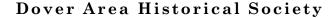


Volume XXXV No. 2



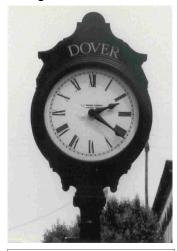
Ye Old Tye News

Spring 2004



Dover's #1 Historic Family

The Pruden family standing in front of their Dickerson St house, left to right, Grandma Pruden, Mary Pruden, Zenas and the young Octavius, before entering the Civil War.



Replicas of Dover's Town Clock Available at the DAHS

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Restoration Work Begins on the Condict House - Dover Museum

DOVER-The historical society has been busy organizing the restoration work needed for the Condict House. The Masonic Lodge has already picked their three rooms and work will soon begin. The Rotary Club, The East Dover Social Club, The Casa Puerto Rico, The Chamber of Commerce and several individuals have already expressed interest in working on the house. Estimates have already been submitted for work on the exterior of the house along with the needed electrical work to the interior. Floor plans have been drawn up and a detailed work-list of items that need attention have been printed The town has donated a and copied. dumpster to help in the cleanup efforts and also a grant for exterior work. Dozens of individuals have offered support in cleaning, scraping, mopping, sweeping and whatever else that needs to be done to prepare the house as a museum. The historical society has a ten-year time-line agreement with the church for restoration work and grants for some of that work are actively being sought out. Members of the society hope to get most

of the major work done within a few years, at least enough to open the museum on a limited basis. The first immediate goal is to prepare the museum for a Certificate of Occupancy, which will enable monthly meetings to be held at the site. The second immediate goal is to prepare rooms so all the society's artifacts can be brought out of storage into a climate-controlled environment. The third goal is to prepare enough rooms to begin preparing displays for visitors to enjoy and learn of Dover's vast history. The ultimate goal is to have the house completely restored to its once splendor appearance including all the handicapped facilities in order to meet ADA standards. At that time, major efforts will be organized to bring in school field trips, study and research groups, programs of interest relating to the history of the Dover area, gathering of additional undocumented Dover history and documenting Dover's recent history for future generations to enjoy. Your help is urgently needed. The historical society will be looking for help in preparing the house as a museum, monetary donations and later on, guides to give tours and explain the exhibit within the museum.

DOCTOR'S ROW - DOVER'S BLACKWELL STREET HISTORIC DOWNTOWN DISTRICT



SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP AS OF 2004

(Don't forget to renew your membership for 2004)

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Dr. A.L. & Jean Baker, Hopatcong James Brooks, Ocean City Curtis & Lois Brown, Lancaster, PA Harriet Buono, Dover Al Ciardi, Dover **George Coulthard, Dover Evelyn Gilbert, Dover** David & Karen Glaser, Dover Victor & Ellen Guadagno, Sparta **Clifford Johnson**, Wharton Patricia Kalena, Dover **Richard Kelly, Dover Richard & Barbara Newman, Dover** Alderman Frank Poolas, Dover Mr. & Mrs. Wm Richardson, **Mt.Arlington Tuttle Funeral Home, Randolph** JoAnne & Robert Zarger, Mine Hill

SUSTAINING

Brownwood Realty, Co., Dover Jane Cody, Dover Frank D'Auria, Denville Betsy & Jim Davenport, Dover Jan Gordon, Landing Jim & Verna Johnson, Dover Nancy & William Kattermann, Dover Joyce Lake, Dover Scott & Judy Miller, Dover Rev. James & Loretta Slattery, Dover FAMILY Ivan & Natalie Basch, Dover Joan & Alan Bocchino, Dover Juan & Kathleen Casiano, Dover George & Mary Castellitto, Dover Alderman James & JoAnn Dodd, Dover Barbara & Gordon Dunn, Lk Suzv, FL **Russell & Edith Fine. Milford. DE** Dr. Edward & Ellen Forbes, Randolph Robin & Connie Foster, Dover **Bogert & Helen Holly, Dover Bob & Janet Hooper, Dover** John & Caroline Huntzinger, Milford, DE Stuart & Betty Inglis, Dover Martin Kane, Mt Lakes Paul & Kathleen McDougall, Randolph Ralph & Betty MacNaughton, MineHill Linda & Byard Miller, Kissimmee, FL Dr. Hugh & Minerva Miller, Dover, DE Karl & Ginny Miller, Haves, VA James & Linda Mullin, Dover Jack & Renee Nielsen, Randolph Helen & Carmen Pennella, Dover Frank & Mabel Poulos, Dover Augustus & Mary Ritzer, Hackettstown Alderman Cindy & Richard Romaine,

