



ALLENDALE HISTORY AND HERITAGE

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No. 2

NEXT MEETING: Monday, December 1, 8:30 p.m. at Borough Hall, Allendale.

PROGRAM: We will have an encore of one of our most popular programs -- June Regal, of Ridgewood, a well-known antique appraiser, will be on hand to discuss and evaluate items brought to the meeting. Members are invited to bring one small item for free evaluation. Non-members will be asked to donate \$1.00 for evaluation of an item. Additional items, for both members and non-members: a \$3.50 donation is requested.

In addition, we will have our annual Christmas festivities, with refreshments being served.

NEWS AND VIEWS: We are pleased to announce that notepaper, printed for the Allendale Historical Society is now available at the Country Shop, and at the Merri Mart, both in Allendale. The notepaper, printed in brown ink on attractive deckle-edge ivory stock, features four different sketches of Allendale (three scenes and one of the borough seal). Packaged in sets of eight notes and eight envelopes, it is priced at \$2.00, and makes wonderful holiday gifts. The notes are also available by mail from the Society at the address below, but please add \$.50 for postage and handling for each package ordered (total price by mail, \$2.50 per package).

We've done it again, folks! Even as we apologized in our last issue for an error in numbering in our previous issue--we were making yet another numbering mistake! Last issue's number should have been VOL. VII, No. 1 (not VOL. V, No. 1). Bear with us--we think we've got it right at last!

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Allendale Station, c. 1900

IN ALLENDALE. . .

107 YEARS AGO. . . "James Reading has nearly completed his new house. Isaac W. Halsted of Ramsey's has the contract. . . Smith Roswell is now ticket agent and post-master here. The Erie Co. opened a telegraph office last week." (Hackensack Republican, November 27, 1873). . . "There was a shooting for turkeys on Christmas. Six were put up at fifty cents a pop. They were from the farm of Daniel Anthony, Esq., and weighed in the aggregate of 86 pounds. The distance was fifty yards. J. Raymond Achenback won three; R. B. Cable one; C. Coe Achenback shooting one; and Daniel Anthony one." (Bergen County Democrat, December 26, 1873)

97 YEARS AGO. . . "O.H.P. Archer is building a hall for public use. The building will be 30 x 70 feet. . . A petition to the Railroad Company to restore train No. 44 is being extensively signed by commuters and others. The train was the fast morning train, via the Short-Cut, and was a big thing for commuters from Ridgewood up to Sufferns. . ." (Hackensack Republican, December 20, 1883)

92 YEARS AGO. . . "It is rumored that Major Van Tassel's fine dog will be exhibited at the coming dog show, at Madison Square Garden. No doubt there will be a good supply of blue ribbons in town afterwards, for the Major is sure to take first prize. . . A number of our people will follow Squire Sterling's example, and put a steam heating apparatus into their house before next season." (Bergen County Democrat, February 17, 1888)

89 YEARS AGO. . . "The upper part of town is not going to be behindhand in improvements. Lamp posts are being put up, and when the hill is lighted, enquiring strangers will be informed that the village in the distance is Wilsontown. . . The Allendale Improvement Association, which has done so much for the town, has started a movement to give a series of entertainments at a small cost. A committee has been appointed to take charge of the matter. Dramas, elocution, music, etc. will be the leading features." (Hackensack Republican, November 12, 1891)

87 YEARS AGO. . . "Mr. H. J. Appert is at Florida, N.Y. buying onions to supply the demand. His crop on the meadows was not large enough to supply his customers, but next year Mr. Appert expects to put in about thirty acres (November 16, 1893). . . Mr. Mildred (sic. --should be Muried) Christopher has accepted a position as clerk with Winter, Leamon & Co. . . Mr. Joseph Mallinson had the misfortune to lose a valuable cow. While driving them over the track from the pasture one was struck by westbound train No. 5 and injured so that she had to be killed." (December 28, 1893, The Ramsey Journal)

72 YEARS AGO. . . "The purchase of 17 acres of land by Mr. Edward L. Rouse of Jersey City from the Storms estate, recalls a story of a remarkable bit of hustling work on the part of Mr. Jacob Storms. The estate consisted originally of 160 acres. Mrs. Storms requested her son to sell it off and he immediately started in and sold it in lots as follows: 53 acres were sold to Mr. W.C. Lee of New York and he has built a \$5,000 house. 14 acres were sold to Mr. A. Lawrence of Allendale and he is about to build a \$4,000 house. Mr. F. Kinsky of Brooklyn was the next purchaser and he invested in 8 acres and has built a \$4,000 home. Mr. P. Critchley of Brooklyn bought the homestead and 12 acres. Mr. G. M. Potter of New York purchased 32 acres and is building a \$6,000 house. Mr. Rouse was the sixth purchaser, as stated above, and then Mr. Jacob Storms bought the remainder, 23½ acres." (The Ramsey Journal, December 11, 1908)

