

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BENSALEM TWP

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NEWSLETTER FOR NOV. AND DEC. 2021

As we near the end of 2021, we are all hoping for a healthier, safer 2022 and that we will be able to return to our usual events.

Thanks to everyone who brought their membership up to date for 2021.

ICE SOCIAL EVENT

Our first meeting on Sept. 2nd was held in the Pavilion at 6pm. Not many members attended so some had an extra ice cream sandwich to enjoy.

PIRATE SHIP "WHYDAH GALLY"

On October 7th, Mike Jesberger revealed the fascinating history of this pirate ship. Built in 1716 in London as a slave ship but on the return leg of its' maiden voyage it was captured by the pirate Captain Samuel "Black Sam" Bellamy and began a new role in the Golden Age of Piracy. Bellamy sailed the Whydah up the coast of colonial America capturing many ships along the way. Unfortunately, on April 26, 1717 it was caught in a violent storm and wrecked off the coast of Cape Cod, Massachusetts. All but 2 of the 150 man crew perished but 102 bodies were found and buried by a local salvager.

The Whydah was carrying 4 ½ to 5 tons of silver, gold, gold dust, and jewelry which had been divided into 180..50 pound sacks that were stored between the ship decks. None of this bounty was found

until 1984 when Barry Clifford found the wreckage after finding a 1717 map of the wreck site. A true Pirate treasure map! For over 260 years this treasure lay under 14 feet of water and 5 feet of sand. One of the biggest finds in 1985, was that of the ship's bell inscribed "Whydah Gally 1716" proving that it was indeed the original pirate ship and authenticated it beyond a doubt. **A TRUE PIRATE SHIP TALE**

Glen Foerd Tour

Twelve members attended the Sept. 11th tour guided by Chris. He shared all the history of the Foerderer family and the beauty of the mansion and its grounds. He answered many questions along the way. Thanks to Chris and all who attended for a nice afternoon along the river.

Flea Market

The Sept. 25th Flea Market was another profitable event. The weather was great and not too hot for the vendors and buyers. Many **THANKS** to the following people for helping that day... Community Service students from the High School -Andrew Obeid, Mira Panchal, Ritvika Patel and members Hank Arment, Kathy Leighton, Sheldon Per, Joe Gavaghan, Bob Johnson, Rob Homolka, Jill Freeman, Peg Thullen, Charlene Dornisch, John Dignam, Renee Kitchenman, Russ Lake, Vicki MacDougall, Joe Sadler, Sally Sondesky, and Carolyn Per for taking all the calls. Our totals are Spaces \$720; Stand \$247.75; Snacks \$22.00; Records/books \$82.75 and donations of \$5.00 for a grand total \$1077.50

NEW MEMBERS

Jeanne Friend

Fritzpatrick Family

Rich Patton

NEW ADDITIONS

George Bryant donated the history of the Pen Ryn Day Camp with lots of pictures.

Historic Langhorne donated a copy of the 3 volumes of Davis Hist. of Bucks Co.; and a copy of Battles Hist. of Bucks Co. 1985

Pa. Museum donated items from the Logan Collection; a large miniature collection and several straight razors.

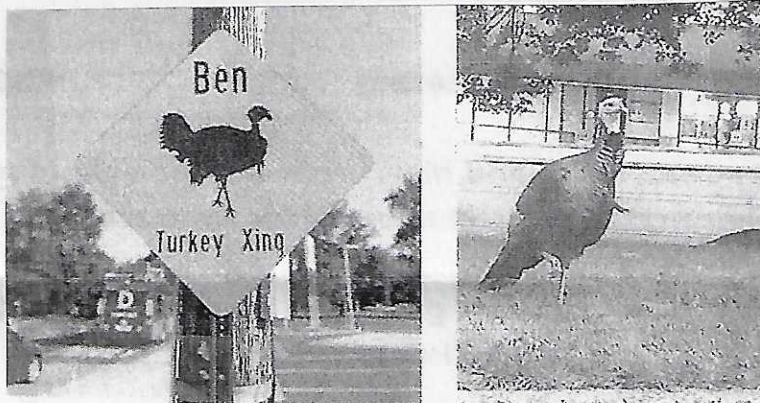
Charlene Dornisch donated several books about Northeast Phila.

Dr. Stephanie Morris donated special paper and items for the office.

Fred Brennan donated a copy of the Bensalem Twp. School Personnel directory.

BENSALEM'S MASCOT

I'm sure you have read about this unusual mascot who has adopted Bensalem.....Ben the Turkey! Be very careful when you travel on or near Bristol Road as he lives somewhere near it. Stay safe Ben!



MEMORY QUESTIONS

We are still looking for the following pictures

Blue Hill Diner

Blue Spruce Inn (Trevose)

Cornwells Skating Rink

Ernie Buehl's house on Hulmeville Rd

Four Seasons Swim Club on Mechanicsville Rd

DUES ARE DUE FOR 2022

Single membership is \$15; Family is \$20 and Business \$75. These dues have not changed for many years and we hope you will continue to support this group.

NEED VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for people who would like to write articles for our new book. It involves a little checking for additional data on a subject (person or place) but the basic info is available.

CALENDAR

Nov. 4 th	“Part 1 of Bridges over the Poquessing” By Patty McCarthy	7:00
Nov. 20 th	Board Meeting	12:00
Dec. 2 nd	“History of the Lenape Tribe” By Matt Bieleck	7:00
Dec. 18 th	Board Meeting	12:00 ,

REMINDER that in Jan., Feb., and Mar. we meet on a Sunday at 2:00. Double check the next newsletter for dates.

Thought for the New Year....Live a good and honorable life, then when you get older and think back, you'll enjoy it a second time.

The Board