Dover

Stan, Marjorie & Beth Schoonmaker, Dover

Ethel & Sidney Schwarz, Dover Dorothy & Duncan Smith, Milford, DE Michael, Joanne & Bob Steinberg, Dover Raymond & Mary Storey, Rockaway Martin & Edith Trengove, Hackettstown Anthony L. Troha, Mine Hill LeRoy & Edith Varga, Dover Steve & Linda Wagoner, Dover **Robert & Alice Wagner, Wharton** Henry & Miriam Willinger, Dover Robert & Barbara Woodhull, Dover William & Brenda Woodhull, Dover INDIVIDUAL Phyllis Casey, Dover Lowell Cook, Wyckoff Patricia Davis, Landing Margaret Greenan, Dover Gary Kazin, Rockaway Judith Klement, Rockaway Bernard Schenkler, Rockaway William Seejer, Wharton James St.Angelo, Dover Henry Will, Ledgewood <u>SENIO</u>R Mrs. Ellen Appio, Randolph Jack Bennett, Morris Plains **Carolyn Bishop, Dover Edith Brown, Wharton** Frances Campbell, Mt. Tabor **Robert Carpenter, Rockaway** Mrs. Eva Casey, Dover Jean Cater, Dover Jean Chervnsik, Dover John Chirip, Randolph Peter Cullen, Clifton **Ed Daniels**, Dover Marion DeArmond, Rockaway Emma Eckhart, Dover **Richard & Elfriede Egan, Dover** Alice Lee Erickson, Freehold Madelvn Ericson, Malrean, PA **Robert Fancher, Wharton** Hudson Favell, Dover **Phyllis Fisher, Dover** Robert & Mary Flanagan, Dover **Roger Flartey, Denville** Kathi Gilbert, Dover **Rolando Gomez, Dover Florence Grav, Dover** Leonore T. Harrison. Mt Tabor William Hastie, Wharton **Doris Hay, Dover** Helen Hecter, Dover Elizabeth Huelsenbeck, Rockaway Mary Jenkins, Dover Mrs. Judith Kovar, Rockaway



The Condict House "Tower" with Palladian window motifs. The staircase leading to the Third Floor. "Ghosting over the south façade indicates a porch now lost." Robert Guter's historic survey.

John & Helen Kuzel, Dover Helen Lambert, Wharton Dorothy Lindberg, Jamison, PA Shirley Lohman, Dover Marion McKane, Dover Kenneth Miller, Mine Hill **Roy & Marion Miller, Dover Ruth A Monahan. Randolph** Joan Munson, Dover **Raymond Porphy, Ridge Spring, SC Helen Peterson, Dover Diane Power, Rockaway** Edna Rawson, Dover Ada Rosen, Dover Marie Rubury, Dover Virginia Shukailo, Dover Carolyn W Seeger, E. Stroudsburg, PA **Donald Seeth. Wharton** Julia Stringer, Dover Alfreta Suter, Dover Louisa Wall. Dover Neldon Williams, Dover Ann Young, Dover

HISTORY OF DOVER SCHOOLS

Starting in the next issue of Ye Ole Tye News, **Stan Schoonmaker** will begin a series of history on the Dover Public School system. Through documents, old photos, yearbooks, newspaper clippings, word of mouth, etc. Stan will present a complete story of Dover's schools from 1796 to the present day.

WALKING TOURS

Because of the many requests Stan Schoonmaker and George Laurie will be presenting two walking tours...**The Morris Canal & Blackwell Historic District**. Dates and times to be announced.

