



# The Old Tye News

Volume XLIV Issue II

SPRING 2013



**EDITH F. BROWN**  
(1916-2013)

*One of the first teachers to march her kindergarten class from the old North Side to the new North Dover Elementary School.*

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **First PTA in Morris County: Academy Street (1913-2013) 100th Anniversary.** First pres. Mrs. Heller, mother of Frank Heller, producer of TV's "What's My Line?".
- **Kindergarten Klub of Dover:** These Doverites have stayed in touch since Academy Street Kindergarten class to this day. (Read about them in the next newsletter).
- **First Dover residents to head for the GOLD RUSH OF '49** were John Hurd & Sandy Young.
- **First talks for a NASCAR racing association was at the DOVER SPEEDWAY.**

Want to learn more?

[Doverhistoricalsociety.com](http://Doverhistoricalsociety.com)

## Grandfather's Clock Returns Home Historic Ross Family Clock at Museum House

DOVER-The historic grandfather's clock that once belonged to Edwin Ross will be returned to the Dover Area Historical Society after a 38-year visit to the Dover Public Library. The clock once proudly stood in the foyer of the Ross Estate, better known as Bonnieview, a 17-room mansion at the western edge of Hurd Park, from 1886-1911.

Mr. Ross was the wealthy owner of the Ross Silk Knitting Mills of Dover and Wharton and was related to Betsy Ross, creator of the American Flag. The clock, (E. Howard & Co. No. 81 Oak Grandfather Clock) was a gift to Mr. Ross by the Adirondack Club of New York upon his 50th business anniversary. Upon his death, the clock was inherited by his son George, who kept it on display at the home until the family moved to Michigan in 1911.

Bonnieview itself changed ownership and later became the popular Pine Terrace Inn in the 1920s, a swanky resort in the hills of northwestern New Jersey for the likes of Douglas Fairbanks, Mary Pickford, former President McKinley, to name a few.

The Pine Terrace Inn eventually closed its doors and the mansion house was purchased by Harry Schwarz



and then by Dover General Hospital to be used as extra clinics and residences serving the needs of the staff. When it was determined the hospital no longer needed the extra room, Bonnieview was donated to the Dover Area Historical Society for a museum in 1974.

At the grand opening of the museum on June 16, 1975 an unexpected visit from Mrs. Margie Hendricks and Mrs. Betty Merriweather of Grand Rapids announced they had packed up and delivered their grandfather's Grandfather's Clock, to Bonnieview as a gift to the museum. The ladies remembered all the stories from their father about growing up in Dover and how wonderful Dover had been and felt it was only proper to return the clock to its rightful place in history.

Unfortunately, the clock did not have a long stay at Bonnieview for within a year, the hospital ordered the historical society to evacuate and had the mansion house razed for (according to the hospital) additional "needed" parking spaces. After demolition, these spaces were never used.

(cont. page 5)

## Life And Times In Dover During Civil War Many Dover School Children Signed Up for War Effort

DOVER-By the time the Civil War broke out (1861) Dover was a very active, vibrant little city among the mountains and mines of northwestern New Jersey. Dover already had a couple of banks, a few hotels, several storefront businesses lining the downtown, a few churches, a major railroad and a busy Morris Canal. During, and

shortly after the Civil War, the economy was reaching a feverish peak. Not only a busy downtown, but neighborhoods springing up all over town along with a growing school system, where students (who could afford it) paid for their own tuition. (cont. page 6)



*Dover's Park Hotel, northwest New Jersey's finest hotel during the Civil War. Formerly the "Stone Hotel" constructed circa 1835.*

**2013 PAID MEMBERSHIP****LIFE TIME MEMBERSHIP**

Phillip D. Alvarez, Blairstown  
 Ira & Cynthia Ayers, Randolph  
 Jean Baker, Hopatcong  
 Bill & Ginny Birch, Bernardsville  
 Carolyn Bishop, Dover  
 Benson Thomson Agency, Dover  
 Joan & Alan Bocchino, Dover  
 James Brooks, Ocean City  
 Curtis & Lois Brown, Lancaster, PA  
 Harriet Buono, Dover  
 Joan Burdge, Dover  
 Charles & Marion Caccavale, Wharton  
 Robert Carpenter, Rockaway  
 Eve Casey, Dover  
 Phyllis Casey, Dover  
 Dom Ciardi, Piscataway  
 Kathleen H. Cole, Dover  
 George Coulthard, Dover  
 Norman & Mary Lou Dailey, Dover  
 Florence D'Agostino, Dover  
 Mike D'Agostino, Succasunna  
 Susan L. Demeo, Randolph  
 James & JoAnn Dodd, Dover  
 Patrick Fahy, Dover

Margeret Fischer & Bob Starling, Erwinna, PA  
 Jay & Patti Ferriero, Mt Arlington  
 Willard Gates, Winter Garden, FL  
 Evelyn Gilbert, Jensen Beach, FL  
 David & Karen Glaser, Dover  
 Bob & Linda Gordon, Mt Arlington  
 Victor & Ellen Guadagno, Sparta  
 Ellen G. Gustafson, Kingman, AZ  
 Frank & Grace Hamilton, Old Lyme, CT  
 Willard & Betty Hedden, Randolph  
 Dorothy Hertel, Safety Harbor, FL  
 Jackie & Ken Hillman, Scottsdale, AZ  
 Mariann Horan, Douglassville, PA  
 Betty Inglis, Dover  
 Carl Iosso, Dover  
 Jim & Verna Johnson, Pompton Plains  
 Gail Just, Willow, AK  
 Patricia Kalena, Dover  
 Martin & Laura Kane, Mt. Lakes  
 George & Lynn Laurie, Dover  
 Wm. & Nancy Kattermann, Dover  
 Richard Kelly, Dover  
 Karen Kovalesky, Hackettstown  
 David & Sherry Lenox, Dover  
 Jacqueline Loeffler, Dover  
 Mel & Barbara Loory, Boonton

