

# ***PRISON MUSEUM POST***

*The Official Newsletter of the Historic Burlington County Prison Museum Association  
Incorporated in 1966*

Volume XVI, Issue III

June 5, 2017

## ***PRISON MUSEUM OPEN FREE TO PUBLIC Friday, June 23, 2017 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.***

The Museum will be open to the public for free from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday, June 23, 2017. Our audio tour, which is usually available at a cost of \$3 extra, will also be free to visitors that evening.

## ***PLEASE JOIN THE PRISON MUSEUM ASSOCIATION***

Please consider joining the Prison Museum Association. The Association was incorporated in 1966 by the same group of people who a decade earlier had convinced the Burlington County Freeholders not to demolish the Old Jail to make room for a parking lot. They knew that the building, which was eventually



designated a National Historic Landmark, was a truly significant historic site. Fifty-one years later, the Freeholders continue to maintain the building and the PMA is still here, preserving the history of the Old Jail and promoting the site as a tourist destination. We do this through our website, social media, publications, souvenirs, events and exhibits, financed through admissions, gift shop proceeds, dues and donations. Please consider joining our worthy cause. For a mere \$15 per year (\$25 for a family), you get the Prison Museum Post (published four times per year), 10 % off gift shop items, free admission to the museum, invitations to members-only events and the satisfaction that you are helping to preserve the history of a national historic treasure. An application can be found on our website: [www.prisonmuseum.net](http://www.prisonmuseum.net).

## ***ELLIS PARKER DIARY AND NOTES PROVE FASCINATING***

Ellis Parker's diary circa 1900 and his notes from 1927 are proving to be a treasure trove of information about the criminal justice system and life in general in Burlington County at that time. PMA member Andy Sahol, grandson of the famous Burlington County Detective, graciously donated copies of these items to us last year.

We attach some of our research to each issue, and this issue will feature excerpts from the diary and notes. PMA Vice-President Dave Kimball has been pouring over the material, and has edited it for this issue.

Here's a few things to know when you are reading the excerpts. First, while the diary is written by hand, the notes were typed by a secretary, probably Parker's long-time Girl Friday, Anna Bading. Clifford Cain, Arthur Carabine, George Griffin, Howard Mathis and Arthur Schulke were all detectives working under Parker. It appears that there were as many or perhaps even more county detectives in 1927 than there were in the 1950s, probably because of Prohibition. Prohibition was a constitutional ban on the production, importation, transportation and sale of alcoholic beverages that remained in place from 1920 to 1933. Enabling legislation, known as the Volstead Act, set down the rules for enforcing the federal ban and defined the types of alcoholic beverages that were prohibited. For example, religious uses of wine were allowed. The law was widely disregarded, as you can see from Parker's notes. One imagines that the criminal justice system lost a lot of business when Prohibition ended in 1933.

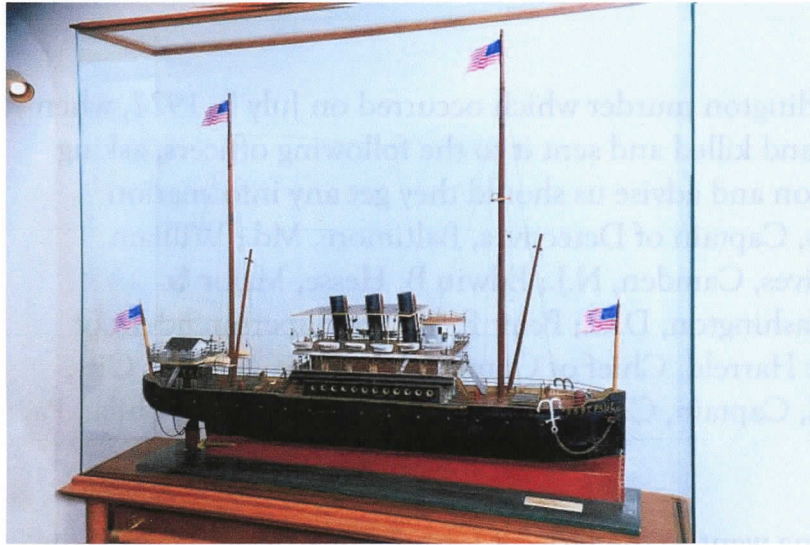
You might be interested, as we were, to the entry in which Detective Carabine expresses satisfaction with the "identiscope". Twenty years ago, we would have put the word out to our members asking if any of them knew what the heck an "identiscope" was. It is so much easier today - all we have to do is click Google. In any event, here is a picture of a New York City detective using an identiscope in the 1920s. It was an optical instrument which compared photographs or daguerrotypes\* of persons done many years apart, making it possible to know whether or not the image was of the same person.