69 YEARS AGO. . . "The Thirteenth Census shows the population of Allendale to be 937. The Census of 1900 showed 694." (The Ramsey Journal, February 3, 1911)

40 YEARS AGO. . . "A group of several members of the Allendale Junior Woman's Club and their friends bowled Wednesday night at the alleys in the Church of the Epiphany. They were: Mrs. Elwood Critchley, Mrs. Harold Osborne, Mrs. Norwood Potter, Mrs. Ray V. Jones, Mrs. Albert Hill of Allendale, Mrs. U. Savoye, of Saddle River, Mrs. Franklin Davies of Midland Park, Miss Dorothy Hicks of Ramsey, Miss Marian Cochrane of Glen Rock and Miss Ann Hodgetts of Ridgewood." (The Ramsey Journal, November 21, 1940)

31 YEARS AGO. . . "Pupils of the seventh grade saw the Truman inauguration via television in the home of Principal Paul D. O'Connor last Thursday." (The Ramsey Journal, January 27, 1949)

28 YEARS AGO. . . "The name of the Allendale Library was changed to the Lee Memorial Library, in honor of the late William C. Lee, at the recent meeting of the Board of Trustees. Mr. Lee had long been associated with the library and had been one of the prime supporters of the group which founded the library. He contributed the north wing of the building, which is one of the landmarks of the borough at the corner of Franklin Turnpike and West Allendale Avenue. The Library Board spokesman declared it was the most fitting tribute it could pay to the memory of Mr. Lee. . ." (The Ramsey Journal, December 18, 1952)

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ALLENDALE NOTES. . .
BITS AND PIECES OF ALLENDALE HISTORY
COMPILED BY PAT WARDELL

Ambulance Corps

As early as 1923, there was interest in establishing, and recognition of the need for, an Ambulance Corps to serve the northern part of Bergen County. In January of 1923, Bergen County Under Sheriff George P. Nimmo proposed the purchase of an ambulance to serve the towns of Ramsey, Allendale, Waldwick, and the Saddle River Valley. In a letter to the Allendale Borough Council, he proposed that the ambulance be "stationed in the fire house in Allendale and telephone connections made with adjoining municipalities so that they might avail themselves of the services of such. . ." Apparently no action was taken on his proposal, for it was not until fifteen years later, in 1937, that an Ambulance Corps was organized in Allendale.

In May 1937, Dr. F. R. Kanning arranged, through the Hackensack Hospital, for the delivery of a used ambulance (a 1926 Reo) to be used by Allendale's newly forming Ambulance Corps. The ambulance was purchased from the hospital for \$1.00 and was delivered to Allendale on June 10, 1937. John P. Doehling, chairman of the Committee of Public Safety, called a meeting on June 30 for Allendale men interested in operating and maintaining the vehicle. Those present at the first meeting were: Archie Farrell, Nelson White, Paul O'Connor, Cyril Dargue, Gus Sohne, Harold Heidrich, John L. Winters, James Kievit, John P. Doehling, Henry Kahse, Fred Van Horn, Lyman Ceely, Jacob Kaplan, George Wilson (who acted as secretary), and Carl Wehner. With an advisory board consisting of Dr. F. R. Kanning and Dr. Harry Lampa (both of Allendale) and Dr. James Campbell (of Ramsey), the name of the Allendale Ambulance Corps was approved and the

following officers were elected: Carl Wehner, president; Nelson White, vice-president; Henry Kahse, secretary-treasurer; and Paul D. O'Connor, captain. The by-laws were approved and fees were set for transporting non-residents to hospitals (residents were granted local use of the ambulance free of charge): non-residents to local hospitals such as Hackensack or Paterson were to be charged \$10.00; non-residents to New York hospitals, \$20.00. Residents to New York hospitals would pay a \$10.00 charge. Captain Paul O'Connor held first aid classes for the volunteers, who purchased their own uniforms, and the Corps joined the New Jersey State First Aid Council. From August 1, 1937 to January 1, 1938, the newly-formed Ambulance Corps answered about 21 calls. In its early years, the corps served the towns of Allendale, Waldwick, Ramsey, Franklin Lakes, Saddle River, Upper Saddle River, Ho-Ho-Kus, and the area of Route 17 from Route 4 north to the New York State line.

