purpose. This year's event features a series of lectures recognizing "Unheard Voices", including Quakers and others repelled by the violence of war, and area African Americans, women, and Jews whose concerns were rarely if ever considered during this time of seismic change for all.

The pageantry of the Skirmish may draw the crowds, but the Friends, they will explore the full local scope and toll of the Revolutionary

War. Knowing that names such as Lafayette (who made his reputation in a skirmish just up the road) and "Mad Anthony" Wayne (who mostly stole cows) once trod the streets and fields of Haddonfield adds luster to the history. But as important are the common soldiers, and the citizens who had to "host" British, Hessian and Colonial forces, willingly or unwillingly, often at a steep price.

There will again be sounds of merriment, including a fife and drum corps, dancing, and a yelling contest, along with the sobering sound of gunfire and the clash of swords. Reenactors will be available to talk about life in the Revolutionary era, and a history fair, exhibits, artisans and colonial fare will seek to expand the understanding of the past. Be sure to check out [haddonfieldskirmish.com](http://haddonfieldskirmish.com) for updates and a full list of events.

Haddonfield was both blessed and cursed to be a major crossroads during the Revolution. Its location brought people with many different firmly held beliefs together, sometimes with a unity of purpose, but often in conflict. They left behind a legacy of now endangered stories and structures that only the current community can protect. The aims of the Skirmish are to gather people together at these crossroads once again, with hopes they depart with an appreciation for the town and the history of all who have shaped it.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings my fellow members, Spring has sprung. We are looking forward to some favorite spring-time events coming up in the next few months. Our second-grade tours will commence the first week of May and continue for three weeks on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. Our volunteers are studying their scripts and wetting their whistles to lead the classes through Greenfield Hall and the tool room, and who does not love the potty chair?



Next up, the Skirmish! On June 3, we will find our small town overrun with British and Hessians. The day's events will include activities such as colonial dancing, pillory prisoners and character reenactors, and a yelling contest. The Fire Company will be open for tours with firefighting volunteers acting as docents for their museum. Most importantly, the Historical Society will open Greenfield Hall for tours as well as the tool room and the gardens. It is said that Count von Donop spent his last nights in Greenfield Hall prior to the Battle of Redbank. I sometimes wonder if his ghost still roams the halls. You can find a complete listing of the activities and talks leading up to The Skirmish on their website at [haddonfieldskirmish.com](http://haddonfieldskirmish.com).

In July, we are again reaching out to our smaller enthusiasts with our Summer Story Time, which we offer in partnership with the Haddonfield Public Library. We open the gardens for the children and their parents to hear a story from one of our volunteers or one of the library volunteers. It is a wonderful way to get outside and

enjoy sunshine and a story.

Pardon our appearance! Maintenance for a 182-year-old structure and the county's oldest wooden structure is no small feat. To be sure we are treating our structures with the proper care, we commissioned a preservation plan. This plan, like a home inspection when you purchase a house, lines out the areas of concern and applies a criticality to each. Using the preservation plan, we have won two grants. Our Camden County Grant will support mason work and the replacement of a small roof in the rear of the building. Our State Grant is a bit more in depth and aids with the replacement of the entire roof for Greenfield Hall. The Grants Committee has been diligently working through the finer details of how to manage these grants as well as the vendors who are awarded the contracts. Because the grants require matching funds grants, we are also working with the Development Committee to raise funds to support our match.

We are the Historical Society of Haddonfield; our members and volunteers are our greatest strength. Thank you to all our members and volunteers who have lent a hand in the past. We are always seeking new members and volunteer participation. Stay in touch with us through our website, email, or phone.

