

Late Winter
& Spring
2010

Newsletter of the Bergen County Historical Society

In Bergen's Attic

BCHS begins the new decade with continuing challenges.

President's Message

We had a productive year in 2009. Accepting the generous storage opportunity provided to us by **Mac Borg**, we have been able to go through the collections, inventorying, photographing, cataloging and planning exhibits. I find the work on the collections very interesting. We are presently undergoing a boundary & topo survey and wetland delineation to determine where best to build a museum building at New Bridge for our collections. Fund raising remains a hard nut, but we have new offers of help and we are determined to see this building come to fruition.

The article by **Harvey Lipman** in "Charity Watch," *The Record's* column on non-profits, has generated a lot of interest and also has raised visibility and credibility. As grateful as we are for

former Gov. Corzine's support for the legislation transferring administration of the Steuben House and other state lands at New Bridge to the HNBLPC, we look to the new administration for a new spirit of cooperation and a new vision for respecting our cultural legacy. Successes include the new entrance sign on Hackensack Avenue with BCBS website listed for history and event info and for the first time



ever clearly identifies New Bridge as a Revolutionary War Battleground. We remain vigilant against inappropriate modern intrusions at Bergen County's premier historic site. The remediation funded by the HNBLPC of the former auto parts yard is complete and the fence will come down this spring despite repeated delays, opening up visibility

of the site to 40,000 vehicles per day. We continued regular programming both on and off site and we opened the Steuben House for events only. The HNBLPC purchased 42 new reproduction Hackensack Valley chairs which visitors to recent events found very comfortable. BCBS Trustee **John Oddie** facilitated the purchase. Past-President **Tim Adriance** completed the beautiful and detailed restoration of the Demarest House Museum for the Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation. The Foundation is furnishing the interior under Past-President **Kevin Wright's** direction. **Barbara Flurchik** and **Mary Karr** regularly open and cook in the



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Historic New Bridge Landing

by BCBS Vice President and Historic New Bridge Landing Chairman Mike Trepicchio

2009 should be remembered as a year of great movement at Historic New Bridge Landing Park. The year started off with the State Senate and Assembly approving unanimously the new amended legislation updating and clarifying the existing 1995 law that governs the Park. Governor Jon Corzine came in June to sign the bill into law, saying “The bill I am signing grants oversight to a local organization best positioned to address the preservation needs of Historic New Bridge Landing State Park. Through this legislation, the Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission will now have jurisdiction to manage the restoration of this historical site so critical to the birth of our nation.” The new law clarifies the boundaries of the Park and officially transfers the administration and funding of all State owned buildings and lands to the Park Commission.

The remediation of the BAPCO junk yard was started in April, and after moving a lot of dirt around, the contaminated soil has been removed. Come this spring’s thaw, the old fence will be down, clean soil will be deposited and a meadow will sprout on the site. The spring also saw the Steuben House opened to the public for the first time, since the April 2007 nor’ easter closed the house due to extensive flood damage. The House once again hosted great events and many people were



Photo by D. Powell

able to pass through this grand old place. The Commission also started the process of the restoration of the Steuben House, to bring it back to its 1780s glory. We are in the process of

updating the Historic Structures Report for the house that will be used as a guide for all future restoration work, including removing all modern intrusions in the building. This will allow for the house to be interpreted in a unique manner, truly providing a window into the past. The Commission also designed and erected appropriate signage at the Park, and purchased reproductions of Hackensack Valley chairs for the Steuben House.

The Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation completed a total restoration of the Demarest House under the skilled craftsmanship of BCBS past President, **Tim Adriance**, and a special thanks to Commissioner **Jim Bellis** for making this project a reality. All and all it was a great year with a lot of positive accomplishments. We all must remember that the Bergen County Historical Society is the driving force behind this important place in not only our local history, but also in national and international history as well. I would also like to especially thank my fellow Commissioners, **Mary Donohue**, **Deborah Powell**, **John Oddie**, **John Heffernan**, **Anne Subrizi**, **Jim Bellis**, and last but not least, one who’s time, knowledge, and counsel, is greatly appreciated, Commission Secretary and BCBS Past President Kevin Wright. My best wishes to all, in hopes of a healthy, happy, and prosperous 2010. ❖

Historic Flag Project

by Historic New Bridge Landing Vice Chairwoman Mary Donohue

The Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission and the Bergen County Historical Society have joined hands and hearts in launching a project that will honor the dignity and solemnity of the battleground site at New Bridge. The project will be a hand-sewn replica of one of our earliest known American flags, to be flown over the Capitol of the United States, the White House and all Revolutionary War Battlegrounds. Congressmen and Senators in whose districts the historic battlegrounds are located, will be escorts and guardians of the flag as it journeys from site to site. At the conclusion of its historic journey, it will be displayed in a place of honor in the future museum of the Bergen County Historical Society at New Bridge Landing State Park. A second identical flag will also be made to be raffled off as part of the fund-raising campaign for the museum building.

The flags will be the creation of **Marge Haggerty** of River Edge, well-known for her beautiful and skillful hand-made quilts and needlework, and as instructor at the Quilt Shop of River Edge. Marge Haggerty will be assisted by **Helen Clark**, also of River Edge. Marge and Helen worked with a group of volunteers in hand-crafting the magnificent Revolutionary War Quilt that is displayed in the Borough Hall of River Edge. It was created to commemorate the Bicentennial of the United States in 1976. Marge Haggerty leads a group of 30 busy needle-women, St. Peter's Quilters, who are responsible for making 200 quilts which have been donated by St. Peter the Apostle Church in River Edge to Covenant House in Newark for homeless teenagers.

While we are all familiar with the Betsy Ross legend of the creation of the first American flag in Philadelphia in May 1776 at the request of General George Washington, unfortunately, historians have not been able to verify the event. However, we do know that due to the efforts of Francis Hopkinson, a delegate from New Jersey to the Continental Congress and a signer of the Declaration of Independence, in order to establish a flag for the new nation, submitted not only a flag bill to the Congress, but also a bill to establish currency designs, drawings for the great seal of the United States, a treasury seal, and a design for the flag. On June 14, 1777, the Continental Congress passed the Flag Act: "Resolved, That the flag of the United States be made of thirteen stripes, alternate red and white, that the union be thirteen stars in a blue field, representing a new Constellation."

