

ALLENDALE HISTORY AND HERITAGE

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No. 3

NEXT MEETING: Monday, March 4, 1985 at 8:00 p.m. at Borough Hall, West Crescent Avenue, Allendale.

PROGRAM: Our guest speaker will be Harold Johnsen, an oil painter, who will speak and show slides on the life and works of Winslow Homer, who was a painter during the Civil War. Mr. Johnson is being sent to us through the courtesy of the Upper Saddle River Historical Society. Refreshments will be served.

SOCIETY NEWS: The current officers of the Society have tried unsuccessfully to find replacements for their offices for the coming year. Usually, in this issue or the next of our newsletter, we would print the proposed slate of officers to be elected at our annual meeting in May, but this year we are unable to find volunteers. This means that the Society, for the first time in its nearly eleven year history, is in grave danger of disbanding. We have initiated inquiries into the possibilities of joining with other local historical societies, but, of course, we would prefer to maintain our own identity.

Our appeal right now is to our local or nearby members. Please consider giving a little of your time to become an officer of our Society. We need a president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. Our demands are quite minimal--at present 8 meetings a year are involved (4 of them are general meetings open to the public; and 4 of them are board meetings for transaction of business) and our activity level can be at whatever point is warranted by member enthusiasm and involvement.

Please local, nearby members--give our plea some consideration. If you can help in any way, please call our current president, Dorothy Kornhoff, 848-0573 (she lives in Wyckoff).

HISTORY OF THE CHAPEL OF THE EPIPHANY, ALLENDALE, N.J. FOR THIRTY FIVE YEARS, 1872 TO 1907, by Godfrey Pittis.

We began reprinting this rare little book (privately published in 1907) in our November 1984 issue of Allendale History and Heritage and we conclude the reprinting in this issue.

1900. June 1st, Rev. William Earnest Allen resigned, accepting a



Interior of the Church of the Epiphany, about 1920.

call to St. James Church, Pittsburgh, Penn. Efforts were then made to fill his place. After some delay arrangements were concluded with J. W. Jackson, a student at the General Seminary to take charge. Meanwhile the Rev. J. Q. Archdeacon offered his services and negotiations with J. W. Jackson were broken off. Mr. Archdeacon served as

Missionary for one year.

1901. In June J. W. Jackson came as lay reader from the General Seminary at New York city, for the summer, and remained in charge throughout the following winter.

It was always the custom annually at the anniversary of the Mission, namely, "Epiphany," to treat the children of the Sunday School to a Christmas Tree. During this year the date was changed to Holy Innocent's Day.

1902. J. W. Jackson was ordained to the Diaconate, Trinity Sunday, May 25th, and was appointed Missionary in charge. During this period Rev. Edward H. Cleveland, of Ridgewood, assisted by celebrating the Holy Communion.

During the present year there was felt the great need of more adequate accommodations for the Sunday School and the various organizations of the Mission, which were doing hard work under difficulties. With the Sunday School holding its sessions in the body of the church and church societies compelled to trespass upon the hospitality of householders whenever they came together there seemed a most imperative need for a Parish house.

Months were spent in planning this addition and the most careful thought was given to the varied needs of the parish. Such carefulness was amply justified when the building was erected and found to fulfil the requirements to a marked degree. Moreover, there was not lacking enthusiastic commendation of it from visitors fitted to judge of its merits.

Members of the Chapel and friends contributed a thousand dollars to the project and it was completed at a total cost of thirty-seven hundred dollars. Two years later the value of this building to the

parish was conservatively estimated at forty-five hundred dollars, owing to the original low cost and the subsequent advance in building prices. The building has furnished accomodation for the Sunday School, the original purpose, and has lent itself to manifold uses of parish organizations. The Franklin Club, a social and bowling organization, has been a tenant of the building since its erection and assisted materially in making it possible. The building was designed and built by a New York architect, Mr. William Dewsnap, a communicant.

1903. J. W. Jackson was ordained Priest, Trinity Sunday, June 7th. Transferred to Diocese of Newark and continued as Missionary in charge. On April 17th Bishop Coleman, of Delaware, administered the Rite of Confirmation to a large class.