Best regards,

Charlene



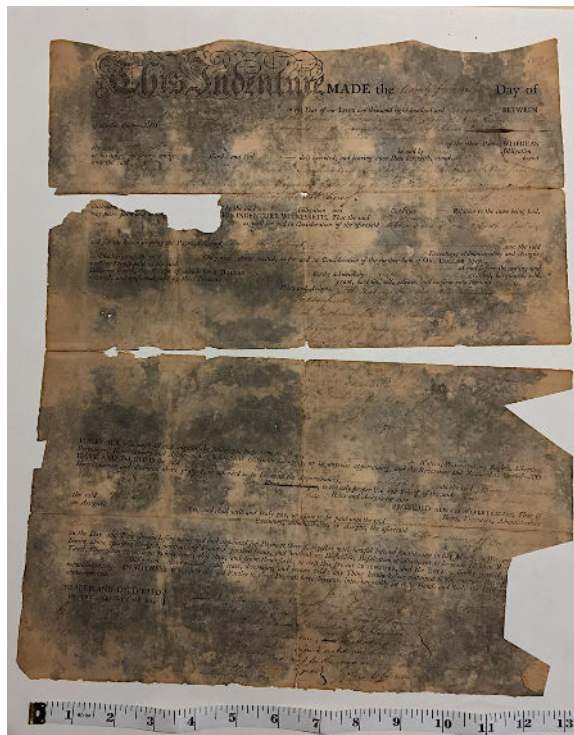
## PATRICIA LENNON ARCHIVES CENTER

By David Platt

We've had an exciting development, since I last wrote for the *Bulletin*. A couple of months ago, the Haddonfield Foundation awarded us a grant to help with some important preservation work.

We used this grant to preserve some documents that are important to the history of Haddonfield. You can see them in the photos below. The first (left) shows two documents, including one that is quite heavily stained. Last year, we took these

of cultural heritage for the Borough. It belonged in the early nineteenth century to Attee Leeman, the first known African American property owner in the Borough and a charter member of the Fire Company when it was reincorporated in 1811. You can read more about Mr. Leeman in *African American Haddonfield History Cards* by Muneerah Higgs and Shamele Jordon and published last year. If you don't have your own copy, you can find one in our Pamphlet Collection under Pam 974.9 H No. 292.



documents along with the two others (right) to the Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts, a nonprofit organization in Philadelphia that provides expertise in the preservation of cultural heritage. There, the conservators' conducted an analysis and discovered that the staining was originally caused by mold.

These documents hold special significance for us at the Historical Society of Haddonfield and in Haddonfield more generally. All four relate to the ownership of property on the lot that we now call Library Point. Library Point, which is now the location of Haddonfield Public Library (and once also of the Historical Society), is an important site

We discovered the staining on these four documents when we moved the archives from the Mickle House to the new facility. We don't know when or how they came into contact with the mold, but it is possible that an 18th-century frame house, even one continuously monitored for temperature and humidity conditions, as the Mickle House was when it contained the archives, was not entirely proof against the New Jersey climate.

The new Archives Center, however, is specifically built to minimize such risks, and thanks to the generosity of the Haddonfield Foundation we have been able to initiate vital preservation work on the affected materials.

# HMHS HISTORY STUDENTS SEARCH THE HSH ARCHIVES FOR LESSONS ON WORLD WAR II

By Clementine Thayer, Pearle Bromley, and Alexandra Himmel

In spring 2023, students in the Haddonfield Memorial High School Advanced Placement U.S. History class participated in an in-depth World War II research project, part of an annual collaboration between the high school and the HSH. The project draws on letters, yearbooks, photographs, newspapers, and other primary source materials from 1941-1945 contained in the HSH archives. The class is led by HMHS history teacher David Reader, an HSH trustee, and the student research is supported by HSH Archivist David Platt.

The class learned about HMHS graduates and students who attended HMHS but left early to fight in the war as well as about town and country efforts at home, including contributions from students and from women and people of color.

Their research culminated in a research paper and group multimedia presentation. On March 29, 2023, seven of the students also presented their findings to the community and answered questions from the audience. Here, three students provide a snapshot of their research experience.

## Clementine Thayer

My research focused on Haddonfield soldiers who served in the European and Pacific theatres in 1944. Through reading letters they wrote to William W. Reynolds, former principal of Haddonfield Memorial High School, and articles from the local newspaper, the *Haddon Gazette*, I learned about the perseverance and courage of these soldiers fighting abroad. For instance, the February 10, 1944, edition of the *Gazette* featured a report from one local soldier about his experiences in a German prison camp. The soldier described forming “teams” to get the most out of their food, and explained that “the man with good legs would run the errands, the blind man would do tasks within his capabilities, and the man with a bad stomach would receive preferred items that were saved for him.” Despite the tragedies and horrors of war, the soldiers showed their resilience and compassion by rationing their food to keep others alive. These experiences, the soldier said, taught him about “unselfishness and what it means to respect human lives” (see included excerpt from the *Gazette*).

