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February 2014

**This Will Be An Exciting Year For Your Historical Society
True to Our Mission**

Stewardship of Local History



As usual, in accordance with Jacob Jones's will, the 1812 [Lower Merion Academy](#) remains active and a true Lower Merion landmark, attracting visitors, community groups, and researchers year round. 2014 will mark the biggest milestone yet for the Society's second successfully preserved and renovated property: the 1890 [Cynwyd Train Station](#). Five years ago, the Society agreed to take on the project, and this year, the entire first floor, comprised of a waiting room, a trailhead information area, and a Victorian ice cream parlor and green community center, the [Cynwyd Station Café and Tea Room](#). Please check the café's website and/or Facebook page for updates on a grand opening date. In 2014, we plan to further develop the Cynwyd Train Station as a destination and community resource because it serves the still active *Cynwyd regional rail line*, is located along the *Cynwyd Heritage Trail*, and is adjacent to the one-acre *Cynwyd Station Park*.

Outreach to Promote Awareness of Our Cultural Heritage

Our two books: [The First 300: The Amazing and Rich History of Lower Merion](#), and [Lower Merion and Narberth](#) continue to be popular with the community. In the electronic world, we are keeping in touch with our 900 subscribers to *Milestones*, our monthly eNewsletter, and with our friends on [Facebook](#). Our website; [LowerMerionHistory.org](#) provides a range of searchable resource materials. During the past 12 months, we had 159,415 visits to this site. On January 23rd, we launched our new website which has upgraded features; such as, an improved search engine for our library collections which total more than 35,000 items. There will be a detailed story about our new and upgraded website in the March issue of *Milestones*.

Education of the Community

We are proud of our special library collection that has been catalogued and indexed and made available for everyone to use and enjoy. We continue to focus on the development and expansion of various aspects of our library collections and consider our library a first-class resource.

Your Historical Society is doing its work of *Preserving Our Past For The Future*. We ask that you register as a member which will allow us to continue these community-wide activities. If you have not been to the Lower Merion Academy, please visit us and see for yourself your membership dues at work.

Annual Membership Dues are

\$30.00 for an Individual Student or Senior (65+)

\$40.00 for an Individual

\$60.00 for a Family

\$100.00 for a Contributing Membership

\$500.00 for an Individual Life Membership

\$500.00 for a Corporate Membership

Membership dues are fully tax deductible.

To pay 2014 Membership Dues...click on [JOIN NOW](#)

If this is not a convenient time...log onto our [website](#) and on our Main Menu, click on [Membership](#). This will give you the option of paying by credit card via PayPal or print out the *Membership Application Form* and mail in your check to the Historical Society.

Collection Highlights

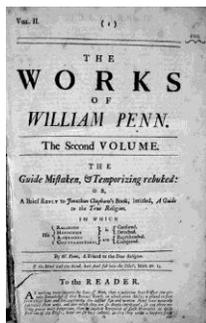
As a community, we're proud of our Quaker roots and William Penn's influence in molding our form of government. We're fortunate to have in our Archive Collection source materials that relate to William Penn. Two Penn memorabilia items in our collection are:



The Seal from William Penn's "Charter of Privileges"

On October 28, 1701, during Penn's second and last visit to the colony, Penn signed his "Charter of Privileges for the Province of Pennsylvania and its Territories," formally establishing a stable frame of government that, for its day, was remarkably liberal. In this document, Penn granted a set of individual rights to the inhabitants of Pennsylvania, codifying the freedom of conscience and that the inhabitants were never to be

"molested or prejudiced" for their religious beliefs or practices. Before William Penn returned to England, he wrote to the Welsh settlers stating: "You shall be governed by laws of your own making and live a free people."



The Works of William Penn by William Penn

This publication is a complete set of Penn's writings and epistles which was published in 1726. It is printed in an oversized format in 2 volumes; Volume 1 is 911 pages, Volume 2 is 916 pages. The formidable title of this anthology is "The Works of William Penn: The Guide Mistaken, & Temporizing rebuked: or, A Brief Reply to Jonathan Clapham's Book, untitled, A Guide to the True Religion In Which His Religion is Confuted, His Hypocrisy is Detected, His Aspersion are Reprehended, His

Contradictions are Compared.” This publication offers us a window into the past and an account of Penn’s beliefs and dreams.

Father of Black Aviation - First Day Cover

On March 13th, the *Father of Black Aviation and Chief Flight Instructor of the Tuskegee Airmen*, C. Alfred “Chief” Anderson will be honored by the United States Post Office with the unveiling of his own 2oz. stamp. Chief Anderson spent some of his childhood here in Lower Merion where he attended the Bryn Mawr Grammar School.



The ceremony and a concert will take place at Goodhart Hall, McPherson Auditorium at Bryn Mawr College. The Historical Society has been working with Christina Anderson to help organize the day’s program.

For more information about this event please contact the C. Alfred “Chief” Anderson Legacy Foundation at: <http://chiefanderson.com>

Building Photographs - Preserving Today for Tomorrow's History

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



The Ardmore National Bank moved, and moved up, until the 1920s bubble burst into The Depression. See [where it started](#), where [it moved to](#), what happened to the bank, and what happened to the building it built.

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.

