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*May 2014*

### ***The Community Gathered Together to Celebrate Another Milestone***

The Lower Merion Historical Society extends their thanks to the organizations and individuals who contributed to the *Cynwyd Train Station Revitalization* and the *Preserve America Interpretive* signs. The results of both projects will be enjoyed by our community for many years to come. [More photos of the day are here.](#)

***The Cynwyd Station  
Capital Campaign  
Memorial Plaque Dedication  
and  
'Preserve America'  
Cynwyd Heritage Trail  
Interpretive Signs Unveiling***



**SUNDAY, APRIL 27, 2014  
1:00 p.m.  
Cynwyd Train Station, Bala Cynwyd**

**Program**

**Welcome:**  
*Elizabeth S. Rogan, President  
Lower Merion Township Board of Commissioners*

**Remarks:**  
*Josh Shapiro, Chair  
Montgomery County Board of Commissioners*

*Frances M. Jones, Assistant General Manager  
Government Affairs, SEPTA*

*Edward F. Wallace, Director of Support Services  
Office of the Deputy General Manager, SEPTA*

*Paul A. McElhane, Vice President  
Lower Merion Township Board of Commissioners*

**Dedication of Cynwyd Train Station  
Capital Campaign Memorial Plaque:**  
*Gerald A. Francis, President  
Lower Merion Historical Society*

**Unveiling of "Preserve America"  
Interpretive Signs:**  
*V. Scott Zelov, Commissioner  
Chair, Parks & Recreation Committee  
Lower Merion Township Board of Commissioners*



## **Cynwyd Elementary School Hosts Community Parade**



The community is invited to participate in a celebratory parade on Saturday, May 10, 2014 from 10 am to approximately 11:30 am to honor *Cynwyd Elementary's 100th Anniversary*. The parade will begin at the Lower Merion Academy Building located at 506 Bryn Mawr Avenue in Bala Cynwyd and conclude at Cynwyd Elementary's back field, where a short program will take place. The parade is the final event in Cynwyd Elementary's semester-long celebration of its 100th birthday. Principal Dr. Dan Martino will serve as Grand Marshall, and Chairman of the Montgomery

County Board of Commissioners Josh Shaprio will be in attendance. School mascot *Owlbert* will entertain the crowds along with Lower Merion and Harriton High School bands, cheerleaders, Cynwyd's Student Council, Cynwyd's 5th grade graduating class of 2014, the Lower Merion High School Players and six MINI Cooper convertibles carrying special guests. Picnicking is encouraged on the field after the parade. Food will be available for purchase from local vendors.

Parade route and more info can be found at <http://www.lmsd.org/cynwyd100>.

## **Collection Highlights**



The Society's focus has always been the history of public education in Lower Merion. Our Headquarters and Archive Center, the Lower Merion Academy, was the first schoolhouse built in this area in 1812. On permanent loan to the Society, the Lower Merion Academy Trustees have given us for safe keeping the *Trustee Minute Book* dating back to 1816. This document records the actions of the Trustees, who among other duties, hired the Headmaster, established the length of the school year, decided what subjects were taught, and what curriculum was offered to the students.

Also on permanent loan, the Lower Merion School District has deposited the *School Board Minutes Books for 1834 to 1913*. These documents chronicle the genesis and early development of our School District. We now have in our collection these primary sources dealing with the first hundred years of public education in Lower Merion. These records allow us to study the decades of deliberations regarding these two important institutions.





***In Memoriam - Philip Eidelson  
(November 15, 1928 - April 19, 2014)***

We are sad to announce that Phil Eidelson has passed away. Phil was a long time volunteer and supporter of the Historical Society. His gentle personality and smile will be missed by everyone.

***We Greatly Accept Donations***



Our library holdings continue to grow thanks to the generosity of the community. The following individuals have recently made a donation to the Society to help enlarge our Special Library Collection of books, manuscripts, photographs and maps. Donating your historic materials will help ensure its preservation for the next generation:

Bonnie Atwood  
Toni Banet  
Michael Beck  
Barbe Breylinger  
Andrew Campbell  
Alice and David Casey  
Nancy Charkes  
Lita and Stanley Cohen  
Dr. Christophe Dean  
Robert Drennen  
First Baptist Church, Ardmore  
Nancy Grundahl

Marion Klaus  
Donald Lawler  
J. Michael Morrison  
James Oswald  
John Rogers, II  
William George Rogers  
Dr. Thomas F. Rzeznik  
St. Charles Borromeo Seminary  
St. Sahag & St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church  
Frank Weer  
James Wright

***Building Photographs- Preserving Today for  
Tomorrow's History***

This photo from our [Buildings web](#) shows part of our changing history:



This building is the inverse of most in Lower Merion – the photo shows the finished building, but recently it's been stripped back to its basic construction from about 1704. It's one of a very few built in this way that survive, and so it's worth going to the building to see in mid-restoration. The current [photos](#) will show you where it is, how it's deteriorated, and the fixes now in process.

### ***Favorite Links***

- [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.