

ALLENDALE HISTORY AND HERITAGE

VOL. 24, NO. 1

OCTOBER 1997

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SOCIETY NEWS

On Wednesday, October 15, we will present a program featuring a panel discussion with a group who grew up in Allendale and remember Allendale's schools, recreation, special occasions, and more, in days gone by.

We were very encouraged by the wonderful turnout for our meeting and program last fall. We hope to see many of you in October — please invite friends.

We encourage anyone who wishes to help reactivate the society to call Beth Fylstra (201-818-6832) to volunteer. We need help in the following categories: membership chairman, publicity chairman, hospitality volunteers for meetings, volunteers for sorting, arranging and cataloging our collection; photographers -- of present sites in town; and for photographing ("copying" as slides) some of the old photographs in our collection.

Anne M. O'Connor wrote to tell us that the picture on the second page is not of a third grade. "My deceased sister-in-law Vera Bohr was not in my class — believe she was in my sister's. Probably 2 years ahead of me. I have been wondering if it may have had something to do with penmanship. Everyone is holding a pen in the Palmer Method correct way."

This issue of "Allendale History and Heritage" begins the 24th year of publication. Through the years, we have tried to print not only current society news, but also articles and information of lasting value.

As always, we encourage any reader to write articles relating to Allendale, or just jot down their memories of what the community was like at various times in its history.

An entire new generation is growing up in Allendale today — a very different community from the one we remember from 75, 50, and even just 25 years ago. It's not easy for today's youngsters to imagine a world without TV (or radio), microwave ovens, computers, etc. How did our ancestors cope with the heat of summer (no air conditioners); how did they amuse themselves; how did the house and landscape differ from today? It's your memories that can bring our history to life. ■

General Meeting of the
Allendale Historical Society

Wednesday, October 15

8:00 p.m.

in the Council Chambers (upstairs),
Allendale Municipal Building
West Crescent Avenue, Allendale, NJ

— *Program* —

a panel discussion,

"Growing Up in Allendale"

with panelists:

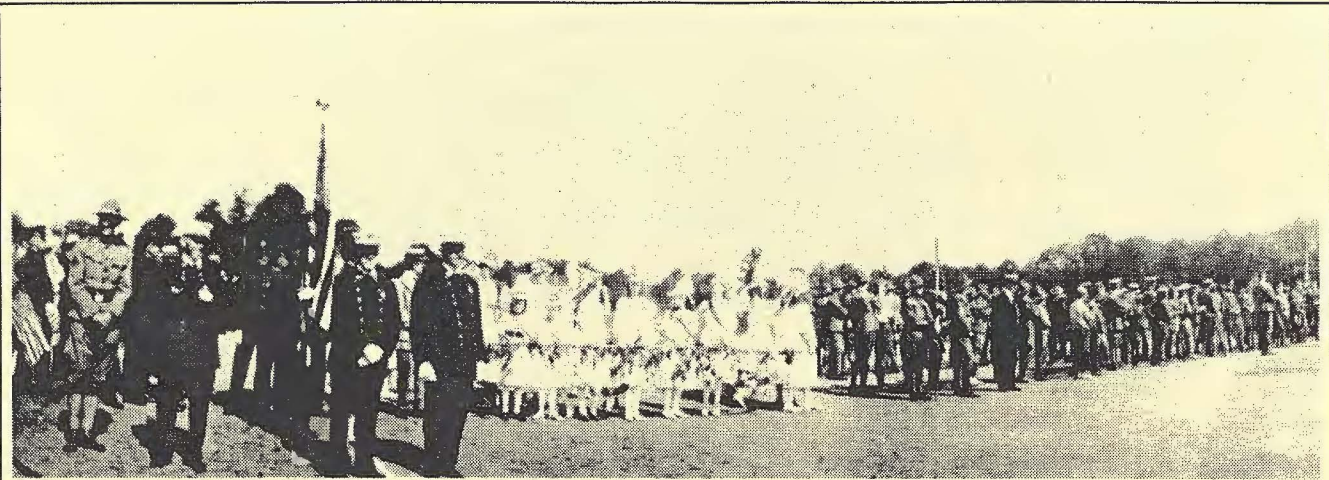
John Cebak, Kay Quackenbush Paulsen, Mary
Appert Schneider, Jean Cullen Stein, Marilyn
Wilson Tackaberry, Stiles Thomas, and
Hazel Tillinghast

free admission • open to public • invite friends

ALLENDALE AND THE CAMP MERRITT BOYS OF WORLD WAR I

BY PAT WARDELL

Camp Merritt, the country's largest World War I embarkation camp, was located on 770 acres, mainly in Dumont and Cresskill, but also partially in Haworth and Demarest, with the camp's southerly boundary line at the northerly boundary line of Tenafly.