1904. In June it was proposed to organize a mission in Ramsey, which constituted a part of the parish with double the population of Allendale. Owing to a conservative feeling on the part of the people the work was started cautiously. For a month tentative services were held every Sunday afternoon in Odd Fellows' hall. At the end of that time the hall, which for the previous month had been at the disposal of the people without charge, was rented for the remainder of the summer. The average attendance was thirty. With this encouraging outlook a Mission was organized to hold Sunday School and services on Sunday afternoon. For a year and a half the congregation continued to worship in the Odd Fellows' hall, with a good attendance and excellent work on the part of the people.

1905. In March of this year, after the people of St. John's Mission had planned a parish house and secured funds and promises to the amount of nearly fifteen hundred dollars for the purpose, a donation was made by Mr. George Crocker for a church in memory of his wife, Emma Hanchett, who died in New York during the previous summer. A plot of ground was donated by Mr. Edwin Carpenter.

Other gifts were made also and a Norman Church, part stone, was designed and built by architect William Dewsnap, of Allendale, at a total cost of about thirteen thousand dollars. So far all of the property improvements of the parish had been designed by a communicant.

1906. On February 25th the new Church of St. John's was opened formally for public worship. The Rev. J. W. Jackson was assisted by the combined and vested choirs of the two Missions, numbering thirty-three and under the charge of Mr. William Lee, Chorister at Allendale. The Church, with a seating capacity of three hundred, was crowded on this occasion.

On May 20th the new church was consecrated by Edwin Stevens Lines, Bishop of the diocese. Again the combined choirs assisted, under the leadership of Mr. Lee. Mr. E. G. Washburne read the application for consecration, and the Rev. J. W. Jackson, for the Bishop, read the sentence of consecration. The church was beautiful with flowers from the greenhouses of Mr. Crocker.

1907. During this year the Church building of the Mission of the Epiphany was enlarged, remodeled and joined to the parish house by means of a cloister. The new building was opened for service on June 16. A tablet on the walls is in commemoration of Daniel Aborn Smith's thirty years of faithful service as lay reader and Warden.

Thus ends the first generation of the history of the Mission of the Epiphany. It began with 70 individuals representing a missionary field of thirty-six square miles. There are now 236 baptized persons enrolled within a missionary field of eighteen square miles, and a Sunday School numbering ninety.

And now we set our faces toward the semi-centennial. Let us step carefully, for others are following in our footsteps.

We gird us for the coming years
And, strong in Him whose cause is our's,
In conflict with all earthly powers
We grasp the weapon He has given--
The light, the spirit, truth, the love of Heaven.

ALLENDALE'S WORLD WAR I "HOME TOWN LETTER COMMITTEE"

Two items out of the many donated to our Society by Mrs. Kirn Meyer (formerly Tiny Anthony) give us an insight into a warm and wonderful thing a group of Allendale residents did for the boys away from home during World War I. One of the items is a mimeographed typewritten letter, with a personalized, handwritten salutation (in this particular case, to "Dear Whiting"--Whiting Anthony, Tiny Anthony's brother) and glued-on, interspersed photographs of Allendale and recent events. The second item is a little printed booklet, also interspersed with glued-in photographs, and evidently sent to the Allendale boys who were away serving their country.

Both of these were compiled and distributed by Allendale's "Home Town Letter Committee," a group composed of James H. Robertson, Chairman, George M. Potter, R. L. Oberholser, Arthur Tomalin, Marston Potter, A. B. Sullivan, and Samuel S. Brower.

The little printed booklet, which is undated, contains the following copy:

"Prepare for the biggest WELCOME of your life--RIGHT HERE--when you swing into ALLENDALE on the "Old Erie." (photograph of Allendale train station.)

"OUR BOY SCOUTS salute you, their big brothers, in gratitude for the great work you are accomplishing.