It is fitting and proper that the Hopkinson Flag with its roots in New Jersey, has been chosen to be replicated by Marge Haggerty and Helen Clark as their gift to our Revolutionary heritage. We will report periodically on the progress of the creation of the New Bridge Flag. ❖



By Ole Erekson, Engraver, c. 1876,
Library of Congress



We are starting a book on New Bridge that Arcadia may publish. Any early photographs of the area that you can share would be most welcome. Will your include photo credit! Please email D. Powell contact BCHS@bergencountyhistory.org

The Demarest Family Museum at New Bridge

by Past President Kevin Wright



The John Paulison Homestead, relocated to River Edge from New Milford in 1954-56 and popularly styled “the Demarest House,” is the best surviving example of a Bergen Dutch sandstone cottage with two rooms and two entry doors. The distinctive spring-eaves extension of the roof echoes late Medieval domestic architecture in northern Europe, particularly France, and was designed to shed rainwater. This beloved example, likely built with a frame kitchen wing at its west gable, was a type of “starter home,” popular between 1790 and 1820.



Photo c. 1897

Because of its proximity to the French Burying Ground, twentieth-century observers mistook this seemingly primitive dwelling for the original habitation of David Demarest, Senior, erected in 1678. Unfortunately, the house in its original location does not appear on any Revolutionary War maps. Nor does the surviving architectural fabric suggest a pre-Revolutionary War date of construction. Instead, the original framing for a “stove chimney” in the east room is evidence of a late

eighteenth century technological innovation in domestic heating.

When researchers first realized the old French cemetery and this adjacent stone dwelling occupied a tract of land that originally belonged to David’s son Samuel, construction was mistakenly attributed to him. Consequently, its history was unwittingly confused with the long vanished homestead of Simon Samuelse Demarest, which formerly stood on the west side of River Road in New Milford.

The Old French Burying Ground is located within Lot #3 of the French Patent, encompassing 200 acres surveyed for Samuel Demarest on January 13, 1695. By his last will and testament, probated October 19, 1728, Samuel Demarest, Senior, of Hackinsack, yeoman, devised this tract to his son Simon, who probably erected his homestead on the west side of River Road about the time of his marriage to Vrutie Herring in December 1722. Interestingly, the oldest recorded burial in the Old French Burying Ground dates to 1721, suggesting settlement at about this date. The cemetery was rarely used again until the Revolution, when circumstances perhaps made it difficult or impossible for neighbors to conduct burials in the nearest churchyards.

By his will, probated April 8, 1761, Simon bequeathed the “land where my improvements are, on which I live” to his youngest son, Jacob.¹ Jacob S. Demarest married Elizabeth Steenbrander at Schraalenburgh on August 27, 1768, and they had three children, all baptized at Schraalenburgh Church, namely: Vrutje, born July 31, 1769; David, born July 2, 1771; and Symon, born January 29, 1773. The family apparently removed to New

York City either during or soon after the Revolution. Jacob possibly died there in November 1787—in any event, they disappear from local records.

On the Erskine-Watkins Map #113 (ca. 1778), an old Demarest house on the west side of River Road was marked “Elias Romeyn.”² Born in Dutchess County, NY, Captain Romeyn removed to Bergen County after the British captured New York City. His militia company guarded New Bridge, Brower’s Hill and Liberty Pole throughout the war. British dragoons reportedly attacked Romeyn and his men at Liberty Pole on September 22, 1778. In 1782, Captain Romeyn was court-martialed and convicted of robbing local inhabitants and of accepting bribes to overlook illicit traders along the Hackensack River, engaged in shipping contraband goods to British-held Manhattan. He then departed the area.

Jacobus Paulison, a son of Paulus M. Paulison and Rachel Demarest, purchased 100 acres of the estate of Jacob S. Demarest in 1791 and erected a gristmill upon the Hackensack River. He had this two-room stone cottage built for his son John J. Paulison on the Mill Lane shortly after his marriage to Altie Ely, daughter of William Ely and Maria Demarest, on April 4, 1794. John Paulison took over management of his father’s gristmill in that same year.

When Jacobus died in November 1808, he left instructions to divide his farm between his two sons: Paulus received that portion to the north and the east of the division line, including the old Simon Demarest homestead and barn on the west side of River Road; John received the land to the south and west, bounded east on the Franse Valletje and west on the Hackensack River, “together with the Mill house, New Barn, [and] dwelling house” where he resided. In August 1821, Paulus Paulison agreed to allow William Ely, Andrew Zabriskie and others who had

friends and relatives interred in the French Burying Ground near his house to enclose the old cemetery with a fence. This agreement mentions the “lane leading from the public road [River Road] to John Paulison’s house.”

John Paulison died December 19, 1852, aged 79 years. After his first wife’s death in 1802, he married Abigail Van Norden, who survived him by three years, dying in March 1855 at 84 years of age. According to an inventory made in January 1853, the Paulisons used one of the two rooms of the stone house as a “Bedroom,” outfitted with a bed, bedding and cupboard. Chairs, tables and sundry items were dispersed throughout the two rooms. Dry goods were stored in the garret, while perishables were kept cool in either the east or west cellar. A small frame kitchen was appended to the west gable end of the house, the extant doorway beside the fireplace providing entrance to this former wing. At the rear of the stone house, an attached “hovel” or frame shed served as a “mud room” to store tools and fishing net.

In June 1853, Albert Van Voorhis, John Paulison’s son-in-law and executor, sold the homestead farm, comprising 89.16 acres, to Abraham Collard. In October 1855, Collard sold 35.59 acres, including this stone house, to Christian Sackman of Hudson County, but reserved the use of the Old Grist Mill until May 1, 1856. The 1860 Census for Hackensack Township lists Christian Sackman, 44 years old, a farmer born in Germany. His wife Christina, 48 years old, was also German born. Their children, residing at home, were: George, 19 years old, born in New York, listed as an “Agent”; Caroline, 15 years old, also born in New York; and Margaret, 11 years old, born in New York. Their neighbor, apparently residing in the older house near River Road, was James Paulison, 59 years old, a farmer; his wife Ellen, 53 years old; and son Paul, 23

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Demarest Family Museum continued from page 5
years old, also listed as an agent.

Sackman sold the same premises to Carl George Frederick Heine, of New York City, in 1863. He was the popular proprietor of the New Bridge Hotel and purchased this farm to supply his table with produce. The 1870 Census indicates his residence in the hotel and not in the small stone house to the north. It lists: C. G. Frederick Heine, 53 years old, Hotel Farer, born in Brunswick, Germany; wife Louisa, 50 years old, born in the same place; son Frederick, 16 years old, a farm laborer, born in New York; and daughter Anna, 15 years old, also born in New York. C. G. F. Heine died on February 6, 1894. Upon the death of his wife Louisa, he devised "the farm I own on the River Road containing 35 Acres" to daughter Emma, wife of Henry Rieman, and "the Hotel at New Bridge where I have resided for many years" to daughter Emma, wife of Henry Schreiber. When Emma Heine Rieman died in

October 1921, her estate was divided among her four children: Bertha Louise (Telgheder), Augusta (Pratt), Annie (Cathcart) and Henry Rieman.