To help uplift the spirits of Haddonfield soldiers, Principal Reynolds often wrote them letters and sent them issues of the *Haddon Higher* to catch them up on events at the school. In a Christmastime letter to the men and women who were serving, Reynolds called the soldiers’ attention to the cause they had been fighting for: “It is truer now to me that this war is being fought to reestablish a way of life, and it is more neces-

sary than ever to retain as much as we can of all that Christmas stands for.... We are, you will admit, still going through the motions until a happier day when ‘Peace on Earth’ will be more than a state of mind.” Although Principal Reynolds was saddened each year that his wish that his former students would be home for Christmas had not been fulfilled, he believed that the war was necessary to reestablish democracy abroad. For his students back home, perhaps to shield them from the realities of war, Reynolds strived to continue school as usual much as possible. Reynolds’ efforts in increasing the morale of the soldiers, and in making sure the Haddonfield students had “normal lives,” showed his commitment to Haddonfield during WWII.

## Pearle Bromley

My research focused on the topic of race and gender during WWII. This included considering the contributions on the homefront as well as in military roles of women and of Black Americans and other racial minorities. I focused on Haddonfield’s efforts during WWII, while also considering the wider scope of what was happening in the country. The research derived from sources such as the Library of Congress, databases such as JSTOR, and most importantly, the town’s retired newspaper, the *Haddon Gazette*. The *Gazette* was a vital source of information, as it provided direct primary evidence of town events, funding campaigns, and other happenings during the war.

I found that the *Gazette* provided a clear image of what upper class white women had been doing during the war and was able to find out about their participation in various Red Cross relief fundraisers, nurse training programs, and food drives. I was even able to determine several women from town who had enlisted in the military! However, considering the lack of diversity within the area at the time, it was difficult to find information on Black Americans in the war, and especially on Black or other people of color women. Therefore, I turned to

The American prisoners in this particular camp formed teams to get the most out of their food. Many of them were wounded. The man with good legs would run the errands. A blind man would attend to chores that were within his capacities. The man with the bad stomach did his part, and preferred items of food were saved for him.

Portions of supper would be held out, and in the evening these would be added to Red Cross food. The combination then would be heated over steam pipes, and the men had their best meal of the day. Had it not been for the Red Cross packages to supplement the prison diet it is doubtful if the men could have kept alive.

When the repatriated soldier learned of some of the grumbling and grasping in this country, he added: “Some of the people at home who are complaining should be in a spot like this where you really learn unselfishness and what it means to respect human rights.”

Unfortunately, it seems unlikely that these “some people” will learn, or want to learn, what unselfishness means. But the day is coming when they will have to give an accounting to the men who have learned.



Sources: Top: Taylor A. World War II: Women at War. The Atlantic, 2011. <https://www.theatlantic.com/photo/2011/09/world-war-ii-women-at-war/100145>.

Bottom: Horne M. Women of the WWII Workforce: Photos Show the Real-Life Rosie the Riveters. Women of the WWII Workforce: [www.history.com/news/women-world-war-ii-factories-photo-tos#&gid=cio242bb9d50002761&pid=black-women-wwii-gettyimages-3241556](http://www.history.com/news/women-world-war-ii-factories-photo-tos#&gid=cio242bb9d50002761&pid=black-women-wwii-gettyimages-3241556).



outside sources such as the Library of Congress and other peer-reviewed or government-run sites in order to more fully realize their impact on the war effort.

This research furthered my understanding of the vital factory and industry work pioneered by many women, including women of color. As the workforce shrank with the rise in deployments for the war, women of all races stepped into factory and industry jobs, and some even retained them after the war.

