



ALLENDALE HISTORY AND HERITAGE

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No. 4

NEXT MEETING: Monday, May 2, 1977, 8:30 p.m. at the Allendale Municipal Building.

PROGRAM: Joan Winkelhoff--active in many local historical societies, a member of our own society, and editor of Pascack Historical Society's bulletin, "Relics"--will present a slide program entitled "Revolutionary Sites Revisited." The program will focus on buildings in Bergen County and Rockland County that played a part in the Revolutionary War. Among the buildings discussed will be the Steuben House, Paramus Church, Hackensack Church, the "76 House," and the Hermitage.

NEWS AND VIEWS: The nominating committee, headed by Jack Knapp, has prepared the following slate of officers and chairmen for 1977-1978:

President: A. Marian Strangfeld
Vice President: Jeanne Cotz
Secretary-Treasurer: Pat Wardell
Trustee for a two year term:
 Florence Schenk
Trustee for a one year term:
 Jack Knapp

Continuing Trustee, serving
 second year of a two year
 term: Ina Hamilton
Newsletter Editor: Pat Wardell
Publicity Chairman: Lucie Kirylak
Hospitality Chairmen: Eva Schmitt
 and Jean Stein
Curator-Librarian: Marion Schwack

Additional nominations for any office may be made from the floor, and election of officers and chairmen will take place at our annual meeting on May 2.

THE FRANKLIN CLUB.....by Pat Wardell

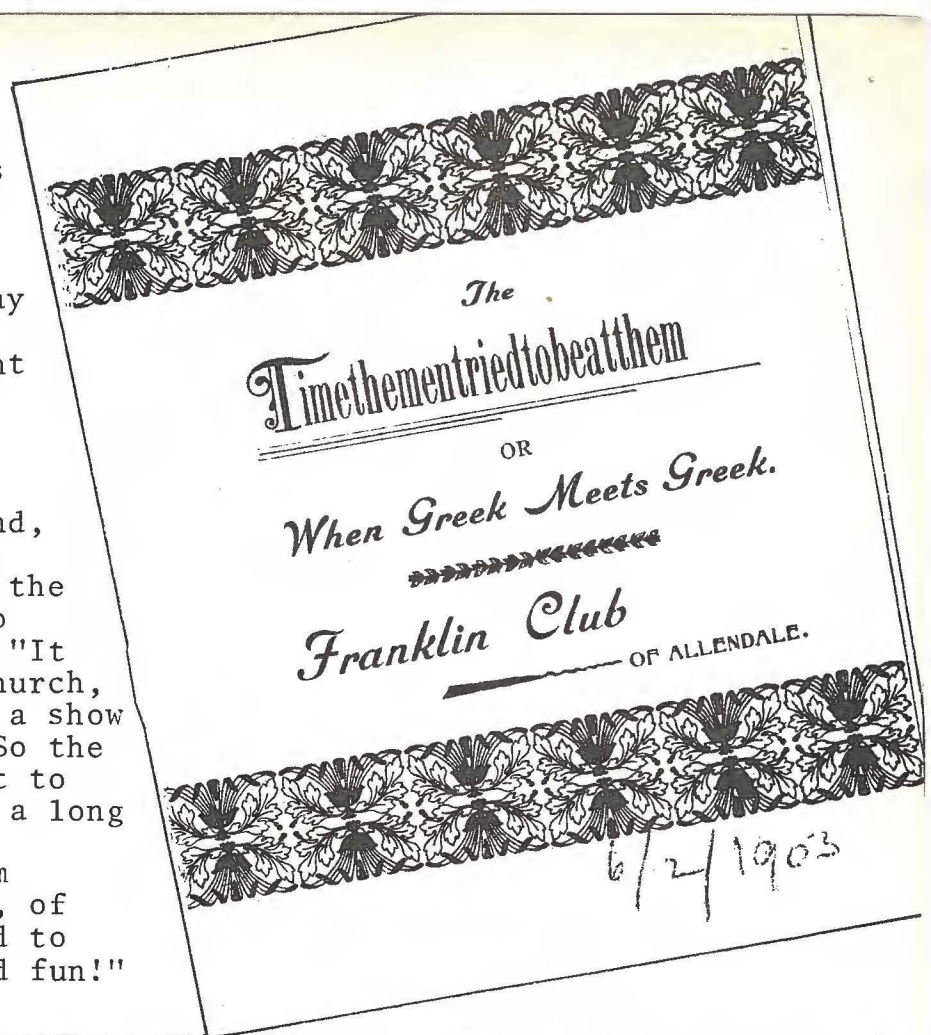
The Franklin Club flourished in the early years of the twentieth century in Allendale. It appears to have been a social club, probably affiliated with the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany. The club sponsored bowling tournaments (bowling on the alley that used to be in the basement of the old Episcopal Church) and theater presentations. On March 18, 1904, the Ramsey Journal reported that "on Thursday evening the Franklin Club gave a reception to its members and friends. The fore part of the evening was spent in bowling. After this the company

