

## HISTORIC BURLINGTON COUNTY PRISON MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

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Janet L. Sozio, Esquire, President  
David Kimball, Vice-President  
Judith King, Secretary  
Susan R. Dargay, Esquire, Treasurer

Trustees:  
Michael Bright  
Carole Melman  
Gary F. Woodend, Esquire

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR !!!

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING - Sat, Nov. 4 at 10 a.m.  
HAUNTED EVENT - Oct. 20-22, 27-29 from 7 to 10 p.m.  
ELLIS PARKER BOOK SIGNING - Dec. 10 (tentative)

September 22, 2006

Dear Members and Other Friends:

I have a lot to tell you this time. The most important thing is that we are having the Haunted Event again this year. The flier which will soon be distributed far and wide is attached. As you can see, the event will be held two weekends, October 20-22 and 27-29. We need members to collect entrance fees at the door. Please consider volunteering on one of the nights. Please call Jail Attendant Marisa Bozarth to let her know if you can serve any one or more of the six nights. She can be reached at the PMA office on Wednesdays (609-518-7667) or at the Jail Thursday through Sunday (609-265- 5476).

As you know, the event was a tremendous success last year. PLEASE COME OUT AND HELP US! All we need is 3 hours of your time and its actually EASY and FUN. The kids scream their heads off.

The County will be taking good care of our beloved old Jail after our haunted event. The ivy growing through the exercise wall and adjacent honeysuckle will be cut back. The back wall is scheduled to be re-stuccoed and repointed. A consultant will determine what to do about deterioration in the basement's east corridor, repointing of the High Street wall and a crack between the rear platform and the main prison wall.

Have you read the recent newspaper articles about the new book on Ellis Parker? As most of you know, Parker was Burlington County's Chief Detective from 1898 until 1937. His obsession with the Lindburgh Baby Case turned out to be his downfall. *Master Detective*, by John Reisinger, is a great read. Its on sale in our gift shop. We hope to have the author appear in the Old Courthouse, where the great sleuth's office was located, for a talk on the subject and a book signing. The tentative date is December 10; further notices will be sent. Please hold the date!

The old newspaper articles this time don't have much to do with the Jail, but I just couldn't resist the ones about the shipwreck off Beach Haven. Can't you just picture the crowd on the beach grabbing up the wine bottles as they floated ashore? And I love the Court Crier's advice that its probably not a good idea to appear in court drunk.

We are going to have our annual meeting pursuant to our by-laws on the first Saturday in November. Hopefully we'll spend the meeting discussing how successful the Haunted Event was again this year! Come and join us for coffee, donuts and some camaraderie on Saturday, November 4 at 10 a.m. in the Warden's Office.

Final Note from Webster's New World Dictionary: *Semaphore*: any apparatus or system for signaling, as by lights, flags, etc.