By 1939, two Lieutenants had been appointed to assist Captain Paul O'Connor: Nelson White and William Strangfeld (the latter an American Red Cross Instructor). The advisory board by then included, in addition to the original three doctors (Kanning, Lampa, and Campbell): Dr. Harry Archer of the New York Fire Department, Dr. S. J. Ross, Dr. Vernon Hawes (of Ramsey), and Dr. S. E. Robinson (of Waldwick), Councilmen Lyman Ceely and George Albert, Corps president Carl Wehner, Corps vice president Nelson White, Corps secretary F. A. Farrell, Corps treasurer Charles Bijou, and Corps Lieutenant William Strangfeld. Corps members in 1939 were: Harold Ryan, Henry Kahse, Jacob Kaplan, James Kievit, George Price, Walter Christie, J. Winters, Gus Sohne, L. Scafuro, and Harold Kiermaier.

By 1939 the need to replace the original ambulance (a 1926 Reo that had, by 1939, more than 85,000 miles on it) became apparent, and with it, the need for a building to house the ambulance. Funds to purchase a new ambulance were raised through various civic groups and Corps-sponsored card parties, carnivals, and through private donations.

In October 1939, a dedication service for the new ambulance was held at the Allendale Recreation Park, with Dr. Harry Archer, honorary medical officer of the New York Fire Department, as the keynote speaker. Dr. Archer had been of invaluable assistance in advising the Corps in the selection of the new ambulance.

One year later, on October 20, 1940, dedication ceremonies were held for the newly-built Ambulance Corps Building located near the Fire House. Speakers at this ceremony included former Mayor of Allendale Kenneth Fisher (under whose administration the Corps was formed), George Christopher (chairman of the building committee), and Corps president Carl T. Wehner.

Over the years, new ambulances were bought as needed and in 1959, an addition to the original building was constructed.

Today's Ambulance Corps includes women volunteers as well as men, and the Corps today routinely answers in one month more than twice the number of calls that were answered during the first six months of its existence.

American Legion of Honor, Allendale Council No. 623

On May 7, 1885, an Allendale Council of The American Legion of Honor was formed. The officers elected were: W. S. Decker, Commander; A. L. Zabriskie, Vice-Commander; John H. Ackerman, Orator; John J.

Hopper, Jr., Past Commander; A. M. Ackerman, Secretary; E. E. Powell, Collector; I. I. Roswell, Treasurer; W. E. Switzer, Guide; Stephen Hopper, Warden; A. J. Ackerman, Chaplain; W. C. Rowland, Secretary; Smith Roswell, H. Yeomans, and W. Ackerman, Trustees.

(to be continued)

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"FIRST FAMILIES" OF ALLENDALE...Notes on early residents of Allendale
Compiled by Pat Wardell and vicinity

Compiler's Note: This alphabetical listing cannot be considered an all-inclusive list of prominent early residents. We invite any member or friend to write us to add information to any listing or to insert an omitted listing. These notes are being compiled using information that has been accumulated over the years, and we freely acknowledge that the list is far from complete. In general, it is our policy to list residents who were born or lived in Allendale prior to 1900 but there are a few exceptions for those with unusual or outstanding accomplishments or lengthy and dedicated service to Allendale.

Garrison, Aaron A.

The son of Albert J. Garrison and Jemima Ackerman, he was born October 9, 1813 and died in 1862. He married, at Waldwick on April 27, 1836, Hannah Eliza Dater, and they had children: John Garrison; Margaret Ann Garrison (m. _____ Litchult); and Martha Lavinia Garrison (m. John Henry Snyder).

Garrison, Albert J.

He was born in March 1786, the son of John H. Garrison and Maria Zabriskie, and was baptized April 16, 1786 at Paramus Church. He married (first), on July 9, 1809, Paramus, Jemima Ackerman, the daughter of Arie Ackerman and Christina Cooper. They had children: John A. Garrison, b. 1810, m. Dolly Hopper; Aaron A. Garrison, b. 1813, m. Hannah Eliza Dater; and Mary Ann Garrison, b. 1819, m. Thomas R. Snyder. Jemima Ackerman Garrison died June 14, 1822 and was buried in the Reformed Churchyard, Paramus. Albert J. Garrison married (second), Catherine Van Wagenen and they had one daughter: Jemima Garrison, born 1833, who married Abraham Stevens Zabriskie.

