October 2011

Cynwyd Heritage Trail Ribbon Cutting and Fall Festival

The official opening by the Township of Lower Merion of the Cynwyd Heritage Trail is scheduled for Sunday, October 23rd at Barmouth Station, which is located at the end of East Levering Mill Road in Bala Cynwyd. At 1:00pm, a brief ceremony highlighting the key people who have made the Trail possible will take place, followed by the ribbon-cutting.

At Barmouth Station, the Friends of the Cynwyd Heritage Trail (FOCHT) have invited the public to their Fall Festival. Activities will include scavenger hunt, pumpkin decorating, face painting, live music, bands, food, and giveaways.

Manayunk Bridge Draft Design

At a public meeting on September 15th at the Township Administration Building, concepts were unveiled for reuse of this historic viaduct. Read the story, take a look at the presentation, and send your comments to Jeff Riegner at jriegner@wrallp.com
Visit the Leverage Exhibition

Sponsored by the Historical Society, The Cynwyd Train Station Sustainable Stormwater Design and The Cynwyd Heritage Trail have jointly been accepted into the Community Design Collaborative’s exhibition Leverage: Strengthening Neighborhoods through Design from October 1 through October 23, 2011 at the Center for Architecture in Philadelphia. This exhibition will highlight the best practices of design firms, nonprofit organizations, public agencies, and others engaged in community design. Over 40 diverse projects will be on display, representing projects and programs from New York City, Chicago, Dallas, and Philadelphia.

Saving Remembrances of Junior High

For over a year, volunteer Karen Reynolds Hires (Lower Merion High School, Class of 1954) has been sorting through several boxes of memorabilia donated by a retired librarian of the former Bala Cynwyd Junior High School.

Some of the items were in scrapbooks chosen by the 9th grade student school secretary. Karen photocopies items the society wants to keep, puts the copy in a plastic sheet protector, and files the item chronologically in loose-leaf three-ring binders by decade. Someday in the future, it will be easier to find information about events at this junior high school and later middle school because of Karen's work.

We appreciate Karen's help, which has meaning to her because she attended Bala Cynwyd Jr. High School under the principalship of George W. R. Kirkpatrick in the late 1940's.

We Gratefully Accept Donations

Our library holdings continue to grow thanks to the generosity of the local community. The following groups/individuals have made a donation to the Society to help enlarge our Special Library Collection of books, manuscripts, photographs and maps:
Building Photographs: To Preserve Today for Tomorrow's History

Our October photo from www.lowermerionhistory.org/buildings/ is part of our history:

It's an undated photo from the W. Robert Swartz collection, with

United States Post Office
Wynnewood
still visible above the door, after the post office moved to the shopping center and two later tenants also left. The building is still there, its bones unchanged. Do you know what it has become? For the answer, click here for a current photo.

The November issue will have an update on next year's 200th Anniversary of the Lower Merion Academy and a progress report on the Cynwyd Train Station.

Favorite Links

- Lower Merion Historical Society's Website
- Our Preserve America 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.