Wisconsin Age Ice Glacier Stopped At Dover Exclusive Report to Ye Ole Tye News

By Jim Johnson

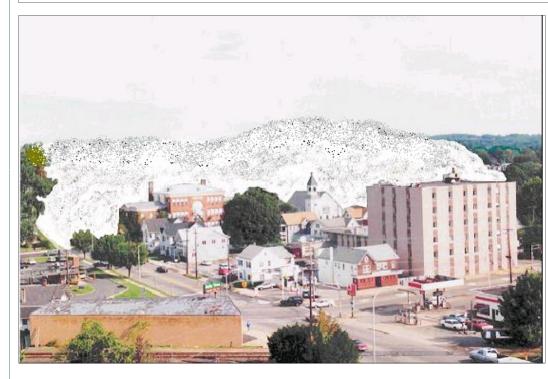
DOVER-Ever wonder why Dover and this area looks the way it does? Well, blame it on the GLACIER... What? Here? In Dover? You bet...but first lets look at some facts: (1) The Labrador Glacier came during the Wisconsin Ice Age. (2) There were 4 major glaciers, one right after the other. (3) The last glacier wiped out most of the features of the previous three. (4) The Ice Age lasted approximately one million years. How much ice was frozen into the glaciers? Enough to lower the world's oceans by 300 feet. When did it end? About 20,000 years ago.

The glacier that came to Dover and stopped originated in Labrador, Canada. It moved southward grinding up hills and mountains, digging deep trenches as it picked up the material consisting of boulders (some as big as houses), rocks, sand, silt and clay. This material is known as "till" or "drift" when the glacier melts. The part of the glacier's ice sheet that came to Dover passed just west of Greenwood Lake. This is known by studying the scratches in the bed rock (known as striations) as the rock in the glacier grinded by. If one should walk around Dover and look at the rock walls and gardens, one will see a round purple rock with white quartz spots. These rocks come from the cliffs near Greenwood Lake and is locally known as "pudding stone."

Let's look at Dover. The front of the glacier is ragged and uneven. A tongue of flow went up the valley of Jackson brook above Hurd Park. Another went around the mountain at South Salem Street and stopped on the south side of the present Route 10 by the Rock-Eatem Mountain.* When the glacier receded from the Morris Street area it left an opening that filled with water and became larger forming a large lake which is the present downtown Dover area. When the S. Salem street tongue moved north, the water spilled out of the lake, creating the current path and curve of the Rockaway River at Salem and Blackwell streets. The glacier melted down and piled the drift that now forms a hill just north of Rt 46 where Pequannock and N. Sussex Streets begin the rise. Conger St. is on top of the lateral moraine. The old sand-pit on S. Salem St. is material from the glacier. Test borings done during Dover's Urban Renewal in the 1970s showed 50 to 75 feet of sand, silt, cobbles and material from the glaciers, resting on bedrock.

The glacier tore down hills and mountains, filled in valleys, created rivers, ponds, lakes and swamps as it moved. Locally, the glacier formed Bowlby Pond behind Dover High School, Mt Hope Pond, Picatinny Lake, Lake Denmark and Lake Hopatcong and spread rocks over the entire area north of Dover. (Cont. page 6) *Rock-Eatem Mt. is an old Indian Legend that occurred near Rt. 10.

Ice Age Glacier Covered Dover, North of Route 46



DOVER-This photo shows what the Glacier would look like today if it hadn't receded 20,000 years ago. The Glacier Meltdown formed what is downtown Dover today....the Rockaway River and the swampy flooding of East Dover, which still remains a problem. The ridge along Mt Hope Avenue supporting the Locust Hill Cemetery is the result of the Terminal Moraine, the furthest southern edge of the glacier. The map below shows the glacier's edge stretched from Belvedere to



This photo is looking north to Rt. 46, taken from atop Mill Pond Towers by Dennis Harvey