Albert J. Garrison served on the first Board of Trustees for the Allendale School (perhaps circa 1826), owned land in Allendale and lived in or very near Allendale. He was one of the signers of an application for establishing a public road in Franklin Township, dated June 30, 1827 (Bergen County Road Return E-193), apparently to continue what is present-day Brookside Avenue easterly from its Crescent Avenue intersection "to the lands of Albert Garrison." He died in March 1846 and is buried in the Hopper Cemetery, Waldwick.

Garrison, John A.

The son of Albert J. Garrison and Jemima Ackerman, he was born November 25, 1810 and died November 10, 1896. He married, at Waldwick, November 28, 1835, Dolly Hopper, daughter of Garret H. Hopper and Mary Snyder. They had children: Jemima Garrison, b. 1836, m. (1) Garret D. Lydecker, and m. (2) John J. May; Mary Garrison, b. 1839, m. Peter G. Zabriskie; and Christianna Garrison, b. 1841-42, m. Albert J. DeBaun.

This family lived in the house later known as the Garrison-Berdan House, which formerly stood on the site of today's A & P shopping center. The house was razed in 1974. Also on the prop-

erty was a Dutch barn said to date from Revolutionary times. John A. Garrison was a farmer, with extensive acreage planted in fruit-bearing trees (which later gave "Orchard Street" its name). The Bergen County Democrat, in March 1880, announced that "John Garrison is about building a lake in front of his premises, for gathering ice, and (for) the uncleanly of Allendale to bathe in. He gave a contract for \$30 to Henry Mallinson to move the stone wall in front of the schoolhouse. He had a stone frolic last week, the neighbors joining in to add a step in advance in the march of improvement of the place."

Gasparini, Vito

He opened The Allendale Shoe Store, on the west side of the railroad tracks, near the station, in 1902. An advertisement in the Allendale Methodist Herald in August 1904, read: "ALLENDALE SHOE STORE, Vito Gasparini, Prop. Dealer in Ladies', Gents and Children's Fine Shoes at New York prices. All kinds of Repairing Neatly Done." He was a charter member of the Allendale Fire Association.

Geroe, Benjamin

He married, first, Rachel Snyder, who died September 2, 1829. He married, second, at Waldwick, April 6, 1830, Christiana (Tiny) Lozier Ackerman, and they had children: Aaron Ackerman Geroe, b. 1831; and Mary Geroe, b. 1837. This daughter may have been the Mary Geroe who was one of the first teachers in the Allendale School, and who later married Jacob Oatman. The surname is also found spelled "Gero" and "Jerome."

Goetschius, Peter

Born April 1, 1758 and baptized April 9, 1758 (Schraalenburgh Church), he was the son of the Reverend Johan Hendrick Goetschius and Rachel Zabriskie. He married Catherine Eckhart and they had children: Rachel Goetschius, b. 1784, m. William DeRonde; Margrietje Goetschius, b. 1786, m. Richard I. Vanderbeek; Catherine Goetschius, b. 1789; Hester Goetschius, b. 1792, m. Richard Vreeland; William P. Goetschius, b. 1794, m. (1) Catherine Post, and m. (2) Ellen Helms; Elizabeth Goetschius, m. John Decker; and John P. Goetschius, b. 1800, m. (1) Hannah _____, m. (2) Maria Hopper, and m. (3) Anna Van Gelder.

He and his family lived in "New Success" (the Ramsey area, near Allendale). "Peter Goetches" was one of the signers of an application for establishment of a public road in Franklin Township (Bergen County Road Return E-193) dated June 30, 1827, apparently to continue what is present-day Brookside Avenue easterly from its Crescent Avenue intersection. He died May 8, 1829.

Goodbartlett, John (Goodperlet; Good Berlet)

He lived in the Allendale vicinity about the time of the Revolution. He is listed in the 1780 Bergen County Rateables for Franklin Township as a householder, and in 1781 he was chosen as one of the roadmasters for Franklin Township. He may be the John Adam Goodperlet who was baptized on April 19, 1761 (Lutheran Church, New York City), son of J. Adam Goodperlet and Maria Elisabeth.

Gousset, Cyprian

Born about 1841 in France, he came to America as a young man and started a confectionery business that grew to be one of the

largest wholesale confectionery businesses in the East. One of his specialties was chocolate-covered cherries, and Gousset's house, at 200 Hillside Avenue, and that of his son-in-law, C.H. Darrow, across the street at 205 Hillside Avenue, were both said to be "home of the chocolate-covered cherry."