adjourned to the large room upstairs where a long table was spread with dainty refreshments." The Franklin Club defeated the Saddle River team in a bowling tournament held May 23, 1904. Bowling for the Franklin Club in that tournament were William Dewsnap, Gustave Nadler, Henry B. Ivers, Percy Southwick Doty, and George W. Parigot.

Mrs. Laura Barrett Haviland, who donated to the society the program reproduced here, tells the story behind this Franklin Club presentation of June 2, 1903. "It seems that the ladies of our church, Church of the Epiphany, put on a show that had a long Greek title. So the men, Franklin Club members, not to be outdone, put on a show with a long title too, as follows:

The Timethementriedtobeatthem

Broken down, the title is, of course, 'The Time the Men Tried to Beat Them.' They must have had fun!"



Music.

Sewanee River.

The Old Rusty Poker.
If You Love Me.

Serenade, - - - Selected

Home Sweet Home.
America.

The audience is asked to stand during the singing of the National Anthem and is invited to join in the singing.

Time—Right Away.
Place—Shop of the Inventor.

Genius. ALONZO CHARLES BARRETT
Inventor. GEORGE WASHINGTON PARIGOT
Mother Snickerslick. HARRY IRVING HAND
Queen Elizabeth. WILLIAM DEWSNAP
Priscilla. HENRY BERGH IVERS
Cleopatra. EDWARD GRANT WASHBURNE
Donna M'Agnesia.
. FRANCIS LUDLOW HAVERON
Pocahontas. LUCIEN BLAKE PEYTON
Joan of Arc. PERCY SOUTHWICK DOTY
St. Cecilia. ROBERT LAW NIMMO, JR.
Martha Washington. EDGAR DEUEL, JR.

THE STORY OF ALLENDALE'S BOROUGH SEAL

by Dorothy Shuit and Pat Wardell



(In our February issue, we erroneously mentioned that Allendale's Borough Seal, depicted in the central square of Allendale's Bicentennial Quilt, had been designed by Dorothy Shuit. While Mrs. Shuit did later render the design in color on a beautiful plaque which now hangs in the Borough Hall, the actual design was created by Maureen Murray when she was an eighth grader at Brookside School. Here's the story of Allendale's official borough seal.)

It was about the year 1960 when a contest was held at Brookside School, in preparation for the borough's combined 70th Anniversary and the State of New Jersey's Tercentenary Celebration, both of which would occur in 1964. The contest called for the design of a seal or emblem symbolic of the Borough of Allendale. The borough, which had no official seal of its own, was using the state seal.

Maureen Murray, who lived at 15 Walnut Place, and who was an eighth grader at the time, entered the contest, submitting an 8-1/2" by 11" pencil drawing. Four years later, when Maureen was a senior at Northern Highlands Regional High School, her drawing was adopted as the official seal of the Borough of Allendale. At the January 14, 1965 meeting of the borough council, a resolution was unanimously passed designating Maureen's design as Allendale's official borough seal.