Wilford & Linda Mabee, Lawrenceville  
 Bert & Linda McDonald, Blairstown  
 Charlotte Morgan Luer, Denville  
 Betty MacNaughten, Mine Hill  
 Marilyn Martin, Cottage Grove, MN  
 Terry Forsstrom Meloskie, Denville  
 Dr. Hugh Miller, Dover, DE  
 Otto Miller, Mine Hill  
 Robert L. Miller & Claire Rohloff, Bloomsbury  
 Rich & Barbara Newman, Dover  
 Henry O Baker Ins., Dover  
 Helen & Carmen Pennella, Dover  
 Dave & Lisa Pennella, Dover  
 Michael & Catharine Picciallo, Dover  
 Frank Poolas, Dover  
 Wm. Richardson, Mt Arlington  
 Cindy & Rich Romaine, Dover  
 Stan & Marj Schoonmaker, Dover  
 Robert, Patricia & Samuel Schwarz, Dover  
 William & Susan Shauer, Dover  
 Peg & William Shuler, Dover  
 Ulla, William & Paul Shuler, Dover

(cont. below)

**LIFE TIME MEMBERSHIP**

Rev. James J. Slattery, Dover  
 Smith, Taylor, Ruggiero Funeral Home, Dover  
 JoAnn, Bob & Mike Steinberg, Dover  
 Robert & Rose Tiefenbacher, Lafayette  
 Jackie & Ken Hillman, Scottsdale, AZ  
 Dr. Arthur Tiger M.D., P.A., Dover  
 Dr. Anthony Troha, Mine Hill  
 Tuttle Funeral Home, Randolph  
 Leroy M. Varga, Dover  
 Robert & Alice Wagner, Wharton  
 Francis & Louis Wagner, Canton, GA  
 Kay Walker, Succasunna  
 Henry & Phyllis Winstead, Rockaway  
 Debbie & Bob Wood, Succasunna  
 Bill & Brenda Woodhull, Dover

JoAnne Zarger, Mine Hill  
 In Memory of Arch Nicholas

**SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP**

Donald & Jean Alperti, Oak Creek, CO  
 Dover Market Place, Wayne  
 Dover Renaissance, Inc., Dover  
 Antique Radio Collector, Dover  
 Beaverville Enterprises, Inc., Dover  
 Majorie Harring Bell, Los Angeles, CA  
 Brownwood Realty Co., Inc., Dover  
 George Johnson, Dover  
 Helen E. Lori, Dover  
 Charlotte Morgan, Denville  
 Sylvia Rubens, Randolph

**FAMILY MEMBERSHIP**

Ken & Diane Afferton, Morrisville, PA  
 Joe & Cindy Burbridge, Dover

George & Mary Castellitto, Randolph  
 Wm. & Judy Ciardi & Family, Randolph  
 Robert Angelo & Suzanne M. Cleffi, Westminster, CA  
 Mr. & Mrs. Phillip Carthage, Belfast, ME  
 Juan & Kathleen Casiano, Dover  
 Susan Champion, Montville  
 Christopher & Catherine Cole, Dover  
 Johnson H. & Viola Cole, Roblin, Ontario, Canada  
 Jack & Gail Delaney, Dover  
 Ana K. Diaz, Wharton  
 George & Bonnie Doboney, Wharton  
 Ellen & Ed. Forbes, Randolph  
 Elizabeth K. Gardner, Bedminister  
 Chris Chapman & Barb Gardner, Dover  
 Bill & Bonnie Gregory, Morristown

(cont. below)

John & Maria Hayes, Easton, NH  
 Audrey McCahill Hayes, Rayville, MO  
 Francis & Marie Hoffman, Dover  
 Nancy & Emily James, Dover  
 Eleanor & Dick Kehoe, Succasunna  
 Ralph & Margaret Kubisky & Family, Dover  
 Eugene & Beatrice Lemoncelli, Blairstown  
 Joe Mann & Family, Lake Hiawatha  
 Rosalyn Manning & Family, Dover  
 Catherine Magliocchetti, Dover  
 Kathy & Paul McDougall, Dover  
 Don & Nora Miller, Mine Hill  
 Sharon & Joseph Nazzaro, Randolph  
 Nancy Nicholas & Family, Dover

Shirley & George O'Brien, Dover  
 Ada Rosen & Hudson Favell, Dover  
 William Schoonmaker, Morristown  
 Robert, Patti & Sam Schwarz, Dover  
 Marva Serotkin, Newtonville, MA  
 Ralph & Louise Vecchio, Dover  
 Penny & Pat Visioli, Milford, PA  
 Ralph & Holly Whipple, Kenil  
 Doug Zeek Family

**INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP**

Joshua H. Bennett Jr., Dover  
 Ms. JoAnn Bowman, Dover  
 Ms. Lucinda Bryant, Succasunna  
 Patricia Davis, Landing