For many years, a group of city artists known as the Pochard Club occupied the old stone house near the French Burying Ground on summer weekends. The Demarest Family Association was organized in 1937 and Hiram B. Demarest Blauvelt, president of the Comfort Coal & Lumber Company, purchased the little stone house from Henry B. Pratt and Henry Rieman, executors of Emma H. Rieman's estate, in 1939. To save it from vandalism, the old dwelling was painstakingly disassembled and reconstructed on Main Street, River Edge, directly behind the Steuben House, in 1954-56. The Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation maintains and recently restored what is one of the most recognizable landmarks of Bergen Dutch architecture. ❖

Interpretive Meeting

If you are interested in the public presentation of HNBL, either as an exhibit docent, greeter, or living history interpreter in period dress, then join our School of Historical Interpretation. Hone your communication skills while gaining insight into the material culture of the past. With over 30 years of experience, historian Kevin Wright will present an introductory powerpoint show on the Basics of Historical Interpretation on February 17, 2010 at 7:00 pm in the Steuben House. Thereafter, we will meet the third Wednesday of every month.

Contact if interested: wright@cybernex.net



Ancient Dutch Costume, or Dress.



Henry Dobson, Jr.

Past President Henry W. Dobson, Jr. died December 21, 2009 at 80 years of age. A resident of Midland Park, he served as BCHS President from 1958 to 1961. Under his leadership, two enduring historical programs were created under the Society's aegis. Henry Dobson initiated the American Revolutionary War Roundtable of Northern New Jersey in 1959, which originally met on the fourth Tuesday of each month in the Red Lion Inn in Hackensack and later at the Rib n' Sirloin. During Dobson's presidency, Lewis Owen initiated the BCHS Historic Marker program. Upon retirement, Henry Dobson relocated to Hewitt, NJ.



Franklin Lakes First P.O.W. by Jack Goudsward, Trustee Emeritus

Some folks harken back to the grand home-coming parade given to Lt. Ed Miller. He was a Navy Aviator who was shot down over North Viet Nam. He was taken prisoner and spent the rest of the war in a P.O.W. Camp. But he is not the first P.O.W. from the town. Another Miller, Daniel Brown Miller was the first P.O.W. His war was World War II. This is his story.

Daniel was born to Opel and Daniel Miller of Brooklyn. The family moved to Wyckoff and then Ridgewood where he finished school. He married Martha Sidney and had three children. He was manager of the A&P Store in Wyckoff, (now the Walgreens.) The Millers lived on Ewing Avenue in Franklin Lakes.

Daniel received his notice for induction early in 1943. He reported to the Local Board in Allendale and received a 1-A classification. He entered active service on March 2, 1943 in Newark. He then went to Fort Jackson, South Carolina for basic training. There he received his expert medal for the M-1 Carbine. Here he became part of Company K 429rd Infantry 106th Division. At Camp Atterbury, Indiana, Daniel was trained in communications. During this time he rose through the ranks. He went from Private, to Private First Class, Corporal and finally Sergeant.

In October 1943 the 106th Division got word that they were going to Europe. The unit arrived on October 9th and started moving east. On December 11 the regiment took up defensive positions around the town of Radscheid, Germany. The German attack began on the 16th. All communications were lost with the Daniel's company on the 18th. He and his company were reported MIA on the 29th of December. Martha, his wife, received word that he was missing on January 21, of 1944.

Sgt. Miller and his fellow prisoners were forced marched in rain and sleet to a railhead where they were loaded into boxcars. Their destination was Stalag IX-B Wegscheide/Bad Orb. This camp was considered the worst of the worst of the German camps, a camp for non-commissioned soldiers. The crowded camp offered little or no food, no medical treatment and unsanitary conditions. The good news is that Daniel was only at this camp for two weeks. The bad news is that the damage has already been done to his lower legs by the cold forced-march and no medical treatment. He was then transferred to Stalag IX-A Zieenhain where he remained for 4 months. He was liberated from there on Good Friday. Easter services were held and food was given out. Later they were flown out on C-47s to Camp Lucky Strike at LeHavre in north western France. Like all the other cigarette named camps they were devoted to the liberated P.O.W.s returning home.

Sgt. Miller returned to the US at Fort Dix. He received his Honorable Discharge. The examination showed that he could only stand for a short period of time. While there he was asked for and gave a statement on his capture. He stated: "On the 11th of December 1944 our company was making an attack on the town of Shoneberg, Germany. We ran into several German Armed Units making the initial attack in the break through at the bulge. We continued to fight the German Infantry and we were completely cut off and surrounded. On 19th of December 1944 our ammunition gave out and we surrendered when Col. Cavender gave us the order to do so".

Sgt. Daniel Brown Miller returned home to Franklin Lakes. During his service he was awarded the Good Conduct Medal, Europe African Middle Eastern Theater Ribbon with 3 Battle Stars, the Combat Infantry Badge and the Expert Badge for Carbine. He also received his Discharge Lapel Button and Patch. So ends the story of the town's first P.O.W. ❖

Three Dates, One Action? *The Demarests at New Bridge, 1781* by Past President Todd W. Braisted



One of the finest sources for anecdotal, first-hand accounts of the Revolution is the US Pension & Bounty Land Applications in the National Archives. They contain vivid snippets of military service, actions, genealogical information, social culture, and many other matters of 18th Century life. They can also be highly confusing and misleading when taken completely at face value.

The United States passed a series of pension laws for the veterans of the Revolution beginning in 1818, but this initial act only covered destitute survivors of the Continental Army. The largest act, which included most others, including the militia, was passed on 7 June 1832, nearly fifty years after the end of the war, making the youngest applicants around seventy years old. Some much older. Memories faded over the years, the order of events became confused, names sometimes changed, and most particularly, dates became jumbled. Many confused the two different British forages in the county between 1777 and 1778; others wrote that the actions at Fort Lee in May 1781 happened in 1782. The larger actions can be easily put in their proper place by cross-referencing documents from the war. The smaller events, the *petite guerre*, can be somewhat trickier. Here is one such action, involving New Bridge and the Demarest family.

