



April 2015

***Lower Merion Historical Society's
66th Annual Meeting
Sunday, April 26, 2015
The Day's Agenda***

We start with our Annual Business Meeting at the **Lower Merion Academy** located at 506 Bryn Mawr Avenue in Bala Cynwyd in the first floor meeting room at 11:30am.

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND

The agenda is as follows:

- * Call to Order - Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
- * Approval of Minutes for January 19, 2015
- * Opening Remarks (Jerry Francis)
- * Treasurer Report (Leon Levine)
- * 2014 Financial Review Report (Carole Strickland & Perrin Hamilton)
- * Strategic Planning Committee Report (Ken Brier)
- * Public Access Television Report (Perrin Hamilton)
- * Question and Answer Session (Jerry Francis)
- * Nominating Committee Report and the Election of Officers and Directors

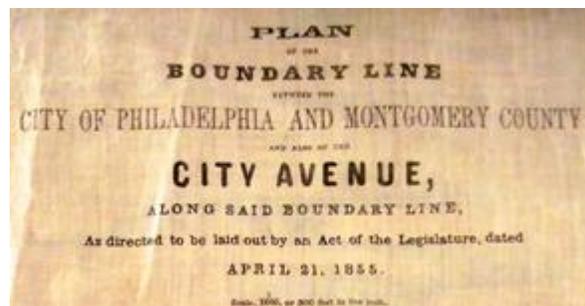
We will then adjourn and reconvene at 1:30pm at the
Cynwyd Station Park
located at 371 Conshohocken State Road in Bala Cynwyd
(adjacent to the Cynwyd Train Station)

For the *Third Annual Craft Fair and (Mostly) Native Plant Sale*
All proceeds benefit the *Friends of the Cynwyd Station Park*
for their plantings and community events.

NOTE: there will be a special edition later this month of the April newsletter that will list the slate of Officers and Directors and a more detail description of our *Third Annual Craft Fair*... Stay Tuned.

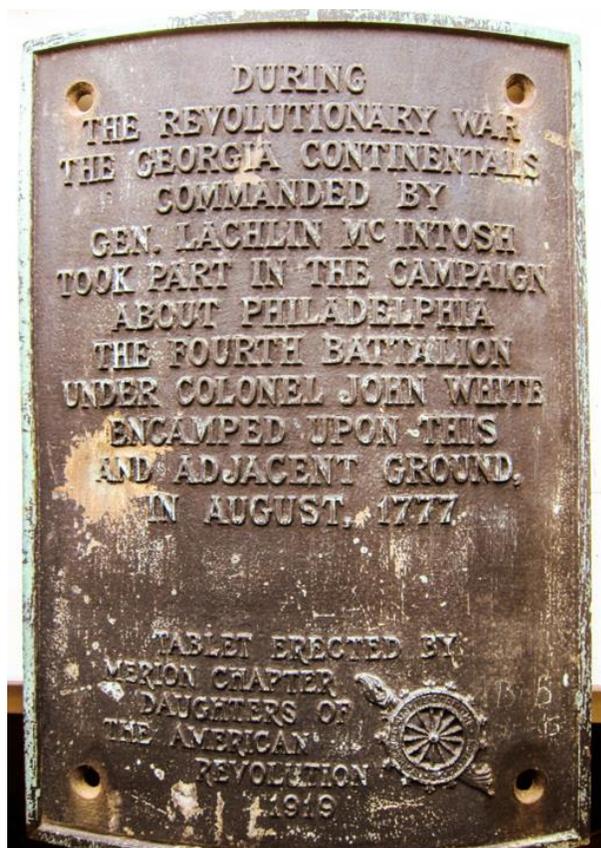
UPDATE - City Avenue Map and Written Survey

In the March Issue of *Milestones* we had the story *A Piece of History for Sale*. There was a generous response that will allow the Historical Society to purchase these items for our collection. I would like to report that between checks received and pledges offered, we have more than the \$650.00 needed to purchase these items. As no surprise, the major donor was *City Avenue Special Services District* represented by Terrence Foley, President & CEO of this Authority. Also contributing were Andrew Amsterdam, Nancy Charkes, Alison and Chad Graham, William Jones, Andrew Margolis, and C. Brian McGuire.



After consulting with our staff, the extra funds will be used to conserve the originals, digitally copy the items, and then laminate them. The originals will be catalogued and indexed and stored in our Archive Room for preservation and the laminated copies will be stored in the Flat Files in the General Reference Room for our library patrons to use and enjoy. Thank You to those who contributed and assisted us in *Preserving Our Past For The Future*.

It Is Lost - Then It is Found



On February 22, 1919 (on Washington's Birthday) the *Merion Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution*, unveiled a bronze tablet on the lawn of St. John's Episcopal Church (404 Levering Mill Road, Bala Cynwyd), marking the campground of the Georgia Continentals, 4th Battalion in August 1777. This Battalion was part of the outer defenses of the City of Philadelphia, then the capital city of the Revolution. Their encampment was at a strategic location, on high ground and along the busy roadway...then named the Lancaster Road and today called Montgomery Avenue... that took you in and out of the city.

A few decades ago, the tablet went missing and it has been the campaign of Ted Goldsborough and Jim Oswald to find this marker. For years, these two men have been on a mission to find the tablet...and as a tribute to their steadfastness...it has been found.

Saint John's Parish, the Historical Society, and West Laurel Hill are making plans to erect a granite base and pedestal for the tablet and to re-dedicate the site.

We hope to have a public event this coming fall for all to experience and enjoy. We will keep you posted as plans develop.