Cordially yours,

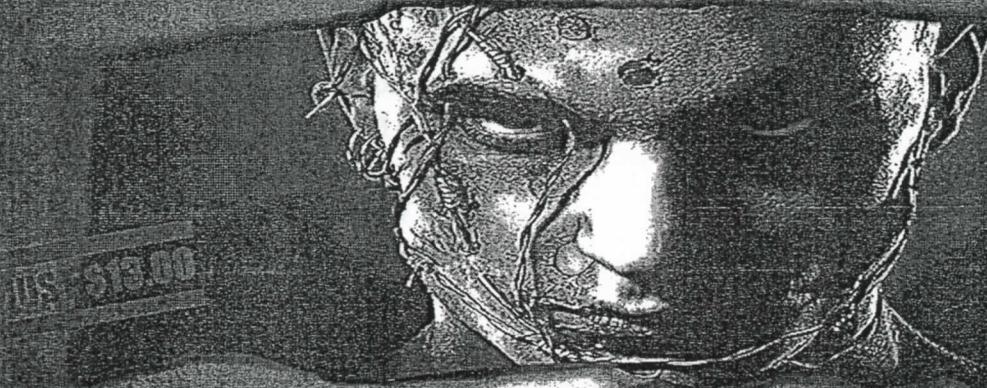


JANET L. SOZIO

PRISON MUSEUM ASSOCIATION  
2006 Members

Richard E. Andronici, Esquire  
Timothy E. Annin, Esquire  
Catharine B. Armstrong  
Jennifer C. Apell  
Kathleen Aspell  
Senator Martha Bark  
Joan Boas  
Attendant Marisa Bozarth  
Michael Bright  
Jill T. Bryan, Esquire  
Vickie Bush  
Susan R. Dargay, Esquire  
Jude Del Preore  
John M. Devlin, Esquire  
Domers & Bonamassa  
Matthew Doonan  
William J. Doyle  
Thomas Faile  
Hon. Dominick J. Ferrelli  
Glen Filippone, Esquire  
Edith Freeman  
Kristen & Natalie Freeman  
Fred Galdo  
Joyce Goldsmith  
Florence Gomez  
Kelly J. Griffin, Esquire  
County Clerk Phil Haines  
David Hasson  
Robert Hicken, Esquire  
Dr. Betty Hicken  
Laura Hicken  
David Hasson  
Pat Howell  
Michael C. Hovdestad, Esquire  
Marie Del Presto Jerlat  
Warren S. Jones, Esquire  
David A. & Daniel A. Kimball  
Judith L. King  
Kay Kline  
Stewart LaVine  
Scott Mahoney, Esquire  
Gene R. Mariano, Esquire  
Mazzucco & Co. CPAs  
Michael E. McHale  
Carole Melman & Glenn Kenny  
Henry W. Metzger  
Joan & Kenneth Milby  
Rocco Minervino, Esquire  
Stacy L. Moore, Esquire  
Ronald C. Morgan, Esquire  
Michael L. Mouber, Esquire  
Mt. Holly Business Association  
Stephen J. Mushinski, Esquire  
Janice Myers  
Lynn Pitts  
Ivan and Vicky Raymond  
Michael Rothmel, Esquire  
Rhondi Schwartz, Esquire  
Wendy Schmidt  
Ralph Shrom  
Robert Silcox  
Delsea Sozio  
Dena & Drew Sozio  
Janet L. Sozio, Esquire  
Jeanette Sozio  
Brooke Tidswell, III  
Henry Topel  
Traub & Tumaian  
Any Tumaian  
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Robert P. Weishoff, Esquire  
Barbara Westergaard  
Gary Woodend, Esquire  
David Wyche  
Janice Yates  
John P. Yetman, Jr., Esquire

WHERE THE ONLY THING  
THAT ESCAPES IS YOUR FEAR



# THE PRISON

OCT. 20, 21, 22 7-10 PM  
OCT. 27, 28, 29 7-10 PM

Sponsored by the  
Prison Museum Association  
in cooperation with the  
Burlington County  
Board of Chosen Freeholders



Burlington County Prison Museum  
A National Historic Landmark  
located in the heart of historic  
Mount Holly on the corner of  
Rt. 541 (High St.) and Grant St.

Not recommended for children under 10 years old

FOR ADVANCE TICKETS, GROUP RATES AND MORE INFORMATION CHECK OUT

[WWW.PRISONHAUNT.COM](http://WWW.PRISONHAUNT.COM)

## MT. HOLLY HERALD 1897

June 5, 1897

**Local Affairs.** The earthquake shock was felt very distinctly by a number of Mt. Holly people on Monday . . . Burglars have been at work at Evesboro lately. They were frightened away from Abraham Witcraft's house but broke into Job Evans' house and secured a small sum of money and a lot of eatables . . . Grocer S. C. Childs placed a handsome new delivery wagon in service last week. The vehicle is one of the latest patterns and is painted and lettered with good taste. The horse attached to it wore a new dress of harness. The rig is a credit to the owner... A little girl stopped her father on the street on Monday and asked him for a penny but was bluntly refused and driven away. Ten minutes afterward he was seen in a saloon in the first ward treating a number of his friends with a half dollar that his hardworking wife earned by washing clothes... The beautiful marble statue of Agnes Gilkerson, at Smithville, which was erected by the late Hezekiah B. Smith, and which has been greatly admired as a masterpiece of the sculptor's art for several years, was destroyed on Thursday by order of Captain Elton A. Smith, the eldest son, who controls the vast estate. The work of demolition was performed by Nelson Gaskill, who entered the yard, forced the statue from its pedestal, and soon reduced it to fragments. When the work was completed, the debris was carted to the creek and dumped into the water.