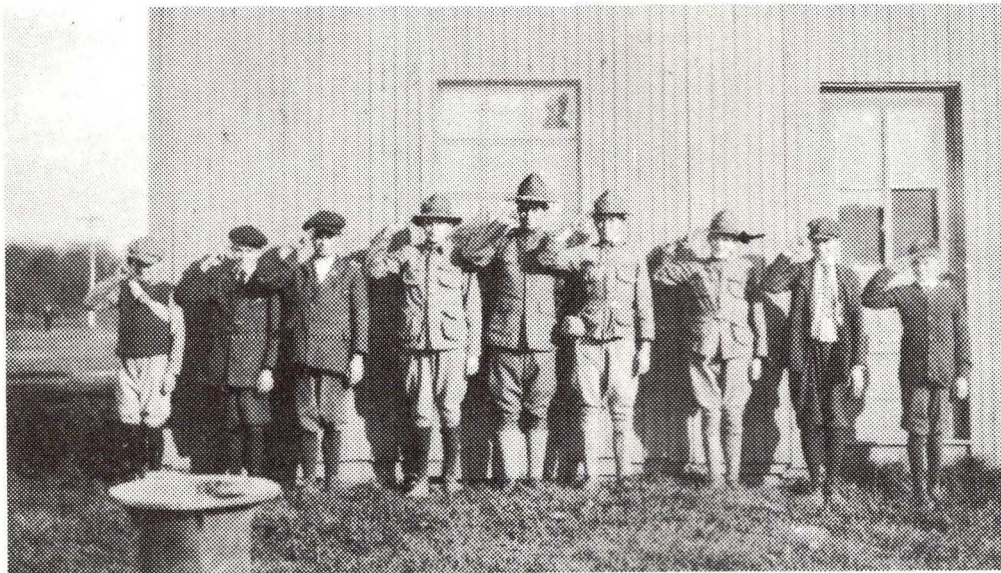
"It is with pride that the "Letter Committee" acknowledge the work of the Allendale Boy Scouts; in the recent Tag Day conducted by them, funds were realized to finance our efforts to date.

"The Scouts as they appear on opposite page are from left to right:--Ludwick Rossner, William Robinson, Roland Steele, Preston Asten, Scout Master Hartt, Walter Hillman, John Metzger, Geo. Gasparini and William Taylor. (photograph of Boy Scouts--see next page of this newsletter.)

"THE GIRLS' PATRIOTIC LEAGUE. From left to right:--STANDING, Edna Grossman, Mildred Ackerson, Nancy Barnes, Gertrude Robinson, Mable Knack, Rose Holman, Adelaide Couch, Clara Nealis, Betty Anthony, Mary Robinson, May Hutches, Mrs. Potter.

"KNEELING, Grace Slingland, Jean Rouse, Virginia Pownall, Ruth Johnson, Ethel Braun.

"SITTING, Peggy Taylor, Caroline Nealis, Mildred Boungeard, Margaret McNelly, Germain Quinten, Lenore Robertson." (photograph of Girls' Patriotic League--see next page of this newsletter.)



Allendale Boy Scouts, about 1918. See page 4 of this issue for identifications

It, too, is interspersed with glued-in photographs. is the text of the letter:

Dear Whiting,

It has occurred to us that you might be pleased to hear from the bunch back here in Allendale, so here it goes.

Things are pretty much the same as when you left, Geo. Parigot as usual buying property and pleading poverty, Doc. Pittis has been married and then immediately went into the Government service and Mayor Nadler is running for Mayor again and still giving away a pound of candy with every one you buy.

We are as ever having religious services in our churches Sunday and Otto keeps open the other six days, by the way, in response to an appeal of twenty percent of the legal voters our Council has passed a resolution that a vote be taken upon the wet and dry question, you must not be surprised therefore if