This photograph was taken at Recreation Park in Allendale at the July 4th 1918 Patriotic Address. The three men at the left, in dark Allendale Fire Department uniforms, are William Dewsnap, Samuel Brower, and Val Braun. The girls in white are the members of the Allendale Girls Patriotic League. On the right are the boys and men of Allendale's Home Guard. The Boy Scouts and Home Guard of Waldwick also participated.

Construction of the camp was begun in 1917 and it served as a major Army distribution center until early 1920. The camp was named for Major General Wesley Merritt, a Civil War officer, and Superintendent of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

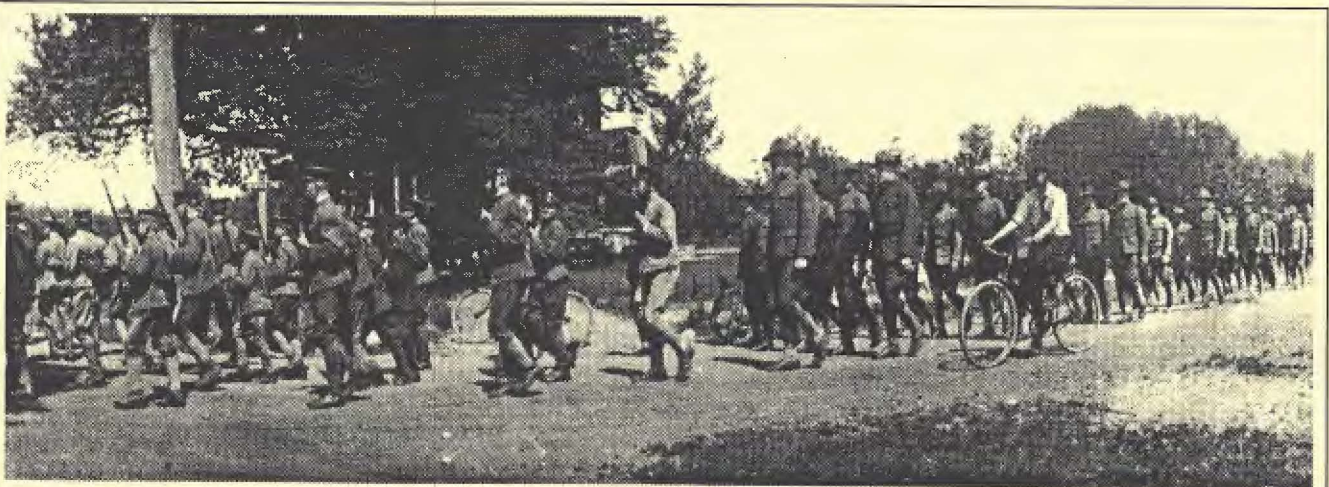
The camp had more than 1,000 buildings housing 2,000 officers and 40,000 enlisted men. More than one million American soldiers passed through Camp Merritt on their way to and from the battlefields of Europe. The camp's base hospital treated 55,000 ill and wounded returning soldiers.

The residents in the nearby communities of Bergen County welcomed into their homes and entertained the Camp Merritt Boys, many of whom were far from their own families. They invited them to share Sunday dinners with

them, and they welcomed them to participate in their holiday activities.

On July 4, 1918, Allendale entertained 137 soldiers at the patriotic exercises that took place at Recreation Park. These activities drew about 2,000 people. The Allendale Home Guard and the Girls Patriotic League took part in these festivities, as did the Waldwick Boy Scouts and Home Guard.

At the end of August, 1918, the Borough Council erected a Roll of Honor in the form of a 5 x 8-foot sign, in front of Borough Hall (which was, at that time, also the Allendale Firehouse). On the sign were inscribed the names of the Allendale men in service at that time — 67 names in summer of 1918.