The Demarest family provided soldiers to both sides of the conflict. At least thirty five are known to have served, two dozen on the Congressional side with another eleven fighting for the Crown. One of the leading county militia officers was Captain Samuel Demarest, who lived on what is now River Road in New Milford. At the time, it was simply lumped into the “New Bridge” general area. Guards of militia were generally kept in the area, usually in houses and barns of the inhabitants. Hackensack to the south was garrisoned by state troops commanded by Captain John Outwater and some New Jersey Continentals under Lieutenant Samuel Seely.¹

The middle part of the year 1781 had been eventful in the county. No large armies maneuvered for battle or even foraged for grain. The British still occupied the lower part of Bergen Neck, modern Hudson County, with the fortifications of Paulus Hook garrisoned by British Regulars and Fort DeLancey at Bergen Point garrisoned by around 300 men of the Loyal Refugee Volunteers commanded by Major Thomas Ward. The force under Ward had attempted to establish a new post on the ruins of Fort Lee, prompting three major engagements with the militia in May. The British, not wanting to be in the position of having to support a post they deemed untenable, ordered Ward to return to his old post, which he and his corps did.

Which leads us to our friends the Demarests at New Bridge. Amongst the various pension applications made out by members of the family in the 19th Century, three record being taken prisoner in 1781. Gilliam Demarest had passed away in 1811, but his widow Bridget applied for a pension under a later act providing for wives of deceased veterans. He was the son of David G. Demarest, who in May 1779 joined the British and was at that time serving in the Refugees under Thomas Ward.² Benjamin Romaine, a fellow veteran, testified on behalf of Bridget “That the said Gilliam Demarests father David Demarest deserted his countrys cause, and eloped to the enemy services to the City of New York, and

contain'd there during the war, and his farm was confiscated.... The said father repeatedly requested, and demanded his said Son Gilliam to join him in New York, but the son held to his integrity to the end of the war. That he was taken a prisoner, and exchanged, nevertheless his fathers commands, and again went into military Service – was severely Wounded in individual contest in the hand in a personal contest with an enemy refugee, who sought to capture him, as I have full and satisfactory information of this fact.” Philip Demarest, in 1841, likewise testified: “...in the year 1781, this deponant & the aforesaid Gilliam Demorest was again Called out in the Service under Capt. Samuel Demorest and that on or about the first of April in the year aforesaid this deponant & the aforesaid Gilliam Demorest at the Hackensack new Bridge, while on duty was Supprised and taken Prisoners of War by the Enemy and taken from thence to the City of New York and Confined in the Shuger House & this deponant remained there Six months & was then Exchanged and this deponant further Says when he left for home the aforesaid Gilliam Demorest yet remained there as a Prisoner of War.”³ This set the date of capture at 1 April 1781.

Philip Demarest, a resident of Barbadoes Township, and the person who related Gilliam’s story above, told his own tale in 1832: “That he again entered the service

about the first of April 1781, under the aforesaid field Officers and under Captain Demarest, and Lieutenant Campbell. That he was taken prisoner in a little Skirmish near Hackensack New-bridge on or about the tenth of April and carried to New York where he remained a prisoner untill the first of October following, he was then individually exchanged through the intercession or management of his friends...” Two years later, still seeking his pension, Philip added more detail to his capture: “this deponent further saith in relation to his having been taken



prison[er] by the enemy, that himself and two others belonging to Captain Samuel Demarests Company went out that day to pilot a party of Regular Troops, under the command of a Lieutenant that were sent from Perhamus to discover the movement of the enemy, that they went into the vicinity of Fort Lee and returned in the evening to the house of one John Sobriskie, near Hackensack near [New] Bridge, where they were surprised by the enemy and himself and the most of the party

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made prisoner and immediately carried to New York as set forth in his declaration. The name of the Lieutenant commanding the party he does not recollect if he ever knew.”⁴ This gives the number of men taken prisoner as three, but the date of the encounter as 10 April 1781. Now we have two dates.

Last of the Demarests was sixteen year old John, a militiaman nonetheless at that young age. He testified in his application: “That in the Year 1781, early in the month of September, he was taken a Prisoner of war, by surprise, at the New Bridge aforesaid, by a party of British New-Corps, or Refugees, commonly called ‘Ward’s Green-Coats;’ and that he was conveyed thence down to their Head Quarters at Parnespough, a place bordering upon New York Bay, in the Township of Bergen, in the County and State aforesaid, and that he remained a Prisoner of war for the space of seven Months, (as near as he can now recollect) part of this time in confinement, and part of it, he was permitted to return home, on parole of honour, (together with his Father, an old man, also a Prisoner of war,) at the Instance of Captain Samuel Demarest, together with another Officer of the Guard, stationed at the New Bridge aforesaid, as a Flag of Truce; on condition, that he should not take up Arms against them as long as he was their Prisoner, and that he should appear and report himself once in every Month; which he observed for about three months.” He later concluded: “I was taken a Prisoner of war, in the night season while at the Village of Hackensack, but on a visit to my Parents at the New Bridge, being indisposed and lame. . . .”⁵ John stated his date of capture as early September. Three dates.

Three Demarest family members, all taken prisoner at New Bridge, all giving different dates. Which one was correct? Perhaps none of them. Looking at this mystery from the other side of the conflict, we may have found our answer.

The *raison d’être* of Thomas Ward’s corps was to cut wood, which in turn they had an exclusive contract to sell to the Barrack Master General’s Department in New York City for the use of the British military. Their usefulness to the British extended well beyond providing fuel however. Gathering intelligence and collecting information on Washington’s Army was of vital importance, and in July 1781 the Continental Army and their French allies appeared ready to besiege the British in New York. On 29 July 1781, Major Oliver DeLancey, Jr, the British Adjutant General, sent orders to Thomas Ward to help accomplish that: “You are requested to send out patrols on the road to Sneathings Ferry⁶ as far as they can go with prudence in order to find out what troops are on your side the Water & you will also be good enough to send out some people to gain intelligence of the Situation & motions of the Enemy with certainty, you will enjoin secrecy. I will pay any of them you Employ.”⁷ Ward dutifully complied, reporting two days later:

I immediately on receipt of your Letter on Sunday last set off to Bergen, and sent two Men into the Country towards Kings Ferry and directly proceeded after them myself, with a party of about One hundred and Fifty Horse and foot with a Brass Field piece as far as the liberty Pole.