**Moorestown.** James Holmes, who has been employed at the sand pits near Borton's Landing as overseer, was lodged in jail on Wednesday on the double charge bigamy and larceny. The commitment for bigamy was made out by Justice Evans of Moorestown, and Justice Pettit of the same place, committed the defendant for stealing \$134 worth of goods from Laura Webster, who is the defendant's sister. As far as can be learned, his arrest is merely the outcome of a family quarrel that will be aired in court, and the particulars will be spicy.

**The Riverton Contested Election Case.** The Riverton contested election case came up for a hearing on Tuesday before Judge Miller in the Courthouse at Mt. Holly. Mark Sooy appeared for the incumbents and Samuel Beldon for the contestants. The contest is a three-cornered one, Charles Biddle is contesting the seat of Edward Stoughton as mayor, and Samuel Rudderow and Ezra Brown and Charles Hardman for the honor of representing the Borough in Council. The Court denied the motion to dismiss the petition and ordered the ballot box opened, and the recount was then proceeded with. While the recount was going on, an amusing incident occurred, George Grant, one of the witnesses in the case, was sitting beside William Stratton, and the two were having quite an animated debate in an undertone. It finally became obvious to the Court that Grant was suffering from that disease known as "locomotor applejackia", and he was ordered

to remain quiet. The Court crier interpreted this as an order to remove the offender, and before anyone was aware of it, he was transporting Mr. Grant to the jail. "Never mind locking him up", said the Court. "I only want him taken out where he can get some fresh air". The Court Clerk soon overhauled the Court Crier, who thereupon released Grant after giving him a few words of parental advice in which he impressed upon him the necessity of never appearing in the temple of justice with a jag on. When the recount was completed the result was a surprise to the contestants, as they were beaten worse than they were before . . . On Saturday, a few prisoners were brought in for sentence. Judge Gaskill fixed the penalties. Clinton Mathis, the Bass River man who makes a specialty of breaking windows, was sentenced to 60 days in the County Jail. Joseph Collier, the man with two wives, and who looks as if one was more than enough for him, was sentenced to one year in state prison for robbing Mrs. Ingraham, of Beverly, of watches and jewelry.

**Along the Shore (Beach Haven).** Papers were served on Tuesday upon the yachtsmen who reclaimed some of the cargo of the burned ship Francis in a suit brought by the Merritt and Chapman Wrecking Company as a test to decide the amount of salvage due. There are 45 barrels of wine involved. The citations are returnable before Judge Kirkpatrick in the United States District Court in Trenton on June 9. Some of the wreckers who recovered a barrel of brandy from the ship Francis buried the stuff along the beach in order to prevent its seizure by the U.S. Marshall, and now they haven't been able to locate the spot where they buried it. Their lot is indeed a sad one. When the revenue inspector came along looking for brandy that had come ashore from the wreck, someone told him that Riley Rogers, of Harvey Cedars, had buried a barrel of it. On meeting that individual, the inspector was satisfied that he had buried a good many barrels of it in his day, and therefore declined to search him. Since then, Riley has been ordered by the Board of Health to bury in a secluded spot the pipe that he has been smoking for the last 20 years. The wrecking of the ship Francis has set the cause of temperance back 20 years along the shore, as the vessel was loaded with wines and brandies and everybody was anxious for a nip of it. Even the most pronounced prohibitionists couldn't withstand the temptation to indulge while a few stowed it away in a secluded spot to be used only in the case of illness. A good many barrels of it came ashore this week. The Beach Haven folks didn't go to church last Sunday, as nearly everyone was busy gathering in barrels of wine that came floating in. Jed Sprague and Stacy Potts, the plumber, started out in a garvey to secure some of the plunder that was floating beyond the breakers. In their anxiety to secure as much of the liquor as possible, they put too great a strain on the garvey and the bottom fell out. Being in danger of drowning, they sent up a signal of distress, which was seen by the crew of the wrecking steamer, who rescued them and also secured the wine. It was a sad day for Jed and the plumber, but it might have been worse. A lot of redwood, canned salmon, etc., is still coming ashore from the wreck. Captain Hudson Gaskill, of Harvey Cedars,

has three barrels of fine juice at the life saving station awaiting a claimant.

**Moorestown.** On Friday last John Wesley Johnson, who recently distinguished himself by trying to massacre the colored preacher and afterwards attempted to assault Charles Coles, was committed by Judge Gaskill to the insane department of the Almshouse where he will be taken care of. The man has long been considered of unsound mind, and went under the influence of liquor, he is liable to kill anyone who comes in his way.