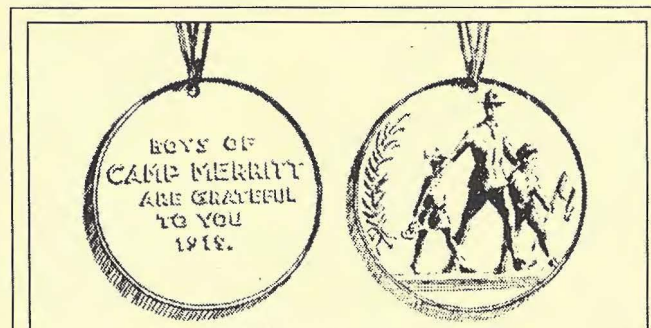


Taken at the intersection of Crescent and Myrtle Avenues, this photograph shows a portion of the July 4, 1918 parade. Shown in the photo are the Waldwick Boy Scouts and the Camp Merritt Boys. The festivities at the Independence Day celebration that year featured a baseball game played by two teams from Camp Merritt.

A sergeant at Camp Merritt, who had enjoyed the hospitality of surrounding residents, suggested that the schools of Bergen County be visited and each school child be given medal inscribed "BOYS OF CAMP MERRITT ARE GRATEFUL TO YOU 1919." The Allendale School was visited in January 1919.

The camp was always intended as a temporary installation, and on December 22, 1919 bids were to be received for purchase of the camp. The entire camp was sold to Harris Brothers Company of Chicago, for \$552,554. Most of the camp's buildings were razed or burned during the period the camp was idle. A few buildings survived as private homes and at least two as libraries in Demarest and Norwood. Today, there is little evidence of the camp.

On Memorial Day 1924, a Vermont granite monument, whose design was inspired by the Washington Monument, was dedicated at the traffic circle at Madison Avenue and Knickerbocker Road in Cresskill. The 65-foot tall



37,624 students in 147 schools received these tokens of appreciation from the Camp Merritt Boys.

monument commemorates the 1,088,081 men who passed through the camp in its brief, but important existence.

More about Camp Merritt:

Rose, Howard W., *Camp Merritt: A Documentary*, 1984.

ALLENDALE HOUSES BUILT BEFORE 1940

Compiled by Pat Wardell

Compiler's Note: This "inventory" of pre-1940 Allendale houses has been compiled using information in the Society's files and in my own files. Very few of the houses have been systematically researched, so we know that for most of them, the information is incomplete. We would welcome any additions, corrections, updating, etc. from our readers, and will happily add such information to the Society's files.

Only houses still in existence today are included in this inventory. Houses are generally named for the earliest known owner/occupant. Names associated with a house are not necessarily always owners; some may have been tenants. Also, not all owners actually lived in houses they owned; some houses were leased for rental income. The houses are listed alphabetically by street names, then numerically by house number.

(continued from the June 1997 issue)

The photograph reproduced on page four of the June 1997 newsletter, was not, as it was labeled, of the Prescott-Jones House at 661 Franklin Turnpike. The photo was actually of the Quackenbush-Ivers house at 700 Franklin Turnpike. See the March 1997 issue of this newsletter (p. 4) for a photo of the Prescott-Jones House at 661 Franklin Turnpike.

703 Franklin Turnpike

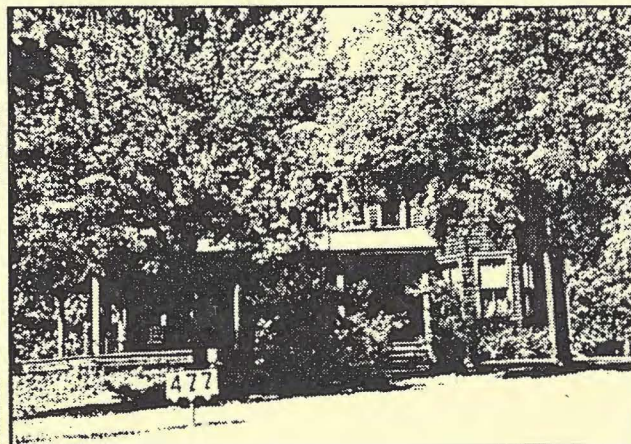
Cockroft House

Block 910, Lot 9 (Old Block 40, Lot 8)

Built 1896 for Robert Cockroft, by John Magee. R. Cockroft (1902 Robinson Map).



703 Franklin Turnpike.
Photo taken about 1980.



703 Franklin Turnpike.
Photo taken 1940.

"Wiersma Nursing & Conv. Home" (1985-86 Here's Allendale).