I then Detached Captn. Miller⁸ with twenty Horsemen to the House of Captn. Demarea— but he had taken Flight. he Captured three Notorious Rebels and afterwards Joined the foot without a Shot fired at him or the party— I have intelligence that there is at Closter, at and abt. their Block House, three hundred of their Standing Army and Militia— I sent for a very intelligent person who had I understood been to Kings Ferry, and he says when he Crossed the river on Saturday Night last, there were no Troops there nor had there been any for some time past— he had been to their Army and says he saw hauling down to White Plains Sundry pieces heavy Cannon & Mortars which is said came from West Point— and his

Horses which he went after was employed in that Service he further adds he was not allowed to Cross at Dobbs Ferry but must go to Kings Ferry— report Strongly Prevails in the Country of raising Militia and laying Seige to New York— but for his part he saw no Militia preparing— it is also said that as soon as they can raise the Militia of this Province a Brigade with the Militia to Join them is to lay at Fort Lee— Genl. Washington reconnoitered the Ground in disguise last Friday at Fort Lee— which gives this intelligence more weight— this respecting Fort Lee except what relates to GW my informant had from Colo. Dayton— the two men who I sent out expect back tonight or in the Morning—⁹

The New York newspapers touted Captain Miller's exploits, while obviously staying mum on the intelligence portion of the expedition: "On Sunday evening last a party of Loyal Refugees under the Command of Major Thomas Ward, went out from Bergen Neck, as far as the Liberty Pole. Major Ward detached Capt. John Miller with a party of twenty horse, who penetrated as far as the New Bridge, near Hackensac, and captured three notorious rebels by the names of Demareas, drove off their stock, and returned to the party without firing a shot."¹⁰ Three Demareas, a variation of Demarest, captured at New Bridge. Sounds very much like Gilliam, Philip and John.

In reviewing any movements of troops, or reported actions for the period of April 1781, the time Philip mentioned as when he and Gilliam were taken prisoner, nothing appears. John Demarest's statement saying early September for his capture does correspond with a raid on Closter by Captain William Harding of the Refugees, who surprised six men of a guard serving under Captain Thomas Blanch.¹¹ This action, which occurred on 6 September 1781, is well documented though, particularly through the pension application of Benjamin Romaine, one of those taken prisoner. Ward himself led a raid with fifty men four days previously, but this was in the neighborhood of Newark, where they took off thirteen prisoners.¹² Closer to home, Ward personally led a party on August 11th that captured a guard of fifteen men "from the neighbourhood of Hackensack" but that appears to have been Continentals or State Troops, not the militia that Gilliam, Philip or John served in.¹³

Studying history is much like piecing together a puzzle. Individual pieces sometimes don't make sense, but put together create a vivid picture. It would appear, probably, the capture of the three Demarest militiamen did indeed occur on 29 July 1781, a date none of them stated. First hand accounts are a wonderful resource, but the old adage "Trust, but Verify" refers to them as much as any other source. ❖

(Endnotes)

- 1 Seely to Colonel Elias Dayton, Hackensack, 27 July 1781. MG 14, Edwin A. Ely Autograph Collection, Box 1, Folder 39, The New Jersey Historical Society.
- 2 Demarest probably joined the British when Abraham Van Buskirk's corps, the 4th Battalion, New Jersey Volunteers, occupied New Bridge on 17-18 May 1779. Petition of Jane Demarest to Governor William Livingston & the New Jersey Assembly, Hackensack, 13 September 1779. Department of Defense, Military Records, Revolutionary War, Revolutionary Manuscripts Numbered. Document No. 10667, New Jersey State Archives. See also Substance Roll of the Refugees stationed on Bergen Neck under the command of Major Thomas Ward...Twenty Three March 1782. Sir Henry Clinton Papers, Volume 190, item 37, University of Michigan, William L. Clements Library. Hereafter cited as CL. Two other David Demarests were Loyalists, both joining the British in 1776, one on the King's Orange Rangers commanded by Lt. Col. John Bayard and the other under Van Buskirk in the New Jersey Volunteers.
- 3 Pension Application of Gilliam Demerest. Collection M-804, Pension and Bounty Land Application Files, No. W16952, Guiliam Demerest, New Jersey, National Archives and Records Administration. Hereafter cited as NARA.
- 4 Pension Application of Philip Demarest. Collection M-804, Pension and Bounty Land Application Files, No. S29114, Philip Demarest, New Jersey, NARA.
- 5 Pension Application of John Demarest. Collection M-804, Pension and Bounty Land Application Files, Reel 791, No. R2860, John Demarest, New Jersey, NARA. John was unique amongst these three men in that his application was rejected by the government.
- 6 Sneden's Ferry, opposite Dobbs Ferry, was the lowest crossing point on the Hudson held by Washington's troops.
- 7 DeLancey to Ward, 29 July 1781. Clinton Papers 167:21, CL.
- 8 Captain John Miller was one of the more experienced officers serving under Ward, having served previously as a lieutenant in the Loyal American Regiment. In 1780, he raised a troop of light horse for the Refugees.
- 9 Ward to DeLancey, New York, 31 July 1781. Clinton Papers, 167:34, CL.
- 10 *The Royal Gazette* (New York,) August 1, 1781.
- 11 *The New-York Gazette and the Weekly Mercury*, September 17, 1781.
- 12 Ward to DeLancey, Bergen Neck, 3 September 1781. Clinton Papers 173:29, CL. See also *The New York Gazette and the Weekly Mercury*, September 10, 1781.
- 13 *The Royal Gazette* (New York,) August 19, 1781. Three days later, Captain William Harding with forty men made a raid on Newark, capturing four or five men and taking off some cattle. *The New-York Gazette and the Weekly Mercury*, August 20, 1781.

A Century Ago

by Past President Kevin Wright



River Edge and Demarest were the only two boroughs in Bergen County to use voting machines on Election Day, November 2, 1909. Voters gave Democrats control of the Freeholder Board, electing fifteen Democrats and replacing two members, who though nominally Democrats, regularly sided with the Republicans. On November 6, 1909, the contract for building the new Bergen County Court House was awarded to J. T. Brady Company of New York for \$827,672.25. While granite would be used in the base of the new structure to a point six feet above ground, the upper portion would be built entirely of marble. In addition, a new jail was to be constructed at an estimated cost of \$200,000.

Fire partly destroyed Gillies & Gardner's brickyards on the Turnpike in Little Ferry on Wednesday evening, November 10, 1909, when sparks from the last kiln of brick ignited a shed fire. At this time, the Court Street drawbridge was still hand operated, requiring about a half hour and five men to open or close. During a long wait on Saturday morning, November 13, 1909, nine wagons, six automobiles and many foot passengers were held up on either side of the open span for a passing coal boat. Notwithstanding wintry blasts and snow during the third week of November 1909, dandelions still bloomed. Goose-bone prophets earnestly deciphered their winter predictions. On November 29th, James M. Gulnac, Chairman of the Court House Committee, broke ground with a near-gold spade for the million-dollar new building in the presence of 200 spectators. Albert Hughes' large and handsome steam launch was moored for the winter near the picnic grove on the east bank of the river at River Edge. An ornamental wire fence was erected

along the riverbank running north from New Milford Avenue near the Water Company's property.

Ice on the meadows and along the riverbanks made it look something like winter. The holiday rush was felt at the post office and delivery wagons ran overtime delivering Christmas packages. Bergen County enjoyed a White Christmas in 1909, the first snowflakes falling shortly after 10 a. m. with the storm continuing all day and far into the night, accompanied by a gale. It was the heaviest snow of the season.