**Bordentown.** Just because two seminary girls leaned out of a second-story window on a moonlit night and talked with two gallant admirers perched on a wall 20 feet below them, the faculty of the Priscilla Braislin School for Girls is greatly excited and the culprits dismissed. The rules of the school prohibit its pupils from talking to young men when not under the eye of some of the faculty, and when it became known that Miss Jane Salsbury, of Brooklyn, New York, and Miss Fanny John, of Meyersdale, PA, had dared to violate that rule, they were ordered to pack their trunks and leave the institution. The two young men who talked from the top of the wall were Smith Buzby and Percy Raymond, who travel with Bordentown's swell set.

**Pemberton.** Two sets of twins have recently arrived at the Almshouse, and at the next meeting of the Board of Freeholders it is proposed to appoint a standing committee on twins. There are already several applicants for the place.

**Beverly.** Herman Davis of Edgewater Park, fell from a chicken coop at Rosedale last Thursday and broke his arm in three places . . . The dwelling house and barn of Eli Zeigenfuss, on the Rancocas Creek, in Willingboro Township, were burned to the ground on Saturday afternoon and their contents destroyed. The place is supposed to have been set on fire by two tramps, who were intoxicated. It is supposed they were caught in a conflagration and lost their lives.

**Vincentown.** Reverend Woolston, pastor of East Baptist Church, Philadelphia, will give a phonographic exhibition in the town hall on June 16. The proceeds are for the benefit of the Baptist Church. This is not Mr. Woolston's first time here and therefore it is not necessary to say anything as to his ability, as evidence of this all who were present will speak for themselves. To make it more marvelous, there will be present several musicians and others, who will perform and have the phonograph to repeat the same in precisely the same manner. Admission fee is small and all are earnestly invited to be present and help the cause.

**Jobstown.** On Monday while at the milk station here Samuel Potts was brutally assaulted by John Robinson, who had been employed on the Potts farm, and who left before his month was up. A day or two ago, he demanded his wages.

Mr. Potts gave him \$1.20, all he had in change, and said he would pay him the rest when his month was up. Robinson then left, but turned up on Monday and announced that he was going to take the balance of his wages out of his employer's hide. Before Mr. Potts had a chance to defend himself, Robinson knocked him down and cut his cheek open. He was then arrested and committed to the County Jail. He admits his guilt and says he was urged by others to make the assault.

**June 12, 1897**

**Local Affairs.** A slight fall of snow occurred in Mount Holly at 11:00 on Monday night. How's that for June! . . . Mt. Holly has 1,185 white and 74 colored children of school age . . . An agent for the sale of religious books, who has boarding at Mrs. Heard's on Brainard Street, skipped the other day without paying his board bill. He is thought to be an old hand at the business . . . A new semaphore has been erected at the entrance of the Pine Street Railroad . . . On Mill Street last Saturday night Fred Hooper and Joe McGuigan had a controversy that ended in an exhibition of the manly art in which Hooper got knocked out. Later he had McGuigan arrested and held to bail for his appearance at court. . . Report from several sections of the pines show that the frost last week did considerable damage to the cranberry bogs, and vines in some places looking as if a fire had passed over them. This will have a tendency to reduce the volume of the crop this year.

**Along the Shore.** Since the wreck of the Francis the hotel keepers haven't been doing much business, as nearly everyone along the shore has enough to keep them going for a year. It is said that even the mermaids at Beach Haven haven't been strictly sober for a month. Since the wine has been coming ashore from the wreck, the excitement at Beach Haven has been at fever heat. Many of the prohibitionists have been drinking the stuff, as they have suddenly discovered that it is a specific for all diseases. The captain of the Merritt Wrecking Tug, now engaged in raising the sunken cargo of the ship Francis, which burned to the water's edge below Beach Haven, had an escape from a peculiar death on Friday last, which he will not soon forget. To regain the cargo, it was necessary to resort to diving, and on that day the captain himself descended, leaving his mate in charge of the deck. The latter and the cook became engaged in a brawl, which ended in a free fight among all the crew, and the man at the air pump forgot his master at the bottom of the ocean. How long the air was cut off is not known. To the captain, who suffered the suffocation, it seemed a century; to the crew it was but a few minutes; but when they did bethink themselves of the life they held in their hands and brought the captain to the deck, he was almost dead. It took several hours' hard work to restore him to consciousness.