The identiscope was invented in 1873 by an Englishman named William Matthew. Apparently identity theft was as much a problem a hundred years ago as it is today. In 1874, following a case in which the identiscope was first used, Parliament



made fraudulently obtaining land by way of false impersonation a crime punishable by life imprisonment.



We hope to fill future issues of the *Post* with many more interesting stories and information to come out of Parker's notes and diary.

We also hope to get back to trying to solve one of our biggest mysteries: Who built the model of the S.S. St. Paul, 12,000-ton passenger liner built

in Philadelphia in 1895? We know that an inmate built the model sometime between 1895 and 1903 and presented it to the warden. On the left is a photo of the restored ship taken by our Museum Attendant, Dennis McDonald. The model is displayed in the Museum.

This will be the last *Post* until the Fall. Again, please consider joining the PMA. Please visit the museum over the summer... and bring your friends! And don't forget to try out our audio tour.

Have a great summer!

*\*What is a Dauguerrotype? First successful photographic process (1839-1860) in which the image is captured on a silvered copper plate. Named for the inventor, Louis Daugerre.*

**Historic Burlington County Prison  
Museum Association ("PMA")**

P.O. Box 483, Mt. Holly, NJ 08060

PMA Office Fax: 609-261-5252

Museum/Gift Shop Phone: 609-265-5476

Email: [pma1811@verizon.net](mailto:pma1811@verizon.net)

Website: [www.prisonmuseum.net](http://www.prisonmuseum.net)

**Board of Trustees:**

Clark Bish

Susan R. Dargay, Esq. (Treasurer)

Ian Johns

David A. Kimball (Vice-President)

Carole Melman

Janet L. Sozio, Esq. (President)

Gary F. Woodend, Esq. (Secretary)

Regan Young, AIA

**Prison Museum Post Editor:** Janet L. Sozio, Esq.

Please help us preserve and promote the Prison Museum by joining the PMA. Our annual dues are only **\$15(individual)/\$25 (family).**

Membership benefits include a quarterly newsletter, event updates, 10% off gift shop purchases, and free admission to the museum.

Go on the website for an application.

## BURLINGTON COUNTY DETECTIVE REPORT

Aug. 3, 1927

Wrote an account of the Burlington murder which occurred on July 8, 1927, when Charles Alexander was shot and killed and sent it to the following officers, asking that they make an investigation and advise us should they get any information whatever - Charles H. Burns, Captain of Detectives, Baltimore, Md.; William Schregler, Captain of Detectives, Camden, N.J.; Edwin B. Hesse, Major & Superintendent of Police, Washington, D.C.; Peter F. Walsh, Superintendent of Police, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Frank Harreld, Chief of County Detectives, Atlantic City, N.J.; and Theodore F. Wood, Captain, Commanding Detective Division, Phila., Pa.

...

Clifford Cain and Mrs. Bading went to the farm of John F., near Woodlane on the Burlington Road and took the statement of Harvey J. concerning Frank Riley and Alex C. Alex C. is the man who stabbed Riley with a pitch fork.