My research also helped me understand the role of Black men in the war effort. I learned that many fought overseas in an effort to aid the country or retained skilled-jobs on the home-front. During this same time, a movement known as the “Double Victory” campaign highlighted the lack of recognition Black Americans were receiving for their tremendous war efforts, and in doing so, advocated for expanded civil rights among Black Americans. This important and groundbreaking social wave opened up the conversation for the future civil rights movement, and while it is generally unknown today, was a major social step in supporting Black and POC Americans.

### Alexandra Himmel

My research focused on the unwavering and extraordinary efforts by the people of Haddonfield—and the country at large—to support the war. For example, I found an article in the *Haddon Gazette* that reported 600 men and women from Haddonfield were serving in the armed forces of the United States during WWII. Whether through voluntary or forced participation, the people of Haddonfield contributed considerably to the national forces.

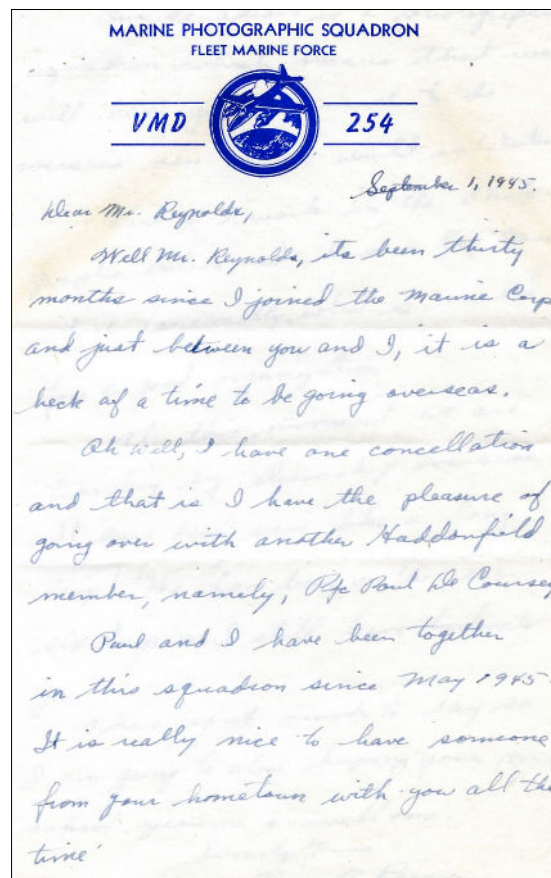
In particular, I learned about how one community member, Norm B. Rainier, found great consolation in joining the war

effort with another Haddonfield local. In a letter he wrote to Mr. Reynolds (*see below*), the principal of Haddonfield High School, he wrote that he was pleased to have a personal connection to a member of the Marine Corps: “I have the pleasure of going over with another Haddonfield member, namely, Pte. Paul De Coursey.” While the letter writer does not disclose if he was enlisted or drafted, it is clear that the support of his community members ultimately impacted his time serving the country.

The high school yearbooks and memorials on the grounds of Haddonfield Memorial High School list the names of the high school-aged veterans who had to leave their education for the draft, serving as a way to remember them.

Although many members of Haddonfield participated in the war effort by choice, there were times when the national government mandated the country’s participation. For example, I found an article in the *Gazette* by New Jersey Congressman Charles A. Wolverton in which he informed the people of Haddonfield that a “gasoline rationing program” was being inaugurated in 17 Eastern States and the District of Columbia to curb personal gas usage. This program, implemented by the national government, promoted compulsory assistance for the war effort and helped advance the war itself.

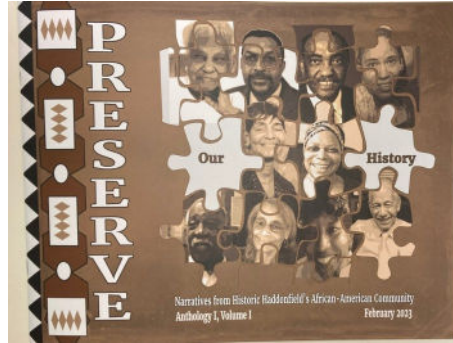
These examples shined a light onto just some of the many ways the town and the country at large provided participated in the war effort.