Robert D. Ciardi, Irwin, PA  
 Patricia A. Farruggia, Hopatcong  
 Donna L. Gangemi, Dover  
 Helen Guiles, Dover  
 Janet Hooper, Dover  
 Kathleen Kalena, Dover  
 Mr. Gary Kazen, Rockaway  
 John A. Kuzel, Denville  
 Helen F. Lambert, Wharton  
 Katherine Morrison Lattig, Simpsonville, SC  
 Neil F. Notaroberto, Harahan, LA  
 Pinalopi Sikolas, Dover  
 William A. Slack, Okeechobee, FL

(cont. page 4)



# Historical Soc. To Open For Sunday Programs

## Sundays To Be Added To Regular Monthly Tuesday Meetings

DOVER-Realizing that many members, supporters and regular citizens of the Dover area find it difficult to venture out at night to attend one of the Dover Area Historical Society's regular monthly programs on a Tuesday evening, the Trustees have decided to add a Sunday afternoon program to the roster in order to reach a larger audience in presenting one of the many excellent programs developed and narrated by Stan Schoonmaker.

Through a generous grant from the **Morris County Heritage Commission**, the historical society has the extra funds to pay for the extra heat, air conditioning (when necessary), electric, etc. to open its doors more frequently.

According to president Betty Inglis, "we hope to open our programs to more individuals of the Dover area, especially the students and children who may find Sunday afternoons more convenient."

Over the past 10-years, Mr. Schoonmaker has produced dozens of programs that cover the Dover area's rich history, from the early iron mines, downtown businesses, the railroads, the Morris Canal, trolleys...all the way to the present schools, churches, social clubs, including the Dover Shopping Center and the recent bridge constructions at Salem St. and the Route 15-46 overpass.

The 2:00 pm Sunday programs will include "The Disasters of Dover" (one of the most popular) and lectures on the Morris Canal, History of the Dover Churches, the Civil War along with Classic Movie presentations from Bob

Wagner's film library.

There are no charges for these programs, but donations are always accepted. Refreshments will be served at every meeting.

(Below: *George Richard's Building (old Newberry's) on Blackwell Street circa 1905*)



## What's The Story With Reaction Motors In Dover?

*Dear Dover Area Historical Society:*

*Dr. Patrick J. Owens, the Historian of Pictatinny Arsenal gave me your name.*

*As you apparently know, back in the 1980s, Fred Ordway and I produced a series of historical papers and articles about the history of Reaction Motors, Inc. (RMI)*

*At this point, we are working towards a book dedicated to the history of this pioneering aerospace New Jersey firm which is not only a compilation of all our papers on RMI, but will also include additional relevant history papers, besides corrections to any inad-*

*vertent errors that we find in the original papers and extensive additional notes to accompany these papers that provide additional new finds and/or clarifications.*

*In going over the original material, I found a copy of an e-mail dated 10 April 2002 from Dr. Owens to me but which I now learn was actually generated by a comment to him at the time, that our articles on RMI's history in the Journal of the British Interplanetary Society "make no mention of Dover or Precision Instruments."*

*We still do not know anything*

*of these connections and I am now writing to you directly to ask you if you could please enlighten us on them so that we can add this additional material accordingly. Likewise, we would welcome any additional material you may have found on RMI's history.*

**Frank H. Winter**

**<fhwinter@gmail.com>**

**Ed. Note: It's been long believed that in 1941 Precision Instr. (before RMI) operated out of the Guenther Mills prior to its move to Denville. Do you have any info on this? If so, please contact Frank or us at:**

**Info@doverhistoricalsociety.com**

## Upcoming Events

**Tuesday \* April 16th \* 7:30 pm**  
**MUSEUM HOUSE**

**"Bon-Ton Movie Night"**

**Alfred Hitchcock's STAGE FRIGHT**

(Starring Jane Wyman, Marlene Dietrich, Richard Todd, Michael Wilding)

No Charge - Refreshments Served!

**Sunday \* April 28th \* 2:00 pm**  
**MUSEUM HOUSE**

**"History of Blackwell Street"**

(Who were Blackwell & McFarlan? How did Blackwell St. grow? What businesses were there? The answers are here)

No charge - Refreshments served!

**Sunday \* May 5th \* 2:00 pm**  
**MUSEUM HOUSE**

**"Reception for the scholarship students"**  
(Invitations only)

**Tuesday \* May 21st \* 7:30 pm**  
**MUSEUM HOUSE**

**"Dover - The Parade Town"**

(View the historic parades of Dover)

**Sunday \* May 26th \* 2:00 - 4:00**  
**MUSEUM HOUSE**

**"Disasters of Dover"**

(No charge \* Refreshments served)

**Reservations Only!**

**973.361.3525**

**Sunday \* June 9th \* All day**  
**DOVER FLEA MARKET**

**"11th Annual Townwide Yard Sale"**

(Call 973.361.3525 for application)

**Tuesday \* June 18th \* 7:30 PM**  
**MUSEUM HOUSE "Old - Old Dover"**

(View some of the oldest photographs of Dover)

No Charge - Refreshments Served!