Highland Manor, Sep 1994.

Transactions:

• 5 April 1960 (Book 4114, p. 213) from William Roger Van Dyk, single, Marvin Bernard Van Dyk and Gertrude Van Dyk, h/w, to Charles Pruikisma and Theodora Pruikisma, h/w.

• 21 March 1958 (Book 3932, p. 291) from Amil W. Stonebrink and Anna Mae Stonebrink, h/w, to William Roger Van Dyk, single, and Marvin Bernard Van Dyk.

— July 30, 1896, *The Hackensack Republican* — Mr. Cockroft is building a large house on Allendale Heights, on land purchased from the Van Horn estate.

Robert Cockroft and his wife moved from Brooklyn to this newly built home in 1896 after having rented homes for the summers of at least two previous years. Cockroft's daughters and their husbands, Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Weyand and Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Carver, lived in the house as well. Both Robert Cockroft and Wallace Carver were avid gardeners, and their home became a well-known landscaping showplace. (Wallace Carver was the charter president of the Allendale Garden Club.) Probably after the death of Mrs. Carver in 1939, the house was sold and by 1947 it was being used as a nursing home, which is its present use.

Robert E. Cockroft and his wife had two daughters: Fannie M. Cockroft (m. Wallace Carver) and E. Varian Cockroft (m. Charles L. Weyand).

Wallace E. Carver was born in 1863 in North Leeds, Maine. He worked for the law firm of Siebert and Shearer, 60 Wall Street, New York City. He was charter president of the Allendale Garden Club, member of the Allendale Board of Trade, secretary of the Allendale Board of Health, a member of the Music Committee of the Allendale Christmas Tree Association (1917) and a president of the Allendale Players. He had served as a lieutenant in the Navy during the Spanish-American War, and he was affectionately called, by friends, "The Admiral." He died in October 1921. Fannie M. Cockroft Carver was an ardent worker for and

supporter of the Allendale Library. She was one of the members of the Ladies Village Improvement Association who, in 1900, started the Allendale Library and she signed the certificate of incorporation in 1923. In April 1919 she was elected Librarian of the Allendale Library Association. She was, at the time of her death on October 9, 1939, a continuing member of the Board of Trustees of the Library Association. Wallace E. Carver and his wife, Fannie M. Cockroft Carver, had a daughter, Dorothy, born abt. 1893-94, who married William Becker.

Charles L. Weyand married E. Varian Cockroft. He was a charter inactive member of the Allendale Fire Association. E. Varian Cockroft studied art in Paris and won awards for her paintings, two of which were displayed, about 1915, at the Panama-Pacific Exposition. For a time, she ran a business in New York, selling hand painted clothing and silk scarves. She devised a new method of loose-block printing for silk manufacturers.



705 Franklin Turnpike.
Photo taken June 1987.

**705 Franklin Turnpike
Tamburello? House**

Block 401, Lot 5 (Old Block 40, Lot 7)

Built about 1900 [?]. Built 1900, according to one unidentified list of old houses in Allendale, compiled about 1983 with no sources cited.

(Possibly) Mrs. F. R. Tamburello (Cornelia), by 1905- until at least 1930. Cornelia Tamburello in April 1910 (Census).

George P. Martin, Jr. and Dorothy Marie Martin, ?-1961. Martin, Dorothy, Mrs. G. P., Jr. (1952-53 Woman's Evening Club Yearbook).

John C. Scanlon and Marilyn B. Scanlon, 1961-1965. J. C. Scanlon (1963-64, 1965-66 Here's Allendale).

Hugh P. Curley ("Pat") and Dorothy D. Curley, 1965-present.

More research on this house would probably give more information about its building date and early owners.

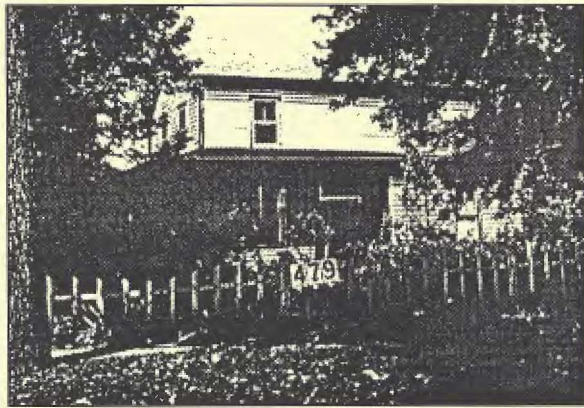
Transactions:

• 30 June 1965 (Book 4800, p. 14) from John C. Scanlon

and Marilyn B. Scanlon, h/w, to Hugh P. Curley and Dorothy D. Curley, h/w.