Ice Jam Blast Shatters Downtown Dover



DOVER-Speaking of Ice in Dover. The winter of 1938 saw one of the worst ice jams at the Ulster Iron Work's Mill Pond dam. The freezing cold winter weather caused the ice to begin piling up against the dam which in turn prevented the Rockaway River from its customary course. The Mill Pond overflowed its banks causing severe flooding along West Clinton Street and Bassett Highway. Many tons of water poured into the factory, causing extensive damage. The overflow caused the embankment to giveway thus flooding the Central An emergency Railroad tracks. meeting with Mayor John Roach, Frank Hamilton, president of the Iron Works and the Dover Fire Dept. was called. It was decided to call in an experienced dynamiter to plant a charge into the ice jam. Unfortunately, a little bit too much dynamite was used. Shortly after 1:30 am on January 7, 1938 the charge was ignited and the unexpected force of the concussion, not only aroused the townspeople in shock, but shook the entire downtown business district causing extensive damage to store front windows, dishes, lights and numerous Many residents were structures. reminded of the great Lake Denmark

. The nearby Northside School received so much damage that classes were suspended the following day. Thousands of dollars were reported in damages to businesses along Clinton, North Sussex and Blackwell Streets.

The following day Mayor Roach said "we regret the damage caused by the blast, but immediate and drastic action had to be taken to avert total destruction of our business section and the lowland areas of our town."

A few days later the town council rendered the following decision. "Even though damage resulted to private individuals, such damage was not the act of wrong doing on the part of the town, but an act during the course of an emergency." Based on New Jersey state law 47 N.J. L. 406, the town was not held liable for any damage. Needless to say, future ice jam blasts in Dover were very closely monitored.

The Pruden Family Long Remembered In Dover History

DOVER-Zenas Pruden owned a wagon shop in Dover around 1825. Grandma Pruden was highly respected in the community and had seven children. Sarah was widely known as "Aunt Sally" and the most popular of the Pruden children was Octavius. When the Civil War broke out, Octavius joined the 11th Reg. N.J. Volunteers. Because of his excellent penmanship, he was later commissioned to the War Department under President Grant and appointed to the Clerkships Office of the White House in 1872. He was later Assistant Secretary to the President under the Hayes Administration.

Zenas's brother Byram moved in and lived with the family following his active duty in the War of 1812. **Byram Pruden** had the historic distinction of being the first person to travel the Morris Canal between Dover and Rockaway. Zenas and Byram were two sons of **Peter Pruden** who lived near Morristown and helped feed the Revolutionary Army in Morristown.



Zenas purchased this property at the corner of South Morris and Dickerson Streets in 1827. He paid \$300 for 5000 sq. feet. Today, the site is a parking lot. Once, Dickerson St. was the "Fifth Avenue" of Dover.

Upcoming Programs and Events for 2004 (Mark you Calendar)

<u>March 16 * 7:30 PM * Moose Lodge</u> Business Meeting - Refreshments served

April 20 * 7:30 PM * Moose Lodge BON-TON MOVIE NIGHT Enjoy an old Movie w/Pop Corn, etc. No Charge * Refreshments

May 18 * 7:30 PM * Moose Lodge HISTORIC DOWNTOWN DOVER HERCULES EXPLOSION PowerPoint by Stan Schoonmaker No Charge * Refreshments served Jun. 15th * 7:30 PM * Moose Lodge HISTORY OF DOVER'S CHURCHES PowerPoint by George Coulthard & George Laurie No Charge * Refreshments served

Jul. 20th * 6:30 PM * Inglis's Home ANNUAL OUTDOOR PICNIC (Bring a covered dish) No Charge * Refreshments provided

These programs are subject to change

<u>Aug. 17th * 7:30 PM * Moose Lodge</u> **DOVER "THEN AND NOW"** Presentation by **George Laurie HISTORY OF DOVER SCHOOLS** PowerPoint by **Stan Schoonmaker** No Charge * Refreshments served

Sept. 21st * 7:30 PM * Guenther Mill HISTORY OF GUENTHER HOISERY CO Presented by Ulla Shuler A fascinating historic account of the World's leading Silk Stocking Co.