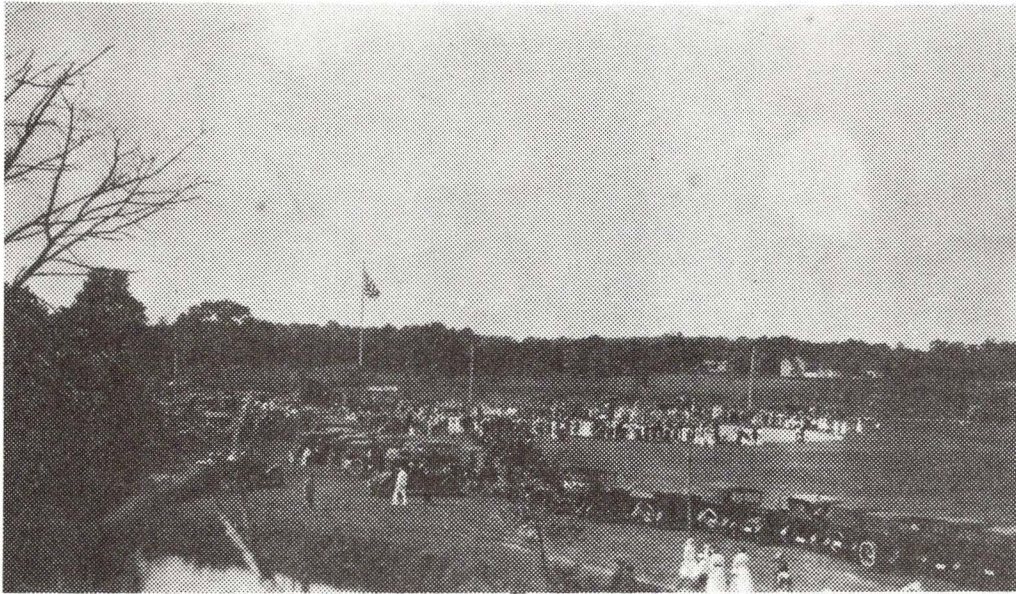


Girls' Patriotic League, about 1918. See page 4 of this issue for identifications.

"BOYS: Every Man, Woman and Child of Allendale wish for you every comfort possible, together with a most happy and speedy return HOME.

"THE HOME TOWN LETTER COMMITTEE. James H. Robertson, Chairman, George M. Potter, Arthur Tomalin, A. B. Sullivan, Samuel S. Brower, Marston Potter.

The mimeographed letter is 4 pages long and is dated September 1, 1918. The following



RECREATION PARK. Taken during the patriotic exercises, July 4, 1918. About 2000 in attendance.

when you return you find the Hotel has been turned into an Old Ladies Home.

The one feature that stands out most prominently during the past summer was the entertaining of one hundred and thirty-seven soldiers from Camp Merritt on July Fourth, a detailed account of which you will find on enclosure.

Cupid has by no means retired from business even though there is a great war being waged and

it is with pleasure we announce the marriage of Mr. Stanley Fisher to Miss Anita Van Houten, Mr. Repka to Miss Anna Van Blarcom, Mr. Marshall Couch to Miss Ethel Smyth, Mr. Russell Mallinson to Miss Ethel Quack-
enbush together with that of Dr. Godfrey Pittis to Mrs. Gray.

Of course as you may expect Allendale has gone over the top in all of the campaigns toward helping on the war, Liberty Bonds, War Savings Stamps, Red Cross, Y.M.C.A., and Knights of Columbus, now that's just like the "OLD BURG" isn't it?

From July 27th to August 1st, the towns of Allendale, Ramsey and Mahwah held Chautauqua Week, there were sessions afternoons and evenings of each day at which were presented the highest class of entertainers with the foremost lecturers of the country; it proved a very enjoyable week to our people.

The Board of Trade has instituted the issuing of a monthly bulletin, a copy of which we enclose, feeling you will conclude with us that it is indeed a step in the right direction for the booming of Allendale.

The Borough Council this week erected in front of the Borough Hall a Roll of Honor in the form of a sign, five by eight feet upon which appears the names of all who are in military service, at this writing there are sixty seven names upon same.

It is with a reverent thankfulness we advise that up to this time no fatal casualties of Allendale boys have been reported.

The following is a record of our Base Ball Club for the season:--

June 1st,	Allendale vs.	Pennants--	Allendale	14,	Pennants	8
" 8th,	"	"	Mercury A. C.	"	15,	Mercury A.C. 2
" 15th,	"	"	Bunker Hill--	"	8,	Bunker Hill 18
" 22nd,	"	"	Independents--	"	12,	Independents 2
" 29th,	"	"	Grace M.E.--	"	2,	Grace M.E. 5
July 4th,	"	"	Camp Merritt -	"	5,	Camp Merritt 8
" 6th,	"	"	Independents--	"	0,	Independents 2

July	13th,	Allendale	vs.	Fairmount A.C.	--	Allendale	6,	Fairmount	1
"	20th,	"	"	Bunker Hill---	"	"	10,	Bunker Hill	9
"	27th,	"	"	Ridgewood Y.M.C.A.-	"	"	4,	Y.M.C.A.	1
Aug.	3rd,	"	"	Pennants	"	"	15,	Pennants	14
"	10th,	"	"	Ridgewood YMCA	"	"	11,	YMCA	0
"	17th,	"	"	Independents	"	"	1,	Independents	2
"	24th,	"	"	Ridgewood YMCA	"	"	7,	YMCA	6
Sept.	2nd,	"	"	"	"	"	0,	"	5
"	7th,	"	"	Bunker Hill	"	"	8,	Bunker H.	2

And here is the old "swimmin hole" with a bunch of the town kids only wishing they were big enough to be in your shoes. (photograph of unidentified lake and boys swimming).