## PROJECT TO PRESERVE BLACK HADDONFIELD HISTORY

Members of the Preserving Black Haddonfield History Project (PBHHP) have been working to record the history of Black experience in Haddonfield so that it can be incorporated into the town's heritage. Their recently published anthology, *Preserve: Narratives from Historic Haddonfield's African-American Community*, presents readers with first-person accounts from ten elders in the community—some of whom were born here in the 1930s and live here still today—about being African Americans in Haddonfield and the surrounding towns. It includes a foreword that provides an overview of the history of Haddonfield's Black community.

The anthology is part of a larger project by the PBHHP to preserve the history of Haddonfield's African American community and connect today's Haddonfield students with



members of the African American community. The project's goal is not only to celebrate African American history, but also to nurture community bonds.

The project represents a partnership between the Haddonfield Education Association, the Anti-Racist Coalition, Haddonfield Memorial High School, and the Historical Societies of Haddonfield and Lawnside.

On February 22, 2023, the HSH hosted the anthology's executive editor C. Adrienne Rhodes and other PBHHP members for an online presentation and discussion of their work to record and preserve Haddonfield's Black history. Attendees learned about the ongoing project and heard some of the stories that are collected in the anthology. For more information:

<https://www.haddonfieldlibrary.org/local-history>

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HADDONFIELD



HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY of  
HADDONFIELD

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E-mail: [info@haddonfieldhistory.org](mailto:info@haddonfieldhistory.org)



## SUMMER STORY TIME WITH THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

By Deborah Garwood

Children and their families are warmly invited to Story Time 2023. We hope you will join us on Friday mornings in July for this beloved summer event in the Gardens of Greenfield Hall and outside Patricia Lennon Archives Center.

Each week, a librarian from Haddonfield Public Library reads children's stories to a group of eager listeners. Attendees may be seated on quilts under the pergola, or tucked in the shady alcove outside the Patricia Lennon Archives Center. Stories with a topic related to Haddonfield history—ranging from farming and dinosaurs to firetrucks, paleontology, and homemade desserts—are then followed by a craft activity.

Now in its fifth year, Story Time in the Gardens of Greenfield Hall was inaugurated in 2018 by HSH trustee Deborah Garwood as a partnership between the Historical Society of Haddonfield and Haddonfield Public Library. The goal of the Story Time is to foster both a love of reading and an appreciation for local history.



A typical audience includes 10 children and 6 adults. An accessible restroom is available. Attendees can register through the Haddonfield Public Library's website. Check the Haddonfield Public Library website in June for dates and times: <https://www.haddonfieldlibrary.org/>. Register early, and join us for Story Time in the Gardens of Greenfield Hall!

## Volunteer Opportunities

We are looking for volunteers to support the daily operations of the Historical Society. We have opportunities for everyone, even if you can only spare a few hours.

Please scan the QR Code below to sign-up or call the office at (856) 429-7375 or email us at [info@haddonfieldhistory.org](mailto:info@haddonfieldhistory.org) to sign-up and for more information.



## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

By Karynna Baresel

As our annual membership drive begins, you should have received or will be receiving your membership renewal letter in the mail. This may be a challenging time, but with your help the Historical Society will continue to preserve Haddonfield's unique spirit and character. Remember your benefits include:

- \* A subscription to the *Bulletin*.
- \* Free admittance to general membership meetings and quarterly lectures.
- \* Free tours of Greenfield Hall and the Don Wallace Tool Gallery (depending on COVID restrictions).
- \* Discounts on special events, rentals and 10% off Society Publication.

\* Access to the new Patricia Lennon Archive Center, when we are open to public; and

\* Most importantly, the opportunity to contribute to the preservation and teaching of Haddonfield's rich history, and to the maintenance of the Society's historic buildings, grounds, and collections.

You can submit your membership dues by sending payment in the return envelope, which is provided with your renewal letter or by completing the form below.

You can also pay your membership online through our website [www.haddonfieldhistory.org](http://www.haddonfieldhistory.org) by clicking the "Support" tab and then clicking on the "Become a Member" tab.

## THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HADDONFIELD 2023/24 MEMBERSHIP FORM

☐ YES! I (we) would like to JOIN The Historical Society!

☐ YES! I (we) would like to RENEW my (our) membership!