D. Behnke, of Spring Valley, just west of River Edge, shot a large gray fox on his farm on Christmas morning 1909, which measured about 3 feet, 6 inches long and stood 18 inches in height. A great crowd of children from the highways and byways of Hackensack gathered at the Salvation Army headquarters on Bergen Street, Hackensack, on Monday evening, December 27th---the distribution of gifts from the Christmas tree gave much happiness. Many people scanned the northeastern sky in the early evening for a glimpse of Halley's comet, said to be alongside Saturn. Thermometers took a sharp drop Tuesday morning, December 28th, sinking to only 10° above zero. Masons now found it so cold that mortar froze on their trowels, halting work on the new Court House.

New orange-colored auto tags were to be used instead of the old ones after January 1, 1910.

Schools re-opened January 4, 1910. Ice-coated wires and tracks delayed trolley cars on January 6th and blacksmiths worked overtime "sharpening horses" for travel on icy highways. Ice boating on the river was good the entire week. Fire destroyed

an old Oradell landmark on Saturday night, January 15, 1910, consuming a two-story frame dwelling about 80 years old, situated on Linden Avenue (now Kinderkamack Road), one of the main thoroughfares of the borough. William Streeter occupied one part of the house and his father-in-law, D. H. Voorhis, the other. River Edge real estate was moving: the Webb and Blair farms, together with a wooded tract, formerly a part of the Webb farm, but later owned by the Phelps estate, were sold to the Kline Realty & Improvement Association to be developed and offered for sale in building plots. Although wild geese flew northward—an indication of warm weather—about 450 tons of ice were harvested from N. B. Zabriskie's small spring pond in North Hackensack. Two bills introduced into the Legislature in January 1910 aroused considerable opposition: one bill was to permit Sunday baseball playing and the other to legalize rum selling at Atlantic City on Sundays.

In a special message to the Legislature, Governor J. Franklin Fort submitted the question of the proposed amendment to the Federal Constitution empowering Congress to levy a tax on incomes, saying, "An income tax is the most just and equitable tax that can be levied." Captain David H. Bloomer, a native of River Edge, 49 years of age and unmarried, died at High Falls, New York, on February 13, 1910, after a short illness. He was a well-known boatman on the Hackensack River. Two brothers, Anderson and George, and one sister, Emma Bloomer, survived him.

At Freeholder Frank Oldis' request, the Board of Freeholders met at Corkey's Hotel on March 1, 1910, to discuss a new bridge over the Saddle River at Arcola. After the Board visited the site, County Engineer Earle suggested moving the location of the bridge a little south, so that a concrete bridge, 45 feet wide with a 90-foot span,

could be built.

Bluebirds arrived in early March and flocks of blackbirds were on wing. Soon robins and bluebirds were also evident. Hackensack smelt appeared at market. The Kline Realty Company started developing the Wales farm in River Edge, clearing away brush and having surveyors mark out streets. The River Edge Land Company and John Neuscheler conveyed the 50-foot strip known as Lincoln Avenue to the Borough of Riverside on March 2, 1910. F. Wm. Barthman and others conveyed the 50-foot strip known as Summit Avenue on March 2, 1910. Another large shipment of heavy sawed timber from Richard's mill at Spring Valley was made from New Milford station.

By the end of March, the first signs of spring were unmistakable: Incubators were turning out young chicks and herring began their run upstream. Lawns grew green and early

One of Early Teachers (1861 and 1867)



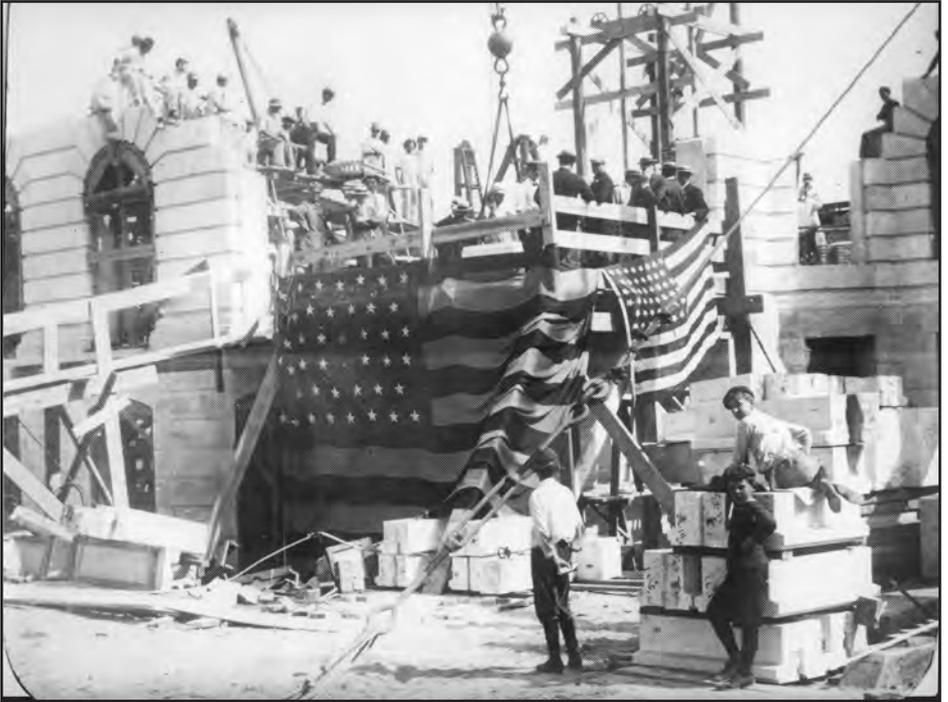
Hiram Bellis, father of the late ex-Mayor J. W. Bellis, was a guiding spirit in the growth of Oradell for over 40 years. He was an organizer and builder of the Oradell Reformed Church and built many of the larger buildings such as the Delford Market, the present post office site. He died April 14, 1910.

spring flowers sprouted; the click of the lawn mower was now heard in the land. Fire destroyed the Bergen Grange Hall

continued on page 14



Statues carved on premises for new Court House. Photo from the glass-slides made by R. Pye, now in the collection of the BCHS



Construction of the new Court House. Photo from the glass-slides made by R. Pye, now in the collections of the BCHS

on Spring Valley Road on April 9, 1910. The building had been greatly improved over the previous year and was valued at \$5,000, but it was insured for only \$2,000. The hall was to be rebuilt.