Our Borough Council voted in July to uniform our Police Force. The UNIFORM arrived last week; what do you think of it? (Photograph of Marshall Fred Gray in uniform.)

The number of Base Ball games played was 16, won 10, lost 6. The Base Ball Club has been under the management of Mr. Geo. Nimmo.

Be assured that the folks of Allendale are proud of you and are patiently awaiting your return, in the meantime praying that every good fortune may attend you.

Sincerely, THE HOME TOWN LETTER COMMITTEE

James H. Robertson, Chairman; George M. Potter, R. L. Oberholser, A. B. Sullivan, Samuel S. Brower, Marston Potter.

The other two photographs glued into this letter are of the parade and ceremonies in Allendale on July 4, 1918. One was taken at Recreation Park "during Patriotic Address" and shows, with typewritten indentifying caption, Mr. Dewsnap, Mr. Brower, and Mr. Braun, along with the Girls Patriotic League, the Allendale Home Guard, the Waldwick Boy Scouts and the Waldwick Home Guard.

The second photograph was taken at Crescent and Myrtle Avenues and shows part of a parade, including the Waldwick Boy Scouts and the Camp Merritt Boys. We have not attempted to reproduce these photographs because it is not possible to identify individuals as they are so small.

We think it's heartwarming to read, nearly 67 years later, the good cheer and humor of a group of wonderful Allendale people who wanted to make sure that our Allendale servicemen could keep in touch with their "home town" no matter where they might be stationed.

ALLENDALE FIRE DEPARTMENT...RECORDS OF EARLY CALLS TO FIRES (ABSTRACTED)
(continued from the February 1984 issue)

January 23, 1928--11:50 a.m.-12:50 p.m.; Turnpike; Brush; Anderson, owner; cause--unknown; Waldwick call for assistance.

February 2, 1928--7:30 a.m.-8:30 a.m.; Crescent Avenue; Chimney in frame house; residence; M. P. Arlt, owner & occupant; cause--dirty flue; no loss.

March 5, 1928--2:30 p.m.-2:45 p.m.; Brookside Ave.; frame garage; Chris. Smith, owner & occupant; cause--grass fire; no loss.

March 6, 1928--10:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.; Maple Ave.; Brush; Hillman, occupant; cause--unknown.

April 1, 1928--1:30 a.m.-2 a.m.; Turnpike; Outbuilding; G. Werfer, owner & occupant; cause--unextinguished brush heap; loss on bldgs. 25.00; summonsed for violation; fined \$5.00 plus costs.

April 5, 1928--12:45 p.m.-1:20 p.m.; Crescent Ave.; Brush; Lee, owner; cause--unknown; no loss.

April 9, 1928--1:15 p.m.-1:30 p.m.; Myrtle Ave.; Brush; cause--unknown; no loss (date given as recorded in book; but note that it is out of sequence).

April 8, 1928--10:45 p.m.-11:15 p.m.; Allendale Ave.; Brush and building; Kornhoff, owner; cause--RR sparks; loss--none.

April 8, 1928--10:45 p.m.-11:15 p.m. (recorded as dittos from times of above fire); Hillside Ave.; Brush; Gousset, owner; cause, unknown; no loss.

April 11, 1928--12:45 p.m.-1:00 p.m.; Turnpike; Brush; Allendale Park Estates; cause--brush being burned; complied with ordinance.

April 13, 1928--1:15 p.m.-1:45 p.m.; Park Avenue; Brush; Dr. Fieldings, owner of bldg.; cause--unknown; no loss. Truck stuck in sand on Dale Ave. & towed out by C. Garage.

April 15, 1928--11:50 a.m.-6:50 p.m.; Myrtle & Crescent Ave.; Barn and 5 houses & 2 fields; Lumber Yard; R.J. Christopher, owner and occupant; Fire extended beyond adjoining bldgs.; cause, unknown; loss and value ? ? ?; No water pressure.

April 18, 1928--1:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.; Turnpike; Woods & outbuilding; Park Estates; cause, unknown; no loss.

April 18, 1928--2:00 p.m.-2:15 p.m.; Brookside Ave.; Brush; Grofsick, owner; cause--unkown; no loss.

May 4, 1928--1 p.m.-1:15 p.m.; Myrtle Ave.; Outhouse; McDermott, owner & occupant; cause--wet Lime S.C.; no loss.

(to be continued)

 Allendale Historical Society
 Officers and Chairmen, 1984-85

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

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