**Sunday \* June 23rd \* 2:00 - 4:00 pm**  
**MUSEUM HOUSE**

**"A Special Event" T.B.A.**

(Reservations Only - 973.361.3525)

**Tuesday \* July 16th \* 7:30 pm**  
**MUSEUM HOUSE**

**"The History of Radio"**

**COMING SOON! Old time radio shows -**  
**"War of the Worlds"**

(These programs are subject to change)

## 2013 PAID MEMBERSHIP

### INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

Michael Srsich, Rockaway  
Victor's Flowers, Dover  
Charles Walker, Greensboro, NC  
Alma Williams, Dover  
Joseph F. Woodhull, Portland, OR  
William B. Woodhull, Jr., Newton

### SENIOR MEMBERSHIP

Carole Edwards Angel, Swansboro, NC  
Mrs. Charlotte Arndt, Denville  
Robert R. Bahrs, Morris Plains  
Joan Batson, Spencer, NC  
Carolina & Joe Bentravato, Dover  
Frederick James Blakley, Dover  
Jane Boschen, Randolph  
Joyce Boniface, Mine Hill  
Ennette Boyiatgis, Dover  
David & Flavia Brock, Dover  
Walter M. Buczek, Totowa  
Ms. Jean Cater, Dover  
Patricia Carthage, Lk Hopatcong  
Norma Clardi, Morris Plains  
Ingrid J. Cleffi, Simi Valley, CA

Louis Cloitre, Dover  
Mrs. Jane B. Cody, Pompton Plains  
Lowell Cook, Twp. of Washington  
Frances Sakala Cordes, Tavares, FL  
Ann Cortese, Morris Plains  
Margaret Hastie Coward, Houston, TX  
Jeanne C. Crofton, Scotch Plains  
Henry Crouse Sr. Underhill, VT  
Barbara J. Cumella, Lewes, DE  
Harold Curtis, Kenton, OH  
Edward Daniels, Dover  
Jim D'Auria, Dover  
Sarah F. Davis, Dover  
Francisco DeJesus, Dover  
Mrs. Catherane DeShazo, Dover  
Thomas R. DeShazo, Jr., Millsboro, DE  
Douglas L. Dickerson, Dover  
Drew D. Diesel, Newton  
Albert G. Ebner, Mine Hill  
Richard & Elfriede Egan, Dover  
Jean B. Evans, Wharton  
Alex Everitt, Jr., Lafayette  
Dorothy Fackina, Ringwood  
Robert Fancher, Wharton  
Robert Feinberg, Wesley Chapel, FL  
Frances M. Ferrara, Dover  
Mrs. Shirley Ferriero, Boonton  
Raymond Fisher, Dover  
Mary Flanagan, Dover

Roger Flartey, Mine Hill  
Carmine Gangemi, Dover  
Carol Garnet, Dover  
Robert Gilbert, Concord, NC  
John V. Gill, Flanders  
Ms. Mary Gleckler, Randolph  
Rolando Gomez, Dover  
Gary N. Gordon, Morris Plains  
Joyce Gorine, Dover  
Sophie Goritski, Londonderry, NH  
Nancy Hagerich, Dover  
Allen C. Hale, Lake Mary, FL  
William Hastie, Wharton  
Albert C. Heath, Ironia  
Ruth Hildebrant, Ironia  
JoAnn Hillabrant, Rockaway  
Martha A. Hoffman, Dover  
Karen Ceder Holmes, Brick  
Matilda Hooper, Rockaway  
Lyndon E. Hooper Jr., Camden, DE  
Mrs. Betty Howard, Dover  
Diane Hunter, Dover  
Caroline & John Huntzinger,  
Slaughter Beach, DE  
Phil Jaeger, Cedar Grove  
Mary Jenkins, Dover

(cont. below)

### SENIOR MEMBERSHIP

Harold W. Johnson, San Marcos, CA  
Dan & Judy Klement, Remer, MN  
John Kostakis, Rockaway  
Judith Kovar, Rockaway  
Helen & John Kuzel, Dover  
Joyce B. Lake, Dover  
Jean M. Lane, Boonton  
Donald L. Lansing, Dover  
Claire Wexelblatt Lelfer, Dix Hills, NY  
Shirley Lohman, Denville  
Mrs. Delores M. Lynch, Stevens, PA  
Charlene Sue May, Manassas, VA  
Gloria J. Melneck, Atlanta, GA  
Helen G. McCahill, Ocean Grove  
Athena Mantgas, Dover  
Byard & Linda Miller, Heber Springs, AR  
Kenneth Miller, Mine Hill

Mr. & Mrs. Roy L. Miller, Dover  
John Morrison, Simpsonville, SC  
Mrs. Jean Monnia, Wharton  
Neil's Barber Shop, Dover  
Joan Munson, Dover  
Carlo J. Nisi, Dover  
Dorothy Broadback O'Leary,  
Hanover, PA  
Michael & Irene Palanchi, Dover  
Helen S. Peterson, Dover  
Mrs. Raymond Porphy, Ridge  
Spring, SC  
Mabel Poulos, Dover  
Diane Power, Rockaway  
Paul H. Preis, Dover  
Russell M. Reed, Hackettstown  
Edward Reich, Dover  
Marie Richards, Dover

Phil Reynolds, Dover  
Mrs. John Romeo, Burlington, VT  
Maxine Rosen, Ulster, PA  
Emma & Lou Rushing, Ottawa, Canada  
Diane Saitta, Dover  
Mrs. Martha Salvesen, Dover  
Bernard Schenkler, Alden, NY  
Mrs. Florence Schuten, Pellon, SC  
Rosita L. Scinto, Dover  
Donald R. Seath, Wharton  
Carolyn Seeger, E. Stroudsburg, PA  
Lorraine Shallop, Dover  
Fred & Carol Shay, Mt. Arlington  
Bernard Schenkler, Alden, NY  
Virginia Shukalio, Dover  
Betty Shunk, Dover

(cont. below)

