



HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BENSALEM TWP.

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MAY AND JUNE 2011 NEWSLETTER

If you think we have had some very unusual weather this year read these records found in an old letter to the editor of the Bulletin. The last date is 1898.

May 3, 1774 several inches of snow

May 8, 1803 heavy snow fell

June 1816 several snow falls- called "year without a summer"

May 1845 light snow, heavy frost killed all the corn

May 3, 1851 2 to 3 inches of snow

May 29, 1857 light snow

Let's not complain too much.....

Mr. Joe Trucks, a Korean Vet, shared his knowledge of that war at the March meeting. It was very interesting to learn about this "forgotten war". Thank you Mr. Trucks, for reminding us to thank those veterans and remember those who didn't return home.

General Douglas MacArthur's Spanish Boat Howitzer was displayed at the April meeting. Mr. Jim Bogan from the Bensalem Country Club spoke about Mr. Standish Forde Hansell who had owned the cannon. Mr. Hansell rescued it from MacArthur's hotel balcony in the Philippines and brought it back to Bensalem in 1944-45. Mr. Walter Arch then presented the origin of the cannon back to 1894 in Manila. It was a special treat to see and learn about this piece of American History. Thanks to both Mr. Bogan and Mr. Arch for sharing this bit of history with us.

NEW MEMBERS

Jim Bogan Family

Ray Guim Family

John Knowles Family

Alec Pettifer Family Edward Strange Family James Strange Family

ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY

David & Kathy Oettinger donated reunion pictures from the Class of 1938, articles about the Pen Ryn organ and dedication of the stadium.

Stauring Family donated an Eddington Hardware Store yardstick, and a postcard of Christ Church.

Hank Arment donated articles from the Bensalem Music Booster Association in 1981-2

James D. Amos donated a tripod for a camera for our collection

Through Shirley Lehr we received various items pertaining to Christ Church that just closed.

From Al Strange we received several Tri -Centennial items to add to our collection.

Bruce Forstater donated 12 pages showing the building plans for the Liberty Bell Harness Track in 1969.

Also added to our Library are items from the Cornwells Skating Rink that has been sold to the School Lane Charter School. Pictures of the interior of the rink and other items are now in our files.

Recently we have come into the possession of many items from the Willow Grove Air Museum. These things are being sorted to see if they pertain to Bensalem. Thanks to John Dignam and Rob Homolka for transporting them and Charles Satterfield for sorting them.

APPRAISAL DAY

Thanks to Paula Fox for sharing her knowledge for this fund raiser that was held on April 2nd. Eighteen people had a chance to learn about their treasurers and it raised \$192. Thank you Paula.

Another fund raiser is a basket of "Goodies" that you might remember from your younger days and still love to eat. From Peanut Chews and Tastykakes to pretzels and Good & Plenty candy fill this basket. For only \$1 a chance you might win and really enjoy all these treats. The winner will be announced at the June Picnic so get your chances now.

Our new brochure has arrived showing the building on the cover. Check it out.

SPECIAL EVENT

An Historical Society fund raiser is planned for May 11th at Friendly's from 5-8. See attached sheet, mark your calendar and join us for some delicious food.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Civil War Encampment that we sponsor is on April 30th and May 1st. If you can spare a few hours come out and help at this event.

The Johnson-Williamson Cemetery Eagle Scout project has been completed. Check out the map showing the layout of the cemetery and how nice it looks. Thanks Eric for a job well done.

SUMMER SCHEDULE

The office will be open on Wednesday's from 9-12 and on Saturday's from 10-12. Volunteers are always needed to help both for inside and outside work. Many hands make the jobs go faster.

SPECIAL EVENT

On Sunday, June 5th, members and friends are invited to tour the Johnsville Centrifuge and Science Museum. We will meet at the centrifuge at 12:30. The tour is one and a half hours. John Glenn, Alan Shepard, and Scott Carpenter trained here. The museum is located across from Ann's Choice on the same side of Street Road in Warminster.

Directions: West on Street Road to Jacksonville Road. Make a right onto Jacksonville Road and go .5 mi to Eagle Rd/Johnsville Blvd. Turn left and continue .3 mi to second stop sign. The centrifuge is on the right.

Please call Carol McCloskey at 215-245-4856 to sign up or if you have any questions.

The enclosed \$1.00 coupon is for the Steak & Hoagie Factory for a \$1.00 off each sandwich, no limit. Each coupon redeemed provides the Historical Society with \$1.00. Coupons good from May until July and we have more copies available at our office. Steak & Hoagie Factories are located in Penndel, 313 West Lincoln Highway close to the House of 10,000 frames or in Somerton, Warminster and Abington. Penndel may deliver to your location, just give them a ring at 215-741-6555. Eat, enjoy and give the Society a financial benefit.

At our annual picnic on June 2nd a meat tray will be provided along with beverages. Please bring a dish to share. We will meet at 6:30.

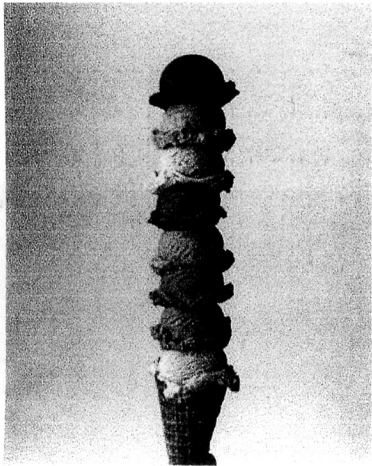
CALENDAR FOR MAY & JUNE

APR. 30 & MAY 1	Civil War Encampment	all day
MAY 5TH	" Bensalem Memories" A sharing of our memories	7:00
MAY 11TH	Friendly's Fund Raiser On Street Road near Knights Rd.	5 - 8
MAY 19th	Board Meeting	7:00
JUN. 2ND	Annual Picnic At the Pavilion near the office	6:30
JUN. 5th	Tour of the Johnsville Centrifuge And Science Museum	12:30
JUN. 16th	Board Meeting	7:00

HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER

Hope to see you all on Sept. 1st or at the office helping out over July and August.

The Board



Eat ice cream; help the historical society

Mark your calendars: On May 11 the Historical Society of Bensalem Township will hold a fundraiser at Friendly's, 2369 Street Road — just a block from our headquarters.

Come on over anytime between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. Order dinner or have some dessert. The restaurant will donate a percentage of the evening's sales to us — the more you eat, the more they sell and the more we get.

Ask your friends, neighbors and family members to join us. Who doesn't want some delicious ice cream on a warm evening?

See you at Friendly's on May 11. Bring your appetites!