Aug. 3

Clifford Cain, Arthur Carabine, Lieut. Goldy, George Griffith, Arthur Sculke and Officer Schultz raided the following places in Florence Township....

Mary H., 62 Norman Ave., Roebling, found a 10 gallon still; 5 gallon keg; 2 gallon stone jug; 2-1 gal. glass jugs; 2 qt. mason jar containing liquor and 50 gallons of mash destroyed. To be given a hearing before Frank S. Absalom, this afternoon.

Victor A., of Roebling, found 5 gal. can containing liquor; quart bottle containing liquor and a case of beer. To be given a hearing before Frank A. Absalom, this afternoon.

Jack R., who runs the Fieldsboro Hotel, found 5 quarts of liquor. To be given a hearing before Clifford Powell, tomorrow morning.



Aug. 13

At 1:15 a.m. this date, a Tri-State Bus, driven by Wallace M., 21 years old, who lives at the present time on Green Street, in one of the bungalows along the creek ... driver's license no. 51321, driving no. 11 Tri-State Bus, had as a passenger Oliver B., of Oakdale, R.F.D. #2. A Ford Coupe, owned and driven by Donald W., Camden license no. 3388, was stopped at the side of the road, at the public service cut-off from the main railroad track in front of Bert Wells' home on the Marne Highway. Donald W. got out, he was running out of gas, and Boyden Bell, who was a passenger with Donald W., moved over to the driver's seat while Donald W. looked under the seat to see how much gas he had. The bus was coming down the grade about 45 to 50 miles an hour, crashed into the back of the Ford sedan and carried same along 21 paces ahead of it, wound it around a telegraph pole and the bus continued up to the railroad track. Bell was taken out of the car by John E. Kelly ... Kelly took Bell to the hospital where it was found he had a fractured leg and the 6<sup>th</sup> vertebrae in his neck was broken. I preferred a charge against Wallace M., of aggravated assault and battery by automobile and committed him to jail at 3:15 this a.m. On call from the hospital at 5 a.m. this morning, I learned that Bell had died, so the charge will be changed to manslaughter.

Aug. 17

Elizabeth J., who will be at 196 Washington St., Mt. Holly came to this office and stated that she is 18 years old and that she has been going with William F. for two years and that she is now pregnant and William F. refuses to marry her. William F. works for the Pennsylvania Railroad, at 33<sup>rd</sup> St., Phila., Pa. Mr. Carabine stated that he would take care of this and have some news for her on Monday afternoon.

Aug. 24

Wrote letter to Research Engineering Corp for Mr. Carabine advising them that the identiscope is giving perfect satisfaction.

Aug. 26

Mr. Parker received a telephone call from Mrs. Dubre of Burlington, complaining that drunken men were continually coming out of Ham Ghaul's place, using profane language to the extent that she is unable to allow her children on the street.

Sept 13

Elizabeth Adams, a teacher at the High School, came to this office with Caroline C., one of the grade teachers, and reported that this morning, William A. ...was being corrected by Miss C. and he resented this, struck her with his fist, breaking her nose and then ran away from school... the boy stated that Miss C. accused him of not saluting the flag, which he says he did, called him out into the hall, pulled him by the collar, scratching his neck and tearing a button off his shirt, then pulled his hair and he struck her.

Sept 16

Arthur Carabine, Clifford Cain and Howard Mathis, Jr., raided the saw mill owned by John M., of Wading River, this p.m. and confiscated the following: - 3 -1000 gal steel stills, 6000 gallons of mash; 5 tons of corn sugar, 10 cases of yeast and 25 gal of liquor; also, there were many five-gallon cans around the place.

Sept 26

Mrs. Z,... came to this office with Mrs. D., of Riverside, and stated that Mrs. D. would be unable to be in court on Thursday to plead to the indictment, as she had to meet a sister at Ellis Island.

Sept 29

The following pleas were taken to indictments which have been found by the Grand Jury of the present term...