Hiram Bellis, one of the wealthiest citizens of Oradell, died April 14, 1910, aged 69 years. He was identified with a number of business concerns, including the Hackensack Water Company, the Hackensack Coal & Lumber Company and the Oradell Mercantile Company. As iron girders arrived for the new Courthouse, some citizens wondered if there was a jinx hovering over the building site as all three members of the Court House Committee and County Engineer Earle met with mishaps in a series of accidents occurring in rapid succession.

There was a light frost on Friday morning, May 6, 1910. Henry Ryerson of Ramsey started taking a census of the "Jackson Whites" in the mountain district in May 1910. No one had been anxious for the job, the first enumerator having declined to accept his appointment. Ryerson reportedly made his rounds with an armed guide.

Fire partly destroyed the unoccupied stone house on the Werkheiser place at Woodcliff Lake on May 14, 1910. The Hackensack Water Company, which owned the property, sent a boy to clean up the place and he carelessly burnt a pile of rubbish in an ancient fireplace. It was thought the old chimney was defective as the upper story burned off down to the stone walls. Hillsdale firemen were on hand and pumped a lot of water out of the lake.

Robins had first pick of ripening cherries. Roses bloomed and daisies were gathered in bunches from fields and roadsides. Grub worms played havoc with tomato plants,

lima beans, and other garden crops. Soon boys were seen swimming in the river. Cork was now being used in the manufacture of baseballs. By June, workmen began piling bricks on the site of the new Court House and Jail; an estimated 35 million bricks would be needed to complete the project. A local farmer reported his corn grew five inches on two hot days during the third week of June.

Flies around the molasses barrel were no thicker than boys around the swimming holes during these hot summer days. The contract to build the concrete arch bridge at Arcola was awarded to F. R. Long Company on a bid of \$24,972. While E. D. Easton donated the land for an approach to the bridge, the Saddle River Committee put in a claim for its old road to be used for a park. The State Board of Health gave notices to the Hackensack Commission, the Bogota Borough Council, the Village Trustees of Ridgefield Park and to all municipalities then sewerage in the Hackensack River or Overpeck Creek, that such sewerage must be discontinued. The old toll gate which formerly stood upon the brow of the hill near the trolley powerhouse on Hudson Street, Hackensack, was removed some 200 or 300 feet north, so as to cut off entrance to the old Calicoon Neck road without first paying toll to the Turnpike Company. Congress appropriated funds for two more battleships, each costing about \$12,000,000 to build and \$1,000,000 a year to maintain over their 20-year lifetime. ❖

The Bergen County Historical Society, a non-profit, 501(c)(3) volunteer organization, was founded in 1902 to develop public appreciation for Bergen County's remarkable history, especially through the preservation and study of its material culture. We are the only historical association to focus on the Bergen County as a whole, from its prehistory to the present day. Our museum collections are presently on display in a limited basis at Historic New Bridge Landing. Public programs include educational events, placement of informative roadside historical markers, museum exhibits, monthly lectures, library collection, website and message board. We are the largest landowner at HNBL. We are not a government agency and presently receive no regular or significant public funding, we rely on private donations and membership.

Valentine's Day at Historic New Bridge Landing Sunday, February 14, 2010 • 1:00-4:00 pm

BCHS Events

BCHS presents **Brenda Miller**, an expert at Scherenschnitte, the art of papercutting with scissors. Workshop by reservation only, limited to 30 people \$30 – 14 years old & up. Participants will create a framed, matted work of Scherenschnitte, all materials supplied, bring an exacto knife, sharp scissors, takes place in the Steuben House. HNBL open. Cooking in Outkitchen. Pie and Cider in Campbell-Christie House: \$5. The Historical Society will display an 1838 Valentine with an elaborate cut-paper border, inscribed with a poem, which includes a marriage proposal.



Architecture of Bergen, Rockland & Passaic Counties Thursday, February 18, 2010

Noted architectural historian **Tim Adriance** will explore the Dutch/European roots of the cultural traditions of those who lived in early Bergen, Rockland, and Passaic counties. This presentation will focus on the permanent and visible remnant of the Jersey Dutch cultural group – its architecture. Over 350 images of houses, barns, churches, and other cultural items from here and from Europe will be featured. Lecture location: No fee. Second Reformed Church, 436 Union St., Hackensack, NJ.

Washington's Birthday at HNBL • Sunday, February 21, 2010

A Country Ball upon the Anniversary of Washington's Birthday will be held at New Bridge Landing on Sunday. Under Denise Piccino's direction, the Tricorne Ensemble will demonstrate 18th-century dances in the parlor of the Steuben House! Ridley & Anne Enslow provide musical accompaniment on fiddle and hammered dulcimer. Rodger Yaden portrays General Washington. Join us in the tavern for hot cider and crullers. Don't miss Mary and Barbara cooking in the Bergen Dutch Out-Kitchen. Suggested donation: \$7 adult, \$5 children, BCHS members free. Campbell-Christie House, 1201 Main Street, River Edge, 07661.

Privateers in Whaleboats in New Jersey! • February 23, 2010

Historians and re-enactors **Raoul Mallalieu** and **Ken Miller**, of Heard's Brigade, will describe the boats, weapons, and tactics used successfully to attack British vessels along the New Jersey coast. Now they're building an authentic whaleboat to raise public awareness of the privateers' role in winning the war. Roundtable: The Iron Horse, Westwood. Come between 6:30 and 7:00 PM for conversation and fellowship.

Classroom Closeup • Mon, March 1 & 6 - 7 am & Sat, March 8 & 13 - 9 am

The program, Classroom Close on NJN, will feature the children at Roosevelt School, River Edge and Forward to the Past, a video about why it's important to preserve history, from the child's perspective.

Lenape New Year • Sunday, March 14, 2010 – 1:00 to 4:00 pm

The Dark Moon marks the arrival of Chwame gischuch, the Shad Moon, and the New Year of the ancient Sanhicans and Minisinks, locally known as the Hackensacks and Tappans. **Bob Wills**, of the Sunrise Trading Post, will share his knowledge of Lenape. Suggested donation for events unless otherwise noted: \$7 adult, \$5 children, BCHS members free. Takes place at the Steuben House, 1209 Main St, River Edge, NJ.

Button Up! • Sunday, March 21, 2010 – 12:00 to 4:00 pm

Button exhibit featuring Elsie Heiss BCHS collections and private collection of period buttons honoring George Washington's Inauguration. In cooperation with the Bergen Button Club. See page 19 for more info.

