

Wissahickon Valley

historical society

Ambler
Lower Gwynedd
Whitpain

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Volume 13, Issue 9

May 14 Meeting

7:30 p.m.

at the 1895 Schoolhouse

Program: Show and Tell and Museum Tour

Reflect on your experiences and possessions
and share one at our May meeting.

Please plan on a giving a short explanation
and answering a few
questions.

Then check out some
new exhibits
and tour the second floor
museum.

The SpringHouse
Questers will also be
presenting
a grant for the shades to be installed at the Schoolhouse.



Light refreshments will be served following the program.

Wissahickon Valley Historical Society
Serving Lower Gwynedd, Whitpain, and Ambler Communities
Volume 13, Issue 9

Society Receives Grant from CCAHA

The Wissahickon Valley Historical Society recently received notice that it has been awarded a grant by the Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts of Philadelphia. Two members of CCAHA's Preservation Services staff will spend a day in June at the 1895 Schoolhouse and help us draw up a preservation needs assessment plan for the building and collection.

The program has been funded through the support of the William Penn Foundation.

As part of the grant, the curatorial staff will also attend training sessions in the CCAHA's Collection Care Training Series.

In Memory of Floss Levy

by Mary Lou MaFarland

The Historical Society lost a good friend and supporter with the passing of Floss Levy on March 17 at the age of 85. What can we say about Floss to truly capture the wonderful person she was? She was not only talented and worldly - traveling and keeping up with current events, but she was also kind, funny, and honest in her feelings about how people should respect and treat each other. A conversation with Floss could go on for hours - all of it interesting and entertaining. Floss loved her family which includes her husband of 63 years (Herb) as well as children and grandchildren.

Friends are cordially invited to a time to remember Floss' life will be held at Foulkeways on Wednesday, June 6 at 2 p.m.

Floss Levy's Kugel

1 lb. medium egg noodles	1/2 lb. butter
2 c. sugar	2 pints sour cream
8 eggs, separated	1/2 raisins
salt	

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Cook noodles and drain them. Melt butter. Cool.

Beat the sugar, egg yolks, and salt.

Beat the egg whites but not too stiff.

Mix egg yolk mixture and butter. Add sour cream.

Rinse the noodles and mix with the yolk mixture. Stir in the egg whites and raisins.

Butter a 9" x 13" pan and bake at 350 degrees for about 1 hour until the mixture is firm and the top is brown.

Cool and cut into pieces. It is rich!

Floss never claimed that her Kugel was "low cal". - but everyone agreed that it was yummy! Jean Bellavance will be bringing it to the June pot-luck.

Looking Ahead

At the recent board meeting, the need for a librarian was discussed. We have a number of new books to catalogue and shelf. We also have children's books that need to be stabilized for display and use. Volunteers are welcome; instruction available.

For the more hands-on: The stone steps and property corner wall need repair. This is a project we'd like to do "in house". If you have knowledge/experience with stonework, we have several members who will provide muscle power. Contact John Simon if you can help with this project.

A Short History of our Building

Information from Bob Whittock

Though we call our building the 1895 Schoolhouse, it has had numerous reincarnations. It was built in 1895 as a high school for students from several area one-room schools. The first floor was used for 1 through 8 grades; the second floor for 3 years of high school.

The PTA was organized in 1922. The PTA sponsored a hot lunch program with a cafeteria and lunch room in the basement. The building was also used for meetings of community organizations.

After the brick school building was completed next door, the 1895 building was used for storage. In 1923 and 1924 the first floor was again used for 4th and 5th grades. From 1926 to 1929, it became the 7th and 8th grades in a Junior High arrangement.

In the 1950s various classes used the upstairs and downstairs as needed. In 1968, the Whitpain Library rented the top floor and in 1974 rented the entire building for its operations.

The building was later used by Whitpain Township for their police headquarters. In 1985, the Wissahickon Valley Historical Society began renting the building from Whitpain Township and undertook extensive work on the building so it could be opened as a museum and meeting place.



A cheerful pot of daffodils has graced the Schoolhouse steps this spring. The bulbs were shared at the memorial for Janice Driedger last fall.

They have been a joyous reminder of a lovely lady.

Plans for the Fall

The annual Market Day fund raiser date has not been set yet, but items for the flea market are welcome any time. Items can be brought to the Schoolhouse any Thursday morning or by arrangement and will be stored in the basement. Textiles, etc. should be put in plastic bags to protect them from moisture. Many thanks!

The board is looking for programs for the 2012-13 schedule. Especially welcome are programs about local sites and events. Please share ideas with Russ Bellavance.

The Colony Club of Ambler and the Center Square fire company both have big anniversaries this year. Articles about these important community entities would be welcomed for fall newsletters.

WVHS will take part in the Montgomery County History Fair at the Augustus Lutheran Church in Trappe on Saturday, September 22. The board is open to ideas for our booth.

Mark Your Calendar

May 5 - Attic Sale at the Historical Society of Whitpain

May 5 and 6 - WWII Re-enactment at Graeme Park

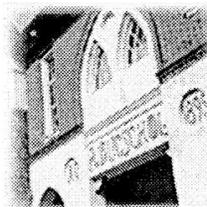
May 12 - Flea Market and Family Day at the Historical Society of Fort Washington - 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

May 14 - Monthly Meeting - 1895 Schoolhouse - 7:30 p.m.

Program: Show and Tell and Museum tours

May 20 - Open House - 1895 Schoolhouse/Franklinville Schoolhouse/
Evans-Mumbower Mill - 1 to 4 p.m.

June 11 - End of Year pot-luck - Gloria and Bob Myers, 1280 Pinetown Rd.,
Fort Washington



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