[A detailed listing of indictments follows, and include:

- 52 for prohibition violations
- 12 for assault and battery
- 8 for desertion and non-support
- 6 for disorderly house (prostitution)
- 4 for manslaughter
- 4 for larceny
- 3 for rape
- 2 each for carrying weapons and breaking and entering

1 each for possessing gambling machines, rape and fornication, forgery, larceny, malicious mischief and embezzlement.

52 of those accused of liquor laws violations pleaded not guilty. Sixteen either pleaded of were found not guilty and were fined a total of \$4,025.]

---

***Excerpt from Parker Diary, June 5, 1900:***

Went to Baltimore. Left Mt. Holly at 6 o'clock. Left Phila. 7:20. Arrived at Baltimore 9:10. Left 1:18. Arrived Phila 3:40. Left Phila 4 and arrived at Mt. Holly 4:47. Car fare \$4.00. Dinner \$1.50.

*Note to our readers: Isn't it interesting that in 1900 someone could go from Mt. Holly to Baltimore on business and get back in the same day? Apparently, there was train service all the way through. Wouldn't it be great to know exactly where Ellis boarded the train in Mt. Holly? Where and how he crossed the Delaware into Philadelphia? How he got from the river to the train station in Philadelphia? And finally, where and what did he have for supper?*

## PRISON MUSEUM ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

Through July 1, 2017

Janet C. Aaronson  
Judy M. Aley  
Richard Andronici, Esq.  
Wendy Andronici  
Hon. Marc Baldwin  
Arlene Baldwin  
Robert Bannon  
Jennifer Saul Brooks, Esquire  
Dr. Ari Brooks  
Bill Byrnes  
Beth Byrnes  
Hon. Susan Claypoole  
Richard Cosden  
Susan H. Donahue  
BettyLou Eastburn  
Hap Eastburn  
Dolly Emmons  
Stan Fayer  
Ellen Fayer  
*Burl. Co. Historical Society*  
Glen Filippone, Esq.  
Fred Galdo  
Sally Gordon  
Florence Gomez  
Holly Haines  
David Hasson  
Jane Fish  
Hon. Philip Haines  
Hon. Michael Hogan  
Jane Hopkins  
Robert Jones  
Charlotte Jones  
Hon. Marie Lihotz  
Carl Livingston  
Rosemary Livingston  
Susan Mathis  
Noman Miller  
Harriett Miller  
Augustus Mosca  
Michael L. Mouber, Esq.

Rocco Minervino, Esq.  
Roy Plummer  
*Armed Forces Heritage Museum*  
Dennis Rogers  
*Riverfront Historical Society*  
Andrew Sahol  
*Save The Fox*  
Eugene W. Stafford  
Pam & Brooke Tidswell, III  
Pearl J. Tusim  
Robert Ziccardi  
Elena Ziccardi  
David A. Kimball\*  
Ian Johns\*  
Clark Bish\*  
Carole Melman\*  
Brenda Marris  
Lisa Kruczek  
Rhondi Schwartz, Esq.  
Richard Strobel, Esq.  
Kenneth E. Smith, Esq.  
Janet L. Sozio, Esq.\*  
Karen Smith  
Hon. Karen Suter  
Anthony Tallarico  
Jude Del Preore  
*Burl Co. Court Administrator*  
Daniel J. O'Connell  
*United Transportation Union*  
*NJ State Legislative Director*  
Jean Stanfield  
*Sheriff of Burlington County*  
Mary Ann O'Brien  
*Surrogate of Burlington County*



*We also acknowledge our members  
who are professionals and business  
leaders:*

Eugene V. Timpano  
Cinnaminson  
Podiatric Medicine & Surgery  
856-786-2247

Our accountant:  
Gary F. Mazzucco, CPA  
Mazzucco & Co., CPA  
Moorestown  
856-234-7788