### SENIOR MEMBERSHIP

Jack & Marie Slater, Rockaway  
Anne Stephens, Lake Hopatcong  
Mary & Raymond Storey, Manchester  
Paul & Gladys Sullivan, Dover  
Dolores M. Tate, Bethaven, NC  
Kensley R. Thompson, Randolph  
Marian Thriemer, Murphysboro, IL  
Edith Y. Trengrove, Hackettstown  
Ed Turocey, Margate, FL  
Cheryl Uhlig, Dover  
Robert & Catherine VanOrden, Easton, PA  
Mary Ceder VanSant, Whiting  
Ellen M. Visioli, Morristown  
Jim & Rae Ann Visioli, Dover

Marsha H. (Mimmis) Vitow, Essex, MD  
Majorie J. Weber, Birdsboro, PA  
Joseph & Barbara Williams, Dover  
Miriam Willinger, Dover  
Susan M. Wittig, Dover  
Donna L. Whittam, Dover  
Clara M. Wolford, Dover

*Spring is a time for planting!*  
☺ \* Time to plant your memory in Dover, forever \*  
\* Buy-A-Brick for the Memorial Park at the Gazebo  
in JFK (the Common's) Park Dover, New Jersey \*  
Call Joan for an application: 973.361.3279

### DONATIONS

Susan L. Demeo, Randolph	\$500.00
Joan & Allen Bocchino, Dover	\$75.00
<i>(Toward room-darkening shades in Museum)</i>	
Dover Reading Circle	\$25.00
Sarah F. Davis, Dover	\$10.00
Eugene & Beatrice Lemoncelli, Blairstown	\$10.00
Chris Chapman & Barb Gardner, Dover	\$25.00
Buy-A-Brick Donations for a non-profit	\$30.00

*Thank You!*



## Granddaddy's Clock

(cont. from pg. 1) With no place for the clock to go, members of the historical society requested a temporary "stay" at the library, until a permanent home could be found. "Now that we are in our tenth year at our new location at 55 West Blackwell Street, thanks to the community outreach of the First Presbyterian Church of Dover, we felt, along with the Library Board of Directors, that it was time to return the clock to its rightful place in Dover's history," according to Betty Inglis, president of the historical society.

The clock, E. Howard Watch of Boston, has a silvered chapter ring with black Roman hour numerals inside Arabic 5 minute markers, silvered sub seconds dial, pierced spandrels on a brass plate, moon phase dial and E. Howard & Co. Boston Tag on the front, quality brass weight driven time and half hour strike movement, Graham's Dead-Beat escapement with jeweled pallets, strikes on a single gong, 2 quality brass weights and pulleys, lock down hardware, brass pendulum bob with gold painted round wood stick; original movement unsigned. Wonderful oak case with high grain and orig-

inal finish, pierce carved crest, brass eagle and ball finials and turned columns on the bonnet; beveled door glass and quarter columns on the body.

### BONNIEVIEW

The Bonnieview Estate was established in 1873 by Alpheus Beemer and his wife Margaret, a wealthy silk mill owner and one of the original directors of the National Union Bank of Dover. Mr. Beemer passed away in 1883 and his widow sold the property to Edwin and Ella Ross, owner of the Ross Silk Mill of Port Oram (Wharton) and the Ross Ribbon Factory of Dover.

In later years Bonnieview became the popular Pine Terrace Inn, a gracious get-away retreat for well known personalities of the day from New York City. Many local historians believe the Inn was a popular secret "speakeasy" during prohibition that eventually quietly closed its doors.

Harry Schwarz, a prominent business leader purchased the



the 1920s and sold it to Dover General Hospital in 1966. The original plan was to use this mansion as a nurse's home and additional clinics, but those plans fell through.

In 1975, the Dover Area Historical Society leased the mansion from the hospital for a 10-year period investing more than \$30,000 in repairs and renovation along with a great amount of time and volunteer help. One year into the lease, the hospital ordered the historical society out, demolished the mansion and paved a rarely, ever used parking lot. One can still see the "Bonnieview" street sign along Route 46.

## Who Was Edwin J. Ross?

DOVER-Edwin J. Ross was the president and founder of the E. J. Ross Manufacturing Co. of Morris County, manufacturers of silk goods which was very important in the commercial life of Morris County.

Born in Newark on December 30, 1851, Edwin was the son of Aaron L. Ross with ancestral traces back to the early colonial life in America. Growing up, Edwin was employed by the Hyde, Ayers & Company of New York City working in the manufacturing of wool products.

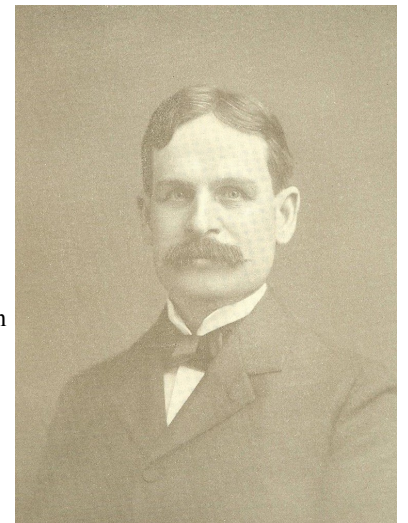
In 1880, after accumulating some capital, he embarked in business of his own developing a strong interest in silk. In

1883, he moved to Dover and established the Hopper & Ross Silk Company.

A year later, Mr. Hopper died and now Edwin entered a partnership with George B. Baker of Port Oram (Wharton).

Mr. & Mrs. Ross had a family of 10 children and were members of the First Presbyterian Church in Dover. The family home was a very comfortable residence on West Blackwell Street known as Bonnieview which was the center of a cultured social circle of Dover.

