



September 2015

Back To School



This c.1950's photo of the Lower Merion School District's Mack buses shows departing junior high students coming out of Bala Cynwyd Junior High School. The photographer was at a window in the 1812 Lower Merion Academy. This scene reminds us, of our school days before books were carried in backpacks, of fallen leaves crunching under foot at Halloween time, and of Ivin's Spiced Wavers from the Acme Markets. The barn behind has been demolished. It was part of *Analawn*, the Reyenthaler estate.

September Attractions

[Bryn Mawr Day 2015](#) takes place on Saturday, September 12th from 9:00am to 2:00pm in the parking lot across from Ludington Library in Bryn Mawr. Do not miss the opportunity to take the history tour of *Bryn Mawr 100*. History tours start at 10:00am, 11:00am, 12:00pm and 1:00pm.

Movies in the Cynwyd Station Park start at 8:00pm. Bring a lawn chair or a blanket and enjoy an evening under the stars with your neighbors.

- Friday, September 11th *Happy* (2011) is a documentary film about what happiness is and means.
- Saturday, September 26th *Who Framed Roger Rabbit?* (1988) a kids film with urban planning elements = genius.

[Friends of Autocar Annual Meeting](#) takes place on Saturday, September 26th from 9:00am to late in the afternoon at the Goshen Fire Company at 1320 Park Avenue in West Chester. The crown jewel of Lower Merion's local industries was the Autocar Company. Founded in 1900 by brothers Louis and John Clarke, Autocar was one of the early pioneers in the manufacture of cars and trucks. For more than 50 years, its factory was the center of activity in downtown Ardmore.

[25th Annual Harriton Plantation Fair](#) takes place on Saturday, September 26th 10:00am to 4:00pm at 500 Harriton Road in Bryn Mawr. This major event features crafts, antiques, sheep herding, pony rides, children's games, muskets and soldiers, blacksmiths, stone carvers, cabinetmakers, spinners, sheep [beehive] weaves, Bluegrass music, falconry and other birds of prey, and much more. Say hello to Bruce Gill, Executive Director, and take a tour of the historic 1704 house.

Preview of Coming Attractions

Details will be in our October issue of *Milestones*

- **October 4th** - Tour of the Historic Cynwyd Heritage Trail with Sadie
- **October 30th** - Manayunk Bridge Opening
- **October 31st** - Lecture on Haunted History: The True Ghost Stories of Lower Merion
- **November 1st** - Re-Dedication of the Historical Marker for the Camp Ground of the Georgia Continentals in August 1777
- **November 14th** - Annual Dinner - *The Lower Merion Society for the Detection and Prosecution of Horse Thieves and Recovery of Stolen Horses*
- **November 15th** - Fall Festival in the Cynwyd Station Park and the Unveiling of the Philadelphia and Columbia Railroad Display



A Recent Addition to the Society's Collection



Founded in 1818, [*The Lower Merion Society for the Detection and Prosecution of Horse Thieves and Recovery of Stolen Horses*](#) was organized with the purpose to honor man's greatest servant – the horse - and to insure and to protect the horses of the membership from the nefarious enemies of society known as horse thieves. Their mission remains steadfast and the society is there if called upon to activate their vigilante group.

Last month, George Painter III, a past Vice President, visited the Academy and turned over to the Historical Society their archives for safekeeping. Pictured is George with Ann Bagley (one of our librarians) accepting this collection of 14 items. It is comprised of minute books, membership lists, insurance ledges, photo albums, and scrapbooks. It will take us a few months to organize, catalog and index this important collection. The Historical Society actively supports this ancient and honorable society.

Yours in Confusion...

• Favorite Links

- [About Us](#)
- [Lower Merion Historical Society's Website](#)
- [Membership Information](#)
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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.