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September 2011

Hi Joanne,

The Montgomery County Open Space Board



On Monday, August 22nd the *Montgomery County Open Space Board* had a tour of the Cynwyd Train Station, the Cynwyd Heritage Trail, and a walk across the Manayunk Bridge. Members of the board included Phoebe Driscoll (Chair), Paul Meyer (Vice Chair), Bob Thomas, Mark Vasoli and Bruce Reed. Staff members were Steve Nelson, Ken Hughes, John Corcoran and Beth Pilling. Their tour guides were Chris Leswing (Township), Kim Douglas (Studio Gaea), Byron Comati (SEPTA), Robert Strauber (Cynwyd Club), Peter Brigham (neighbor), and Jerry Francis (Historical Society). It was an informative event and was a preview of great things to come.

Upcoming Events

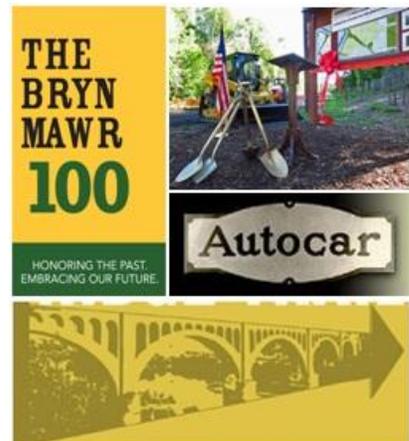
[September 10th - Bryn Mawr 100 Celebration](#)

[September 15th – Second Manayunk Bridge Design Meeting](#)

[September 23rd – Cynwyd Heritage Trail Ribbon Cutting](#)

[September 24th – 16th Annual *Friends of Autocar* Banquet and Truck Show](#)

September 25th – NRHS’s *Farewell to the Faithful Silverliners* (see the story below)





Farewell to the Faithful Silverliners

Sponsored by the *Philadelphia Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society*, there will be a Chartered SEPTA Excursion Train on Sunday, September 25th. This special train leaves Suburban Station at 10:00am, picking up passengers at 30th Street Station at 10:05am. The fare for this event is \$50.00 per person. Former PRR and Reading lines will be covered with numerous photo stops

and lunch stop scheduled. The train will return to Suburban Station and 30th Street about 5:00pm.

This event will mark the upcoming retirement of America's oldest electric multiple unit (MU) cars still in regular service, SEPTA's former Pennsylvania (PRR) and Reading (RDG) Budd Silverliner II's (built 1963) and former PRR St. Louis Silverliner III's (built 1967). For additional information or to order tickets, email ayrestower@comcast.net or telephone (215) 947-5769.

TAKE NOTE: The excursion train will make a 20-minute stop at the Cynwyd Train Station from 4:10 to 4:30, so if you are in the area stop by and see the station and the Silverliners.

Swartz Photography Collection Update

Thanks to the family of our late past president W. Robert Swartz, in 2008 the society received over 6,000 prints and negatives of various sizes that Bob had taken/collected, incorporating collections of two other Main Line photographers dating to the late 1800's.

Over the past two years, our volunteer Bob McCormick went through the entire collection of negatives, sorting them by topic, putting the negatives in archival sleeves and labeling each sleeve. Then Bob McCormick created a computer spreadsheet, which gives us a list of what is in the collection.



At present, Max Buten is having hundreds of these negatives scanned and changed to positives for the web and so that we can make prints of them. Holding a 1907 8"x10" glass plate are Max (on the left) and Bob (on the right).

We are grateful to the Swartz family and our volunteers for helping us preserve this wonderful collection of Lower Merion and Narberth history. As you might assume, we have spent hundreds of dollars on preservation supplies. Your dues and donations helped us.

Building Photographs To Preserve Today for Tomorrow's History

Our September picture is from www.lowermerionhistory.org/buildings/, where it is part of our future history:



In the Swartz collection is this 1954 photo of a savings bank which insured deposits up to \$10,000. The building is still there, almost unchanged. Do you know what it is now? For the answer, click [here](#) for a current photo.

The October issue will have an update on the Cynwyd Train Station and a profile on Karen Hires who has been archiving our Lower Merion School District Collection.

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.