Mr. Ross was a member of the Merchants' Club of New York and of the Silk Association of America.



## East Dover Abattoir?



DOVER-This may be an extremely rare photograph of John B. Richards abattoir in East Dover. John was one of Dover's early butchers who opened a butcher shop on Myrtle Ave. at Union St..

After people objected to his business there, he moved to an 86 acre site on the north side of E. McFarlan St.

His business grew to employ over 20 butchers and slaughtered up to 300 hogs daily, filling 4 to 5 refrigerator cars with shipments to New York.

His hogs arrived in Dover from Cleveland, Chicago, St. Joe, etc. and driven through town on Sussex St. to the Grace Church and then eastward to McFarlan St. with gangs of Dover kids running along with

great excitement and joy. Richards worked from 4 in the morning until dark, along with his sons. Hogs were killed on the first floor and cattle on another. Cow hides were sold to hide dealers, and the fat was placed in a rendering tank and sold as tallow.

Dover's plant was the next largest slaughterhouse to Paterson and soon both Armour and Swift tried to cut Richards out of his prosperous business, but despite the lawsuits, hassles, etc. he continued to operate until his death at 73.

To aid in his transport of hogs from the Central RR train station through town, Mr. Richards constructed the first Hudson Street Bridge over the canal.

## Civil War In Dover

(cont. from pg. 1) According to historic records, *"the rapid increase of the population between 1860 to 1870 was due to the iron industry, which was never so prosperous as during the Civil War."* Naturally Dover saw an increase in banking needs, hotel needs, rooming housing needs, stores, shops, blacksmiths, etc. Most of the activity in this section was centered around Dover. At the time it was said, "all roads lead to Dover." (Same remains true to this day.)

Dover residents, like most of the population in the north supported the war effort. Harriet Breese, as a little girl, lived at the corner of Blackwell and Morris Streets and remembered when attending the Hilltop Seminary School on Prospect St. of making "comfort bags" for the soldiers on the front line. Putting in each bag, besides the usual needles, pins, thread and buttons, a letter from the kids back home. Harriet also published a paper called "The Union" which carried all the replies from the troops of Dover. *(No copies of these letters or papers have yet been found in the museum.)*

There was once an embarrassing moment in William Young's Bakery Shop

on Dickerson St. when little Aunt Polly came running in all excited about a letter she had gotten from her son on the front line, following a battle in which he appeared to be OK. Asking Mr. Young to read the letter with several friends and neighbors standing about, it read the he (her son) "had crawled into a ditch when the bullets began to fly and remained there until the enemy "stopped ceasin'." The room fell silent.

Mr. Young was a very generous likable man in town and would often offer baked goodies to students who achieved high scores on tests. During the Civil War he helped feed the families of many of the soldiers who had gone off to the war effort.

During the Civil War years there were several large patriotic rallies held in and around Dover and one of them in Port Oram (Wharton) was held on June 1, 1861 on the day of the Battle of Bull Run. Several dignitaries were on hand as well as Dover's Rev. B. C. Megie of the First Presbyterian Church. As the older citizens were showing their patriotism, the school children of Dover were also fired up with patriotism and

expressed their feelings by singing long and loud, the popular Civil War song "John Brown." The school master of The Dover Institute on Orchard Street disapproved of the singing and ordered the kids not to sing inside the school. Now, kids being kids would only obey instructions as little as possible and as school was let out for the day at 4:00 pm, the first boy to reach the lobby would begin to sing "out loud" with "John" and each boy and girl that followed would join in until they reached the doorway and then would sing at the top of their lungs, ....*"John Brown's body lies a-moulderin' in the grave, John Brown's body lies a-moulderin' in the grave, John Brown's body lies a-moulderin' in the grave, But His soul is marching on. Glory Glory Hallelujah! Glory, Glory Hallelujah! Glory, Glory Hallelujah! His soul is marching on."*

### UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

Dover generally supported the war effort even though several business owners supported the rights to own slaves. In many instances, businessmen in both the north and the south thought the same about slavery.

(cont. below)

## Civil War (cont.)

There has been a long-time rumor in Dover that an underground tunnel ran beneath the streets of Dover out to the fields and woods of Randolph. This has never been proven, except for the existence of a large water tunnel under the old Opera House. As a matter of fact, one newspaper account reported that if a business owner in Dover learned of an fleeing slave, most likely that incident would have been reported to the authorities. The closest any underground railroad activity that may have occurred in the Dover area would have been at the Friends of the Quaker Church in Randolph. However, real attitudes of all northerners changed when the fear of the south invading the north reached a fever pitch.

Now even high school kids were quitting school and feeling that it was their patriotic duty to sign up and help fight the war.

One outstanding Dover student during the war was Octavius L. Pruden. Born into a very prominent Dover family, young Octavius gained the talent of great penmanship which was highly valued at the time by all. At the time, letters were the main source of communications between individuals. When the war broke out Mr. Pruden enlisted in the 11th Regiment of the N.J. Volunteers. The recruiting clerk immediately noticed Octavius's great penmanship and assigned him to clerical duties. He was assigned to the War Department in Washington and remained there until after the war when President Grant appointed him to one of



the principal clerkships in the White House. *Photo shows the Mansion House Hotel shortly after the war. It is believed that the bunting represented both "mourning" for the war, and "celebrating" the war was over.*

## 100 Years Ago, Baker Theatre At Its Peak

**The Baker Theatre**  
Wednesday, August 20th  
Direct from 6 months at the  
39TH ST. THEATRE  
New York City

**THE SENSATION OF LONDON AND NEW YORK**  
**A BUTTERFLY ON THE WHEEL**

By Edward G. Hammerde, K.I.C. and Francis Neilson, M. P.  
WITH MISS LAURA BURT

❖ The play is noted for its realistic court room scene, which shows the examination of the "Butterfly," a frail little woman of great beauty who has been sued for divorce.