At that council meeting, it was noted that the design for the seal depicted a symbolic historical account of Allendale. On the seal, a farmer and an Indian stand on either side of a horn of plenty (representing the fruits and vegetables once raised in abundance on farms throughout Allendale), and the date--1894--of Allendale's incorporation as a borough.

The design was made into a plaque executed in color by Dorothy Shuit and Richard Wright. The plaque, which was presented to the Mayor and Council in April 1967, now hangs in Borough Hall.

Soon after the plaque was presented, Allendale Police Chief Frank Parenti had the design made into a woven patch to be worn on police uniforms.

Today Maureen Murray, the designer of Allendale's borough seal, teaches art in the Wyckoff school system.



V. The Early Years of the Borough.

After the proceedings for the incorporation of the borough of Allendale were filed and recorded in the County Clerk's Office on November 10, 1894, a primary election was held in Allendale to nominate a citizens' ticket. On November 22, 1894, the following legal notice appeared in the Hackensack Republican:

Borough of Allendale. Notice of Election. Notice is hereby given that an election will be held in and for the Borough of Allendale, in the county of Bergen, at Archer Hall, Allendale, in said county, within said borough on Tuesday, December fourth, eighteen hundred and ninety-four, between the hours of six o'clock in the morning and seven o'clock in the evening, for the purpose of electing a Mayor, two Councilmen to serve one year, two Councilmen to serve for two years, two Councilmen to serve for three years, a Chosen Freeholder, a Collector, an Assessor, and three Commissioners of Appeals, and to vote for such appropriations as may be authorized by law. Witness our hands this 17th day of November, 1894. John B. Achenbach, Township Clerk of the Township of Orvil; Thos. Post, Township Clerk of the Township of Franklin; Wm. J. Thurston, Township Clerk of the Township of Hohokus.

On December 7, 1894, The Ramsey Journal announced the results of Allendale's election: "After an exciting election last Tuesday, borough of Allendale elected its citizens' ticket which is as follows: Mayor, Peter D. Rapelje; Councilmen, one year, George Hatch, Cornelius H. Quackenbush; two years, H. O. Doty, Walter Dewsnap; three years, Charles L. Parigot and Edward E. Burtis; Assessor, John Youmans; Collector, Garret G. Smith; Freeholder, Wm. Wilson; Commissioners of Appeals, Chas. W. Stocker, Albert L. Zabriskie and Ryerson Eckerson. One hundred dollars was appropriated for borough purposes."

Allendale's population, according to The Ramsey Journal, was slowly growing: in 1894-95, the population was reported to be 495 persons. By 1900, the number had grown to 694 and by 1910, 937 people lived in the borough of Allendale.

In early 1895, James Linkroum had built a new store near the depot on the east side of the railroad tracks. It was reported that Dr. Abraham Lydecker, a former resident of Ramsey who had moved to Ohio, planned to return east and open a drug store in part of Linkroum's new building. By June of 1895, Linkroum himself had opened "an ice cream saloon" in the lower part of his new hall. This building housed a confectionery business for over half a century. Later confectioners operating businesses in this location included James E. Webb (1904), Wally Gasparini, George Mensching (by 1910), Bert Linkroum, and Eugene Melchionna (1916). In December 1895, James Linkroum and the Borough Council made a contract by which the borough agreed to rent part of the hall for Spring elections and borough meetings for \$35 a year.

Other businesses, too, were just getting their start in the borough's first years. Max Scholz, reported The Ramsey Journal, had come from New York City and had opened "a first class barber shop" by April of 1895. Wally Gasparini opened a boot and shoe repair shop near the depot by April of 1898. By April 1896, Thomas Brown had come from New York to open a dry and fancy goods store in part of James Linkroom's building. He later moved his store into the Winter Building, but by August 1897, he had closed out his business and moved to New York.

