

**HISTORIC BURLINGTON COUNTY PRISON MUSEUM
ASSOCIATION**

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

Trustees:
Michael Bright
Carole Melman
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April 5, 2007

Dear Members and Other Friends:

Thank you for your continued support. If you paid your dues, your membership card will be enclosed and your name will continue to be on our membership and mailing lists.

We have quite a few new members. **Vickie Bush** is a real estate agent with Prudential Fox & Roach in Mt. Laurel. We welcome **Edwin and Judy Brock** of Delran, **Susan Mathis** of Cinnaminson, **Dick Emmons** of Pemberton, **Amy and Joan Filippone** of Moorestown and Lumberton resident **Barbara Gilbert**, whose late husband, Ken, was a guard in our Jail. New member **Peggy Francis** is a direct descendant of Sheriff Haines, who served in the early 1990s. Mrs. Francis is also probably a descendant of Sheriff Kirkbride, who served in the early 1800s. Another new member who may also be indirectly related to Sheriff Haines is the **Honorable Martin Haines**. Judge Haines is a retired superior court judge and the grandson and namesake of civil war veteran Captain Haines, who was often featured in our news articles for his farming successes. We also welcome Mt. Laurel resident **Terry Ezzo** and her granddaughters, Moorestown's **Brittany** and **Jill Van Meter**, who were among the many young people who screamed into the dark night at our 2006 Haunted Prison.

I want also to personally thank my many colleagues at the bar. Our attorneys, Parker, McCay, continue to support the PMA. The firm's **Nikitas Moustakas, Esquire**, is now a member. Also joining us is Mt. Holly attorney and my former law school classmate **Mark Tarantino, Esquire**, and his secretary, Tabernacle's **Janice Yates**. I also thank my old buddy **Robert Weishoff, Esquire** of Hainesport.

We also welcome emergency room physician and Mt. Laurel Emergency Squad medical director **Dr. Robin Plumer**, Burlington County Sheriff's Officer **Joe Poplawski**, Burlington County Fire Marshal **Bob Rose** and **Roebling Bank**.

The PMA gratefully acknowledges generous donations of \$100 each from **Mr. and Mrs. Rocco Minervino**, **The Melman-Kenny Family** and the **Walmart** on Burlington-Mt. Holly Road in Burlington Township. We used the \$300 to purchase a television with a built-in DVD player on which we can show our visitors a DVD of our 2006 Haunted Event which producer **Jim Reed** made for us as well a DVD of our graffiti which **Carole Melman** has created. Both DVDs are truly remarkable; we are so lucky to know such talented people. We plan to produce another DVD of a virtual tour of the prison, which will be shown to those wheelchair bound visitors who cannot access the basement and second floor. The new television will be used in our museum annex for now. When the downstairs of the Warden's House is renovated and made handicapped accessible, it will be moved there.

We are most happy to report that the Freeholders have given us permission to have the Haunted Event again this year. The go-ahead came in the form of a very nice letter from the Freeholders via County Administrator **Gus Mosca**. Needless to say, the communication caused much excitement. We are off to the races! And its not to early to start praying for good weather....

We'll discuss the Warden House renovation and the Haunted Event further at our summer meeting. The date has not yet been set; separate notices will be issued.

The newspaper excerpts are interesting, as always. I was intrigued by the Riverton resident who hung the British flag on Independence Day. What was *he* thinking? The article says he was celebrating the Victorian Jubilee, which was held in honor of Queen Victoria's 60th year on the throne. This was in fact the Victorian age, though the very end of it. We think of that time as a very staid one in which everybody sat around sipping tea with their pinkies up. As can be seen by

the news reports, however, it wasn't exactly like that. Can you imagine Medford's Lemon family having a tea party?

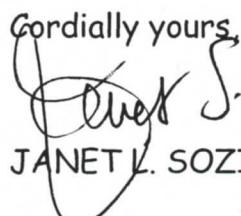
During Victoria's reign (1837 to 1901), Britain was the world's most powerful nation. By 1897, it had acquired the largest empire the world had ever seen, extending over 20% of the planet. The Industrial Revolution brought prosperity to England's upper classes but also overcrowded cities with poor housing, disease and depravity. There, as here, sensational newspaper reporting reflected those times. Sensationalism was practiced most effectively by Alfred Harmsworth, who started London's *Daily Mail* in 1896. He also created the first modern, small-sized "tabloid", the *Daily Mirror*, in 1903. It sold a million copies a day and inspired the creation of America's first tabloid, the Big Apple's *Illustrated Daily News*, in 1919.

The references to the Civil War are also interesting. Its amazing that a mule which had been used by Union soldiers would still be alive in 1897. The fact is, the Civil War was more recent to them than the Viet Nam War is to us.