Vickie Bush  
Fox & Roach Realty  
609-206-0243

Regan Young\*  
RYEBREAD Architects-  
Regan Young England Butera  
Referendums, Engineering,  
Architecture, Design  
Mt. Holly  
609-265-2652

Peter Genzano  
Genzano Contractor  
Riverside  
Additions, Alterations, Siding,  
Masonry, Decks  
856-461-7249

Larry's Cleaners  
Dry Cleaning/Tailoring  
73 Sunset Road  
Willingboro

Elaine & Michael Meade  
Cheerful Dreams  
37 White Street  
Mt. Holly  
Metaphysical Gifts and Items

Michael McHale  
The Cobbler Shop  
Shoe Repair  
101 High St.  
Mt. Holly

Robert Silcox  
Terra Associates  
Commercial Real Estate  
Mt. Holly

Sandra Genzano  
Four Corners Travel  
[www.fourcornerstravelnj.com](http://www.fourcornerstravelnj.com)  
856-765-2440

Stockton's Dry Cleaning  
38 Washington St.  
Mt. Holly

Paul Detrick, Esquire  
Roni Detrick  
McDowell, Posternock,  
Apell & Detrick  
Bankruptcy, Litigation, real estate  
609-893-1000

Kirsten Ennis, Esquire  
Somerville  
Bankruptcy matters  
908-713-0345

Allen Gorski, Esquire  
Cheryl Gorski  
GorskiKnowlton  
Hamilton  
Bankruptcy matters  
609-964-4000

Jill T. Bryan, Esq.  
Turnersville  
Bankruptcy Matters  
856-227-2000

Honig & Greenberg  
Cherry Hill  
Creditor-rights matters  
(foreclosures, bankruptcy,  
collection, tax sales)  
856-770-0990

Linda Hynes, Esquire  
Domers, Bonamassa & Hynes  
Marlton  
Family law matters  
609-596-2888

Warren S. Jones, Esquire  
Mt. Holly  
Bankruptcy, real estate,  
real estate tax appeals,  
personal injury, wills, social  
security disability  
609-261-8400

Lavery & Sirkis  
Hackettstown  
Bankruptcy matters  
908-850-6161

Bruce Levitt, Esq.  
South Orange  
Commercial litigation,  
Foreclosure defense, bankruptcy  
973-313-1200

William H. Oliver, Esq.  
Neptune  
Bankruptcy Matters, real estate  
732-988-1500

Gary Woodend, Esq.\*  
Medford  
Real estate, construction,  
Municipal court, wills  
609-654-5489

Robert Weishoff, Esq.  
Carol Weishoff  
Weishoff and Richards  
Mt. Holly  
Landlord tenant matters  
609-267-5297

Travis Richards, Esq.  
Weishoff and Richards  
Mt. Holly  
Bankruptcy and  
landlord tenant matters  
609-267-5297

Daniel Straffi, Esq.  
Danielle Straffi  
Straffi & Straffi  
Toms River  
Bankruptcy, family law  
732-341-3800

Adam Schneider, Esq.  
Pat Schneider  
Long Branch  
Wills, personal injury  
732-962-4620

Berge Tumaian, Esq.  
Any Tumanian  
*Moorestown*  
*Family law*  
856-722-1818

Susan Dargay, Esq.\*  
*Mt. Holly*  
*Family law, guardianship*  
609-265-3985

Stewart LaVine  
INTERFACE  
*Communications*  
609-893-2597

Jan Myers  
*Jobstown*  
*Sewing, alterations*  
609-261-0314

Our lawyers:

ParkerMcCay  
*Mt. Laurel*  
[www.parkermccay.com](http://www.parkermccay.com)  
*Creditor rights, litigation, corporate,  
public school & education, insurance  
defense, etc.*

John M. Devlin  
Stephen J. Mushinski  
Stacy L. Moore  
Ronald C. Morgan  
Gene R. Mariano  
Harris Neil Feldman  
Mariel Giletto  
John Neckonchuk  
Kathleen T. O'Brien

\*Board Members