Gousset came to Allendale in 1902, purchasing a large tract of land including that on which the house at 200 Hillside Avenue stood, and completely renovated the house and landscaped the grounds. He was one of the first people in Allendale to have automobiles, and in 1908 he amazed his Allendale neighbors by purchasing not one, but two Franklin autos--a touring car and a runabout. He was an honorary member of the Allendale Fire Association. He had two daughters, Louise (m. C.H. Darrow), and Florence (m. _____ Rudden). Cyprian Gousset died in April 1931.

Griffiths, Joseph Waldo

Born September 21, 1870 in New York City, he married, September 4, 1894, Ella Marie Burtis, daughter of Daniel Bogert Burtis. They lived on Brookside Avenue, and had one son, Burtis Waldo Griffiths. Joseph W. Griffiths was elected to the Board of Education in 1904 and was one of the founders of the Allendale Garden Club. He died December 1, 1953 at St. Petersburg, FL.

Hamilton, Edward

A veteran banker, he retired as vice-president of Citizens First National Bank in April 1966, after 53 years of service. His banking career began in 1913, when he was a messenger for the Hamilton Trust Company of Paterson. He was one of the organizers of the First National Bank of Allendale, which opened for business on Dec. 19, 1925. He served as its chief executive officer and member of the board of directors until its merger in 1962 with Citizens First National Bank of Ridgewood. From 1962 until his retirement in 1966 he continued as vice-president of the Allendale office. He served on the Allendale Board of Education for 21 years and was chairman of war bond drives during World War II. He and his wife, Martha, had children: Daniel; Elisabeth; and Edward, Jr. (who was killed during World War II). Edward Hamilton died in 1980.

Hand, Harry I.

Born in Closter, N.J. July 15, 1869, he moved to Allendale about the turn of the century. He was claims manager for the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company at the time of his death in July, 1939, and had worked for that company for 43 years. He was extremely civic-minded and interested in youth; he served on the Board of Education for many years and was president of the Board at the time of his death. He is probably best remembered as the organizer and captain of the Bergen Guards, a boys' drill team active from about 1908 until the first World War.

Haring, George Titus

Born in New York March 22, 1826, he died near Allendale May 7, 1893. He and his wife moved to Allendale about 1891-92, apparently in hopes of improving his health in a country atmosphere. They had two daughters, Edna and Mabel, who continued to live in Allendale, in their home on Franklin Turnpike, for many years.

Haring, Peter

He owned land in the Allendale vicinity in the early 1800s, as

evidenced by Bergen County Road Return D-239, dated January 1811. The Road Return is an application and petition to vacate a road in Franklin Township known as "the Shunpike," which is described as running over the lands of, among others, Peter Haring.

Harris, Adele

Born about 1875, she was the daughter of Alfred W. Harris and Catherine Powell. Adele Harris taught in the Allendale School circa 1904-06.

Harris, Alfred W.

Born about 1844, he married, October 2, 1873, Catherine Powell, daughter of Peter G. Powell and Maria Ackerman. They had three daughters: Ethel Harris (m. J. Jackson); Mary Harris (m. William Dewsnap); and Adele Harris. He was one of the first Sunday School teachers of the Chapel of the Epiphany. He died about 1882, and in April of that year, the Hackensack Republican reported that "the memorial window to the late A. W. Harris, in the chapel of the Epiphany, procured by the Bible class, has been put in."

Harris, Catherine L.

Born about 1855, she was the daughter of Peter G. Powell and Maria Ackerman. She married, in 1873, Alfred W. Harris (see above). After her husband's early death, she raised her three daughters and became involved in civic affairs in Allendale. She was president of the "Ladies' Village Improvement Association," elected to that office in December 1903 and signed the certificate of incorporation of the Allendale Library in 1923. She was president of the Archer Church Ladies Aid Society in 1914-15. She and her daughters lived in the house at 264 Franklin Turnpike, which she sold, in 1900, to Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Pritchett. About the same time, the house at 42 Powell Road was built for her, on property adjoining the old Powell house, in which she had grown up.

(to be continued)

New Members

Miss Joan M. Fanning of Allendale
Ms. Kelly Fischer of Madison, N.J.
Ms. Kristin Fischer of Fairfield, CT
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Oxnard, Jr. of Allendale

Allendale Historical Society
Officers & Chairmen, 1980-81

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

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Vice President.....Jeanne Cotz
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Individual Membership.....\$3.00

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Editor: Pat Wardell