I got a chuckle out of the law suit over the New Jersey-Delaware boundary which had been pending for 20 years. I'll let my attorney friends provide their own respective punch lines. Even the way it was described was interesting - "The suit has been *hanging fire* since 1877." That expression should be brought back into use - its pretty nifty. Some say it has military roots. When a soldier lit a fuse in a cannon, the occasional delay until the charge ignited was described as "hanging fire".

Wouldn't you love to know what prompted the thief caught in Merchantville to steal a cornet? And pool balls? And what was Bert Fenimore wearing (or not wearing), when he was arrested on the riverbank in Burlington for not being "properly clothed"? While these will probably remain mysteries, we can use our imaginations.....

Again, thank you for your continued support. The next newsletter will issue in late summer. Until then, I remain,

Gordially yours,

JANET L. SOZIO

**PRISON MUSEUM ASSOCIATION
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Kathleen Aspell
Senator Martha Bark
Joan Boas
Attendant Marisa Bozarth
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MOUNT HOLLY HERALD

July 3, 1897

Jobstown - Reuben Chamberlain has been the renowned hunter of Springfield Township for many years and any racoon, opossum, pole cat or muskrat seeking winter quarters within a radius of three miles of Jobstown, his home, has no security that its overcoat will not be stripped off by Rueben before the blooming of the dandelions in the spring. In summer, Reuben follows the trade of a carpenter, and it was while pursuing that occupation on Wednesday, and making repairs on the roof of a high barn on the historical farm of Onanickon, that reaper Death came near gathering him in his harvest. Stricken with heart trouble while upon the roof and darkness coming over his vision, Rueben was only able to gain the top of the ladder by which he had ascended when he lapsed into insensibility, and falling, clutched the ladder by a muscular contraction of one leg by which he hung suspended until relieved by help near at hand. He was taken to his home, two miles distant, in an unconscious condition, but is now rallying and there is a probability that he will be around again in a few weeks.

Riverton - Among the residents of Riverton is William Tricker, who is the head of one of the departments of Dreer's Seed Farm. Tricker is of English birth, with a lingering fondness for the old country. The Victorian Jubilee made him feel very good indeed, and he ran the union jack out of his third story window. The British colors were allowed to float unmolested all of Wednesday, but after nightfall it fell a victim to the overzealousness of some patriots, who gave it a shower of malodorous eggs. Some of the eggs passed through the window and made things unpleasant in the house, and Tricker was greatly enraged. He thinks he has a clue to the egg throwers and will endeavor to see them punished in some way.

Pemberton - Last Sunday morning H. P. Harris and H. E. Harris left here on their bicycles at four o'clock for Atlantic City where they arrived at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon. They went from here to Vincentown, thence to Medford, Marlton, Milford and Berlin. At the latter place they were joined by William Way, of Camden, who proceeded with them to Atlantic City. They would have made the journey in much less time but for a series of unfortunate mishaps. First Way's tire became punctured, which caused a delay of an hour and a half. Then they had a head wind for 12 miles and on top of this H. E. Harris couldn't get enough air in his lungs to make them work properly, and for a time it was feared he would have to be towed. In spite of these drawbacks the run was a delightful one, and will be repeated soon. H. E. Harris returned by train, but H. P. Harris rode his wheel home from Berlin. Any one desirous of taking this trip should consult these gentlemen before starting...The township authorities here do not appear to have a very high regard for the veterans of the war. Lemuel Sweet, an old soldier who has an honorable discharge and who is disabled by a wound received in the service, has been employed in repairing certain of the township roads. When he received his wages, they deducted a dollar from the amount due him, which they said was the amount he owed for poll tax. They didn't recognize the fact that he is entitled to exemption to the amount of \$500, as is every old soldier. Lemuel proposes to have that dollar or know the reason why.

Medford - Lewis Phillips, a well known citizen living near Medford, while in a despondent mood Saturday afternoon, secured a revolver and sent a bullet crashing through his skull, from the effects of which he will die. Phillips is an old man, and his despondency has resulted from feebleness and partial blindness...the folks who have been away from town for years should come back again on Monday and help celebrate the glorious Fourth. There will be bicycle races, sack races, snowball eating contests, &c, and a

special committee will decide who is the prettiest girl in town. In the evening there will be a display of fireworks.

Advertisement - It heals everything except a broken heart, may be said of DeWitt's Witch Hazel salve. Piles and rectal diseases, cuts, burns, bruises, tetter, eczema and all skin troubles may be cured by it quickly and permanently. It heals without leaving a scar. E.D. Prickitt, Mount Holly and Lumberton, and W.H. Zelley, Marlton.