❖ Mrs. Oliver H. P. Belmont declares that "it should interest all thinking women."

❖ A powerful performance, powerfully acted.

PRICES 25c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00 and \$1.50  
Seats Now Selling

DOVER-According to historical records, it took until 1913 for the historic Baker Theatre to reach its peak in presenting, direct from New York City, live, on-stage theatrical productions of the highest class, rarely seen elsewhere in New Jersey. Great performances of that year included "The Winifred St. Claire Co."; the season's sensational production of "Within The Law"; "John Philip Sousa Band"; "Little Women"; "Peg O' My Heart" starring Lauretta Taylor; Miss Laura Burt in "Butterfly on the Wheel"; "Mutt & Jeff in Panama" and ending the year with "America's greatest comedian" Henrietta Crossman. By the late teens, the Baker turned to vaudeville shows and by the 20s, turned to the new "moving pictures" also known as "Photo Plays."

Compliments of  
Beaverkill Enterprises, Inc.  
Dover

Compliments of  
Charlotte Morgan  
Denville

### Antique Radio Collector



Joseph S. Bentrovato  
84 E Munson Avenue  
Dover, NJ 07801  
973 361-7392  
JBENTROVAT@MSN.COM



# History of the Dover Area Historical Society

## Rocky Start to a 47-Year Old Historical Society

DOVER-Dover's rich historic roots run deep into the history of North America and the early development of the United States of America. Just think, Dover had already been settled and developing a half-a-century before the United States ever existed, so it's only fitting that Dover would have a strong historical society with continuous efforts in seeking out the details of its history and then presenting those facts to the general public and the schools through the means of technology in every effort to reach out to as many as possible.

Today, the Dover historical society has a paid membership base of nearly 450 individuals and families across America and Canada; produces and presents dozens of informative programs every year; reaches out to the Dover area schools, not limited to just Dover; to senior citizen's organizations; to the churches and other non-profit groups and through our website.

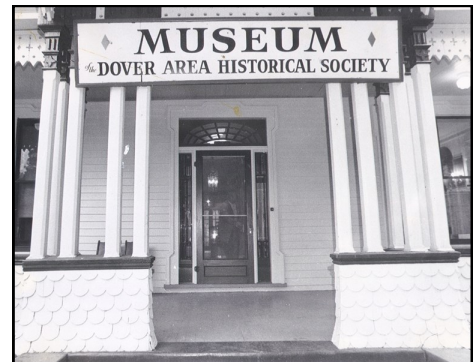
### A BRIEF HISTORY

On April 28, 1966 a call went out to anyone

interested in Dover history to meet at 8:00 pm on Wednesday at Dover Town Hall. Fifteen people showed up at that first meeting and voted temporary president of the group to be Willy Pederson. Dr. Herbert Rosen was elected vice president, Mrs. Richard Sakaris was chosen secretary and her husband named publicity chairman.

Others attending the meeting were Paul Gabel, Harry Bullock, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Bostrom, Miss Dorothy Woodruff, Mrs. Rosen, Sidney Schwarz, Robert Wagner, Fred Bostrom, Charles Malkin and Alderman Kelly. Next meeting was scheduled for June 1, 1966.

At the June meeting, Trustees were chosen: Mayor Willard Hedden, Eugene Friedman, William Pederson, Dr. Herbert Rosen, Harry Bullock and Charles Malkin. In other business at that meeting, the members began preparing a charter and agreed that all residents who join the unit through October would be-



*Entrance of Dover's Bonnieview Museum*

come charter members.

On November 10, 1967, the Dover Area Historical Society opened its first museum at **7 East Blackwell Street** part of the building complex owned by the Five-East Blackwell Realty Co. On July 1, 1968, the lease for use of the museum at 7 E. Blackwell Street expired with no action taken by the Town of Dover to purchase the structure.



In February of 1969, it was announced a new location was being readied for the Dover Museum located at **59 North Sussex Street**. Sidney Schwarz offered the society the first floor of this building along with the basement to house a museum for a six month period. On June 18, 1975, the

Dover Area Historical Society signed a 10-year lease with Dover General Hospital for use of the **Bonnieview Mansion** as a museum. After one year, that lease fell through. For the next 28-years, the historical society was homeless, meeting in churches and halls around town, being

kept together by then president, Vivian Berg.

On August 24, 2003, the Presbyterian Church gave its final approval to a 25-year lease of the **Dr. Arthur W. Condict House** to the Dover Area Historical Society to use as a museum now celebrating its 10th anniversary.

## Ushers at the Baker Theater

DOVER-Ushering at the Baker in the 1930s & 40s was a very lucrative job for the young kids that were at least 16 and willing to earn .25 an hour. With the right scheduling, an usher could make \$6 a week, see lots of the latest movies and meet lots of girls and if lucky enough, got a date now and then.

Some of the early ushers included: Tom Collins, Henry Troast, Art Treible, Paul Downs, Jack Bennett, Bob Schiffner, Jack Atno, Wilbur Gardner, Pete Cutchis, Frank Poulos, Chris Poulos and Paul

McGrath. Also on the payroll were Sam Roth, General Manager; Mrs. "Mack" cashier; Bill Gustin, ticket taker, Johnny Hagerty, head usher; and Matt Cleffi, projectionist.

