



Medford Historical Society
circa 1966
Newsletter

Mill Phone: 609-654-7767

www.MedfordHistory.org

Kirby's Mill, 275 Church Road, PO Box 362, Medford, New Jersey 08055

Dr. Still Education Center, 211 Church Road, Medford, New Jersey 08055

Cross keys One-Room Schoolhouse, 55 Mill Street, Medford, New Jersey 08055

September 2021

Annual Apple Festival
Saturday, October 9th, 2021
9 am - 4 pm

at Kirby's Mill, 275 Church Road (at Fostertown Road) Medford
NO ADMISSION CHARGE

CRAFTERS LIVE MUSIC FOOD

FREE PARKING AND SHUTTLE SERVICE

Apple Cider Donuts - Made on Premises,
Apple Ice Cream,
Medford Historical Society Apple Butter Spread,
Sandwiches - Made on Premises, Hot Dogs, Funnel Cakes,
Apples, Cider, Drinks, Fresh Baked Goods

For further information email us @ applefest@medfordhistory.org
New volunteers needed. We depend on YOU for this important event.

Medford Historical Society Officers 2020 - 2021 Fiscal Year

PRESIDENT
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TRUSTEES

EXPIRES 2023 Kelly Maguire, Libby Zimbleman, Kyle Mason, Carol Douglas, Dave Vaughn

EXPIRES 2021: Edmund Gager, Sam Still, John Hines, Theresa Freedman, Bernadette Longo

EXPIRES 2022: Pat Alvino, William Pflug, William Frederick (Rick) Young, Carol Milich, Richard Bucko

The Railroad Comes to Medford!

This newspaper story from December 25, 1869 centers on the excitement surrounding the completion of the railroad line from Mt. Holly to Medford. The author paints an interesting portrait of the small town of 1500 people and describes the end of the stage coach era.

Excerpt from The New Republic

Opening A New Road-Philadelphia to Medford

The New Republic, Camden, NJ

December 25, 1869

Medford is a quiet town in Burlington county, New Jersey...It is a town of antiquity compared with many American towns, and has a history of at least one hundred years. It would not, perhaps, require many volumes to hold what history it has for Medford, with its quiet, unpretending pursuits, has never made much noise in the world...And yet the good people of Medford possess as much progressive enterprise as many towns of more political pretension and geographical advantages. They have been buried as it were, in the pines, because many and great difficulties prevented easy and direct communications with Philadelphia and New York. While other and younger towns, under the influence and impetus of railroads, have grown into important cities, commanding an extensive and profitable commerce, Medford has been quietly jogging along in its ancient, lumbering stage-coach, anxious to free itself from the incubus, but lacking the opportunity.

The opportunity so ardently hoped for came at last, however, and right eagerly was it embraced. The Camden and Amboy Railroad Company finding the people so desirous of connecting their town by iron nerves with distant neighbors, came to their assistance and enabled them to build and equip the "Medford, Lumberton and Mount Holly Railroad." On the 19th of July last the work was commenced; on the 24th of the same month ground was first broken; on November 8 track laying was commenced; on December 10 road was completed, last Monday the first passenger train was run over it and the road formally opened.

Medford railroad station below. The building is still standing at 69 N. Main Street.



Photograph from The Philadelphia, Marlton, And Medford Railroad Co.

published in 1973 by the West Jersey Chapter, National Railway Historical Society, Inc.

Calendar of Events

October

10/2 - Dr. James Still Education Center

Charlie Zahm Fundraising Concert @ Friends Meeting House

10/7 - MHS General Meeting - 7pm Friends Meeting House

Medford Remembered Video, Edmund Gager will be on hand to answer questions

10/9 - Apple Festival, 9am - 4pm on the grounds of Historic Kirby's Mill
Live music, food, donuts, crafters and more!

November

11/4 - MHS General Meeting 7pm Friends Meeting House

December

12/2 - MHS Holiday Concert Friends Meeting House

12/4 - Santa at The School House on Mill St., 12-3 pm, Free Event, Take your own photos

Cross Keys Schoolhouse in Medford to Appear in an Episode of "Roots Less Traveled" by Patricia Alvino

On a sultry morning in mid-August, three members of the Medford Historical Society, Carol Milich, Tom Alvino and myself, Pat Alvino, waited to greet the crew and subjects of a documentary in front of the Cross Keys One-Room Schoolhouse. Later Jeanne Woodford would join us as well.

Despite the heat, we were all engrossed by the exciting experience. We were met initially by the crew's Covid Due Diligence Coordinator who took our temperatures and issued us yellow bracelets to indicate that we were Covid-free. Masks were required to be worn by everyone, and on a day like that Tuesday, it was a real challenge due to the heat and humidity. As the crew arrived, they were introduced to us, and we got the chance to ask them questions and observe what they were doing. They were very gracious and even invited us to lunch which they had delivered from Zinc. The crew consisted of 1 director, 3 producers, at least 1 writer, assorted cameramen (at least 5), 2 researchers from Ancestry.com, assorted assistants, the host, Faruq Tauheed, and the 2 subjects of this particular episode. All together there were nearly 20 people milling about the schoolhouse both inside and outside.

The taping was in bits and pieces and lasted morning and afternoon. We were told by one of the writers that even though they tape hours of footage, there is a lot of editing. The segment in which the schoolhouse will appear may only be 3-4 minutes in length. Kind of disappointing, but that's show business.

The director was very complimentary of our one-room schoolhouse and was appreciative that they were given total access to it. We were told that the episode taped at the schoolhouse most likely would air the morning of October 2nd on NBC-10.



Flea Market 2021

Flea Market was a great success with more than 20 participants booking spaces to sell their treasures. Plenty of shoppers were in attendance to enjoy the treasures to be purchased and those on display in the Mill.

Membership Application for 2021

Donations/Sponsor Levels to Preserve History

Of course if you have already paid, Thank you for your promptness.

Lifetime members may disregard this notice.

Name _____ Telephone _____

Email _____

Address _____

Please make checks payable to the
Medford Historical Society, PO Box 362, Medford, NJ 08055

Membership

_____ Individual/Family Membership - \$20 per year

Members receive a Quarterly Newsletter

Sponsor/Donor Levels

History Partner - \$100

Archival Partner - \$250

Patron - \$500

Benefactor - \$1000

Donation of your choice - \$ _____

Donors are supporting the mission of the Medford Historical Society to research, record, preserve, maintain and promote the general history of Medford and Medford Historical Society holdings, making them available to the community, schools, and other organizations.

These donor levels will be acknowledged on our website

Donor levels will have the option of donating anonymously

The Medford Historical Society is a non-profit corporation in the State of New Jersey and is registered as a charity SIC #5006-04935. Our Federal Tax Exempt Number is 22-1911164.

We are exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501 © (3) of the Internal Revenue Code dated 12/7/71. Donors may deduct contributions to the Medford Historical Society as provided in Section 170 of the Code. Bequests, legacies, devises, transfers or gifts to the Medford Historical Society are deductible for Federal estate and gift tax purposes under Sections 2055, 2106 and 2522 of the Code.