At least three livery stables flourished at different times in the borough's early years. By June of 1895, F. H. Storms had opened a livery stable in Mr. Yeomans' barn. He not only had carriages for hire, but he arranged for a baggage express wagon to meet every train, making it convenient for summer boarders to get their trunks to and from the station. By 1906 Alonzo C. Barrett was running a livery service in Allendale, and before 1917 Eddie Williams ran a livery service where Allendale's Central Garage now stands.

Mrs. H. C. Borger ran a dry goods store in the early years of the century. Besides dry and fancy goods, one could buy notions, confectionary, and stationery--and even sometimes reserved seats for entertainments held at Archer Hall--all at Mrs. Borger's store. After the Borger store closed in 1914, Mrs. O. O. Clark, the wife of an Allendale Mayor, ran a dry goods store as a successor to the Borger store.

A series of non-lasting partnerships preceded the long-lasting venture most Allendale residents knew as Winter Brothers Store. Winter, Leamon & Company was established in 1888 and was succeeded by Smith and Henion in 1894. By November 1896, Smith and Henion had dissolved their partnership. The Souvenir, published by Archer Church in December 1894, presented this view of the Smith & Henion General Store: "A true picture of a barrel of 'Pillsbury's Best' Flour, life-size, greets the traveller as he looks north from Friend Linkrum's. Smith & Henion, two young men full of push, grit, hope and goods, are on deck. Mr. Muihead Christopher is one of their salesmen. Harmless, modest, ready and intelligent is he. He has a future and so has every young man who keeps away from rum and evil company."

Archer Hall was a favorite gathering spot for many special entertainments in the borough's early years. Among the variety of featured attractions during the first decade of the century was the show put on by the Crest Minstrel Company. In April 1908 the Crest Minstrel Company gave their third annual performance at Archer Hall. Advertising of the time promised that the program would be "replete with new songs and sayings."

Nearly two years later, in April 1910, tickets sold for 25 and 35 cents would get you through the doors of Archer Hall to marvel at an exhibition of Mrs. Jarley's Wax Works.

Outdoor entertainment was dependent on the weather. Recreation included fishing, swimming, and boating on Allendale's lakes and streams. Lawn Tennis was a favorite during the warm weather months, and the autumn months usually brought several strawrides, often with cities like Hackensack and Paterson as their destination. The winter months brought sleighrides, coasting, and skating. In December 1900 it was reported that a few very cold nights "brought joy to the hearts of the boys by providing skating. Wednesday Burtis' Pond had about 3 inches of black ice and afforded fine skating to a large

number after school hours."

Sometimes entertainment came in the form of something unique--an oddity. In June 1902, Dr. and Mrs. H. M. Archer must have provided quite an exciting spectacle when they drove their new automobile to Allendale. George Cook, Allendale's second Mayor, had a automobile by 1904, and in 1908 Cy Goussett bought two new Franklins--a touring car and a runabout!

Several different men served as Allendale's Postmaster in the borough's beginning years. S. J. Van Blarcom was appointed postmaster in 1893; A. F. Krause in 1897; M. M. McDermott in 1902; and John Winter in 1914. Early locations of the post office included R. V. Ackerman's General Store, the Erie Railroad Station, and the Winter General Store.

On July 1, 1903, Rural Free Delivery was started from the Allendale Post Office. William J. Wilson and Mortimer Southwick were sworn in as U. S. Mail carriers, Wilson as the regular carrier, and Southwick as the substitute carrier. The route covered all of Allendale and the carrier's duties included delivering, collecting, and registering letters, as well as selling stamps.

A Board of Health was organized in Allendale as early as 1896, when, according to Borough Council Minutes of February 6, the following Board of Health Commissioners were appointed: S. W. Brainard, John A. Mallinson, Dr. Badeau, C. A. Merrill, and Martin Henion.

Soon after the incorporation of the borough, a new Board of Education was elected. The new Board included William Tallman, C. A. Quackenbush, J. B. Willard, S. Van Blarcom, D. P. Davis, R. L. Nimmo, H. J. Appert, D. C. Cooper, and S. Van Houten.