• 2 March 1961 (Book 4216, p. 404) from George P. Martin, Jr. and Dorothy Marie Martin, h/w, to John C. Scanlon and Marilyn B. Scanlon, h/w.

Mrs. Cornelia Tamburello was a widow by 1905. She gave French and piano lessons at her home, and took in boarders. She may have lived in New York City in the winter months, spending the summer at Allendale.



The Van Horn? House, 707 Franklin Turnpike.
Photo taken 1940.

707 Franklin Turnpike Van Horn? House

Block 401, Lot 4 (Old Block 40, Lot 5)

Built 1890, according to one unidentified list of old houses in Allendale, compiled about 1983 with no sources cited. The Girl Scout Old House list at the Allendale Library lists this house as having been **built in 1878**.

This house at 707 Franklin Turnpike is probably the one marked "J. E. Van Horn" on the 1902 Robinson Map.

William & Elinor Short moved into this house in the winter of 1939-1940.

Mahwah Building & Loan Association, 1940.

Mrs. E. H. Brush (1947-48 Bergen-Passaic Telephone Directory)

William Short (1947-48 Bergen-Passaic Telephone Directory).

Mrs. William Short, current.

— 1 Nov 1895, *Ramsey Journal* — Mr. Cockroft, of New York City, who purchased the Van Horn farm, will put up a fine mansion soon. He will remove the old building.

John J. ("Griddlegreaser") Van Horn was living in this general vicinity on Franklin Turnpike by 1859. His house probably stood on the lot south of this one (today's 703 Franklin Turnpike), and was probably torn down by Robert Cockroft when he built his new house in 1896.

John J. ("Griddlegreaser") Van Horn was born about 1829 in Allendale and died February 1888. He married Maria Elizabeth Quackenbush, daughter of Abraham J. Quackenbush and Elizabeth Storms. She was born about 3

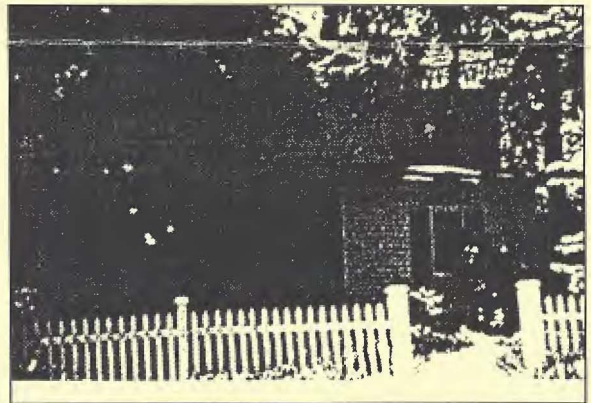
Feb 1831, died 20 July 1894, and is buried at Valleau Cemetery, Ridgewood, NJ.

He was a carpenter and machinist, and was well-known as a local eccentric "inventive genius." His nickname, "Griddlegreaser" was probably given him as a joke because he was, rather than fat (like a "griddlegreaser"), "more than six feet tall, exceedingly thin, and with long hair falling about his neck."

He was also a blacksmith and ran a cider mill. He was known for devising mechanical gadgets, including a shotgun owned by one local resident who claimed it was better than any ever turned out by an arms factory. In 1859 he gave a series of lectures at the Allendale schoolhouse on the subject of the *Paterson Guardian* (a Paterson newspaper) and its black reporter (Alfred P. Smith, who later published his own periodical, *The Landscape*, from his home in Saddle River).

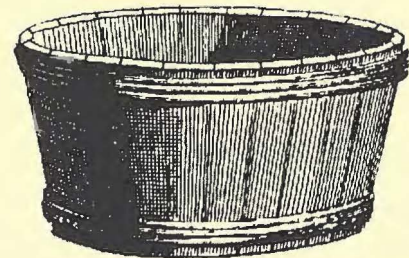
John J. Van Horn and his wife, Maria E., had children: Sarah E. Van Horn, b. abt. 1853; Rachel J. Van Horn, b. abt. 1856; Anne Janet (Angenette?) Van Horn, b. abt. 1858, d. July 1882 (killed by a train at Ho-Ho-Kus); Rosanna Van Horn, b. abt. 1863; James E. Van Horn, b. abt. 1868 (m. Harriet/Hattie F. Walling); Mary E. (Emma) Van Horn, b. 1869 (m. -?- Mohan); John J. Van Horn, b. 1871 (m. Carrie F. Wilson); Abraham Q. Van Horn, b. abt. 1873 (m. Lucinda Herbert); Charles W. Van Horn, b. abt. 1875 (m. Edna Porter).