Collection Highlights

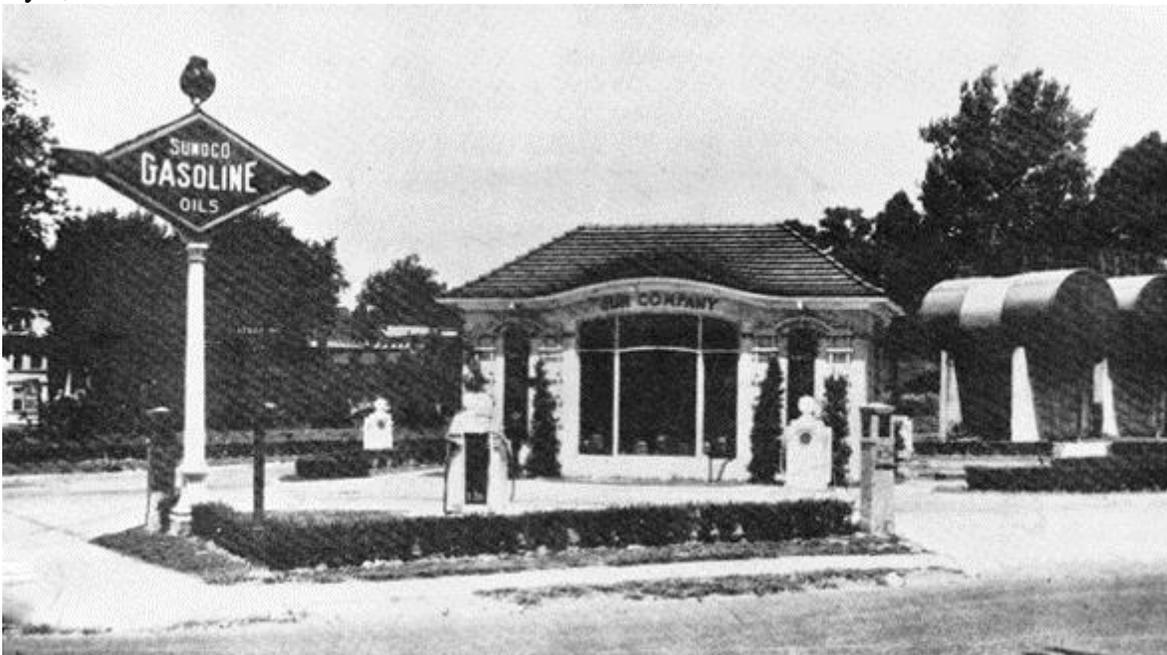
An Archival Treasure Mary Jones's Journal of Wynnewood

In the March issue of *Milestones* mention was made of the Historical Society's collections of papers donated to the Society by local families. Some years ago a large collection of papers was donated to the Historical Society by the Roberts family, one of the original families to settle in Lower Merion. Among the many letters and bills from days gone by was a large leather bound journal kept by a Mary Jones who was born in 1787. In beautiful handwriting Mary named names, occupations and what items had been purchased for what amount of money. Mary had been married to a

Charles McClenaghan and had a daughter named Naomi who grew up and married a fellow named Levi Morris. Mary became widowed and nine years later married again, this time to a Jonathan Jones of Wynnewood. Mary's Journal takes us through many interesting transactions, including her hiring and firing some of her domestic helpers. She also leased acreage to local farmers to pasture their cows and sheep, and designed her own home named [Homeworth](#). Mary's beautiful handwriting deteriorated over time but she never lost her feistiness and certainly kept her wits about herself while leasing, selling and collecting what was due her (and she knew exactly what was due her). As more items of interest come to light, Ann Bagley will pass them on to us to enjoy.

Building Photographs - Preserving Today For Tomorrow's History

The [April photo](#) from our Buildings web shows an old-fashioned "service station", the first of its brand. Do you know where it was and what's there now? Do you remember another one that was nearby, selling gasoline for 14 cents a gallon (plus tax)? How about a third one, in Mission Revival style, at 20th and Arch?



March Anno: 1786

	Sundry Acc ^{ts} To	Debit	
58	Robert Smock	13	8
16	John Keller	7 th	8 - 3 - 9
77	John Ferguson		14 - 19 - 10
71	Thomas Harrison		4 - 16 - 10
95	Grace Hastings	10 th	21 - 2 - 7
95	John Hughes (2 ^d Street)		28 - 11 - 6
44	Jonathan Shoemaker		13 - 11 -
54	Benjamin Morgan	11	9 - 17 -
71	Amos Foulke	13	3 - 9 - 5
19	Baker Potts & Co. (The Butcher)		9 - 0 - 10
12	Crown Jones Sen ^r	23	2 - 13 - 6

We have made it quicker and easier to find the street and building you want by upgrading the Buildings web site. Instead of scrolling through all the streets that start with C, for instance, just enter the first 3 letters of the street name in the box, such as *Cri*. Below the box, the one you want will pop up, along with others; click one to send it up to the box and then click Search in the next box.

- ***Favorite Links***
 - [About Us](#)
- [Lower Merion Historical Society's Website](#)
 - [Membership Information](#)
 - [Buy Our Books](#)



MISSION STATEMENT OF THE LOWER MERION HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Lower Merion Historical Society is an organization dedicated to *Preserving Our Past For The Future*. This is accomplished by stewardship of local history, education of the community, preservation of historic resources and outreach to promote awareness of the cultural heritage of the Township of Lower Merion and the Borough of Narberth.