Visit Our Website for the More Info • www.bergencountyhistory.org



Charles Livingston Bull

by BCBS Vice President Peggy Norris

A query from an intern at the Library of Congress brought Bergen County artist Charles Livingston Bull to our attention. Bull (1874-1932) was a wildlife artist, who drew thousands of pictures of animals and birds in his lifetime, illustrating over 125 books and providing artwork for hundreds of magazines, posters, etc. One of the first books he illustrated was *The Call of the Wild* by Jack London (1903). He also wrote his own book, *Under the Roof of the Jungle* (1911), about a trip to British Guiana. From 1910 until his death he lived in Oradell, where he was able to keep a small menagerie of animals such as dogs, sheep, deer, and fish. Bull is buried in The Hackensack Cemetery with the simple appellation, "artist and naturalist." For more information see the excellent slide show by the Oradell Free Public Library "A Short Biography of the Oradell Naturalist"-- <http://oradell.bccls.org/bull/bullpresentation.html>. The Library and the Blauvelt Art Museum in Oradell have collections of his original paintings and published works. ❖



Sources:

Roberts, Charles G. D. THE HAUNTERS OF THE SILENCES. A BOOK OF ANIMAL LIFE. Boston: 1907, First Edition, L. C. Page & Company.

Also on google books: http://books.google.com/books?id=l0ZXXXXAAAJ&printsec=frontcover&dq=%22under+the+roof+of+the+jungle%22&source=bl&ots=KWW10HueHi&sig=f17HAEunz2vvgiaPMgSoJt1suk&hl=en&ei=aG1TS6LIOPXdlAiejqmtCg&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=1&ved=0CAcQ6AEwAA#v=onepage&q=&f=false

Hiram B. D. Blauvelt, Past BCBS President, engaged Charles Livingston Bull to design this logo for the Bergen County Historical Society.



President Letter continued from page 1

outkitchen for events. Trustee **Denise Piccino, Elizabeth Piccino**, Secretary **Rosann Pellegrino, Ariel Woll, Rodger Yaden, Gennie Vaughn**, Trustee **Linda Masullo, John Oddie, Dottie Werner**, Trustee **Michael Gorman, Gerry O'Keefe, Kevin Wright, Mike & Luke Trepicchio**, me and others all help out to open the site. **Linda Masullo** manages the giftshop, **Michael Gorman's** homemade soap was a favorite purchase. Trustee **John O'Toole**, Treasurer **Bill Farrelly** and Member **Bob Roth** painted and repaired the exterior of the Campbell-Christie House. HNBL Commissioner **Ann Subrizi** facilitated the new HNBL entrance signs. **Manfred Wegner** got our outhouse on a steady foundation and is waiting for warmer weather to finish restoration. **Albert Dib** continues to manage the Message Board. **Tom Newman** & family made and donated candy from Bogert Candy Kitchen molds for the holiday decorations at HNBL. **Linda & Paul Mock** joined us again in decorating. Past President **John Heffernan** is a constant source of help along with his wife **Linda** and continues to chair the lecture program. **Dave Whieldon** draws a good-size crowd every month at the Rev War Roundtable, featuring dinner and lectures by historians. Member **Anita DiGuilio** provides advice to me on BCHS insurance issues. **Mary Donohue, Kevin Wright, Bill Farrelly, and Mike Trepicchio** provide enormous amounts of organizational time, ideas and counsel. **Mike** facilitated the litter and brush site clean up by the **UJA Federation's** Mitzvah Day and the Christmas tree sales on-site, which provided important operating revenues for BCHS. **Mary** led the way with the renaming of the **New Bridge Landing Train Station**, putting New Bridge on the map. We were thankful for the \$1,250 grant from **Bloomington's** (facilitated by **Bill**) which basically underwrote the Hudson 400 exhibit at the Shops

at Riverside. The exhibit, designed by **Kevin** and myself, erected with help from **John Oddie** and **Jack Goudsward** (Jack is also Membership chairman), gave us wide exposure to new audiences. Our dugout canoe was on display to thousands of people this fall.



Button in BCHS collection

I have been in contact with a dendrochronologist who will be looking at the canoe this spring to see if the age can be unobtrusively determined.

I was joined at different times to work on collections by **Kevin, Manfred, Linda Masullo, Gail Goldstein, Jack G., Barbara Marchant, Mary Donahue, John Oddie, Jack Wright, Steve Weigl, Peggy Norris, Joe Suplicki** and members from the **Bergen Button Club**. **Peggy** and **Steve** helped people around the country with research queries. Library Chairman **Steve Weigl** continues to meet regularly with his committee, including **Dee Cobiانchi** and **Averil Genton**, preserving and cataloging our library and document collection. I look forward to the end of our FEMA application; **Mike T, Kevin** and **Bill** helped in recent meetings with FEMA representatives. **Lori Charkey** and **Kevin Wright** are starting up *The Revolution in Bergen County Heritage Guide Book*. We closed out the calendar with our 26th year of Christmas concerts at HNBL where I had the pleasure of meeting a woman, who charmed with the event as a child, now return as an adult.

Membership is growing and we thank you for your continued support, we could not do without it. We are grateful to **Bob Roth** and **Eleanor Roth** for their support and good wishes! **Deborah Powell**, BCHS President ❖

Button Up!
Come Out & Celebrate Women’s History Month
Button Exhibit at HNBL
Sunday, March 21, 2010 – 12:00 to 4:00 pm



Selections from the **Elsie Heiss Button Collection**, Bergen County Historical Society’s collections, will be on exhibit for **the first time in more than 25 years**. Elsie particularly collected buttons with images of birds. Takes place in the Steuben House.

Selections from Bergen Button Club members will be on exhibit at the Steuben House. BBC member **Pam Muzio** will give a talk “Introduction to Buttons.”

Buttons honoring **George Washington**, made at the time of his **First Inauguration in 1789**, will be shown, and their history will be described in a short talk. From a private collection.

Kevin Wright will give an illustrated talk on *The History of Women in Bergen County* in the Steuben House at 2 pm.

Button strings will be on show – please touch!

Button sewing exercise for children. Create a project that may be taken home. Buttons donated by **Simply the Best Clothing**, 472 Cedar Lane, Teaneck. Takes place in the Campbell-Christie House. Led by **D. Piccino**.

Refreshments in the **Black Horse Tavern**, Campbell-Christie House, with Tavern Keeper **W. John Oddie**.

Suggested donation for event:
 \$7 adult, \$5 children,
 BCHS members free.
 HNBL, 1201-1209 Main St,
 River Edge, NJ.

GWs from a Private Collection



If you are not receiving “Our Connection to the Past” through email, please take a moment to send your email address to me. Compared to snail mail, email is an inexpensive way to reach everyone. I do not share your email address with any other groups or persons.
 contactBCHS@bergencountyhistory.org



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Deborah Powell & Kevin Wright,
editors & layout

Items for the newsletter may be submitted
to D. Powell, Attn: Newsletter
contactBCHS@bergencountyhistory.org

Note: If a ** appears after your name—it is time to renew your membership. Thank you!