Bridgeboro - George Haines, of Burlington, with his daughter Irene and Miss Lena Pugh, were on a bicycle trip here last Saturday afternoon. Mr. Haines was riding at a considerable distance ahead of the young ladies, who leisurely followed, laughing and chatting. As they neared Bridgeboro a tramp emerged from the sidewalk and stepped directly in the path of the girls. As they attempted to pass, he seized Miss Haines about the waist and attempted to drag her from her wheel. She neither fainted, screamed nor lost her presence of mind, but struggled bravely to free herself. She finally succeeded in breaking his grip, but in doing so was thrown into a ditch. Instantly Miss Haines was on her feet again, and, nimbly springing on her machine, rode rapidly away before the tramp could recover himself. Apprising her father of the occurrence, they rode on to Bridgeboro, where they found Justice of the Peace Charles T. Pinkerton, and swore out a warrant for the tramp's arrest. He was captured later in the evening by Constable Charles Meeks and taken to the county jail.

Merchantville - Chief of Police Linderman made another capture Friday morning when he arrested Lewis Rothkugel, who is wanted by the New York authorities on a charge of robbery. Shortly after the arrest, Charles A. Rosenthal, a New York real estate dealer, appeared before Judge Longstreth and stated that Rothkugel had been an associate of one of his employees, and had spent considerable time around his home in New York, but on the 8th ultimo he disappeared and at the same time also disappeared five diamond rings, two expensive sets of pool balls and a cornet.

Saturday, July 10, 1897

William B. Wills, editor and proprietor of the Mount Holly Herald, notes that the regular weekly circulation of the Herald is now fully 1,000 copies greater than that of any newspaper published in Mount Holly. Advertisers should bear this in mind.

General and Political News - The New York *World* speaking of the price of bicycles says: "The open cut in the price of high grade bicycles is not premature. A hundred dollars is too high for the best wheel made in these days of cheap steel. The use of the wheel is destined to become universal, and so long as cutting does not go to the point of demoralizing the market the lower price may mean larger sales and better results to all concerned." ... A member of the New Jersey Historical Society suggests that the newspapers of this state might stimulate an interest in the subjects of New Jersey history by offering prizes for lists of 25 men and 25 events in the history of the state deemed most worthy to be commemorated by a medal, the proposer briefly stating the reason for his or her choice; such lists to be published from time to time, with the names of the proposers...In Connecticut there is hardly a farmer who does not raise tobacco. Tobacco is grown in at least a dozen states, Pennsylvania leading in the amount of production, while Ohio has 50,000 acres given up to the culture, and an average crop of thirty million pounds, while New Jersey raises it on an island in the Delaware River, part of the product of which was used at a banquet where only local edibles, drinkables and smokables were furnished forth...The State of New Jersey has now an appropriation on hand of \$3,000 to reprint the records of the Revolutionary War. The records as they now exist are very

incomplete and it is requested that those persons whose ancestors were soldiers, minutemen, or otherwise participated in that war will furnish the facts without delay to Adjutant General William F. Stryker, Statehouse, Trenton. Any muster rolls or other documents loaned to be copied will be returned.

State News. A mule which belonged to the Army of the Potomac at the time of Lee's surrender is now owned by farmer Nathaniel Shepherd, of Sand Brook. The mule being too old for work, lives in clover...By a fall from a building Moses Vincent permanently injured his spine several months ago at Camden. Physicians at the Pennsylvania Hospital harnessed him up in a cage which supported his head and told him to wear it under his clothing. Vincent has several times appeared at the police court. On Friday, he appeared without his cage and said somebody had stolen it while he lay asleep in the bushes...The old boundary suit between Delaware and New Jersey has been revived by the peremptory demand of the Supreme Court in Washington. The officials of both states have been notified that arguments must be made at the next term, or the suit will be dismissed. The suit has been hanging fire since 1877. It was brought by New Jersey to secure an order prohibiting Delaware from exercising jurisdiction over the New Jersey shore of the Delaware River...The Governor has instructed the Attorney General to institute suit against ex-Secretary of State Kelsey to recover fees taken in by the latter when he was in office.

Riverside - The Township Committee has decided to build a \$2,000 addition to the public schoolhouse...Freeholder Fairbrother is interesting himself in securing the construction of an improved road between Riverton and Riverside. The present road is a mere stretch of sandy ruts, and responsible for many a severe accident.