## The type of membership desired is:

_____ Contributing Member	35.00
_____ Contributing Household	55.00
_____ Patron Member	150.00
_____ Patron Household	250.00
_____ Haddon Society	1,000.00
_____ President's Circle	1,500.00
_____ Senior Citizen (65 +)	25.00

## Contact Information:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

THE BULLETIN newsletter preference: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail/electronic copy \_\_\_\_\_ "snail mail" copy

☐ Contact me about volunteer opportunities! I can help with: \_\_\_\_\_

Information filed with the Attorney General concerning this charitable solicitation and the percentage of contributions received by the charity during the last reporting period that were dedicated to the charitable purpose may be obtained from the Attorney General of the State of NJ by calling 973-504-6215 and is available on the internet at <http://state.nj.us/lps/ca/charfrm.htm>. Registration with the Attorney General does not imply endorsement.

## Mail this form &amp; check to:

The Historical Society of Haddonfield  
343 Kings Highway East  
Haddonfield, NJ 08033



## Candlelight Dinner Wrap Up

This year's Candlelight Dinner and Annual Meeting was held in person on March 22. We were fortunate to have an entertaining and informative program presented by George Boudreau, PhD. Dr. Boudreau spoke about the topic of his most recent book, *Women in George Washington's World*, which he co-edited with Charlene M. Boyer Lewis and which features the stories of some of the women—Black and White, free and enslaved—whose lives intersected with Washington.

This Society event has been held as an annual meeting and membership dinner for more than 60 years. This year, it was held at Il Villaggio restaurant in Cherry Hill, with more than 80 people in attendance. In addition to Dr. Boudreau's presentation, there was a greeting from HSH President, Charlene Creed, and a report from the nominating committee on nominees for the board of trustees.

We are grateful to our sponsors and all our guests who helped make this event a successful Candlelight Dinner for the Society.

### Sponsors

Mike Gotwols  
Haddon Township  
Historical Society

### Dinner Patrons

Tim & Pam Alles  
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Doug & Nancy Rauschenberger  
Steve & Diane Snodgrass  
Dave Stewart  
Jim & Kathy Tassini



## REVOLUTIONARY WAR HISTORY: MAY 17

Join us for a lecture that examines the country's rocky road to revolution, when many colonists divided over the fraught decision to challenge the king and Parliament. Herb Kaufman will present "Fighting for the Crown: Colonial Loyalists" on Wednesday, May 17 at 6:30pm at the Lutheran Church of Our Savior (204 Wayne Avenue).

HSH is co-hosting the lecture, which will

include the Society's May General Membership Meeting, with the Friends of the Indian King Tavern.

The lecture is part of a series of events the Indian King Tavern is hosting in advance of the June 3 Skirmish.

For more information:

<https://haddonfieldskirmish.com/events/>.



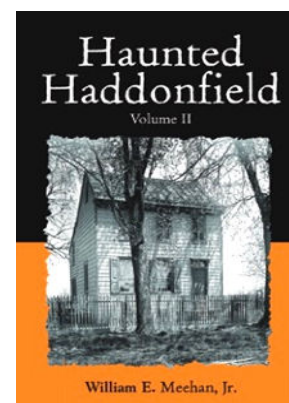
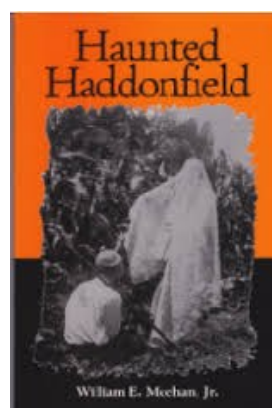
## SAVE THE DATE!

A local favorite, the Haunted Haddonfield walking tours will be back in October.

Dates are scheduled for Friday and Saturday, October 13, 14, 20, 21, 27 & 28. Groups will meet at 7:00 PM at

Greenfield Hall. The tours are based off the stories in the *Haunted Haddonfield* books I & II written by the late author Bill Meehan. Tickets will go on sale in mid-September. Questions?

