



*January 2011*

Hi Friend of the Historical Society,

## ***Our New Year Resolutions***

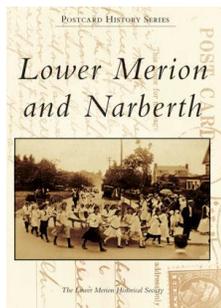
- Complete Phase 3 of the Cynwyd Train Station Revitalization Project.
- Continue work on the building of the Cynwyd Heritage Trail.
- Enhance and expand our two websites: "[LowerMerionHistory.org](http://LowerMerionHistory.org)" and "[CynwydHeritageTrail.com](http://CynwydHeritageTrail.com)"
- Continue the growth of our outreach and education programs...last year we hosted 34 lectures/events.
- Maintain our library of manuscripts, books and photographs.
- Advocate for preservation of our historic properties and for the protection of Lower Merion's Historic Objects (Milestones, Keystone Markers and Street Signs).
- Promote the heritage of Lower Merion; for example, the story told by our recent book *Lower Merion and Narberth*.
- Prepare for the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Lower Merion Academy (1812).



*Happy New Year*

*from the Board Members of The Lower Merion Historical Society*

## ***Our New book Lower Merion and Narberth***



Thanks to *Public Access Television*, two shows about our new book are available on their two cable channels; Comcast Channel 99 and Verizon Channel 34. For a listing of PATV's program schedule, log onto their [website](#) and look for the date and time for *LM History Postcards Lecture* and *LM History Vintage Postcards*.

For ordering information check out our [website](#).

## ***Cynwyd Heritage Trail***

On Wednesday, December 15th, the Lower Merion Board of Commissioners voted in favor of awarding a contract for the construction of the main paths of the Cynwyd Heritage Trail to Mid-Atlantic Contractors.

Expect construction to start in February or March. The Township is cautiously planning a September 1<sup>st</sup> ribbon cutting. The Parks and Recreation Department will post signs at the trailheads informing the public of important Trail-related dates.

How You Can Help - Phase 1 of the Trail does not include a great deal of new landscaping or improvement to the natural areas off of the Trail. They need your help continuing to manage invasives along the edges of Trail, along Vine Creek and in the Connelly site. Volunteer workdays are scheduled on: January 15<sup>th</sup> 8:30-4:30 and January 17<sup>th</sup> 9:00-1:00 (Martin Luther King Day of Service). For additional information contact Christopher Leswing by phone (610) 645-6116 or by email [cleswing@lowermerion.org](mailto:cleswing@lowermerion.org).

## ***W. Robert Swartz Photo Collection: A Progress Report***

Bob Swartz was the owner and proprietor of the Ardmore Camera Shop (a local landmark) and was a Past President of the Historical Society. In memory of her husband, Judy Swartz donated Bob's entire collection to the Historical Society...over 5,500 photographic negatives of the area. Over the past two years, our volunteers have been pouring over these photographic treasures and cleaning, scanning and identifying many of them.



Just recently, we came across a grouping of over 340 4"x5" negatives taken in 1952-1954 of the Channel 10 WCAU Studios on City Avenue and Monument Road in Bala Cynwyd. We contacted WCAU who was interested in these images of their early television production. The Historical Society then made arrangements to share these images with [Broadcast Pioneers of Philadelphia](#) a central clearinghouse for the exchange of information and historical data about the broadcast industry. This organization will help us process, identify and post these images for everyone's enjoyment.

## ***Building Photographs - To preserve Today for tomorrow's history***

Our January picture from [www.lowermerionhistory.org/buildings/](http://www.lowermerionhistory.org/buildings/), where it is part of our future history:



*722 Conshohocken State Road, Penn Valley  
Remodeling of this house stopped and the house was then sold.  
Then new owner received a teardown permit last July, but no further action has occurred.*

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The February issue will have an update to our Cynwyd Train Station Capital Campaign and a story about a recent donation of a large book collection.

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***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.