Many civic and social organizations came into being during Allendale's early years as a borough. A Fish and Game Association was organized in 1902 and held meetings at Linkroum's Hall. By 1917, a similar organization, the Allendale Rod and Gun Club, had been organized, and the officers chosen in December of that year were A. Abbott, Walter Steele, Louis Rossner, and W. G. Ackerson.

About 1908 a boys' organization, called the Bergen Guards, was formed in Allendale. Under the supervision of Captain Harry Hand, and outfitted in smart uniforms, the boys in this group were instructed in fancy drills, which they demonstrated at parades and in special monthly performances given at the new firehouse in 1913 and 1914.

Some clubs and organizations were connected with the churches in Allendale. The Franklin Club, which seems to have been a social and bowling club, apparently was affiliated with the Episcopal Church in Allendale. Members of the Franklin Club bowled on the alley in the basement of the old Episcopal Church, and presented plays and entertainments, often with refreshments served afterwards.

A group of young women called "The Dorcas Girls" was associated with Archer Methodist Church. The Dorcas Girls presented a comedy play on June 15, 1909 at Archer Hall which raised the sum of \$146.27. Some of those involved, including both the girls and their leaders, were Alma Seipel, Kitty Austin, Mary Hubbard, Sadie Mallinson, Gertrude Borger, Myrtle Quackenbush, Anna Van Dien, Ida McGuire, Josie Ackerson, Mr. John W. Steele, Lottie Scholz, and Mrs. McKeeby.

Another, slightly later girl's group connected with Archer Church was the King's Daughters Society. On February 16, 1914, they presented, at Archer Hall, a three-act comedy entitled "Billy's Bungalow." Their elected officers for 1914 included Florence Darrow, Sadie

Mallinson, Edna Ackerman, Ethel Quackenbush, and Gertrude Borger.

The Railroad Station now standing opposite the Fire Station in Allendale was built in 1870 and originally stood on the opposite (east) side of the railroad tracks. By 1902, the station had fallen into some disrepair, and the residents of Allendale urged the railroad to tear it down and build them a new one. The railroad company responded by moving the old station across the tracks to its current location and refurbishing it a bit. This move resulted in a rash of sarcasm and indignation on the part of Allendale's commuters. The Ramsey Journal of October 31, 1902 reported: "If you want to make an Allendale man mad, ask him how he likes the new station. The moving of the old station across the tracks took place last Saturday, at noon, and so well was the thing planned that not a single train was delayed. Allendale people cannot understand why the company spent nearly \$1,100 to move an old building so far. The officials say the building will be thoroughly overhauled and repainted and will practically be a new building. The new site is considered by many superior to the old one. A citizen sat in the old station as it was being raised on jacks, when a friend came in and said, 'I see you are on the way to heaven.' The citizen replied: 'Let me out; I don't want to go there in this dilapidated affair.'"

By July of 1903, the railroad company had made good on its promise to overhaul the old building. The Ramsey Journal reported: "The station has undergone quite a change in the past few weeks. The office is now at one end and connects with a door leading to the baggage room without having to go outside. Both waiting rooms have been thrown into one large room and extra seats put in. The station is to be lighted by electricity and a freight house is to be built on the old station site."

In December 1903 four tracks between Allendale and Ridgewood were put into operation (over what had previously been a two-track stretch), resulting in an unbroken four-track line between Suffern and Jersey City.

In September 1908 a certificate of incorporation was filed for the North Jersey Rapid Transit Company and surveys were begun for a proposed trolley line which would run through Allendale. By 1911, the track had been completed from Suffern to Paterson with a switch for the interchange with the Erie Railroad in Allendale. In October 1910 the trolley company was running cars from the Waldwick station to Paterson on a thirty minute headway, with the running time to Broadway in Paterson being about twenty minutes and the fare fifteen cents. The company had reported that it expected cars to be running to Mahwah before the holidays.