It was probably John J. Van Horn's son, James E. Van Horn who was living in this house by 1902 ("J. E. Van Horn" on 1902 Robinson Map).



The Van Horn? House, 707 Franklin Turnpike.
Photo taken about 1980.

series to be continued next issue





April 1943 — Allendale 1942-1943 Third Grade.

Photo donated by Helyn Anthony Meyer (who also identified the students).

Top Row (left to right): Donald Morgan, Ralph Taddeo, Donald Brown, Donald Lightweis, LeRoy Van, Gordon Hart, Jimmy Bianco, Roderick Morgan, Charles Wilson, John Muller, Tiny Anthony Meyer, teacher.

Middle Row: (one of the first four girls is unidentified) Dorothy Hennessey, Audrey Hill, Patsy Christopher, Elinor Critchley (fifth from left), Betty Martin, Martha Goetschius, Constance Lecher, Betty Morgan, Ann Boulton.

Front Row: Jane LeValley, Virginia Geller, Grace Remail, Carol Cunningham, Linda Jane Mowerson, Jane Staines, and Maryon Farley.

Other class members absent the day the photograph was taken: Joyce Jinoch, Harold Heuser, and Judy Simmons.

GRADUATES OF THE ALLENDALE PUBLIC SCHOOL

(continued from June 1997 issue)

Graduating Class of 1928

(From Commencement Program. Graduation held at Borough Hall, June 14, 1928. Borough Hall at that time was the old Allendale Firehouse.)

Cappel, Louis	Rahmer, Edith
Croken, Elizabeth	Rossner, Robert
Darken, Marjorie	Rumsey, Walter
Dator, Frederick	Strangfeld, Richard
Goldmann, Marjorie	Strangfeld, William

Grossmann, Ralph
Higgins, Harriet
Kemp, Gladys
Klaschka, Ernest
Melchionna, Olin
Ocejo, Colette
Quackenbush, Katherine

Terry, Donald
Thurston, Frederick
Van Horn, Frederick
Verwey, Abram
Winters, Violet
Zimmer, George

Graduating Class of 1929

(From Commencement Program. Graduation held at Borough Hall, June 20, 1929. Borough Hall at that time

continued on page 8

1910 Federal Census Borough of Allendale

Transcribed by Pat Wardell

The following information was taken from a microfilm produced by the National Archives. For additional information on this census in general, refer to the introduction in the issue of February 1992, p. 3.

(continued from March 1997 issue)

Franklin Turnpike (continued)

Dwelling #160, Family #174

• **Tamburello**, Cornelia, Head; F; W; age 45 years; widow; mother of no children; b. New York; her father b. New York; her mother b. New York; Speaks English; [Occupation undecipherable]; Owner of property.

Dwelling #161?, Family #175

• **Van Horn**, Abram, Head; M; W; age 37; m. 15 yrs.; b. New Jersey; his father b. New Jersey; his mother b. New Jersey; speaks English; [Occupation undecipherable]; Owner of property.

• —, Lucinda, Wife; F; W; age 34; m. 15 yrs.; mother of 6 children, 4 then living; b. New York; her father b. New York; her mother b. New York; speaks English.

• —, Angenett, Daughter; F; W; age 14 yrs; b. New Jersey; speaks English.

• —, Ina, Daughter; F; W; age 8 yrs.; b. New Jersey; speaks English.

• —, Whyett, Son; M; W; age 3 yrs; b. New Jersey.

• —, Elsworth, Son; M; W; age 1 year; b. NJ.

• **Mohan**, Arthur, Nephew; M; W; age 17 yrs; Single; b. New Jersey; his father b. New York?; his mother b. New Jersey.

Dwelling #161?, Family #176

• **Koster**, Frederick, Head; M; W; age 30 yrs.; married 6 yrs.; b. New Jersey; his father b. Germany; his mother b. Germany; speaks English; [occupation undecipherable], Rents property.