When World War II broke out, many of the ushers went into the Armed Forces and believe it or not, Warner Bros. actually sent "care" packages to their employees in service during the entire length of the war and hired them back upon their return.

When Warner Brothers finally took over the management of the Community The-



ater in Morristown, Dover ushers were transported to Morristown to help establish the Community's usher program.

**Dover Area Historical Society**  
**PO Box 609**  
**Dover, New Jersey 07802-0609**  
[www.doverhistoricalsociety.com](http://www.doverhistoricalsociety.com)



**Compliments of  
Dover Renaissance, Inc.  
Dover**

**Compliments of  
Kelly Photographers, Inc.  
sky912875@aol.com**



2:00-2:15 Fibber McGee And Molly - McGee caught at track  
2:15-2:30 Abbott & Costello Show - Lou has a cold.  
2:30-2:45 Bob Hope Show - Christmas with Bing Crosby.  
2:45-3:00 Burns & Allen - Gracie is late for the show.  
3:00-3:15 Little Orphan Annie - Annie's day in court.  
3:15-3:30 The Charlie McCarthy Show - Charlie flips a lid.  
3:30-3:45 Danny Kaye Show - Special guest star to appear.  
3:45-4:00 Ozzie & Harriet - Ozzie has a plumbing problem.

**COMING IN OCTOBER - "WAR OF THE WORLDS"**

*(Stay tuned for more information)*

**President—Betty Inglis**  
**Vice President—Stan Schoonmaker**  
**Recording Secretary—Joan Bocchino**  
**Corresponding Secretary—Wm Woodhull**  
**Treasurer— Bill Shuler**  
**Museum Committee—George Laurie,**  
**Stan Schoonmaker, Alice & Bob Wagner**  
**Ways and Means—Bob Wagner**  
**Photographer—Rick Kelly**  
**Old Tye Editor—George Laurie**  
**Grant Committee—Linda Mullin, George**  
**Laurie, Betty Inglis**  
**Archivist—George Coulthard**  
**Webmaster—Phil Reynolds**

#### **BREAKFAST WITH THE DOVER AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

The DAHS is sponsoring a Flapjack Fund Raiser on Saturday, June 1st from 8:00-10:00 am at the Dover/Rockaway Applebee's on Route 46.

The menu is pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage and beverage (coffee, juice, tea or soda).

Proceeds from the fundraiser will be used to fund the scholarship/award to be presented at Dover High School Awards Brunch.

Tickets are \$10.00. For further information and tickets, please contact Phyllis at 973-366-4276.

#### **\$500 SCHOLARSHIP AWARD**

In 2012, the Dover Area Historical Society established a scholarship/award to be given to a Dover High School graduating senior. Our scholarship is for \$500.00 and is awarded to a Dover High School senior who is a resident of Dover, Mine Hill or Victory Gardens and who will be attending an accredited two-year or four-year college.

The winner will also receive an autographed copy of the "Images of America: Dover".

**Compliments of  
Brownwood Realty Co., Inc.  
Dover**

**Compliments of  
Sylvia Rubens  
Dover**

**Compliments of  
George Johnson  
Dover**

**Compliments of  
Marjorie Herring Bell  
Los Angeles, CA**

**Compliments of  
Helen Lori  
Dover**

**Compliments of  
Dover Flea Market  
Wayne**

***Have you paid your 2013 dues yet? DAHS: PO Box 609 Dover, NJ 07802-0609***

#### **ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES**

**Family - \$20 \* Individual - \$12**

**Senior Citizen (62 and older) - \$8**

**Junior Member (Student) - \$6**

**Sustaining Member - \$75  
(Display Ad or Compliments of:)**

**Life Membership (one-time  
payment) (Husband & Wife or  
Individual) - \$300**

**Dover Area Historical Society is a 501(c)3  
Not-For-Profit Organization**

#### **DOVER AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY Board of Trustees**

Phyllis Casey	2013
George Coulthard	2013
Helen Pennella	2013
Kathi Gilbert	2013
Jim Johnson	2014
Alice Wagner	2014
Vishal Parmar	2014
Bob Wagner	2014
Brenda Woodhull	2015
Scott Miller	2015
Bonnie Doboney	2015
Beth Olney	2015

***Letter from: Gail Just-Cornelius (First female New Jersey State Trooper)***

*It was a pleasure to have joined your organization as a LIFE member...my parents were members many years before their passing...and I know that you do wonderful things with the money raised from the club dues.*

*I will be in Alaska for several more months...but will return to New Jersey in the fall...I would love to speak at one of your meetings regarding life in the N.J. State Police from 1973 to 1994. It was a very proud time in my life. I was working as a special officer/record clerk at the Dover P.D. prior to entering the State Police academy. Police Chief Buchanan had these parting words for me.. "Make us Proud." I jogged at the E. Dover track just about every day in 1973 to increase my endurance.*

*My parents June & Walt Just were just overwhelmed at my accomplishment. Sincerely, Gail (gailjust@gmail.com)*

#### **LETTER TO EDITOR**

*A Chris Gantz of Providence, R.I. would like to know when an ARMORED CAR ROBBERY occurred in Dover between 1984-86. His uncle, Wm. Gantz was one of the robbers. If anyone knows the date, please let me know.*

*Sincerely, Robert Lin, Dover  
(info@doverhistoricalsociety.com)*