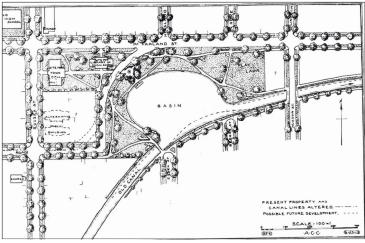
JFK PARK (Town Center) PROPOSED AS EARLY AS 1913

Dover-It has long been believed that plans for the JFK Commons Park was the brainchild of Mayor William H. Hosking, when the entire Morris Canal was abolished by an act of the N.J. Legislature in 1922. Immediately, Mayor Hoskins proposed to fill-in the basin and build the town a beautiful park. However, recent uncovered historic documents

revealed that plans for a Canal Basin Park originated as early as 1913 by Arthur Coleman Comey, an Architect. Comev envisioned a town center that would include a town hall with lock-up, a library and a new school building along with a park and playground, all contained in a park-like atmosphere.

Comey cited the central location of the canal basin as a good reason for a new public school. Comey also recognized the lack of recreational facilities in an industrial town like Dover. He emphasized the need for a large playfield which later could be converted into a complete recreation center with a field house, ball field and room for additional games. Comey also addressed the traffic problem along Blackwell Street. He noted the fact that if two

buggy was parked at the curb, it would be impossible for a horse-drawn truck to get past.

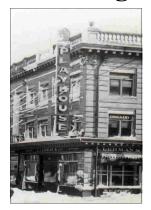


street (trolley) cars came at the same time and a This 1913 plan calls for a town-center at the site of today's JFK Park. Notice McFarlan (Rt 46) at top and Sussex Street to the left with Hudson to right. There were yet no S. Morris and Bergen Streets connecting to 46

Historic Playhouse Seats Preserved at Masonic Lodge



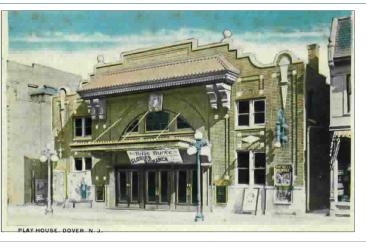
The actual seats that were once part of the famed Playhouse Theater during the Vaudeville and early Motion Pictures days are being preserved and still used at the Acacia Lodge in Dover. The seats were widely noted for the letters "PH" on the side rows. The lavish comfortable seats demonstrates the eloquence of the once popular theater on South Morris Street. The building was torn down during Dover's Urban Renewal in the 1970s. The sign on the right hung for many years on the side of the Lehman Building at the corner of Blackwell & S. Morris Streets. It's been rumored for many years that the curtains from the old Playhouse were donated to the Dover Little Theater.



The Historic Playhouse Theatre

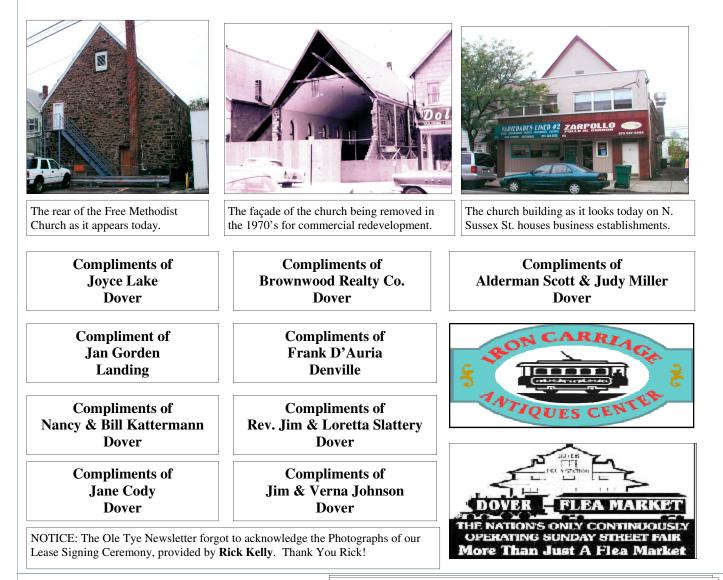
DOVER-This is the old Playhouse Theater prior to being demolished during Dover's Urban Renewal project. The theater opened in 1913 as a competing vaudeville playhouse to the Baker. In later years the Playhouse became very popular with the kids, which offered affordable prices and "fun" action movies. The Baker, on the other hand, operated as an "upper class" motion picture theater featuring "first run" major motion pictures. The Playhouse had Saturday matinees featuring Rin Tin Tin and Abbott & Costello flicks.