Originally an interchange with the Hudson River Line Trolleys was planned, but the link between Paterson and Hoboken was never built, and so the trolley remained just an interurban line. The trolley company suffered financial setbacks resulting from a few early accidents, and when bus routes were established through the areas covered by the trolley, the competition proved too great. Public Service Company took over the trolley line in 1926 and on January 1, 1929, the trolley ceased to run. The track was shipped to the U. S. S. R. and used in construction of the Trans-Siberian Railway.

Modern improvements were being introduced to Allendale in the early days of the borough. By 1895, Allendale had telephone connections-- via a trunk line in Paterson--with Waldwick, Ramsey, and the Ridgewood

Central District, which was comprised of Ridgewood, Midland Park, Glen Rock, and Ho-Ho-Kus. By 1896, this 10-line switchboard was no longer adequate and was replaced by a 100-line switchboard. The first pay telephone in Allendale was located in R. V. Ackerman's General Store.

Around the time of the turn of the century, negotiations with the Rockland Electric Company began, and on June 7, 1900, an ordinance authorizing the Rockland Electric Company to install and maintain a pole line in Allendale was passed at the Borough Council meeting. At the September 14, 1900 Council meeting, it was agreed that seven electric lights were to be furnished to the borough by the electric company as provided by their franchise. The lights were to be installed at the following locations:

- (1) in the square opposite Yeoman's Butcher Shop.
- (2) at the junction of the turnpike and the road leading to the railroad station.
- (3) at the turn in Saddle River Road by the residence of Albert A. L. Zabriskie.
- (4) at the junction of the turnpike and Apperts Road in front of the residence of Mrs. Reading.
- (5) on the main turnpike at the crossing by the old gate house.
- (6) on the road leading from the railroad station to the public park on the brow of the hill by the residence of Mr. Brown.
- (7) on the road leading from Mr. Pullis's to the residence of Mr. Burtis about 150 ft. west of Mr. Pullis's house.

(To be continued)

Sources:

Allendale Borough Council Minutes, 1894-1903.
 Citizens Semi-Centennial Association, Ridgewood Past and Present.
 Quinby, E. J., Interurban Interlude: A History of the North Jersey Rapid Transit Company.
 W. P. A., Federal Writer's Project, Allendale and Its Fire Fighters.
 Newspapers: Allendale Picture Press, Bergen County Democrat, Hackensack Republican, Ramsey Journal, The (Archer Church) Souvenir, The (Ridgewood) Sunday News.

New Members

We welcome the following new members:

Mr. & Mrs. John R. Strangfeld of
 Chatham, N.J.
 The Howard Vanderbeck Family of
 Allendale.

Allendale Historical Society
 P.O. Box 294, Allendale, N.J. 07401

Membership Categories: (Annual Dues)
 Family Membership.....\$5.00
 Individual Membership.....\$3.00

Dues are not required, but are voluntary for those members over 65.

Accessions

We gratefully acknowledge the following gifts to the society's collections:

Two photographs, circa 1912-14, of the house at 475 Franklin Turnpike, donated by Mrs. Peggy Taylor Kohler.
 Three issues of The Allendale Argus, 1932 and 1933, donated by Mr. & Mrs. George H. Stein.

Allendale History and Heritage is published four times a year in September, November, February, and April, and is mailed to members of the Allendale Historical Society.

Editor: Pat Wardell

MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE NOW PAYABLE

Membership Renewal

Please renew my membership for 1977-1978 (check one):

() Family Membership.....\$5.00

() Individual Membership.....\$3.00

Name: _____

Address: _____

Please send to: Allendale Historical Society, P.O. Box 294,
Allendale, N.J. 07401
(or bring your payment and this renewal form to our May meeting)

From the By-Laws: Dues shall be payable at or before the May meeting each year. If any member fails to pay dues by the October meeting, membership shall lapse but may be reinstated by payment of current dues.

Those who have joined the society after January 1, 1977 are not required to pay dues again until May 1978. If you have already paid your 1977-1978 dues, please disregard this notice. We thank you for your support!

Dues are not required, but are voluntary for those members over 65.