• —, Ella; Wife; F; W; age 28 yrs; married 6 years; mother of 2 children, 1 then living; b. New Jersey; her father b. New Jersey; her mother b. New Jersey; speaks English.

• —, Evelyn, Daughter; F; W; age 2 yrs.; b. New Jersey; her father b. New Jersey; her mother b. New Jersey.

Dwelling #161?, Family #177

• **Storms**, Ellen, Head; F; W; age 70 yrs.; widow;

mother of 4 children, 1 then living; b. New Jersey; her father b. Ireland; her mother b. New Jersey; speaks English; Owner of property.

Dwelling #152, Family #178

• **Clark**, Harry E., Head; M; W; age 45 yrs.; Widower; b. New Jersey; his father b. Ohio; his mother b. Ohio; speaks English; [occupation undecipherable]; Rents property.

• —, Nellanna, Daughter; F; W; age 21 yrs.; Single; b. California; her father b. New Jersey; her mother b. Ohio; speaks English.

• —, Carmelita, Daughter; F; W; age 19 yrs.; Single; b. New York; her father b. New Jersey; her mother b. Ohio; speaks English.

• —, Stella, Daughter; F; W; age 17 yrs.; Single; b. New York; her father b. New Jersey; her mother b. Ohio; speaks English.

Dwelling 163; Family 179

• **Conklin**, Frederick, Head; M; W; age 39 yrs.; married 19 yrs.; b. New York; his father b. New York; his mother b. New York; speaks English; House Painter; Owner of property.

• —, Lizzie, Wife; F; W; age 35 yrs; married 19 yrs; mother of 6 children, 6 then living; b. New Jersey; her father b. New Jersey; her mother b. New Jersey; speaks English.

• —, Maggie, Daughter; F; W; age 7 yrs.; b. New York; her father b. New York; her mother b. New Jersey; speaks English.

• —, Velma, Daughter; F; W; age 5 yrs.; b. New York; her father b. New York; her mother b. New Jersey; speaks English.

• —, Ross? [Rosco?], Son; M; W; age 1-10/12 yrs.; b. New Jersey; his father b. New York; his mother b. New Jersey.

• —, Harry; Son; M; W; age 16 yrs.; Single; b. New Jersey; his father b. New York; his mother b. New Jersey; speaks English.

• —, Lulu; Daughter; F; W; age 13; b. New Jersey; her father b. New York; her mother b. New Jersey; speaks English.

• —, Frederick Jr., Son; M; W; age 10 yrs.; b. New York; his father b. New York; his mother b. New Jersey; speaks English.

series to be continued next issue



(continued from page 6, *Graduating Class of 1929*)

was the old Allendale Firehouse. This would be the last graduation held outside the schoolhouse; in September 1929, the new Brookside School opened.)

Albert, Arthur Henry	Keen, Mary Alice
Allen, Harvey Rorbach	Klaschka, George Albert
Bogardus, Allen Louis	McLeod, Jeanette
Cooper, Anna Elizabeth	Moore, Kenneth Donald
Forshay, Ethel Ruth	Novakowski, Frank Theodore
Golembeski, Frank Walter	Phair, Robert Sabens

Haulenbeck, Marianne Grace	Reimer, William H.
Hill, William B.	Travis, Norman V.
Hummer, Ruth Elizabeth	Vernon, Gerald Angier
Kalb, Ruth Edith	Webb, Howard Edward

series to be continued next issue



Allendale Historical Society
Officers and Chairmen, 1997-1998

President: Beth Fylstra
Vice President: Judy McKim
Treasurer: Joanne Hart
Secretary: Ed Murray
Trustees: Ralph Fylstra, Tim Fenton, Pat Wardell

Committees:
Newsletter Editor: Pat Wardell
Newsletter Distribution: Tim Fenton
Publicity: Beth Fylstra, Pat Wardell (looking for volunteer!)

Allendale Historical Society
P.O. Box 294, Allendale, NJ 07401

Annual Membership Dues: \$8.00 for membership from May through the following April.

The newsletter, **Allendale History and Heritage**, is published three times a year about October-November, February-March, and April-May, and mailed to members of the Allendale Historical Society.

Send information for inclusion in newsletter directly to Pat Wardell, 78 Edgewood Road, Allendale, NJ 07401.

From: Allendale Historical Society
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