All that remains of the old Playhouse today are the seats at the Masonic Lodge, the stone face (seen above the entrance) believed to be the face of "Dionysus - The God of Tragic Art & Protector of the Theatres" is on the ground of Triangle Park at Prospect Street, and



Historic Free Methodist Church Hidden In Dover

comedy, Annie Russell who delighted us so as Catherine, Princess Angela, Miss Hobbs and many other charming heroines, and gave us such pleasure in Old English comedy roles, returns to the Baker Theatre is proving to be the most brilliant success of Miss Russell's tenweek run in Philadelphia. Who was Annie Russell?



Ice-Age Glacier (cont. from pg. 3)

About 10,000 years ago the Indians showed up to find a beautiful river running through a lovely fertile valley and sent up camp at today's Crescent Field area. Hunting and fishing were plentiful and they must have often thanked the glacier Gods for this wonderful, beautiful site.

Now, as you drive up and down this area, think of your friendly glacier and look at Dover in a new light and appreciate mother nature's creation.

Next issue: Why early pioneers of Dover settled where they did. Some on the North Side, some on the South Side.

HISTORIC NOTES FROM THE DAHS

Recent uncovered documents reveal that Dover was first purchased in 1713 by John Latham. In 1722 he sold the 527-acre-property to John Jackson who was the first actual settler. According to a 1913 high school program, "it was the magnetic iron ore of this region that attracted Mr. Jackson to Dover." When Mr. Jackson arrived to set up his forge, there were two major Indian Villages already established in Dover. One at Hurd Park near Indian Falls and the other at Fords Pond, the site of today's Crescent Field. Jackson erected his dwelling along Jackson Brook (Granny's Brook) at the site of the Singleton Silk Factory on Park Heights Avenue. Last year, members of the historical society surveyed the area around the factory and discovered old foundations that may have been Jackson's Forge. Plans are being made to have the foundations examined. Efforts to establish a small park at the site have also been discussed, but to date nothing has been done. Interested? The Dover Area Historical Society needs your help and support. Become an active

The Heart of Dover's Historic Downtown District

One of Dover's oldest historic corners is that at Blackwell and North Sussex Streets. It is believed **Josiah Beman**, brother-in-law to **General William Winds** of the French & Indian War and Revolutionary War fame, established Dover's first tavern here c 1761. As early as 1808 **Jacob Hurd** operated a tavern and hotel at this site which in 1859 became the Mansion House Hotel. The vacant, dilapidated building was purchased on March 2, 1936 and torn down to make way for a new, modern F. W. Woolworth building. Because of structural defects, the Woolworth's building was torn down in the 1970s to make way for today's modern office building. Notice the historic **Brick Block Building** still stands today as a testament to the solid construction of Steele and Bricks from the late-1800s building boom in Dover.



The Mansion House Hotel was the finest hotel between Newark and Easton. Many notable celebrities and personalities lodged at the hotel including 5 U.S. Presidents. The famous hotel was torn down in 1936 for F.W. Woolworth's. The store later moved to the Dover Shopping Center on Bassett Hwy. around 1957. In the 1970s, Urban Renewal determined the structure was unsafe and the building was torn down to make way for today's modern office building.

Old Homestead Settled in 1757

WHARTON-One of the most sensitive historic sites in the Wharton-Rockaway-Dover area is the Old Baker Homestead property, which was first, settled by **Jacob Ford** in 1757 and sold to **Jonah Austin** in 1774. Later the plantation was sold to **Jeremiah Baker**, the father of **William H. Baker** who constructed the historic Baker Theater in Dover.

In 1801, shoe making and the tanning of leather was a great industry at the site. When the Civil War broke out, soldiers came by attempting to buy all the leather shoe goods for the troops on the front line. Historically, the site has often be referred to as the birthplace of modern-day Dover.

Currently, all the residents of the trailer park on the site are being asked to move to prepare the property for sale, which ultimately will lead to commercial development. Soon another small piece of Morris County history will be lost forever.