Local News - The barn on the Schooley Farm, near Juliustown, belonging to Barclay White, was struck by lightening on Friday last, but did not take fire, although there was nearly 60 tons of hay in the building. The lightening shattered the cupola, on which there was a rod, and then passed on through the building, damaging some timbers on its way to the ground. That no greater injury resulted was remarkable...Mrs. Hattie M. Krumbower was found unconscious on the street Tuesday night, having attempted suicide with laudanum. She was removed to her home on Green Street and was restored to consciousness. Last week the young woman, whose maiden name was Gauntt, sat in Justice Flack's office while the Constable went to the jail to get Krumbower. He was to marry her or furnish bonds for her support. Choosing the former, the Justice tied the knot, after which the girl fainted...George Spear, who pleaded guilty to stealing \$25 from his employer at Palmyra, was sentenced on Saturday to six months imprisonment in the county jail...On Tuesday, Irwin Rodenbaugh was arrested near Columbus and committed to the county jail for stealing a bicycle from Luther Perkins, editor of the Beverly *Banner*.

Board of Freeholders - The mid-summer meeting of the Board of Freeholders was held in the courthouse on Wednesday, Director Horner in the Chair, John Antrim, Clerk. After the bills had all been examined by the various committees the members took off their coats, swallowed a glass of water all around and then settled down to business. The bill of Coroner Stroud in the case of Sarah Borton, who committed suicide by hanging, was objected to. Mr. Darnell said he had no doubt the charges were legal, but there was no necessity for an inquest in the case. The charge for holding the inquest was \$21.18. There could be no question as to the cause of her death, and the inquest was held before the return of the family, who were away from home at the time. In such cases the coroner should use some discretion and not put the county to any unnecessary expense. If there had been a suspicion of foul play or doubt as to the cause of death then an inquest would be proper.

Burlington - About 250 pounds of carp were caught in the river near Florence the other day by John Wells and Charles VanSciver...Reverend J. Madison Hare will be turned loose by his congregation next month, and will spend his vacation on the main coast...Bert Fenimore will spend the rest of the summer in the county jail for being drunk on the riverbank without being properly clothed...

Medford - The town was very much excited on Monday evening over a murderous assault that occurred at the house of Henry Cameron, in which Charles Lemon was stabbed repeatedly about the body by his brother, Henry Lemon. As near as can be ascertained of the particulars of the affray, Henry was alone responsible. His two brothers, Charles and George, were staying at Cameron's house that night. Charles had been drinking pretty freely during the day and was still under the influence of liquor when Henry appeared on the scene. The latter does not indulge in liquor at all, but has a bad temper. After he entered the house he saw Mrs. Cameron sitting with the rest, and at once charged her with having talked about him. This she denied, whereupon he seized her and pushed her roughly aside. Charles Lemon sprang to his feet in an instant. "Don't do that again," he said, "or you'll have me to settle with." The men eyed each other for a moment with angry looks and then both began fighting desperately. George Lemon stood by without taking hand, but as soon as the fight began he arose and locked the door, saying he proposed seeing fair play. The fight continued for several minutes, and Charles was getting the better of it. He is a powerfully built fellow and quick as a cat. As soon as Henry found he was overmatched he broke away and ran out in the yard. While there he took a sharp pointed barlow knife from his pocket, opened the blade and started back. Charles again advanced towards him, and as he did so Henry stabbed him repeatedly in the shoulder, arm, chest, and abdomen, inflicting seven terrible wounds from which the blood poured in streams. As he lay on the ground Henry stood above him with his knife upraised. "Have you got enough?" he said. "If you have not, I will finish you now!" "You've cut me to death," replied Charles. "You've done me up this time." Henry waited to hear no more, and fled from the scene. The wounded man finally staggered to his feet and walked for a considerable distance after which he turned about and walked to the Cameron house where his wounds were afterwards dressed by Dr. Sharp, who said his injuries were sufficient to cause the death of an ordinary man, but he thought there was a chance of his recovery. Since then the patient has been improving steadily and now bids fair to survive the injury. Since the affair Henry Lemon has not been seen anywhere in this vicinity. The general impression is that he is hiding in the woods somewhere in the vicinity of Retreat, but others say he has gone to Delaware. Charles Marles is said to have taken the fugitive out of town that night and seen him safely cross the river. An effort is being made by the family now to have the charge against him withdrawn. The fugitive's mother is very anxious to have the case settled and Charles says he is willing to drop the charge, but as the warrant is still in the possession of Constable Thompson, it will probably not be surrendered until the prisoner is captured. The assault is said to have been animated by jealousy. Both the brothers were trying to get in the good graces of Mrs. Cameron, and the latter's husband was afraid to interfere. Cameron tried to get Charles Lemon indicted at the last term of court for being too gay with Mrs. Cameron, but failed to succeed, and when he returned from Mount Holly he found Charles in possession of his domicile. Henry Lemon was recently discharged from state prison where he had served two years for abducting a young girl.