[info@haddonfieldhistory.org](mailto:info@haddonfieldhistory.org)



## COLLECTIONS UPDATE

by Dianne Snodgrass

Members of HSH Collections Team keep very busy. If we are not working through the process of accepting a new object or acquisition, we can be found monitoring the temperature and humidity in Greenfield Hall, cleaning our third floor workspace, changing over the bugs sticky traps with pheromone lures for the next year, lining storage drawers with acid free board, making plans to rehome objects which do not tell a Haddonfield story (provenance) and planning future exhibits. Through this work, John Dowd, Mike Gotwols, and Jack Cotter make huge volunteer contributions to our museum space.

It has been said that pictures can be worth 1,000 words. Here are some photos to show you what we've been up to lately:

Jack Cotter is checking for insect infestation in one of the many rolling wardrobes in Greenfield Hall storage rooms (*far top left photo*). He also helped check the 40+ archival textile boxes for insects. One article of Persian lamb trim showed evidence of moth larvae and went directly to the freezer for cold treatment.

Jack Cotter and Mike Gotwols are measuring e-flute archival board to line wooden storage drawers in Greenfield Hall's third floor (*bottom left photo*).



Dianne Snodgrass is coordinating research on two objects with HSH archivist Dr. David Platt in the Archives Center (*near top left photo*). The trophies are connected to the Middleton and Gill families from Haddonfield.

John Dowd is working with the HSH acquisition book and a collection of antique candle nippers/snuffers and steel kitchen knives (*bottom near left photo*). To date, John has completed 28 of these clear view box mini exhibits of "Smalls" objects.



**To learn more about our collections, visit our page on the Historical Society's website: <https://haddonfieldhistory.org/greenfield-hall-history/collections/>.**



## FROM THE DON WALLACE TOOL GALLERY

by Mike Underwood

“WHAT’S IT.” For those who have attended our Candlelight Dinner, or visited one of our table displays in downtown Haddonfield may have noticed a selection of items under the title, “What’s it.”

“What’s it” is the presentation of ten tools and items from our collections. Each item may have been made and used in the mid-nineteenth or early twentieth century or it may be one that had unique purpose or design for its user.

Everyone thinks the challenge is for those completing the quiz and trying and get all ten answers correct. There are people who may have known what the items are or, by a few lucky guesses, have gotten all ten right. What is unknown is the challenge Karynna and I face when putting the quiz together.

The first step is finding mystery tools that may not have been used before in a “What’s It” display. Once the object is found, I write up a short summary of what the tool is, including a description of what it is used for. The challenge comes when I find the right object in a particular craft area, but I do not know what it is or what it was used for. By doing some research, I can usually find the answers. If I cannot, the search begins for another tool until I have the ten.

Once the ten tools are collected, along with the correct documentation, I pass them on to Karynna. Karynna is the soul of the project. She makes the quiz by selecting alternative, misleading tool names that will make the quiz taker think hard before putting their answer on the quiz paper. Very few people have been able to identify all ten items correctly, but it has been done.

This is just one of the many ways HSH members and volunteers provide support to me in the Tool Gallery. As Curator of Tools, much of the success in the presentation of the tools in the gallery comes from these volunteers, to whom I am very grateful, and I thank them.

The month of May is the mid-point of spring, a season I love and enjoy, with the coming of warm



weather, the blooming of the trees, the blossoming of the flowers and the grass turning green. We use gardening tools that have not changed designs in centuries, and function as they did when they were first made.

I have one peeve about May related to Memorial Day. Memorial Day is when we honor those the men and women of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Coast Guard who have given their lives in fighting for our country.

Now let me call this “WHAT’S IT NOT.” Memorial Day is not Veterans’ Day, November 11, the day when we honor those who have served in the military and are still alive, and we say, thank you for your service. Memorial Day is not the beginning of summer, which is June 21.

Memorial Day is not an occasion for celebrating a Memorial Holiday. Stores holding Memorial Day sales detract from the dignity and respect we should show for those who gave their all. My feeling on this came about when a salesclerk said to me, “Have a Happy Memorial Day.” I lost friends and classmates in the Vietnam War, and Memorial Day is a Day of sadness and remembrance.

Please teach your children and grandchildren, no matter what age they are, what Memorial Day is, and “WHAT’S IT NOT.”

# The Historical Society of Haddonfield

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## **GREENFIELD HALL HOURS**

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