Visit the Old Baker Homestead Park on Rt. 15 at Mt Pleasant Ave. and you'll feel the sensation of **"time standing still"** on this precious historic sacred ground. You too will want to save this historic site!

<u>Other Events Coming Up</u> DOVER CADETS REUNION

Dates, times and events are being planned by Stan Schoonmaker. For more info. Contact Stan

HISTORY OF DOVER SPEEDWAY

This is a repeat program back by popular demand. Wait til you see and hear Bob Wagner's presentation on the Ulster Iron Works. WOW!

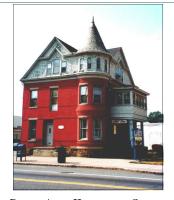
JOSEPH KEKUKU HAWAIIAN LAUA

This will probably be one of the biggest events of the year. As a matter of fact, groups from Hawai may be attending this event. More WILLIAM YOUNG ROOT BEER SOCIAL Last year the society raised over \$500 serving up root beer floats at the Flea Market. It was a

up root beer floats at the Flea Market. It was a lot of fun and we were able to educate people of the history of Wm. Young and **The Sons of Temperance of Dover**. Two dates this year.

FLEA MARKET YARD SALES

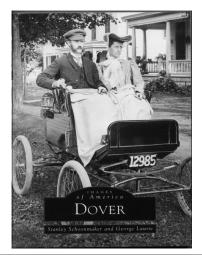
Several town residents took advantage of the opportunity to sell their yard sale items at the Flea Market and help support the historical society at the same time. A big thank-you to **Bob and Carol Brumale** for allowing the historical society to do this.



DOVER AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY 55 W. BLACKWELL STREET

President Emerita—Vivian Berg President—Betty Inglis Vice President—Stan Schoonmaker Recording Secretary—Joan Bocchino Corresponding Secretary—Brenda Woodhull Treasurer- Stu Inglis Museum Curator-George Laurie	Annual Membership dues: Family - \$20, Individual - \$12, Senior Citizen - \$8 Junior Member—\$6 Sustaining Member - \$50 Life (one-time payment) - \$250 The Dover Area Historical Society is a 501 C-3 not-for-profit organization. All donations are tax deductible!	DOVER AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY <u>Board of Trustees</u> Phyllis Casey Pat Kalena Helen Pennella Henry Will Jim Johnson Carolyn Bishop Robert Wagner Richard Kelly Pat Fahy William Woodhull Virginia Shukailo Kay Walker
Dover Area Historical Society PO Box 609 Dover, New Jersey 07802-0609 Museum—55 West Blackwell Street Phone: 973-366-0629 Fax: 973-537-0718		

Become a Member of the Dover Area Historical Society - Your Support Is Needed!



"IMAGES OF AMERICA - DOVER" Now in its second printing. On sale at Dover Town Hall or call (973) 366-0629 to reserve your copy. Or \$18.99 check to Dover Area Historical Society, PO Box 609 Dover, N.J. 07802-0609

DAHS OUTREACH PROGRAMS CONTINUE TO GROW

Being homeless for so many years, the Dover Area Historical Society has been able to establish a strong Outreach Program, thus being able to take Dover's history "on the road." The Outreach Program, under the direction of Stan Schoonmaker, has been getting more and more requests from organizations, businesses, groups and individuals to present a program on Dover History. Through the magic of the computer generated PowerPoint presentations, historic photo displays, community activities such as the flea market and programs at the Baker Theater and the Moose Lodge, the Outreach programs have become very popular. Stan and Bob Wagner have presented the Dover Speedway program in Dover and Morristown. Stan alone has presented numerous High School Class reunion programs and has appeared before various other historical societies. The outreach efforts have organized photo displays at the Public Library, St Clare's Hospital and various restaurants in town. The Outreach Program has also contributed to various displays around Morris County including the current display at Acorn Hall in Morristown. The Outreach Program continues to grow with more, new programs and requests. If you have or know of an organization that would like a presentation or a business with a public access area that would like to host a historic photo display, contact Stan Schoonmaker at 973-366-2319. The Dover Area Historical Society would like to be part of your family as we wish you to become part of ours.