



October 2026

"Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower."

- Albert Camus

JOIN US for an evening celebrating the heritage of our community!

We invite you to celebrate the stories that shaped Lower Merion and Narberth and help us preserve them for the generations to come. **On Saturday, November 14, join us for food, drink and fundraising as part of *Making History Together: The Lower Merion Historical Society Inaugural Fundraising Gala & Silent Auction*.**

Proceeds from this Gala directly fund our work preserving, exploring, and sharing our area's rich history.

As a small nonprofit, we are **entirely**

donor-supported and rely on your ticket purchases and auction bids to care for our collection and expand our educational programs.

- Tickets are available [here](#)



- Sponsorships are available [here](#)

Our Silent Auction will **open for bidding on Sunday November 1**, but you can preview some of the items now [here](#)! From Flyers seats in the NBC Sports suite and 76ers tickets to Game Night and Movie Night baskets, there is truly something for everyone. **You do not need to be present at the Gala to bid or win.**

If you would like to make a donation for our Silent Auction, reach out to our Fundraising Chair Kate Jiggins, kjiggins@lowermerionhistory.org. Your business will be highlighted on our social media!

Secure your tickets today, and we look forward to celebrating history with you!

We are most grateful to our event sponsors:

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Gilda Kramer & Sam Adelbaum

Linda & Simon Tasker

Lois Cronholm

VISIT US during monthly open houses and scheduled research

appointments

Our extensive local and regional history collection has been built over 77 years by many careful stewards of the Lower Merion Historical Society, starting with our founders: physician, historian and cartographer Dr. Douglas C. MacFarlan, journalist John M. Nugent, and legendary educator Edward H. Snow.



In the decades since, we have welcomed countless researchers, visitors, and volunteers - first to our location at Ashbridge House in Bryn Mawr and in recent years, at the Lower Merion Academy Building, built in 1812, next to the Bala Cynwyd Middle School (*above*).

Our community's interest in our collections is as strong as ever, and we are making some changes to be able to accommodate the evolving needs of our researchers. Our Collections Committee has prioritized the reorganizing, rehousing, and cataloguing of our many thousands of items, with the help of a group of dedicated volunteers working at the direction of our Administrative Coordinator, [Paige Bartello](#).

Beginning this fall, we will be hosting Open Houses on the first Wednesday evening of each month - please come visit us! Two Board members will be on hand from 7-9pm to provide brief collection tours and answer general questions about the Society and the work we do.

For more focused research questions and needs, we are offering research appointments between 11am - 2pm on Thursdays and Fridays, when Paige is on duty. During your visit, we are happy to offer on-site services including research assistance, guidance on handling of documents and objects, and use of our digital scanner and photocopier. To schedule your visit, please email us at info@lowermerionhistory.org and include a brief overview of the collections materials you would like to

access.

Information about our collections is available [here](#). Please review our [Reading Room Guidelines](#) before your visit.



*President Emeritus Ted Goldsborough (front), with
Board members (from left) Scott Reynolds, Craig Whitney,
Linda Tasker and Jamie Singer*

Upcoming Programs

Saturday, November 22 | 12 PM - 4 PM

Join us for [Friendsgiving Holiday Marketplace](#), hosted by Gratz College.

And in Case You Missed It...

In August we hosted an information table at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania's History on the Street: Back to School Edition! It was lovely to

connect with young history enthusiasts from our surrounding region. Administrative Coordinator Paige Bartello (*below, left*) is a Master's graduate from Temple University with a degree in Public History. Her professional interests include archive management and primary source education for K-12 students.

This past weekend, we hosted an informational table at Haverford Civic Association's Party in the Park (*below, right*). Despite the chilly weather there was an excellent turnout of community members enjoying live music, free food, and family activities.



Thank you to our wonderful summer interns, and welcome to two recent graduates

Working behind the scenes, our volunteers have contributed hundreds of hours towards improving our collections and our programs!

This summer, we welcomed three student interns for the summer: Talyn Summers (University of Pittsburgh), Astrid Olshin (Durham University), Lindsey Reisner (Cornell University, Columbia University). Astrid and Lindsey worked on collections projects, while Talyn assisted with developing guidelines for research.

This fall, we are pleased to welcome to recent graduates, Alice Thompson (Dickinson College) and Isabel Pereira-Lopez (University of Cambridge), who will benefit from Paige's mentorship as they develop in their careers.

Historical Society Rewind

Many of you have noticed a re-invigorated presence for the Society on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#), thanks to the efforts of Board member [Jamie Singer](#). We are closing in on almost 4,000 followers on Facebook thanks to her efforts!

For many of us, fall is a time for football. We feature Jamie's recent work spotlighting some century-old materials from our collection, below. Save the date for this year's game: Saturday November 7, 2pm at Lower Merion High School.

The Lower Merion-Radnor football rivalry is one of the oldest in the US.

Some may remember Barney Fischer on the sidelines at the start of the game. Barney was an LM grad (Class of 1916), who attended his first game as a boy in 1908.

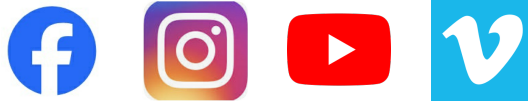
Each year, Barney performed a ritual in which he rubbed a silver horseshoe on the shoulders of players and coaches to bring them luck. LM's biggest football fan passed away in 1976.



Our collection includes ephemera and photographs of past Lower Merion-Radnor games. The items above date to 1925 and 1927.

The Lower Merion Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) organization, and is

100% donor-supported, sustainable only through your generosity. Please help us preserve the unique history of our area by making a tax-deductible donation [here](#).



Visit us online:

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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.

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